

# Beta Data

## The Official Newsletter of the Beta Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Pi

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## Alumni Update

As the fall semester comes to an end, the brotherhood takes time to relive the events that transpired over the past few months and write it all down for the alumni. It seems like just yesterday we were moving back in and admiring the work that had been done on the house over the summer. As the semester goes by, we are making strides to keep our alumni more informed and in touch with the Beta Chapter. We constantly make updates to our newly user-friendly website ([www.aepibeta.org](http://www.aepibeta.org)) and have an active alumni listserv. We are well on our way to compiling an accurate and detailed alumni database.



We thank our alumni for the newly donated house sign, standing gloriously at 140 Thurston Avenue, and hope for continued support in the future, whether it be through advice and wisdom, coming to the house for Homecoming, or anything else.

- Jordan Whitney '11, Alumni Chair

## Executive Board

- Master Justin Cohen
- Lt. Master Gregg Schwarzwalder
- Scribe Joe Kripke
- Exchequer Scott Lichtenthal
- House Manager Jonah Hecht
- Rush Chair Garrett Bernstein
- Pledge Master Josh Fishman
- Sentinel Drew Grossman
- Brother at Large Adam Schneider

Renovations of the house included new windows on the front, back, and side, as seen in the picture.



## Master's Corner

I think there is general agreement among the brotherhood that our fraternity is moving in the right direction. Before we were given back our official charter in May, a lot of work was put into making our fraternity into what it is today. I am now proud to say that we are thriving in practically every aspect of fraternal life and we have reached a point of stability that has been the accumulation of years of brothers' dedication.

Philanthropically, in the past year, our fraternity raised over \$7,500 for Shaare Tzedek Medical Center in Jerusalem, and for Chai Lifeline. Academically, we had our fifth semester in a row of the highest GPA out of all forty-one fraternities on Cornell's campus. This semester, our GPA even beat all the sororities as well. In regards to Jewish Life, we hosted the after-party to the biggest Hillel event of the semester, Shabbat 1000 (but really should be named Shabbat 1500). Socially, we are throwing bigger and better parties than we ever did before, and yes, I dare say it, we are improving our relationship with the sororities on Cornell's campus. Athletically, we continue to struggle as a whole, but there are a few glimpses of hope. In terms of alumni relations, our redesigned website and newly compiled alumni database lets us reach out to our alumni in ways that were never possible before. In terms of safety, our fraternity received AEPi nationals' Risk Management Award, partly due to our past Sentinel Justin Granstein's initiative to train every new member in CPR. Even our residence is improving. The house at 140 Thurston Ave was majorly redesigned this summer with beautiful wooden paneling, new doors and



*"...we had our fifth semester in a row of the highest GPA out of all forty-one fraternities"*

window panels. We even have technologies such as brand new washers, dryers and dishwashers. In addition, the brotherhood successfully transformed an unused room in our house into the beautiful Michael Schwerner Memorial Library. Today, the Beta Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Pi continues to be a leading house in the Greek community, in the Jewish community and in the Cornell community.

On behalf of the brotherhood, I would like to welcome Andrew Schwartz, our new chapter advisor, to the Beta community. As an undergraduate, Andrew was a founding father of his AEPi chapter at San Jose State in California. Currently, he is a programming associate at Cornell Hillel and is responsible for getting our chapter numerous Jewish opportunities, such as the Shabbat 1000 after-party, and continuing the strength of our relationship with Hillel. His guidance and support have been a great part of our fraternity's success and I cannot thank him enough. In conclusion, our future is looking very bright. I know that Jordan Whitney, our master-elect, and next semester's leadership will continue to bring our fraternity in the right direction.

