

# BETA ALPHA PARTICLES

AMERICA'S LEADING FRATERNITY—SINCE 1904

FALL 2013

## ARCHON REPORT

By Derek Torres BA 785

Brothers, it is my pleasure to welcome you all to Beta Alpha's 2013 Founder's Day celebration. My name is Brother Archon Derek Torres BA 785. As of now, we have 34 active brothers (which is now up to BA 818) and 4 associate members that are being molded into tomorrow's leaders on campus as we speak. With these numbers, we are now one of the largest fraternities on campus, and we only continue to grow from here on out.

As in the previous years, we continue to embrace the knowledge from Brother Alumnus David White BA 432 as he serves proudly as our Chapter Advisor. This year, we also welcome with open arms our new Leadership Consultant, Brother Andrew Bell from Christopher Newport University (Eta Iota Chapter).

Being voted in as your Honorable Archon for 2013, it has been quite the journey and an honor serving all my brothers of the Beta Alpha chapter. The most memorable moment we can have throughout 2013 was the process of moving out of 249 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd into our new home of 5 Greek Way. This transition was both exciting as well as saddening as we all would soon lose a monumental piece of history that made us proud brothers of Pi Kappa Phi. Well as the saying goes, when one door closes, another one opens. Living in the new house in the Greek Village has been an incredible upgrade. With enough space to house 24 brothers, this new home has

impressed many people both Greek and non-Greek. While this house still has things that need to be done, it certainly has given us a fantastic place to live. We no longer have to worry about walking to and from classes at night and easily cut down the time it takes to get to classes. We are also the only house with an interior staircase and a basement, which truly makes this house better than any other within the village. Having a newer house also has helped with our recruitment. If we did not implement deferred rush, our associate member class would be close to triple or quadruple the current class now. Everyone wants to wear our letters proudly and boast of having the best of the best. Of course, none of these improvements could not have been made without the never-ending support and dedication from you, our alumni. Words cannot even describe our gratitude for everything that you have done and continue to do. Without a doubt, we would not be here without every one of you. On behalf of the active, current, and future brothers of Pi Kappa Phi, Beta Alpha, we thank you and hope that we too will be proud alumni inspiring others one day.

To ensure that things are run smoothly not only at our house, but throughout the village, Brother Secretary Morgan Jones and I are representatives for the Greek Housing Council. Being in this council gives us the opportunity to know what is happening throughout the village and to improve current conditions that Greek students may not be satisfied with. This also gives the student body a voice on campus.

Not only have we made a huge transition with living spaces, but we have also have become more dedicated to service. While we continue to hold PUSH America philanthropy events on campus such as the 48 Hour Bike-athon, we now have three brothers that have gone the extra mile by training for the 2014 Journey of Hope. Those brothers are myself, Brother Chase Johnson BA 788, Brother Secretary Morgan Jones BA 790. This is very important not only to the brotherhood, but to our school as well as it is been quite a long time that a group of brothers have done something so rewarding. Brother Alumnus Ben Lerch BA 701 was the last

brother to embark on the Journey of Hope. I cannot remember a time that someone representing NJIT has done something this committed as well. Not only are the three of us gaining recognition on campus, but we slowly starting to gain the support throughout New Jersey. We hope that you continue to support us as we need to fundraise a hefty amount of money to accomplish this task. We continue to provide service outside our philanthropy by helping others less fortunate. Starting in Spring 2013, a group of brothers and myself has helped tutor and spend a fun day with kids growing up in poverty with unstable families and lifestyles in East Orange. The smiles that we put on their faces is more rewarding than most things in life. Brother Corrado Mancini BA 795 has played a big role in this project as he develops new ideas and recruits more brothers to help out with us. I as well as some other brothers are helping a student form a club called TEAM (The Empowerment Advocacy Movement) to prevent discrimination to people with disabilities when starting their career during and after their time at NJIT. Hopefully this will be a recognized organization on NJIT soon. "Never doubt that a small group of people can change the world"



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## ARCHON REPORT

Throughout this year, I have noticed several improvements. While growing in size, our brotherhood's quality as men of class improves each and every day. Dealing with struggles ranging from financial to personal, our brothers continue to be a brotherhood of one and support each other through thick and thin. We still have a long way to go, but I must say that I am happy and indeed proud with where we have gone with the resources provided to us and that we will never back down from a challenge and smile at any obstacle anyone gives us.

Pi Kappa Phi, Beta Alpha is alive and kicking and is without a doubt here to stay for many, many generations to come. Once again, on behalf of all the active, current, and future brothers of Pi Kappa Phi, Beta Alpha, we thank you all for your hard work and dedication. It has been an incredible journey that has made me a much better brother, leader, and man of Pi Kappa Phi. God bless this fraternity, and God bless Beta Alpha.

## TOUR DE TECH

By **Anthony Risorto BA 791**

This year, NJIT's annual bike race was held on October 13. Tour de Tech is a 50-lap race around campus. Teams were allowed a total of 4 riders and 2 bikes. There was a small fortune on the line, especially for Greeks. The prizes for the top three teams were \$300, \$200 and \$100. Additionally the first Greek team got \$200. There were a total of about 10 teams, 4 of them being Greek. Since we had many brothers who wanted to compete in the event, we decided to enter 2 teams into the race. One of the 4 man teams was consisted of 3 of the brothers who are doing Journey of Hope this summer. The other team being 4 brothers who wanted to stay active and support the cause for PUSH America.

