

The Old Gal Gazette

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER, 1977



At far left, work in progress on the addition to Phi Chapter. In the center is part of the addition after completion. At right, brothers and Little Sisters celebrate the "new" Phi.

PHI GETS RENOVATED . . . AND IT WAS QUITE A YEAR!

Housing *(Paul M. Gassman, HAE at Phi shares with us the step-by-step trials and tribulations of a major renovation project at Iowa State. The story shows that hardship often makes for a stronger brotherhood!)*

The renovation of Phi Chapter's house in Ames, Iowa, is almost completed, and is like a dream come true — not only for the undergrad Brothers but for the many Alumni who have donated both their time and money. The Chapter House, a huge 3-story white structure, capped with a fresh-air sleeping dorm on its fourth floor, was built in 1903 and even served as a women's dorm during World War II. About six years ago it became evident that a large amount of remodeling would be necessary in order to bring The "Old Gal" in line with Iowa housing regulations and to save it from the ravages of old age — even though the basic structure was still very sound.

The renovation blue prints and three story addition were drawn and donated by Brother Geoffrey Grimes, a member of our Alumni Board. When the blue prints arrived, we realized that the big plans were approaching reality, and that most of us would actually get to live in the "new" house.

As the end of school approached late in the spring of 1976 the undergraduates worked to prepare the house for the onslaught of construction workers, while the Alumni Board sought out the lowest bid for the project from several local contractors. We moved everything - furniture, dishes, refrigerators, lamps, books, desks - to our big living room, Alum's houses, and our own homes. The last news we heard before we left for the summer was that we would be in the new kitchen by September 9, and that the entire project would be done by October 15.

A bid was finally accepted June 23rd, a loan for approximately \$130,000 was secured, and we were on our way. The plans called for a large addition, or wing, off the east side of the house which would include a basement, a new kitchen and walk-in cooler, and two more floors containing new bathrooms, showers, and study rooms. The basement was dug on July 9th and those Brothers who came to Ames for the summer rush function later that month could see that things were beginning to move. The subflooring was placed over the basement, the old kitchen and cooler were torn out, and walls, wiring, and old plumbing were rapidly disappearing.

As the summer progressed, it soon became evident that the renovation would take somewhat longer than expected. So we made arrangements with the Presbyterian Church across the street to use their kitchen and dining facilities until our own were finished. Throughout August, the addition and the new dining room in the old part of the house progressed and a new completion date was set for November 1.

When school started in September, and we began arriving early for our "clean up" week, the parents of many of the freshmen, (and older guys as well), were flabbergasted. What kind of mess had their sons gotten into? ("Be reasonable son, wouldn't you rather live in the dorms your first quarter?")

Housing

As the fall progressed, the addition was closed in and the drywallers, electricians, plumbers, roofers, and siders went to work. We continued to eat at the church. The church elders expressed amazement that a rambunctious group of 50 young men were able to keep the place so clean. It did get a little old after a while, especially since we couldn't eat breakfast over there. (I've never eaten so much toast in all my life!)

We found that it was pretty hard to hold functions in the house during the early part of the fall, so we ended up going to several ISU football games with sororities, preceded by a breakfast at their respective houses. The completion of the kitchen, dining room, and new den was celebrated by a big river-boat casino party late that fall. As we went home for quarter break, the completion date was moved to December 1!

When we returned from fall break it appeared as if a bomb had been exploded in the middle of the "Old Gal." The old majestic stairs which ran up the middle of the house were gone, the huge holes that were left had been floored over, and we found it necessary to use a ladder to get into the cold air dorm. Three old bathrooms and their floors were gone, leaving a huge shaft up the back of the house through which new stairs would run. As the construction workers built these in, the undergrad Brothers finished staining and painting the rooms in the new addition. This saved the Chapter several thousand dollars even though much free time was sacrificed. The carpet was put down, closet doors and lights installed, and finally, right after Christmas break, the big day came for many of us to move into our new rooms. At last! After months of 4 and 5 guys in a 3-man room we were finally able to breathe again. With the use of the kitchen and dining room returned, and with the auxiliary stairs also finished, things were almost back to normal. Once again the renovation completion date was moved back — this time to January 28!

