

Volume 5, Issue 2

October 1, 1997

HERE WE GROW AGAIN!

For the past few years, Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity has continued to grow. To date, our Brotherhood has 59 active groups, and by the end of 1997 the Fraternity is expecting to grow to 61. The last time the Fraternity had this many groups was in 1968. Factors related to our recent growth spurt include the absorption of two local fraternities, the internet, an updated version of our expansion process, and an emphasis to re-colonize former chapters. These factors have led Alpha Sigma Phi to return to the campuses of **Michigan State University** and **West Virginia Wesleyan College**. It has also provided the opportunity to form colonies for the first time at the **University of Maryland** and **Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania**.

MARIETTA TO RE-OPEN!

In addition, Alpha Sigma Phi will re-establish Delta Chapter, **Marietta College**, this fall. Marietta remained the sole survivor of Alpha Sigma Phi in the later part of the Nineteenth Century and was an active chapter for 133 years before it was closed in 1993. Communication between Fraternity Headquarters and the college began last spring, and on July 18, 1997, the Fraternity received the official go ahead to expand this fall. Recent

communication with an interest group at **West Virginia University** and **Ohio University**, could lead to other excellent expansion opportunities for Alpha Sigma Phi.

1998 Academy of Leadership

The Academy of Leadership will take place January 16-18, 1998 in Indianapolis, IN at the Holiday Inn Airport. All transportation, lodging, and food will be paid by Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity through a grant from the Alpha Sigma Phi Educational Foundation. Each chapter will be assessed a **\$50 registration fee** for attendance at this year's Academy of Leadership. This year the president of each chapter, colony, and interest group will be the attendee at the Academy of Leadership.

1998 ACADEMY OF LEADERSHIP JANUARY 16-18, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Each chapter will be responsible for electing a new president, and reporting the results to the Fraternity Headquarters **no later than Friday, December 19, 1997**. **Any chapter registering after this date will be responsible for all transportation, lodging, and food expenses.** Attendance at the Academy of Leadership is mandatory for each chapter.

Long Awaited, the Ralph F. Burns New Members Program Scheduled to begin in January 1998

In conjunction with this year's Academy of Leadership, the Ralph F. Burns New Members Program will be piloted. Named in honor of the man who influenced more new members than any other single person in Alpha Sigma Phi history, the program is designed to build and strengthen the bonds of brotherhood in recent new members and initiates during a three day two night all expense paid leadership training and development conference. This year Headquarters is accepting applications from chapters to have their members who joined the chapter from Fall 1997 to be selected to participate in this pilot program.

Approximately five chapters will be selected to participate in the program in 1998 and 1999. In the future the program will bring all new members from every chapter together for this yearly leadership conference. This program will ultimately involve over 600 undergraduates per year. Applications to participate in this exciting program are included in the October mail packet and will be due October 17. Chapters
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Omicron Delta Kappa announces new initiates

Omicron Delta Kappa, The National Leadership Honor Society, is pleased to announce that 2007 members of 81 sororities and fraternities were initiated into ODK during the 1996-97 academic year.

Omicron Delta Kappa recognizes and encourages superior scholarship leadership and exemplary character for faculty and students on 234 campuses across the nation. Membership honors graduate and undergraduate women and men who are in the top 35% of their class academically and who show leadership in one or more of five phases of college life: scholarship; athletics; campus or community service, social religious activities, and campus government; journalism, speech, and the mass media; and creative and performing arts.

Unlike an "honorary," membership into the honor society demands further leadership on the part of its members whether they be initiated as undergraduates, graduate students, faculty, alumni, or "honoris causa." Each category recognizes those men and women who have achieved at a high level within their community or nationally. Congratulations to the following members of Alpha Sigma Phi who were initiated this past year:

Robert J. Blaisdell
Delta Tau, '94

Chad W. Bumb
Beta Rho, '93

Matthew K. Simon
Beta Epsilon, '95

Eric A. Sribnick
Alpha Psi, '95

Officer Reminders for October

HSP: If you have not yet submitted the October Report of Membership, please do so immediately. Also, three educational programs concerning risk management must be completed and certified with the Risk Management Educational Certification Form by November 15 for chapters wishing to participate in the Risk Management Incentive Program. The Risk Management Agreement Form was also due on October 1, 1997. If you have not completed and returned it to Headquarters, you must do so immediately.



