



MU COW

Newsletter of the Mu Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Pi

July 19, 2023 • Volume V • Issue I



Welcome to all Brothers of AEPi Mu

By Nate Welz, Alumni Relations Chair '25

Brothers — I hope you're all doing well! I'm Nate Welz, an incoming third-year currently serving as the Mu Chapter's Alumni Relations Chair. The Alumni Committee and Executive Board contributors have worked hard to put together this edition of the Mu Cow, and we hope you'll give it a read to learn more about the state of the Chapter. The 2022-2023 school year was, for many of us, the best year of college so far. Through our busy fall and spring semesters, which included a very successful rush process, we grew closer than ever with one another. Last October, despite disappointing results against Louisville, we hosted a highly successful weekend of alumni events. We're excited to announce a similar stream of events on **October 6th-7th, 2023** (with more concrete information to come). These dates coincide with YAR, so we especially hope to see our recent alumni, but all are of course encouraged to attend! Regardless of your ability to travel or attend our events in person, please feel free to connect with me to learn more about the Chapter via phone at (703) 424-6267 or email at aepiuvaalumni@gmail.com. If you missed our Spring 2022 Mu Cow for any reason, you can find it on our website [here](#).

Fall 2023 Officers

Master:	Andrew Gaines	Social Chair:	Hugh Trotter
Lieutenant Master:	Max Borenstein	House Manager:	Matt Krinn
Rush Chairs:	Robby Lefkowitz & Logan Wasserman	Exchequer:	Jason Simon
Sentinel:	Zach Raney	Scribe:	Trent Cohen
		New Member Educator:	Nathan Henderson



On behalf of the Chapter, I'd also like to extend our gratitude to all of you who donated over the past year towards our \$50,000 capital campaign and to this year's philanthropy efforts (more on that extremely successful event below)! Your generous donations since last summer helped us purchase a new washer and dryer and to have Vantine reproduce sixteen years of composites with a four on one design. Vantine has our composites on file as far back as 1978, but brothers Rick Greene (Mu '66) and Dr. Jay Levine (Mu '60) kindly allowed us to copy their '63 - '66 and '58 respectively. The composite years we have been able to afford thus far to reproduce as a four on one are '63 - '66, '78 - '81, '82 - '85, and '86 - '89. Photos of them are below. The remaining four on ones we need to purchase are '90 - '93, '94 - '97, '98 - '01, '02 - '05, and '06 - '09.

The cost to reproduce these twenty years of composites is approximately \$4,000, and they will be paid for via your tax deductible donations from this day forward to our [Alpha Epsilon Pi UVA Alumni Fund](#). It is administered by UVA's Alumni Association with disbursements authorized by our chapter advisor, Dr. Adam Salzberg (Mu '98). All contributions to our Alumni Fund are considered gifts to The University of Virginia.

In addition to allowing us to purchase the remaining composites, your generous donations allow us to pay for capital improvements along with repairs and maintenance that exceed the chapter's budget.

Again, I hope you and your families can attend our alumni weekend. Please stay in touch, and I hope you enjoy this Mu Cow!



4 in 1 composites repurchased thanks to
your generous support





From the Desk of the Master

By Andrew Gaines, Master '25

Greetings to all of my brothers! I hope that the newest issue of the Mu Cow finds you well. My name is Andrew Gaines, and I have the outstanding honor to serve as Master for the Mu Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Pi through the upcoming fall semester. Following my first semester serving as Master, I can say how incredibly grateful I am to hold this rewarding position and work with the best groups of guys I have ever been a part of. I am very excited to continue this opportunity and can't wait to ensure the continued success of the Chapter and all of its outstanding members, both past and present.

My term as Master started on a high note thanks to all of the hard work that the brothers put into recruiting and welcoming the new pledge class. Huge shout out to our Rush Chairs Todd Rissman and Zach Garfinkel. We were fortunate enough to add 16 honest, respectful, and intelligent young men to the Mu Chapter! These gentlemen have proved their commitment to the fraternity and I could not be more excited to watch them continue to grow and see how they impact this great Chapter.

On another note, we followed last year's first ever Foam Darty with the second annual, and highly successful, Foam Darty on April 15th. This philanthropy event, which took place on the lawn of our satellite house, was filled with even more foam, pieing brothers in the face, and an inflatable water slide. This fantastic event in combination with our Roots fundraiser allowed us to raise an astounding \$3,700 for the UVA Heart Family Fund. You can read about this further in the Philanthropy Recap section!

The Mu Chapter has had to endure lots of unexpected challenges and has had to make various adjustments over the last few years, but it is clear that it has only made us stronger; I couldn't be more proud of the commitment that the brotherhood has displayed. This past year marked the first full year in which all COVID restrictions were rescinded, and it was very refreshing to be able to put on our events again at full capacity. Our brotherhood camping trip was one of such events which we were able to pull off for the second year in a row since COVID forced us to cancel it. It also marked the first



year in which the executive board welcomed the newest position of Sentinel. Zach Harris, our Chapter's first Sentinel, worked considerably to ensure that our Chapter managed risk effectively and welcomed our new pledge class smoothly.