The new phone booths and closets took shape on each floor of the old part of the house, as did the guest bathrooms and closets on the ground floor. We found that there were a few bugs yet to be worked out; for example during 10 days of sub-zero weather, all the plumbing on the 3rd floor of the addition froze solid, and several large holes had to be cut into the newly finished bathroom walls in order to let in heat. Again, much painting, staining, and hard work was provided by the Brothers as the renovation of the old part of the house came to a close.

Today, a few of the finishing up projects have just been completed, including seeding of the lawn, tiling the showers, and building new outside steps into the basement. In the future, we hope to see the whole house sided with aluminum siding, and a large brick barbecue constructed.

As we look back we can see that all of our sacrifices were worthwhile. Our house has the finest facility of any on campus, and it is one that we're proud to show rushees, friends, and parents. It is up to us to keep it clean and in shape, but I believe we'll meet that challenge through the pride that we have developed in our new house, and because we want Alpha Sigma Phi to remain the best.

Alumni

HERE A SIG, THERE A SIG . . . WHERE ARE THE GRADUATE SIGS?

By Gary Anderson, Executive Director

The setting is Heathrow Airport outside London. Dave Crowell, IIT '75, waits for his flight home with a group who spent Summer '77 tromping around Europe. From somewhere out of the crowd emerges George Trubow, Michigan '53, immediate past Grand Senior President. The two spend a few minutes reflecting on their travels and on Alpha Sigma Phi.

Similar encounters frequently occur.

Mike Waters, Oregon State '73, past UGA, discovers that an officer on a summer NROTC cruise is a brother — LCMRDR Raymond C. Anderson, Hartwick '59. The interesting part is that they discovered it around a night club table in Japan!

Eric Jacobson, Michigan undergraduate, works this summer at Cedar Point amusement park. Also on the staff of the Ohio park for the summer are Will Griffith of Alpha Nu, Westminster, and David Zimmerman of the Bowling Green Chapter.

We'd like to see more of this happening.

What's more, we'd like to make use of such encounters.

One of the places this must happen often is graduate school. If we can get the Brothers together, perhaps we could use them to provide needed assistance to the Chapter on that campus. If there is no Chapter, perhaps those men could find some undergrads interested in getting Alpha Sigma Phi started and work with them to make it happen. There has even been talk about a scholarship program for Alpha Sig grad students connected with service to the Fraternity.

If you are a grad student or have plans to be, or know where some are, please tell us about it. There are ways you or they can continue to help Alpha Sigma Phi and there should be ways we can continue to help them. Send all names and addresses to Headquarters!

FRATERNITY SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Scholarship

Nine scholarship grants have been announced by Alpha Sigma Phi Memorial Fund trustees.

The scholarships went to: Steve Bachowski, Wagner, scholar of the year; Kyle Drew, Rio Grande, Friends of Rho award; Tom Caine, Lehigh, Friends of Alpha Gamma award; Rich Casavecchia, Lehigh; Mark Fahey, Oregon State, and Paul Corbin, Iowa State, runners up to Scholar of the year. Senior awards went to Al Calluso, American and John Hawkins, Lehigh.

Brothers may apply for grants or Chapters may nominate individuals. Memorial Fund trustees award scholarships based on academic performance and individual need.

COST OF ALPHA SIGMA PHI MEMBERSHIP QUITE COMPETITIVE

Finance

	\$ 75.00 - 1	Once a man decides to join a Fraternity, a number of factors influence his decision on which to join. By far the most important is the quality of the Brotherhood, as reflected in Chapter operations and general spirit.
	95.00 - 2	
	100.00 - 3	
	105.00 - 1	
	110.00 - 5	By no reckoning, however, is the least of these factors cost.
Alpha) —	115.00 - 3	
Sig) —	118.50 - 1	To the left is shown the range of costs for membership in national or international Fraternities in the academic year 1975-76. This information comes from a survey conducted by the Fraternity Executives Association. Forty-four of fifty-eight Fraternities polled responded. The figures show costs to the individual for membership in the Fraternity for a four year undergraduate period. Of course, costs to the individual for Chapter operations would be in addition to these figures.
Mean —	120.00 - 7	
Median —	125.00 - 6	
	130.00 - 2	
	135.00 - 3	
	140.00 - 1	
	150.00 - 1	
	155.00 - 1	The range of these figures is nothing short of amazing, and places Alpha Sigma Phi in a very competitive position. And if you check with your interfraternity friends, we are certain you will find our program of services at least as good as any and better than most. (We will welcome any observations on that at Headquarters!)
	160.00 - 3	
	180.00 - 1	
	190.00 - 1	
	200.00 - 1	
	235.00 - 1	

In 1976 the Alpha Sigma Phi Convention voted to raise the initiation fee five dollars. Even if no one else had changed since '75-'76, Alpha Sigma Phi would still be right at the Mean figure of \$120.00. But we know of other Fraternities raising their fees, and we expect the Mean to rise away from us when we receive and review the figures for 1976-77.