HE: Invoices will go out no later than November 13, 1997, for undergraduate dues, at \$82 per member, for all members who cannot be billed on the Alpha Sigma Phi Visa card. Ask your chapter president for a copy of the credit card payment form, as we will accept payment of undergraduate dues on any Visa or Master Card account. If you have not paid the annual chapter fee of \$243, please do so immediately, as it was due October 1. All late payments will accrue and interest charge.

HR: For chapters who wish to submit information for publication in the Brotherhood Bulletin, please do so as soon as possible.

Ralph F. Burns New Members Program, continued

which are selected to participate this year will be notified in November. Alpha Sigma Phi is fortunate to be able to provide cutting-edge programming like the Academy of Leadership and the Ralph F. Burns New Members Program. This year's program promises to be very exciting and dynamic. If you have any questions regarding the Academy of Leadership or the Ralph F. Burns New Members Program, please contact Fraternity Headquarters today.

"The Past, Imperfect"

Time Magazine, July 15, 1996
Volume 148, No. 4

Accurately predicting the future is not an easy thing to do, as anyone who tries it quickly learns. History is filled with bold forecasts that didn't quite pan out. Herewith are a few examples gleaned from collections on the World Wide Web:

"This 'telephone' has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication. The device is inherently of no value to us."--Western Union internal memo, 1876

"Heavier-than-air flying machines are impossible."--Lord Kelvin, president, Royal Society, 1895.

"Everything that can be invented has been invented."--Charles H. Duell, commissioner, U.S. Office of Patents, 1899.

"Airplanes are interesting toys but of no military value."--Marshal Ferdinand Foch, professor of

strategy, Ecole Superieure de Guerre
"The Past, imperfect," continued

"Professor Goddard does not know the relation between action and reaction and the need to have something better than a vacuum against which to react. He seems to lack the basic knowledge ladled out daily in high school."—New York Times editorial about Robert Goddard's revolutionary rocket work, 1921

"The wireless music box has no imaginable commercial value. Who would pay for a message sent to nobody in particular?"—David Sarnoff's Associates, in response to his urgings for investment in the radio in the 1920's

"Who the hell wants to hear actors talk?"—Harry M. Warner, Warner Bros., 1927

"I think there is a world market for maybe five computers."—Thomas Watson, chairman of IBM, 1943

"There is no reason for any individuals to have a computer in their home."—Ken Olsen, President, chairman and founder of Digital Equipment Corp., 1977

The one thing that all of the preceding quotes have in common is a lack of vision by the author. All too often, chapters suffer from the same lack of vision, and get stuck in the rut of "tradition." The only way to avoid this is to create a vision of for your chapter. This vision should exemplify the ritual and teachings of the Fraternity, and should be broad enough to be applicable to all facets of fraternal life. If you would like resources on how to create a vision for you chapter, contact Fraternity Headquarters.

Chapter News and Notes

The Alpha Tau Chapter at Stevens Institute of Technology just gave their chapter house a major overhaul. Alumni and undergraduates pitched in, and gave countless hours of hard work. Included in the projects was a complete renovation and modernization of the first floor bathroom, new carpet and paint throughout the entire house, and a new ceiling in the basement. The house looks spectacular, and the Chapter extends an open invitation for other Alpha Sigs that are in the area to stop by and visit. - Leonardo Mendoza, HSP

NEARLY ALL FRATERNITY RELATED INSURANCE CLAIMS AND INJURIES INVOLVE ALCOHOL:

95% of falls from high places (roofs)
94% of fights
93% of sexual abuse allegations
87% of automobile accidents
67% of slips and falls
49% of hazing incidents
81% of paralysis cases
88% of fatalities
78% of psychological injuries
66% of serious physical injuries
56% of minor injuries
from *Campus Commentary*, NIC

