

# Beaver Sig . . .



ALPHA THETA CHAPTER

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

SPRING 1962



Hockey Captain, John Rupert

## SIGMA CHI BOASTS TWO VARSITY CAPTAINS

M. I. T.'s intercollegiate athletic teams are again this year drawing from a large proportion of Alpha Theta's membership. Two particularly outstanding participants were seniors, John Rupert and Jed Engeler, who captained their respective teams, hockey and swimming, to most successful seasons.

The best hockey team in M.I.T.'s history was ably lead by the spirit, drive, and outstanding playmaking of their captain, John Rupert. John began hockey career as a young boy in Minnesota. At M.I.T., John was captain of his freshmen hockey team and started as first line center for three years of varsity hockey. He was given honorable mention to both the Greater Boston Area and All East Hockey team. This year John was instrumental in defeating teams

which have always defeated Tech by wide margins. Highlights of the season included victories over Fort Devens, University of Massachusetts, University of Connecticut, and University of Pennsylvania. Winning eight of their last nine games, the team finished with a 10 win - 5 loss season, the best record in over forty years.

The swimming team had its best record in recent years, winning nine meets while losing only four to Army, Brown, Bowdoin, and University of Pennsylvania which were all strong powers. Highpoint of the season was the defeat of Springfield, perennially one of the top powers of the New England league.

As there were no individual stars, team depth and spirit played a most important role in many of the victories. Certainly a great share of the success can be credited to Jed who was named by his fellow swimmers to receive the Inspirational Trophy at the team's post-season banquet. In his events, the 220 and 440 yard freestyle, Jed was consistently victorious over his opponents, thus producing many meet winning points.

Another Alpha Theta prominent on the varsity swimming team has been Steve Colburn, '63, a diver whose hard work and resulting development won him this year's "Most Improved Award."

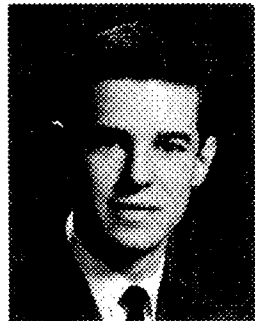
Sig's are also prominent in a number of other varsity sports. Julian Ayres and Dean Boyd play midfield and goalie, respectively, in lacrosse. Track is benefiting by Bill Remsen with the weights and Jim McGaughey in the half-mile. Bill McClure is presently coxswain for the heavyweight crew. More Sig's in varsity athletics include Dick Kurth in squash, Dan Blosssey in tennis, and Bill Hackett in baseball. Mike Williams, second last year in the 177 lb. division of the New England Wrestling Championship, was sidelined this year by an early season knee injury. His absence from the wrestling squad was deeply felt.

The frosh have also been fairing quite well in their athletic pursuits. Jim Piepmeier, Paul Remington, Kerby Meacham, and Quint Boone are all lightweight oarsmen, with Jim presently holding a seat in the first boat. In track, Dean Hubbard has been running a fast half-mile. Mark Hansen was a soccer standout last fall. Diver, Burt Lowry, and sprinter, Don Grimes, helped spark the frosh swim team to a winning season.

Recently the magazine rack in the music room has been enlivened by the appearance of The Christian Science Monitor. This is a gift of brother Benjamin M. Tucker, Alpha Alpha '68, of Wellesley, Massachusetts. Many of the brothers enjoy the informative articles of this paper which makes an excellent addition to our own Boston Herald and The New York Times.

## FROM THE CONSUL'S STUDY

JOHN G. RUPERT '62



MIT's President Stratton recently submitted a report which is of vital importance to Alpha Theta and her alumni. In the Purdue Case of 1876, the very legality of the fraternity system was questioned. John S. McMillan, first Grand Consul of Sigma Chi, was primarily responsible for the all important Supreme Court decision supporting all Greek-letter organizations. Now, almost a century later, fraternities are again going on trial.

President Stratton's report is a strong endorsement of the twenty-eight fraternities now at MIT. In addition to housing a third of the undergraduate body, the President emphasized that the

"greater values which that system brings into the life of the school are not material; they arise from the enhancement of social, cultural, and intellectual growth which a notable number of men derive from the life of a fraternity. . . . Our view of fraternities in general takes flaws such as discriminatory clauses into account; our own chapters in their attitude toward such things and in their over-all part in the life of the Institute merit and have our support and endorsement."

One should not underestimate the value of this official recognition.

