

Sine of the imes

AEPI Colony 1969-1981 • Nu Pi 1982-1985 • Triangle Fraternity Since 1986

Newsletter of the Tri-State University Chapter of Triangle Fraternity

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Web Site: <http://www.tsutriangle.org>

November 2008

Brotherhood

Becoming a Brother of a Fraternity is not simply joining a new group of people and having a place to party; it involves much more than that. When we joined our Fraternity, we became part of something more than a college club. We became part of a Brotherhood which holds us together with a unique and private bond that is based on the invisible principles which make a man. This Brotherhood remains with us for a lifetime and forever allows us to call each other Brother. Although the bond can sometimes become strained by disagreements, isolation or inactivity, it is always within us and springs back to its full strength when we are called to act like Brothers. The Brotherhood of our Fraternity is a distinctive experience which can not be compared to any other. Try to describe the "Why" of our Brotherhood to a person outside our Fraternity and you will surely have great difficulty; however try to describe it to one of our fellow Brothers and you can succeed with a few short words, a handshake, or a simple look on your face. Our Brotherhood is our own and it has the power to bring us together in ways that transcend any and all idealistic, socialistic and economic differences. This bond we share should not be taken for granted however. The Knowledge and Experience of this thing we call Brotherhood are separate. Simply knowing you are a Brother is not the same as acting like a Brother. The benefits and gains of being in our Fraternity are not to be obtained passively, but rather through commitment and dedication to the ideals and values we all swore to uphold when we became Brothers. Sit idle and you will more than likely miss out, but act like a Brother and you will surely take gain something which will forever be a part of your life. All Brothers are encouraged to remember why they desired to be a Brother and how they can use their Brotherhood when they are called upon.

Joshua Sefchek
Alumni President

The Offering

Today the social atmosphere of our University is changing greatly. This change has been ushered in through the actions of the University, the community and the attitude of the current college generation. Over the years, the University has sought to free itself from its Engineering roots and has strove to become a well-rounded University with no particular focus. This change may have been in response to the changing mentality of the college age adults. The current generation grew up with cell phones, the internet, iPods, MySpace, Facebook and various other "instant" gratification devices. This generation is different in the way that they very quickly make judgments of the perceived benefits a certain entity brings. If there isn't some degree of instant benefit or gain, they will hastily move on. If a particular degree of study doesn't result in instant benefit, they move on. If a particular electronic device doesn't perform as they think it should, they reject it. And more importantly to us, if they don't perceive instant gain from a Fraternity they refuse to give it even a second thought. Our challenge today is to show this generation what instant gains are theirs for the taking. We all know the lifelong benefits that come from joining a Fraternity, but others do not. It is our challenge to offer these benefits to our future Brothers. Our offer to future Brothers should make it readily apparent that any and all of what we have and experience as Brothers is theirs the instant they begin to act as Brothers. While they need to fully understand these benefits come from work and dedication, we need to fulfill our part of the offer too by extending our hand to them as Brothers. Selfishness has no place within our House and we should be ready to assist and share with those Brothers who ask of us. A united and strong House presents the face which this new generation is looking for. They need to know that our Fraternity exists past the college years and for the rest of their lives. The only way we can do this is to work as Brothers and perform in our roles. While actives describe and explain this benefit to the next generation, the alumni have a duty to demonstrate and convey this principle.

Joshua Sefchek
Alumni President

Dumpster Divers

The active brothers, though few, are still holding on and in some instances “picking up.” Community service has always been a priority of Tri-State’s Triangle chapter, and even though we are short handed and overwhelmed in many respects we were still able to come together once again this semester to reach out to the community by means of our Adopt-a-Highway program. It was a great success again this semester with a good turnout from the actives.

Brothers Brad Baker and Jeff Elliott were the big winners this year in our competition to collect the most interesting garbage. As always, I wish to extend thanks to everyone who helped out and hope that this community service project will continue into the future.

Brother Aaron Engels
Active Vice President

Mark your Calendar

- The annual Pig Roast is scheduled for April 25th.
- All alumni board positions will be up for vote during this year’s roast.
- Look for more information as we approach the big day.

Alumni Board Nominations

To nominate a Brother for an Alumni Board Position:

1. Send an email to jjsefchek@gmail.com with the Brother’s name and nominating position.
2. The Brother will be contacted to ensure he is willing to accept the nomination.
3. After he confirms he is willing to run for the office, his name will be added to the ballot.

Nominations will be accepted through March 1st.

Engels’ Leadership

Some people are born leaders while others are taught to become them. This past summer Brother David Hull and I traveled to the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology for Triangle's annual President's Leadership Academy. Prior to the academy, I had never officially attended a leadership training seminar. But I was confident that the experience would be beneficial.