Please take advantage of this type of information in your rush program. Let us know if you find this helpful. Also let us know at Headquarters what other types of information you could be making use of that we may not be providing.

National Staff

HEADQUARTERS — 100% of the male staff gave blood in the summer. The Headquarters service project continues with stamps that help with world missions.

FYI . . . A special seminar on the running of Chapter houses is set for June 18-22, 1978. Topics include meal planning, security, sanitation, safety, planning special house events and more. For information contact: Conferences & Short Courses, 351 Hearnes Building, University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, Missouri 65201.

LEAFLET AVAILABLE — "The Fraternity System: should you be a part of it?" is the title of a special pamphlet just published by Alpha Sigma Phi. It could be a strong public relations and rush tool. For more information, contact Headquarters.

FYI . . . A hazing injury in North Carolina has given fraternities some bad headlines of late . . . Sigma Nu reports that one of its chapters has already lost a house to fire this year. Good reminders to clean up our acts regarding any hazing-type practices . . . and check on fire prevention and safety.

AVAILABLE — Through Headquarters. Letterheads at very reasonable cost . . . Membership print-outs, also available on peel and stick labels for mailings . . . Want to do an alumni directory? Check with Headquarters before you go to a commercial firm. Headquarters may be able to save you money via its computer service.

FYI — It's not too early to get your application in for Chapter Consultant positions with Alpha Sigma Phi . . . Resolve now that you'll keep the Fraternity posted on your address from now on throughout life . . . The Memorial Fund is a worthy place to make a contribution in memory of alums who have helped your Chapter or to honor anyone . . . Is your Chapter coming up on an anniversary or a membership milestone? Plan ahead to make the most of the event and get your alums excited and involved . . . More and more IFC's are publishing campus-wide rush booklets. Wake Forest. Michigan. Oregon. Write for copies. Get your IFC on the stick.

CONCLAVES HELD AT PSI AT THETA

Provinces

Ten brothers from Psi traveled up to Mu at the University of Washington for a special Conclave in late October. There was a lot of ideas exchanged on how to improve operations. The day ended with a football game.

Theta, along with Toledo and Eastern, joined for a Conclave last month. Topics included little sister programs, rush, pledging and party ideas. The group serenaded about six sororities that night. And the girls reciprocated by coming over for a rousing party.

PLEDGED TO THE SEVEN POINTS

The Chapters

N. C. STATE — William Yost, Christopher Howes, John Nobles, Robert Floyd, Jr., Michael Bland; AMERICAN — Bob Ahlstrom, Craig Carter, Eugene Foley, Charles Lascaiber, Curtis Levinsow, John Martin, Henry Newman, Phillip Pardo, Richard Rubens, Steven Siegel, Gregory Sperr, Lee Tannenbaum, Richard Wilson; SLIPPERY ROCK — Michael Fisher, Joseph Maddock, Donald Wheeler, Steven Holesa, David Nynd, William Cherney, David Mikulan.

BOWLING GREEN — Paul Quinn, Jonathan Jewett, Richard Vendt, Thomas Lianez, Jeffrey Jaryga, Steven Hupp, Mark Wolff; TRI-STATE — Henry Alexander, Charles Witmer; WAKE FOREST — Kenneth Duke, John Hendler, Conrad Kusel, Jr., Joseph McCullough, Michael McNamara, Richard Robey, Joseph West.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE Robert Crews, Stephen Kirby; EASTERN MICHIGAN — Thomas Meakin; UNCC — James Wiley, Edwin Simpson; DAVIS & ELKINS — Mitchel Bernstein; ATLANTIC CHRISTIAN — John Chadwick; RIP — Edward Girard, Paul Lusignan, Barton Panagian, Walter Sherwood, Barry Wolff; UNIVERSITY of MICHIGAN — David Peterson, Jeffrey Lyjak, Peter Wiltse, William Grisolia.

