

AEP

Sigma Eta Chapter

Fall 2014



Letter from the Master

Dear Brothers, Alumni, Family and Friends,

I know that I have met many of you, but to those that I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting, my name is Jonathan Cohen. I am studying both Mechanical Engineering and Finance. In this newsletter, you will find exciting updates about several alumni, read about exciting events held by our chapter, and become aware of some very important dates as it relates to our bid for recognition by Lehigh University!

We've been working hard on our university recognition initiative and after a lot of hard work, I am pleased to announce that we have moved on to the second stage of that process, which will be a presentation to the expansion committee. The presentation will take place on November 19th at 4:00 PM at Lehigh University (Location TBD). We are one of three fraternities presenting, the others being Zeta Beta Tau and Sigma Alpha Mu. You can find out more about the Lehigh Interfraternity Council's decision to expand Greek Life here: lehighgrieks.blogspot.com/2014/11/ifc-expansion.html.

It truly seems that everyday we grow stronger as a brotherhood. I would like to express how impressed I am with all the work that our AEPi brothers, both at Lehigh and around the world, have put in to make our experience in this esteemed fraternity so meaningful. In recent months, Young Jews at colleges and universities across the country have been the target of anti-Semitism and anti-Israel sentiment in appalling numbers, with recent examples at Emory, Union, Yale, and yes even one of our brothers at Lehigh University (<http://tinyurl.com/LehighSwastika>). However, after attending the 101st annual AEPi Convention in Toronto, as well as the AEPi Israel Advocacy Summit sponsored by Sheldon Adelson, I know that brothers, including myself, have been inspired and invigorated to stand up for what they believe in to become pro-Jewish and Israel leaders in their communities.

As a chapter, we have grown to embody Jewish life at Lehigh. I am proud to say that brothers hold the vast majority of leadership positions in every single Jewish and Israeli-oriented group on campus, including Hillel, Chabad, the Friends of Israel and the TAMID Israel Investment Group. Just this week, Friends of Israel coordinated an exciting intro to Krav Maga event and co-sponsored with the Zoellner Arts Center to host Israeli musician Idan Raichel! Through organizing events such as these, brothers in our chapter are able to shape the growth of the Jewish community on campus.

Over the past few months, we have worked closely with the Alpha Epsilon Pi headquarters, more specifically our Educational Leadership Consultant, Jared Litroff. Additionally, we've received a considerable amount of help from a number of alumni, including Joshua Greenberg '13, Jon Kameneer '07, Scott Van Pelt '07, Nate Golub '05, David Finkle '88, and Roberto Fischman '76. **We encourage every single one of you to come show your support in numbers, we need you, and now is the time!**

Fraternally,
Jonathan Cohen
Class of 2015
Master



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AEPI Israel Programming in Las Vegas

After a tumultuous summer in Israel, AEPI alumni and pro-Israel advocates Michael Leven and Sheldon Adelson flew one-hundred-fifty AEPI brothers, including Jon Cohen and myself, to Las Vegas to the beautiful Venetian.

Jon and I spent the next three days networking with AEPI students and professionals, learning, and, of course, meandering our ways through the nearly perfect Venetian resort.

In Las Vegas, we learned from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Alan Dershowitz, Neil Lazarus, and the rest of the AEPI family about Israel's history, advocacy for Israeli issues, and how to best combat anti-Semitic and anti-Israeli rhetoric that we've encountered in recent months. Since returning from our trip, our chapter has worked closely with Lehigh's Friends of Israel, TAMID Israel Investment Group, Hillel, and Chabad to sponsor a massive pro-Israel week.

See you at LeLaf! We hope to speak to you soon!

Dean Kroker

Class of 2016



Brothers Allon Vitenson, Jon Cohen, Sam Cassell, and Shane Wolfe at the 101st International AEPI Convention in Toronto.



Brothers with Chabad Rabbi Zalman Greenberg during Sukkot.



