

The RED DOOR

The Official Newsletter of
Sigma Phi Epsilon – Indiana Zeta



BROTHERHOOD AT IT'S FINEST

IN THIS ISSUE

JAN-FEB 2023 Edition!

The chapter has had an exciting start to the new year and our executive board is ready for what's to come after attending Carlson Leadership Academy. We are so excited to welcome twenty-one new members to the chapter from Spring Recruitment. Our brotherhood has grown stronger through a newly created pool league, weekly dinners and our beloved Burning Heart Ceremony. All featured in this edition. As we wrap up midterms, Spring Break is almost upon us! Many brothers are traveling abroad or participating in service trips. Big things coming for Indiana Zeta after we return from a much needed and restful break!

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT!

Jack Hertzberg

As we are closing in on this first half of the semester, we have a lot to be excited about and thankful for as a chapter! The rest of the Executive Board and I are optimistic for the future and working hard to make the present successful and rewarding. We recently traveled to the Chicago area to attend the Carlson Leadership Academy national conference through SigEp HQ. We enjoyed listening to speakers from different chapters across the country and collaborating with other brothers who share our respective positions to share ideas and encourage one another. We also received the Benjamin Hobson-Frayser Award for Excellence in Communications! Back in Valparaiso, our 21 new members have given us great momentum and helped foster a new culture of spontaneity and fun. This has included increased brotherhood events like weekly dinners/cooking lessons and a new league for pool tournaments. Currently, we are working hard on an application to be recognized as one of the best SigEp chapters nationwide with our fourth Buchanan Cup in a row. We are also looking forward to the Fraternity and Sorority Awards in April where we hope to honor our fraternity and some of our brothers who are nominated for numerous accolades. Spring Break will be a much needed rest for all of us, but we are ready to hit the ground running when we come back to grow the exciting progress we have already made!



Left: Brother Jack Hertzberg speaking at Preference Dinner



Right: Brothers and mentors accepting an award at Carlson Leadership Academy

PREFERENCE DINNER 2023

Noah Houseworth

Preference dinner and bid handout are two incredibly significant events for our chapter. The amount of planning and effort that goes into each is a good demonstration of that. We want to be able to offer all of our potential new members the best experience we can give them. Our preference dinner had great food, a great location in Parea, great speakers in Steve Janowiak and Ryan Cummings, mentors and volunteers present, and a slew of great guests. Overall, this was one of the most successful preference dinners we have had in years in helping to convince a large new member class that we were the best fit for them. Part of what led to such a successful preference dinner was a phenomenal bid handout. All of the brothers marched in rows of two singing "Rum Rum" around campus as we handed out 27 bids in one night. Yes, we may have been fighting the rain and cold the whole time but if anything that showed the bid recipients that we cared more about providing them with the traditional SigEp bid handout than the weather. Within two hours we were able to hand out all but three of the 30 bids. So while we definitely did our part in making the night successful, it did help that we had a bit of luck on our side. It's rare that so many people would be available at the same time even when we put effort towards it being so.



Left: Brothers take a picture with potential new members
Right: Brothers' Steven Janowiak and Ryan Cummings give speeches

SPRING 2023 - NEW MEMBERS!

Korbin Opfer

When I first came to college, I had absolutely zero interest in joining a fraternity. I knew the common conceptions about fraternities, saw the movies, and heard the jokes. So, after settling into my dorm after a week or so, I was surprised to find myself attending a Sigma Phi Epsilon recruitment event. If I remember right, they were making smores in front of my residence hall and I stopped by for the free food. One recognized the book that my sweatshirt's design was based on. Another told me about adjusting to life on campus when he was a freshman. A third told me a funny story. What struck me was the genuine feelings and effort put forth to meet potential new members. All of a sudden, I was interested in FSL, and started to attend other recruitment events. In the process, I got to know other SigEps and some guys in my own grade who were also interested in joining. Before I knew it, bid turn-in week was upon me, and I had four different options to choose from, but I already knew which one I would pick. It was the genuine character of the guys involved, and my friends who saw the same qualities of respect, lightheartedness, and legitimate concern in the brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon. It feels like there are so many possibilities laid out before me, but these are some of the things I look forward to doing. To grow closer with, and create lasting bonds with my fellow SigEps. To be encouraged and encourage my brothers to achieve academic and personal success. To make memories and experiences that will last a lifetime, but most importantly, to become a more balanced man.



Pictured: Brother
Korbin Opfer

GET TO KNOW OUR 21 NEW MEMBERS!

Adam White '26 – Meteorology

Cade Williams '26 – Accounting

Cody Teske '26 – Mechanical Engineering

Conner Daehler '26 – Electrical Engineering

Dylan Murphy '26 – Digital Media

Eli Zylstra '26 – Integrated Business and Engineering

Evan Gustafson '26 – Meteorology

Gavin Forck '26 – Mechanical Engineering

Jack Hutter '26 – Meteorology

Joshua Cronin '26 – Business

Kevin Koenig '26 – Mechanical Engineering

Korbin Opfer '26 – Environmental Science

Mason Ramsey '26 – Civil Engineering

Mason Tulacz '26 – Computer Science

Matt Latzke '26 – Data Science

Max van den Berg '26 – Mechanical Engineering

Noah James '26 – Computer Engineering and
Computer Science

Owen Stine '26 – Elementary Education

Sam Starkenburg '26 – Mechanical Engineering

Santiago Gutierrez Morales '25 – Computer
Science

Zach Nielsen '26 – Computer Engineering and
Physics



Pictured: SigEp
welcomes 21 new
brothers

SIGEP POOL LEAGUE (SPL)

