



# BROTHER TO BROTHER

WINTER 2015 | SIGMA PHI EPSILON | INDIANA ETA | INDIANA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

## Taking Alumni Relations to the Next Level *Indiana Eta Partners with OmegaFi*

It's been said and quoted many times, but always bears repeating: Sigma Phi Epsilon is a lifelong commitment. Brotherhood is for life. Over the years you may have stayed informed through *Brother to Brother* newsletters, the old Yahoo email group and more recently through Twitter (@IndianaEta) and Facebook.

If you aren't already a "fan" or member of Indiana Eta's Facebook pages, join today by visiting [facebook.com/SigEp.IndianaEta](https://facebook.com/SigEp.IndianaEta) and [facebook.com/groups/IndianaEta](https://facebook.com/groups/IndianaEta). SigEp.

In an effort to increase alumni involvement and engagement, Indiana Eta has partnered with OmegaFi to implement a more robust alumni relations program. Check out the brand new alumni website at [alumni.indiana-eta.org](http://alumni.indiana-eta.org) and check back often for current pictures and newsworthy items happening at the chapter.

OmegaFi also provides a convenient and secure means to manage Indiana Eta's alumni database. If you haven't done so, please check out the 'Alumni Search' function on the website to update your contact information to ensure you stay up-to-date on important information and events from the chapter. While you are there, also take a moment to update contact information for brothers within your network. To ensure your privacy, the 'Alumni Search' tab is password protected. The password is: **speine1963**.

Moving forward (if we have a valid email address for you) you will receive occasional email notifications from [signaphiepsilon@omegafi.com](mailto:signaphiepsilon@omegafi.com). The emails are automated so reply to the email address provided in the body of the email NOT the email itself. We promise not to spam you.

At the 50th Anniversary Celebration, several alumni expressed interest in supporting SigEp financially. OmegaFi offers great tools to help with this endeavor and will assist in Indiana Eta's first ever annual fund campaign.

You may be thinking, "What about the new house?" *The 2014-2015 Indiana Eta Annual Fund Campaign* is the early stages of that project and will allow the chapter to see firsthand the resources OmegaFi can provide, while also providing a way to measure alumni participation. It also ensures the current house meets safety standards and any pressing maintenance issues are addressed. Plans are underway to consider a new capital campaign for Indiana Eta – with the hopes of a new house in 2017.

Thanks to the 34 donors listed below, Sigma Phi Epsilon at Indiana Institute of Technology has raised \$14,373 in the 2014-2015 *Indiana Eta Annual Fund*. Donations to the 2014-2015 *Indiana Eta Annual Fund* will be used to help improve the functionality and safety of the house. Projects include:

- Repairing an on-going leak in the kitchen and all areas damaged from the leak
- Updating the kitchen with much needed cabinetry and lighting
- Adding safety handrails and traction tape to the stairs
- Replacing the old stairs from the basement to the kitchen
- Updating wiring, piping and supports in the basement; as well as improving the outside entrance

Donate today, while you are thinking about it by completing and returning the enclosed pledge form or visiting [alumni.indiana-eta.org](http://alumni.indiana-eta.org) and clicking "Support the Campaign." For your convenience, you can break your gift into monthly, quarterly or semi-annual payments. You can also set up a recurring charge to your credit card or draft from your checking account.

