

BETA ALPHA PARTICLES



Exceptional Leaders. Uncommon Opportunities.

FALL 2022

Archon Report

Hello, Brothers! Welcome to Beta Alpha's 74th Founders Day celebration! My name is Brother Archon Forrest Ahles BA 931, and I have been fortunate enough to be elected as Archon of the Beta Alpha chapter of Pi Kappa Phi for the 2022-23 academic year. This past year has introduced its own unique set of challenges for the brotherhood. As our first full academic year since the reintroduction of a fully in-person campus, there was a lot of work to be done. The COVID pandemic had put many traditions on hold, and it was the job of every brother, both younger and older, to ensure that we learned and prepared ourselves to continue to pass those traditions on to the future. Despite this challenge, Beta Alpha continued to thrive this year, receiving recognition from both NJIT and the national organization of Pi Kappa Phi. Here is a recap of Beta Alpha's accomplishments this past year:



At the Pi Kappa Phi College for Chapter Officers in January, Beta Alpha was fortunate to receive several awards from Pi Kappa Phi's national organization. Among these were the Champion Master Chapter Award, which Beta Alpha has only received four times before, and the Founders Award, an award granted to the top 7 chapters nationally. This marks the first time that Beta Alpha has won the prestigious Founders Award and is a reflection of the hard work the chapter has put in these past 2 years.

NJIT's first academic year fully in-person since the start of the COVID pandemic brought with it many events and awards which organizations were eager to reclaim. In April, NJIT hosted its first in-person Greek Week since 2019. All Greek organizations on campus competed to their best abilities, but Pi Kappa Phi brought home the trophy of course. Additionally, at NJIT's 2021-22 Fraternity and Sorority Awards, Pi Kappa Phi secured more awards than any other organization, with Brother Kush Patel winning the Standout Senior Award, Brother Michael Schober winning Fraternity Member of the Year and the Rising Star Award, and Pi Kappa Phi - Beta Alpha securing Chapter of the Year for the third consecutive year in addition to the Excellence in Chapter Development and Leadership Award.

In the midst of all these accomplishments, Beta Alpha found the time and motivation to give back. In supporting The Ability Experience, Beta Alpha hosted the War of the Roses, a week-long series of events focused around raising money for our national philanthropy. This contributed to the chapter raising over \$3,100 in the Spring 2022 semester alone. We are now working to continue that success, with events such as Pie-A-PiKapp and Bike-a-thon to raise awareness for The Ability Experience and further our fundraising goals.

This semester, Beta Alpha has already raised over \$1,900 for The Ability Experience. We also took first place in NJIT's CAN-struction event, a new twist on the canned food drive, with the chapter donating an impressive 576 cans. Within the Greek community, Pi Kappa Phi remains the largest Greek organization on campus, with 42 active undergraduates and 9 associate members, we have set ourselves up to maintain a comfortable lead into the Spring. By the end of next semester, we intend on having well over 60 active members, and by the time of our next Founders Day celebration, we hope to be welcoming our 1000th BA in the same calendar year that Beta Alpha turns 75 years old. Academically, Beta Alpha also boasts an impressive 3.23 cumulative GPA, which is well above the NJIT average.

I expect to maintain and improve upon this success through the rest of this school year and beyond, as our brotherhood continues to grow and strengthen. Thank you to all the alumni who continue to assist us in our personal, fraternal, and professional aspirations. Without you, it would have been impossible to be able to share all of our recent successes. We will continue to work hard, and I am confident in our current and future brothers to uphold the highest ideals of Christian manhood and the principles of good citizenship. God Bless this Fraternity! God Bless Beta Alpha!

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The Ability Experience

By Brother Historian John Kulpanowski BA 934

As a fraternity, we all take great pride in our fundraising efforts for The Ability Experience. Currently, we have raised over \$5,000 for the 2022 calendar, which is very close to our goal of \$6,450 which we need to enter the gold society. We have been working very hard over the past year and we are continuing our efforts to achieve this goal. If you would like to donate and help us reach our goal, please contact Brother Philanthropy Chairman Mohammed Uddin BA 943 at (951)-310-2229.

