

The Old Gal Gazette

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NATIONAL NEWS



DELTA MU MEETS BROTHER KOOP

The brotherhood of Delta Mu Chapter, William Paterson College, met Brother C. Everett Koop, Dartmouth College '34, past U.S. Surgeon General. Brother Koop was on campus as an honored guest at the Distinguished Lecturers Series.

The event was sold out and the experience was joyful and educational for all members of the college community. The brotherhood of Delta Mu presented Brother Koop with an award from the chapter. The brothers present included: Jeff Taylor, Kevin O'Neill, Marc Pulido, Rob Sangiamo, Keith Skinner, Scott Hoffses, Matt Richter and Craig Kovacs.

"ALPHA SIG PRIDE"

The following is a letter sent to Director of Chapter Services, Randall S. Lewis. It will be presented in two parts and was written by a past Grand Chapter Advisor of Mu Chapter, Jack Merrill, Washington '39.

Dear Brother Lewis:

I'd like to take this opportunity to get up on my soap box and make a presentation on the subject of PRIDE and Respect and consideration for consideration as a project for future conventions and leadership conferences.



First let's take PRIDE. I heard it very briefly at the last leadership conference at Indiana University, but all too briefly. If we can instill PRIDE in our undergraduates during the short time they are in the local chapters--think how much better off they will be to face the "real world" after graduation. No, we aren't trying to mold our pledges and undergraduates into any one mold, but I believe we should be trying to have our pledges and undergraduates be themselves just as they are, but help them to become a better individual.

If I may, let's break PRIDE down a little. Let P stand for Personal; let R stand for Responsibility; let I stand for In; let D stand for Daily; and let E stand for Efforts and/or Events. Personal responsibility in daily efforts and/or events.

Too often, we who have been in positions of responsibility in our chosen field see that the younger generation just doesn't have PRIDE. If they upon graduation are successful in obtaining employment, it doesn't seem to bother them that they come to work late with no advance notice of the delay; they do their job as quick as possible without thinking through what their mission was in that job; the reports they submit are late, are not neat, not complete, but "What the hell--I got it done." What an attitude for someone entering the real world out there.

I would highly recommend to each chapter, that they install a full length mirror near the front door with a caption over it that says, "I'm an Alpha Sig and proud of it." Dress fads come and go, but we can all take PRIDE in how we look. We don't wear hats or caps to the dinner table at home, so why should we do so at the chapter house? I'm quite sure that at home we don't get up and walk the full length on top of the coffee table just to get out from the couch. And we don't throw food from one table to another as we see happen in some of the chapter houses. If the pledges and undergraduates would just stop and think that the minute they leave the chapter house, they become Alpha Sigma Phi, and everything they do reflects back on their brothers in the chapter, and mostly on everything that we took our oaths to uphold.

It would appear from some of the chapters that I have seen, that once you are initiated into the Mystic Circle, you no longer have any responsibility--everything is left for the pledges to do. Nothing could be further from the truth. Our own Code of Conduct No. VII states, "I acknowledge that a clean, safe and attractive environment is essential to both physical and mental health--therefore I will do all in my power to see that the chapter is properly cleaned and maintained." We seem to have fallen into the bad attitude that the furniture can be trashed; that it is alright for someone to carve his name in the piano; that the windows never seem to get washed, the floors cleaned and waxed. What kind of an impression does this have on guests in our chapter houses? TO BE CONTINUED.

THE REASONS ARE MANY: "NO PURCHASE"

Although it may be hard to imagine, a year will have passed in August since the adoption of the Risk Management policy which states that there shall be no purchase of alcohol with chapter funds. While acceptance of the policy has increased, questions still remain among some chapters and alumni as to the reasons that the policy is needed. There are many arguments to substantiate the validity of the policy. Several of the key reasons which make the policy so important to our risk management program have been listed here for your information and reference.

* Alcohol has nothing to do with the ideals on which SAE was founded or with the beliefs we share as brothers.

* The policy is very beneficial in the marketing of SAE to liability insurance carriers.

* The policy aids in the effort to keep the insurance premium rates at a reasonable level.

* SAE chapters are not licensed to sell or distribute alcohol.

