

THE PLUME

The Official Magazine of the Tau Epsilon Phi Fraternity



Quick Facts:

Local Founding Date

November 17, 1919

Colors

Lavender and White

Total Membership

89 Brothers

Fall 2022 GPA

3.63

(#1 among IFC Fraternities)

2023 Executive Board

Chancellor

Nate Koenick

Executive Vice Chancellor

Brett Nemeck

Administrative Vice

Chancellors

Salo Szumstein

Dylan Kiperman

Bursar

Ethan Engel

Scribe

Brandon Sherman

Social Chairs

Zeke Hert

Peter Troiano

Member-at-Large

Brandon Magram

Address:

125 Greek Park Circle
Athens, GA, 30605

Friendship



Chivalry



Service



From the Chancellor's Desk

BY NATE KOENICK

Brothers, Family, Alumni,

Welcome to Tau Epsilon Phi's 2023 Family Weekend! I'd like to introduce myself to those I haven't yet met. My name is Nate Koenick, and I am a sophomore from Bethesda, Maryland, studying Civil Engineering. Being from out of state, I know it's hard for some families to make it, so I appreciate all those who made the trip to get here, long or short, we're glad you're here. 2022 was an eventful year for TEP Nu Chapter, we've succeeded in academics, philanthropy, and of course, social life here on campus. Not to mention, we initiated 36 new members this past fall (shout out to Matt and Ryan + assistants).

Academics are always the top priority at TEP Nu. I'm very proud to announce that this past semester, we boasted the #1 average GPA across all fraternities on campus. Our new members had the #2 average GPA across all new member classes. Our efforts to improve our academic performance include a mentorship program between older and younger brothers with similar majors. We try to instill an academic drive within our new members, and those results hopefully continue for the rest of their college careers. I'd like to thank each brother for their individual commitment to academics. Let's stay #1 in the Spring 2023 semester and upgrade our football seats!

Three words we live by here at TEP Nu are Friendship, Chivalry, and Service. We constantly strive to use our resources to help those who need assistance. This past semester, we played AEPi in a charity basketball game and raised \$4,500 for charity. We also won the fraternity 3v3 basketball tournament on the floor of the Stegeman Coliseum, and we're able to donate an extra \$2,500. Shoutout to Drew Breslow, Spencer Gordon, Henry Grinberg, and Jacob Katz for bringing home that trophy. This coming semester, we're hoping to hold a March Madness pool for charity and a golf tournament next fall to continue our efforts to help those in need.

Lastly, our brothers are getting involved on campus in a variety of ways. We have members in the Terry Fintech Society, Food2Kids, Hillel, Chabad, Club Lacrosse, Club Rugby, UGA Visitors Center, Athens Prison Tutorial, Karma Coffee, and Tikkun Olam Makers. On top of these organizations, brothers have secured excellent research opportunities, internships, and full-time positions for this summer and beyond.

We've had a successful year, but now it's time to look towards 2023 and all the things we can do to build on 2022. My executive board and I have made it our goal to make sure we grow as a fraternity and build a bridge for future pledge classes to come after us.

Thank You,
Nate Koenick
Nu 1814
TEP Chancellor

Good words for Great Souls
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Announcements, Events,
and Updates
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What Does TEP Mean to You?

A Freshman's Perspective

What does TEP mean to me? This question could be answered in hundreds of different ways. Every brother has their own meaning of what TEP is, but there is one meaning we can all agree on. Brotherhood. Every day I spend with my brothers, living, eating, and drinking together, and experiencing the ups and downs of college life. To me, a brother is not just someone you share parents or a house with, but someone whom you share experiences and memories with.

I came to Athens from New York and was unsure of what to expect. But during rush week, I was introduced to TEP and I knew right away that this was the place for me. The night I signed my bid, surrounded by my soon-to-be brothers who were laughing and having fun together, I knew that this was the start of something special.

As a pledge, I was taught the ideals of friendship, chivalry, and service, but it wasn't until I was fully integrated into the fraternity that I truly understood the meaning behind these ideals. I saw how this brotherhood was bigger than just me and how lucky I was to be a part of it. I made it my mission to keep the legacy of TEP alive and bring continued prosperity to the fraternity.

The unity that I feel among my brothers during pre-games, parties, dorm room hangouts, and other activities shows me how fortunate I am to have become not friends, but brothers for life. The memories we've made at football games, parties, formal in New Orleans, the national championship, and more will forever be cherished in my heart. There is no one else I would rather spend my time with than my TEP brothers. To me, TEP means friendship, brotherhood, and a bond that will last a lifetime.