As mentioned above by our Alumni Relations Chair Nate Welz, I also want to follow up on the success of the Chapter's fundraiser to reproduce past Mu Chapter composites. A huge thanks to Dr. Jay Levine and everyone else who contributed financially to allow us to reclaim these pieces of your Chapter's history! This project, however, is not fully finished. In addition to the remaining twenty years available to purchase from Vantine with your generous donations from this day forward, if you have composites prior to '63 or '67 - '77, please contact us so we can arrange to copy and proudly display them.

The future of our Chapter is brighter than ever and I can't wait to see how the unknowns fall. I am beyond excited not only to lead everybody for the next semester, but continue to be involved for the rest of my time here and beyond. Thank you for taking the time to check in and I hope you continue to stay involved with the Mu Chapter of AEPI.

Fraternally,

Andrew Gaines

Brotherhood Update & Philanthropy Recap

By Max Borenstein, Lieutenant Master '25

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This past semester I am privileged to have served as Lieutenant Master, where I oversee all of minor board, philanthropy, and brotherhood events. Last semester, it was such a pleasure to work with all of the members of minor board, E-board, and especially our Master, Andrew Gaines, to accomplish all of our tasks for the year. I am proud to announce once again that our brotherhood camping trip was successful again this year. However, this year we upgraded from tents to nice cabins at a local retreat called Camp Holiday Trails, which created an amazing brotherhood bonding experience for everyone. We hope to carry on this tradition to future generations of our chapter at UVA.

In terms of Philanthropy, we had an incredible semester all around. Firstly, this was the first time that we had not just Philanthropy events, but an entire Philanthropy week for our chapter. This included a Roots Fundraiser, a Car Wash at the House, and our flagship event - Foam Darty. Similar to last year, Foam Darty was an absolute highlight, and we had record attendance for the Darty, a waterslide, and we also raised a ton of money through tickets and pieing people. As in years past, we raised money for the UVA Heart Family Fund, a charity that provides meals, housing, and general help to families at the UVA Children's hospital, truly a great cause. I am proud to announce that we raised around \$3700 through our Spring Philanthropy week for the UVA Heart Family Fund. We cannot wait to take this momentum and continue into the fall, where we hope to have another Roots Fundraiser, a Chipotle Fundraiser, and a Boylan Philanthropy Trivia night. We are very proud to continue representing AEPi UVA in a positive way in the UVA Community through our Philanthropy in the fall.

Meet the Mu Pledge Class

By Ned Kronenberg, Pledge Class President '26

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16 valiant, strong, intelligent and handsome young men have joined Alpha Epsilon Pi's Mu Chapter this past spring, and it is about time that you hear their story. We are the Mu Pledge Class, and we are proud to be triumphant brothers of Alpha Epsilon Pi.

Our exciting class loved making a presence at events throughout the semester. Although we only met as a class in January, it feels like we've known each other for years. In less than 4 months, we planned our own party, stayed up late around the fire during the camping trip, looked incredibly dapper at Beach Formal in Nags Head, and celebrated the end of the year in Myrtle Beach. When "Risotto" Palazotto was asked about his favorite memory from the semester, he couldn't look past the first hangout post bid day. This was the first time it became clear that the Mu Pledge Class would build a lifelong connection of brotherhood together. This connection can be seen in our nicknames for each other, with Mus such as "Munch" Schwartz and "Slewnior" Lewis being some of our finest and most respectable men. When talking about the Mu pledge class, it's hard to look past the incredible academic and extracurricular achievements of this wonderful group of young men. Our class consists of multiple Dean's List honorees, Echols Scholars, and the President of the Engineering Student Council. There are members of top business and academic clubs, many of which are on their way to McIntire School of

Commerce, Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, medical school, law school and beyond. The ambitious LJ Jones and Jonah Wilentz also made an amazing bid for Co-Rush Chair just minutes after being initiated, showing what the Mus are all about - commitment and involvement.



The Mu pledge class is also extensively involved with the Jewish community here at UVA. Thirteen Mus proudly represent their Jewish heritage on grounds and many are active members and leaders at UVA's Hillel, or "Halal," as one of our Mus with some southern twang once said.

Members of the Mu PC at Humpback Rock



As our semester comes to a close, the Mu Pledge Class is immensely proud to be able to call each other brothers of Alpha Epsilon Pi. We are so excited to take on the responsibility of brotherhood and give the next generation of valiant, intelligent and handsome young men the opportunity of brotherhood in Alpha Epsilon Pi. We would also like to thank the Lambdas, Kappas, and especially the outgoing Iotas for showing us what brotherhood should and does feel like, and for setting the highest of standards for a chapter of Alpha Epsilon Pi.

