

BETA ALPHA PARTICLES

AMERICA'S LEADING FATHERNITY—SINCE 1904

FALL 2010

ARCHON REPORT

By Joaquim Moraes BA 768

Greetings! Welcome to Beta Alpha's 2010 Founders Day celebration. My name is Brother Archon Joaquim Moraes BA 768 and I have had the pleasure to serve as this chapter's president for the past two semesters. Allow me to fill you in on the ins and outs of the current undergraduate chapter. At the moment, the undergraduate chapter is made up of 17 active members (lowest BA being BA 779). This semester we started with four associate members, which was right on par with the campus average. Along with new associate members, this Fall semester we had the pleasure to have Brother Dave White BA 432 join the chapter as its Chapter Advisor.

The chapter's main objective for this semester and the next lies in our recruitment efforts. Our main

goal is to bring the chapter's associate member class back to double digits. We are currently in the process of formulating a marketing campaign for the Spring 2011 semester. (If anyone would like to help in our effort to keep the chapter strong, contact us!)

This semester we held our first PUSH America Bike-a-Thon event. We setup up a informational stand along with two stationary bikes in the middle of the Campus Center green and rode the bikes for 24 hours. The event was a huge success. We were able to raise close to \$1,300 through donations of the student body, faculty and our alumni. We also held our annual Pumpkin Sale along with a Bake Sale. Our fundraising total for this semester nears \$1,500.

Other events that took place this semester were a visit from our Leadership Consultant Bryan Janzig. He provided great feedback as well as great resources that we will be able to consult going forward with our recruitment campaign. We completed our Ladder of Risk Program which was facilitated by Brother Ronaldo Guillen Jr. BA 618. Another important event was the departure of Brother Steven Tran BA 770 who joined the National Guard

and will be in boot camp at Fort Jackson for the next couple of months. The chapter wishes him the best of luck and he will be missed this Founders Day.

There are a lot of challenges for us in the coming semesters but we are confident that we have what it takes to overcome whatever comes our way. We are MEN OF CLASS and we are Beta Alpha, nothing will ever stop us. God bless this fraternity, God bless Beta Alpha!



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BIKE A THON

By Greg Deliso BA 772

A little over a month ago, a brilliant idea was proposed to the brothers of the Beta Alpha chapter by our chapter advisor, Brother Dave White BA 432. He suggested a Push event that would span an entire 24 hours. With two bikes, there would be two men on both bikes approximately the entire time, in order to raise money and awareness for Push America. This would also get the name of Pi Kappa Phi circulating in the minds of the student body. Brother Dave White planned to be on the bike himself (in body or spirit) for the entire duration of the event, with 50 minutes on and 10 minutes off for every hour. This event was dubbed "Bike A Thon".

I don't need to go into detail about the kind of man Dave White is, as his prestigious reputation precedes him.

What I must say, is that his devotion to Pi Kappa Phi is inspiring. He came out that day as we began at 5:30PM ready to go, and do what he said he would. For a good majority of the time, he was on the bike, with a current brother alongside him. We were ready for donations. Initially it seemed that a difficult task was laid out for us, since campus participation started slow. But, the longer we rode, and the longer students saw us out there, the more interested they became.

BA Ranked 13th Nationwide

Dave even managed to get a few students to ride on either bike for some time. The brothers talked to students about Push, its events such as Journey of Hope and Gear up Florida, and asked if they would join the cause. Soon enough, the chapter was on a roll, raising nearly \$100 in the first 8 hours. Even through the late hours

of the night, donations were slowly piling up. At the end of the following day (at 5:30PM) we packed up and saw how successful the event truly was. With the help of Dave White we raised around \$280 on campus, as well as secured alumni donations for over \$1,000. That's right, over \$1,000 (this was completely thanks to Dave's communicating skills and the kindness of the donors). With these donations in place, Beta Alpha is now ranked 13th nationwide for total giving to Push for this semester. Bike A Thon was a huge success, and we would like to thank all donors and participants. If you are interested in donating or helping out with a future event, let us know! This event has done a great deal to improve our image on campus, but we cannot stop there. The Beta Alpha chapter will continue to work towards achieving the ideal chapter, and this has been a huge step in the right direction.

