

# THE PHI ALPHA

A PRIVATE PUBLICATION OF SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON

VOL. 55

EVANSTON, ILLINOIS — JANUARY, 1970

NO. 1

## Minerva's 169th Active Chapter

by Steve T. Walker  
Chapter Consultant

*The following is an account of the installation of New York Beta at C. W. Post College on November 29, 1969.*

An esteem for Sigma Beta Epsilon, now fully installed as New York Beta of SAE, goes back to a brisk autumn night on November 20, 1968. This was the first meeting that we had and it was a rather apprehensive moment when I stepped forward to talk about our National Fraternity and, more importantly, the concept of fraternalism. The rough-paneled room was dimly lit and hauntingly hushed as we examined the question: "What's it all about?" Intangible as those words were that night, I sensed an understanding from the men of Beta that fraternity was to THEM something more than just a name. I think I found something that night as I look back in retrospect: that fraternity IS more than just a name.

Over the months, this feeling of friendship toward you continued to grow. For a while, it was only by correspondence. Then came San Francisco . . . and wow! An explosion of excitement and success . . . followed by Leadership School. Then September came . . . and with it came road maps, suitcases, and motel rooms. One week loomed in my mind as the time that I could barely wait for: November 20 - December 2, 1969. The chapter was ready as were we all. We talked again, one year to the day since that first meeting. The road to charterdom had been completed by this time, but that was the only difference. The little meeting room was the same, the men in the room were the same although some old faces had left and some new ones had taken their places, and the subject was the same. Even our conclusion — that the essence of fraternalism is PEOPLE — was the same.

As the week moved on, we opened boxes, made phone calls to all points, filled out the Form A book, signed the scroll. A crisis every now and then was met and solved. A disappointment that our friend Jon could not be initiated left us all a bit empty inside. Then Thanksgiving Day — an appropriate pause to recognize the wonders of life itself — came and went . . . and we were all back to campus working . . . each at his own task. People — SAE's, parents, friends — arrived from far and near to join in the celebration of a long-awaited dream. . . . And then it was Saturday, November 29, 1969!

Brothers were running back and forth from dorm to gymnasium . . . from Humanities to the Library . . . from campus to Kennedy and LaGuardia . . . and from home to the Island Inn. It was icy cold, but the sun shone through with its light of brilliance.

Jack Hotaling . . . and Paul Jacob . . . and Jay Beck . . . and Chris Sonnesyn . . . and Mr. Juda . . . and Bob van Blaricom . . . and Russ Heuer . . . and Rex Smith . . . and Fred Phelps . . . and Bill Benthall were introducing Sigma Beta Epsilon to the whys and wherefores of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. Busily across the way were Bill Flournoy, John Henry Stone, and I . . . arranging flags, candles, illuminated insignia, and assorted other "goodies" as the moment drew near. Lunch, tours of the campus, and one last moment of solitary reflection led us to the threshold of membership: a fifty-minute ceremony which is the embodiment of three years of work for Beta and 113 years of work for SAE.

The room was aglow with the warmth and excitement that fifty-six men were becoming part of our lasting bond of friendship . . . and vitality . . . and creative innovation . . . and concern . . . and love. Our Eminent Supreme Archon, first among equals, stood quietly with his unique smile of solemnity. And our Eminent Supreme Herald could scarcely hide his boyish grin of enthusiasm . . . because he was the match that lit the flame many months before. And the Province Beta officers with fingers trickling across the keys of music and voices softly echoing "When your name you have signed . . ." All of us nearly breathless.

The knock on the door . . . the entrance of the finest fifty-six . . . led by the finest of men — "B" the beautiful. Time moved quickly as in a dream . . . and promises were made and interpretations were offered. PAUL moved forward with Russ close behind . . . and SAE's watched as friends became brothers. Wow!

The initiation could only be followed by the Spectacle of Festivals. Anything else would have been anticlimactic. The coldness of any gymnasium had been transformed into a ballroom of flowers, fountains, music, and—most importantly—happy people. The President of C. W. Post was there, and his Dean of Students, and the Supreme Council and Staff of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, and each of you—with the beautiful young lady on your arm—and parents, and friends. And, yes, she was there—the grandest of all—Aunt Marjorie—with her orchids and jewels and her Sigma Beta pin. There were three highlights of the evening: Bob van Blaricom officially made New York Beta a chapter of SAE by presenting the charter; the grateful actives and alumni showed their appreciation to a deserving Dean Behymer; and Jack Hotaling—with dignity and charm—made Mrs. Marjorie Merriweather Post a Golden Daughter of Minerva as we all serenaded with a loving rendition of "Her Loveliness, Her Tenderness."

