

THE PHI ALPHA
Sigma Alpha Epsilon
Box 1856, Evanston, Ill. 60204

the phi alpha

snapshot

Detroit A.A.

The Detroit Alumni Association has been an active and vital part of Sigma Alpha Epsilon in the state of Michigan for over 20 years.

More than just a city organization Detroit's activities and influence reach statewide.

"The big reason for our success," says Distinguished Service Award holder Bill Fiscus, "is that we serve a purpose. We are involved with all of the chapters in the state and they participate in our activities.

"The province (Omega) is practically run from the association. Most province officers come out of our ranks."

"Besides," he adds, "we do meet every week at a luncheon meeting. Sometimes we have 10 guys, sometimes 30. You don't have the same guys every week. There's always a new face. And we have an excellent place to eat."

But this is the way it is after twenty years of continuous success. A successful tradition breeds continued success like winning teams breed more winners.

"We started with a small nucleus," explains Fiscus. "And the thing is still run by four or five guys like it always was.

"But to get started you get those four or five guys on the phone and each of them may bring in five or six of their friends and pretty soon you've got a pretty big crowd."

"And," he says, "we try to involve the active chapter members to get them interested so when they graduate they will want to join the association."

What else does the association do to keep people involved?

"We have four or five activities every year that are exceptional," Fiscus says. "We have a Founders' Day, a steak roast at the Detroit Yacht Club, a golf outing, a Christmas party and a family picnic. They have always been quite successful."

The major thing about running an actively successful alumni association says Fiscus, is "you can't get discouraged. A lot of people that try to set up an association feel that if they get off a mailing, people will come bustling forth. You can't work on something for a long time, have it fail then give up. It just

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takes a small nucleus to keep working on it. You may get only ten responses but then those ten get on the phone and keep working on it."

Fiscus should know, he's the permanent treasurer of the Detroit Alumni Association and it's working for them.

intranews

Fee Increase Seen

An in-depth survey of Sigma Alpha Epsilon's financial prospects over the next two years has revealed that inflation will cause deficits in the Fraternity's operating funds.

"Based upon a pro-forma income statement for fiscal year 1974-75, we can expect a net deficit of up to \$20,000 in the SAE operating fund," Director of Financial Affairs Dave Poe revealed at a recent staff meeting. He said his two-year projections through fiscal year 1976-77 showed that the National Fraternity must generate an additional \$48,000 per year in order to realize a comfortable net surplus at the end of each year. He added that he considered \$25,000 a comfortable net year-end surplus.

Poe said his projections were based on his conclusion that inflation had caused expenses to increase approximately 27% since initiation fees (the major source of operating income) were increased from \$75 to \$85 in 1970. He said he also expected inflation in fraternity expenses to proceed at a rate of 10% per year based on projected national inflation rates. This assumption, he said, led him to his projected \$20,000 yearly deficit.

Poe's report has prompted the National Office Staff to propose various measures to the National Convention to increase income.

"Specifically," Poe explained, "these proposals call for the adoption of a \$15 fee per pledge, a \$150 annual Convention Fund deposit which is returned to delegates to cover travel costs to the national convention, and an increase of \$15 in the initiation fee to \$100." He emphasized that these proposals are based on his projected need for additional money.

He added that not every one of the proposals need to be adopted, noting that, "the national staff is recommending that the convention's finance committee study the various proposals in order to recom-

mend the best combination for additional income generation."

Poe said he based the projections which prompted these proposals on two assumptions: That the Fraternity would not realize an appreciable net increase in the number of chapters and that contributions from alumni would remain stable.

New Service

The Chapter Services Department will shortly be offering a Chapter Administration "idea-pac" according to Director Ken Tracey.

The packet, the first of its kind from the National Office, contains ideas and suggestions for effective programs in not only the traditional areas of rush, pledge education and alumni relations, but also in some comparatively new areas like community service and chapter retreats. It is flexibly packaged so that its contents can be updated when new information is compiled.

Tracey said he hopes this new packaging method will help the National Office better meet the specific needs of chapters.

An especially interesting item will be in every packet. It is a list of 67 inflation fighting and energy saving ideas developed at a recent meeting of chapter services directors of several fraternities.

Among the more interesting of the suggestions: "Put two bricks in toilet reservoirs . . . each brick will displace about one quart of water." And, "take showers in the gym whenever possible."