During the Spring semester, we were able to raise over \$3,100, a very impressive amount that has been better than our previous years. Our most successful event was War of the Roses, organized by our previous philanthropy chairman, Brother Secretary David Schiettino BA 922, which is discussed in more depth on page 6. We also held a basketball tournament and raised over \$200. A long term investment made by the chapter was purchasing a slushie machine. We tabled numerous times throughout the semester and sold slushies, where all the money went towards The Ability Experience. Our efforts to raise money did not stop there, as we had a cupcake sale with our neighboring sorority, Alpha Sigma Tau, and held a Valentine's Day bake sale with another sorority on campus, Delta Phi Epsilon.

This current Fall semester, we have fundraised over \$1,900. Our biggest philanthropy event of the semester was the Halloween carnival, where we had food, games, and a costume contest. Just like last semester, we sold slushies in the campus center and sold Krispy Kreme Doughnuts. Our most successful event so far this semester has been Pie-A-PiKapp, where family, friends, and fellow classmates donate money towards The Ability Experience to pie a brother of Pi Kappa Phi in the face with shaving cream. Our most well-known philanthropy event that we have not been able to hold since last Fall is our 48-hour bike-a-thon. Before the semester ends, Brother Philanthropy Chairman Mohammed Uddin BA 943 plans to hold this event to help reach our goal for gold society.

Currently for the month of November, our brothers have been participating in beardsgiving, a month-long event where the brothers do not shave their beards for the entirety of November. Throughout the month, brothers will fundraise for The Ability Experience and for every dollar raised, that equates to another day of not shaving.



Gear Up Florida

By Brother Social Chairman Mitchell Butler BA 941

In January of 2022, I attended Pi Kapp College where I participated in an interest meeting for one of the Ability Experience's philanthropy events. Our very own brother, Dave White BA 432, helped me come to the decision to dedicate my time to training for Gear Up Florida. Deciding to commit my time to this trip was easy for me, as I saw the clear benefit that can be gained from it. Gear up Florida was an opportunity to participate in something much bigger than myself. I had the chance to support and raise money for the Ability Experience, in order to help people with disabilities. Every day of the trip consisted of biking around 75 miles and meeting new people with different backgrounds and experiences. I had an amazing time meeting alumni from different chapters and getting taught how to play wheelchair basketball by handicap basketball players. The connections that I was able to build with so many people in such a short amount of time was incredible and it would not have been possible without this uncommon opportunity. The friendship visits consisted of going to museums that displayed art painted by people with disabilities as an outlet. We each picked out what we liked and bought them to have them shipped home. During the whole trip someone rode with "Bucky the Beaver", a keychain plushie beaver that was passed on from one brother to the next because of something positive that they did. I was given Bucky the last day of the trip, thus I had the honor of bringing him home as a memory. A goal I had was to inspire younger undergraduate brothers to take the leap of faith that I did and see how much it could impact them. I now always have people asking if I think they would be able to do it. Individually, I raised \$4,500, but as a team we raised a total of \$165,000, which was a Gear Up Florida Record. I could not have done it without the support of my family, brothers, teammates, and friends that helped me with their donations.



Community Service

By Brother Historian John Kulpanowski BA 934

Beta Alpha has always been about giving back to the community and those in need. As a way to say thank you to our academic home, Newark, we yet again participated in the Interfraternity Council (IFC) Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. clean up. We had numerous brothers go out and clean up the streets of any trash, alongside with other fraternity and sorority members at NJIT.



Unlike last Fall, NJIT changed the system for the canned food drive so we decided to participate directly with the school. As a brotherhood, we collectively donated over 500 cans for the CAN-struction event. We took first place, donating hundreds of more cans than the rest of the organizations who participated. We were extremely glad the canned goods were going to be given to those that are less fortunate this year, unlike last year's food drive.

