

The Mu Cow

Volume III | Issue I
June 2, 2017

From the Desk of the Master

by Noah Salzberg

Greetings brothers and friends! I hope this issue of the Mu cow finds everyone well. My name is Noah Salzberg, and I have the utmost privilege of serving as Master for the Mu chapter of Alpha Epsilon Pi. As a second year in the fraternity, I had only one semester of being a brother before stepping into the role of Master, and I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity that I had to do so, as this position has changed me for the better. While there have been challenges, the rewards from helping to lead this brotherhood into the future have greatly surpassed any obstacles.



The Mu Chapter on Bid Day Spring 2017.

Being a brother of the fraternity has been an absolute privilege in so many ways, and it is a privilege that I am beyond proud to share now with the 62 other brothers of AEPi. From initiating a pledge class of 18 to maintaining our place as the fraternity with highest GPA amongst the IFC and 2nd highest amongst all of Greek Life, the Mu Chapter has had many incredible achievements this academic year. In addition to curricular activities, our brothers have continued to serve as active role models in the Charlottesville community, having logged over 500 community service hours this past semester with organizations such as the SPCA, Madison House, and Habitat for Humanity. Our social calendar has been fantastic as well, capped off by our annual yacht formal in Washington D.C. in the spring.

And while all of these accomplishments are fantastic, what I am most proud of is the strength of our brotherhood. From the Mexican in the fall to our brotherhood camping trip in the spring, this fraternity has exhibited an incredibly strong filial love with one another, and this brotherhood has provided not only me but countless others before me a place that I can truly call a family.

However, while it is nice to relish in the achievements of the past year, we must not stand put and stagnate, as this fraternity must continue to push ourselves to be the best we can for years to come. I am beyond excited to lead this fraternity into the 2017-2018 academic year and to see where this brotherhood can go in not only my time at UVA, but also the future.

Fraternally submitted,

Noah Salzberg

Social: Old and New by the Social Committee

The 2016-2017 year had some of the best social events in the fraternity's recent memory. We have not only experimented with new party and date function themes, but improved on our older traditions as well.

The use of live music at some of our events has turned what would have been standard parties or date functions into much more memorable occasions. Live bands at events such as our '90s-themed party and the Magical Mystery Tour Date function took already great themes and made them



The Delta Pledge Class at National Harbor for our annual Yacht Formal.

Live bands at events such as our '90s-themed party and the Magical Mystery Tour Date function took already great themes and made them

even better. As we move into the 2017-2018 year, we will continue to utilize live performances to improve our social events.

We have also strayed from the typical bar tab date function this year, trying out a variety of new ideas. We have had several progressives, two Me Plus Three date functions, and even an ice skating date function at the downtown mall. Not every new event was perfect, but all of them gave us a better foundation for improving our social events in the coming years.



The Zeta Pledge Class at the annual Foxfield Races.

While we planned plenty of new events this year, our traditional events were as enjoyable as ever. The Zeta Pledge Class put together a successful jungle party, and even had one of its members, Zach Cummings, playing in the party's band. Our second annual Yacht Formal took place at National

Harbor in Washington, D.C. And lastly, we returned to the Foxfield Races, where we had sunny (albeit hot) weather for once.

The Social Committee will continue to plan events old and new—looking for new ways to provide a good time for the brotherhood while continuing to perfect the classics. We welcome our new social chair, Marcus Raboy of the Zeta Pledge Class, and the new ideas he will bring to our chapter.

Jewish Identity

by Truman Brody-Boyd

Hello! My name is Truman Brody-Boyd, a second year currently serving as the Jewish Identity Chair for the Mu chapter of AEPi here at the University of Virginia. The brothers of the Mu chapter come from a range of Jewish backgrounds and identify with their Judaism in different ways, and I see my role as a resource for the brothers to come to if they have questions or need resources to pursue their faith how they wish.

Over winter break, the chapter had 13 brothers, primarily from the Epsilon pledge class, travel to Israel on UVA Hillel's Birthright trip. In addition to this, this semester AEPi partnered with Chabad at UVA to host Rabbi Shlomo Mayer for a series of talks on different topics within Judaism before chapter meetings. We also attended, as a chapter, several Shabbat meals at the Chabad house during the semester. This initiative was sponsored by a donor, and the entire experience allowed the brothers to explore their Judaism in new ways and was definitely a success. I look forward to the coming semester and seeing how our Jewish identities continue to impact our brotherhood in a positive way.



The Epsilon Pledge Class (and guest star Andrew Bronstein) atop Masada during their Birthright trip in January.