The major business of Stratton's report concerns housing. It is the faulty housing plans set up by other universities that have either weakened or destroyed the fraternity systems on several campuses in the New England Area.

Five years ago it was proposed that provision be made for moving all the fraternities on campus. The President's report is adamantly opposed to the establishment of such a Fraternity Row for the following reasons: land limitations would make it necessary to house several fraternities in the same structure, the cost per man is exorbitant, and legal tax requirements would endanger the autonomy and self-governing responsibility of the houses.

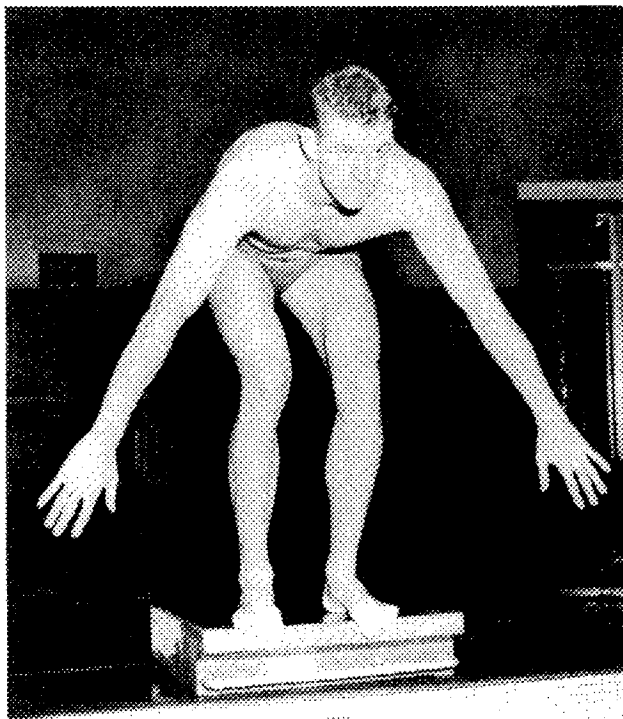
President Stratton did allow the following avenues of assistance which may well be of interest to Alpha Theta and are included for your consideration.

1. The Institute will explore with any individual fraternity the possibility of housing this fraternity in an Institute-owned building.
2. The West Campus includes two or three small pieces of land suitable as sites for fraternities which can finance the building of chapter houses on them.
3. The Institute will assist fraternities in seeking tracts of land near the campus as sites for building chapter houses.
4. The Institute will continue to provide mortgage financing to fraternities for the improvement or purchase of houses. The present program will be liberalized to provide for mortgaging up to

25 years. The Institute will assist fraternities in the location and appraisal of suitable houses in Cambridge and Boston.

5. The Institute will collaborate with active chapters and with alumni house-owning corporations in long term planning for future housing needs.

The report is an endorsement to the fraternity system and yet it is a challenge. It was purposely presented as a progress report - not a final document for the world to see. Further progress necessarily involves the fraternities' cooperation and in fact will depend on their initiative. If Sigma Chi is to maintain her present position on MIT's campus, it behooves us to investigate thoroughly with our alumni each of President Stratton's proposals and to prepare ourselves to take the proper steps if necessary.



Swimming Captain, Jed Engeler

## WANTED: INFORMATION LEADING TO ADDRESS AND CONTACT WITH FOLLOWING AG SIGS

- 1904 -- Burrows, John Shober; 2 Beechdale Rd., Baltimore (incorrect)
- 1906 -- Byron, Walter Harwood; 4436 Lakewood, Long Beach (incorrect)
- 1913 -- Guild, William C.; The Science Center, St. Petersburg (incorrect)
- 1920 -- Boynton, Philip Edward (no address)
- 1924 -- Wyld, Reginald Geake; 1119 Leo St., Dayton (incorrect)
- 1936 -- Laflamme, J. K.; 1425 Mountain St., Montreal (incorrect)
- 1954 -- Martins, Fausto; Rur Tonsleros 330, Rio de Janeiro (incorrect)

## • FROM THE EDITOR

As the new editor of the Beaver Sig I would like to outline the views which will guide the editing and publishing of this paper during the next year. The Beaver Sig exists as the primary, and in many cases the only, contact which Alpha Theta has with her alumni. Accordingly it is an important publication. Until now it has been handicapped being forced to operate as a one-way communication, with the alumni accepting the passive role of reception. Upon Alpha Theta rests the burden of initiative. As a step toward making the Beaver Sig a two-way communication I encourage the alumni to speak out, to let the chapter and other alumni know what they are thinking and doing. This issue contains two articles written by alumni as well as a lengthy report upon alumni news. These, I hope, will be as interesting to you, the alumni, as they are to the actives here in the chapter. I welcome any comments, criticism or articles submitted for publication. This is your paper. Take an active interest in it.