OREGON STATE — Randall Brougher, Daniel Duce, Jess Munos, Jeffrey Babcock, Kem Roos, Steve Kaufman, Rich Sticka, Michael Beck, Curtis King, Thomas Hodgson, David Fadling, Steven Corey, Steven Bernaek, Mark Chapman, Ralph Cornett, Cory Crebbin, Robert Denison, Daniel Donovan, Mark Hansen, Barry Johnson, David Jonstone, Peter Koubeck, Peter Newton, Jeffrey Sessions, Dane Spencer, Joseph Terry, Victor Lukasewycz, Rick Siltanen.

IOWA STATE — Bruce Barber, W. David Berneking, David Boie, Earl Bowens, Frederick Budde, Roger Buresh, Robert Charland, Mark Evans, G. Scott Ferguson, Douglas Franey, Kyle Friauf, Jeffrey Hanig, Scott Hartman, Thomas Heng, Randy Johnson, David Kline, Mark Liffing, Steven Mosack, David Reinicke, Donald Salz, Tim Walter, David Wenthe, Mark Wolkenhauer; LYCOMING — Arthur Hathaway, Robert Figlerski, Andrew Nowak, Jeff Peters, Bradley Moore, James Fabiano, Chris Buniva, Theodore Piersol, James Drosback, Mark Aspland, William Raynor, Michael Gruenberg, Steve Doerr, William Torney, Thom Rahn.

PRESBYTERIAN — Evan Bahr, Richard Boyles, Kevin Brown, R. Bruce Christian, Michael Clayton, Cephus Flowers, Robert Hare, Ray Howland, Andrew Jordan, Riley Lanier, George Longley, W. Duncan Massey, John Miller, David Mixson, David Murphy, Lou Partington, Farrow Peacock, Boyd Rhodes, Jeffrey Taylor, Robert Thomas.

CONCORD — Jeff Alexander, Mike Dalton, Timmy Day, Paul Deligt, John Evans, Kelly Fullen, Mark Green, Kenny Hall, Jeff Haight, David Kade, Danny McGraw, John Merringer, Tim Morgan, Carlile Moye, David Powell, Gary Presley, Earl Pritchard, Geronza Scott, David Shaw, Brock Smith, David Wells.

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON — Timothy O'Hara, Daniel Kovarik, John Milligan, Douglas Jordan, John Corcoran, Erich Escobar, Robert Hunter, Rodney Leveridge, Todd Rooney, Brian Donahou, Mark Andreas, Kenneth Horn, Andrew McDonald, Michael Downey, Blake Hoefer, Craig Church, Jeffrey Andrews, Robert Strecker, Keith Hansen, Brian Sublett, Thomas Bell, Scott Nugent, John Gilson, Patrick Haliday, Lelan Barnecut, Michael Humphries, James Bordeaus, Kevin Mallory.

MISSOURI VALLEY — Jeff Wycoff, Marty Wiladsen, Blake Bahler, Mark Beyer, Jerry Crockett, Danny Danielson, Joe Davidson, Don Detherow, Rich Evangelista, Mark Fish, David McDanel, Jeff McDanel, Steve McReynolds, Duane Miller, Bill Nelson, Rich Gamnie, Jack Bosley, Doak Noelker, Richard Siezmore, Rich West, Barry Randolph Faauga To'oto'o.

ILLINOIS TECH — Mark Albert, Andrew Chaloupka, David Chapa, Kevin Dominick, Robert Diericks, Stephen Gallagher, James Hageman, Harry Hartjes, Alec Houser, Robert Keane, Jae Lee, James McMahon, Thang Nguyen, Chad Orloff, Lloyd Floense, Robert Pratt, Micheal Ptack.

INTO THE MYSTIC CIRCLE

WIDNER — Donald Ciminera, Daniel Collins, William Krasovic, Richard Reeser, John Meli; UNIVERSITY of TOLEDO — Jeffrey Peer, Dean Koepfler, James Layman, Scott Richardson; RIP — Edward Girard, Paul Lusignan, Barton Panagian, Walter Sherwood, Barry Wolff; WESTMINSTER — Mark Kline, William Coslett, Thomas Richards, Jr., Eric Leech, Greg Nappi, Richard Decker, Barry Raynor, Jr.

