



BROTHER TO BROTHER



A Time For Reflection - Part One

Article by: Mark Gilson

In an effort to revitalize alumni communications, an idea arose in which alumni from all generations would be interviewed and asked to present their personal views and experiences in regards to SigEp, and more specifically, Indiana Eta. This would provide alumni from all eras to share their experiences with the undergraduate chapter while turning back the hands of time for a trip back to memory lane. My first interviewee: Paul Litcher.

Paul H. Litcher, nickname Double Stuff, is part of the Spring 1985 fraternity class. He currently lives in New York and is a construction manager that works specifically with renovation and construction of commercial plumbing. Below are only a select few of the questions Paul answered.

Why did you chose to join Sigma Phi Epsilon?

“Back in my day, if you wanted any social life at Tech you joined a fraternity. A SigEp, who became my big brother, gave me a tour of the school and it was just the house that I felt the most comfortable with of the four Greek groups at the time.”

Tell me about a memorable moment in the fraternity in your undergraduate life?

“Conclave 1985, it was the Education Foundation Luncheon at the Lone Star Brewery. The kegs were flowing, the barbeque was amazing, and everyone was in a great mood. The bus trip back to the hotel the alumni start singing SigEp songs I had never heard, with their wives sitting right next to them, and the words to these songs made me blush. I looked at Bob Swindel and Bob Marshall and both of them were singing along and knew every word. I asked them why they never taught us these songs, and they told me because no one ever asked. At that moment Bob & Bob went from people I respected to brothers to me and the living examples of SigEp’s lifetime commitment who I wanted to make proud that I became a SigEp.”

What are the pros and cons to pledging vs. the balanced man program?

“This is one of the most contentious changes in our chapter history. While I love the concept of the Balanced Man Project, I find the implementation of this concept difficult especially in the medium to large sized chapters and nearly impossible in the small chapter setting. My biggest cons to the pledge concept are the blackball ceremony and “the as soon as you are initiated you are done” syndrome! Blackballing was when three brothers in a blind vote could eliminate a pledge from the process. The pro of the Balanced Man Project, properly implemented, is a full four year development program that can be customized if you join the fraternity later in your college career, but allows you to join the fraternity at any time in a semester and forces brothers during this program to expand their horizons by trying things outside their comfort zone. The pros to the pledge program is the development of the fraternal team via the pledge class.”

If there was one day you could relive as an undergraduate, what would that day be and why?

“The day Indiana Eta celebrated its 25th anniversary! Between meeting our chapter founders, initiating John Hamilton and that giant circle for *He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother*, which for many of the founders was their first exposure to this Indiana Eta tradition; It was a glorious day in my undergraduate career.”

Distinguished Alumnus

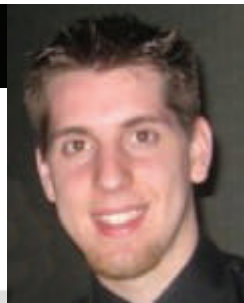
The Distinguished Alumnus Award is presented to an alumni who has given outstanding service to a chapter, district, or on the national level for at least five years; Brandan Haines has done much more than that. Brandan has been an active participant in everything SigEp whether it be regionals, conclave, local chapter events, or alumni communications. Brother Haines has always taken the time to not only meet and greet the newest members of Indiana Eta, but has also stepped up as a mentor when the chapter is in need. He has been the go-to guy for alumni communications and is known for his work with Brother to Brother and the alumni database. Most of all, Brandan has been a wonderful brother to all of us. Congratulations Brandan on your well overdue award, and may we wish you the best in your lifelong pursuit of balance through the teachings of Sigma Phi Epsilon.



NEW MEMBERS:

David Isaacs - Lanesville, IN
Jeremy Lemmel - Lanesville, IN
David Forker - Kendallville, IN
Sam Ferree - Columbus, IN
Adam Wood - Clinton, IA
Ankit Sahay - Zambia Lusaka
Taylor Paddock - Zionsville, IN
Ian Mewhinney - Canal Fulton, OH
Jacob Harris - Fort Wayne, IN
Matthew Sites - Mitchell, IN
Kent Thompson - Fort Wayne, IN

Ruck Leadership Academy



Ruck Leadership Academy is an elite five-day training program designed to teach selected SigEps from across the country what it truly is to be a Balanced Man. With hundreds and hundreds of applicants, only a select few are allowed to participate. It is with pleasure that I can share with you the great news that one of our Indiana Eta brothers has made it into this program.

