
EPSILON NUS

State of the Chapter



During a rigorous marching band season which threatens our bodies with exhaustion and our classes with lackluster attendance, the Brotherhood our chapter shares continues to inspire the dedication and service that defines our chapter. It is with pride that I am able to say the state of the chapter is one that will provide the excellent service and leadership that bands across campus have come to rely on us for.

We continue to be an integral part of band programs across campus, leading the ensembles we participate in by example. Mr. Parks recently made a call for dedicated band members to play for a charity event during the early hours of the morning, after homecoming, in the rain. Many of us got very little sleep so we could be a part of this performance, a classic example of the dedication our chapter values.

A new source of service projects has come to the chapter this year as we work closely with the new wind director, Dr. Miller. We are lucky to be working with a professor that is sympathetic to our cause, values our ideals, and reaches out to our chapter to make his band more efficient.

I am faced with the challenge of leading a group of natural leaders. As this year, and my term of office, continues, I am excited to see the chapter continue to output the high quality service that makes our Fraternity essential to bands on campus.

Justin Saglio
EN-KKΨ
President 2009-2010
UMMB Equipment Staff 2009-2010

FINALLY, A HOME

This fall, we had the groundbreaking for our new Marching Band Building. It has been over ten years since there has been place that can fit the 380 member band during inclement weather as well as a place to store uniforms and equipment. With the new building, there will be a place for staff offices, practice rooms, lockers for instruments and uniforms, common rooms to relax and do homework in as well as a full rehearsal room for the band to practice. The estimated time for completion of the building is March of 2011, just in time for the 2011 season. It will be nice for band members to be able to store their 'band trip essentials' in the building instead of carrying a uniform, shako, instrument, backpack, pillow, sleeping bag and suitcase over a half mile, in the rain at two in the morning to their dorm after driving for over ten hours. Not just for the reasons of convenience, but it will be

nice for the band to finally have a place to call 'home'.

Fraternally,
CJNai



SERVICE WITH JAMES PATRICK MILLER



James Patrick Miller, the new symphony band and wind ensemble director, has been very valuable this semester in terms of service. He has been much more cooperative with the chapter than the previous director. Right from the beginning, he has given us service ideas such as donating money for

the new leather-bound folders that he is going to purchase out of his budget. In return, our crest will be placed on the inner portion of the folders. He is encouraging us to expand our reading band project by having it in the fall semester, as well as in the spring semester.

In addition to these two ideas that he has given us, Miller presented me with one final idea. Dr. Miller will be bringing two of the top five music educators in the world to campus and he wants us to advertise this to the entire campus community, as well as make a

donation to defer the costs of bringing them to UMass. JPM has been very helpful this year in terms of service, and the chapter is looking forward to getting to know him, as well as working with him in the future.

Fraternally,

Justin Albergaria

EN-KKΨ

Vice President of Service
'09-'10

PASSING THE TORCH

It has been a fun four years and I would like to think back on the opportunities that I was allowed to enjoy over my time here. I often think about life as a “normal college kid” and how boring it must be. No traveling, no real bonding, only homework. However they do get to enjoy some free time! I wonder if I missed something of my college experience by joining the Fraternity and spending all my waking moments serving the band and going to meetings. I feel the phrase; “college is what you make of it” is quite poignant and speaks to what we all endure as Brothers of this Fraternity.

Each year the Fraternity goes through monumental changes by means of membership, leadership, service, and hardship. While each member has their own experience of such events, I think it is only when you are a senior (on your way out) that you truly recognize the scope of what has come to pass. Being the Recording Secretary followed by the VPS gave me a great sense of responsibility not only to my chapter but within myself. I found when it was time for new leadership I became a bit apprehensive. This feeling did not last long; it did not last through the end of those elections. I knew that, just as my predecessors did, I would watch on the younger generation of Brothers with curiosity and pride, hoping that I did everything that I could to prepare them for the roles that they now occupied.

