

# The Front Rho

## Alpha Epsilon Pi, Beta Rho Chapter



Jaron Zitrin and Toby Muresianu

### Highlights of the semester:

- Northeast Conclave at Beta Rho
- 3 successful parties
- 13 join as Lambda Pledge Class
- Pledge camping trip
- New table for the basement built for the pledge project
- Spring weekend activities
- Secret service day
- Hemenway's spring semi-formal

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### Greetings from the Master

As the semester comes to a close, it is with great pride and pleasure that I bring you the paper version of the "State of the Brotherhood." Building on last semester's accomplishments, Beta Rho has striven to be all that it can be and more on every front. As a direct result of the brotherhood's hard work and steadfast "mutual helpfulness" in all facets of the chapter's activities and business, we have reached many milestones, several of them unprecedented in our chapter's history. The bonds of brotherhood at Beta Rho are stronger than ever and our positive presence and reputation on campus are at all-time highs.

This semester got a kick start with the help of House Manager Rob Lazerow '06, who diligently worked with other brothers to completely renovate our library for the first time. The library (aka "PiLi") is now prime real estate, boasting our collection of fraternity memorabilia. Of course, I would be remiss if I did not take the opportunity to thank our alumni, family, and friends for their financial support. In total, the first coordinated Beta Rho fundraising campaign for capital improvements netted over \$5,000! In particular, we are extremely grateful to Pam Bacharach for her selfless efforts in helping to sew and install our new curtains. Our social spaces are now vastly improved and we are certain that this will bolster our ability to attract new members.

Throughout the semester, Brother-at-Large Tucker Peck '05 has been organizing regular and well-attended social events for the brotherhood. As usual, our parties are perennial favorites on campus, praised for their ingenuity and overall fun factor.

We are pushing for a Commencement weekend cocktail to honor the five-year reunion of our Founding Fathers of the class of 1999. We will send out an email if this is possible. If you live in the Northeast, but cannot make it to Providence

for the cocktail, do not despair. Our summer brother/alumni event in New York City is Saturday, June 12, 9:30-11:30, at 2nd on 2nd, a Japanese bar/restaurant.

Congratulations to our brothers who will be graduating from this fine institution in May. We are proud of you and your time here will not be soon forgotten. To the Lambdas: we are excited to have you on board and we are certain that you will all be valuable respected members in the years to come.

Thank you to the all of the brothers who have made this semester such an enjoyable and successful one, and a special thank you to my fellow e-board members for your insight and opinions, but most importantly, for your support through thick and thin.

Good luck to next semester's e-board! Best wishes to all for an enjoyable and relaxing summer.

Most Fraternaly,  
Mike Rozensher '05  
Brother Master



Brothers at the fall semi-formal at Café Nuovo

### THANK YOU

TO THE BETA RHO FUND  
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

### CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE!

<http://students.brown.edu/aepi>

## Pledgemaster's Report

With spring comes the best part of being a brother of AEPi, pledging. Not only is it a serious time of work and study in preparation of the ultimate privilege of brotherhood, but we had a damn fine time while we're at it. I am proud to present the thirteen members of the Lambda pledge class.

- Robert Cayne '07
- Noah Chevalier '07
- Craig Convissar '06
- Samuel Edwards '07
- Michael Gladstone '07 - Pledge-at-Large
- Daniel Gradess '07 - House Chair
- David Guttman '07 - Social & Community Service Chair
- Isaac Haxton '07
- Alex Levi '07
- Benjamin Logan '06 - Fundraising Chair
- Noah Pohl '07 - Scribe
- Don Trella '07
- Jonathan Villines '05

This year's pledge program saw some significant changes from the past few years, bringing back some old traditions and introducing new activities and events to help enhance both the pledges' and the brothers' experience. First and foremost, pledge packs became routine for each pledge, with the most important item in the pack being the pledge book. The pledge book served as a mechanism to make sure that each and every brother has personal contact with each pledge on an individual basis. They were required to obtain each current active brother's signature in addition to several facts, a photograph, and trivia about the brother. The annual pledge trip was also changed this year, from a chapter visit to a Beta Rho camping trip, with several brothers from other chapters joining us the first night. There were certainly some bumps on the road over the weekend; however, it was a tremendous success overall that will hopefully become a new tradition in Beta Rho. Also, pledge class officer positions have been changed from a more traditional executive board-styled hierarchy to a committee-based one. The

pledge class was split into three committees for their major responsibilities, with three chairmen, a scribe, and pledge-at-large making up the representatives listed above.