## THE NECESSITY OF UNITY

### AN EDITORIAL

The strength of any organization is based upon unity. This is especially true of a fraternity. When a group of men come together into a common brotherhood to establish and promote certain ideals which they, themselves, believe in, they necessarily bring with them a certain unity of purpose. Dependent upon the strength of these ideals and upon the character of the men who proclaim them, this unity will endure. There comes a time though in the history of every organization when ideals tarnish and unity exists only in word. Lip service is paid to the proclaimed goals but action takes its own course, often along many diverging roads. This is the time when the organization must rise above the petty differences within its midst and strive to conceive a new unity with which to carry on its past greatness. Failing this, all that has been gained is lost. The organization disintegrates into dissenting, rival factions.

MIT is a unique school in some respects and the individuals who come here are apt to be, in a very literal sense, individuals. As a group they defy classification. The student body is not a body but an assemblage of individuals, each unique and each unwilling to relinquish their sense of individuality. In such an environment it takes a very special type of brotherhood to grow and prosper.

At Alpha Theta a concept of brotherhood has gradually developed over the years which capitalizes upon the individual. Instead of attempting to mould a group of men who all think alike, feel alike and act alike, we recognize that every man is different and that all have something to contribute and something to gain in their association with others. It is true that we select only those whom we feel have the most to contribute, but in doing so we create a richer ground for the development of character. The individual is exposed to and forced to take account of beliefs, convictions and ways of life other than his own. Brotherhood becomes a spur to development rather than a means to conformity.

But there are dangers in a system such as ours. There may come into existence within the house a group of persons who feel drawn toward the same beliefs and way of life. If these people lose sight of the greater aim of the brotherhood and see it only as a means of extending their own beliefs, or if they cannot accept others for what they are, as having something worthwhile to offer, then this group becomes a powerful minority which by weight of numbers is stronger than any individual in the house. This forces the others to band together in defense and if the differences of opinion are great enough, the house is split into opposing factions and cliques. Dissension is rampant, unity nonexistent and the house fails on all fronts. There is no enthusiasm for any undertaking, no support for any proposal. Instead of a brotherhood the house becomes a collection of minorities living together in what is no more than a selective dormitory.

The solution, if one exists, lies in regaining some semblance of unity. People must think beyond their own beliefs and prejudices. They must realize that others do not necessarily wish to live as they do, and that differences of opinion are not sufficient grounds for condemnation. The political world has long been concerned with the problem of peaceful coexistence. It is time that individuals became concerned with their own problems of fruitful coexistence.

William Byrd  
Chapter Editor

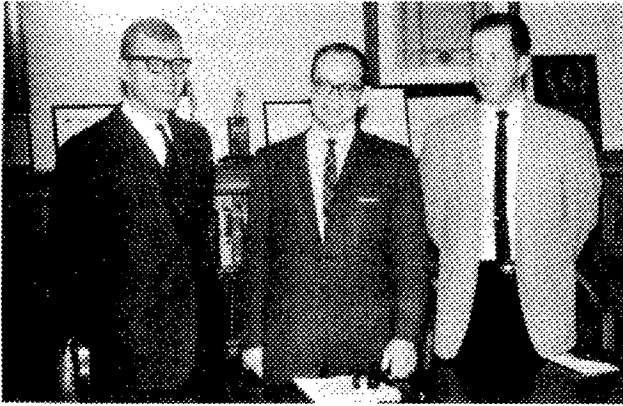
## FRESHMEN SET ALL TIME HIGH

For the second time this year, Alpha Theta's scholarship banquet has had a special significance. The freshmen earned a 4.2 average, which is the highest freshmen group average ever recorded at the Institute. To honor the occasion, several distinguished Sigs and other guests came to dine with us on Saturday, April 14. Among those present were: Dr. James R. Killian, chairman of the M.I.T. Corporation, and Mrs. Killian; Dr. Vincent Fulmer and Mrs. Fulmer; Dr. A. Ippen and Mrs. Ippen; and Grand Praetor William Carlisle. Our guest speaker, Fred Fassett, dean of residence at M.I.T., spoke on scholarship in his usual, vastly knowledgeable way.

