



AEPI Spring 2010 Newsletter

ΣΗ Chapter



Letter From The Master

Dear Alumni, Brothers, and Friends,

The spring 2010 semester has been a great one for the Sigma Eta chapter of AEPI. Throughout the entire semester I have seen the resilience of our brotherhood and their steadfastness to the ideals of our fraternity. This semester we had many brotherhood events, socials, and most importantly, a new pledge class. We recently initiated seven outstanding new brothers who clearly represent our chapter's highest standards. Three of these newly initiated brothers will be serving on E-Board next year which shows their dedication and interest in our chapter's progress into the future.

We had many brotherhood events which included trips to the Lehigh Grand Prix and The Lost River Caverns. Many brothers attended these events and had a great time.

Next year we have secured the entire Laufer Street block and will have 601, 603, 605, and 607. This will allow our brotherhood to consolidate and form a more cohesive group since everyone will be neighbors. Future plans for this arrangement will be to work with our landlord and AEPI national to sign a long-term lease and make improvements to the 601 kitchen along with all of the backyards so Laufer Street will be more suitable for future brotherhood, rush, and social events.

I have been in contact with Tim Wilkinson, Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs, throughout the semester and at our most recent meeting we talked about our chapter's current relationship with Lehigh. Constant communication and openness will allow for a positive relationship with the University in the future. As for now we need to make sure next semester we have an outstanding rush, within university guidelines, and give out as many pre-bids as possible so we can have a large quality spring semester pledge class.

Over the winter break many brothers came back for a weekend of cleaning and making improvements to 601. These improvements included replacing the entire basement ceiling, installing a new bathroom door, and an extensive cleaning of the basement and living room, and much more. These initiatives, supplemented with a brand new leather couch from AEPI national and the repainting and cleaning of the chapter room by our pledges has created a very nicely improved chapter house.

In order for our chapter to enjoy continued growth, we need the support of our alumni. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.

It has been an honor and a privilege serving as Master for the Sigma Eta chapter this past school year. Going forward, I am confident that the next Master, Elie Vogel will have the leadership skills necessary to allow our chapter forward and continue to allow Sigma Eta to thrive.

Special points of interest:

- Letter From The Master
- Philanthropy
- From Freshman to Master
- Joining A Brotherhood
- Trip of a Lifetime

Vermont ski trip



Most Fraternally,

Sam Goldstein

Master '09-'10, Sigma Eta Chapter

Philanthropy



This semester philanthropy was made a priority, setting out to make as much as a contribution as possible. The philanthropy chair, Matt Richards, decided to capitalize on every opportunity to be involved. The first week of the semester, AEPi rushed into action, running a fundraiser for the earthquake stricken Haiti. Our quick action made the fundraiser a success, raising over \$1500. AEPi plans to be involved with Relay for Life and other campus philanthropy events. The brothers participated in the Delta Gamma Anchor Slam Basketball tournament and will be involved in Kappa Alpha Theta's Walk a Mile in Her Shoes fundraising walk. The Pledges even pitched in by doing a Southside clean up and were thanked by Chief Shupp himself for their selflessness.

Even further, the Jewish Cultural Association, of which most brothers are a part of is hosting many philanthropy events on campus. Recently, the club's first event Lehigh'em, raised \$300 dollars for Haiti. The club will next be running a Gift of Life bone marrow drive in the fall, which most brothers will be involved with.

AEPi has one more large event coming up this semester. We will be running a poker night on campus to raise money for one of national's official charities, Chai Lifeline. We are expecting a big turn out and for the event to be a smash hit.

Eric Wankoff
Class of 2012

*"Through the end
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knew that I had
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after initiation."*

Elie Vogel '12

Joining a Brotherhood

When I entered Lehigh as a freshman last fall, I was all but certain I would not join a fraternity. I wanted to have an eclectic group of friends and I wanted to be an active part of the campus community; I figured joining a fraternity would hinder me from achieving those goals. However, as the fall semester dwindled I met two people, Alex Ades and Jason Katz, who have really become very close friends. When I learned that they were brothers of AEPi, I decided to give the fraternity consideration. And so, when winter break ended and I came back to school for spring semester, I decided to rush AEPi. I had been rushing two other fraternities as well, but AEPi stood out for several reasons. The most important aspect that swayed my decision was the strong content of character of the brothers within the fraternity. The genuine respect and concern put forth by the brothers was something that always made me feel welcome. I did not feel obliged to try to pretend to be someone different from myself. This welcoming environment has helped surround me with some very wonderful people, and the experience of getting to know the fraternity itself has been something that I have thoroughly enjoyed – and I am hopeful that this experience carries over for the months and years ahead.

Jon Dubnoff
Class of 2013



*"strong content
of character of
the brothers
within the fra-
ternity"*

Jon Dubnoff '13

Words From Our New Master

As far as freshman experiences go, mine was quite atypical. After arriving at Lehigh last year as a freshman, I walked into my dorm expecting hundreds of freshmen with girls littered everywhere. Instead, I found a dorm with 48 people total, with only twelve being freshmen, and all members being men. I coped with my social isolation by going out as much as I could and checking out the greek scene at Lehigh University. What I found did not help in the least bit. I found fraternities whose brothers had IQ's of a sea monkey, and whose concept of brotherhood was sharing a girl. Thinking that I wouldn't find a group of people with similar values, I considered transferring to another school.