And then it was all over . . . but the life of a new chapter was just beginning. This fact was clearly exemplified by the first official act of New York Beta . . . the Formal Pledging of twenty-two young men to the beauty and inspiration that is Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

ESA Paul B. Jacob announces the appointment of several Standing and Special Committees to serve during the present biennium, some of whom have already begun their work. The membership of these Committees follows:

**1969 - 1971 STANDING COMMITTEES****Permanent Extension Investigation Committee**

Dr. Joseph W. Walt, Chairman  
John H. Baugh  
Jay S. Beck  
Robert L. Cousins  
Don Muchmore  
Dr. Fred Turner  
Dr. Norman T. Oppelt

**Legal Counsel**

Norman H. Pritchard

**Educational Advisor**

Dr. James B. Puryear

**Chaplain of The Levere Memorial Temple**

Dr. Erskine M. Jeffords

**The Levere Memorial Temple Building Committee**

Arthur H. Knox  
Owen Moran  
Warren E. Grimsley  
William Pavey  
Rex A. Smith  
Jack R. Hotaling

**Advisory Council for The Levere Memorial Foundation**

Norman H. Pritchard  
Donald Graham  
Arthur H. Osgood  
Robert A. Christensen  
Willard C. Kayser

**Committee on National Laws**

Norman H. Pritchard  
Guy Greenawalt  
Vincent C. Baldwin  
Rex A. Smith  
Jack R. Hotaling (Ex-Officio)

**Director of Leadership Training**

Dr. Glen T. Nygreen

**Leadership School Committee**

Dr. Glen T. Nygreen  
John H. Stone  
Jack R. Hotaling  
Robert van Blaricom  
Jay S. Beck  
Guy Vander Linden (Iowa Beta)  
W. Charles Witzleben (Georgia Psi)

**Collegiate Council Coordinator**

Dr. Neal R. Berte

**1969 - 1971 SPECIAL COMMITTEES****Colonization Procedure Committee**

Dr. Joseph W. Walt  
Robert L. Cousins  
Jack R. Hotaling

**PHOENIX Updating**

Dr. Joseph W. Walt

**PHOENIX Revision Committee**

Dr. Joseph W. Walt  
Steve T. Walker  
R. Martin Anderson  
Emmett B. Moore  
John Viner (Iowa Sigma)  
Wally Dean (Nebraska Lambda-Pi)

**Fiscal Policy Review**

Joseph A. Mancini  
Gurnett Steinhauer  
Halford J. Pope  
Warren Lundsgaard  
Charles E. Trangsrud  
Robert D. (Rod) Morris

**Alumni Affairs Committee**

Peter D. Cullen  
Richard Hooker  
Robert R. Aurner  
John Voenes  
William Fiscus  
Gary Garnand (Idaho Alpha)  
William P. Flournoy  
Russell P. Heuer (Ex-Officio)

Other Special Committee appointments will be announced in a later issue of Phi Alpha.

**Notable & Quotable**

*Landrum R. Bolling, president of Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana, writing in the autumn issue of the Earlhamite magazine:*

For some time now I have been compiling my own secret set of rules on How to Survive and Be Happy Though Surrounded by College Students. I pass them on to the Earlham alumni family, not as an infallible guide, but as a set of suggestions for the preservation of civility and sanity. Here they are:

1. LISTEN. You won't learn much from young people if you do all the talking. You'll be surprised at how much sense they talk, however senseless they may look.

2. KEEP SMILING. A large percentage of us of the older generation unconsciously or deliberately glare, sneer, frown when we look at college students. Most of them are remarkably perceptive; they know when we're hostile. It is difficult for most people, young or we're hostile. It is difficult for most people, young or old, to communicate with others who are clearly antagonistic.

(Continued on Page 3)

# THE LION'S SNORT



Since the last issue of Phi Alpha, five new Chapters have been installed. They are: Tennessee Delta at Tennessee Technological University; New York Sigma at Adelphi University; New York Beta at C. W. Post College; Tennessee Beta at Middle Tennessee State University; and Colorado Alpha at Colorado State College. Each was a great success and Minerva's Realm has been greatly strengthened.

\* \* \* \*

Because of the great changes occurring in college calendars, planning from the National Office becomes increasingly difficult. Many chapters are on the quarter system and are beginning a new quarter; others are on semesters and are commencing examinations; some are on the tri-mester plan and complete school in early April; and a new concept is the four-one-four where the month of January may be devoted to independent study, a month abroad, or one course at the college. Then there is the Beloit plan which is quite difficult to describe and which necessitates great adaptation and flexibility by the chapter.

## Notable & Quotable (Continued)

3. DON'T ASK THEM WHY THEY LOOK THE WAY THEY DO. If they can't explain it to their parents, they can't explain it to you. Anyway, they don't really know.

4. DON'T TELL THEM HOW HARD AND HOW JOYFULLY YOU WORKED IN YOUR YOUTH. Theirs is a different world; they have no conception of the world through which we lived in the Depression and in World War II and little curiosity to learn about it. Sad or wrong, but it's true.

5. LEVEL WITH THEM. They are amazingly open and honest, if you approach them with a spirit of openness and honesty. And there's little or nothing you can't talk about.

6. DON'T TRY TO BE ONE OF THEM. Among the most pathetic creatures over 30 are those synthetic adolescents who try to dress, talk, act and look like college students. Oh, there's an occasional middle-aged folk singer who can get away with it. Most of the rest of us, on or off the campus, can't.