At first glance, the race looked easy enough, but given the competition and the laps, it was much tougher than expected. Riders started on Summit Street with each team having a designated pit area in front of FMH. The course wrapped around campus, including several features that served as the obstacles, making the race far from easy. For example after a quick ride down the hill near the NJIT clock tower and making a u-turn, riders had to pedal back up, putting their gear shifting skills to the test. The combination of turns, hills, and straight-aways (with bumps, cracks, and patches

of rough pavement) required riders to balance speed, maneuverability, and over all endurance.

Surprisingly, the team that was riding for Pi Kappa Phi instead of Journey of Hope was in lead of our 2 teams for most of the race. It was a fight for 3rd place between the 2 Pi Kapp teams. The competition was fierce and all the participants were pushed to the limit of their abilities. The brothers and I rotated taking a couple laps each, and catching our breath in between turns. After several laps, we began to see who was going to be our real opposition. We spent the majority of the race battling each other and a 5th place team that was on our heels. In the end, the team that finished in first place was laps ahead of everyone else. The team that finished in second place was another fraternity on campus. Our Pi Kapp team finished in 3rd, and our Journey of Hope team finished in 5th. We all gave it our best and even though we didn't win, we walked away with \$100 for PUSH America and it still felt like a victory.

## BIKEATHON

By **Mark Madjeski BA 803**

On October 8th at 10 AM, we, the brothers of Pi Kappa Phi, held our semi-annual Bike-A-Thon to raise awareness for people with disabilities and money for PUSH America. This year was the second time we did a 48 hour Bike-A-Thon. With the increase in active brothers over the past year a 48 hour Bike-A-thon became accessible.

The year the event went very well, with overwhelming support from other Greek organizations. The sisters of Delta Phi Epsilon made the brothers a pasta dinner on the second night of the event, while the Brothers of Lambda Sigma Upsilon came to hang out on the second night and gave us a chance to meet another organization on campus. This year the weather was not bad, but NJIT's sprinkler system was. Both nights the sprinklers would go on getting the rider wet and soaking the green so we could not camp out.

During the event you get a feeling of being rewarded when pass byers come up to the table and say they always like seeing us ride the bike for a great cause every semester. I would call this event a success because we had a great time peddling for PUSH and raised a good amount of money for PUSH also. See everyone next semester for another Bike-A-Thon. If any brother is interested in helping out with future events or in donating please contact myself, at [mfm23@njit.edu](mailto:mfm23@njit.edu), or any other active brother.

## HIGHLANDER GAMES

By Alex Isaac BA 806

On Saturday, October 12, 2013 a group of 5 brothers and an Associate Member of Beta Alpha competed in the NJIT Highlander Games. The tasks and games required teamwork which created a perfect opportunity for us to bond with our brothers. Not only were pride and sport on the line, but a small fortune as well. The winner of the Highlander Games would win a total of \$300. Second place would win \$200, and \$100 for third. Going through each team event, we all found out who had which strengths and weaknesses to best fit the situation.

There were competitions for just about any kind of person such as a caber toss which required form and accuracy, a matching game which required communication skills, a drawing game which required teamwork and cooperation, and even a cart race which required strength, speed and even the ability to eat! Each competition was fierce and when it came down to the end, the point totals were very close. We did not come out to that 1st place spot that we wanted, but taking 2nd was just as monumental as we gave it our all in every single competition. We ended up taking home \$200, half which went to PUSH. At the end of the day, it was not about what medals we took home but instead the memories we made together.



Pictured from Left to Right: Brothers Mark Madjeski, Anthony Risorto, Richard Boasiako, Jarrel Mayer, Steven Tran, and Associate Member Jerhard Evangelista.

## CERTIFIED RITUALIST

By Pavan Choksi BA 801

This past semester on October 20th, the Greater New York Certified Ritualist Training program took place at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Connecticut. Beta Alpha, of course, had the most undergraduate participants out of all chapters that attended. The Certified Ritualist program is designed to educate and recognize undergraduate and alumni members who want to gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for the values and teachings contained in our Ritual of Initiation. My goal as Chaplain for this semester is to apply our values to the daily lives of the chapter and to teach the Associate Members how to actually LIVE the ritual.

When we first arrived at the Iota Lambda chapter at Quinnipiac University we were challenged at the door and as soon as we entered we were introduced to brothers from all over the North East. As the program went on, we learned the different ways in which each chapter conducts rituals and despite the various differences, we are all teaching the same



lessons. Specifically, we discussed the WHY of Pi Kappa Phi, and how we really have to sell our vision or else we won't be recruiting the right men for our fraternity. Then we discussed how to teach the vision of our fraternity to new members through the ritual of initiation, along with the ceremony, its symbolism, and staging. Finally, we sat through a written examination to become Certified Ritualists, and are waiting on the results.

We had older and younger brothers attend this training, which speaks volumes for the future of Beta Alpha. Alumni members can serve as a chapter's ritual advisor and can help with the performance of the Ritual of Initiation and undergraduate Certified Ritualists can properly debrief all new initiates. We are very excited for the establishment of a Pi Kappa Phi chapter at Rutgers University, and are hoping to be a part of the team to initiate them in the near future. The brothers of Beta Alpha are always willing to attend training and workshops to make sure that, WE WILL LEAD.

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Jon Palaima - House Manager      David Arabia - Risk Management      Christian Beckman - Standards Board President  
David White - Chapter Advisor



Beta Alpha Chapter