Brothers Jon Cohen and Dean Kroker with Sheldon Adelson at the Israel Advocacy Summit.

Brothers Expanding their Horizons

Samuel Waldorf, a junior Supply Chain Management major, had the opportunity last winter break to travel to India through his involvement as the president of the Global Citizenship Program at Lehigh. The Global Citizenship Program focuses on what it means to be a citizen of the world in today's day and age, by providing fantastic cultural experiences outside of the classroom.

"While in India, we visited all the normal tourist attractions, like the Taj Mahal and Red Fort, but we also were able to meet political and business leaders that traveling alone we would have otherwise been unable to meet.

The itinerary of the trip allowed us to juxtapose both the grim and modern India. We started one day in the slums of New Delhi and ended it at the lavish headquarters of a worldwide leader for information technology services. The socioeconomic inequality was noticed throughout the trip, but in conversation with our tour guide and other natives, it was clear that Indians were full of hope for the future. Of course this was just a few months before their election as well.

For such a large country, there is an unmistakable sense of unity and pride that is to be admired. The culture, architecture, and even food, are unique and cannot be fully experienced through a picture on the Internet.

I also suggest if you know of any student about to start Lehigh in the coming years, to recommend they apply at the Global Citizenship Program. Other than AEPi, it has been my most rewarding experience at Lehigh."

Brandon Mauss, a senior Accounting major, spent this past summer interning for the accounting firm Grant Thornton LLP in Düsseldorf, Germany as one of the recipients of the Tauck Scholarship through the College of Business and Economics. The Tauck Scholarship is a highly competitive award and allows the scholar the opportunity to gain real-life international work experience supported through an endowment.

"Visiting other countries opens people up to new cultures. It allows you to experience different food, see new sights, and meet people of different backgrounds than your own. I spent a month immersing myself in German culture and their work environment. At Grant Thornton, I worked as part of a team for one of their clients.

I proceeded to travel for an additional three weeks all over Europe with last year's Master, Matthew Golden, and saw an additional ten countries. Working with six different currencies, taking countless flights, and jumping from city to city further strengthened not only my knowledge of the world but my faith in myself that I could accomplish whatever I set out to do."