The staff was excellent and diverse which both excited us and compelled us to know more. The material was great and I am pleased to say much of it is now incorporated in our pledging process. As a part of the learning weekend we were able to meet a member of the National Council. We met the National President, who was able to inform us about the state of the National Fraternity as well as our chapter's impact.

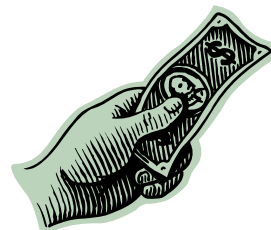
All in all it was an exciting weekend. We met many interested brothers, and learned a lot about the history of the Fraternity. Dave and I enjoyed our weekend immensely, and we can't wait to do it again if given the opportunity.

Brother Aaron Engels
Active Vice President

Annual Alumni Dues Request

The annual letter from the Chapter Board requesting voluntary chapter alumni dues will be mailed to alumni soon. Whatever you can contribute is greatly appreciated. Contributions can be made to the Jeff Williams Memorial Scholarship, the general alumni account, and a new fund designed to help new members with one-time national pledge and initiation fees...which now total \$220 for each new member.

Donations to the general alumni account help pay for alumni events, *Sine of the Times* mailings, scholarship incentives for the actives, and improvements to the chapter house. All donations are sent to the alumni Treasurer and spending decisions are made by the full Board. In addition to sending your donation by mail, you can also donate securely online – just go to the chapter web site at <http://tsutriangle.org> and click the **Alumni Dues** link for more information. Using the same online donation site, you can also pay your voluntary **national** alumni dues and donate to Triangle Education Foundation (tax deductible).



Rushing the Night Away

I have heard the question "What's the recruitment plan for this year?" many, many times. Asked of Presidents and Rush Chairmen, they always gave a similar answer. I myself have given the coinphrase answer by laying out when we were going to hold a function and how we were going to get people there. It has always seemed to be the goal to have as many new people attend these events as possible to use the event as a fishing expedition. Many of you may recall the pig roast that we held a few years ago where the alumni challenged the actives to get higher rush attendance than alumni. As you may also recall, many of those rushees did not stick around very long and most kept to themselves during the festivities.

In reflection we (the actives) have realized that a fishing expedition is a good way to turn new people away. Close friends that attend feel lowered, being mixed with strangers, and strangers feel out of place not knowing everyone or interacting with actives.

In response to the rushing reaction the actives have developed a new idea on rushing that some are surprised to hear.

Part of being a member of a fraternity involves being someone that is sociable. If we go out and make friends as a part of a healthy personal social life separate from Triangle, rushing will follow. Once a friendship is established we still do not introduce them to "The House", we introduce the Brothers as our *friends*. Then when a connection is built on friendship, we hold a rush event with only these close friends. The event is exclusive to these friends and becomes a celebration of friendship and not a fishing expedition. Focusing our attention on someone we are already close to this bond will only grow thicker.

At the point that someone is invited to the event they now begin to see themselves as a part of the chapter and will be more inclined to want to join. This should be sounding familiar as it is how many have been brought to joining the Chapter. It's been noticed that "Rush Events" in the fishing expedition sense have been quite fruitless, where as those that have been brought down on a one on one basis is how most of our members have been recruited and just fell into pledging.

So, in the last occurrence I was asked what my rush plan was, I explained. We first are going to go out and make friends with new people. We then are going to only hold a rush event when we want to go out with our friends, not by a day marked on a calendar. At these events we are not going to invite all the people we know, we will only invite the few very close to us, and have a great time celebrating our friendship.

Jeffery Elliott
Active President

212 Degrees of Hull

Herbert Scobie Leadership School 2008 was a blast. This year it was held at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. This year's curriculum was the "Science of Leadership". A big part of the curriculum was based being a servant leader and the 212 degree view. While going through the school I had a chance to meet brothers from all of the chapters and some of the interest groups that are looking to become chapters.

The 212 degree approach has to do with water being hot at 211 degrees and all it takes to make it boil is one more degree. This can be applied to performance in a person. The difference between being good and great is that extra effort. Being a servant leader means to make sure other's priority needs are being fulfilled before your own. For one activity, we did community service at a local recreational center to repair damages from the recent flooding that plagued Terre Haute. There were several speakers to enforce the servant leadership ideals. To encourage relations between the brothers from different chapters, brothers were separated into small groups and had team building exercises. To further the relations, brothers from each chapter were paired with a brother from another chapter to share a dorm.