* SAE has several incidents currently pending in which the fraternity would be seriously threatened had SAE supplied the alcohol involved.

* Eliminating alcohol purchases has resulted in large monetary savings to the chapters. Because of this, many chapters have reduced members' dues.

* The liability situation across the country is still at crisis proportions.

* Many universities are evaluating the very existence of Greek systems on their campuses. Policies such as this prove that we are more than just a drinking club.

* Society will not tolerate the behavior that has stemmed from readily available alcohol at fraternity houses.

* At least 75% of our undergraduate members are under the legal drinking age of 21 years old.

* Almost every death and injury reported to the SAE National Office during the past year has been alcohol related.

* The decision to drink is an individual one and brothers who choose to do so should purchase their own alcohol.

* Many universities and IFC's have imposed the same policy on their campuses.

* Approximately thirty national fraternities have the same policy.

As you can see, the policy is a vital component in the risk management program of SAE. We must all realize the importance of this policy as we approach the new school year. We have passed the one year "anniversary" and must dedicate ourselves to establishing BYOB parties as the standard for SAE and our members.

- Phi Alpha
Sigma Alpha Epsilon
September 1989

WHAT ONE SAE CHAPTER IS DOING ABOUT IT

This article is from Phi Alpha, a publication of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity. It will be presented in two parts because of its length. It is written by SAE Brother Kevin Webb of Worcester.

Nearly four years ago when I started my college days, I went to a school with a strong Greek system. There were twelve national fraternities who had strong chapters on that small campus. Greek enrollment was about 50% and the Fraternities were the places to go for any ambitious young man. The Greek system sponsored all types of philanthropy projects, had excellent neighbor, faculty and community relations, and yet were still the social hubs of the school. Some of the chapters even traced their roots back to the early years of the institute.

The chapter that caught my eye was one that had been founded on campus less than thirty years after the humble beginnings of the school and was the second oldest fraternity on campus. Immediately upon walking up to the front of the main house, one was struck by the beauty of the two big white lions who guarded the doorway. This awe-inspiring effect was continued once inside by the breed of young men this chapter had in it. These were truly the guys that I wished to call brothers.

I spent some of the most memorable moments of my life pledging that house with eleven other freshmen. We played hard and we worked even harder. Just one day before the 103rd anniversary of the National fraternity the twelve of us became brothers. All the hard work had paid off and we did not even think of the path that lay before us.

The next fall, the twelve of us moved into the chapter house. The first semester in the house two of us were chosen as social chairmen. We strived to plan the biggest parties to hit the campus. Then came a startling policy from the school and the Interfraternity Council--houses could no longer charge guests at parties. Needless to say, we thought this was a poor decision since now the parties would end up costing us money. When asking the question why, the response was this big word that I thought at the time I understood but now realize that I still don't fully comprehend. The word was **LIABILITY**.

The next step was that we were no longer able to just open our doors for guests but, rather we had to use a closed guest list. Parties were getting to be more like work and less like fun everyday. To make matters worse our rush now became dry by order of the school. What a drag! Then came the day of elections. This time my class spread out to some of the bigger positions in the house like Assistant Treasurer, House Manager and Vice President. During the course of this year, I worked closely with the President and began to hear this word **LIABILITY** again. I also heard stories of some of the other houses on campus having problems with their neighbors and was told that our President was setting up a meeting with our neighbors. This meeting was so that we could prevent such problems with which some of our comrades were faced. Things went smoothly for the remainder of my sophomore year, and then the summer came

and several of us spent it at the house. This was a time of little responsibility and a lot of good times.

All too soon, school started again. This semester at elections many of my class truly began to assume major leadership positions in the house. Throughout the next five months, we learned that the school was interested in cutting its risks in order to reduce **LIABILITY**. To accomplish this end they hired a lawyer and he was investigating every aspect of the school. Now we find out that one of the greatest liabilities in the world is a little organization called a college fraternity. The lawyer made several recommendations to the school and one of them was that the school evaluate the relationship between the Greek system and itself. This suggestion was put to a committee created by the President of the Institute, and then all was quiet again. TO BE CONTINUED.



GREEKS AND THE LAW

Headlines shout: "Greeks banned from campus," "Student death due to hazing," "House closed due to unsafe conditions." Newspaper leads such as these can be found almost everywhere today, wherever there are fraternities and sororities.

