

Phi Sigma Epsilon Delta Alumni Association

*Happy Thanksgiving
&
Merry Christmas*



Vol. 18 No. 2

Gary Brinkmeyer – Editor psebrink@mchsi.com

Fall 2008

Web Site Update by Tom Swanson

Exciting changes are coming to the alumni association web site. Many of you have noticed that our current site is not up and running. We made a little slip-up and allowed our domain name to expire. That problem has been rectified – however we still need to reactivate the site. Hopefully, by the time you read this, that task will have been accomplished. Because of those problems, everyone will receive a printed newsletter this issue.

The exciting news centers on the new web site, currently under development. We are well along in the process and are currently undergoing testing to make sure the site does what we want it to do. The new site will have interactive features that will allow you to do more than just read the posted information. Upon registering on the new site you will have the opportunity to enter as much or as little of your personal information as you like. You may designate what, if any, information you wish to share with other members. The general public, when visiting our site, will not have access to any of your information. To assure that only legitimate PSE alumni members can register, your registration will not be activated until it is reviewed and authorized by the site administrator.

In addition to having the information on the old website, the new site will have a forum area for discussions of any subject of interest to the membership. There is also an area for posting “news” that may be of interest to some or all of the members (news items will be reviewed by the administrator prior to posting). We will also have a calendar where significant dates/events may be noted. The site will have limited search features. Initially, you will be able to search for registered members by name or state of residence.

Once we have activated the new site, there will no longer be a printed newsletter. The bi-annual newsletter will be posted to the web site and registered members will receive an alert when it is posted. Non-registered members will be able to access the site to read the newsletter but will not have access to the other areas of the site. Your officers and directors have invested considerable time and expense on this project and are looking forward to rolling it out in the coming year. Once we are sure we have it right, there will be one more mailed newsletter in which we will give the complete details for the new site.

PSE Archives Room Progress Report with Pictures

The rush was on to get the PSE Archives Room ready by Homecoming Day, which was on October 18, 2008, in Charleston, IL. Except for the final floor covering (probably carpeting, although my wife wants laminate) and the restored and reframed original hammered aluminum crest that precedes the display of all other framed, small composites, the Archives Room is complete. It has been a labor of love and necessity for me, because as stated in previous Newsletters, I was desperately running out of room and I needed a place to display donated items to the PSE Alumni Assn.

As stated in the Spring 2008 issue of this Newsletter, the electrical work was completed, with the different insulations then being applied to the roof and walls prior to the interior wall coverings. Although the one large Archives Room is primarily what I will be discussing in this venue (12 ft. x 24 ft. with a sloped 4.5 ft. x 9 ft. ceiling), I was also actually working on an adjacent same-size room with a sloped 4.5 ft. x 13 ft. ceiling that had also been wired and insulated. This will be an additional room outside of my house for housing my expanding collection of old (and newer) breweriana (beer and brewery industry-related collectibles) that I started in Room 7 at the old Phi Sig

House in 1969. As I completed the wall treatments (slatwall on one wall and 12” spaced reverse batten board 4 x 8 sheets on 3 walls) in this room (the Beer Room – what else!), I began and completed the installation of the new knotty-pine, tongue and groove, 8” width car siding on the sloped ceiling. I was now ready to start work in the Archives Room. Everything that was stored in the Archives to allow work in the Beer Room now had to be moved into that room to allow unconstrained work in the Archives room. Lest you think “Hey, what’s the big deal – just move those few boxes of stuff”, let me clarify those contents. It amounted to an approximate 90 square feet of floor area comprising boxes, furniture, cabinets, clothing, books, etc. that was 4-5 feet high. After the transfer of contents was completed, I settled into the work of assembling the new walls and ceiling in the Archives Room. It is a clone of the Beer Room, except for the installation of a combination, wall-mounted high capacity air conditioner/heating unit, similar to those you might see in a motel room. It has enough capacity for both rooms, with air circulation between the rooms. Okay, fast forward now to mid-September. A primer coat of paint is applied to all the new wall surfaces, followed by a finish coat of paint that complements

continued on page 2

the original exterior wall (which is now an interior wall) that will display the crest. The slatwall is already pre-finished and requires no finish coating. With that being completed, a finish coat of clear Minwax Satin sealer was applied to the sloped ceiling car siding and all joints between differing directional surfaces are filled with clear silicone caulking prior to final trim installation.