In summary I had a great time at the school. I met many brothers that had some advice for our chapter. Others made plans on getting together for social events, especially the brothers for Michigan State and Toledo. I believe that I have learned what it takes to be a servant leader and to put forth the extra effort needed to help the chapter get back on its feet.

David Hull

Eternal Remembrance

Douglas Kent Zuber, 56, of Lake James, Fremont, died Sunday, August 24, 2008, at Lake James. Doug was an AEPi and one of the originators of our Pig Roast.

Mr. Zuber was the co-owner and president of SOS Service, Inc. in Angola. He began his career with Brammall, Inc. at 16 years old and held various positions over the years, and retired as the president of TydenBrammall in 1999.

He lived his entire life in Steuben County. He attended Fremont Elementary School, graduated from Angola High School, and graduated from Tri-State University in 1974. He was active in the Land O Lakes Lions Club in Steuben County, and had recently been awarded the Melvin Jones Fellow award from the Lions Club International Foundation. He was a member of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church in Angola, and was a member of the Knights of Columbus. He was very active in the Steuben County Community, and was a board member of Rise, Inc. Angola. His favorite thing to do, was to be with his family, he was a very devoted family man, and enjoyed making others laugh. He also enjoyed playing golf, downhill skiing, traveling, being outdoors, and doing yard work.

He was born December 29, 1951, in Angola to James & Eloise (Bingaman) Zuber. He married Linda L. (Leland) on April 12, 1975, in Scottsburg, Indiana, and they enjoyed 33 years of marriage. She survives at Lake James.

He is also survived by a daughter and son-in-law, Allison and Cliff Fraser of Noblesville; a son, Chris Zuber of Indianapolis; his mother, Eloise Zuber of Angola; a brother and sister-in-law, Tom and Gloria Zuber of Hartland, Mich.; one niece and two nephews, Leah Zuber, Brent Zuber, and Logan Zuber.

He was preceded in death by his father, James Zuber; and one brother, Patrick Zuber.

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Angola, IN 46703

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Active Pledge

In response to the recent spike in alumni assistance, the actives have taken a pledge to show their dedication to improving themselves and the Fraternity. In order to ensure that alumni efforts mean something in the long term, this is what we, the actives, pledge to do:

As a member of Triangle, I recognize my obligation to:

- Observe the precepts of the Fraternity as set forth in the Ritual;
 1. **Ensure every Brother attends and fully participates in all Ceremonies.**
 2. **Hold Ritual renewal ceremonies once every semester**
- Accept cheerfully my full share of any task, however menial, involved in maintaining a chapter home;
 1. **Maintain and improve condition of Chapter House and property**
- Preserve and promote the chosen ideals of my Fraternity;
 1. **Educate all new Brothers about all aspects of Triangle Fraternity.**
- Pay all personal bills promptly, and always live within my means;
 1. **Avoid debt to Nationals organization, Alumni Organization, and Active Organization**
- Help create in my chapter home an environment in which enduring friendships may be formed;
 1. **Assist in the planning of periodical Brotherhood development activities.**
- Maintain a creditable scholastic record;
 1. **Help improve the overall GPA of the Chapter**
 2. **Hold and attend weekly study tables**
- Promote the welfare of my profession;
 1. **Make certain every Brother holds at least member status in their respective professional organization**
- Maintain my self-respect by proper conduct at all times;
 1. **Guarantee Triangle Fraternity is a respectable fraternity in the eyes of the Fraternity Community, University and city of Angola through campus leadership, community service and respectable behavior by all Brothers.**
- Uphold faithfully the traditions and program of my Alma Mater;
 1. **Support and communicate with the Alumni and National Organizations.**
- Pay the price of success in honest effort
 1. **Enable all members to hold leadership positions within the Fraternity and value all ideas from all Brothers**

Announcements

- Congratulations to Chris and Renae Denton on the birth of their son.
- Congratulations to John and Amy Griffin and family on their move to Mooresville, Indiana.
- Congratulations to Mike Foster on his recent engagement.
- Congratulations to Joshua Sefchek on his recent engagement.
- Congratulations to Chris Boswell on his summer graduation and recent employment.

If you have an announcement to share – wedding, baby, new job, promotion, relocation, retirement – please let us know by sending a message to tsutriangle@yahoogroups.com. Announcements sent to this address will be reprinted in the next issue of the *Sine of the Times*.