Beta Theta Chapter at Rutgers University teamed up with the North Jersey Blood Center to initiate and carry out the first ever blood drive during Greek Week, in late April. This was a key event for the chapter, since we are always prepared to lend a helping hand whenever needed. The blood drive also reinforced why Alpha Sigma Phi is a positive influence in the community. The drive raised several pints of blood for those in need, and we know we will have continued success in the future. - Arvind Gurnani, HSP

Beta Psi Chapter at Rensselaer established as Alcohol Free

Beta Psi started off the year by becoming the only alcohol-free chapter house on campus. They then held a work week with undergraduates and over a dozen alumni pitching in to clean up and clean out the house. Projects include an all new bathroom, renovated kitchen and some fresh paint. The new look of the house has been a great start to the year.

Delta Sigma Chapter at Coastal Carolina votes to be Alcohol Free

The Delta Sigma Chapter at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, SC, voted this summer to establish themselves as alcohol free. This is a bold move on their campus, but the chapter feels that this was the best way to refocus the chapter on the mission of the Fraternity, "To Create and Perpetuate Brotherhood."

RISKY BUSINESS

THE TOP TEN RISKIEST BUSINESSES TO INSURE:

1. Bars
2. Liquor stores
3. Child care facilities
4. Asbestos contractors
5. Hazardous waste dumps
6. Fraternities and Sororities
7. Engineers
8. Doctors
9. Lawyers
10. Accountants

- *Risky Business*, the risk management publication of Psi Upsilon Fraternity

ALPHA SIGMA PHI
FRATERNITY
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
8645 Guion Road, Suite J
Indianapolis, IN 46268-3028

Address Service Requested

Risk Management News and Notes

It is important to point out that it is impossible to completely eliminate risk from your activities. However, there are some things that you can do to help your chapter manage and possibly reduce the risks that it takes.

- Create the position of Risk Management Director within your chapter. This person should be knowledgeable of the risk management policies, and should audit chapter activities to ensure they are not in violation.
- Measure your chapter events and activities against the ritual. Evaluate the purpose, time, location, and duties of the event. Make changes if necessary.
- Troubleshoot. Brainstorm things that could go wrong, and take action to prevent or minimize the chance of those

things happening.

- Share your plans with your Grand Chapter Advisor, Greek Advisor, and national staff members to solicit their suggestions.
- Treat brothers, new members, guests, and other Greeks and students with equal respect.
- Do not be afraid to hold others accountable for wrongful behavior. Not only is it your obligation to do so, but it very well may positively change that brother's life.
- Try to see your programs, events, and treatment of others through the eyes of a parent, president, or new member. Realize that it is often not enough to satisfy your own ethics--it is necessary to avoid all appearances of unethical behavior.
- Think! You took an oath that binds you to live by a higher standard. Reflect on what that means. Remember that

your actions reflect on every other Alpha Sig.

Being personally responsible, thinking before you act, holding one another accountable, and showing respect for others are all ways to uphold the obligations of the Fraternity and portray Alpha Sigma Phi in a positive light. Think about what you are doing. Understand where the public draws their perceptions of Greek life. Does that homecoming T-shirt that you wear across campus depict alcohol miss-use or abuse? What does the outside of your chapter house look like during and after a social function? These are the things that the public sees, and remembers. **It is the collective actions of all fraternities that create and perpetuate these images of Greek life.** It is your responsibility to do something about it, and not cause these perceptions to be perpetuated any further.

The Brotherhood Bulletin is published monthly during the academic year by Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity 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.

The editor reserves the right to edit or exclude any work submitted for publication in *The Brotherhood Bulletin* based on content, readability, grammar, syntax, relativity, length, available space, and ethical standards.

News items for *The Brotherhood Bulletin* may be sent to alphasigs@iquest.net, or to: Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity Headquarters, 8645 Guion Rd., Suite J, Indianapolis, IN 46268-3028. 317-870-1911 317-872-8272-FAX