Brandon Mauss

Class of 2015



Sam Waldorf



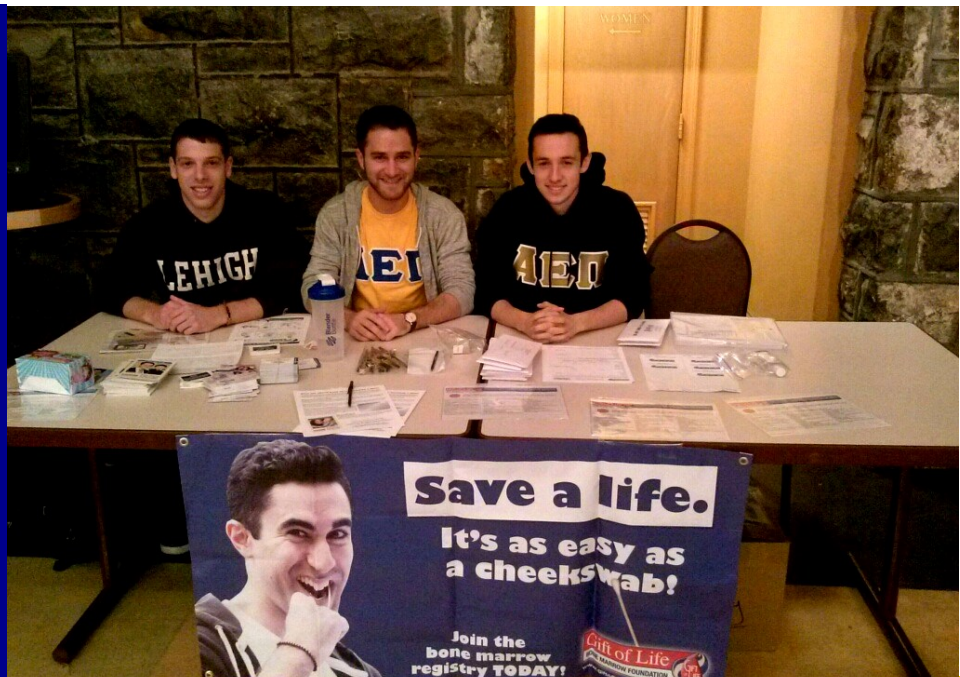
Brandon Mauss

Gift of Life

On October 23rd and 24th brothers of the Sigma Eta Chapter, in a joint effort with the Hillel Society, brought the Gift of Life Donor Drive to campus. The Gift of Life Bone Marrow Foundation is an official philanthropy and a current beneficiary of Alpha Epsilon Pi. For those who may not know, Gift of Life is a public bone marrow and stem cell registry and is a leader in facilitating transplants for both children and adults who are fighting diseases such as leukemia and lymphoma, along with other cancers and genetic diseases. Brothers set up a table at the University Center and volunteered to run the drive by way of collecting information from individuals and facilitating a few quick cheek swabs to send off to the registry so they may one day become a possible match for a donee. It is a common misconception that all donations require surgery. 80% of donations are done through peripheral blood stem cell collection, while the remaining 20% do require a bone marrow donation procedure. The drive proved to be a success with nearly 40 participants offering their time and patience to become potential donors in the future and to ultimately help save a life.

Mitch Biler

Class of 2015



Brothers Drew Berger, Dean Kroger, and Mitch Biler volunteering at the Gift of Life Event.

Jewish Life in the Fraternity

The start of a new school year is always an exciting time for Jewish life in AEPi. Other than being a time to catch up with friends after a refreshing summer and attend interesting new courses, the new school year always coincides with Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. This spiritual time signals the start of a nearly month-long parade of Jewish holidays, including Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah. Every year, we in the Sigma Eta chapter of AEPi celebrate these holidays together as a house with a wonderful mix of Judaism, fun, and brotherly bonding. From attending services together on Rosh Hashanah to fasting together during Yom Kippur, our brothers have created a home away from home for themselves during the most important time of the Jewish year. The community we have created for ourselves is especially enriching during these High Holidays when we enjoy the Jewish spirit within our own house but also extend our community to include both the Hillel Society and Chabad. This year, AEPi at Lehigh helped lead the various holiday services, as well as planned, prepared, and attended various holiday celebrations.

One of our favorite events from the past couple weeks was "Hookah in the Sukkah." After ending a delicious Kosher-dairy dinner surrounded by brothers and friends, AEPi brothers relaxed and schmoozed. Taking time out from the middle of our busy week to fulfill the mitzvah of having a meal inside a sukkah and chilling out with friends was an excellent way to rejuvenate both our spiritual and mental selves. We look forward to continuing to grow the Jewish community at Lehigh and strengthening the bonds of Jewish faith within our own AEPi chapter.

Allon Vitenson

Class of 2017



Brothers, family, and friends tailgating before the Lehigh vs. Fordham Game

We're Going Streaking!

Soccer

The first intramural sport of the year was soccer. Many teams entered the tournament this year coming off the World Cup hype. We were scheduled to play DChi, Theta Chi, and Baby Apple. Baby Apple got the best of our squad to start pool play. In the second game, our boys played DChi well and took them to overtime. In the first half, DChi scored two quick goals and took the lead into halftime 2-0. In the second half, goals by sophomores Harrison Pfeiffer and Sam Cassell drew the teams even. Despite the great second half, DChi took home the victory in OT. In the last game of the year, ringer Matt Golden appeared to lead our team to an overtime victory over Theta Chi. The two teams played scoreless for most of the game before the opposing team scored with five minutes left. In the final minute, Cassell scored to send the game into OT. In the extra period, Golden sent a beautiful pass to Cassell who smashed home the game winner.