Max Harris
Nu 1836



The Importance of Brotherhood

College is a period of doubt and unpredictability – a time to delve into the depths of self-discovery and forge a path to our future. However, this journey need not be taken alone. Amidst the chaos of college life, we are blessed with the steadfast support and unwavering brotherhood of our TEP family.

As a freshman, the comfort and stability of our brotherhood can be especially vital in navigating this new chapter of our lives, and I feel it even more than ever now as a junior living in the TEP House. TEP provides the foundation to many of our college experiences – a launchpad that allows us to try so many other opportunities and experiences on campus. But even as we grow older and our paths diverge, we have the opportunity to remain active and invested in our fraternity, a testament to the two key factors that set TEP apart from other organizations: our unity and diversity.

We are united not just by our shared brotherhood and the dues we pay, but by the appreciation and celebration of each other's unique traits and perspectives. Our brotherhood is an inclusive community, fostering the growth of individuals from all walks of life, backgrounds, and interests. This diversity allows us to broaden our perspectives and gain invaluable life lessons from one another.

TEP is not just a fraternity but a second home. Our connections run deep, transcending the confines of social events and morphing into a lifetime bond. Regardless of our grade, major, or hometown, we know that we can always rely on our brothers for guidance, comfort, and companionship. Whether working out at the gym, grabbing lunch, or having a fun night downtown, TEP sticks together, always ready to lend a hand or lend an ear.

This brotherhood is a precious gift: One that has given us experiences and relationships to treasure for a lifetime. I am grateful for the people I have met, the memories I have made, and the bonds I have formed through TEP. I know that these connections will endure long after we leave college, a symbol of the enduring power of our brotherhood.

Brandon Sherman
Nu 1819



A Look Back

A Senior's Perspective

“College was the best four years of my life.”

“Savor every moment you’ll never have a time like this again!”

“I wish I could go to college again!”

I’m sure we’ve all heard these words before, and while they tend to glorify the college experience, after four years, I can say they’re true. The college experience isn’t solidified by the amount of time I spent learning and earning my degree (although VERY important). College was solidified by the amazing experiences I had and the lessons I learned. TEP has been the greatest experience of my life. We pride ourselves on the three ideals of the founders of our fraternity: friendship, chivalry, and service. Because of these deep-rooted principles, TEP has become a home for many men trying to figure out who they are as an adult. At its core, TEP is TEP because of the brotherhood. It transcends names and hometowns. We know we can count on and lean on each other for support. Stressed about a test or assignment, have exciting news to share, or just need someone to share a drink with? College is one of the most important periods of growth and I feel so blessed to have been able to share that with the young men in this room.

As I reflect on my four years, I think about the memories I have made: countless socials, date nights, basketball games at the house, the GAR, Shipwreck, and so many others. My friends have become my family. I’m going to miss the banter, whether it be joking around or recapping the night before. My goal was to be able to leave TEP in a stronger position than when I pledged; to be able to return in thirty years and see my composite on the wall. I believe I was able to contribute to that growth.

Brothers – as you move through your four years of college, keep an open mind. Do what you want and don’t care about what others think. Don’t be afraid to uphold the traditions we have fought so hard to keep. Continue to hold yourselves to the highest of standards. I promise that you have not seen the last of me. I look forward to seeing you all again in Athens. Now, let’s celebrate an amazing four years (or not, if you’re not a senior!) and this amazing group of men. Let’s get the party started!

Ben Surasky
Nu 1787



A Poem By Orr Shalev, Nu 1802

Victory

In Athens, Georgia, there stands a crew
Of Jews and Dawgs, a bond that's true
With hearts of gold and spirit bright
They are the members of TEP, oh what a sight!

Each year they head to the New Orleans' land
For a formal, their way to take a stand
With suits and ties, they paint the town
Partying and laughing, never a frown.

Their mascot, the bulldog, strong and bold
With Sunshine, their chef, the food never gets old
New members join, now twice the size
Adding to the laughter, joy and prize.

The GLIT tournament brings them together
Basketball skills, they show to the world forever
BMags, beloved member, they all adore
With laughter and memories, they make so much
more.

And finally, the party of all parties
Shipwreck, with Bankrol Hayden, they'll take it to the
limit, oh so hearty
Laughing, dancing, having a blast
With TEP, life is always a blast!



@uga.tep
On Instagram