I am very happy to say I am pleased with the way our service is getting done. I have taken a step back from the bureaucratic drivel and regulatory topics that sometimes permeate our meetings. I have decided in my last year to be the best Brother I can and focus on the initiates and their education in our traditions. I only hope that I can convey the feelings and emotions that were passed to me when I was younger. I have no doubts that the Fraternity will endure and evolve as time passes and I can hardly wait to see where that takes them. Thanks for a great four years.

AEA,

Garret Sacco

MOVING ON

As I sit writing my final entry in Epsilon Nus, I'm forced to recollect on all of the memories this chapter has afforded me. Whether good, bad, or indifferent, everything that I have encountered during my time as an Active Brother has enabled me to grow as an individual. I could never have imagined coming into college that I would have joined a Fraternity, but now that I have been part of Kappa Kappa Psi, I can see that I would have been foolish not to.

As you all know, the time spent in college is the greatest gift anyone can enjoy. We have no board meetings to attend, no one commutes to work, and no financial worries except how to pay for that Burrito at Bueno y Sano. Life is good. Naturally, this lifestyle will be sorely missed when I leave the University come January. But I know deep down that Epsilon Nu will forever be a part of me; that wherever my life takes me, the experiences I have witnessed as a Brother of Epsilon Nu will never be forgotten.

*I do not know how long 'twill be,
or what the future holds for me.
But this I know, if I must die,
I am a brother of KKPsi.*

Fraternally,
Matthew
James Maré
EN-KKΨ
Spring '07



 THE PREAMBLE AND WHAT IT MEANS TO BETA PHI

As the Fall 09' prospective class progresses through the process of becoming Brothers, the words of the purposes and creed are ingrained in our minds. However, reciting sentences word for word doesn't enlighten us on the true meaning of the Fraternity's code. We as a prospective class have come up with our own personal interpretations of the purposes of Kappa Kappa Psi.

"We need to promote the existence and welfare of the musical organizations", says John Rafferty, "as proof of our continued support to the prospective chapter here in UMass, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, and of course the Marching Band. Without the existence of bands, we wouldn't have much purpose." In terms of our activities, John believes that the promotion of the bands activities is "just as important as the participation in the activities themselves."

Greg Haungs feels that the 2nd purpose is the most important. "It is probably the easiest purpose to see an example of. George Parks and Tom Hannum are classic examples of the second purpose. They both do their best to improve of college bands, and each have strived for technical achievement." He speaks, of course, of the marching band's director and asst. director, respectively, who have given 110% to the efforts related to the success of the band.

"3rd purpose", Mike Cortina answered. "Leadership is key to making any strong organization work. Without it, matters involving the activities of the band barely have direction. Specifically with marching band, people in the band need to look up to somebody for occasional guidance. The Fraternity acts as a student link from member to the scissor lift, and is pretty important."

Dave Morris finds the 4th purpose especially significant. "Being a prospective music education major, I find it important for all musical ensembles and organizations to strive towards the cause of the advancement of music as a whole. Without this cooperation," he continues, "it would be increasingly difficult to accomplish much of anything as far as advancing music goes, without some sort of help from an outside organization or source."

"The section of the preamble that means the most to me is definitely the Creed," Dan Weaver explained, "because it seems to touch upon everything that Kappa Kappa Psi is about; the importance of service to college and university

bands, forming a spirit of brotherhood, and truly striving for the highest. It is a perfect summary of what the Brotherhood is about and must never be forgotten."

Kyle Morrell sees the second purpose as the most meaningful. "Not being incredibly talented from a musical standpoint," he explains, "reading the phrase 'technical achievement', I saw it on a personal level. One doesn't have to be the most musically talented to achieve technical greatness, but by striving for one's highest and working toward personal improvement, a higher level of achievement is reached."

