

The Front Rho

Alpha Epsilon Pi, Beta Rho Chapter



Highlights of the semester:

- Body Chem VII attended by 450
- Lounge repainted
- Basement lounge revamped
- Renovated barroom with tile floor and foosball table
- Sukkah built for Miriam Hospital
- Undergraduate low-intensity intramural football victors

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Greetings from the Master

As Master this semester, I have had the opportunity to oversee the physical transformation of Marcy House since the idea to renovate the lounge was raised last year. While originally we thought it best to focus on the lounge, the house renovations quickly spread to the basement, and we now have two amazing rooms downstairs. We installed a tile floor in our barroom and painted a New York City skyline on the walls. We then furnished the room by building our own bar and installing a foosball table, a dart board, and sound equipment. We also renovated the basement lounge, now affectionately known as the "striped room." In this room, we added couches, end tables, and desk lamps to provide a relaxing atmosphere, great for studying and conversation.

While the physical changes have made our house a more pleasant place to live aesthetically, more importantly, the renovation project has invigorated a sense of pride in and dedication to our fraternity house. For example, half a dozen brothers listened to the first game of the ALCS on the radio while tiling the basement until 3 in the morning, forgoing sleep and studying to finish the job. Also, several brothers started a campaign to raise money internally to furnish the striped room and even took it upon themselves to throw in a significant amount of their own money.

Brother involvement has spread to other areas as well. Coming off a 43-41 six-overtime victory in the semifinal game of our flag football intramural season, we posted our finest showing in the finals. Nearly a dozen brothers showed up to play the game, and one brother arranged the first-ever Beta Rho pep band, which played "Gold and Blue" to cheer the team on.

We have done so much this semester to improve our organization, but we still have projects that we look to complete next semester—namely finishing the lounge and renovating the third basement room. Alumni-brother contact has been at its best this semester, and I personally thank all alumni who have remained involved with Beta Rho to make the lounge improvements possible.

I hope that this semester has set the tone for involvement by alumni and brothers for years to come.

Fraternally,
Ryan Levesque
Brother Master "Goose"





Lieutenant Master's Report

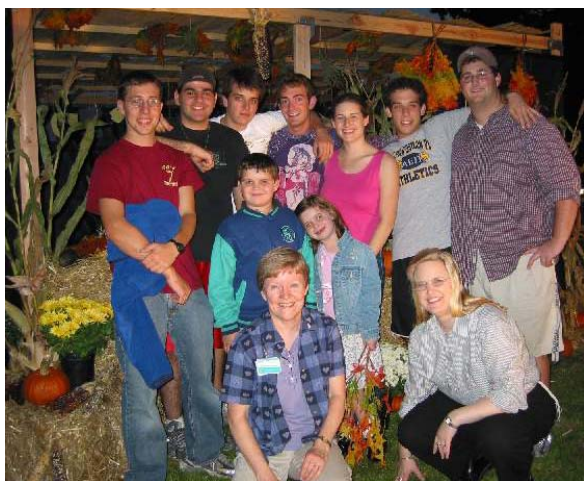
Ever since we moved in for this school year, Marcy House has been teeming with activity. So far, we've had three great parties, including our seventh annual "Body Chemistry". Under the direction of social chair James Kellogg, this party attracted about 450 festive guests, all staying until the very end. We nearly had to kick people out at 2:00. As always, we distinguished ourselves by having a unique event. While other fraternities may put on some music and call it a party, we are AEPi, and we strive for more. Body Chem VII featured a live DJ, a phenomenal outdoor light display, and multi-colored punch.

The night ended in traditional AEPi fashion with the dunking of various brothers in the remaining punch. Having had the good fortune to throw Brown's first big fraternity party of the year, we established our house as a fun place to be in the minds of new and returning students alike.

Also being capable of more elegant social gatherings, we recently threw a "Masquerade" cocktail party, cosponsored by the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. The two houses worked together to make the event a great success, and it was well attended and enjoyed. Even when the official festivities ended, the fun did not stop, as many guests joined us for an after-party in our newly renovated basement rooms.