A TRIP TO SUPREME CHAPTER

By Christian Beckmann BA 776

Over the summer from August 5th until the 9th, the 52nd Supreme Chapter took place in Orlando, Florida. I attended as one of our chapter's two representatives along with Brother Nick Johnson BA 775. It was my first encounter with any sort of large political body and it was an amazing experience. Forever engrained in my memory will be the meeting of brothers from all over the nation, the debating of important policies for our fraternity, and the fun filled evenings at Epcot and Typhoon

Lagoon. It was truly meaningful to have the ability to not only represent Beta Alpha but to have a voice in a national congregation. Meeting brothers from around the nation gave me many different perspectives on brotherhood and it was entertaining to share stories about our own journeys as brothers of Pi Kappa Phi.

Some of the topics covered involved changes to our ritual, increases in undergraduate fees, as well as ways to combat the Greek stereotype and to distinguish our fraternity as being above the rest. Additionally we sat through all the

award ceremonies, and although our chapter did not win any, just seeing all our other brothers and all their accomplishments was amazing. I am looking forward to the 53rd Supreme Chapter which will take place in Washington, D.C. and hopefully I will see you there!



PHILANTHROPY AND PI KAPP

Relay for Life

By William Greb BA 759

Cancer affects people in many ways, but it is the way in which people deal with it that is the most important. In February 2007 my mother was diagnosed with breast cancer, so I took action. Since 2002, I have been volunteering at the breast cancer walk in Newark and since 2007 the brothers of Beta Alpha have been volunteering as well. Our help at the walk has also encouraged many more Greeks to do the same. With our volunteerism at the walks and our growing reputation with helping the American Cancer Society we were chosen to lead the first Relay For Life at NJIT.

Relay For Life is a 12 hour overnight walk to raise awareness for

cancer research, as well as remember those who have lost their battle with cancer or who are still fighting. The event also recognizes the men and women who give care and support to people fighting this disease. I was given the opportunity to be the event chairman, and with the help and support of my brothers, we made Relay For Life one of the most successful fundraising events on campus. We recruited over 350 people which made up 40 teams and raised around \$22,000. This event didn't just bring our brotherhood to-



gether, but it also brought the entire community together.

The teams that attended Relay came from NJIT, Rutgers, Essex County College, UMDNJ, and the surrounding community. Without the brothers of Pi Kappa Phi Beta Alpha this event would not have happened.

This year, the brothers of Beta Alpha have been asked to help out and also mentor the next group of volunteers who will be working on the Relay For Life. I am happy to say that this event, started by Pi Kappa Phi, will be left as an enduring tradition for many years to come.

At left, team of cancer survivors at the walk

Community Service

By Samuel Guerra BA 747
Push Chairman

As the Fall semester began, the brothers of Beta Alpha chapter were looking into new programs and volunteer opportunities to work with so that we can help out the community. We began by fostering a relationship with The New Jersey Special Olympics. The Special Olympics of New Jersey is a nonprofit organization that provides sports training and an athletic competition to children and adults, and the goals of this organization are similar to our own national philanthropy - Push America. We have donated to the Spe-

cial Olympics of New Jersey with the Circle of Giving check that Push America has provided us. Besides donations, we also participate in other events in the community. Our most recent community service event was participating in a soup kitchen that one of the Beta Alpha alumni had mentioned. On the Saturday morning of September 25th, Brother Christian Beckman and I went down to help and volunteer our time at the Bayonne Unico Soup Kitchen. Christian and I showed up bright and early at the Assumption Parish Hall in Bayonne, NJ. During the course of the morning Christian and I met with other volunteers of the Unico soup Kitchen event, and as we shared some stories and

laughs we learned some cooking tips as we prepared the food for the event. Since both Christian and I haven't had previous experience with soup kitchens, it was a great learning experience in addition to being a rewarding one. Helping the Bayonne community was an eye opening experience and it was one that just felt right. As a chapter, we will continue to look for similar opportunities in an attempt to truly make a difference in someone's life.

TOUR DE TECH

By Greg Deliso BA 772

Every year in the Fall semester, NJIT holds a 50 lap bike race around campus. The race is to be completed by a team of 4, with each member riding at least 10 laps. The track is filled with sharp turns and steep inclines, and every second wasted at a pit-stop is costly. The competition was fierce as a multitude of teams rode for the first place prize of \$500. Additionally, the first Greek team to pass the finish line would be awarded \$200. As an initiative to be more active on campus and with promises of glory, four brothers from Beta Alpha took up the challenge. Brother Samuel Guerra BA 747, Brother William Greb BA 759, Brother Clifford Wesley Schaeffer III BA 777, and myself felt confident that we could place in the competition.