BOWLING GREEN — David Zimmerman, William Hansel, Karl Whinnery, Steven Hawley, Charles Hendricks; ILLINOIS TECH — Brian Flagg; OHIO STATE — Brian Baker, John Chovan, Timothy Briethaupt, Richard Schroeder; TRI-STATE — William Boughter, Brad Gundrum, William Golden, Kevin Mangus; PRESBYTERIAN — Michael Bailey, Land Brown, Alan Hopkins, Richard Little, John Page, David Tinga, Robert Vaughn, William Freeman; ATLANTIC CHRISTIAN — Rudolph Moore, Asad Niaz, Charles Pleasants, William Tatum, Russell Wiggs, David Kenney.

The Chapters

OHIO NORTHERN — Michael Mowery, James Salerno, Jody Clow, Daniel Mathie, Richard McGarry, Ronald Riechman, Michael Smith, Steven Strine, Charles Scaravelli, Ronald Souder, Robert Cassady, Wayne Games, Dennis Fuge, James Hazard, Joseph Knowlson, Ronald Lewis; **RPI** — John Corden, John Driscoll, Kenneth Fonseca, Ronald Friedman, Jeffrey Gardner, Russell George, Clifford Kaiser, John Kraeck, Kevin Lansing, Jerry Lieberman, David Lubinsky, Carl Petterson, David Price.

WIDNER — John Alexander, Gary Barnes, James Brandolini, Andrew Comly, Michael Donohoe, John Horn, Dennis James, Craig Kuptsow, Peter Sansone, Vincent Shervin, Russell Stewart; **INDIANA** — Donald Harris, Jeffrey Jarecki, Terry Kovach, Daniel Bloomquist, Michael Blum, Richard Dunbar, Arthur Robinson, Victor Vale.

LEHIGH — Joseph Cooke, David Donovan, Scott Garaghty, Francis Godwin, Randall Haise, Curtis Heverly, Richard Hicks, Mark Mjaatvedt, John Potochney, Franklin Sine, Jeffrey Slayton, Scott Wainwright; **CONCORD** — Sammy Baker, Joseph Bullington, Tennis Cook, Michael Hampton, Samuel Harry, Donald Holcomb, Edgar Huffman, James Jones, Kenneth Martinson, Jeffrey McClung, Franklin Quick, George Sadler, Paul Sharpenberg, Kennety Terry, Randall Worthington.

PURDUE — Daniel Barr, Thomas Boatman, Steven Brill, Richard Carter, William Etcheson, Robert Gonzolez David Haber, Garry Hoffman, Scott Kennell, Keith Loeb, Steven Loss, Mark Marchetti, Micardo Morales, Robert Roll, Jeffrey Stillwaton, James Thornton, John Ullman, George Wellen, Rick Weyen, Thomas Zimmerman.

GAMMA PSI MILESTONE — A “NEW” HOUSE

Gamma Psi Chapter, Lawrence Institute of Technology, was chartered as the fifth chapter of Alpha Gamma Upsilon Fraternity in 1933. It has since, of course, merged with Alpha Sigma Phi. And Lawrence Tech has moved to a new campus in Southfield, Michigan from its earlier location in Highland Park.

With the move of the Institute to Southfield, Gamma Psi found itself without a home. But a young and very aggressive alumni group is doing something about that.

A committee made up of alums Brian Judge, Gary Churchill and Ron Barley have arranged to lease a house with option to buy in the area where the school has future plans for a fraternity row. The house can be converted into room for five men on the upper level (most Gamma Psi members live at home and commute); plus offering dining, kitchen and meeting space. The alumni association is retaining use of the basement recreation room as its own meeting and gathering place.

GAMMA UPSILON — Now in a new house; 207 Summitt, North, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197. In addition to its reactivated newsletter, The Items (copies were distributed to all delegates at the NEC), there will be a newsletter produced by the Chapter's alumni group.

SLIPPERY ROCK STATE — Delta Delta has its annual Black Lantern ceremony to celebrate the Chapter's founding and to celebrate seven new pledges. Homecoming saw Delta Delta take first place in floats with Alpha Zeta Delta and Alpha Sigma Alpha. Alumni turned out in force for a special dinner and slide show, that updated them on the activities of the undergraduate Chapter. The Chapter helped local Jaycees with their haunted house project. Following a successful second annual “corn-boil”, the Chapter plans on its 2nd annual Bounce-A-Thon to raise money for the Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh. (Ronn Ohl.)