"I think the 1st purpose is the most important," indicated Guy Mundelboim, "[T]his is a music service fraternity, and through our service we promote music, and especially the bands."

For Dave Thaller, the most significant part is "To foster a close relationship between college bands. For me this means a relationship between college bands at different universities and within the University of Massachusetts. The relationship can be shown by supporting other bands at the university, such as the jazz bands, symphonic band, and wind ensemble. Support is shown through flyering or attending the concerts for the other bands." In addition, Dave stressed the importance of "Supporting other bands at competitions such as Allentown, showing our appreciation for relationships between the college bands."

In his response, Tony Foye finds the 5th purpose the most significant. "To provide a pleasant and helpful social experience to me is the most important part...Making the music programs and bands successful is the primary function of Kappa Kappa Psi, and working to make them not only successful, but enjoyable is what I wish to accomplish most. It not only promotes high morale and productive rehearsals, but allows the bands to display a cheery emotion," which Tony believes "...will transfer on to the audience and the campus."

Though we all have our opinions on which part of the preamble we find to be the most important, it is without saying that the purposes and creed as a whole align all the essentials to the chapter's function and direction.

Prospective Member Class of Fall 2009

THE SIMPLE THINGS IN LIFE

Since becoming a Brother, I have realized one thing; you don't need to be a hero to be a contributing member of the Fraternity. It's just like in music, while the melody is the most important part, the harmony and bass are just as important. Without them the melody would be just a bunch of notes, and not a complete work of art. While some of my Brothers are working hard as officers of the Fraternity, I am there to support and be there for them. Even just the simple things, like giving someone a ride somewhere, or if they need help with problems school related or personal, I help them out when I can.

While we pride ourselves of being the "behind the scenes"



guys, those of us who don't hold an office are kind of the "behind the scenes, behind the scenes" guys. Helping those

who work tirelessly to make this Fraternity the best it can be. Being a Brother in the most simplest of forms, can be one of the most important things someone can do for the fraternity to make it into a harmonious work of fraternal art.

Fraternally,

Michael Poulin AEA

"It's just like in music, while the melody is the most important part, the harmony and bass are just as important."

MORE FLAGS, MORE FUN

The Sunday after Homecoming the band had an interesting opportunity to support the football team. Over the summer the head coach got in contact with Mr. Parks about getting the band involved in a Diabetes benefit with the rest of the football team at Six Flags. This was a rare opportunity for the band to get involved with the team, which was an opportunity never extended before. It was a less than perfect day, cold and rainy, but none the less it still made for a memorable trip.

Only roughly 40-50 band members went, just about enough for one busload. It



ended up being a small group of brass and percussion running around playing fight mass and the cowbell cheer

from tent to tent, with a little conga line here and there. We then proceeded to "march" from the parking lots to the steps near the entrance. It was really obvious that even though there were only a handful of us there and it was junky weather we were able to lighten the mood a bit and get people excited a little bit. It was clear that Mr. Parks really appreciated the work we did that day, and that its moments like this that can really shape the band experience.

Fraternally,

Evan Fiske

OUTSTANDING BANDSMEMBERS

When Mr. Parks said he'd need volunteers for another commitment in our already loaded schedule, none of us jumped up and said, "Pick me!" It would be homecoming weekend; a trip to Six Flags to play Fight Mass as the football team raised money and took part in a charity walk. It would be giving up our free Sunday, our first in six weeks. And it would be pouring.

We sat down at meetings to discuss the event and decided it was a moment for outstanding bandmembers. Who else would step up? We decided our greatest service to the band is our attendance and active participation. With that in mind, we all agreed to go.

It's a good thing we did, too. For whatever reason, rain or something else, only 40 of a nearly 400 person band showed up to play. Brothers and prospective members made up about half the band on that rainy day. The rain continued to pour and disabled the woodwinds, slicing the band in half. Instead of giving up and going home, we embraced the poor conditions.

