

# *The Whippoorwill*

Eta Chapter of Psi Upsilon Fraternity – Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

February 2021

Greetings Brothers. The title of this issue could be, “**Will we survive?**”

That could be a reference in general about the pandemic, or it could be a reference to our Fraternity. Actually, it is both!

The pandemic has led to many changes everywhere. Lehigh – like most academic institutions – is holding many classes over the internet. Last fall, Lehigh allowed incoming freshman to live on campus, but not upperclassmen. The shutdown included fraternity and sorority houses. To this point, we have not been allowed in the Chapter House since last spring. Our Brothers have all been living in off-campus housing.

Many alternative ways of keeping the Fraternity together were implemented in the fall semester. The undergrads have done a great job. Late last fall the focus shifted from existing day-to-day to working to ensure the future of the Eta. This means recruiting the next class of Brothers, aka, “Rush”.

We alumni have our own remembrances of rush. It is still about existing Brothers making personal contact and building relationships with prospective members. This year that has been difficult. For a while, interactions between Brothers and freshman were allowed at the off-campus houses. First, such events were limited to 10 people. Then it became 5 max. Eventually, using off-campus houses as a meeting point became almost unfeasible. To continue the rush effort, invitations to meet and eat at local restaurants were sent prospective new Brothers. This was safer and effective, but it was also expensive.

This is where we alumni come in via the GLA. Obviously, taking prospective members out to eat was not in the undergrads budget. The GLA has stepped in to help. But our funds are getting pretty low. We need more alumni to participate by paying dues. All we ask is \$50. Please click the memberplanet link below and send in your support so that today’s young people can enjoy the same type of experience that you had. [Checks can be sent to the GLA Treasurer at Goodale Literary Association c/o Rob Stone 3179 Rachel Dr. Bethlehem, PA, 18020-2858]

[www.memberplanet.com/s/psiu-lehighuniversity-alum/annualdues\\_2](http://www.memberplanet.com/s/psiu-lehighuniversity-alum/annualdues_2)

If you donate \$250 or more, I will send you a frame-quality print of the Chapter House. I have LOTS of them!

Many thanks go to this to-be-continued list of Brothers who have made above-dues contributions in the recent past.

Walter Sieglen 1969	Nathan Bohler 2007	Kenneth Ball 1982
David Kurten 1998	James Creedon 1983	Doug Boyce 2009
Justin Finnegan 1996	Brice Jones 1980	George Bovenizer 1963

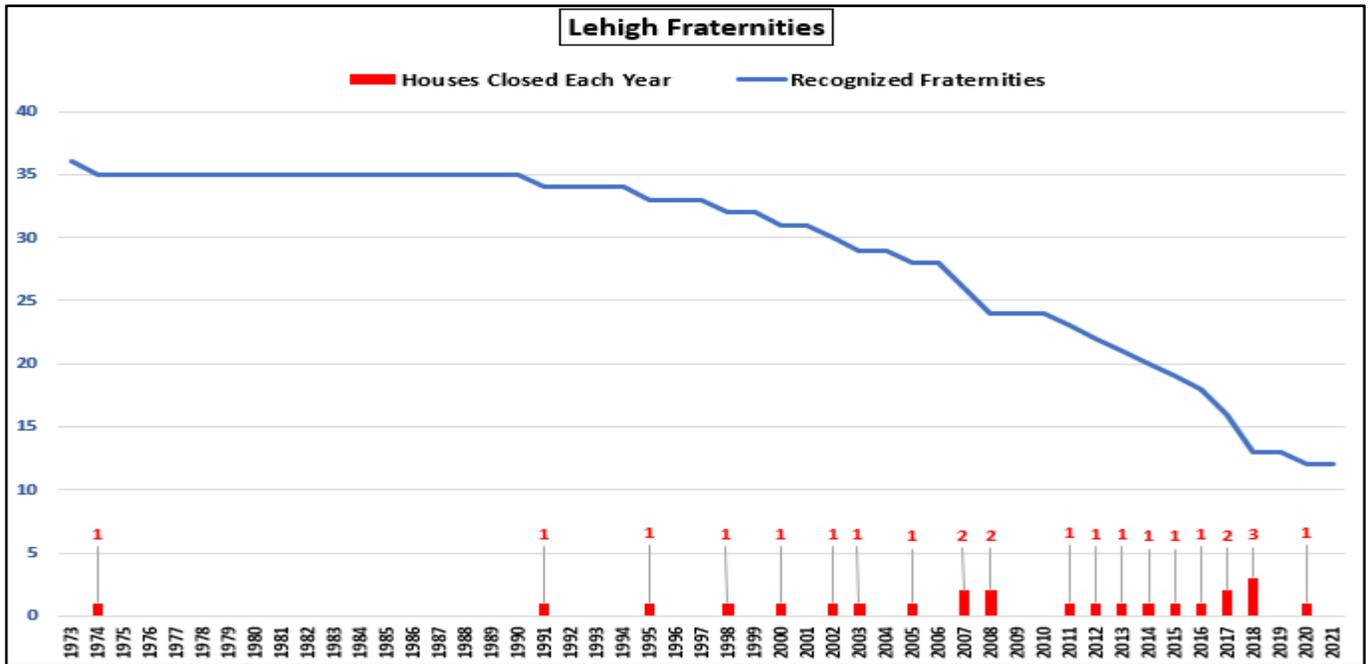
## Ruth Sutherland

It is with great sadness that I pass along the news that our long time cook, Ruth Sutherland, passed away in January. I have many fond memories of Ruth, including her love of the Brotherhood singing a sincere rendition of The Doxology. If you were an undergrad while she was at the Chapter House I am sure you have memories too. Maybe donating to the GLA would be a good way to say goodbye to this special woman and friend of Psi U?

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/mcall/obituary.aspx?n=ruth-sutherland&pid=197669860>

## History of Fraternities at Lehigh

As you have read here before, the number of fraternities at Lehigh has been steadily dropping over the past couple of decades. Reasons for house closing include low occupancy, hazing, alcohol, not meeting LU's accreditation standards, and risk management. Certainly, maintaining a fraternity has become a complex and daunting effort. But the Eta lives on. The chart paints the overall picture.



Speaking of pictures, the one below might be hard for alumni that have not been to campus in many years to recognize. It is taken from the parking lot of the Eta. If you do not recognize the driveway, nor the hard-to-see steps on left going down towards Brodhead, then you have not been to campus in a long time. To-be-demolished Trembly Park is marked by a red circle. Too-hard-to-demolish Taylor Hall [my freshman hall] is red star. The blue triangles mark three new large residence halls which have been completed. They are – as you may have noticed - located where fraternities used to be.

