

THE PHI ALPHA

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NEOPHYTE WEEK AT MISSISSIPPI THETA

Frequently the chapter supervisors are asked to offer suggestions as to ways in which "Hell Week" can be replaced. There is no simple answer. If the chapter merely wants to continue the old ways then no suggestion is satisfactory. If, however, they are sincere in their desire to make the pledge training period one of education of the pledge for effective membership in SAE, then they realize that the days prior to initiation must have meaning in the context of the overall program.

Mississippi Theta at Mississippi State University planned what they called "Neophyte Week" and a report of their efforts to make that period meaningful and constructive for the new brothers is presented as an example of what any chapter can accomplish if they so desire.

"The thirty-six-man pledge class of Mississippi Theta ranked second to none among the pledges on State's campus, compiling a 1.416 on the University's three-point system. Of the twenty-one neophytes, fourteen attained above a two-point, and two above a 2.5, boasting an overall 2.01 average.

"After a period of orientation, Neophyte Week began with a thorough cleaning of the living section of the house on Wednesday afternoon. A pledge final, covering the entire pledge manual, on which a minimum grade of ninety was required, was administered on Wednesday evening.

"On Thursday morning half the class began repainting the dormitory section of the house, while the other half began cleaning a century-old graveyard in Starkville as a community project. On Thursday evening Paul B. Jacob, Jr., Miss. Theta '44, ESW, led a discussion on the National Laws of SAE.

"Work begun on Thursday was continued on Friday. Friday night was spent discussing chapter by-laws.

"The tasks undertaken on Thursday were completed on Saturday. A discussion of fraternity ideals, leadership school, and the duties of chapter officers and committees consumed the evening.

"The neophytes attended church as a group on Sunday morning where the service was conducted by Rev. Leslie Tucker, Tenn. Zeta '48. Sunday afternoon was reserved for an evaluation of Neophyte Week, conducted by the newly-elected pledge trainer; while Sunday night was utilized for a song practice.

"Classes resumed on Monday morning, and an evening meeting was to culminate with a short chapter meeting. The neophytes were brought out after the meeting and told to begin a final scrubbing of the floor of the dining area. In minutes the entire chapter had donned work clothes and joined in the task. After a rousing song practice, the week was concluded.

"The Neophyte Week was conducted by the first-semester pledge trainer and the newly-elected pledge trainer and his pledge training committee. All activities were carried out as a group, when possible, and any spare time between tasks was spent practising songs. The neophytes were allowed to retire each evening at eleven and were aroused at seven each morning save Sunday when they slept until nine.

"The community project carried out by the neophyte class gained high praise for SAE from student affairs, the churches of the locale and from the city of Starkville.

"The neophytes stepped quickly into their roles as active members and are already proving themselves of worth to the chapter."

THE 32d LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

An exciting program has been planned for this year's Leadership School. Guest speakers will include Cyril F. (Duke) Flad, Executive Secretary of Lambda Chi Alpha; Earle W. Clifford, Jr., Dean of Student Affairs at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey; Charles L. Lewis, Executive Dean for Student Affairs at the University of Tennessee (Beta Theta Pi); and Calvin Kytte, Georgia Epsilon, formerly director of the Community Relations Service of the Department of Commerce and now with Urban America, Inc., in Washington, D.C. Flad and Lewis will be at the first session; Clifford and Kytte at the second.

A special memorial service will be conducted Sunday evening of both sessions and will include special tributes to Gary R. (Bish) Anderson and Lauren Foreman, two brothers whose service meant much to the Leadership School. As in past years, time will also be set aside for a memorial pilgrimage to the graves of Billy Levere and John O. Moseley. In this way we keep alive the memory of the Fraternity's great, without whom there would be no Leadership School as we know it.

The faculty is drawn from all parts of the country and represents every type of chapter, thus providing a broad background of experience. Each is a specialist with a competent understanding of the qualities that make for a smooth-running chapter. Combine this know-how with a high level of enthusiasm and zeal and the result is a great experience for all who attend.