Staying Connected

Stay connected to your brothers and the events of the chapter (pig roast, centennial, initiations, etc.) by subscribing to our email list. Visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/tsutriangle/> or send an email to tsutriangle-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Other sites you should also visit:

Chapter Web Site

<http://www.tsutriangle.org/>

The Tri-State Chapter of Triangle Fraternity, Angola, Indiana

Chapter Discussion Forums

<http://tsu.trianglefraternity.org/forums/>

1319 Posts in 174 Topics by 39 Members
Latest Member: **cschaefer**

Triangle National

<http://www.triangle.org/>

Trine University

<http://www.trine.edu/>



Chapter Board Positions

Got a question/comment/suggestion for the Board? Let us know:

- Josh Sefchek tsu01 – Alumni president, jjsefchek@gmail.com
- David Scott tsu04 – Alumni Vice president, djscott@gmail.com
- Andy Kavc tsu90 – Alumni Secretary, brunokavc@yahoo.com
- Preston Howard tsu98 – Alumni Treasurer, plhoward12@yahoo.com
- Thomas Kehres tsu02 – Alumni Member at Large, tfkehres@hotmail.com
- Jeff Elliott tsu05 – Active President, jbelliott@trine.edu
- Milton Jones tsu05 – Active Treasurer, live4bum@yahoo.com

Interested in serving on the Board? Alumni officer elections will be held at a very short chapter meeting at Pig Roast on April 25th. Alumni officer positions have two year terms.

Your Talents, Thoughts, and Time

First of all, I wanted to take a moment to recognize the Brothers who have given support to our Fraternity this year. A number of these generous Brothers donated during our Pig Roast last spring and some have also answered the call with the new Capital Campaign. These Brothers have sent a message stating that our Fraternity has a value and a purpose worth investing in. To see a list of the Brothers who have stepped forward and declared their support for our Fraternity, visit <http://www.tsu.trianglefraternity.org/alumnigiving.htm>.

Since we started our recent Capital Campaign, I have been humbled by the response we have received. I have seen some Brothers give larger amounts than I ever expected. I have seen a Brother who didn't even have a full time job, pledge his support for our Fraternity. I have seen a Brother who didn't have the financial resources ask "what else can I do?" I have had many conversations with Brothers about why they want to pledge their support for our Fraternity. The exact reasons for supporting the Chapter vary from person to person, but they all have a common theme "I believe in what our Fraternity is". These Brothers said they see the value Fraternity life adds and want to see that value extended to all future Brothers. After talking to these Brothers, I felt obligated to share this with all of you and to personally thank those who have supported their Fraternity.

For us as Brothers of our Fraternity, I can think of no better reason to donate than to uphold the oaths and promises we made during our respective initiations. These were not some simple words that expired when we left the university or as we grew older, but rather these words solidified our promise that we would always be Brothers and would defend these chosen ideals for our entire lives. It is the duty and obligation of those of us who have the means to assist and uplift those who need us. We, as Brothers, should strive to make our Fraternity a place where our future Brothers can become Men. We have the chance now to help our Fraternity set the standards for Men not only on campus but also throughout the world.

Brothers, I urge you today to share where you can with your Fraternity. Share your Talents, Thoughts or Time with your Brothers. Help us sustain the true meaning of Fraternity within our Chapter.

Joshua Sefchek
Alumni President

2009 Alumni Award Nomination Form

See <http://tsu.trianglefraternity.org/alumniaward.htm> for more information.

Complete online, mail or email to Jeff Elliott at 409 S. College St, Angola, IN or jbelliott@trine.edu.

Nominee: _____

Your name): _____

Your Affiliation (check one): **AEPi** **Nu Pi** **Triangle**

Nominee's Connection to Triangle (check one): **Brother** **Faculty** **Family** **Friend**

Nominee's Last Year at Tri-State University (we will verify): _____

Explanation on why the nominee deserves the award (may add additional paper):

Message from the Alumni President

Brothers,

For the past few years, we have seen a disturbing trend in our Fraternity. Our years of breaking even and small growth have been greatly outnumbered by our years of negative growth. This has brought us to our current condition. The number of actives has dropped to 5 men. I know you understand the complications of this so I will skip the explanations of what will happen after this year if we don't act to change.

