

Sig Ep

Quarter 4

September 2013 - January 2014

the official publication of the

alumni board of the new jersey zeta chapter of sigma phi epsilon



Pictured From left to right: Bill Drummond '10, (Lexi Przewdecki) '13, Anthony Olsen '09, Chris Greene '07, Brian Moy '09, Mark Stephan '09, Bryan Persons '09, Mike Burylo '09, and (Ben Moy) '12 Picture Courtesy of The Zombie Mud Run Facebook Page

Events, Events, and Events...

Saturday November 9th 2013, a group of fearless individuals decided to put their own health at risk for charity. The Zombie Mud Run was held in East Windsor. This was the first time we had the chance to face our worst nightmares. Zombies, running, obstacles, and a Sig Ep favorite freezing temperatures. Brian Moy '09 was able to coordinate this event with Bill Drummond '10 enabling the rest of the group to beat the zombie apocalypse. We had two survivors, Chris Green '07 and Ben Moy '12 (Brian Moy's brother) 2 of 9 participants. Next year we would like to plan another 5k like the Zombie Run. We expect this to be an annual event and the more brothers that want to sign up, the better. The event proceeds went towards a new charity Sig Ep nationally supports, Big Brother, Big Sister. Next year let's have an even bigger showing and achieve a Sound Body in a mud-filled 5k together.

Sunday November 17th 2013, the annual SigEp Homecoming was held. This year we had

28 football participants. Two games were held where our undergraduates and Alumni chose quarterbacks to draft their own teams. The 7v7 flag football game commenced and Mark Liszewski led his team to victory. Pete Imperiale won the Undergraduate 2013 MVP and Jeremy Goldfarb won Alumni 2013 MVP. In addition to the football game, we ran the annual tree carving for the recent graduates, a John Kostic Memorial, and a burning heart ceremony led by the undergraduates. The alumni give their thanks to Justin Esteban, John Carroll, and the other undergraduates that helped with the event.

Sunday January 26th, 2014, the Balanced Man Scholarship banquet was held. MC extraordinaire Matt Stevens '06 introduced guests and the finalists. This year we gave out two awards of high esteem. Dylan Miller '14 won the Balanced Brother of the Year and then Braden Sweeney '17 won the Balanced Man Scholarship. We hope to see all of our BMS finalists this spring after formal recruitment is over.

Thursday January 30th, 2014 marked our last general board meeting of the 2013 year. At the meeting, individuals who were elected by Alumni nominations were appointed to several positions. The appointments were as follows: President Bryan Persons, Vice President Bill Drummond, Treasurer Brian Williams, Secretary Alex D'Amico, and newly appointed position Recruitment Mentor Justin Baldwin. This group plans on pursuing success in broadening the definition of what the Alumni Volunteer Corporation can be in the future. Thank you to all of our alumni and friends for your support and thank you to the 2013 AVC Board. We hope to continue to grow our base so that we may develop a sustainable organization for years to come.

Events Coming Up:

Freezing For a Reason - February 8th
email Frank at frankromanojr@gmail.com

Sigma Ritual - February 11th at 10 AM
email John Carrol at carrolj@rider.edu

Meeting Sweigart Board Room - Feb 27th
Call Bryan Persons (609) 672 - 5477

Philadelphia Wings Game Fundraiser - TBD
Call Bill Drummond (609) 217 - 8153

This year we have numbers to share with you..

2013

Budget: \$668.69
AVC Meeting Attendance : 17
Events: 4 planned events

2014

Projected Numbers

Budget: \$1,300.00
Meeting Attendance : 34
Events: 8 planned events

Point of Clarification: Drinking and Driving

By Alex D'Amico, Esq., an attorney at Hyderally & Associates, P.C.

In this article, I discuss the implications of driving while impaired in the State of New Jersey, both in terms of the DWI violation and other considerations.