Besides the usual awards, the freshmen's effort earned them the I.F.C. Pledge Class Scholarship Award. After much consideration the Sigma Chi Scholarship Award trophy went to Paul Remington (4.8) with Don Grimes running a close second. The Sigma Chi Scholarship Advancement trophy entailed another difficult decision, but finally it was given to Mike Williams with Bob Johnson at second place. Both brothers advanced 0.9 grade point over the term before.

The evening closed as Dr. James Killian lauded the chapter on its combination of scholarship ability and participation in the lighter side of things.

Bill Remsen  
Scholarship Chairman



Officers of the Metropolitan Boston Alumni Chapter left to right; Don Pearson, vice president; Speck Card, president; Bill Braun, secretary-treasurer

## METROPOLITAN ALUMNI CHAPTER

For many years the Boston and the Cambridge alumni chapters oscillated between active and semi-inactive states. Interest in the alumni activities and co-ordination of the alumni with the active chapter was difficult to maintain, probably because M.I.T. is particularly afflicted with the disease of "travelling graduates." But the most recent revival effort -- spearheaded by the work of Dean Boyd, previous Alumni Representative, and alumni Bill Carlisle and "Speck" Card -- was ultimately successful. At last the alumni relations of Alpha Theta have taken on the satisfying look of a dynamic, enduring organization, and we all are working hard to insure that this is the last reorganization the chapter will need.

With the official merger of the Cambridge and Boston groups, under the 1960 Boston Alumni Chapter charter, a total of over one hundred Sigs in the area are encouraged regularly to attend the monthly dinner-meetings (second Monday of the month) and other functions. The turnouts have been most gratifying, the programs extremely worthwhile, and the future very promising for the Metropolitan Boston Alumni Chapter. The brightest area in the picture for tomorrow is our newly-elected (March meeting) set of officers, composed of: Samuel P. "Speck" Card, AΘ '48--president; Don Pearson, University of Utah--V.P.; and William J. Braun, University of Miami '50--secretary-treasurer. Already these and other energetic Sigma Chis have started a lively program to increase membership, attendance, and participation.

First on the list was proposal of a formal set of by-laws, these to be approved at the May 14 meeting. Next an Alumni-Active Relations Committee was originated to help arrange the affairs of the alumni chapter, and another committee was appointed to give assistance in rushing to the active chapter next fall. Final details are being considered toward realization of the Undergraduate Counseling Service, which will provide a valuable link with the "outside World" for the undergrad. Summertime need not halt plans either, for Bill Braun has graciously offered his home in Gloucester to the alumni for a family clam-bake this summer.

The alumni chapter is rapidly becoming an effective autonomous group. Our hope is to insure that this trend is preserved, so active and alumni alike can derive the greatest benefits through their association.

Gary Brooks, Alumni Representative

## BRIEF SKETCHES

1918 -- After a reign of twenty-five years as Director of Admissions, M.I.T., during which time thousands of prospective students became familiar with his name, Mr. E. Alden Thresher has retired to an Emeritus position. He had spent seven years in industry, two studying at Harvard, and seven more in the M.I.T. Department of Economics. . . now enjoying life, gardening and painting.

1922 -- Brother William Scott, retired, is former Export Manager of the Remington Arms Company.

1924 -- Brother Joseph R. Mares, blessed with three sons, holds a partnership in a Houston petrochemicals consulting firm. Previously he had spent twenty-five years with Monsanto, finally as a vice president; and upon leaving this office assisted Dr. Jim Killian in Washington, D. C., when Brother Killian was Special Assistant to the President.

1928 -- Now serving as special assistant to the vice president of purchasing, Elwood Anderson has moved steadily up in the hierarchy of the Ethyl Corporation. He has a daughter at Byrn Mawr and twin daughters at the eighth grade level in Wilton, Connecticut.

1938 -- A born manager it seems, Homer R. Oldfield has held general management positions for fifteen years, first with General Electric and now as vice president and group executive for Raytheon. Before that he spent three years with the M.I.T. Instrumentation labs and four years in the army, during W.W. II. He lives in Weston with wife Sofia, sons Robert and Richard, and baby Anne Carolyn; his daughter Wendy is a Junior at Cornell--

1941 -- After accumulating an impressive record with such schools as M.I.T., Cal Tech, and the Cooper Union, Charles Peck now holds the position of Director of Research and Development at Cecco Steel. A model "A" fan, he lives outside Chicago with his wife, son George, and two daughters, Loraine and Elouise.