Also new from the Chapter Services Department is a Steward's Manual due for distribution in the spring. The manual, which has been a year in research and preparation, will contain a through program for efficiently operating a chapter kitchen.

Convention Plans

Preparations are now in the final stages for Sigma Alpha Epsilon's 119 Anniversary Convention in Denver, June 15-17.

ESR Jack Hotaling and ESA Joe Mancini were in Denver this month meeting with local committee officials to set the final details for the program and facilities.

In a letter to the committee following the trip Hotaling outlined the plans so far.

"The Saturday evening alumni affair will be a cocktail party in the Marriott (the convention hotel) with the host committee providing hors d'oeuvres. There will be a cash bar.

"The Sunday evening event will be . . . a cook-out on the lawn east of the hotel.

"At the Tuesday evening Banquet, authentic Indian dancers will perform around the tables during the dinner."

The program will also feature extensive activities for wives who attend the convention.

The business of the convention will feature the election of Supreme Council officers and consideration of over fifty proposed amendments to the National Laws.



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Sigma Alpha Epsilon**

The Phi Alpha is a private publication of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. It is published nine times per year or as needed.

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Michael D. Thomas, Managing Editor
Barbara D. Searle, Editorial Assistant

Jobs Available

Travel, freedom of movement and opportunity to develop the ability to work directly with people of all ages are just some of the advantages of the job of Educational and Leadership Consultant.

Director of Chapter Services Ken Tracey will be accepting applications for the positions through March. Employment will commence July 1 for a two year commitment, Tracey said.

Consultants are trained during the summer months to assist chapter members and officers in the development of programs that will help them meet the needs of today's college student.

For an application write to:

Kenneth D. Tracey
Director of Chapter Services
P. O. Box 1856
Evanston, IL 60204

And Many More

Sigma Alpha Epsilon will celebrate the 119th anniversary of its founding March 9, 1975 at various banquets and parties all over the United States.

There will be dinners and cocktail parties, meetings and outings all designed to bring as many brothers together as possible to celebrate the birthday of their Fraternity.

Drinks will be consumed, food eaten, pictures snapped, backs slapped, grips exchanged and awards presented all in the name of friendship.

Contact your local chapter or alumni association for dates and details of the celebration in your area.

alumni

Signposts of Support

Many brothers continue to ask how they can achieve the various membership levels of the Annual Giving program. In answer to them the **Phi Alpha** presents this brief explanation of the membership plateaus and the reasons for establishing them.

There are four membership levels. The \$100 Life Membership, the \$250 Moseley Membership, the \$500 Levere Membership and the \$1,000 Founder Membership.

They were established as incentive plateaus in a **continuous** program of yearly contributions. They have been erected as signposts marking significant levels of generosity and loyalty to an organization that gave us all much.

The meaning of the membership plateaus is clear. They are not meant to be unrealistic goals for individual contributions that only the wealthy can meet. They are part of a progressive program of support. Take, for example the average gift so far this year, \$15. If a brother began two years after graduation with yearly contributions in that amount he would

become a Life Member in under seven years, a Moseley Member in 17 years and a Levere Member in 34 years or by the time he was 55 years old! And these contributions show not necessarily that he is a rich man but that he is a man who sees in SAE the opportunity to help build men of character, manners and attainment.

Of course, you can accelerate this process by increasing the amount of yearly contributions from time to time. Many gifts are \$25 or \$50 each year.

Start today on your road of generosity and support of young initiative and leadership. The signposts are there to help you find the way.

Giving Progress

The unity and strength promised in the Annual Giving letters this Fall are beginning to form. Over 4,000 brothers have begun to clasp hands and fuse their contributions into the kind of financial strength that keeps SAE on top of the fraternity world.

But so far we only have an indication of the potential strength that we can muster when we all join together. With total contributions totalling \$68,000 so far we've made a good start toward topping SAE's high of \$135,000.

A third mailing is in the works to encourage more brothers to show their generous support for programs that have made SAE chapters among the leaders on 86% of our campuses.

Cruisin'

More than sixty alumni have already inquired about the SAE Alumni Cruise, March 3-14. The first reservation was sent in by Past ESA Gurnett Steinhauer, Denver '31 (Colo. Zeta).