We prepared ourselves for what I know now to be one of the most

difficult races I've ever competed in. The race steadily pushed onwards at first, with most teams keeping within a lap of each other. When we began to see the students who participated in professional bike races blow a hole in the standings, we then aimed for the first Greek team, with only Theta Chi as a close competitor. The race was tight, but at a key moment in the race one of our bikes failed to perform. Handicapped to a single bike (each team was only allowed two) our pit-stops are what did us in. We lost to

Theta Chi by a mere lap, and took 5th in the competition. Even though we did not win, it was still nice to show that Pi Kappa Phi is active on campus, and the event was still fun. Knowing what we know now, you all can look forward to next year, as we know how to prepare to beat out all other Greek organizations in this event!

Below, Cliff racing through the final stretches while representing Pi Kapp



249 MLK SPIRIT

By Frank Applegate BA 771

“Will they have the freedom to make that house into their home?”

As I sit here, half way through my senior year of college, I began to think about our house and everything that has happened inside these walls. Everywhere I look my mind is flooded with memories. Hours of work and effort put into repairs and improvements, countless parties and girls, and other such moments that define brotherhood. I am a part of every inch of this

house. But as I look towards the future of Beta Alpha, I realize that this house won't be here forever, and I wonder if future brothers will get to appreciate the house the same way I do now. Will they have the freedom to make that house into their home the way I did? I think it is important to realize that which makes our house unique - years and years of brothers changing the house to reflect their personas. Our new house will be nice, this much is certain, but we must make sure it is *ours*. We need to be able to hang things from the ceiling, the walls, build things into the rooms. We need to

be able to turn stair handrails into our letters. We need to be able to make our house as unique as this one is. If our house is just another cookie-cutter Greek Village apartment I fear we will lose some of the appeal and character that has brought men into our fraternity for years. I look at this house, and I see myself reflected back through its walls. More so, I see decades of past brothers resounding back as well. I can only hope that we remember this and make sure our future brothers will be able to see themselves too.

SOCIAL NETWORKING, THE FORGOTTEN BENEFIT

By Sean Butler BA 737

Ask anyone, especially non-greeks, about what the benefits of being in a fraternity are, and you will most likely get the same answers... brothers for life, girls, parties, cheap rent, leadership, girls, memories, beneficial skills that will help you in your professional careers, and of course girls. However, further down towards the bottom of this list is networking and the great people that can be met and the connections that can be made. I consider this to be one of the most beneficial aspects of being in not just a fraternity, but in any organization. Many prospective members and parents perceive this to be towards the bottom of the list, if on the list at all. As I have grown older I continually wonder; why?

“There is no substitution for actually getting out there and talking to people”

Similarly, ask anyone what social networking means to them and you will most likely get the same answers... Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn, and other *websites*. Lost in the transition to the digital age we all

now live in, has been the art of face to face communication and connection. As you all certainly know, this is the foundation of every business and career we have chosen to be involved in. Meetings are not held through Facebook. Deals are not brokered through MySpace. They are done face to face, or over the phone, with people communicating directly to one another.

While these platforms are great for keeping in touch with peo-

“This is why physical interactions are so important”

ple, organizing events, and creating platforms that like-minded people can share and generate ideas, there is no substitution for actually getting out there and talking to people, in person. In person, not over the internet, is where real connections are made.

I pledged in Fall 2003 and started working professionally in the summer of 2005. Since then I have worked for two different companies. The first was Grad Associates P.A., an architecture firm, which after 104 years in operation has closed its doors due to the poor economic state we

live in. I worked there as an intern for five years. Currently I am proud to say that I am working on the new Freedom Tower in New York for Five Star Electric Corp. Although one company was an architecture firm and the other is an electrical engineering firm, they both have one thing in common - myself as an employee. I was able to secure these jobs through brothers I have met while being a part of Pi Kappa Phi. If I had not become a part of our great fraternity, I might still be hopelessly looking for a job as so many people in our country are right now.

This is why physical interpersonal interactions are so vital. I implore all of you to get out there and go to Supreme Chapter, NJAC monthly gatherings, Pi Kappa Phi regional events, Founders Day (thank you for coming), and other fraternal events to talk to and meet some of the 100,000 plus brothers of our great fraternity. If you do, I am sure an opportunity will present itself in which you could find a job, a better job, or find someone else a job in which you (or they) can thrive and grow into being the leader and professional we all aspire to be.

PI KAPPA PHI

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Dave White BA 432—Chapter Advisor



Bike A Thon

Outside Campus Center (Hour 16)

From left: Mike Olsen, Samuel Guerra, Dave White, Joaquim Moraes, Derek Forbes