

THE GATOR OF ΠΚΦ

Epsilon Eta Chapter of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity

February 1994

Alumni Association Looks to Improve Numbers

Epsilon Eta's alumni association is enthusiastic about getting more graduated brothers involved in their activities. Currently, the association consists of about fifteen alumni who get together about twice a year to catch up and enjoy themselves. With 184 members initiated into the fraternity, it's surprising that so few brothers are involved.

Tommy Sacco (EH #40), president of the association and co-owner of the White Horse restaurant in Rock Hill, says that a variety of reasons exist for their lack of participation in the association's activities, among them being careers, families, and

locations. "It's difficult to get everyone together." Sacco said, "Most of us have jobs and families to deal with. Getting out of college really changes your perceptions. You're dealing with a whole new set of responsibilities, so it's not as easy to find the time." Nevertheless, the alumni try to stay in touch with one another as best they can.

There is some incentive to joining the association once a brother graduates. The first year of membership is free, and dues are fifteen dollars a year, afterwards. This covers expenses such as a bi-annual newsletter and two reunions. The alumni have gotten

together at the Carolina Cup, and tentative plans are being made for a spring golf outing and barbeque.

The alumni association is also interested in getting more involved with the active brothers of Epsilon Eta. The association has a scholarship for active brothers. The housing corporation keeps tabs on the status of the chapter house and maintains relations with the landlord. Sacco encourages any brother, active or graduated, to see what the alumni association is about. By staying in touch with the active chapter, the association not only hopes to improve its membership but to improve relations with the active brothers, as well.

Newest Initiate Takes Charge as Historian

During my pledge period, an alumnus asked me why I wanted to be a Pi Kapp. My response was simple and direct—Brotherhood.

It wasn't enough for him. He expected me to write an essay, saying that there was more to fraternity than Brotherhood, and one word wasn't enough to explain it all.

I still don't agree with that completely. Fraternity is a very encompassing thing, to be sure, emphasizing service, personal growth, and working to make the chapter a better, more powerful, more stable and organized group of individuals.

Yet it all comes down to Brotherhood. We take interest in fraternity life because we are welcomed into it. We meet people who take interest in what we

can do for the fraternity and what they can do for us. In short, we become a part of the fraternity because of a sense of belonging to something meaningful—because of Brotherhood.

But what happens when we leave the active chapter to pursue our careers and start a family? Is Brotherhood lost, or is it merely misplaced? What happens to our ties with the chapter?

I have pondered the answers to these questions ever since I became aware of the lack of communication between the active chapter and the alumni. As historian, I intend to do something about it.

The alumni are placed in a precarious situation where matters of fraternity are involved. Their lives are their first priority. Fraternity is no longer as

important as it was during college. The chapter is obligated to insure that they stay informed of its activities so that if and when they get free time, it can be time spent with the fraternity.

A lack of communication is the reason that many of the alumni have become disillusioned with Epsilon Eta. Some turn to the alumni association, ignoring the active chapter, seemingly creating their own separate fraternity in the process. John Lyon (EH #6), the brother that most of the active chapter goes back to now, says that many of the alumni don't see the point in associating with brothers who won't take the time to keep them informed of what's going on. They want to know that people remember them,

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Pledge Profiles

Here are some brief notes on the members of the Alpha Delta pledge class for Spring 1994. Congratulations to our new associate members. Best of luck!

Shawn Cheema

Hometown: Rock Hill
Major/Minor: Health Administration
Status: Sophomore
Hobbies: Music, Reading
Philosophy: It is better to love than to hate.
Reason for pledging Pi Kappa Phi: I want a sense of brotherhood that I've never had before.

Derek Herrmann

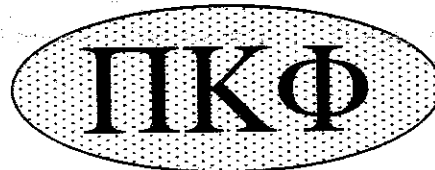
Hometown: Sumter
Major/Minor: Computer Information Systems/Business
Status: Junior
Hobbies: Skiing, Tennis, Games
Philosophy: Let me get back to you on that.
Reason for pledging Pi Kappa Phi: I would like to meet new people.