7. SHARE WITH THEM YOUR OWN HIGHEST HOPES AND FINEST PURPOSES. It will surprise and delight them to discover that plenty of old people are idealists too. They have been fed too much nonsense about the lack of social purpose among their elders.

8. BELIEVE IN THEM. They'll sense it when you do. And, as in all generations, they will respond, eventually, to that belief.

The Supreme Council met in Denver, Colorado, for their mid-winter meeting on January 7, 8 and 9, 1970. The agenda was very full and much was accomplished. A summary of the minutes of the meeting will be widely distributed very soon.

\* \* \* \*

One evening during the Supreme Council meeting was devoted to a discussion of extension matters and particularly implementation of the new colonization procedures passed at the last Convention. An internal manual will be prepared soon and will be available to Province Archons and others closely involved with extension. For the first time in a number of years the Supreme Council received a request for a mail ballot and it was approved for distribution to the electorate of the Fraternity in February.

\* \* \* \*

Planning has already started for the June 1971 National Convention in Richmond, Virginia. The local host committee is hard at work and meetings have been held between the National Office and the hotel management. More information will be available to all as the time draws closer.

\* \* \* \*

As we approach Founders Day, it seems timely to mention the availability of the recently reprinted three-volume History of SAE written by William C. Levere and published originally in 1910. The cost is \$26, including mailing charges. This makes a fine gift for retiring Alumni Association Presidents, Province Archons, Chapter EA's, and others. Orders should be addressed to the National Office.

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The response has been very gratifying to the request for assistance from our many alumni that was mailed in early December. In this period of rapidly rising operational costs, the financial support of our alumni is extremely important to the success of the Fraternity.

\* \* \* \*

Information on Province Conventions that have been scheduled thus far is as follows:

<u>Province</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Beta	May 2 & 3	Meadville, Pennsylvania
Gamma	Feb. 21 & 22	Ashland, Virginia
Delta	April 24 & 25	Delaware, Ohio
Epsilon	April 25	Gainesville, Florida
Eta	April 18 & 19	Laramie, Wyoming
Kappa	Feb. 28	Stockton, California
Mu	Feb. 14 & 15	Decatur, Illinois
Pi	Feb. 14 & 15	Flint, Michigan
Sigma	March 13 & 14	Austin, Texas
Tau	April 17 & 18	Ames, Iowa
Upsilon	March 13 & 14	El Paso, Texas
Psi	March 21 & 22	Greencastle, Indiana
Chi	April 11	Northridge, California

# Noble Notes



NOBLE LESLIE DeVOTIE  
Founder

Howard R. "Hod" Green, '13, Illinois Beta, passed away in his office on Tuesday, December 30, 1969, at the age of 79. Brother Green was the co-author of "Violets" and "Hail To The Purple" as an undergraduate at Illinois and has been a loyal and active alumnus throughout his lifetime. He attended the Leadership School in 1964 and was presented the Merit Key Award at the closing banquet of the school.

\* \* \* \*

We welcome Kenneth D. Tracey, '69, New Mexico Alpha (Eastern New Mexico) as our newest Chapter Consultant. He begins his duties on January 20, and will travel in Provinces Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Delta and Omicron. Ken has been an outstanding chapter and student leader at ENMU and has just completed a term as Student Body President and a national officer of the Association of Student Governments.

\* \* \* \*

We have just learned that Past ESA Glen T. Nygreen's father passed away on Christmas Day in Seattle, Washington. Brother Glen has the sympathy of his many friends during this time of loss.

Our newest Founder Member is N. Baxter Maddox, '22, Georgia Phi (Georgia Tech) of Atlanta, Georgia. He is Number 237 and is a retired bank executive.

\* \* \* \*

During this time of year there are always many groups that visit the Temple for a tour during the weekend. On hand to welcome them and conduct the tour is Tom Brown, '69, Oregon Alpha (Oregon State), a graduate student at Northwestern.

\* \* \* \*

Recently a number of Housemothers have become Golden Daughters of Minerva. They are Mrs. Margerie McBride at Iowa Beta, Mrs. Eva Felkey at Ohio Kappa, Mrs. Ruby Cisco, formerly at Kentucky Epsilon, Mrs. Kathleen Frazier, formerly at Illinois Alpha, and Mrs. Marjorie Merriweather Post, Honorary Housemother of New York Beta. Another new Golden Daughter is Mrs. Evelyn Simmons, President of the Mississippi Theta Minerva Club.

\* \* \* \*

Steve Easton, '70, Colorado Alpha, founder of Phi Alpha and recent initiate of Colorado Alpha at their installation, appeared as a contestant on The Dating Game and he and his date will soon travel to Copenhagen.

\* \* \* \*

On Sunday, January 11, tragedy struck at the Mississippi Theta Chapter house when sophomore Johnny Ammons suddenly died in his room. This is the second sorrowful misfortune to occur recently in Mississippi. Brother Thomas E. Bates, '70, Mississippi Sigma was asphyxiated on his way home from a football game in New Orleans.

## The Phi Alpha of Sigma Alpha Epsilon

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