1945 -- Brother Bruce Mayer has followed the lead of many ambitious businessmen and started his own firm of manufacturers' representatives, Delval Equipment Corporation. For eleven years chairman of the Middle States Junior Davis Cup Committee, Bruce probably is giving tennis instruction to his two sons: Jeffrey, 8, and David, 5.

1957 -- Jay Bonnar is now working for an M.S. at M.I.T., back in school after a whirlwind trip through industry, the Air Force, and Strategic Air Command. He, Carol, and their son Christopher await his degree in June.

1958 -- Apparently having acquired a taste for school, James McNamara has enrolled at the University of Chicago, after working for Raytheon two years. He has a wife, Roxanne, and a son, David; expects his Master's this year and Doctor's in 1964.

1959 -- Without a family as yet 1st Lieut. John C. Linderman is making the most of his freedom by investigating the many appeals of Germany. He has been stationed with a Redstone Missile Group for nearly a year and a half, and claims to enjoy Europe very much. Previously he had gained experience with missiles in the Autonetics Division of American Aviation. Unless he gets another extension of duty abroad, John will be a civilian again in January, 1964.

1960 -- In behalf of Brother John Beckett and Wendy Beckett we happily announce their new baby \_\_\_\_\_, due in August. John and Wendy were married last August; he is a servomechanisms engineer for Lear, Incorporated. John teaches calculus in night school and sixth graders in Sunday School, and enjoys "fiddling with Wendy in the town orchestra" . . . thinks he might enjoy having babies too!

## RUSH WEEK PLANS IN PROGRESS

This article is written in hopes of enlisting and encouraging the active support of alumni for our Rushing program. I'm sure that all of you remember Rush Week with its excitements and challenges, and also the tremendous amount of forethought and planning necessary to make it a success.

One aspect of the rush program is "summer rushing", an effort designed to allow the brothers to meet as many potential rushees in their home areas as possible and formulate a pre-Rush Week opinion of the Freshman.

Unfortunately the official list of entering freshmen is not published until August, a time when many brothers and even more entering freshmen are vacationing away from home. Naturally we know the names of a good number of the entering freshmen before this time, through alumni, brothers, and other sources common to all fraternities. This is a great boost to our program; but unfortunately the percentage of the entering freshmen we hear about by June and which can then be rushed during the entire summer is very small.

I would like to enlist your support in this particular aspect. If you know or should hear of an entering freshman, please inform the chapter; if, by chance, you should know this person, a statement of your opinion would be welcome. At the moment, our program is lagging due to a lack of information. We would greatly appreciate the help you can give us in locating next year's outstanding rushees.

James M. Harris  
Rushing Chairman

## DESTINATION COMPUTATION

EARL C. VAN HORN '61

The achievements of digital computer technology have already been impressive in the eyes of the technologist and layman alike. Even more impressive are the ideas for computer applications which now find expression only in the notebooks and laboratories of computer specialists. Digital technology will soon show spectacular advances in the areas of speed, memory capacity, and system organization. As such advances occur, the machine designers will find, not

far behind them, a drove of users, each eager to expand his activities to the limit of the new machines' capacities.

The word "computer" is, of course, a misnomer which history has forced upon us. The earliest computers were primarily instruments for computing answers to mathematical problems. These machines evolved into digital devices which are now more properly called "generalized information manipulators". The reasons for retaining the name "computer" involve considerations of hardware design. Just as today's automobile is basically the same sort of gadget as Ford's Model-T, so the modern computer bears a strong resemblance to its early predecessors. Modern computers, like modern cars, are bigger, faster, and are endowed with those essential "optional extras".

Soon, however, even this structural resemblance to the early machines will disappear. Designers are not satisfied with the old structure for two reasons:

- 1). There is a definite limitation on how fast a computer of contemporary design can perform. Not only must one worry about the transit time of a pulse from one end of the installation to the other, but one must be concerned with the problems of interconnecting large numbers of high speed circuits. Designers see that they must turn to some sort of parallel processor scheme in order to extend performance beyond the speed limitations.
- 2). Users of computation facilities are demanding closer and closer contact with the machines. This problem can be solved by a design technique known as "time-sharing", which I will describe below. Time-sharing also is best implemented using several processors that operate in parallel.