E. Matt Poston

Hometown: Charleston
Major/Minor: Graphic Design
Status: Sophomore
Hobbies: Drawing, Singing
Philosophy: Reality is simply the mythology we choose to believe. Perhaps we should learn to choose more wisely.
Reason for pledging Pi Kappa Phi: Other fraternities that I was interested in seemed to keep more to themselves and factionalize. Everyone here seems to be good friends. They're open and eager to welcome new people.

Gray Bateman

Hometown: Beaufort
Major/Minor: Physical Education/Religion & Philosophy
Status: Junior
Hobbies: Sailing, hiking, climbing, rappelling, white-water rafting.
Philosophy: Faith+Work=Success
Reason for pledging Pi Kappa Phi: I believe in the organizations that Pi Kappa Phi works such as PUSH with and in the fellowship with the brothers.



Do you have a suggestion for our newsletter? It's your chapter, too! Contact the historian: Victor Hill, P.O. Box 5030 Rock Hill, S.C. 29733

Historian, from page 1

and one of the many roles of the chapter is to educate potential brothers about the alumni. Why bother going to a house where no one knows your name?

Conversely, the alumni need to be willing to accept the constant state of change present in a fraternity. As brothers move through college and graduate, new leadership and new ideas emerge. More often than not, procedure is changed, and priorities of the fraternity alter in response to it. The values and the ideals of the previously active brothers are thrown away in favor of more current and more realistic ones. But often these changes are ridiculous, and alumni and other issues are over-looked because of items that seem more pressing at the time.

Change cannot be helped, but brothers must take care to remember to

look to the past when in doubt about issues. Epsilon Eta has existed for fourteen years because brothers have cared enough to preserve the ideals of the founding fathers. Had it not been for them, we wouldn't be here now.

It's my job to keep the alumni informed, preserve our history, and document any additions to it. Maintaining relations is a two-way street that requires cooperation on both sides. If you want to play an active part in making the chapter strong, whether you're active or not, then let me know what you think. Talk to me and give me ideas. Come to the Brotherhood meetings on Sundays and share your opinions with other brothers. And by all means, take the time to come to our events when you can.

This newsletter represents one of (hopefully) three that will come out this semester. The first issue is a "trial

run", so to speak. I want your input. What do you want to see? Is there a brother you'd like to see an article on? Do you need to get in touch with someone, but don't have their address? I can help with these questions. It's my job, after all.

Let's all try to get along, settle our differences, and have a good time in the process. We all joined Pi Kappa Phi for a reason—Brotherhood.

If you're interested in getting any additional information or have any comments, feel free to call me at 323-3577. I welcome letters to the editor for publication concerning issues raised within the chapter. Any correspondence should be addressed to: Victor A. Hill, c/o Pi Kappa Phi, WPO Box 5030, Rock Hill, SC, 29733.

P.U.S.H. Gets Its Act Together

Epsilon Eta's P.U.S.H. committee has had its share of ups and downs as the years have gone by. The chapter has won the Bronze Star on a few occasions and has raised thousands of dollars for the severely handicapped. So what's happening with our fraternity's national outreach project right now?

Well, as newly appointed chairman EH's P.U.S.H., I've got a few things in mind for this semester, as well as for the future. On February 18, we will hold our first toll road at noon, and it will last until five that afternoon. I sincerely hope that we can raise upwards of one thousand dollars, as we earned seven hundred the last time one was held, and we didn't even work the road for a full day due to bad weather. I encourage as many brothers to attend as possible, even if you can't stay long. We need the support of the fraternity to make this fundraiser worth while, so if you can spare an

hour or two, come and join us. Empathy training is also in the works for sometime towards the end of this month. Try to show up if you can. It'll be short and, hopefully, hysterical.

As far as future projects go, several ideas have been thrown up. A second toll road is tentatively scheduled for the first part of April, and a car bash will probably be held in March. A bowl-athon, a mile of pennies, dorm storming, and a car wash are only a sampling of the other ideas that have been proposed. I intend to follow up on at least two of these.