Every two years the Supreme Council and the twenty-one Province Archons have a joint meeting immediately following the second session. This year we have asked the Province Archons to come to Evanston early and spend as much of the second session here as is possible. Many plan to be here for the entire week and will want to have meetings with the delegates from their areas. In addition, there will be a number of chapter advisers attending the sessions.

In numbers enrolled this will probably be the largest Leadership School ever held. All signs point to its also being the best. This can only be judged, however, by the way in which each delegate returns to his chapter, inspired by the ideals of the Fraternity and dedicated to the implementation of all that he has acquired for the improvement of his chapter.

CHAPTER CHARTER SUSPENDED

It is with regret that we announce the suspension of the charter of our Pennsylvania Zeta Chapter at Bucknell University. This action, entered into jointly by the administration at Bucknell and the Supreme Council, was taken reluctantly and only after every other avenue had been explored to restore this 73-year-old chapter to its prior standing.

It is always difficult in such matters to know just what has gone wrong. For some years the Supreme Council, chapter advisers, province officers and University authorities have been puzzled by the behavior and attitudes of this once promising chapter. Much of the irresponsibility can be traced to a lax attitude toward drinking in the house and at chapter functions. A shortage of local alumni advice and concern in recent years has also been involved. No doubt other factors are included. Surely all the Supreme Council can say with certainty is that the breakdown was so complete that the charter must be temporarily suspended and the entire situation re-evaluated.

Dr. Charles H. Watts, president of Bucknell, summed up the present situation in a letter to an alumnus of Penn Zeta:

"Finally, I hope that you and other alumni can accept--as we have had to accept--the fact that strong efforts over two years by the Supreme Council, an alumni commission and the University have not brought about an acceptable change in attitude and behavior at our SAE house. I hope that you, too, can treat the recent action as a corrective measure which, with the cooperative support of all interested parties, can be used to create an SAE chapter at Bucknell sometime in the future, of which we can all be justly proud."

Yes, this action is a disappointment to everyone. But can SAE in good conscience allow a chapter to continue when it flagrantly violates the laws of the University and of the Fraternity, continues to fail in its obligations to its members, and in general, blights the good name of SAE and all that it stands for?

Seventy-three years cannot be wiped away in an instant--Pennsylvania Zeta will live again. Everyone is confident that there are factors in the campus scene and the history of the chapter which can be utilized to renew the charter. This will come, hopefully, within three or four years when we can build anew and be certain that our Fraternity is performing a worthwhile function at Bucknell.

an SAE essay, from the ESA

Leadership School is always an exhilarating time for the members of the Supreme Council. I'm sure that we have gained as much by our attendance over the years as each of you who is attending this year for the first time will receive from your participation.

This Leadership School has particular significance for all of us because of the fact that it is dedicated to the memory of two great SAEs who have passed to the Chapter Eternal since the last sessions: Gary R. (Bish) Anderson and Lauren Foreman. Both of them meant a great deal to the Supreme Council and to SAEs everywhere.

As your ESA let me speak for all of us on the Supreme Council in extending to each delegate in attendance a warm word of welcome. The atmosphere around the Temple is informal, so please feel free to introduce yourselves and give us an opportunity to know each of you. This is the one way that we are able to understand the workings of your chapters, discuss any problems you may be having, and really acquire a "sense" of the entire Fraternity. You are the Fraternity!

ESDA Roy L. Miller will arrive on Thursday of the first session and remain through the entire second session. ESW Paul B. Jacob, Jr., regrets that, because of family obligations, he will not be able to arrive until Wednesday of the second session. ESH Robert van Blaricom will be here Thursday and Friday of the first session, go home and return Wednesday of the second session. ESCh Joseph A. Mancini will arrive on Friday of the first session and remain through the second session. I will arrive in Evanston on Thursday morning of the first session and be here for the entire second week. All of us regret that we cannot be here for the entire two weeks.