In the busiest time of pledging, all of the pledges worked day after day with one pledge-related activity or another. The weekend of April 17-18 included a fundraising shift at the Gate, the pledge community service project with Save the Bay of Rhode Island, as well as the pledge cocktail, which was co-hosted by AXO. The Brother Master prepared well for this year's Secret Service Day, falling on the first day of reading period for the first time ever. Planning for assassination and the security detail were very intense, enough to make Donald Rumsfeld quite excited. Of course, the biggest question on everyone's minds is, what was the pledge project? The Lambdas took it upon themselves to renovate a room in the basement, including the construction of a table. Detailed and intricate designs for our new table, complete with a full drainage system for spilled beverages to preserve the planned new floor, were completed and construction is now finished as well. The official unveiling of the room was the Saturday of Spring Weekend, April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Formal pledge education has already concluded, with special thanks to our Beta Rho Founding Father and new Chapter Advisor, Josh Mandel '99 for helping teach our young neophytes about their rich and storied chapter history. Their Cofas are strong and Greek alphabets swift, and the remainder of the program brought even more good times, good stories, and, most importantly, good memories.

Miles Betro '04  
Pledgemaster



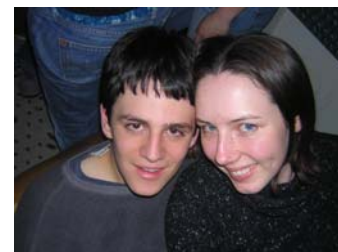
Mike Gladstone and friend



David Guttman and friend



Rob Cayne and friend



Isaac Haxton and friend



Camping! Jon Villines, Josh Lessing, Eric Snyder, Miles Betro, Toby Muresianu, Ben Logan, and Sam Edwards



Craig Convissar and Pledgemaster Miles Betro

## Northeast Brothers Gather in Providence for Conclave

On the weekend of February 6, our chapter hosted the 2004 AEPi Northeast Conclave right here at Brown University. It was a weekend of having fun, making friends, and learning about fraternity life.

Delegates from chapters all over the northeast arrived at Brown either Friday night or Saturday morning. Those arriving Friday were fortunate to partake in the events of that evening, including Shabbat services at Brown's spectacular new Hillel, followed by an AEPi-sponsored dessert *oneg*. After the *oneg*, many brothers, friends, and several girls excited about the increased presence of eligible Jewish men on campus spent the remainder of the evening having fun and getting to know each other in our house's newly renovated basement social rooms.

The official conclave events began early on Saturday morning. A breakfast for all attendees was served from 8:00 to 9:30, after which welcoming comments were made, and educational sessions were begun. Throughout the day, there were approximately 25 separate seminars hosted by a combination of national representatives and Beta Rho Brothers and Alumni. During these sessions, delegates discussed topics ranging from social programming to Jewish affairs to how to perform the duties of a specific officer position. It was truly a great opportunity to share our experiences with those of other chapters, and this knowledge will be a great benefit to us as we continue to improve our already strong organization.

Conclave is not all about seminars, however. During the official conclave program was a pizza lunch, a video from AEPi's Birthright Israel trip, and a keynote speech by Brown Professor of Sociology and Judaic Studies Calvin Goldscheider. After the last seminars, awards were given to the most outstanding delegates and delegations, and there was a fraternity dinner in the basement of Apsara, Beta Rho's all time favorite spot for tasty, inexpensive Asian food. Later Saturday night, many brothers and guests went to Club Strand in downtown Providence, where they definitely had a great time. Sunday morning, there was a bagels and lox breakfast in the AEPi lounge, followed by the initiation of pledges from RIT.

The entire weekend, packed with events, was the result of a great deal of planning and work, much of which took place as early as last semester. All the conclave co-chairmen are glad for their efforts and grateful to have had the opportunity to coordinate such a successful event. We hope that the benefits of conclave will be long-lasting and that our increased knowledge about fraternity matters and newfound relationships with brothers from other chapters will be with us for many years to come.