The DWI

The language of the DWI statute prohibits "operat[ion of] a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, narcotic, hallucinogenic or habit-producing drug, or operat[ion of] a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol concentration of 0.08% or more" For a first offense, a perpetrator with a BAC greater than 0.08% and less than 0.10% faces a fine between \$250 and \$400, a "period of detainment" between twelve and forty-eight hours, and, at the discretion of the court, a term of imprisonment of not more than thirty days and a forfeiture of the right to operate a motor vehicle for three months. A perpetrator with a BAC greater than 0.10%, faces a fine between \$300 and \$500, a "period of detainment" between twelve and forty-eight hours, a term of imprisonment of not more than 30 days, and forfeiture of the right to operate a motor vehicle for between seven months and one year. Repeat offenders face increasingly severe penalties.

Additionally, a "person who permits another person who is under the influence . . . to operate a motor vehicle" is subject to penalties equal to those applicable to a driver. So don't think that by suckering your drunken friend into driving you home, you somehow absolved yourself from culpability.

The New Jersey DWI statute amplifies the penalties when the drunk driving occurs within 1,000 feet of school property. A first time violation of the school zone provision compels a fine between \$500 and \$800, imprisonment for up to sixty days, and suspension of the driver's license for between one and two years. As an example of this provision's applicability in the Lawrenceville area, Ben Franklin Elementary School, located at 2939 Princeton Pike, is approximately 1,600 feet

from the intersection of Franklin Corner Road and Princeton Pike. As another example, surely driving by Notre Dame High School, located at 601 Lawrence Road, crosses within the 1,000 foot radius of the school. I bring this up not so you can map out your drunken ride home to avoid school zones, but to underscore a risk for additional drunk driving penalties and accentuate that the best policy is to never drive while impaired.

Another statutory provision specifically pertains to people younger than twenty-one years of age. A person below the age of twenty-one years who operates a motor vehicle with a BAC of .01% or more is subject to forfeiture of his license for between thirty and ninety days, mandatory community service for a period of between fifteen and thirty days, and a requirement to participate in certain alcohol education and highway safety programs. These penalties apply in addition to any warranted under the other DWI provisions.

Other Considerations

In the State of New Jersey, any person who operates a motor vehicle on a public road has implicitly consented to give a breath sample for the purpose of measuring his BAC. Therefore, refusal to give a breath sample is likely not a good decision when you have been pulled over by a cop for suspicion of drunken driving. In fact, N.J.S.A. 39:4-50.4a provides the following penalties, in addition to those for a DWI conviction, for refusing to give breath samples: suspension of driving privileges for between seven months and one year and a fine between \$300 and \$500.

The provisions discussed above only scratch the surface of the single most important truth about drunk driving—the driving skill of the person operating the motor vehicle is impaired. No matter your BAC—0.01%, 0.08%, or 0.20%—you are inherently likely to drive at a suboptimal level while under the influence of alcohol or another substance. In July 2013, 18-year-old Devin O'Neil accepted a plea deal for five years' imprisonment for vehicular homicide arising out of a head-on accident he caused, killing

the other driver. O'Neil's BAC registered 0.067%, legal for a 21-year old, but illegal for the 18-year-old O'Neil. The lesson here is two-fold: 1) persons under age 21 years should never drive when they are impaired to any extent; and 2) a person driving at a suboptimal level, even if his BAC falls under 0.08%, assumes a level of risk that would not be there if he was completely unimpaired. Therefore, in addition to never driving with a BAC of 0.08% or greater, it is in the interest of persons age twenty-one years or older to minimize or to entirely avoid driving when impaired, even when the impairment is concurrent with a BAC under 0.08%.

I hope the information I have provided above demonstrates the clear, singular message of New Jersey law as it pertains to driving while intoxicated: simply do not drink and drive.

This article is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute legal advice, and may not reasonably be relied upon as such. If you face a legal issue, you should consult a qualified attorney for independent legal advice with regard to your particular set of facts.

President Words

Reputation - build our image

Retention - members will be accounted for and will get recognition for contributions made

Money - capital fundraising campaign; earmark donations for renovations and raise money for scholarship funds

These three words will be the focus of this year.

Join AVC & BE the CHANGE!