## 2014 - 2015 INDIANA ETA ANNUAL FUND - \$14,373 pledged as of January 9, 2015

### SWINDELL SOCIETY

\$1,000 - \$10,000

Caleb Bertsch - 0607

Ross Frasier Causley - 0517

Brandan Alan Haines - 0431

Jason Walter Kohlhoff - 0405

David John Pask - 0413

Jerry Wayne Shipman - 0198

Matthew Charles Hilden

Stephens - 0527

### MARSHALL'S MEN

\$500 - \$999

Matthew David Hart - 0594

Brandon Michael Lay - 0587

Paul H. Litcher - 0302

James Benjamin Patrick - 0001

Allen Lee Price - 0010

Stanley John Prozny - 0051

Victor Arnold Smith - 0004

Thomas Lee Wardell - 0098

### BUCHANAN

\$250 - \$499

Mark Biedak - 0373

David Lee Haffner - 0550

Donald Joseph Lomont - 0017

Tehya Wright

### EXCELSIOR

\$175 - \$249

Christopher Adam Hoff - 0406

Thomas Viet Le - 0509

Dean Kent Scott - 0104

Brian Lee Wiederholt - 0560

### WARRIOR

\$100 - \$174

Lawrence E. Bott - 0061

Chris Matthew Brown - 0536

Elmer Burman Clark - 0070

Thomas John Hays - 9011

Benjamin Charles

Messick - 0371

Taylor Charles Paddock - 0573

Ronald John Skopitz - 0065

Joseph Douglas Woodrich -

0082

### DONOR

\$1 - \$99

Lewis Joseph Bornmann -

0012

Francis Hlavaty - 0300

Dave Lane Melton - 0096

Earn free admission to Sweetheart Ball by giving to the 2014-2015 *Indiana Eta Annual Fund Campaign!*

Receive one complimentary admission for joining Marshall's Men with a gift of \$500.

Receive two complimentary admissions for joining the Swindell Society with a gift of \$1,000.

## 2015 EXECUTIVE BOARD

### PRESIDENT

Nathan Kirk - 0648

### VP PROGRAMMING

Devin Stone - 0652

### VP MEMBER DEVELOPMENT

Ryan Allman - 0649

### VP RECRUITMENT

John Paul Inholt - 0640

### VP FINANCE

Trevor Topa - TBD

### VP COMMUNICATIONS

Robert Reese - 0646

## 2015 STANDARDS BOARD

### CHAPLAIN

Ryan Seiler - 0638

### SR. MARSHALL

James Franklin - 0645

### JR. MARSHALL

Michael Levdaahl - 0644

### GUARD

Zack Berndl - 0665

### GUIDE

Zack Doepler - 0642

Communication support and assistance provided by:

OMEGAFI  
800.276.6342  
omegafi.com

## Adam Wood Honored as Airman of the Year



### Adam Wood - 0576

came to Indiana Tech to pursue a degree in computer networking. Due to a feeling of obligation to country and family, Adam left Indiana Tech his sophomore year to join the Air Force. Adam attended Indiana Tech from August 2007 - January 2009. He was stationed at Eglin Air

Force Base in Fort Walton Beach, FL.

Adam went into Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD), one of the more stressful and demanding jobs requiring a significant amount of training, including getting certified in all manners of hazardous goods. Adam is now a safety expert and has been deployed to Oman and Afghanistan. He was awarded an Afghan Campaign Medal and received an Army Commendation for services. Impressively, Adam was awarded Airman of the Year in all four groups he was a part of.

Recently, Adam was promoted to Staff Sergeant (E3) and is interested in getting an IT job with the government after his enlistment ends. He is still working towards his bachelor's degree and is working on his IT certifications.



Adam Wood - 0576, pictured center.

"Being in the military and being a member of SigEp are very similar. The Air Force EOD group is small and tight and I consider it a fraternity of its own. Relationships between EOD men and brothers are basically the same thing - I even got to meet a SigEp in my squad from Kentucky," said Adam.

Adam continued, "SigEp taught me professionalism and respect towards others. I also credit SigEp with teaching me how to talk to new people and how to speak publicly. Most importantly, SigEp taught me to carry myself with confidence. SigEp isn't there to make you fail. They are there to make you succeed."

Adam was recently given the highest leadership award possible (Levitow) for his Airman Leadership Class. Congratulations to Adam on being recognized with these esteemed honors!