P.U.S.H. America is offering a few incentives to raise money this year, one of which being a large P.U.S.H. banner given to any fraternity that raises five hundred dollars by the end of February. The toll road should take care of that, if all goes well. That, coupled with the money raised from last semester's toll road should bring us within eight hundred dollars or

so of receiving the Bronze Star. With ideas for future projects being looked into, the possibility doesn't seem to be too far off.

I'll be going to P.U.S.H. Camp over spring break. I figure that it will be a good way to get first-hand knowledge of what P.U.S.H. America is all about, to see where our money goes, and play a part in what is getting done with it. I hope that by doing this I will be able to do a better job as chairman of our national philanthropy. I still need your help, though. If you're an active brother that's not on a committee, or if you have ideas to help me with fundraising, then get involved. Whether you do or not, tell me your ideas. I want to know what you think should be done and if I'm doing it right. I have every intention of seeing that EH's P.U.S.H. plays a part in helping others. However, I need your input and your support.

-V. Hill (EH #184)

Remember going to Supreme Chapter???

Well, the 44th Supreme Chapter meeting is August 13-17, 1994, at Atlanta's Ritz-Carlton!

Alumni and their families are invited to attend, so get in touch with Pi Kappa Phi to reserve your place at this exciting event!

Epsilon Eta Spring Calendar of Events

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| February 24-26 | Homecoming Week |
| 23 | Homecoming Skit Night-9pm |
| 25 | Leggz dance band-9pm |
| 26 | Homecoming Parade-1 pm |
| | Homecoming Game against UMBC-7pm |
| March 4-11 | Spring Break |
| | Daytona or PUSH Camp |
| March 20-25 | Pi Kappa Phi Spirit Week |
| 25 | Initiation of Alpha Delta pledge class! |
| April 9 | Rose Ball |

Russ' Page!

What does a Chapter Advisor write for a requested column? Should this tome be informative, be funny, or a combination of both? This time I think I'll dwell on my expectations.

What do I expect from you? From my perspective, Fraternity is not the end-all of college life—it's just a part of it. I expect your education to be your first priority while at school. Either you or someone else is paying good money so you can attend Winthrop. Your primary purpose is to get an education; Fraternity (at best) is second. Don't cheat yourself or others, realize the role academics has to play.

Social maturity is another of my expectations. At times, it's

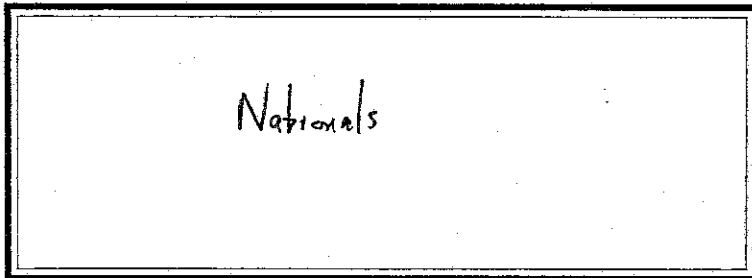
great being immature; however, being a fraternity member should enhance you socially. By this, I mean there are times and places for certain language behavior, sexual behavior, and call it: substance behavior. I expect you to control your language, hormones, and (potential) vices. Remember, we live in a risky society—don't take the chance unless you can bear the consequence. I expect you to realize who you are and where you are at; this will (or should) deter you from doing stupid things.

Finally, I expect objectivity on your part. Whether it's the pros or cons of an issue at a meeting, the role of your National Office, or a potential rushee, I expect

you to be objective in your evaluations. Disagree, yes, but don't be disagreeable. Look at issues from the other Brother's viewpoint, and ask yourself what a potential associate can add to the Chapter, not just what negatives he has (your job is to change those negatives). Don't deal with the National Office (or for that matter, the school administration) on an us/them basis; remember, just a couple of years ago, most of "them" were actually "us".

Thanks for the opportunity given to me to discuss my expectations. It feels good to not talk about indebtedness, a lack of members, a dirty house—whatever tends to be negative.

Epsilon Eta Chapter
Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity
P.O. Box 5030
Rock Hill, SC 29733



April 9th
is Epsilon Eta's
Rose Ball!
The brothers welcome all
alumni to attend!
Let us know if you're
interested ASAP!