Now the fun really begins! Menards had a sale on 12 inch x 3/4 inch x 4 ft. white-finished shelving, so I purchased what I needed for both rooms. I also acquired the slatwall shelf brackets to install the shelving and a display bracket called a 7-cube waterfall, like what you see in stores for showing clothes, again for both rooms. With slatwall, everything can be assembled very quickly. Some of the pictures show this wall assemblage – this really only took about one or two days to put together, what with having to final tag everything and clean all the stored glass items. Every item that was donated by someone from over the years has a "Donated by" tag affixed to it, with only about 6-8 items out of everything present not having a tag, because it was donated so long ago that it got lost in the shuffle and didn't get properly tagged.

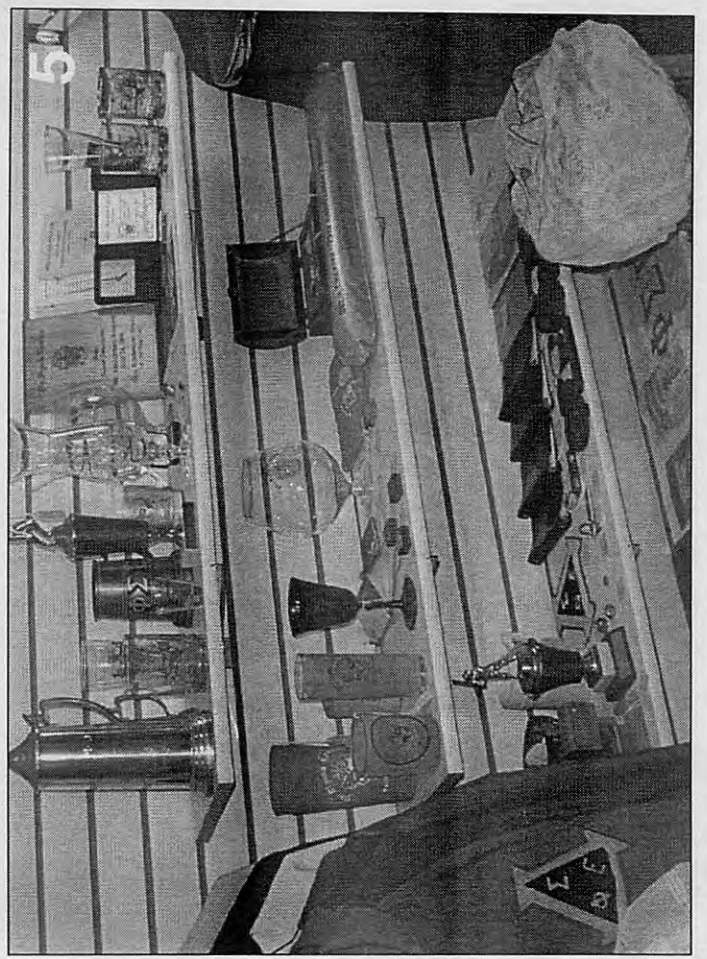
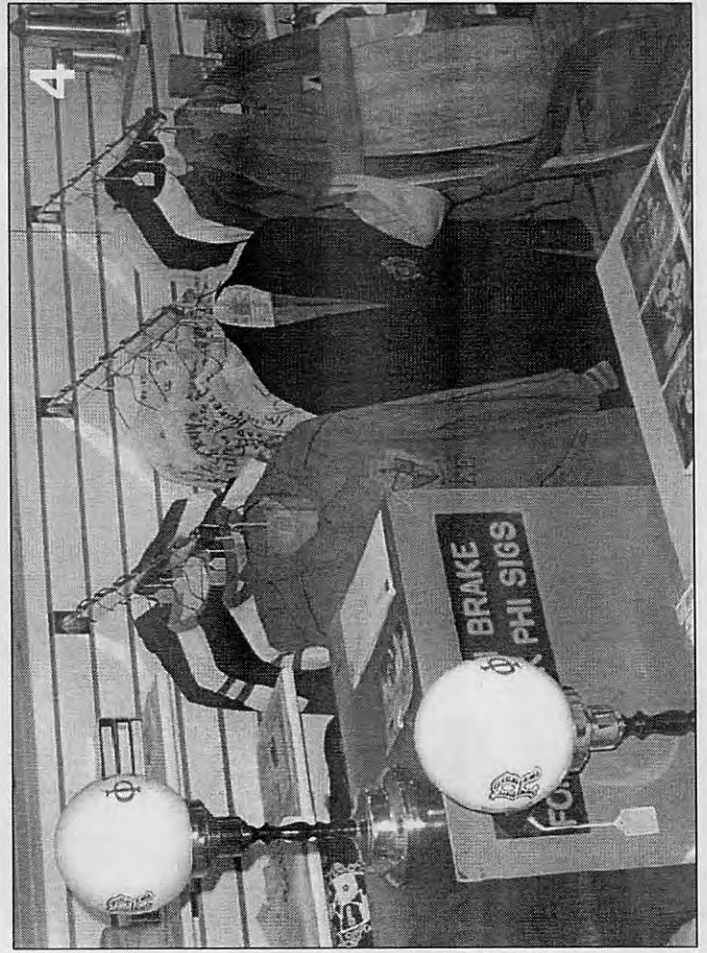
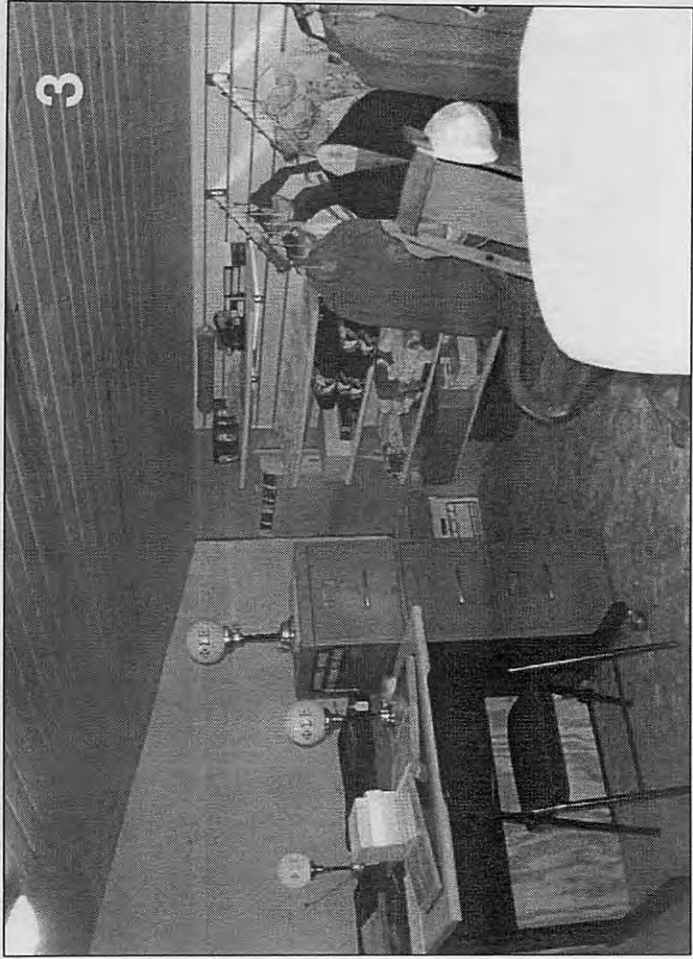
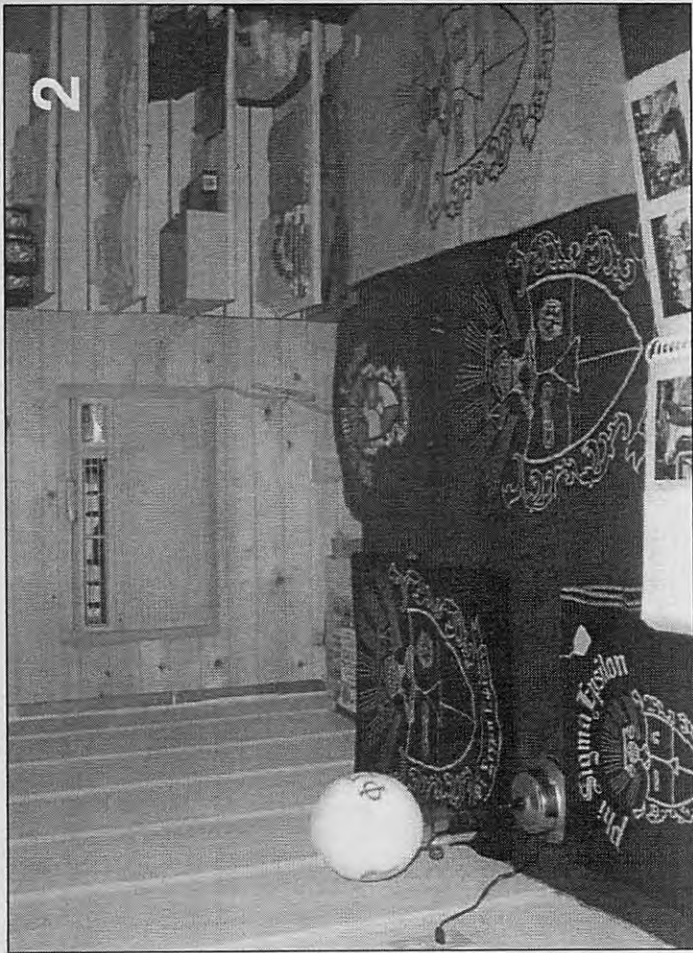
As you enter the PSE Archives Room down the stairs from the Beer Room, it all opens up in front of you and to the right of you as you proceed inward. I look at beginnings starting on the left and traveling clockwise, culminating in endings at the completion of the circle of time and travel – my wife says I'm kind of "anal" about stuff like that, but "Oh, well!" The numbered pictures follow around the room to show the different layouts in the room. Starting halfway down the stairs on your left is the beginning of life in the fraternity, commonly called pledging. Everything displayed relates to the "experience" including paper items such as "invitations to pledge", triangular paper ID tags, an original red-ink PSE sign that states "Phi Sigma Epsilon – Smoker – Thursday September 29th – 1509 Second St., – 7:30 PM – Dress Casual", pledge canes, worm T-shirts, a pledge class paddle¹ and on a shelf further into the room, signed pledge panties, several different pledge books and pledge man-

