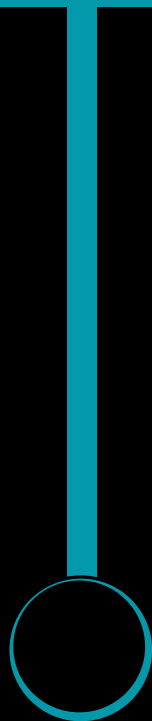


philings

alpha phi omega



A photograph of a brown bear cub climbing a tree trunk. The cub is looking towards the camera with its right paw resting on the bark. The background is a soft-focus green forest.

THIS ISSUE OF PHILINGS FEATURES:

~TIA G.

~YANA T.

~MEREDITH N.

~ROSHNI B.

~BRENNAS.

~EVERYONE I STOLE PICTURES FROM OFF
FACEBOOK

Hey Bros!

It has been an honor to be your PR Chair this semester. I'd like to thank everyone who wrote for Philings as well as a special thanks to Lucas for helping me keep Philings up to Phi's standards this semester. It amazes me how much Phi has grown and accomplished in such a short period of time. I am so proud that I am a part of the biggest and best chapter of the greatest organization in the world! Lastly, I would like to congratulate Janae for becoming PR Chair next semester. After hearing her ideas, I know she will do an amazing job!

I hope you all enjoy my last issue!

-Ben V.

TIA'S FAREWELL ADDRESS

Helllloo Phi,

It has been a great semester! We have done so many new and amazing things that have strengthened our chapter. I put together this list of the top ten success stories unique to this semester.

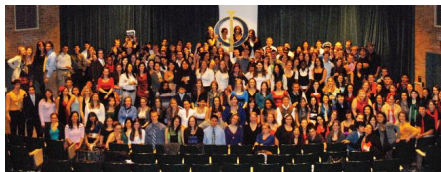
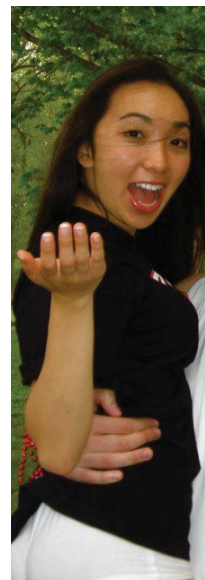
10. Inter-chapter activities actually happened!! We saw many of our long lost brothers from chapter afar.
9. The 11th annual Boy Scout merit badge day goes off without a hitch.
8. Dance Marathon kept us on our feet grooving away in to the wee hours of the night.
7. The Shoe drive raised 100's of shoes for those in need
6. Aaron knight became section chair.
5. We maintained cohesion in times of change.
4. Our pledge class met the requirements to be honored with Pledge class of excellence.
3. We became the largest chapter in the Northeast!
2. We are amongst the top 5 chapters NATIONALLY for initiates!
1. We completed over 7,000 hours of community service!!!!!!

Basically, Phi is AWESOME. This is nowhere near a complete list of success stories for the semester and I thank everyone who put time in to help Phi in anyway. I have been so happy to be a part of this amazing family doing wonderful things our community and beyond.

You all melt my heart,

Tia "Will still be singing the toast song every Sunday at 5pm regardless of graduation" Giermek





Lady Gaga Comes to Phi!

Anyone who sat in the crowd at Mr. and Mrs. APO in Marshall Auditorium on April 9th 2010 sat in shock and awe as their fellow brothers performed in our own style of a drag show. The night started off with a question portion, then moved onto the evening wear and talent portions. The stage was graced with some stellar pledges and talented bros. Contestants included: Ashley Doucette, Georgette Morgan, Roshni Bhambhwani, Jess Pfiefer, Alaina Mallette, Ashley Haskins, and Tim Devlin. Over two hundred dollars was raised that evening with half of the money going towards Syracuse University's Relay for Life and the other half of the money going towards the Sarah House.