As I have talked with the Actives about the situation, it is obvious that getting dragged into a discussion of why this happened, whose fault it is and the typical finger pointing is more trouble than it is worth. It is much more beneficial to realize what we can do and **what we can do is pull together as a Fraternity and restore our House to the status we all know it should have**. Now more than ever before we need to act and operate like a Fraternity. Every member (Active and Alumni) needs to understand that the Fraternity needs you today. We need every member to help out today. **The only way we will survive this year is if we pull together and act as true Fraternity Brothers.**

When I go back to the House and talk with the actives about what really motivates and inspires them with regards to the Fraternity, they always respond with the same answer, "**When the alumni get involved**". Alumni support and involvement has been a huge recruitment tool for our House. Many of the recent Brothers cite seeing the level of Alumni involvement as the reason they joined. The Brothers in the House are **implementing a new recruitment plan for this year** and Alumni involvement is a critical element in the plan. The Brothers attending Tri-State should not be the only Brothers we refer to as Active; **we should all be ACTIVE in our Fraternity.**

Right now we have a perfect opportunity to **set our House apart from other Houses** on campus. While many of the Houses are turning to the University for support and selling their Houses to the University, we can break away from the pack and be the first House on campus to be supported by the Alumni. We can show everyone that our House cares for our own. If we do this, people on all levels will take notice (student, Greek, University, and National Organization). Our Fraternity will grow because people will realize that **our Fraternity is not some simple college club** but rather it is a life-long experience and Brotherhood.

With only 5 active men in the House, even the basic tasks require much work. The biggest problem inside and outside the House is finances. Expecting five Brothers to cover the entire costs associated with Fraternity just isn't realistic. **This total cost to each of our active Brothers would be in excess of \$3000 for the year.** There is no way we can feel comfortable asking these guys to sacrifice this much money for the House when they devote so much of their time to keeping the House running. It is the responsibility of the Alumni to support the Actives and now **your support is needed more than ever.**

In order to support and maintain the Chapter Home, it costs approximately **\$9000** a year. This money covers **the insurance, the mortgage payments, taxes, Pig Roast, Sine of the Times mailing, and various other costs**. It does NOT include the utilities, payments and fees from the National Organization, or any costs associated with being a Brother of the Fraternity. The actives have pledged to cover their costs and now it is our turn as Alumni to take a similar pledge. **We need to give our support to our House today.**

While we need to raise funds immediately, we're also going to do something that will ensure our financial well being for years to come. We're launching a **Capital Campaign**. Your contributions will not only help us through this tough patch; they will also enable us to invest in the future. The heart of the capital campaign is a pledge – a pledge from you to the chapter with the option to make payments over a period of years until your pledge amount is reached. A copy of the pledge form is in this newsletter. **Our goal is \$40,000** and we will continue to take pledges until we reach this total pledged amount. **When our House succeeds it will because of your support.**

A number of alumni have already made pledges. You can pledge whatever amount is possible for you, but here are some suggested pledge amounts:

- \$2100.00 in monthly payments of \$35 over five years
- \$1500.00 in monthly payments of \$25 over five years
- \$900.00 in monthly payments of \$15 over five years

Automatic monthly payments (deducted from a credit or debit card) or one-time donations can be made online at:

<https://secure.pursuantgroup.net/pursuant4/triangle/triangledonation/donate.asp>

Be sure to select the Tri-State Chapter at the top of the form.

Or, checks can be mailed to *Preston Howard, Alumni Treasurer, 3890 S 500 E, Wolcottville, IN 46795*

We will follow up by phone or email in the days and weeks ahead. We look forward to having your support. We need it.

Fraternally,

Joshua Sefchek

Chapter Capital Campaign Pledges
(at the time of this mailing)

Benjamin Duerk	Joshua Sefchek
Brice Jiamachello	Mike Foster
Chad Cales	Nathan Willey
Charles Brunnell	Paul Boyle
David Scott	Thomas Kehres
James Holden	

2008 Dues/Donations
(at the time of this mailing)

Andy Kavc	Matt Mead
Brice Jiamachello	Mike Simko
Charles Brunnell	Nate Willey
Dave Rhodes	Paul Boyle
David Scott	Preston Howard
Drew Hosey	Scott Reynolds
James Emerson	Thomas Kehres
Jon Bontrager	
Joshua Sefchek	

Capital Campaign Gift Pledge

I/We, _____ accept the invitation to join with others in support of our Fraternity in its mission of Brotherhood, Education and Leadership. I am/we are pleased to irrevocably pledge \$_____ to the Tri-State University Chapter of Triangle Fraternity. It is my intent to pay this gift on the schedule, in the form and under the conditions indicated below, recognizing that this gift is subject to modification if changed conditions should warrant. It is understood that this document does not obligate my family or my heirs, although they may desire to complete the payment of this pledge knowing of my interest in Triangle.

- A) I/we wish to make a one-time gift of \$_____ within one year.
- B) I/we intend to structure this gift of \$_____ in the following manner:

NAME (please print) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Initiation Year: _____ Graduation Year: _____
Phone:(Home) _____ Email:(Home) _____

*Please mail this form to Preston Howard, Alumni Treasurer, 3890 S 500 E, Wolcottville, IN 46795;
or email it to Preston at plhoward12@yahoo.com.*