Dear Alumnus,

I hope you enjoy our first edition of the Rho Upsilon Alumni Newsletter. It is our privilege to bring it to you and reunite undergraduates and alumni. We have been very busy collectively and it has been making an impact with national and on campus. This year is special because we are honing in on many big projects which will leave our fraternity in prime position for the future. Some of these projects are this alumni newsletter, Wing Bowl, Conclave, written budget, pledge program, job descriptions, more brotherhood events and a Category 1 ranking on the Annual Report.

To address the latter first, the Annual Report has been a significantly under-addressed issue for us lately. After receiving our fifth consecutive rank of Category 4 (the lowest ranking) we have already taken leaps and bounds this year to assure we finish at the top. With a minimum of 80% completion on the report, we are well on our way with almost 70% before Thanksgiving.

Aside from the Annual Report, other internal changes are being made to strengthen our core. We are in the process of formulating Standard Operating Procedures for every single event involving the fraternity. This means we will literally be able to handle over job descriptions that highlight each person's responsibilities for the duration of their term. We hope this will greatly alleviate confusion of accountability and thus make ourselves more efficient. The written budget is also a new addition this year. Inspired after a move to use Greek Capital Management, an online payment service run by all Alpha Epsilon Pi alum, we have agreed to prepare budgets at the start of every semester to be voted on. No more will there be insufficient funds for social events.
because someone's addition was off or a receipt was lost. Also, on an unfortunate note, ever since the fraternity was reprimanded for an intolerable pledge program, the chapter has been unable to perform a well constructed program. However, this will no longer be an issue. Active brothers are dedicated to compiling a program that is comprehensive, effective and complete in every way. Once perfected, this pledge program will incorporate every valuable aspect this fraternity can provide.

On the larger spectrum we have three large projects this year. The first is this newsletter. Being the initial issue this is not as full as we hope future newsletters will be. There are many sections for alumni to get involved and send us information that you would like included on the newsletter. Also, we are open to any suggestions and feedback. If there are other things you would like to see included please let us know and we will try and make it happen. Our second project is the Annual AEPi Wing Bowl. This is the second year we will be holding our wing eating contest on campus. Last year we raised over $1000 for AEPi philanthropies, a number we expect to increase this year. Finally, as you have hopefully already heard, we are hosting the Mid-Atlantic Conclave at Rutgers this year. We are extremely excited about this. We know is an excellent opportunity to prove Alpha Epsilon Pi is the best fraternity on campus.

We look forward to a more involved relationship with all of you. With your support we will be able to greatly enhance our performance on campus year in and year out.

YIB,

Jordan Richman, Master

Homecoming

Saturday October 18th, 2008 was the Rutgers Football homecoming game versus the Connecticut Huskies. The homecoming festivities brought back many alumni from the Rho Upsilon chapter. Brothers from the last five years stopped by the house the night before the game. The brotherhood held the annual homecoming tailgate prior to the game. The celebration started early at 9 A.M. and even despite having a mixer with a sorority the night before, all the brothers woke up early to attend the tailgate. The grill was burning the entire time with burgers and hot dogs. Once the game began at noon, everyone hurried in the stadium to catch the game. Rutgers won the game 12-10 in a defensive showdown. It was a great way to end homecoming weekend!
This upcoming February, the Rho Upsilon Chapter has been privileged to host AEPi's Mid-Atlantic Conclave. Chapters from all along the east coast will be traveling to Rutgers for this celebration. The weekend long event will involve a 5-on-5 basketball tournament and our annual Philanthropy Event, the Wing Bowl!

Last April 22, the Rho Upsilon chapter held its inaugural Wing Bowl to benefit Chai Lifeline, one of AEPi's national philanthropies. Almost six months of planning went into the event, and turned out to be a huge success. The event consisted of several phases. First, all the competing
teams (three people per team) were given a plate of 50 hot wings. The first three teams to complete their plate moved on to the final round. Our own AE Pi team ended up winning. The event was co-sponsored by the College Avenue Campus Council and ScarletMenus.com. In addition, the generous donations of alumni and parents allowed us to donate even more to Chai Lifeline. Ford and Mountain Dew both donated to the event, both monetarily and otherwise. Mountain Dew handed out free soda to spectators and competitors, and Ford was present to promote its new line of cars. Gamma Phi Beta sorority also sold bracelets at the event to benefit one of their sisters who is ill. Competing teams came from many different fraternities on campus as well as other AE Pi chapters. Due to the combined efforts of the brotherhood, we were able to raise $1000 for Chai Lifeline, and we won an award at AE Pi International Convention in Chicago this past summer to honor our efforts. We also want to extend a very special thanks to Rabbi Goodman from Chabbad for cooking and donating delicious "Kosher for Passover Hot Wings" for the event.