uals (old and new versions), pledge pins, burlap pledge undershirts and other assorted items. Proceeding clockwise around the room, there are many active membership items of clothes such as PSE jackets, sweatshirts and T-shirts, sports-related clothing, dress jackets (sporting sewn on crests) and other items that are hanging on waterfall bracket displays between the shelving display areas.⁴ Also present is fraternity jewelry (pins, rings, tie tacks, lavaliers), favors from Spring Formals, Reunions, Valentine Ball, and intramural and Greek Week trophies, all displayed on the white, 4-foot shelves between the hanging clothes.⁵ Continuing around clockwise is a futon sofa, two small end tables enclosed by two white swivel chairs, a free-standing bar displaying Big Brother-Little Brother paddles, a rocking chair⁶ and a bookcase with all the EIU Warblers from 1924 to present-day, as well as other Eastern souvenirs.⁸ Behind the bar with the hanging paddles and between the futon and the short wall is another display of various donations of clothes, again displayed on the cascading waterfall display brackets.⁷ Between the bookcase and the stairway entrance into the Archives is the wall that will display the old crest that is being framed, as well as eventually all the composites that we have, and the original PSE charters (one from 1910 and one from 1930) that are being reframed. We also have the old, original red file box from the officers room filled with all the original documents and papers from the mid-80's and going back from there, against that wall.⁹ With that, our travel circumventing the room clockwise brings you back to the entrance stairs and ending out through the Beer Room. One area I forgot to mention is on the short wall directly across from the stairway entrance – it is a 5-shelf unit that houses all the PSE supplies, past favors, decals, sweatshirts, polo shirts, T-shirts, beer coozies, desk clocks, transfers, clappers, etc. that are the property of the PSE Alumni Assn. and are for sale to PSE Alumni.³ Between that shelf unit and the entrance is a raised platform area that has laid out on it, numerous examples of different-styled PSE-crested blankets² – that platform also serves as a backdrop for a desk and chair, as well as the working file cabinet. Scattered

throughout the room are multiple examples of the same Spring Formal bar lamp that must have been very popular in the early '60's time period as a favor.