Such stories impact on the whole school--students, faculty, alumni--and the whole community. Campus administrators across the nation are forced to devise more stringent policies to avoid the problems, and compelled to create remedies for the negative publicity.

Greek organizations face special legal challenges. To avoid trouble and to properly respond to circumstances, members must have a good understanding of their legal status, as well as their organizational and individual rights and privileges, on and off campus.

At all levels, fraternities and sororities face the potential impact of legal liabilities. Areas of particular concern are negligence, contracts, criminal acts, housing, membership practices, and taxation.

Fraternal chapters and members can be held liable for injuries and damages caused by group or individual actions or failure to act. In civil law, liability can be found for negligence and gross negligence.

* Negligence: The omission to do something which a reasonable man, guided by those ordinary considerations which ordinarily regulate human affairs, would do, or the doing of something which a reasonable and prudent man would not do.

* Gross Negligence: The intentional failure to perform a manifest duty in reckless disregard of the consequences as affecting the life or property of another; such as gross want of care in regard for the rights of others as to justify the presumption of willfulness and wantonness.

The group and individual members of the group have legal duties, and a failure to act or inappropriate actions that lead to loss, injury, harm, or death, can lead to liability, organizational and personal.

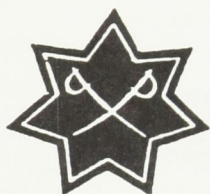
NATIONAL NEWS (Cont'd)

Of particular concern in any review of the potential civil and criminal liability of Greek organizations is hazing. Hazing, any action taken or situation created, on or off campus, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule is illegal, outdated, and dangerous. There is a very simple solution to potential liability claims due to hazing: don't do it!

Chapters and members are often found civilly and criminally responsible for the outcomes of hazing. Members die, lives are ruined, and the bonds of fraternal living are at risk in hazing practices--at risk as individuals and as an organization, at risk civilly and criminally.

- Perspective, July 1989

PLEDGED TO THE SEVEN POINTS



BETA DELTA CHAPTER, Marshall University: Scott Brumfield, Matt Canavan, Chris Colavita, Chris Cox, Gary Cremeans, Jeff Duboff, Craig Hensley, Jason Hill, Kevin Jimenez, Matt Lambert, Scott Moore, Chris Stephens and Ted Tomblin on February 8, 1990.

GAMMA ZETA CHAPTER, Bowling Green State University: Joe Miller, Russ Kahler and Dan Sturtz on February 4, 1990.

GAMMA LAMBDA CHAPTER, Atlantic Christian College: Warren Smith, Brian Johnson, Greg Parrish and Anderson Maddox on February 3, 1990.

GAMMA OMICRON CHAPTER, Tulane University: Richard Ward Band on February 3, 1990.

DELTA IOTA CHAPTER, Longwood College: Rich Bell, Alfred Imperato, Mike Macfarlane, Alex Rodriguez, Todd Dyer and Matt Coons on February 5, 1990.

INITIATED INTO THE MYSTIC CIRCLE



GAMMA ZETA CHAPTER, Bowling Green State University: Ian Frank, Steve Gehr, Kevin Clay, Jon Oliver, Jeff Plickert, Rob Sawyer, Robert Hamilton, IV, Joe Schafer, Jeff Batdorf, Mike Hohler and Rob Schaefer on February 17, 1990.

GAMMA RHO CHAPTER, Lycoming College: Bill Skipper, Russel Munson and Steve Pollazzi on January 25, 1990.

DELTA MU CHAPTER, William Paterson College: Robert Reber, Alex Castro, Mike Venokur, William Childs, Scott Leichter, James Jacobus, Anthony Petrucci, Steven Becker, Philip Anton, Raymond Sourial, Craig Cecere, Raymond Hutchinson and Richard Searls on December 10, 1989.

The Old Gal Gazette is published every two weeks during the academic year by the National Headquarters. It is distributed to all chapters, colonies, advisors and fraternity volunteers in an effort to keep all informed of their Fraternity's activities, plans and progress.

News items for The Gazette may be sent to: Alpha Sigma Phi National Headquarters, 24 West William Street, Delaware, OH 43015.