Noah Godsell

This month, brothers Jack Hertzberg, Tanner Grashorn, and I started the SigEp Pool League (SPL). During our free time, we would spend a lot of time playing pool on our house pool table. During one of our many crazy conversations, Jack mentioned the idea of starting a pool league within the chapter. Tanner and I loved the idea and we all ran with it. We quickly came up with some rules, put a whiteboard by the table, and started playing as many games as possible. The SPL started small with about 10 people joining the league and only 4 consistent players. But after a month of the SPL, we have grown to 40 players and many more consistent competitors. The competitiveness and hype around the SPL has grown and our brothers patiently await our weekly top 15 announcements in order to see who will have a target on their back for the upcoming week. We have now begun our first monthly tournament, *The Burning Heart Open*, and are still awaiting to crown our first champion. SPL has been a great way to bring our brothers together!



Left: Brother Noah Godsell gets hyped up after an upset win

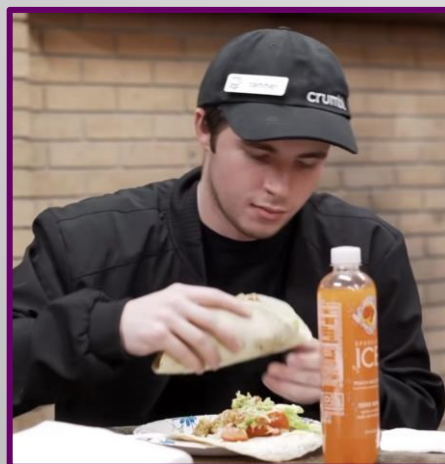
Right: Brother Daniel Asselstine captures a picture of the pool table

WEEKLY BROTHERHOOD DINNERS!

Brother of the Month - Micah D'Arcangelo

“Give the people what they want!” This has been my refrain before 5-7 brothers, along with myself carry plates of piping hot food from the kitchen to the dancefloor for brotherhood dinners. This semester, the Indiana Zeta chapter of SigEp started hosting once weekly meals where brothers pay \$5-10, depending on the price of ingredients, for a home cooked meal at their very own house. The first week we had a pasta night that garnered a little bit of attention, and the attendance of around 15 brothers over the course of an hour and a half. But the second was “Taco Tuesday” a classic meal that brought together 31 brothers for a good meal and good times. Brother Daniel Asselstine was able to capture this night through an awesome video that was featured on Official SigEp’s page! The primary goal of these dinners is to build community. One of SigEp’s cardinal principles is Brotherly Love, something that no other fraternity holds in quite the same esteem. Brotherly Love consists of many things, but the most important of those is an unbreakable bond that is built through spending quality time with one another. On that front, these brotherhood dinners have been a huge success. Talking to brothers after taco Tuesday, I repeatedly heard the refrain “That was the most successful brotherhood event as far as I can remember.” While this was not my initial goal, it certainly is an effect of the community that I hoped to build through the brotherhood dinners. While community was the primary goal of the dinners, they also had an unintended effect: building balanced men. Last week, when we were cooking breakfast for dinner, I talked to at least two brothers who had done an excellent job in the kitchen, who told me that they had never cooked before. It warmed my heart to know that they were willing to try something new, to develop new skills, to help feed their brothers and build community. I have been so excited that these brotherhood dinners engaged and excited people, and I look forward to continuing to build relationships, community, and balanced men around a table. With my brothers. ΣΦΕ

Pictured: Brother Tanner Grashorn about to devour a taco after a long shift at Crumbl



BURNING HEART CEREMONY

David Fowler

On Friday, February 24, our newest members were introduced to our Burning Heart Ceremony, a strong SigEp tradition where they were able to learn the significance of our cardinal principles, Virtue, Diligence and Brotherly Love. After each of our letters and the heart is burned, our new members had the opportunity to turn around and meet their new big brother. As a senior, Burning Heart is by far one of my favorite events that we do as a Fraternity. From experiencing it for the first time to seeing the look on the faces of our new brothers as the heart burns, it is so rewarding to see and such a special feeling. Burning Heart is a reminder of how grateful we all are to be apart of such a passionate and loving brotherhood.





UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

March 4-19	Spring Break
March 25	Family Olympics Begins
April 1	Dance Marathon
April 15	Supper Club w/ Lucas Kelley
April 22	SigEp Formal
May 8-12	Finals Week
May 12	End of Spring 2023 Semester!



LOOKING FORWARD

Be sure to look for the next newsletter which will feature Spring Break experiences, brotherhood events, supper clubs and more!

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

David Fowler, External Relations Chair

I hope you have enjoyed the January-February 2023 edition! Spring Break is quickly approaching, and we all look forward to traveling, relaxing and spending time with our families. From all of us here at Indiana Zeta, we hope you have a great start to the Spring. As always, thank you for reading. Please feel free to reach out with any comments or questions you may have at sigep.externalrelations@valpo.edu or (219) 508-6881!

SigEp

IN ZETA SLC

You can unsubscribe to some or all communications by the Sigma Phi Epsilon Indiana Zeta chapter. However, SigEp needs to communicate with you periodically about our chapter or events that may happen in your area, so we encourage you to allow general Fraternity communication through email. SigEp makes every effort to minimize the number of emails you receive. To update your contact and/or communication, preferences email us at sigep.externalrelations@valpo.edu.

MEET OUR CHAPTER

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