So, that's it! I thoroughly enjoyed putting all this together and I appreciate the confidence that you have shown me in allowing me to be a caretaker for what were and are important mementoes in your lives. I also want to state categorically, that since everything is "Donated by" tagged, it is your property and you would be welcome to its return to you, should you request it. That being said, I would hope that you will now avail yourself to stop in whenever in the area and have a look-see at the repository of memorabilia that relates to our history of Phi Sigma Epsilon-Delta Chapter at Eastern Illinois University.







PSE Eighteenth Annual Student Awards

On Sunday, August 23, 2008, the PSE Alumni Assn. held its annual presentation of the Phi Sigma Epsilon Alumni Assn. Student Awards. This was a later than normal startup date for EIU, but the weather cooperated beautifully for the Noon luncheon, followed by the 1 PM Awards presentation and subsequent visiting between board members, students and parents. And, we



Submitted Photo
Pictured are scholarship recipients Jennifer Moore, Danielle Hickey, Landon Arney, and alumni association President Jim Luthie of Lawrenceville.

Phi Sigma Epsilon Alumni Association awards scholarships

CHARLESTON — The Phi Sigma Epsilon Alumni Association awarded \$500 each to three students at the beginning of Eastern Illinois University's fall semester.

Awards were given this year to freshman Jennifer Moore, daughter of Jeff and Linda Moore of Charleston; freshman Landon Arney, son of Larry and Laura Arney of Effingham; and sophomore Danielle "Lita" Hickey, daughter of Daniel and

Christina Hickey of Lake in the Hills.

Arney is the grandson of John and Joyce Dively of Charleston. Christina (Patterson) Hickey is a former Charleston resident.

The alumni association for Phi Sigma Epsilon, which closed its EIU chapter more than 15 years ago, annually gives awards to help with tuition expenses for EIU students whose parents were members of the fraternity.

Gary Brinkmeyer, vice president and treasurer for the association, said an award endowment was formed with the help of proceeds from Phi Sigma Epsilon's EIU chapter selling its property in Charleston.

"We thought this would be something worthwhile to help out students," Brinkmeyer said. "We have given away almost \$50,000 in awards now to different students over the years."

sent all the leftover luncheon food back with the students, in the form of a Sunday evening or later dinner that included baked chicken breast, pork BBQ, baked beans, potato salad, HB buns and of course the coup de grace, brownies with chocolate frosting. Of course, they are never leftover.

For the first time, the local newspaper (*Charleston Times-Courier*) published an article about our yearly endowment for these EIU students this year. Having tried in past years to get an article in the paper, the newspaper had always been reticent to do it for free as a public service, because the previous student awardees had no connection to the Charleston community. As you can discern from the enclosed published article, they could no longer make that case and therefore we got our article in the paper. I am including it, because it represents the good efforts and name that we as the PSE alumni organization have strived to achieve after the debacle of the mid-'80's. As well as the picture in the article, there is the photo below showing the PSE Dads that were present with their students.



Pictured left to right: Jeff Moore, Jennifer Moore, Lita Hickey, Landon Arney and Larry Arney. Missing was Dan Hickey.

Thomas A. Grud Scholarship

On Christmas Day 1965, Thomas A. Grud was killed in Viet Nam, becoming the only member of Phi Sigma Epsilon-Delta Chapter to die in the Viet Nam War. Shortly after, his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Walter J. Grud, established the Eastern Illinois University Thomas Anthony Grud Memorial Scholarship, which is administered through the EIU Foundation. It is presented annually to a male EIU student who is in good academic standing, belongs to a men's social fraternity and has also earned a portion of his college expenses. An article from our local paper in mid-June, stated that the scholarship had been awarded to a local Charleston student, who is a senior majoring in business finance. It is heartening to see that there is much charity and good still emanating from his most untimely demise.