## 2014 New Members

### Zack Berndl

Plainfield, IL  
Computer Engineering

### Logan Herald

Avon, IN  
Mechanical Engineering

### Bryce Leming

Marion, IN  
Psychology

### Kris Marburger

Peru, IN  
Mechanical Engineering

### Kenneth Martin

Parchment, MI  
Mechanical Engineering

### Kannen Murdock

Nappanee, IN  
Computer Security & Investigation

### Chris Newman

Munster, IN  
Industrial Manufacturing Engineering

### Kaleb Pasch

Indianapolis, IN  
Industrial Manufacturing Engineering

### Sam Spata

Saint John, IN  
Computer Science

### Devin Stone

Chicago, IL  
Biomedical Engineering

### Trevor Topa

Jackson, MI  
Mechanical Engineering



Danny and Stacey Hanel welcomed Tyler Steven Hanel on October 21, 2014 weighing 8lbs. 5oz. and 19.75 inches long.

## Welcoming Indiana Eta's Brothers' New Additions



Mark and Sarah Gilson welcomed Caitlyn Ruth Gilson on May 13, 2014 weighing 6lbs. 4oz. and 19 inches long.



Greg and Trishina Johnson welcomed Maverick Gregory on August 4, 2014 weighing 8lbs. 12oz. and 21.25 inches long.



Wayne and Christina O'Brien welcomed Emerson Rowan Kay on July 1, 2014 weighing 8lbs. 11oz. and 20.25 inches long.



Savan and Priya Thakkar welcomed Evan Prakash Thakkar on Wednesday October 22, 2014 weighing 5lbs. 10oz. and 19.5 inches long.

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# Lessons from the Frank J. Ruck Leadership Institute

Told by: Jordan Cunningham - 0633

"Never will you experience better times, than those with your brothers" is a phrase that resonates within the minds of every SigEp, producing the fondest of memories and emotions. While spending time amongst the true leaders and innovators of my generation in Richmond, Virginia at the Frank J. Ruck Leadership Institute, there was no exception to that statement. The Frank J. Ruck Leadership Institute is an intensive five-day event for SigEp's top rising leaders. The program focuses on personal leadership skills and the Balanced Man Ideal. SigEp alumni serve as mentors and guide Ruck scholars through competitive challenges and lessons in leadership.



*SigEp Brothers at the Ruck Leadership Institute in Richmond, VA. Jordan Cunningham pictured fourth from left.*

Despite regional differences, there was zero hindrance on interactions among brothers. This is something I have never experienced outside of SigEp and it never amazed me as much as it did while at Ruck.

These gentlemen continued to amaze me throughout the entire Ruck experience. The most impressive display provided from these brothers was on the frisbee field. In all my years of being a part of athletic groups, teams and intramurals, I have never seen true athleticism as shown to me by the entirety of the Ruck participants. I saw men sliding for catches, catching Frisbees while double and triple guarded and making throws that I couldn't muster if you paid me. Even though the turf hurt, it was beyond hot and our bodies ached, an example of Sound Body has never been more epitomized than by Yellow Group, and the teams we so graciously allowed to defeat us.

Another phenomenal impression was made by our facilitators, Adam Seiber and Brad Nahrstadt. These men exemplified what it meant to lead the next generation while not letting any "older generation hubris" fog their teachings and opinions. Adam and Brian provided attitudes, viewpoints and ideals within the Ruck leadership criteria that made it a much more SigEp experience as opposed to a generic leadership workshop. Beyond that, they knew what it was to be humble. Should a Ruck participant have a different viewpoint, it was respected.

My final signature experience from Ruck came from Past Grand President Steve Shanklin's "Living the Ritual." Brother Shanklin provided a beautiful explanation of how the ritual does not magically change a person into the SigEp man we all aspire to become. In fact, it is everything outside of the ritual that represents whether or not we epitomize Virtue, Diligence and Brotherly Love.

The connections made at the Ruck Leadership Institute will certainly stick with us for a lifetime, regardless of whether or not we see one another again. While we all said our goodbyes, the claim "I just wish you all were in my chapter, we would have the absolute best chapter" was rampant. I could only disagree silently in my mind... because I already have a chapter that exceeds all of what these leaders wanted. I have Indiana Eta.