We raced around crowds of people, playing and singing Fight Mass. We danced and cowbell cheered to people who had no idea who we were or why we were there. We played a watered down (ha!) show for such distinguished guests as the

old Six Flags guy and Ronald McDonald.

Of course our attendance was important, but if we had not embraced the absurdity of the day, it would have been for nothing. Our energetic attitudes inspired fellow band members and gave off the impression of a larger band. Our presence grew beyond the 40 people we had. Even Mr. Parks looked a little surprised at our outlook.

If not for our service, there would have been two trumpets and no tubas. It would have been Mr. Parks waving his arms, tweeting, to practically no one. The band would have looked worse for it, but our participation and enthusiasm got us out there in strong showing instead. Forgetting the day and conditions, we put service above all else, as outstanding bandmembers should.

Fraternally,

Carl Mead

EN-KKΨ

Parliamentarian

Brendan Ferrari

EN-KKΨ

"It would be giving up our free Sunday, our first in six weeks. And it would be pouring."

PIRATES AND FIGHTIN' BLUE HENS

We were all very excited to go to UDel this fall. The last time the band had made the trip to Delaware was in Fall 2005, so it was a new experience for many of us. Up until then the UMass football team was 3-1 and we all thought the game would be a huge blowout and UMass would leave victorious. Unfortunately UMass got blown out and needless to say, we were pretty disappointed. But the halftime show and postgame show both definitely brightened the spirits of UMass fans! After our halftime show performance we received a standing ovation from the Delaware fans, we usually don't even receive a standing ovation at home games. I know I was shocked and that kind of applause definitely lifted all of our spirits.

Jeremy Frassa

EN-KKΨ



MAKING THE BEST OF THE WORST

Sunday, October 18th was by all rights, supposed to be Active/Alumni Football. It is a day anticipated (or feared) annually by all who wear EN letters. This year, however, the Brothers and Initiates answered Mr. Parks' call-to-arms and went to Six Flags New England to participate in pepping up a charity walk alongside the UMass football team to support the fight against diabetes.

Those that went arrived outside Boyden Gym at 7:00am. They were met with steady rain and a brisk wind. Having a quiet trip from Amherst through Springfield, they quickly made their way over to the UMass football booth (in the middle of the parking lot) to get the show on the road. Mr. Parks moved everyone along for the next few hours playing "Fight Mass", dancing to Thriller with Ronald McDonald, and generally riling up the crowd despite the unfortunate weather.

As the walk stepped off, the Bands' part of the day was complete. All involved began to stroll back to the bus, albeit significantly more wet than the time before. The time itself could have been horrible, but the general air was overall positive and it was good to support the football team and a local charity. The bus ride back was where the real fun began...

The Brothers were a force in providing a pleasant and helpful social experience for all engaged in

college band work. With edited versions of bus songs and various bus activities, Mr. Parks, rando bandos, and everyone else thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Our Sponsor seemed very happy and it was a true service to college bands.

Fraternally:

Matt Parent

Fall 2005

Andy Fantucchio

Fall 2005



ARE THEY REALLY ALUMNI?

I found myself this past homecoming in a peculiar position that caught me by surprise. I was in the midst of my duties as a Big Brother, introducing my little brother to all the alumni I could, and making sure he kept his eyes on his book, however, this year seemed different. As I was introducing my wide eyed little brother to all the alumni I realized I wasn't seeing alumni, I was seeing faces that I have come to know and love the past three years. During my first semester freshman year, the concept of alumni was elusive. It was a word that was tossed around to describe the group of people out of college that were associated with the Fraternity but who I really didn't know. Deep into my senior year, almost all of the Brothers who were there to see me through

now have the words "Alumni Brother" permanently attached to the front of their names, and I realize how lucky I am to have been a part of this amazing organization. I have tried to meet as many alumni as I can during my years here, but it is becoming clear now how lucky I am to be Brothers with all of the alumni. I hope that as time continues to march towards graduation, I continue to meet all of the alumni out there and strengthen what will surely be family for the remainder of my years.

