



Beaver Sig



MAY 1960

ALPHA THETA OF SIGMA CHI



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Alpha Theta's sweetheart for the coming year is Miss Judy Wuerstner, a sophomore at Wellesley College. Judy received this honor in an impressive ceremony during intermission at the Sweetheart Ball. Judy is majoring in economics, with a minor in art history, and her interests include skiing and dramatics.

EIGHT SENIORS GRADUATING

In June Alpha Theta will lose its eight members of the class of 1960. Unlike so many of the previous classes, only one Senior, Bryant K. Vann will be returning to MIT for graduate work. Bryant has been awarded a National Science Foundation Fellowship which he plans to use to obtain a M.S. in Electrical Engineering before fulfilling his N.R.O.T.C. obligation. James Overbeck has also won a similar fellowship which he will use to study physics at Princeton.

John Beckett and Tom Stone are both facing the cold, cruel world - John as a mechanical engineer for Lear Inc., of Elyria, Ohio, and Tom as a Second Lieutenant in the Army.

The rest of the class has taken up the cry "Westward Ho" and is going to Stanford. Mark Jensen plans to get a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering before going into the Navy, and Bob White has accepted an assistantship with the Physics Department. Edward Neild and Jim Long will enter the Graduate School of Business Administration.

All of the brothers join in wishing the Seniors good luck in their endeavors.

CHAPTER NEWS

Alpha Theta has continued to exemplify its tradition of excellence in all phases of Institute life, and the following summary is only a partial listing of chapter activities.

IFC HEADLIGHTS SOCIAL SEASON

Under the leadership of social chairman, Winn Martin, the spring term has been one of the most successful in recent years. The term began with a mixer with thirty Wellesley girls, selected and secured through the efforts of Brothers Martin, Tarter and Jensen. This was soon followed by Sweetheart Ball Weekend held March 5,6,7, which, despite the twenty inches of snow, was an excellent weekend.

Many other smaller parties, including a Beatnik party and a theatre party, sustained social life until the culmination of the spring season, IFC weekend. This year IFC featured Maynard Ferguson's orchestra for the Friday night formal. Saturday, there was the traditional beach party and Tech Night at the Pops climaxed the weekend on Sunday evening. The term ended with a very enjoyable party at the home of our Chapter Adviser, Gene Chamberlain.

Perhaps the most important part of the social spirit at Alpha Theta is the warm cooperation of all the brothers. It is rare that an attractive girl appears in the house without she and her date being immediately surrounded by all the brothers.

In a less coeducational vein, the Alumni Open House and the Faculty Open House have been Sunday Afternoon features of the spring term. The presence at dinner of many distinguished guests, including Dr. James R. Killian and President Julius Stratton, has been a very pleasant addition to our social calendar.

VOLLEYBALL TEAM PLACES THIRD

Spring term has seen the brothers engaged in such a variety of both intramural and intercollegiate athletics that space permits the mention of only a few of the more prominent activities.

In winter sports John Rupert, '62, and Hank Schleinitz, '61, both played on the varsity hockey team and John was named to the All-Eastern Honorable Mention Hockey Team. Jed Engeler, '62, was on the varsity swimming team and set an MIT record in the 440 yard freestyle.

Crew occupied the central position in the spring with seven brothers rowing in the various shells, and Ed Neild, '60, was elected Commodore of The Boat Club, the crew honorary. Jim Long, '60, competing in the weight events, is one of the top men on the varsity track team. Sigs are also active in varsity and freshmen tennis, lacrosse and baseball.

The highlight of the intramural season was the third place finish of the volleyball team, headed by Al Brennecke, '61, Dave Baldwin, '58, and Tom Dupree, '56.

FROM THE ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVE

Many very close friends are made during the years spent at Alpha Theta, but after graduation, with everyone going his own way, it is only too easy to let these friends fade into the background. The first task of the alumni organization will be to bring all of our alumni and particularly the members of each class "up to date" on each other. So far this year two things have already been done toward achieving this goal.