EASTERN MICHIGAN — The Stuart Anderson/Alpha Sigma Phi Scholarships have been presented for the year. Recipients are: Albert Mangiapane, \$500; Mark Swanson and Paul Schiebold, each \$250.

BETA OMICRON — Tri State faced the need for a larger house and big repair bills (plus winter utility bill) on a new house. The brotherhood worked together and the alumni responded generously. The Chapter is now out of a deficit position. The house is being painted with alumni-donated paint. Alums provided curtains and carpeting. To meet those heating bills, the brothers are caulking, putting plastic over windows and planning for more efficient heating.

BETA MU — Brothers at Wake Forest have added three more women to their Little Sisters group. Casino Night was the theme for the formal smoker under direction of John Vine. Social events have included a mountain weekend, a full Homecoming weekend with luncheons, parties and pre-parties (special thanks to GCA Doug Punger for hosting one of the parties), plus a costumed Halloween event. Pledges have earned \$150 working on weekends at a discount store, thanks to alumnus Ron Niland who is on the store's staff. The money will be used to build a trophy cabinet.

BETA EPSILON — Eric Miller at Lehigh reports major house improvements. Several walls were professionally repaired and then painted by members. Pledges undertook major landscaping on the front embankment. Lights were installed in the front and the kitchen totally repainted. Alumni underwrote the costs of a new cooler for the bar. Sigs continued participating in the local blood program. The Chapter still ranks in the top third academically. Coming up is a holiday party for underprivileged children and a Christmas party just for the brotherhood.

DELTA EPSILON — Rio Grande has, according to alumnus Ray McKinness, raised \$1,000. for charity and \$1,200. for the Chapter so far this year. Want to know how they did it? Write Kyle Drew, HSP, Alpha Sigma Phi, Box 262, Rio Grande College, Rio Grande, Ohio 45674.

PLEDGE RECORD? — Psi reports 30 pledges. Can anyone top that? They sent a special newsletter out to all alums to announce and celebrate the fact.

The Chapters

PRESBYTERIAN — John T. Love, HAE, reports that Alpha Psi will celebrate its golden anniversary this coming March. A letter has gone to alums asking for suggestions on how to celebrate the event. The Chapter has added new furniture with the help of a loan from the Fraternity.

THETA — With a bit of detective work has reduced its "lost" or bad alumni addresses from 200 down to 40. Way to go! In their homecoming mailing they included an information form for those who couldn't attend to fill in and return to the Chapter. And alums are doing just that. Good idea!

GAMMA CHI — Will celebrate its 10th anniversary in February of next year. The Indiana University Chapter is booming with its beautiful new house, new members, revitalized Little Sisters and active alumni program.

DELTA EPSILON — Held a See-Sawathon and raised \$1,000 for the March of Dimes and the Ruth Lyons' Christmas Fund. The event received coverage from four major newspapers and a TV station. (Share some photos with us, guys!)

SACRAMENTO ALUMNI COUNCIL — Shows that alumni involvement can pay off for all. In its current newsletter, the Sacramento group gives a plug to the Psi Chapter Alumni Association and suggests that others may want to help support the Chapter!

PSI — Oregon state is working on a challenge by two alums — the Chapter will receive \$2.00 for each one of their stated goals that the Chapter achieves. That's \$130.00! Added to pledge requirements to be met prior to initiation this year is participation in some sort of campus extra-curricular activity. This year the pledges also revitalized the OSU tradition of a homecoming bonfire, dormant for some years. Homecoming is a special event and this year a champagne buffet honored the alums. After dinner there was a song challenge between the under grads and the alums who ranged from the class of 1926 through 1977.

REPORTS NEEDED AT HEADQUARTERS RIGHT AWAY

Operations

There are some chapters that haven't sent in their October reports on Undergraduate membership. These reports are vital in making planning possible and offering to Chapters services as needed.

The following Chapters had not sent in their reports as of early December:

American, Cincinnati, Coe, Hartwick, Lawrence Tech, Marietta, Missouri Valley, Ohio Northern, Oklahoma, and Pennsylvania.

