

BA PARTICLES

The official publication of the Beta Alpha chapter of
Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity
New Jersey Institute Of Technology

Archon's Message

I believe that the ideal chapter is made up of men.

Who are bound together in a common loyalty, which transcends any personal selfishness.

Who realize that membership means personal responsibility in bearing their share of the financial burden of the chapter and the national organization.

Who bring credit to the fraternity by striving to attain the highest possible standards of scholarship.

Who safeguard the reputation of their chapter by keeping careful watch over their personal conduct.

Who uphold faithfully the traditions and activities of their college.

Who prepare themselves diligently to shoulder their full responsibility as citizens.

I believe that my chapter can become an ideal chapter and I shall do my share to make it so.....

When you recited the student creed x years ago you may not have truly understood how it would affect your entire life. A few of these statements may fundamentally deal with the undergraduate brotherhood, however, with a little ingenuity the ideals they express can be applied to life after college.

When you become a Pi Kapp, specifically a Beta Alpha, you become one for life. The most successful Beta Alpha's are those who accepted the ideals of our fraternity and to this day still live by them.

This year is Beta Alpha's 50th anniversary. What better time to reflect on how this great fraternity has affected your life.

For me it is very simple. I would not be the person I am today without Beta Alpha. I personally would like to thank all those who made my fraternity experience possible.

I have made a pledge to Beta Alpha that I would like to share with all of you. It is one that I hope can become your pledge as well. It is not a specific amount of money or a certain amount of "work hours" but I feel it

is something I have to do. I pledge to do what ever is necessary and within my power to make sure that future students at NJIT will have the same chance at experiencing Beta Alpha that I had.

I would like to conclude with a poem
by William Allen Droomgoole,
The Bridge Builder

An old man, going a lone highway,
Came at evening, cold and gray,
To a chasm, vast and deep and wide,
Through which was flowing a sullen tide.
The old man crossed in the twilight dim;
The sullen stream had no fears for him;
But he turned when safe on the other side and
built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting strength with building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day;
You will never again pass this way;
You have crossed the chasm, deep and wide-
Why build you the bridge at eventide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head:
"Good friend, in the path that I have come,"
he said,

"There followeth after me today a youth
whose feet must pass this way. This chasm
that has been naught to me to that fair-haired
youth may a pitfall be.

He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building the Bridge for
him."

Pat Guerra BA 629

The Pi Kapp Challenge

CHAPTER ADVISOR'S NOTE

In May of this year, our Chapter celebrated its 50th. Chartering Anniversary at

the Wyndham Garden Hotel. And what a party it was! So many brothers from all different eras celebrating brotherhood with their spouses and brothers. It was truly a wonderful event. Our beloved Chapter reached its Golden Anniversary at NJIT. I firmly believe that it was one of the proudest moments in our Chapter's history.

Our fraternity is faced with a great challenge in the upcoming millennium. As a result of less-than-favorable incidents that have incurred lawsuit upon lawsuit around the country the media backlash against Greek life has increased by leaps and bounds. As a result, even at NJIT, the traditional student population that would have pledged without question only a few years ago is now more wary and skeptical about Greek life and what it has to offer them. Chapter sizes across the board have dwindled a great deal in recent years on campus as a result of negative publicity on Greek life.

Beta Alpha is a small Chapter, with approximately seventeen brothers. However, in spite of its size this is a chapter with a plan for future success. In early August, the Chapter had a very fruitful retreat in which a National Staff Consultant assisted them in creating a marketing plan in order to RUSH quality men more effectively. These undergraduates are fully aware of the uphill battle they have to face and what they have to overcome so that they can achieve their goals. However, I also believe as alumni, we cannot leave this task to them alone. We alumni must advise them properly and if at all possible, attend as many functions as possible so that our undergraduates know that their alumni take an interest in their Chapter and want them to succeed in this climate of skepticism towards Greeks. Beta Alpha Chapter has created its plan of attack for the upcoming year. Now the challenge begins.

Yours in Pi Kapp,
Anthony Castillo -BA 601

50TH ANNIVERSARY FOUNDERS' DAY

If you missed the 50th Anniversary Rose Ball than you missed the celebration of the century, but you still have a chance to participate in Beta Alpha's 50th birthday.

Date: Sunday November 8th 1998
Time: 12 Noon
Place: Wyndam Garden Hotel
(Newark Airport Complex)

Same Location as the 50th Rose Ball.

Meet some old friends, share some old and new stories, take advantage of the open bar, relax and spend a Sunday afternoon with your brothers in remembrance of the great founders of our fraternity.