Mr. APO went to Malik (Roshni Bhambhwani) who wanted to comment "Yo, was good. This is Malik from the Boogie Down Bronx. Even though people are looking for me, I wanted to come out and give support to creating more birthdays. I'm glad y'all were there to support me but if anyone asks, I wasn't there."

Mrs. APO went to Lady Gaga (Tim Devlin). Gaga had to make a statement also. "I would like to thank all of my little monsters for their support and I am so honored to be Mrs. Alpha Phi Omega once again. To have the opportunity to construct costumes, stage sets, and choreograph dance steps WHILE competing for a charity I am very passionate about is the best feeling in the world. Once again, thank you all and I know the fame can be found within each and every one of you."

Who in their right mind will ever forget Gaga/Tim in the aluminum foil, pointed boob get-up he wore that evening for the question section??



THE BIGGEST LOSER

In a college setting surrounded by all-you-can eat dining halls, late night snacks and the abundance of Marshall Street - it's easy to get lost in the land of 'poor diets'. But this semester, brothers banded together to not only lose weight but to feed the hungry in America Biggest Loser Style. The T.V. show promotes something called The Pound for Pound Challenge for which every pound you pledged to lose donates enough money to give a pound of groceries to a food bank.

We also had weekly meetings which were based around questions and topics that people brought up at our first meetings. We had a lot of fun this semester just exploring how to navigate a college campus with our newly discovered skills. We discussed topics such as exercises that can be done in a dorm room, portion control, the best snacks to take to class, the skinny on alcohol, fun activities to do outside in the sun, and dissecting the latest fad diets. We realized that although it's great to get healthy, it's more important to change your lifestyle than to go on a crazy diet. We took things one step at a time and everyone had great progress.

A couple people signed up for a half marathon to see how far they could push themselves, others experimented with fun recipes and exercises outside. Our finale consisted of a hands on cooking class where we experimented with items such as spaghetti squash, quinoa, asparagus, brussel sprouts and fun spices to add flavor! Everything tasted fabulous and it was a great way to end out semester's journey to getting in tune to treating our bodies right. And who was the biggest loser?? Well, let's just hope that there's a little loser in all of us and a whole lot of winner.

BRENN A S.



Dance Your Soles Off!

We all literally danced the night away at the Dance Marathon. Think of the craziest dance move you've ever seen, then try to multiply that by 18 bodies. That's what Oswego's chapter of APO brought to the dance floor. We saw every dance move from the worm to the moon walk.

If dance moves weren't enough though, there were plenty of snacks at the dance. The sno-cone machine was hit hard that night, in the best possible way. Lots of our lovely pledges, now NIBS, helped out to make the night a super success by working the machine.

The decorations were stellar, thanks to the help of about a dozen brothers. We turned the Alibrandi Center into an overflow of balloons, streamers and Christmas lights.

We were able to give away some donated scarves, a Jimmy John's gift card, a pizza voucher from Acropolis Pizza, a Dunkin' Donuts gift set, some Starbucks coffee, Syracuse University t-shirts and lots of other prizes. That made the Oswego teams happy, especially when their team won the super martini set.

The night, though chock-full of "interesting" dance moves, was a total and complete success. Thanks to the help of everyone that came, we were able to fill all the bins that Soles4Souls gave us, and then some! We raised \$350.

Thank you to everyone who made that night possible. Not only did we hold a wonderful inter-chapter activity, but we were happily invited back to the Alibrandi Center for future events. Phi ROCKS!

SERVICE SERVICE SERVICE!