Fraternally

Scott T. Hogan

EN-KKΨ

Fall '06

YO, THEY GOT LEADERSHIP HERE?

As Brothers in the band, people look to us for leadership, dedication, and commitment. If we are not the ones who submit ourselves entirely to the providence and constitution of the sovereign power of the University of Massachusetts Amherst Minuteman Marching Band, then who is? That being said, there needs to be someone to lighten the mood. The game of Big Booty is a marvelous way to foster a close relationship between all those engaged in college band work. For example, let's say hypothetically we were doing a parade in the rain, finished, and waited for two hours to play again. Strictly hypothetical. One way to keep morale up would be to indulge in a riveting and arousing game of Big Booty. Big Booty has also been applied in the following areas: down time at band camp, Six Flags, MICCA, multibands, marching to the stadium, in line for the bathroom, and even at the University of Delaware (thus promulgating an uncompromising respect between college bands). And, in accordance with the second purpose, we can also honor outstanding band members with the privilege of being Big Booty!

Another method of serving the bands indirectly is by being a good example by showing enthusiasm and

discipline. The band needs people who run back to their spots, who jump and scream at the cowbell cheer, and who, yells, "arg" with the best of them. That being said, our favorite part about what we do as Brothers is the fact that we make it a pleasant social experience for everyone. No matter how bleak things look, or how depressed everyone is, we get a great feeling out of being able to make others smile. As we are always told, even if we aren't happy, fake it. Other band members need that inspiration and energy from us. Most people don't do band in order to wake up at 7 on a Saturday morning, or to march in the rain, or to spend their time on a smelly band bus. Most people do band because they love the people and they love spending time with them. So any chance that we get to combine the not so great parts of marching band with the positive encouragement (i.e. goofing around) we love so much, it really creates a wonderful experience. So keep this in mind next time you hear the cowbell start going- it doesn't hurt to jump around, and it just may make this thing called marching band a little more enjoyable.

Fraternally submitted,

Aaron Joseph Staluppi

Richard Albert Laprise II

Patrick William O'Brien

HOW TIME FLIES...

Here I am, a year after I myself went through my process. And it feels just like yesterday.

I can remember vividly almost all of it and it is still odd to see 9 new people in a place I was last year, many feeling the same I did.

And it still baffles me that I am a junior and half way through my time here at UMass. I still harbor some resentment at myself for waiting until I was a sophomore to go for it. But I could not imagine having done last year without my class and without all of the variables that made last year special for me.

When I think of what would have happened to me had I not done this, I cannot help but thank my lucky stars that I did this. The little things that you get from being a Brother and from your Brothers that make all the difference. It's the hug at the end of an atrocious day, the joke that gets made about you to lighten the mood, the extra slice of gyro meat in your pita, and the ability to know that you will always have those twenty something people to make running around in the rain doing service slightly less painful. Those are the reasons I thank god everyday I am a Brother of Epsilon Nu.

Phil Fagundes

EN-KKΨ

Corresponding Secretary

'09-'10

CALL ME GEOFF...I MEAN POSTER



Often times it's not easy to get a good trip with your Brothers in while you're not in school. School allows us to be around each other all the time and hanging out and having a good time is easy. During the summer, it can be especially hard when your Brothers are spread all over the place while not in

school. However, this past summer several Brothers of our chapter were able to make a trip down to Baltimore to catch a Red Sox game against the Orioles. The Red Sox won the game to close off a great first night. The next day we took a trip into Washington D.C. to see the monuments, visit the museums, and kill our feet from all the walking around. Overall, the trip was a great chance for us to reconnect with each other before the summer ended and we got back into our regular routines at school. The two days were fun and full of stories that I am sure those of that went will remember for a lifetime.

Geoff Poster

EN-KKΨ

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EPSILON NUS

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