In 2009, the event will be the night of February 7, 2009. If you or your company would like to donate to the continued success of this AE Pi signature event, please contact Paul Woodman (Wooedmapa@rutgers.edu) or Mike Locke (lockem@rutgers.edu). There are great advertising opportunities available as you, your company, or your organization could be prominently featured on the 2009 Wing Bowl t-shirt or at the event.

Philanthropy

On last year's Yom Hazikaron (Israeli Fallen Soldiers and Victims of Terrorism Remembrance Day) the brothers of the Rho Upsilon Chapter of AE Pi, with Rutgers Hillel, joint-hosted a memorial showing of Michael Levin's inspiring documentary, "A Hero in Heaven". Michael Levin, who grew up in Pennsylvania, was a strong, smart, and motivated young man. Determined to live and fight for Israel's freedom, Mike moved to Israel at 18 years old, to fight in the Israeli Army. On August 1st, 2006, at the young age of 22 years old, Michael was killed in Lebanon. Levin is regarded as a national hero in Israel and America and we brothers thought his inspiring story should be heard and saw by the Jewish Rutgers youth. The event was a successful, touching, and heartfelt night which raised donations towards the Michael Levin Memorial Fund for Israeli. Michael's life and ultimate sacrifice will always be remembered by us brothers. Levin was quoted saying, "You can't fulfill your dreams unless you dare to risk it all."

Day Without Hate

November 10th, 2008-November 17th, 2008 was Hillel's Day Without Hate, an annual event that began as a response to the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin. The week-long awareness program encourages Rutgers students to be more aware of their actions and how they affect others. The mission is to expose people to diversity, teach others to be more aware of their actions, and overall try to reduce hate. This incorporates faculty, students, staff, and all residents of the Rutgers community. There was a food drive, blood drive, bone marrow drive, pledge tables, and a "Cultural Extravaganza" at the end.
The chapter ran the Car Smash event. It consisted of a junkyard car getting towed in and people get charged to hit the car with a golf club or baseball bat. Students were able to take a hit at the junkyard car to "get their hate out" for $2, or they could sign our pledge sheet which promoted anti-hate for free. The event was a huge success with a lot people participating in the Car Smash, along with many others signing the pledge sheet. Overall, the Rho Upsilon chapter of AE Pi rose well over $200 to donate to Chai Lifeline, but also demonstrated a great philanthropic and community service to the Rutgers community. All the money we raised will be going towards the Wing Bowl next semester, where the proceeds from that will be going to Chai Lifeline.

Alumni Section

The alumni section serves a dual purpose. The purpose is to allow alumni a forum to brief others on upcoming events as well as include any other relevant information alumni would like to send out. It is our hope in the future that alumni will take advantage of this so that once the brother's graduate they continue to be a part of our life long brotherhood. If you have anything that should be announced in this section, please send it to the Alumni chair Brad Reiner (breiner@eden.rutgers.edu).

Founder's Day

This year our brotherhood would like to hold a celebration in honor of our founders. This is an event that has not been conducted before so any help among the alumni would be greatly appreciated. We would like to hold this event sometime during the spring semester and any help or ideas will be greatly appreciated.
Pledge Information

The following students pledged Rho Upsilon during the Fall 2008 semester.

- Jason Kornmehl - Teaneck, NJ
- Drew Williams – Mount Laurel, NJ
- Eric Udowychenko – Hillsborough, NJ
- Justin Saphirstein – Marlboro, NJ
- Dave Zemel – Ambler, PA

Brotherhood Honors

We will recognize all brothers who have recently won various awards.

Gamma Sigma Alpha

- Mark Jacob
- Justin Strauss
- Michael Locke

Scholastic Achievement Award Spring 2008

- Edvard E. Tsygansky
- Justin M. Strauss
- Daniel M. Smith
- Ari D. Sapin
- Jeffrey S. Mond
Closing

The Alumni Newsletter can also be viewed on our newly renovated website: http://aepi.rutgers.edu

The Rho Upsilon Chapter is on the rise marking our territory as the best fraternity on campus. With your help we can reach unprecedented heights! Please donate to Wing Bowl and/or Conclave. Donation forms will be posted on the recently created Rho Upsilon Alumni and Undergrad yahoo group. If you would like more information or have any questions or suggestions please let us know through there.

"See you next time"