Dear Phi, it has been a record breaking semester. We have done over 7000 hours of quality service. Every single brother and pledge is responsible for making this semester an outstanding one. Brothers have been coming to me and congratulating me on doing such a great job. While I am so thankful and find this very flattering, I can not even pretend to take some of the credit. I only did my hours, but we could not have reached these astronomical hours without all the effort that every single one of you put in. We did calm service and we did back (or arm) breaking service. We did it in the rain, we did it in the snow, we did it in blazing heat. We carried fifty-five pound batteries up a mountain during a 4 mile hike (in waist deep snow). We quilted blankets for preemies in hospitals. We tutored, oh boy, did we tutor. But I do not need to tell you how amazing the service was this semester, every single one of you participated and helped Phi Chapter make our community and our world a better place. Thank you for making my job as your Vice President of Service so amazing. Phi has my heart, right alongside our leadership, friendship, and service.

Love, Yanina "the girl who worried so much about service she forgot to sleep" Tovpeko.



Four years ago as an innocent little freshman, I joined the Writing with Service class. I always thought that this was a stroke of fate because my advisor got confused and I did not actually need to take a writing class. However as luck would have it, I ended up tutoring at Levy Middle School at 9 am on Mondays (best time ever, I know). In order to get there on time, I would have to stay up all night so I could spend an hour walking there the next morning, but it was all worth it. I fell in love with the kids, the classroom, and everything I could do to help them out.

Sadly my wonderful experience that semester in writing class came to an end. Fate played its little game again by sending a friend to introduce me to a job he had just been accepted for – a Literacy Corp Tutor. I too applied and was accepted for the job and I once again got to be a tutor at Levy Middle School. Since then I have tutored students of all ages and in all subjects. I spent most of my time, however, with the ESL classes filled mostly with refugee students from countries such as Somalia, Burma, and Iraq.

Throughout my time at Levy I have had many memorable experiences, both good and bad. There have been times – usually when there was a substitute in – when I have gone home and curled up on my futon and then there are times when I am overwhelmed with how amazing my students are. I will never forget the time when, after working for months with an ESL student who seemed to not understand anything, he filled in a test perfectly without any help from me. That was the day it really hit me why I worked for Literacy Corp.

Literacy Corp has truly been one of the most important and influential parts of my four years in college. I could have gotten a desk job during which I could have done my homework but instead I got a job that gave me so much more. It made me a part of the Westcott community through my connections with both my students and the school.

I learned many things as a tutor through both the teachers and the students -- and not just about education. I learned about different communities and cultures. I learned about educational policies in the district about alternative programs that can be used in a classroom. I learned how to teach, how to lead a class on my own, and how to make learning fun for a child. I faced many challenges from being completely in charge of the class when the teacher was absent to dealing with major issues such as counterfeit money circulating the school (also a very memorable day). Most importantly I learned how to be a leader in the classroom, a friend to the students, and of service to the Syracuse City community.

To some people, tutoring through Literacy Corp might not seem like service. But the way I see it, for students who need to work through school, it gives them the opportunity and the time to give back to the community. Since tutors are paid through work study, to the district tutors are always seen as cherished volunteers. The service that tutors do through Literacy Corp is not about being able to log hours, it is about knowing that you truly made a difference both in the community and to at least one child out there.

The amazing brothers of Phi would all be perfect for Literacy Corp. I hope all of you will read my story and consider adding a new way to do service to your life.

In LFS,
Roshni “I say I won’t come back but I will probably miss Phi after a week and run back crying” B.

Congratulations Eboard Fall 2010

President-Katherine Pease

Vice President of Service- Lucas Taccardi

Vice President of Rush- Scott Forgit

Vice President of Membership- Ashley Wisniewski

Co-Vice Presidents in Charge of Pledging- Emily Allen & Ed Winston

Treasurer- Colin Moynihan

Public Relations Chair- Janae DeRusso

Alumni Secretary- Andrea Rosko

Recording Secretary- Kelly Lancaster

Vice President of Fellowship- Jose Ricardo Marti

Service Secretary- Brianna Fitzpatrick

Corresponding Secretary- Jin Huang

Historian- Jess Pfeifer

SAA- Tim Schulz

ESF Liaison- Hannah Dean-Wood

the end

have a great summer!