In closing, I want to thank the Indiana Eta AVC for allowing me such an experience. Thank you for continuing to support me and the entirety of the chapter!

## Sigma Phi Epsilon Headquarters Recognizes Indiana Eta for EDGE Participation

Every semester, Sigma Phi Epsilon hosts an event called EDGE which is the first step in the Leadership Continuum Program. EDGE is geared towards giving new members an exposure to SigEp nationally while also teaching skills such as risk management and teamwork. At EDGE in spring 2014, Indiana Eta was recognized as a top participant. Below is what Jason from SigEp HQ had to say about Indiana Eta's participation:

*"I wanted to take a quick moment to let you know the absolutely FANTASTIC job the*

*members from your chapter did at EDGE this past weekend in Ohio.*

*It was the first time many of our facilitators had the pleasure of working with your chapter at an EDGE program, and we all were very impressed. In the sixteen EDGE programs that I've volunteered at, I've never had a new chapter be represented so well. They were all an absolute pleasure to work with, and the entire facilitation staff recognized them for their attitude, behavior and attentiveness during the weekend.*

*Specifically, I would like to point out*

**James Franklin - 0645.** *He was chosen by all of the facilitators as the MVP - Most Valuable Participant. The way he instantly engaged with the sessions, especially the way he opened up during the life map, cross the line and Man Up! sessions was very appreciated. He's absolutely the type of guy that I would love to work with in my chapter.*

*Please, keep up all of the good work! Also make sure to let your chapter know how well they were represented this weekend; we're looking forward to seeing more guys at EDGE in the future!"*

## ALUMNI VOLUNTEER CORPORATION

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Edit your member profile online at  
[alumni.indiana-eta.org](http://alumni.indiana-eta.org), or clip  
this form, place it in a stamped envelope  
and send to:

Sigma Phi Epsilon (#3062)  
PO Box 2187  
Columbus, GA 31902

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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Email \_\_\_\_\_

## New Additions

Continued from page 2



*Bobby and Cindy Munger welcomed Braden Austin on January 10, 2014 weighing 7lbs. 9oz. and 21 inches long.*



*Matthew and Jessica Stephens welcomed Lukas on April 8, 2014 weighing 8lbs. 2.2oz. and 20.5 inches long.*



*David Perdue and Bridgette Williams welcomed Jon Walker Perdue on June 27, 2014 weighing 6lbs. 2oz. and 19.5 inches long.*



*Pete and Danielle Lindsay welcomed Skylar Quinn Lindsay on June 12, 2014 weighing 6lbs. 12oz. and 19 inches long. Pictured with big brother Dexter Steven.*



*Amy and Aaron Nedd welcomed Eva Marie Nedd on October 19, 2014 weighing 5lbs. 9oz. and 19.5 inches long.*

## Visit the Sigma Phi Epsilon Alumni Website & Facebook Page

Visit [alumni.indiana-eta.org](http://alumni.indiana-eta.org), the official Indiana Eta alumni website, to:

- Learn more about the chapter
- Search for alumni
- Update your address, phone number and email address
- Find out about upcoming events
- Post noteworthy accomplishments (a new baby, a recent marriage, a recent promotion, etc.)
- Make a pledge to the 2014-2015 Indiana Eta Annual Fund
- [Facebook.com/SigEp.IndianaEta](https://www.facebook.com/SigEp.IndianaEta) and [Facebook.com/groups/IndianaEta.SigEp](https://www.facebook.com/groups/IndianaEta.SigEp)

## Save the Date!

*Make plans now to attend Sweetheart Ball!*

**Date:** Saturday, April 25

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. to Midnight

**Location:** Don Hall's Guesthouse

1313 West Washington  
Center Road, Fort Wayne,  
IN 46825

**[donhallsguesthouse.com](http://donhallsguesthouse.com)**

*Earn free admission by donating to the 2014-2015 Indiana Eta Annual Fund Campaign! See page one for details.*