Flash forward to second semester. I saw a flyer for a fraternity I hadn't heard of at Lehigh at the library, AEPi. I was intrigued and talked to my friends about this newfound fraternity and gathered some information from people who had partied there. One of my pre-orientation friends contacted me about AEPi and told me he had become a brother there. Slowly but surely the brothers got me down to their house, and after a few weeks, decided to give me a bid. Even though second semester pledges are usually known as "Plan-B pledges, I soon found myself in a fraternity that shared my values with brothers whom I could relate to and have intelligent conversations. Through the end of pledging I knew that I had found something special and was excited to wear my letters the day after initiation.

Over this past year, as a sophomore, I grew to truly love the fraternity and the brothers. I became more involved with planning fraternal activities as Jewish Leadership Chair, and attended as many brotherhood events as a Lehigh engineer can. Second semester sophomore year, a week or two before elec-

tions, I considered what position I should run for. As I thought of each and every positions, I found myself desiring more responsibility and more say in how the fraternity should be run. Eventually, I decided to run for Master of AEPi, though only a sophomore. I was a bit wary running as such a young candidate for Master, but the brotherhood voted to allow me to lead them over the next year.

Lehigh AEPi has truly been a home for me during the tough times at Lehigh, and I am so grateful to have found such a diverse, interesting, and amazing chapter. I hope I can give back as much as the brothers have given me as Master and will give every ounce of effort that I possess to lead the fraternity through a year of prosperity and joy.

Elie Vogel
Class of 2012



Go Karting at Lehigh Valley Grand Prix



Visit to the Lost River Caverns



Make a Donation

To make a donation please fill out this card and send it, along with cash or check, in the provided envelope.

Name _____

Amount \$ _____

I Would like to put my donation towards

☐

I will be attending Alumni weekend on April 16th through 18th



This year in your Sigma Eta Chapter:

- *7 New Brothers*
- *House GPA: 3.25*
- *New Philanthropy Initiatives*

Brothers trek to Oklahoma city to see Lehigh take on #1 Kansas

New 2010 E-Board

Master: <i>Elie Vogel</i>	Brother At Large: <i>Asher von Stein</i>
Lieutenant Master: <i>Matt Richards</i>	Rush Chairmen: <i>Chad Goldman</i> <i>Eric Wankoff</i>
Scribe: <i>Shadoe Sandford</i>	Pledgemaster: <i>Yev Kostin</i>
Exchequer: <i>Eden Abraham</i>	Social Chairman: <i>Josh Greenberg</i>



Trip of a Lifetime

With Lehigh defeating Lafayette in the Patriot League Championship, Lehigh Basketball was awarded the automatic bid to the NCAA tournament. We assumed we would be heading to Providence, however, the NCAA through us a curveball and sent us to Oklahoma City, OK. The previous week heading into the game, I had been claiming I would go anywhere in the country to see Lehigh play. So the NCAA challenged me with a 22 hour drive each way. While I tried to convince numerous brothers to come, only one, Ricky Motschwiller, joined me. So the Tuesday before the game, we packed the car and got on our way. The one day that exemplified our long journey best was when we had breakfast in Columbus, lunch in Indianapolis, and dinner in St. Louis. In St. Louis we visited the Arch and tried their famous ribs, while in Indianapolis we visited the Colt's football stadium, the Indianapolis 500 race track, and AEPi International Headquarters, where Andy Borans, the Executive Director of AEPi, gave us a 30 minutes tour of the building. To capture the full experience of our 2,700 mile trip, every 100 miles we kept a video diary and we live streamed random parts of the trip on the internet. For example, when we visited AEPi Headquarters, we streamed our tour on the internet, while 17 brothers watched it live back in Bethlehem, PA. Once we arrived in Oklahoma City, roughly 5 hours before tipoff, we chose to buy scalped tickets to the Kansas St. vs. North Texas game. To our surprise we had purchased box seats in which we each had our own flat screen television and private waiter. So while we were watching the live game, while also watching the other games around the country. After the completion of the game, we ran to CVS to create our posters, mine read, "We waited 4 years, and traveled 3 days..." while Ricky's read, "to see the greatest upset ever, go Lehigh." We then went to will call to pick up our tickets, where we were surprised to learn we "were the student section", and the only two students to make the drive. We then went back into the stadium to watch UNLV vs. Northern Iowa, which ended up being a treat as the game ended with a buzzer beater. Finally, the Lehigh game started and our signs were a hit, amongst the Lehigh fans, as many wanted to take pictures of us. The game was also surprisingly entertaining, while we expected Lehigh to get blown out by Kansas, the number one team in the nation, they actually hung in there and had the lead at several points of the game, and only trailing by four at half time. As the "student section" we were going nuts, and were heavily thanked by the band and top administrators for doing so. After the game we were then rewarded by going to Hooters with the band and cheerleaders, and then got to talk to the players in the hotel. Our trip back to Lehigh was far less eventful. Some of the highlights include going to the "World's Largest Gift Shop," the "World's Largest Rocking Chair" and a combination adult store/men's spa, where I learned of a booming business designed specifically for truckers. Finally, six days later we returned to campus, exhausted, tired, but excited that we created an experience we would remember for a lifetime

David Disler
Class of 2010