On Sunday, April 10, we had our annual alumni open house, at which there were Sigs from a wide distribution of classes. Those present included:

Viking Enebuske '15
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Oleson UU '24
Dr. and Mrs. James R. Killian '26
William H. Carlisle '28
William M. Hall '28
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Jope '28
Eugene Chamberlain M '51
Mr. and Mrs. Dave McBride '56
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Miles Cutler '57
Joel, Elaine, and Jennifer Searcy '57
Dave Baldwin '58
Bill Curtiss '58
Steve DeVoto '58

The afternoon was a lot of fun for everybody present. We enjoyed getting to know our alumni better and the open house provided an excellent opportunity for them to get together with each other. I hope that as many of you as can possibly make it will come next year.

At the start of the year, we set out to form a representative alumni council headed by Dr. Killian, Mr. Carlisle, and Mr. Chamberlain, and composed of a member from every class. We first sent out a letter to a member of every class asking him to serve as a representative to this council. To date the following sixteen have accepted:

Charles F. Harwood '99
H. Whittemore Brown '15
John W. Clarkson '18
Wm. R. Scott '22
James J. Souder '36
George B. Brettner '41
William B. Scott '44
Thomas L. Bell Jr. '45
John J. Freiburger '46
Robert C. Drye '47
E. Fletcher Hosmer '53
Walker C. Stevens '55
John A. Morefield Jr. '56
Malcolm M. Jones '57
Hubie Warner '58

The first function of this council is being specifically directed towards bringing the members of each class up to date on each other. We have sent each of the representatives a circular and they shall probably be getting in touch with the members of their class soon. We are certainly appreciative of the enthusiasm which they have shown and hope that we will succeed in forming a strong alumni organization with a representative from every class on the alumni council.

John G. Rupert '62
Alumni Representative



Alpha Theta was very privileged to have as their guests on April 19 Dr. and Mrs. Hunter Rouse. Dr. Rouse, '29, is currently Director of the Iowa Institute of Hydraulic Research at the State University of Iowa.

Dr. Rouse had just returned from a trip to South Africa and Egypt, sponsored by the State Department.

In a very interesting and informative after dinner talk, Dr. Rouse emphasized the explosive nature of the racial problems in South Africa, and the educational difficulties in trying to teach adult laborers, who had not even learned to count. This, coupled with the consequent exploitation of their ignorance has produced a tinderbox state of affairs.

The chapter is very appreciative of the visit of Dr. and Mrs. Rouse and hopes that all alumni who are traveling through Boston will stop by the house.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

As the new associate editor sits back pensively after going through stacks of old Beaver Sigs, he tries, as all associate editors before him have done, to find some way of creating a publication the alumni will really like. Perhaps the names in the resume of chapter news are not familiar, but they may bring back memories of the days when our alumni's names were appearing on these pages in recognition of their achievements in various facets of Institute life. However the editor realizes that in recent years, the trend has been toward producing an alumni-oriented Beaver Sig and that this has been very well received. The nature of our publication is definitely not static, but only by alumni advice and criticism can we produce issues which will be both informative and interesting, and thus we invite your comments on all Beaver Sigs.

In the same general line of thinking it has often occurred to me that many alumni probably have a rather passive view toward their college fraternity. They feel that this fraternity idea is a four year proposition, and their interest and participation cease after their graduation. This is not a completely unreasonable conclusion, but there are some considerations which may cause the alumnus some reflection.

When a man spends four years at MIT as a member of Alpha Theta, the very nature of his life is often changed by his experiences and feelings during this association. To some degree his success has been a direct result of his membership in Sigma Chi, as well as of his formal education at MIT. Many of the socially desirable qualities are instilled into an individual as he matures from a boy to a man in his university life.

1905 George R. Eckel, of St. Joseph, Missouri has been associated with Eckel and Aldrich Architects, founded by his father in 1880, since his graduation. In his undergraduate days, M.I.T. was Boston Tech, and the Alpha Theta chapter house was located at 311 Beacon St.

1908 Alexander H. VanKeuren is a retired Rear Admiral in the U.S. Navy. After receiving his M.S. in 1908, he served in the Navy Construction Corps from 1908 until 1939, and was Chief of the Bureau of Ships in 1942. From 1942-45 he served as director of the Naval Research Laboratories and retired in 1946. He has recently been chosen a Significant Sig. He is married, has two children, and is presently residing in Bethesda, Md.

1920 William B. Freeman, of Vienna, Virginia, is presently a government official, working in procurement activities, principally concerned with the Strategic Stockpile of Critical Materials. During the war he served in the U.S. Navy as a Lt. Comdr., Commander, and left the Navy in 1946 with the rank of Captain. Brother Freeman is married and has three children.