David Snitkof '05  
Conclave Co-Chairman

## Jewish Affairs

One of our priorities this semester has been to strengthen the bond between AEPi and Hillel. With this goal in mind, we began our collaboration with Hillel by sponsoring an *oneg* following Friday night services in order to celebrate the opening of the new Glenn and Darcy Weiner Hillel Center. We also cosponsored "Soulfarm in Concert," which featured a Jewish jam band combining a wide variety of modern and traditional styles. Brothers who attended the concert agreed that it was a unique and worthwhile experience.

One of our more memorable Jewish activities this semester was a talk entitled "Macho Jews? A Discussion on Jewish Masculinity," also cosponsored with Hillel. The discussion was held in our lounge and led by Rabbi Rich Kirschen. Topics included stereotypes of the Jewish American male, their origin, and their validity, as well as the contrasting image of the much tougher and more "macho" Israeli male. The talk was interwoven with traditional, Jewish texts compiled by Rabbi Kirschen, which put Jewish masculinity in its historical and religious context.

Collaboration with Hillel also extended to the arena of intramural

sports. Through volleyball and now ultimate frisbee, we have begun a practice of fielding intramural teams run by AEPi brothers that also include players from Hillel. This has given brothers the opportunity to participate in sports they enjoy that AEPi had not generated enough interest for in the past, while also introducing them to other members of the Jewish community.

Finally, on April 5, 2004, we held our annual Seder to observe the first night of Passover. The Seder was expertly led by David Snitkof '05 with dinner provided by David and three of his friends. The Seder was well attended by brothers, alumni, and friends and provided a relaxed atmosphere where all could enjoy this annual tradition.

Dan Teitelbaum '06  
Jewish Affairs Chair



Brothers welcoming attendees to Conclave



David Snitkof with other brothers and guests at our Seder

## Pledge Perspective

The thirteen brothers of the Lambda Pledge Class would like to extend their greetings to the alumni of Beta Rho. Although we all hail from the East Coast, we are still a diverse group of individuals. We study in fields including computer science, history and biochemistry. While we pull good grades we also participate in extracurricular activities such as: playing our hearts out in the Brown Band, beating the life out of others in Brazilian Jujitsu, organizing ADOCH and giving tours with the Bruin Club, and replacing Zero Tolerance with Harm Reduction through the group Students for Sensible Drug Policy.

## Renovations Update

The Lounge Renovation Committee continued to work diligently this semester, and the results continue to amaze alumni, friends, and family who visit the Beta Rho house. I am proud to report that we have completed the renovation of our library, affectionately now known as the “PiLi.” The dark blue walls are decorated with the chapter’s memorabilia—our charter, pledge class paddles, composites, and awards highlight the history and many accomplishments of our chapter. Also, the room contains a new rug, recliner, sofa, and lighting. The centerpiece of the room is now a large wood conference table, surrounded by comfort-

## Community Service

It has been a fruitful semester for AEPi’s community service initiative. Once again, we coordinated the Rhode Island Blood Bank’s Brown University blood drive. This time around, Brown gave more pints of blood than ever before. The Rhode Island Blood Bank was incredibly pleased with our performance. Peter Hanney, a blood drive representative, sent a personal letter thanking us for all our hard work. He hopes we run the drive in the future.

We had a fabulous time during rush and the beginning stages of pledging, learning about AEPi and getting to know both the current brothers and some of the alumni. The trip downtown to the river was nerve-wracking, but we have benefited from the close bonds we have formed with our Big Brothers. The first few weeks we plunged into the history of AEPi, discovering how a bunch of handsome Jewish boys—except Emil Lustgarten—eating franks and kraut founded the fraternity we know and love. But more importantly, we have learned Beta Rho’s history, having spoken with Founding

able black leather chairs. With the added amenity of wireless internet, one can find Beta Rho brothers and pledges holding meetings and studying in the PiLi on any night of the week.

The brothers of Beta Rho are especially thankful for the incredible contribution of Pam Bacharach, who custom-sewed fabulous curtains for both the lounge and library. The curtains add a deep red color to the dark blue and cream walls and give us much needed privacy in both rooms.