The familiar method of debugging programs consists of submitting one's program to an operator. One then receives, some time later, the results of the run, along with diagnostics which may or may not be appropriate. As applications become more sophisticated, this method of preparing programs becomes less satisfactory. In addition, users are now dreaming up applications which require the real-time participation of the calculator in an external situation. Examples of such applications are:

- 1). Programs which control and participate in various psychological, biological, and other scientific experiments.
- 2). Programs which act as teaching machines.
- 3). Programs which analyze data as it is actively being gathered, e. g., the programs which analyze tracking information from the orbiting Mercury capsule.

However, the desire for greater contact with the calculator runs headlong into the desire for more sophisticated machines. Computer specialists see the answer to this economic dilemma in the time-sharing technique which was mentioned previously. In a time-shared computer system, the facilities of a powerful central computer are rapidly commutated among several users' control consoles, which are placed at remote locations. The repetition rate for this commutation may be measured in seconds or in milliseconds. In some systems, each user may face a console which looks like a machine that is  $1/n$  times as fast as the central machine, where  $n$  is the number of users currently on line. Other systems may require a user to wait anywhere from several seconds to several minutes to gain access to the machine, but once access is granted, the user enjoys essentially the full capabilities of the central computer.

continued on page 6

## IMPRESSIONS OF GREATNESS

WILLIAM H. CARLISLE JR.

An astute, discerning, thoughtful, understanding, and gracious national figure who is able to grasp and impart to the millions of citizens the necessity to remember some of the basic tenets that we learned from our forefathers; that is Senator Barry Goldwater.

Brother Goldwater constantly exemplifies these outstanding qualities in the nation's capital and throughout the country more than any man has done in the last decade. Many people throughout the nation, whether center, far-right, or far-left, may hold great differences of opinion about his views and attitudes, but they must acknowledge that his veracity, sincerity, and motivation are beyond reproach.

He appeared on the M.I.T. Campus on Friday, evening, February 10, 1961, in front of a packed house in Kresge Auditorium. It was necessary for him to cautiously and carefully step over protruding legs and arms of over two hundred people that were seated on the floor of the stage in order for him to reach the rostrum. A vivid demonstration of his unusual fairness and constant willingness to listen to the other man and hear the other side was given that evening.

There was a group of young men seated in the center of the auditorium who could be labeled "loyal opposition", expressing themselves in rather strong derisive tones while Brother Goldwater's proponents were attempting to quiet some of them. Brother Goldwater very graciously requested all present to please give these young people a chance to have their say, even though they were strongly opposed to him.

After the close of this stimulating, challenging, and invigorating evening, it was the pleasure of a number of the active brothers of Alpha Theta Chapter, including Brothers Edward Nield, Richard Brown, Dean Boyd, Julian Ayres, and Fred Hopper, to greet Brother Goldwater in the lower lobby of the auditorium, after the press photographers had concluded their assignments, and escort him to the M.I.T. Faculty Club, where a most enjoyable hour of con-

versation and discussion took place. Later on, at the conclusion of this valued hour of fellowship, the Senator was driven to Logan Airport for his return to Washington that night.

It is of utmost necessity that not only good Sigma Chis, but that citizens throughout the nation observe and watch this great national figure during the next few years, whether they agree or disagree with his views, in order to learn about a great stabilizing force in the progress of our federal government.

Computation, continued from page 5

The time-sharing technique holds advantages for educational, governmental, and medical institutions, as well as for libraries, research organizations, and business firms. The imagination can easily visualize a digital computation facility as a public utility. A network of powerful computers in a large metropolitan area can be time shared among many small users, who rent appropriate input-output equipment installed on their property, and who pay only for the actual computer time that they consume. Of course, engineers must provide adequate interlocks within the system, so that unscrupulous individuals will be dissuaded from examining and modifying information which is not their own. No matter how far technology might advance, it cannot ignore the characteristics of the humans, in whose service technology finds its only existence.

## BOUQUETS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brother Joseph R. Mares of Houston, Texas has generously contributed \$200.00 to the Beaver Sig. This money will be used to defray expenses making it possible to publish larger issues at more frequent intervals. This encouragement is most welcome as we sometimes feel that the Beaver Sig is being distributed by the U.S. postal system into an immense void.

# Sigma Chi

ALPHA THETA CHAPTER  
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