- Justin Cohen '10, Master

## Rechartering Weekend

On March 29, 2008, the Beta Chapter had its most significant weekend yet, with three days worth of events for brothers, parents, and friends, all centered around the re-chartering ceremony. On Friday night, a handful of brothers and their families met at the fraternity house for a Shabbat dinner, while many others went out on their own or in small groups. As parents continued to filter in on Saturday, a number of them attended a brunch at 140 Thurston Ave to meet and socialize with each other. After spending some time with their families that afternoon, brothers returned home to get ready for the black tie re-chartering ceremony, which was spearheaded by founding father Josh Nason '08. The ceremony was held in the Statler Ballroom, and was attended by 150 brothers, family members, and friends, including brothers from the University of Rochester and Temple University. Representing the Cornell administration were Dean of Students Kent Hubbel, Rabbi Ed Rosenthal, both of whom spoke, and Associate Deal of Students for Fraternity and Sorority Affairs Travis Apgar.

Supreme Master Gary Anderson presenting the charter to the Beta Masters



Brothers Ezra Kannof '10 and Justin Cohen '10 narrated an entertaining historical recount of the chapter since the refounding, and then the ritual began. After Alpha Epsilon Pi Executive Director Andy Borans presented Master Zac Peoples '09 and Sentinel Justin Granstein '10 with the chapter's ritual equipment, Supreme Master Gary Anderson gave the Master and Past Masters the Beta Chapter Charter. After a few more speeches and a delicious dinner, the brothers headed back to the fraternity house with their dates to celebrate the occasion. The next morning, parents went to the house again for one final brunch before heading home. All in all, it was a tremendously successful and memorable weekend for the Beta Chapter.

- Zac Peoples '09, Past Master



On January 27, 2008, Josh Nason (Past Master '08) and Justin Cohen (Master '10) ran the ING Miami Half Marathon for Team Lifeline. On behalf of our chapter, they raised \$7200 for Chai Lifeline. Chai Lifeline is an international organization that provides year-round emotional, social, and financial support to more than 3,000

## Beta Brothers Raise \$7,200 for Chai Lifeline

children and their families every year. Through two-dozen free programs and services that cater to each member of the family, Chai Lifeline helps children with life-threatening and lifelong illnesses and their families live full and happy lives despite the presence of illness. Currently, Adam Putzer (Philanthropy Chair '11) is raising \$3600 to run the half-marathon as a member of Team Lifeline in Miami. If you are interested in helping Adam with his run, please follow the link off our website [www.aepibeta.org](http://www.aepibeta.org).

## Social News

We kicked off Fall 08 with a successful semester of social events. Starting with our two AEPi annex parties in collegetown during orientation week, we partied with many of our friends as well as incoming freshmen. Everyone had a great time. A week later, we held our 1st open-party of the year in late August, which we boasted over 450 people in the house and many more waiting outside! We have never seen so many people crammed into the house! Word of mouth was spreading around campus how fabulous the party went. Few weeks later, we hosted a rush and social rooms party following Shabbat 1000. Everyone had an excellent time meeting and acquainting with the freshmen students and partying with the brothers.

In mid-October, the brothers of AEPi hosted an unconventional bar-tab mixer with the wonderful girls of the Tri-Delt Sorority. It was our first time mixing with them and branching out to other sororities. Hopefully, we will see more of it to come! And then came AEPi's 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Christmas party... It was certainly one of the highlights of the semester! A Christmas Committee was established in order to fully coordinate the event as well as order Christmas decorations—ordering Christmas decorations came with added challenges as we did not know which items to order. But we had a lot of fun. We put garland and stockings all over the common and foyer room, wrapped up the bar with wrapping paper, and decorated outside with a ton of Christmas lights, lighted candy canes, a nine foot Christmas tree, and two lighted reindeers! In doing so, we hosted a “Christmas Eve pre-party,” prepared with seasonal and specialty drinks in each room, such as eggnog, apple cider, and the “Grinch’s Christmas.” We invited five sororities over to the pre-party by delivering each sorority a Christmas gift basket filled with Christmas items, chocolates, and edible goods. The girls adored it and had a great time at the event! The brothers and I saw a great turnout for both the Christmas Eve pre-party and the Christmas Party!

Despite the amount of work coming up, we are looking forward to our winter formal at the Holiday Inn and at the AEPi house. Overall we finished off with a strong semester of social events, and are looking forward to the next semester with a new pledge class.