Also Rutgers, Stanford, Stevens, Tufts, Wagner, Westminster, Widner and North Carolina State.

NEW INTERFRATERNAL MAGAZINE

Odds&Ends

"Fraternity World" is the name of a new national magazine reporting on all Greek activity across America. The magazine will publish news and feature articles, new ideas, new programs and solutions to common problems. For subscription information, contact R. John Kaegi, 577 University Blvd., Memphis, Tn. 38112. The first issue is set for January.

FIRE — Reports are already starting to come in about fraternity house fires. Alpha Sigma Phi has been lucky. But it's a good idea to get the local fire department to work with you in checking your house, lodge or quarters to see where potential hazards exist. Then take care of them. Consider smoke alert alarms. And work out emergency plans and practice them from time to time.

RITUAL — Robes will last many years with proper care. They should be stored in a dark closet. Some robes can be laundered, others need dry cleaning. In either case, they should be cleaned regularly. Treat robes and other articles of regalia like a personal wardrobe. (If you borrow robes from local churches or choirs, be sure and follow-up with a thank you note and offer to help on their cleaning bill.)



The Old Gal Gazette is the Chapter publication of Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity. You are invited to share ideas, news and how-to suggestions with your sister Chapters through the Gazette. The publication is designed to be kept in a binder for future reference. The Gazette is compiled and edited by Evin C. Varner, Alpha Sigma Phi, Box 4351, Charlotte, N.C. 28204

White Paper

The how-to section
of The Old Gal Gazette

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER, 1977



At right is Eric Jacobson of Theta Chapter working on the Theta Wolverine. Eric shares some how-to on doing a newsletter. Write him at 920 Baldwin Avenue, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104 for copies of the newsletter or with questions.

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER — IT'S AS EASY AS 1 — 2 — 3

By Eric Jacobson, Theta Chapter

Publications "It's too expensive." "We don't have any good writers." "It takes too much time."

These are some of the excuses Chapters use when explaining why they don't have a newsletter. However, none of these are good enough to justify not having a regularly published newsletter.

A Chapter newsletter can cost less than a keg of beer and takes not much time at all to produce. Most important, anyone in your house can develop a newsletter which will benefit your alumni, other Chapters and your own Chapter in more ways than one.

Your Chapter can produce a newsletter either of two ways. One method is to have your newsletter printed up in your town and then to address and mail the newsletters from your Chapter house. A four page newsletter with a couple of pictures, folded, and mailed to about 500 alumni will cost around \$130.00 each issue.

The other method is to have the newsletter printed at headquarters and mailed from headquarters. This method is extremely inexpensive and the easiest way for Chapters to produce a newsletter, since Headquarters does most of the work. All your Chapter has to do is write it. A four page newsletter with a couple of pictures, folded and mailed to about 500 alumni will cost around \$40.00 each issue. Publishing newsletters through Headquarters means less production time and less money from the Chapter and thus the newsletters can come out more often. The more frequently and regularly published, the better.

What to do:

(1.) Contact Headquarters and decide upon a letterhead for your newsletter. (2.) Contact Headquarters ten days before sending in your rough draft so they can order address labels for your alumni. (3.) Send in your typed newsletter draft along with any instructions on format or placement of pictures. (4.) Allow about ten days for Brenda Hopkins to type, duplicate and mail the newsletters. (5.) Each alumnus will receive a copy of the newsletter and the Chapter will receive a dozen copies for files and as spares.

Sounds simple? It is!

What to say in the newsletter:

(1.) Report on past, current and future Chapter activities. (2.) Tell of college activities the Brothers are involved in. Each issue could feature one Brother. (3.) Report address changes your alumni have sent the Chapter. (4.) Describe current employment and social activities of your alumni. (5.) Advertise upcoming Chapter functions like Homecoming. (6.) Report progress of the Chapter's rushing and pledging. (7.) Run features about prominent alumni both young and old. (8.) Add pictures to help describe the Chapter's activities.

Some of your news will be a couple of weeks old. But even a little out-dated news is better than no news!

1. Break the newsletter into sections; pledge Class, Sports, Social, Address Changes, Alumni News. This way alumni know where to find specific information that interests them. Keep the sections in approximately the same place with each issue.
2. Keep your stories and paragraphs short, informative and interesting. Most alumni will read the whole newsletter but some will read only the first few sentences of each paragraph. So, place the important information early in the paragraph. Make your newsletter enjoyable reading.
3. Use a 2 or 4 page format depending on the amount of information you have. You can even use different colored paper to add variety to the newsletter format.