The eleven-day cruise, aboard the Renaissance of French registry, will stop at Haiti, Santo Domingo, Cruacao, Jamaica, Cozumel and Playa Del Carmen on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula. In addition, there will be five full days, including Founders Day, at sea.

The Renaissance, which will leave the evening of March 3 features the accommodations, service, food and beverages that bring back an all but lost tradition of elegant cruising. The meals are gourmet, served by a well-trained French staff and the noble wines are always served with the Captain's compliments.

The ship also features two swimming pools, a theatre, a gymnasium, a boutique, a barber shop and a beauty salon.

More importantly however, the ship will be filled with friendly brothers and their families with whom you can share this sunny experience. Cruise prices start at \$625 so write for more information to:

Michael D. Thomas
Director of Alumni Affairs
P. O. Box 1856
Evanston, IL 60204

Nine Become Founders

Nine brothers have recently become Founder Members of The Levere Memorial Foundation.

Each has contributed \$1,000 or more to support such Foundation programs as the Library Development Program and the Tutors-in-Residence.

The new Founders are:

*Joseph E. Rice, Penn State '20 (Alpha-Zeta)
Charles C. Cole, Washington '15 (Alpha)
W. Bruce Cole, Washington '42 (Alpha)
Raymond H. Rebsamen, Arkansas '22 (Alpha Upsilon)
Woodrow W. Miller, George Washington '48 (Washington City Rho)

**Thomas S. Mell, Georgia 1878 (Beta)
George T. Ilse, Syracuse '49 (New York Delta)
Gilbert C. Van Camp, Pennsylvania '11 (Theta)
Norman E. Reynolds, Oklahoma '41 (Kappa)

*Posthumously

**Posthumously from the estate of Arthur K. Knox.

trends

Concern over Coed Issue

Regulations published this fall by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare concerning sex discrimination in higher education caused a stir among fraternity and sorority leaders.

The regulations were sufficiently broad to cause Greek leaders to worry that their organizations might be forced to accept members of the opposite sex or be forced off of some campuses.

An intense letter writing campaign however, caused HEW officials to speculate that college social fraternities and sororities will be exempt from the regulations. Most fraternities and sororities filed opinions with the Department and wrote letters to their members in Congress.

The thrust of the regulations was that schools who provided support to organizations which discriminate on the basis of sex would face the loss of federal funds. There was abundant discussion about what constituted support.

Congressional pressure on HEW will likely be sufficient, however, to exempt the Greek system.

Redux?

The *Time* piece (Jan. 20, 1975) opened with a scene of feminine undergarments fluttering from Florida Alpha's (Miami) flagpole. Fraternities, it continued, had suffered a "near demise" during the years of student protests but now, "fraternities — and their high jinks — are back in full force on campus."

The story is not the first to chronicle the recent upswing in fraternity fortunes — nor is it the first to tie that upswing to frivolous attitudes and the death of the student movement.

The Record for February, however, takes a hard look at that outlook and its ramifications for the Greek system. The explanations for the resurgence may be too simple, it finds, and warns against the "reactionary syndrome by which we wane during years of serious social concern and wax during periods of complacency; our basic ability to adapt is untried."

The magazine will be in the mail next month.

Freshmen Moving Right

A recent study of the 1974 freshman class has found them "more cautious and conservative in their attitudes."

The survey, as reported in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* shows freshmen losing interest in engineering, physical science and mathematics, turning instead to applied science and the health fields.

It also finds that women are turning away from traditional feminine occupations such as teaching and becoming more interested in business, medicine and law.

Among the findings of the survey undertaken jointly by the University of California at Los Angeles and the American Council on Education are:

- A lessening involvement with environmental pollution.
- A major decline in student concern about financing an education.
- A continuing increase in the average annual income of the parents of new students.
- A continuing rise in the high school grades of college freshmen.

Politically, according to the survey, new students seem to be moving toward the middle-of-the-road, away from the left.

"Almost none of the attitudinal items on the survey could be interpreted as a liberalizing of views," said survey head Alexander W. Astin, professor of higher education at UCLA.

Best Friend Overtakes Sex

How to Be Your Own Best Friend by Mildred Newman and Bernard Berkowitz has overtaken Alex Comfort's *The Joy of Sex* as the number one best seller on campus this month.

The little volume tells readers to forget notions about ourselves conceived in childhood and come to terms with their maturity. It is enjoying best seller status nationwide also.