The Status of 1702 Grady Ave.

By Alec Kane, Former House Manager '24

This school year was challenging for the house, but it has concluded with much promise for the future. We were tasked with innumerable expenses for maintenance, the costliest of which were installing a new grease trap in the kitchen, a series of repairs on the HVAC system, and the restoration of lighting fixtures. This year, while difficult, also brought about a series of improvements for the house, such as the hanging of the newly arrived composites generously gifted as part of an alumni donation campaign, and the alumni fund's contribution for new appliances. This goal of improvement is being continued through the summer by Jason Simon, the recently elected house manager. Our continued work during the year is the manifestation of a renewed commitment towards bettering the conditions of the house, a mission that we invite all our alumni to experience for themselves at the beginning of the upcoming school year.



Volunteering in the Community

By Zach Harris, Civic Engagement Chair '24

Over the past academic year, AEPi has continued to strengthen its relationship with the Ranger's Refuge at Gallastar, a nonprofit animal sanctuary located in Esmont, Virginia. Gallastar houses over two hundred abandoned or stray farm animals of all kinds, offering them food, shelter, and a new life.

The organization is run by Ron and Lorelei Pulliam, both UVa alumni, and has partnered with Madison House (the volunteering center for UVa students) under their Animals and Environmental Services



Brothers volunteering at the farm

track for a number of years. Last year a small number of AEPi brothers began spending their Sunday mornings at Gallastar, helping with construction repairs and animal care. That number has grown remarkably this year, with over ten brothers consistently attending Madison House volunteer shifts. This has significantly increased Gallastar's overall volunteer attendance rate and allowed them to undertake more extensive projects, such as installing fencing to surround the entire farm's perimeter. Volunteering at Gallastar offers the unique opportunity to help sustain the efforts of Ron and Lorelei and make drastic improvements to the

livelihoods of a number of animals at every shift. Since my first year at UVa, I have found this experience to be incredibly meaningful and am thrilled to have overseen another year with the brothers of AEPi contributing to such efforts.



If you are interested in learning more about the Ranger's Refuge at Gallastar, or sponsoring an animal (making monthly donations of \$25-50 for the upkeep of a particular animal), please visit their website at <https://rangersrefugeatgallastar.com/>.

Jewish Identity

By Robby Lefkowitz and Eli Beubein, Jewish Identity Co-Chairs '25



Brothers after Shabbat dinner on Birthright

Hello! We are Robby Lefkowitz and Eli Beubein, and we are the co-Jewish Identity chairs for AEPI!

This year, the brotherhood was engaged and connected deeply with their Jewish identity through various measures. A few of our brothers held internships with the Brody Jewish Center, UVAs Hillel, including two who served as first-year engagement interns that were responsible for meeting with first-year students to try and get them more involved in Jewish life, one who served as the vice chair of the advisory board, one who served as the Israeli education intern, one who served as Tikkun Olam intern, and another who served as special events intern. In addition, many brothers would regularly attend Friday night Shabbat dinners at Hillel and use the facilities in the building's Larry W. Berman student center wing for studying. Many of the new members from the newly initiated MU pledge class were very involved in Hillel this past fall, with some of them participating in the first-year Hillel Jewish Leadership Institute program. This program is designed for groups of first-year students to come up with a program over a few weeks that they feel will improve Jewish Life on grounds at UVA. We will have two second years serving as first-year engagement interns heading into next year!



Outside of leadership positions and involvement in Hillel, brothers strongly connected to their Jewish identities when we sent 14 of our very own on the winter session of birthright. For some, it was not their first time, but it was the first time that they could enjoy Israel with fellow fraternity brothers. For others like myself (Robby), spending two weeks in Israel for my first time with fellow brothers was an experience that I, and others, will not forget.

In the classroom, brothers take various religious and Jewish studies classes that are enjoyable and enriching for many of us. Being able to take classes at school that further expand our knowledge of Judaism is very meaningful to many of us. Many brothers are also part of a club here at UVA called TAMID- an Israeli investing and consulting group- that many brothers play an active role. One highlight that occurred toward the end of the semester was a Shabbat dinner that was organized through Chabad for AEPI brothers to attend. There were many brothers in attendance, and was very meaningful for us to find time in our busy weekend schedules to all come together to bring in Shabbat together. While many of us come from different levels of observance, in this moment in time none of that mattered as all of us were united around the table as Jewish students at UVA.

A Note about the Upcoming Alumni Weekend

Although we haven't finalized all of the details, AEPI Mu will host two alumni events from October 6th-7th, 2022, rain or shine. For younger alumni, these dates coincide with YAR, so we hope that you were already planning to be in town (book your flights and hotel rooms now!) and are available that weekend.