A regularly published newsletter will renew alumni interest in the Chapter. A Newsletter can help improve Homecoming turnouts and increase the number of address changes sent to the Chapter. A newsletter shows that the actives are interested in maintaining communication with their alumni. Money donations and support from alumni will increase when alumni see this extra effort by the actives.

Comments like these from the alumni will be common: "The Chapter has long needed a regular newsletter to supplement the national Tomahawk magazine and I hope you are able to continue this effort." "The newsletter is a good thing — I am glad to hear of any news from the Chapter."

Your alumni will appreciate your Chapter's news and so will all the other Chapters. What's more, the Chapter can use its filed away newsletters as a month-to-month history book. It will be easy for everyone, now and in the future, to see the Chapter's activities for any given year.

A newsletter is not too expensive. You don't need good writers. And it only takes an hour or two of Chapter preparation for each issue. Most of the time will be spent answering letters complimenting the fine job the Chapter is doing with its newsletter!

ANDY'S CORNER — SOME THOUGHTS ON NEWSLETTERS By Gary Anderson, Executive Director
Brother Kent Porter in Alpha Omicron's newsletter "Spirit of Alpha Sig," recently shared some interesting thoughts about newsletters in general. They were so attention-grabbing they deserve to be passed on for all. Under the influence of Director of Publications Evin Varner, and after hearing from other Chapter delegates to the 1976 Convention speak about their newsletters, Kent determined that Alpha Omicron would do well to resurrect the "Spirit of Alpha Sig" which had not been published for three or four years. With that as background, here are some of Kent's remarks:

"After my talk with Evin and after hearing from all the other delegates about their newsletters, I was ready to go back to Mo Valley and resurrect the Spirit of Alpha Sig. The first issue went out to the alums and chapters within a month of my return to the campus in the fall."

"I still can't believe how naive I was in believing that every chapter sent out a newsletter. I did feel like we were alone because we didn't send one out. But now I feel alone because we are one of the few who do send one out. In the past year, we have received newsletters from three chapters — Alpha Xi at IIT, Mu at the University of Washington and Delta Kappa Colony at UNCC."

"If my pledge material serves me correctly, Alpha Sigma Phi was founded with literary aspects in mind. A part of the fraternity which was very important to the founders seems to be of no importance to 95% of the Chapters. I don't know if the lack of newsletters is due to apathy or if it's because people just plain don't know how to go about producing a newsletter. Whatever the problem, it should be seriously considered by all Chapters."

"I strongly urge every Chapter to put out a newsletter and send all news of your Chapter to Evin. This is the only way we, the Chapters, have of communicating with each other. I have found that the advantages to a newsletter are so vast that they are too numerous to mention. So to all of you Chapters that I haven't received a newsletter from, I have one thing to say: Get off your backsides and DO IT!"

Kent Porter

As Executive Director, I know that more Chapters publish newsletters than Kent might think. But very few include other Chapters on their mailing lists. Our thanks to Kent for bringing this topic to light. Again, we urge all Chapters producing newsletters to mail to all Chapters. Get the address list from the directory in the Summer Tomahawk, Or ask for all Chapters to be included in your print-out if you order labels through the Fraternity's computer service.

Kent says that there are many advantages to producing a newsletter. And he is so right.

Your alumni want information about the Chapter, the undergraduate operation and the activity of their friends. A regular newsletter fills that need and keeps you in their minds. It results in rush leads and contributions; it results in more volunteers for your alumni corporation. It results in more frequent visits.

A newsletter should also go to parents. To neighbors and friends of the Chapter. To faculty and administrators who can be helpful. It can be a very strong rush tool.

Sending a newsletter to other Chapters opens up the possibility of more interchange between your sister Chapters — socially and otherwise. And a collection of newsletters becomes a valuable reference and historical record of your Chapter.

The time to start a newsletter, to start building goodwill and friends for your Chapter is now . . . before an emergency or problem hits, before you start losing touch with friends and alums, your most valuable asset! P.S. — Be sure and send a copy to your editor and to Headquarters, too!

Fraternally, ANDY