1920 Edwin Sharp Burdell - Dr. Burdell has retired as president of the Cooper Union, and on March, 15, 1960, took up his new position as president of the Middle East Technical University, in Ankara, Turkey.

1925 Hubert D. Barnes is currently director of Defense products and Atomic Equipment for the A.O. Smith Corporation. After graduation, he worked for A.O. Smith until the war, when he served as a Colonel in the Field Artillery Division. After the war he returned to A.O. Smith, soon became manager of the Bomb Division, and then assumed his present position. He is married has two children, and resides in Milwaukee.

1931 Richard F. Sundstrom is living in Stockholm, Sweden, and is employed as Products Advisor for Svensko Esso AB. He and his wife, Elizabeth, have two children.

1939 Orville R. Dunn is Supervisor of Aerodynamics, Stability and Control Division of Douglas Aircraft. He spent nineteen years working in the design of Douglas transport, cargo, and military aircraft, including the DC-4, DC-6, DC-7, C-74, and B-43.

1944 Robert G. Brecht Jr. is manager of General Services for the American Mutual Liberty Insurance Company. He is married, has two children, and resides in Weston, Mass.

1946 Winchell T. Hayward is an electrical engineer and works for the city and county of San Francisco. After his graduation, he was in the Navy until 1947, and then worked for the Century Elastic Company from 1949 until 1958, when he assumed his present position.

1948 Robert I. Ellsworth Jr. spent four years in the Navy after his graduation, and was then employed by V.M. Page, and the Chevrolet Division of General Motors until he became a marketing representative for IBM in 1956. He is past vice president of the Buffalo, N.Y. alumni chapter, is married and has three children.

1949 Austin F. "Buff" Marx spent the summer after his graduation bicycling through Europe. After two years with the Navy, he was a government representative for Stewart-Warner Electronics, and is presently Eastern Computer Manager. He is married and as of the time of writing states that he has "1/3 children".

1951 Stanley W. Morton Jr. is Chief Estimating Engineer for the Hitchiner Manufacturing Co., Inc. After graduation he was employed by Midwest Precision Casting Co., and rose to the position of Chief Engineer, which he held until he joined Hitchiner in 1955. He and his wife, Mimi, have two children, Stanley W. III, and Robert S.

1953 Anthony S. Gregario, of Chelmsford, Mass., spent three years in production engineering with Slyvania, and then joined C.B.S. as Production and Development Engineer, specializing in the field of semi-conductor diodes. He and his wife Ellen have three children.

SAUER

1953 R.W. "Rebel" Saver Jr. of Pittsburg, Pa. is currently a sales trainee with the Aluminum Corporation of America. He served as a jet pilot instructor in the Air Force, and received a master's degree in marketing from the University of Alabama.

1954 Wilbur P. Fiske is District Sales Manager representative for American Car and Foundry Industries. Before his present job he spent two years in the Research and Development Command of the Air Force. He was secretary of the N.Y. Alumni Chapter in 1958. He is married, has one child, and commutes to New York City from his home in Westport, Conn.

1954 Chuck Oelfke went to Europe in 1956 on a Fullbright grant to study architecture. He spent a year travelling in Western Europe and is now working as an architect in Paris.

1955 Russ Meyerand is doing research in plasma physics, after receiving his doctorate in nuclear engineering in 1959. He is employed by the United Aircraft Corporation. His wife, Mary Grace, is the daughter of M.I.T. Professor Ernest Guillemin.

1955 William H. Bohnert received a master's degree in set design from the Yale Drama School, and is now working as an art director for a television studio in New York City. His summers have been spent working in summer stock theatre for the Weston Playhouse, Westchester Playhouse, and the Tamiment Theatre.

1957 Jay R. Bonnar, of Plattsburg, N.Y., worked as a metallurgical engineer for American Brass, and is now a Flight Line Aircraft Maintenance Officer in the Air Force. He and his wife Carol have one child, a boy.