Football

After a strong finish to soccer, the house team moved into football season. In our pool, our squad was scheduled to play PhiDelt, PsiU and PIKE. Lining up behind center this year was sophomore Sam Cassell. In the first game, PhiDelt took the lead on the first drive, but never scored again. The defense, led by sophomore Harrison Pfeiffer allowed two first downs the entire game. On the offensive side of the ball, sophomores Cassell and Shane Wolfe combined for seven TD passes. The second game against PsiU was a little tougher. PsiU took the lead into half, before the offense started churning. The defense also stepped up again and held the opposition to one TD in the second half. The undefeated record led to our team being placed as the #2 seed. However, the season ended in the playoffs after a loss to a strong DPhi team.

2v2 Basketball

The house team continued its intramural success in 2v2 basketball. In the first game, we were scheduled to play against DChi. Seniors Evan Warner and Adam Kurzer led the way to victory. In the squad's second game against Red Pandas, the opposition forgot to show up. The score was reported as a 19-1 victory to the house. In the last game of pool play, senior Robbie Daitzman and sophomore Shane Wolfe paced the team to another undefeated pool play. At the time of print, the team is seeded #1 overall in the playoff bracket.

Sam Cassell

Class of 2017

Alumni News

After completing officer training in Missouri, Second Lieutenant Matthew Golden '14 will be leaving for his post as an army engineer at Schofield Barracks in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Zachary Daniels '14 is engaged to be married to Alicia Roeder, a graduate of the music education program at Moravian College.

Samuel Goldstein '10 recently accepted a new job at The Blackstone Group.

Josh Coron '09 and Jaclyn Rosenberg were married in late August. Brothers Alan Abeel '09, Andrew Daniels '10, David Disler '10, Samuel Goldstein '10, Gary Sorkin '09, '10G served as groomsmen.

Want to be featured in our next newsletter? Email us at sigmaetaepi@gmail.com with Alumni News in the subject line.

A Message from the Alumni Advisor

Dear Alumni,

Happy New Year! As you may have read in the last newsletter and the numerous emails from the fraternity since, I have taken on the role of chapter advisor. And in that capacity, over the summer and into the fall months, I have been busy working with chapter leadership on three main projects.

At the end of the 2013-2014 academic year, the chapter resolved to rehabilitate chapter and alumni relations and to provide opportunities for alumni to engage with the chapter by establishing the Alumni Board of Advisors and rolling out new and attractive events. In fact, that is how I came into my position. Over the summer, Zach Cahn, Lieutenant Master, and I drafted a charter for the Alumni Board of Advisors and I have continued to work with the brotherhood to get it off the ground. **If you are interested in joining the Alumni Board of Advisors, please complete a brief interest form here:** <http://goo.gl/forms/qz3dJgfDOd>. In the way of alumni programming, Sam Waldorf and I have put together what promises to be a fantastic Lehigh-Lafayette tailgate at Yankee Tavern, which is now completely sold out!

I have also been working very closely with chapter leadership to implement best practices for certain key functions of the chapter (e.g., recruitment, social, new member education, and risk management) and the brotherhood, in general. This goal setting and audit process, as well as officer transitions, are things that will eventually fall under the purview of the Alumni Board of Advisors.

Of course, Jon Cohen, Zach Cahn, and I have been incredibly focused on writing the application and designing the presentation to Lehigh's Greek expansion committee. If you are interested in reading the materials submitted, we would be happy to them to you. As I'm sure you've now been made aware, we made the short list and have been chosen to present to the Lehigh community on November 19th at 4:00 pm. **If you are available, to make the trip to Lehigh and attend the presentation, RSVP here:** <http://tinyurl.com/RecognitionPresentation>. Alumni support is incredibly important to the Greek expansion committee because it demonstrates that an active alumni base will support the fraternity and ensure its long-term continuity and viability.

On behalf of the chapter, thank you for your continued support of Alpha Epsilon Pi and I hope to see you at the presentation and Lehigh-Lafayette.

Josh Greenberg

Class of 2013

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