- AEPI house at 1702 Grady Ave., Charlottesville, VA 22903 on the evening of Friday, October 6th
- Satellite house ("The O'Keeffe House") at 1212 Wertland St., Charlottesville, VA 22903 during the day for a tailgate before the football game (details TBA)

To help us plan, please indicate preliminarily whether you plan to attend either of these events [here](#).



Our main goal in sending out the Mu Cow is to connect with as many of you as possible. We truly want to hear about your past experiences in the Chapter, and we want to *see* them too! So, please consider sharing any pictures you still have from your time in Charlottesville or brotherhood reunions you've held after graduating. Additionally, to keep our alumni records up-to-date and give you a chance to ask any questions, we ask kindly that you fill out this [form](#), which we sent out last year, as well.

A Message from the Mu Chapter Advisor

By Dr. Adam Salzberg, Mu '98

I hope all of you and your families are doing well. I am extremely proud of our undergraduate brothers for conducting a successful rush this spring and recently initiating sixteen new brothers. Our Chapter's brothers continue to excel academically, in their extracurricular activities, and with philanthropy. It has been a privilege to serve as our Chapter Advisor for the past 20 years (including as a Co-Advisor with Dr. Jay Levine from '03 – '05), and I intend to continue volunteering in this role for the foreseeable future. As a Crozet resident, it's convenient to live only 20 minutes from our Grady Ave. house. This proximity allows me to meet in person with the Executive Board and other brothers as needed and to annually attend (at a minimum) and speak at Chapter meetings.

In the July '21 Mu Cow, we kicked off a \$50,000 capital campaign led by the brothers and with my assistance. Since the '22 Mu Cow was sent out on 7-8-22, 35 of our alumni donated \$3,885. We greatly appreciate their generosity. So, our remaining capital campaign goal is \$40,885. Any and all donations to our [UVA Alumni Fund](#) are helpful. We thank you in advance for your financial support of your fraternity.



Our Grady Ave. house (and many other AEPi chapter houses) is part of the corporate entity “University Chapter Fraternal Home Corporation” owned by nationals. Our lessor and property management company is [Esponda Associates](#). Esponda Associates requires the repairs and maintenance budget is funded \$20,000 annually. To lower rent and keep housing costs in line with market rates, the annual R & M budget was (and continues to be) funded with an increase in dues to all brothers. Since all brothers use the house, it’s fair that everyone contributes to its upkeep. Any repair, maintenance, or capital improvement expense that exceeds the chapter’s ability to pay via house funds and our alumni fund is paid with what Esponda Associates calls “trustee cash.” This is an interest-bearing, home equity line of credit held by nationals. Borrowing trustee cash increases our housing costs. In a worst-case scenario, borrowing large amounts of trustee cash would cause our leases to far exceed market rates, resulting in brothers being unable to afford to live in our house. This would cause us to lose our house, and our Chapter would fold. Our current mortgage balance is \$335,000, and our trustee balance is \$99,805 for a total of \$434,805 owed to nationals. Achieving our remaining capital campaign goal of \$40,885 will will allow us to fund capital improvements (such as replacing missing composites), allow us to afford repairs and maintenance that exceed our Chapter’s R & M budget, and prevent us from borrowing more trustee cash from nationals.

I hope many of you can come to Charlottesville for the Oct. 7 - 8 Mu alumni weekend. I look forward to a fun weekend with all of you and your families.

Fraternally,

Adam Salzberg

Chapter Advisor, Mu ‘98

*We hope you enjoyed reading through this edition of the Mu Cow.
Please continue to the next page for photos!*



Snapshots of Brotherhood Moments









HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to all of our new graduates, Iotas and (some) Kappas alike! We are grateful that life mostly returned to normal and each of you could finish your college careers on a high note. And most importantly, we are confident that each and every one of you will find success and happiness in all of your future endeavors, whatever they may be.



Graduating Iotas

<i>Aaron Miller</i>	<i>Josh Hambrecht</i>
<i>Cameron Weisfeld</i>	<i>Matt Nolan</i>
<i>Cooper Scher</i>	<i>Max Pilloff</i>
<i>Drew Goldman</i>	<i>Tillman Dean</i>
<i>Ethan Gimbel</i>	<i>Todd Rissman</i>
<i>Jaden Kyler-Wank</i>	<i>Zach Abruzzese</i>
<i>Josh Gen</i>	<i>Zach Garfinkel</i>

Graduating Kappas

<i>Andy Ringold*</i>	<i>Michael Murphy</i>
<i>Cesar Engelhard</i>	<i>Udhava Gupta</i>

**Graduated in three years*

We love you endlessly and will miss you. Thank you for making our college and fraternity experiences so memorable. Whatever you're up to in the years ahead, please be sure to find time to visit C'ville. You're always welcome here.