Supreme Chapter

1998 Supreme Chapter was held in the windy city of Chicago this summer. Beta Alpha was well represented with 3 Undergrads, 4 Alumni & 3 Alumni wives. Undergrads present were Pat Guerra, Archon, Andre Mutovic, Treasurer & Ken Scheck, Vice Archon. The Alumni present, in addition to me and my wife Phyllis, were Steve & Liz DePalma, John & Bobbie Lee, and Jim Krucher.

Chicago is a wonderful city to have a convention. There were plenty of activities planned for the wives & brothers. A boat was chartered with almost 600 Pi Kapps sailing at sunset around the city. Pat was able to commandeer a prime table next to the buffet and not too far from the bar. The cruise almost didn't leave the dock, when a small party boat full of babes in bikinis came by waving a big hello. The ship started to list to starboard side as all the undergrads made a mad dash to view the merchandise.

The Nu Phi dinner, of which Beta Alpha had all 4 Alumni attend, was held on the 95th floor of the John Hancock Building. A special tour of the building was given to the Nu Phi brothers prior to the banquet. I was able to witness Brother Steve DePalma walk a steel girder on the roof, which is the 100th floor, and John Lee explain the ins and outs of the cold water chillers. The view of the city was incredible! The BA wives were at their own banquet with the other Nu Phi wives, partied till the end, and barely beat their husbands home.

The last night event was a trip to Cominsky Park to see the Chicago White Sox play the Oakland A's. Of course, all evening events ended up at the 505 club which was graciously hosted by Brother Bob Wilcox from Psi Chapter.

During the day the Undergrads and Alumni were busy at meetings and the wives had many planned activities. Jim Krucher was elected as the National Secretary, and I would like to personally congratulate Jim for all his long and diligent work on the national level as well as all the work he does for Beta Alpha.

The undergrads were able to de-rail a major "railroad" which departed from Alabama (Omicron Chapter) and was heading towards all cities, when they were able to block a fee increase on the pre-initiation fees. Pat was able to get all the Area 1 Chapters to vote against this proposal and many other Chapters followed his lead. After a 1 1/2 hour roll call vote, the fee increase failed. I was very proud of our Undergrads, both at all the meetings, as well as the way they conducted themselves during the entire convention.

All in all the trip, to Chicago was a good time for all and allowed both the Undergrads and Alumni to work together for the good of Beta Alpha.

John Pugliesi BA 402
Board of Overseer Acting President



North Jersey Alumni Association

NJAA

Many of you probably wonder what it would be like to re-live your college days. Well, you know that old body cannot take that kind of punishment anymore! Want to hear about the next best thing? The monthly NJAA meetings, that is what!

Remember those nights sitting around Beta Alpha's kitchen table, just shooting the breeze into the wee hours? Remember the camaraderie and brotherhood of those nights so long ago? That is what today's NJAA meetings are.

The NJAA meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month, with the exception of May (Rose Ball) and November (Founder's Day). The location alters every month between a North Jersey and Central Jersey location to accommodate as many brothers as possible. The current locations are Bennigan's on Route 46 in Parsippany, NJ and The Outback Saloon on Route 22 in Green Brook, NJ. No reservations are required, just show up. The starting time is 7 o' clock in the evening. We meet at the bar and then get a table for dinner between 7:30 and 8 o' clock. For those of you with a curfew, we usually wrap things up before 10 o' clock but we often stay later due to the stimulating conversation. The NJAA meeting is also a great stress reliever after a long day on the job, a good place to network with people you know you'll like and it gives your family a break for one evening a month from your pointless channel surfing.

So, mark your calendar for the first Wednesday of every month and come on out for a good time. The remaining 1998 dates and locations are October 7th at the Bennigan's in Parsippany and December 2nd at The Outback Saloon in Green Brook. Any questions? Give Ron Szkodny a call on 908-630-2150 during the day or e-mail Ron at rszkodny@att.com to get on the NJAA e-mail list. Monthly e-mail reminders are sent for the NJAA meetings confirming the locations each month. The 1999 calendar will be sent out in December via e-mail.

See you all on the first Wednesday of the month!

Ron Szkodny

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WEBSITES

WWW.PIKAPP.ORG

WWW.PIKAPP.COM

GETTING WIRED

Beta Alpha is getting wired!

NJIT has currently been ranked in the top ten most wired universities in the country. Currently the undergraduate brothers as well as the housing corporation are working toward getting the chapter house wired. Every room in all the dorms is directly linked to an Internet backbone. T1 service to the house is still a dream, however, interior infrastructure has been installed for a in house network. This will allow chapter members to share equipment as well as last semester's notes. A dual boot, 300 MHz Pentium server has been donated by Brother Givera Gaballa. We are still in need of a PC and laser printer for common use. Each room has been wired with at least two network lines including the dining area where the common terminal would be placed.

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Chapter Info