The Supreme Council is proud to be a part of the Leadership School, just as we hope that the experiences you will have here will enrich your lives. The Fraternity depends on the accomplishments that you will make as you return to your chapters. We are confident that you will live up to our expectations and that next school year will be the most outstanding in our history. It's great to be an SAE!

Noble Notes



NOBLE LESLIE DeVOTIE
Founder

Word has just come to us that Province Pi Archon Edward E. Pellowe suffered a mild heart attack on Friday, July 29. He is in Bixby Hospital in Adrian, Michigan. All of Ed's many friends send him their greetings and hope for a speedy recovery.

Don M. Gable, Ohio Delta '35, former Associate Editor of The RECORD and Publications Assistant, has resigned effective August 31, 1966. Brother Gable joined the staff of SAE in 1937. Except for a period in the Navy during World War II, he has been active with Fraternity publications ever since. He plans to stay in the Chicago area.

Scholarship Commissioner Neal Berte, wife Anne and daughter Becky moved to Evanston on August 15. Neal has accepted the position of Assistant Director of the Evanston office of the College Entrance Examination Board.

The newest Founder Member is Gary W. Beck, Massachusetts Gamma '68, Gary is the great-nephew of Past ESA G. A. (Dolph) Ginter and is Founder No. 211. This brings to 12 the number of full Founder Memberships that have been subscribed by Brother Ginter, plus numerous contributions to others.

May 7, 1966, was a very special day for Past ESA Emmett B. Moore. Designated as "Emmett B. Moore Day" at Washington State University in Pullman, it honored his 37 years on the faculty there and marked his retirement on June 30, 1966. Highlights of the banquet in the evening were the presentation of a memory book with photos, letters and telegrams from his many friends, colleagues, students and fraternity brothers, and the announcement of an endowment scholarship fund that had been fully subscribed. Chapter Supervisor John H. Baugh, Jr., was there representing SAE. It was indeed a special day for a special brother.

THE LION'S SNORT



Over 4,000 brothers became Life Members during the past year, setting an all-time record. Brother Ray B. Burton, Jr., Tennessee Nu '61, of Knoxville, Tennessee, became Life Member No. 15,000 on April 5, 1966.

The following comes to us from our new chapter, Iowa Chi, at the State College of Iowa:

"Are you an active--

The kind who would be missed?

Or are you just contented

That your name is on the list?

"Do you attend the functions and

Mingle with the flock?

Or do you always stay at home

To criticize and knock?

"Do you take an active part to

Help the work along?

Or are you satisfied to

Only just belong?

"Do you ever lend a helping hand

When things are getting thick?

Or leave the work to just a few

And then talk about the clique?

The Phi Alpha of Sigma Alpha Epsilon

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"Think this over good and long,
You know right from wrong.
Are you an active member
Or do you just belong?"

Here is a portion of a letter from COLLEGE OPPORTUNITIES, UNLIMITED, INC., 824 North Cooper Peoria, Illinois:

"The new and revised edition for 1966-67 of our publication, Current Financial Aids For Graduate Students, has just been released, and we would like very much for your chapters and members to know of the numerous financial aids they are eligible to receive. Too many dollars for graduate students are 'not being used'--simply because students aren't informed of where they are, and other practical answers to their practical questions."

For further information write to Mr. Bernard G. Maxwell, President, at the above address.

Since the last issue of PHI ALPHA, two more charter applications have been received, bringing the total to five. They are from locals at Mankato State College, Mankato, Minnesota; and from Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas. The deadline for filing petitions is December 18, 1966, six months prior to the next National Convention at Minneapolis in June, 1967.

This has been a banner year for SAE in terms of number of initiates. As of June 30, 1966, 4,161 new members have been enrolled for the year, representing an increase of 967, or somewhat over 30 per cent more than were initiated during the 1964-65 school year.

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