The final new feature of our house this semester is a new Connelly pool table. The table, with its dark red felt, is a perfect addition to our redesigned

We were also involved in Pennies for Patients. This organization raises money for Leukemia patients by collecting spare change from students across campus. Our fundraising efforts were successful, and brothers and pledges raised \$230, the second highest total of any house on campus.

On May 1-2, the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life took place on Brown University’s Main Green. The event consisted of multiple teams

Father Josh Mandel ’99 and hearing the story of how the chapter was born.

In the few spare minutes we had, work began on our pledge project building a new table and repainting the ping-pong room so we can finally immortalize the best players among us. Fundraising and our community service project went very well. I am proud of the work we did, and am pleased to tell the alumni that we are looking forward to helping AEPi grow over the next three years.

Michael Gladstone ’07  
Pledge-at-Large

lounge. Brothers and pledges are constantly found playing pool on the new table.

The Lounge Renovations Committee would like to once again thank Pam and David Bacharach for their eternal support. We would also like to thank the alumni who have generously donated money and furniture to assist our renovation efforts. The lounge and library both look fantastic, but we could not have transformed our house without the support of our alumni, family, and friends—thank you all!

Rob Lazerow ’06  
House Manager

representing different organizations on campus that walked from noon to midnight in order to raise money for and awareness of cancer patients. AEPi formed a team of 13 brothers and pledges, and raised over \$500, vastly exceeding the \$100 minimum. We enjoyed walking on a beautiful spring day for a good cause!

Steve Groomman ’05  
Service Chair



Mike Gladstone and Rob Lazerow



Noah Pohl and Tal Itzkovich



Isaac, Josh, and Jon on our bench



Our newly renovated Library



Brothers at the Relay for Life

## Sports Wrap-up

The AEPi Lions intramural team participated in Indoor Soccer, 5-on-5 Basketball, and Indoor Volleyball this winter. Despite a valiant regular season effort, the Lions missed the playoffs in basketball. Volleyball was somewhat more successful, and made it to the semifinals. The team lost in a valiant effort by only two points to the eventual champions, mainly due to the absence of stellar player Zach Teustsch '05.

These near misses were made up for by the spectacular performance of the Indoor Soccer squad. Vast underdogs, being only a #6 seed at the beginning of the playoffs, the soccer team pulled together to make a title run. Led by the outstanding goaltending/sweeping of Ryan Levesque '04, AEPi dispatched our astonished quarterfinal opponent 5-1 with everyone contributing significantly and key goals scored by Nate Cohen '06. We then proceeded to take on TAAKA (perennial IM sports powerhouses) in the semis, who had previously been undefeated. Though lacking the senior leadership of absent Eta Brian Singer '04, the team still managed to overcome an early 2-0 deficit to score a resounding 5-2 victory, sending another solid team packing.

The finals were very tense, with no goals being scored in the first half. Master Mike Rozensher '05 and Josh Markowitz '99 MD '04 locked down the defense and led the team with help from Levesque against a tough opponent, #1 seeded, undefeated, Teddie Smooth. Singer notched a goal early in the second half to break the deadlock, followed by the eventual game winner scored by an aging Markowitz, now in his ninth and final campaign. The Lions withstood a tough late attack by Teddie Smooth, and a spectacular late save by Dan Teitelbaum '06 preserved a 2-1 championship victory!

The team is very grateful to Captain and Athletics Chair Philip Kalisman '06 for continually dragging everyone out to games all season and adding mental and physical toughness. Also instrumental were the contributions on the field from Ari Gerstman '05, Tyson Reist '05, Dave Grabiner '05 and off the field from cheerleaders Josh Troy '04 and Teustsch.

The Lions are looking forward to the results of spring sports Flag Football, 4-on-4 Basketball, and Ultimate Frisbee, and hope to usher in a new era of AEPi sports excellence.

Brian Singer '04



**Standing: Zach Teutsch, Nate Cohen, Josh Markowitz, Mike Rozensher, Dan Teitelbaum, Brian Singer; Kneeling: Phil Kalisman, Akiva Fleischmann, Ryan Levesque, Ari Gerstman**



Championship Meeting Street cookie



Tucker and Josh in a desert somewhere



Jesse and Tucker at the end of the country, where there is no parking

## Beta Rho-D Trip

Everybody likes to talk about how much they'd love to take some time off and drive across the United States, but Jesse Stout '06, Josh Lessing '04, and I actually did it. Twice. This January, we drove 10,000 miles in three weeks.