Among recent graduates, Dave Baldwin, '58, is studying for a doctorate in physics at M.I.T. Henry Miles Cutler, '57, and Lee Fister, '57, will both receive master's degrees in business from M.I.T. and Bill Curtis, '58, is employed in the Instrumentation Laboratory at M.I.T. Peter L. Kuempel, '59, is studying in Germany on a Fullbright grant, and Wayne Stuart and Robert F. Smith, both of '59, are at the Harvard Business School.

Interest is running high in the spring intramural sports; softball, badminton, track, squash, golf, and tennis, and the chances of bringing back several trophies are very good. There is hardly a brother in the house not engaged in some field of athletic endeavor.

SIGS THIRD ON CAMPUS

The scholastic ratings for the fall term, 1959, place the chapter third on campus with a scholastic average of 3.54, which is significantly above both the all men's and all fraternity averages. At the spring scholarship banquet, Steve Colburn, '63, was awarded the trophy for the highest scholastic average for the fall term, and Winn Martin, '62, received the improvement trophy.

Individually, several brothers have received scholastic honors during the past term. Bryant K. Vann Jr., '60, Mark Jensen, '60, and Earl C. Van Horn, '61, were initiated into Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honorary, and Earl and Ken Nill, '61, joined Mark and Bryant as brothers in Eta Kappa Nu, the electrical engineering fraternity. Other Sigs who have become members of honorary societies include Hank Schleinitz, '61, Phi Lambda Upsilon, Al Brennecke, '61, Pi Tau Sigma, and Robert White, James Overbeck, John Beckett, and Bryant Vann, all class of 1960, Sigma Xi.

BRENNECKE ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT

Alpha Theta's participation in various phases of the extracurricular has been extensive during the past year. Al Brennecke was elected Vice President of the class of 1961, and John Beckett, '60, has been vice president of the Baton Society and president of the MIT Orchestra for the past year. John Rupert, Jed Engeler, and Erich Ippen, all '62, were recently elected to Beaver Key, the junior honorary society, and Edward F. Neild, '60, was elected to Senior Week Committee. Brothers Long, Neild, Jensen, and Beckett have all been active in T-Club, while Bill Hackett, '63, and Erich Ippen, '62, have sung with the Glee Club.

NEILD WINS PROVINCE BALFOUR AWARD

Edward F. Neild III, '60, recently received the Province Balfour Award, as the outstanding undergraduate senior in the Northern New England - Nova Scotia Province. This marks the fourth successive year in which an Alpha Theta Sig has been awarded the honor.

TEN NEW BROTHERS INITIATED

The brotherhood and fraternity spirit have continued to grow within the chapter, and are perhaps best exemplified by the initiation of ten new brothers on February 13. According to Grand Praetor W.H. Carlisle, '28, who has attended many initiations, this was one of the most impressive ceremonies he had witnessed.

The new brothers are James MacGrew Harris, El Paso, Texas; Richard G. Brown, Greendale, Wisconsin; Dean W. Boyd, Shreveport, Louisiana; Robert Johnson, North Haven, N.Y.; Harry Steven Colburn, Portsmouth, Ohio; William H. Hackett, Speedway, Indiana; Julian A. Ayres, Knoxville, Tenn; William E. Byrd, Charlotte, N.C.; Frederick C. Hopper, Taylorville, Ill.; and Michael R. Williams, Oklahoma City, Okla.

These men have already become an integral part of the chapter and are continuing to contribute to the spirit and traditions which have been established at Alpha Theta throughout the years.

The internal strength of the chapter has been excellent during the spring term under the leadership of Robert M. White, Consul, Bryant K. Vann, Pro Consul, and a strong staff of officers. One of the outstanding chapter activities was "All Tech Sing", at which the chapter, under the direction of Ed Neild, sang a "Sweetheart Medley" composed of Sigma Chi songs.

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Thus there is a distinct motivation for continuing interest in the fraternity- the basic desire to see other men have the same opportunities and experiences which you received. This desire to contribute can be expressed in two ways. First, there is the continued support of the chapter through rushing recommendations, attendance at the alumni open houses, and suggestions to the various house officers, especially the alumni representative. Then there is actual financial support of the chapter, in the building of a new chapter house.

As an active alumni you are expressing through your actions the ideals on which Sigma Chi was founded. If the fraternity system is worth perpetuating, and if its ideals are commensurate with those of our society, then both the chapter and its alumni have a continuing responsibility toward increasing the stature and progress of Sigma Chi.