- Morgan Fleischman '11, Social Chair



## Brotherhood News

The fall 2008 semester brought several exciting brotherhood sponsored events. We started the semester off right with a brotherhood barbeque towards the end of orientation week. We broke the grills again for the homecoming tailgate and then again for the biggest hockey weekend of the year, providing great food prior to the Dartmouth game for Betas as well as a visiting Canadian chapter from McMaster University. Throughout the semester, brothers enjoyed the occasional movie nights that featured both classics and recent comedic and action blockbusters. I worked hard with the Jewish Life Chair and the Rush chair to organize a week full of events during Sukkot that included “Hookah in the Sukkah” and “Pizza in the Hut.” With various other brotherhood events thrown into the calendar, brothers were guaranteed n’er a dull moment, but the fall semester couldn’t end without out continuing the tradition of a brotherhood “Hannukah Harry” /Secret Santa.

- Shane Wax '10,  
Brotherhood Chair

## Second Annual AEPie Toss

On April 29th, 2008, we held our annual 6-hour AEPie Toss event during the Israel Independence Day Carnival on Ho Plaza to raise money for the Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem. We had notable professors, college deans, and campus celebrities

take some time off from their days to get whipped cream pies thrown in their faces. Even though the weather dipped



below 40 degrees, students and professors alike lined up at 11am for a chance to cover their favorite (or least favorite) professors with Reddi-Wip. Past master Zac Peeples stared the pie-ing by screaming at passers by, and angered enough of them to get them to donate.

The record for most pies thrown at a professor went to Organic Chemistry professor Thomas Rutledge. Apparently his students weren't so pleased with their grades. Cornell Daily Sun Sex Columnist "Jenna B" came in a close second. The few Cornellians who had not already met her were happy to throw a pie in her face. Pie-ees were given ponchos and chemistry lab goggles, but for the most popular targets, these protections were no match for the pies. The event was a great success, raising over \$500 for our national philanthropy, and provided entertainment for all who participated. "This is definitely a perfect annual event. I can see ways to raise even more money next year," said Adam Putzer, our current philanthropy chair.

- Jordan Whitney '11, Alumni Chair

## Michael Schwerner Memorial Library

After years of work and effort, the Michael Schwerner (Beta '61) Memorial Library is finally open. The two-year project of creating the library started from a dream of Daniel Isaac, who on October 21, 2005 traveled to East Lansing, Michigan with Aaron Feinberg, Jared Hakimi and Josh Nason in order to attend a dinner honoring Schwerner at the local AEPi chapter at Michigan State University. Michael Schwerner was murdered in Philadelphia, Mississippi by the Ku Klux Klan on June 21st, 1964 along with colleagues James Chaney and Andrew Goodman while fighting for racial equality. The library was a project that made sure that his bravery would never be forgotten.

The library started out having no books and a file cabinet filled with scattered notes. Through much effort, the Beta Brothers filed and organized the notes and implemented a filing system. In addition, through the donations of many of the brothers and a very generous donation by Cornell Hillel, the bookshelves are now filled with a large collection of Jewish literature mixed with some fiction. The library also includes classroom textbooks and the start of a collection of books written by Beta Alumni. In addition, the room is decorated with leather couches surrounding a coffee table. The library is topped off with two wooden paneled trophy cases, which hold our chapter awards, including the awards for highest GPA five semesters running, Most Improved Chapter, and more. The librarians are currently working on creating a database for all the books and notes. The goal is that in the next two years, the library collection will double in volume.

- Justin Cohen '10, Master

## Beta Announcements

Please join me in offering a hearty congratulations to Dave "BooBoo" Weisel, Class of '96, who just got engaged to his girlfriend Abbi! Be sure to buy him an Epsilon Brew next time you see him.

Mazel tov!  
Matt Podell ('96)

[Sent October 16<sup>th</sup>]

Please join me in wishing David Feldstein (Class of 2000) a huge Mazel Tov on his engagement (Saturday night!) to Alyssa Milewits!!!