Of course, the social committee is not the only active part of the minor board. Exciting new projects are being undertaken by the Alumni Relations, Academics, and Community Service Committees. AEPi brothers have run a campus-wide blood drive, built a sukkah at a local hospital, and volunteered at a 5k run for the JCC. We're looking forward to instilling this momentum in next semester's Lambda pledge class.

David Snitkof
Lt. Master "OJ"



Brothers after building a Sukkah for Miriam Hospital



Paintball. Honest.

Lounge Renovations

The Lounge Renovation Committee has been hard at work this semester and has made terrific progress in our endeavor to make our lounge the best on campus. We set the tone for the semester early; during orientation week, we successfully repainted the entire lounge. We replaced the putrid green with a warm cream, and the former off-white is now a handsome dark blue. In the coming weekends we will repaint the library to match the lounge. Ultimately, the library will house a large conference table to provide additional space for meetings, sections, and studying.

In addition to repainting the lounge, we have added a new full-size sofa and a matching recliner chair. We rearranged the furniture in the lounge to incorporate these new acquisitions, make the pool table more accessible, and create a more comfortable area in which to watch the big screen television and use our new DVD player. The lounge has become the social center of our house, where every day brothers play pool, watch television, and sit and talk on the sofas.

Beyond repainting the library, the next major step of the project is to replace the curtains in the lounge. Hopefully the curtains will be up toward the beginning of next semester to provide us with necessary privacy for the coming semester. Also, we are still investigating floor replacement options, additional lighting, and a newer pool table. We have accomplished a lot thus far, and we have no intentions of stopping here. The Lounge Renovations Committee would like to thank all of our alumni who aided us in this project; without your support, we would not have been able reach so many of our goals. I hope that every Beta Rho alum has the opportunity to visit the house and see all of the hard work that we have put into improving our home.

Rob Lazerow
Lounge Renovations Chair "Rug"



Convention in New Orleans

By all accounts, convention 2003 was a huge success. Ignoring the 5 a.m. wake-up for Tal Itzkovich and me to catch our 7:30 flight, it all started on Thursday afternoon, August 7, when we arrived at the New Orleans Marriott Hotel and Convention Center to the delight of crowds of cheering southern girls.

We immediately proceeded to a leadership training seminar with Dr. Michael Dunphy, a 30-year veteran of the classical martial arts. During the training, we learned how to defend ourselves against the scores of frustrated, overly aggressive college girls who wish they could be brothers of AEPi but for obvious (or not so obvious) reasons cannot. We spent the rest of the afternoon (about three and a half hours) learning about the various facets of the rush process. We were able to pick up a lot of pointers from brothers from other chapters that I think will greatly benefit our own rush process. Because this convention was a Jewish affair, we had lots to eat in the evening. 'Nuff said.

On Friday, the Alpha Epsilon Pi Supreme Council meeting ran smoothly until the hotel fire alarm went off. Business continued as usual, however, until Sid Dunn carried out an executive order to evacuate the hotel and all of its guests. After adjourning for lunch, all initiated brothers attended a model initiation ceremony, and in the evening we welcomed Shabbat with Shabbat dinner. The keynote speaker was PSM Rabbi Stanley Davids, who gave one of the most electrifying speeches I've heard in a long time.

Saturday was a more relaxing day in accordance with observance of the Sabbath. In the morning, each chapter was required to send one delegate to the risk management seminar. I tried to explain to the Supreme Board that we should not have to attend since we have already learned not to allow brothers to repel out of windows on shoelaces unless the laces are the fatter, sturdier, clown-shoelace type.



Dave and Tucker under our new letters



Partygoers fill Marcy House for Body Chemistry VII



Lounge Renovations Deity Rob painting

Nevertheless, they insisted that each chapter send one delegate, so I went and listened to one brother tell a story of a Purim party guest dressed as a clown try to repel out of a dorm window with a pleasantly plump clown-shoelace. The ending wasn't pretty; Haman would have been pleased. The afternoon featured a relaxing meeting with our Regional Governor PSM David Bacharach and some schvitzing by the poolside. The highlight of the day was the evening's gala awards banquet. We didn't win any awards, but that didn't bother us because we made friends with a lot of the guys who did.