As every new fall semester rolls around, the freshman need help moving in. As always, we had a multitude of brothers help freshmen move in their belongings into their new rooms for the upcoming school year. We never fail to make Beta Alpha's presence known on move-in day, and assist freshmen on a difficult first day of their new chapter in life.



The brotherhood has been involved in numerous off-campus volunteering along with our on campus endeavors. We worked with a nonprofit organization, Rebuilding Together, to fix a ceiling and repaint a wheelchair ramp for the homeowner who is handicapped. Last semester, ourselves and Delta Phi Epsilon volunteered for Angels for Animals Network, a charity organization that helps rescue animals and takes care of them until they are adopted. For the day, we helped clean up and occupy the pets, to lighten the load for regular volunteers. Furthermore, we had a few brothers participate in Buddy Walk with Kappa Beta Gamma, a sorority from Caldwell University, in order to raise awareness and money for children with down syndrome.



Accomplishments

By Brother Historian John Kulpanowski BA 934

NJIT's Greek life was finally able to bring back Greek Week after the pandemic, a tradition that has existed for a very long time. We competed very hard at each event, earning us first place overall! Alongside winning Greek week, we won numerous awards, individual and chapter awards, from the Fraternity and Sorority Life Council (FSLC) which included Brother Kush Patel winning the Stand-out Senior Award, Brother Michael Schober winning both the Rising Star Award and Fraternity Member of the Year Award, FSLC Chapter of the year Award, and the Excellence in Chapter Development and Leader Award.



Outside of NJIT's fraternal awards, we were recipients of, you guessed it, more awards from Pi Kapp College! We won both the Prestigious Founder's Award, which is only awarded to the top seven chapters nationally, and the Champion Master Chapter Award. As stated previously in the Archon report, it was the first time that we won the Founders Award and the fourth time we won the Champion Master Chapter Award. We are extremely proud of our accomplishments and we will continue to push ourselves to even greater heights.



War of the Roses

By Brother Historian John Kulpanowski BA 934

War of the Roses is a relatively new event for Beta Alpha. In a nutshell, it is a national fundraising week for The Ability Experience. It is a fun, competitive week which consists of many events for sororities to compete against each other. During a week in April of last semester, previous philanthropy chairman Brother Secretary David Schiettino BA 922 brought together Delta Phi Epsilon, Alpha Sigma Tau, and a few more off-campus sororities to raise money for our philanthropy and the winning sorority's philanthropy.

To begin the event, each sorority had a coin jar with a point system and whoever had the most points by the end of the week would be crowned winners of War of the Roses. The first day of the event kicked off with Ms. Pi-Kapp, a pageant style event where each sorority sent a sister to compete for the chance to be crowned Miss. Pi-Kapp 2022. We had very special guests as our judges, Brother Alumnus James Krucher BA 341 and Brother Alumnus David White BA 432, who helped choose our ultimate winner, which was a sister from Alpha Sigma Tau. During the pageant, there were games, food, and raffle baskets. The next day, we held a brotherhood-favorite philanthropy event, Pie-A-PiKapp, which is a very successful philanthropy event and involved the sororities getting in on the fun too! Next was S'mores Night at the fire pit in the center of campus. Unfortunately, the pit installed by the school was having technical issues and we had to improvise. We received many donations from those who came to attend and spread our mission for The Ability Experience. The final day was a casino and karaoke night, which included more raffles and casino games such as blackjack, poker, and roulette. At the end of the night, the points were tallied up from each jar and the winner of our 2022 War of the Roses turned out to be Kappa Beta Gamma of Caldwell University.

We raised a total of around \$2,000 and KBG received 25% of the earnings to be donated to their respective philanthropy and we donated the remaining \$1,500 to The Ability Experience.





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