Fraternally,  
Jason Demby '99

[Sent September 20<sup>th</sup>]

Please join me in wishing Dave Lyons (Lambda) '99 and his wife Amy ('99) a big mazel tov on the birth of their second son. Ethan Lyons was born at about 7am yesterday [August 12<sup>th</sup>] in southern Florida. Mom and baby are doing well, and big brother Jacob is excited to have someone to play with.

Congrats Dave!

Fraternally,  
Matt Lindenberg '99

[Sent August 13<sup>th</sup>]



Please join me in congratulating Brian and Yana on the birth of their son, Benjamin Emanuel, this morning. Benjamin joins us at 20.5" and 7 pounds, 3 ounces. All are doing well.

Spring Rush '27 just got another target.

Mazel Tov!

Fraternally,  
Sethro. [Seth Miller '99]

[Sent July 19<sup>th</sup>]

Congratulations to Jamie ('98) and Andrea Weber on the birth of their baby girl. Taylor Hannah Weber was born today weighing almost 9 pounds, and mom and baby are doing great (or so says Facebook...).

Mazel tov Jamie and Andrea!

Fraternally,  
Matt Lindenberg '99

[Sent July 8<sup>th</sup>]

Please join me in wishing Akiva Holzer a big mazel tov; he got married to his girlfriend Rena in Boston this past weekend. Brothers in attendance at the wedding were myself, Rich Solomon, and Alex Korson.

Akiva and Rena will be going on their honeymoon to Mexico.

Congratulations Brother Peanut!

Fraternally,  
Matt Lindenberg '99

[Sent March 13<sup>th</sup>]

## Beta Announcements

If you would like your announcement to be in the next issue of Beta Data, please email our alumni chair at [jlw298@cornell.edu](mailto:jlw298@cornell.edu) or send an email to the AEPi Beta Alumni Listserv at [aepi-l@cornell.edu](mailto:aepi-l@cornell.edu). If you would like to be added to the Listserv, please send an email to the same address. If you would like your anniversary or birthday in the next newsletter, please let us know by filling out the Alumni Update form on our website at [www.aepibeta.org](http://www.aepibeta.org) and send it to our alumni chair.

We'd like to thank the following alumni for coming back to the house for Alumni Weekend: Bernard Aisenberg '43, Arnold Abelson '43, Harris Weizman '72, Kevin Kramer '73, Howard Stone '88, Howard Greenstein '88, Rob Rosenberg '88, Matt Kvakowsky '93, Scott Liebman '93, Seth Kestenbaum '93, Aaron Izower '93, and Scott Fink '93. We look forward to seeing the brothers of the classes ending in 4's and 9's this summer, June 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>.

We'd like to thank the following alumni for their support in buying a new house sign: Seth Kestenbaum '93, Matthew Lindenberg '99, and David Feinstein (in honor of Blake Feinstein).

## Beta Anniversaries

Justin Nudell ('99) and Michelle	03/21/04
David Shechter ('95) and Caroline	03/21/99
Leonard Edelstein ('96) and Janette	03/30
Richard Bruckner ('00) and Jennifer	04/09/06
Robert Bruckheimer ('93) and Alexandra	05/25/03
Adam Getz ('95) and Jennifer	05/02/04
Richard Solomon ('99) and Tamara	06/06/04
Seth Miller ('99) and Linnea	06/25/06

## Beta Birthdays (January – June)

Matthew Lindenberg	01/15/77
Allen Weiss	01/20/78
Joshua Podoll	01/22/86
Seth Kestenbaum	02/16/71
David Shechter	02/11/73
Jason Demby	03/01/77
Jason Reich	03/11/76
Aaron Leibowitz	03/13/86
Jeff Henle	03/21/78
Mike Laskin	03/26/86
Daniel Kaufman	04/12/87
Benjamin Arfa	04/12/86
Andrew Herman	05/21/86
Jonathan Strober	06/01/66
Josh Bloom	06/02/86
Aaron Feinberg	06/14/86
Will Blashka	06/16/86
Daniel Isaac	06/23/86
Andrew Chessen	06/24/86