House Update

by Andrew Shanes

This past year has been a successful one at 1707 Grady. This year, a majority of the Delta pledge class lived in the house as well as Isaac Kaplan, a brother of the Beta pledge class. We had twelve brothers living in the house this Spring semester as two brothers in the Delta pledge class, Andrew Siegal and Josh Wasserman, who were in the house in the Fall semester were studying abroad in Spain. They were definitely missed at the house but we know they had an amazing time abroad.

As for improvements, over the past few years, especially this year, we have seen many changes around the house. We upgraded our kitchen two years ago, installing granite countertops as well as upgraded the A/C in the house and repainted the downstairs hallway last year. This year, we had a much-needed Internet update as well as the installation of a new fire-safety system. As a brotherhood we also purchased a new outdoor grill and a Ping-Pong table as a way to make the house more of a livelier home, where brothers and friends can gather to both socialize and study.

There are numerous improvements that can still be made to the house, from major projects to minor purchases. If you'd like to help out, either through monetary or physical donations, you can check our website (aepimu.com). Of course, feel free to stop by the house whenever you find yourself in Charlottesville – our doors are always open to alumni, and we'd be happy to show you around and help you relive some old memories!



Sports Update

by Dan Bleykhman

This past spring semester season of intramural sports has been a turn in the right direction for AEPi. It began with the basketball team's magical undefeated regular season, despite a tragic quarterfinal loss to Theta Chi. Led by 4th Year Eric Seigel, playing in his final season, the basketball team made great strides this year and will look to capitalize next year with first year newcomer Danny Mills. The soccer team had a very similar narrative – amazing regular season followed by a sad middle round exit. Goalie Andrew Shanes led the team followed by a solid attack team led by Seth Jaffe. The true sparkle from the season comes from the NIBS, who always showed up in great numbers to the games and performed very well. Next year, the soccer team loses few fourth years, and looks to make a deep run and shock the fraternity IM nation. Finally, the softball team did not win a single game. However, all games played were decided in the final inning. Andrew Bronstein almost hit AEPi's first out of the park home run, so shout out to him. Losing only one fourth year, the softball team looks to fight back next year. Overall, it may not have been a successful season, but in AEPi standards it was a great season of sports, full of promise, determination, and brotherhood.

The Epsilon Pledge Class: A Year in Review

by Matt Wallace

Since joining the Mu Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Pi just over one short year ago, the Epsilon pledge class has already blended into all aspects of the Fraternity. Whether it's our esteemed Brother Master Noah Salzberg or our Jewish Identity chair Truman Brody-Boyd, members of the Epsilon class have lead, participated in, and become welcome at every level of our fraternity. Much has changed within a year that has brought us closer together as a pledge class as well as motivating us to serve the fraternity to the best of our abilities.

At the beginning of this year's fall semester we were all very eager to get involved and begin making our own mark upon the fraternity. To accomplish this, some committed themselves deeply to serving major committees including Rush, Social, and Pledging. Others joined Minor Board positions including the Alumni and Philanthropy chairs. Additionally, many of us made the determined effort to spend as much time with our new brothers as possible. Whether it was through late nights on Wednesday or Saturday afternoons tailgating at the house, we quickly got to know the house brothers as well as the fourth year class. This past winter, through Birthright a majority of our class had an opportunity to become even closer with one another. We experienced an amazing ten days that included hiking Masada, experiencing the Tel-Aviv nightlife, venturing to the Shuk in Jerusalem, and many other happenings that made our pledge class closer.

We've had a great year and are very thankful of the opportunity we've been given to further the brotherhood. I'm confident that things will only continue to get better for the Epsilon class and the fraternity as a whole.

To Our Alumni

by Jared Ende

I am proud to present to you all this long-awaited issue of the Mu Cow. I am grateful to everyone who contributed to this issue and I hope you enjoy reading it. And now that you have made it to the end of this issue, I have a request.

The Mu Cow is a newsletter for you. It is an update on the chapter you all helped build. While I hope you enjoy reading through the entries above, I welcome your criticism. What did you like about this entry? What did you not like? What would you like to see next time? I want the Mu Cow to be an update you care about reading. If there is anything you would like to see in the next entry, please email me at aepiuvsubscribe@gmail.com. I will bring any suggestions or requests that are made to the brotherhood, and I will do my best to have it in the Fall 2017 edition.

Lastly, the brotherhood would love to see you all on our Alumni Weekend! While we are still in the process of planning it, it will be the weekend of October 21st. Once again, thank you to everyone who made this entry of the Mu Cow possible and I look forward to hearing from you!

Congratulations to the Gamma Pledge Class and Isaac Kaplan on their recent graduation!