A relatively new member, Sam Ferree will be participating in the Ruck Leadership Academy this July 9th to the 13th at the College of William & Mary, the birthplace of the American College Fraternity. Participants will fly into Richmond International Airport on Wednesday afternoon and tour Sigma Phi Epsilon Headquarters, Zollinger House. Participants and the Institute faculty will stay on campus at the College of William & Mary in Jefferson Hall. Sam is currently holding the recruitment chair position and is also leading the balanced man scholarship for this up-coming school year.

Condolences

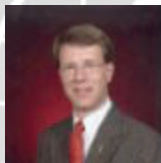
Brother Dan Huss, age 62 died Thursday Nov. 15, 2007. He graduated from Tech in 1967 and was active on the alumni board for many years.

Our condolences go out to John Damiani and his family in dealing with the death of his father.

The Lives of our Brothers

Michael Felerski:

Michael Felerski, class of '86, is keeping busy with his kids, Beth, 13, and TJ, 8 between ballet, drama club, choir, Cub Scouts and Karate. Michael works for



the county in the IS department as a network architect. He is also keeping busy in the Knights of Columbus as a District Deputy for District #9 in Southwest Ohio. "I have five active councils, one inactive and I'm working with a 'crew' to start a new council."

Jay Leclerc:

Jay Leclerc, class of '89, is now an eService Program Manager who recently moved to Charlton Mass. He is living a happy life with his wife Barbara and his two children: Emily, 10, and Nathan, 8.

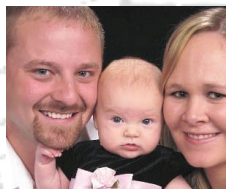
Brett C. Sost:

Brett Sost, class of '92, is currently a Manager of Consumer & Trade Solutions at SC Johnson - A Family Company. Brett and his wife Nancy moved from NJ over the river to Stroudsburg, PA three years ago. They have 6-year-old twins, Noah &

Mackenzie who are in Kindergarten this year. He's a Category Sales Analyst for SC Johnson Wax (makers of Windex, Glade, Ziploc, etc.).

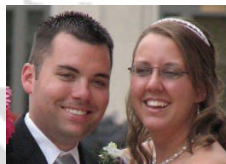
Andrew Dye:

Andrew, class of '04, currently lives in Columbus, IN. He works for Cummins as part of their Heavy Duty Mechanical Development group developing heavy duty diesel engines for the 2010 emissions regulations. Andrew and his wife Jamie have a baby, Kadence Lynne Dye, born on August 1, 2007, 7 pounds 6 ounces.



Greg Johnson:

Greg, class of '05, married his long-time sweetheart, Trishina Barton, on September 29, 2007.



Rob Lange:

Robert Lange, class of '95, is teaching in High School Business in Arizona and this past summer married Melany, to whom he is trying to teach an appreciation for Football. He is also serving as the Chapter Counselor for our ASU Sig Ep Chapter.

Thomas Le:

Tommy, class of '05, has recently returned to Fort Wayne with Carrie to live. He has decided he really does not miss the wonderful Ice Storms of the Great Lake Regions of Michigan and is currently working for BAE Systems. Tommy and Carrie are now engaged.



James Zavala:

James Zavala, class of '91, met his wife Liglia and they are happily married in the Bloomington, IL area and recently celebrated the birth of Javi.



NOVEMBER 8TH, 2008

Mark Your Calendar!!! Indiana Eta chapter will be celebrating 45 years of existence as a local chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon. We would like for you to join us for this special celebration at the Fort Wayne Marriott.

Questions? Email ineta45th@verizon.net

In our ongoing efforts to keep all Indiana Eta alumni across the country informed and up-to-date on the activities of the local chapter, alumni, and actives, we need your help. If you have any news, updates, address changes, or stories you would like to share with the brothers, don't hesitate to contact us at the following email address:
mwgilson@gmail.com