I left Brown for Christmas break and drove by myself to Florida. On January 1, Josh and Jesse flew down and spent the night at my house in Boca Raton. The following day, we drove off to look for America. My Mazda took us up Florida and due West along the Mexican border, including a visit to Brother Duncan Freidman in New Orleans, remembering The Alamo in San Antonio, and communing with aliens at the Roswell Museum. After seven nights on the road, we pulled into San Diego, where we drove at 2 AM straight to the Pacific so we could get a first glimpse of it. After four nights in California and three in Las Vegas, we headed back East. It was at this point that the trip went from a leisurely vacation to an arduous voyage.

Josh sprained his ankle in Phoenix, and I got a beastly case of tonsillitis in Los Angeles, leaving Jesse as the only potential driver. Furthermore, we decided that we couldn't go back to Rhode Island without seeing Denver, so we added an extra 1,200 miles to our trip so we could come back to Providence via both Denver and Memphis. This required driving about 700 miles a day, which when one person can't walk and one has a persistent fever, and when the time zone keeps changing in the wrong direction, is intense. During this trip, we spent exactly four hours in Denver. However, it was well worth the drive. We stopped in Aspen for - what else - a bagel, and then moved on through the Jazz Museum and Negro League Hall of Fame in Kansas City. We waved to St. Louis's arch as we drove by, made a pilgrimage to Graceland, saw the AEPi brothers at Vanderbilt, and then headed home.

Driving West, we were listening to Jack Kerouac's *On the Road* on an Ipod, though our leisurely experience of America was far different from his. Coming East, though, we got the full experience. The two legs of the trip combined to be exactly what we had wanted out of a trip, and plans are already in the works for a road trip next summer to see the Sad, American North.

Tucker Peck '05  
Brother-at-Large

## Brother and Alumni Accomplishments

Jordan Bleicher '04 - Harvard Law School

Brian Feinstein '04 - Harvard PhD Program, PoliSci

Ryan Levesque '04 - working for AIG in NYC, China

Dan Pastula '03 - Duke Medical School

Brian Singer '04 - working for Q-Logic in the OC

Josh Troy '04 - NYU Law School

Dave Cohen '05 - Phi Beta Kappa Society

Aaron Halegua '04 - Fulbright Scholarship to China

Josh Markowitz '99 MD '04 - Residency at Yale

Mike Rozensher '05 - Phi Beta Kappa Society

Eric Snyder '04 - moving to New York City

Jaron Zitrin '04 - UF Medical School



Jesse Stout and Jeff Gruhler

JOSH MANDEL  
IS NOW CHAPTER ADVISOR,  
TAKING OVER FROM  
JOSH MARKOWITZ.  
THANK YOU FOR FIVE  
GREAT YEARS, MARKO!!



Adi Ganz and Rob Lazerow

### Spring 2004 Officers

- Mike Rozensher '05 Master
- Tyson Reist '05 Lieutenant Master
- Jesse Stout '06 Scribe
- Zach Teutsch '05 Exchequer
- Jesse Boodoo '06 Sentinel
- Tucker Peck '05 Brother-at-Large
- Rob Lazerow '06 House Manager
- Ryan Levesque '04 Immediate Past Master
- Miles Betro '04 Pledgemaster

*This issue of The Front Rho newsletter is brought to you by Scribe Jesse Stout '06.*

### ALUMNI DONATIONS

Beta Rho thanks the following people for their generous donations to our chapter:

#### \$1-\$99:

- David Goldberg '01
- Matt Goldich '01
- Ariel Peikes '01
- Dan Weisholtz '02
- Jared Weiss '01

#### \$100+:

- Andrew Borans
- Sam Ginsberg '00
- Andrew Golodny '03

**ALUMNI, VISIT THE WEBSITE:  
SUBMIT EVENTS; CREATE A  
PROFILE; UPDATE YOUR  
CONTACT INFO!**

### Summer 2004 Alumni Event

Saturday June 12

9:30-11:30 PM

Second on Second  
Restaurant & Bar

27 Second Ave., NYC

We hope to see you there! RSVP to  
Michael\_Rozensher@brown.edu