On Thursday night, hundreds of AEPi brothers descended onto Bourbon St., instantly inflating the Jewish population of the French Quarter to record numbers. The parade of college boys terminated at the Tropical Isle, where one gracious Tulane AEPi alum had exercised his lion's roar in order to rent out the balcony area solely for AEPi brothers and their lucky guests. Throughout the night, many ladies acted on their burning desires to become a part of the city's tradition and were rewarded handsomely with barrages of 25-cent plastic beads. This scene, with a few minor changes, was repeated on Saturday night as well. In short, Bourbon St. lived up to its reputation as the nation's bastion of debauchery, and with the unique cultural imprint of hordes of Jewish fraternity guys firmly embedded in it, the weekend will not soon be forgotten in the city's history books. Good times were plentiful, and I'm getting excited for next summer's convention in sunny Scottsdale, AZ.

Mike Rozensher
Alumni Relations Chair "Schwiggity"



Israel Unplugged

On Friday, October 31, fifty-five AEPi brothers from around North America, as well as the Florida State University cheerleading squad, converged on a Holiday Inn in Indianapolis, and I had the privilege of being present for that epic event. I was there for AEPi's Israel Unplugged conference, and though our enthusiasm was high, I believe the cheerleaders were there for a different event. Late-night hot-tubs, clubbing, and Hooters aside, I cannot over-emphasize the quality and diversity of the programming that weekend. Brothers with all possible degrees of familiarity with Israel participated. We heard experts in the field speak on the history of Israel, revolutions in Israeli music, and Israel's original self-defense form, *Krav Maga*. We listened to active pro-Israel leaders in all sorts of professions: a candidate running for Senate, the leader of the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, the leader of the Republican Jewish lobbying group, and more. We listened to real-life stories told by Israeli students and soldiers from various ethnic backgrounds and then hit up downtown Indianapolis with them like it was Ben Yehuda.

This was many brothers' first experience learning about Israel without relying on computers, mass emails, or the evening news – hence "unplugged." The program brought in Israel advocates from many different angles, eliciting tough questions and debate from participants. Consequently the program also prides itself on being "uncut."

Israel Unplugged emphasized advocating for Israel in the context of what we are: a fraternity. It must be understood that there are brothers and members of our community who support Israel but hold differing views as to the roots of and the solutions to the problems in the Middle East. Thus, it is our task to spearhead new and innovative programming that will reach out, engage, educate, and energize all of Israel's supporters, not just those who share our opinions. Finally, our support for Israel cannot be based on the fact that there is opposition to Israel. In the words of a great man named Borat, it has to come from your *kham*.

Lee Tessler
Brother "J.I.S."

Fall 2003 Officers

Ryan Levesque	Master
David Snitkof	Lieutenant Master
Tucker Peck	Scribe
Ian Cropp	Exchequer
Miles Betro	Sentinel
Brian Singer	Brother-at-Large
Josh Lessing	House Manager
Josh Troy	Immediate Past Master

This newsletter brought to you by Scribe Tucker Peck and Lt. Master David Snitkof.

AEPi wishes to thank our friends and alumni who made this semester's lounge renovations possible. Below is a list of those to whom we owe our gratitude and a tour of our new facilities (as of 11/20/03).

\$1–\$99

- Noah Arnow
- Josh Cohen
- Robert Finnerty
- Josh Reader
- David Schuster
- Lee Wilson
- Neil Wimmer
- Franklin Yates

\$100–\$199

- Rick Bettan
- Steve Cohn
- Adam Fox
- Max Garfield
- Andy Golodny
- Judah Skoff
- Russell Weiss

\$200+

- Noah Brown
- Pete Cohen
- Matt Fine
- The Itzkovich family
- The Lazerow family
- Josh Mandel
- Jeff Mizrahi
- Seth Orkand
- Jay Plansky



Our new "Striped Room" basement lounge



The newly tiled barroom



Our repainted and revamped lounge