E-mail Addresses

Michael T. Mannix - janmannix@yahoo.com
Michael L. Weller - mlwoodduck@yahoo.com
John J. Jachino - jachino@gircs.net
Stephen F. Weller - stevefeller@comcast.net
Dave G. Norris - dndrakes@hotmail.com
Lloyd B. Ludwig - lmludwig1@gmail.com
James E. Holtwisch - jim.holtwisch@attachmate.com
Michael W. Maguire - mikeofj@sbcglobal.net
Gene G. Girard - K3949g@embarqmail.com
Austin W. Opp - mopp1@att.net

Brothers Eternal

The Phi Sigma Epsilon Alumni Association is once again saddened to report to you the death of a number of Brothers of the Heart from over the years. Let us however, take solace in the fact that we are better for having known them.

Joseph C. Stone
Ralph D. Hart
James D. Cutlip
Roy K. Wilson
Leslie E. Milby

G. Dale Vaughn
Calvin K. Clark
Gerald W. Ferguson
Henry A. Carter

New Addresses

David L. Dickerson - 4663 44th St., Holland, MI 49423, (616) 688-7366
Ronald A. Debolt - N8850 Cunningham Lane, Spooner, WI 54801
Alpha D. Perfetti - 2040 Ashley River Rd.- Apt. 202, Charleston, SC 29407
Stephen E. Littleton - 151 Imperial Crown Way - Unit F, Grover, MO 63040
William D. Cavins - 14555 E. Hampden Ave., Apt. 353, Aurora, CO 80014
Stephen F. Weller - 0080 Donegan Rd., Glenwood Springs, CO 81601, (970) 945-4954
Michael W. Maguire - 32 Meadow Rue Dr., Edwardsville, IL 62025
George A. Barbour - 6160 Old State Rd., Mattoon, IL 61938 (217) 234-8926

PSE Tidbits

The annual Phi Sig Open golf outing was once again commemorated with some outstanding play and partying (later) on Saturday, May 31, 2008. This year Tom Swanson (aka Swanny), put together the day-long soiree at the Minne Monesse Golf Club, just outside of Grant Park, IL, near Kankakee. He later opened up his home (more specifically his garage) for after-golf refreshments (liquid & food, including many of LaDonna's recipes and her to-die-for frosted cupcakes). Twenty-three Phi Sigs, including first-timer Steve Rakich and distance-traveler John Ziebarth (Ames, IA) were among those who played on what turned out to be a perfect day. I thank my foursome partners, Kirk Davis, Ken Dennison and Steve Grishaber for putting up with my bad golf play, but as they say: "A bad day of golf is still better than a good day of work".

Donations of Phi Sig memorabilia continue to come into the PSE Alumni Assn. possession from Brothers who are seeking a new home for their prized keepsakes. Here is a listing of those who donated and what they donated:

Jerry Brendel – Jerry donated his Phi Sigma Epsilon active membership gold pin, triangular-shaped with black background and Greek PSE letters and a Greek-lettered PSE silver ring with the letters embossed into the face setting.

Kirk Davis – After previously donating his "worm" t-shirt, Kirk also donated his pledge cane, the official "pledge book" of information we all had to maintain, the Phi Sigma Epsilon Pledge Manual and a TSMF intramural football jersey.

John Benline – I received this donation from Carl Wolff (who owns Gateway Liquors), who recently received it from John Benline (I believe he is a rep in the liquor supply industry). John donated his "worm" T-shirt, two "pledge books", a navy-blue

color-crested large blanket, a memorial plaque, a foam coozie from the 1981 Spring Formal, a 1983 composite picture, a sew-on pin-shaped crest like those on our long, gray, leather-sleeved PSE heavy jackets, a small hand towel with large, red Greek PSE letters on it and a bumper sticker-like sign that says "Warning - I Brake for Drunk Phi Sigs".

Thank you to all of you for your donations – they are already incorporated into the display of items within the Archives Room. If you get the chance, stop by for a visit and probably, "a cold beer", whilst we live in the past for a little while.

The consensus of opinion at the last two PSE Alumni Assn. board meetings, including discussions with other non-board members, is that we should definitely plan to have another Phi Sigma Epsilon Alumni Assn. Reunion, following the same 5-year interlude of time between them. Because our last one (75th Anniversary) was in June 2005, that infers that we should schedule our 80th Anniversary Reunion for June 2010 and indeed, that is what we are now planning. Because it takes considerable time anymore for advance planning, scheduling and reservations, we are now giving you that same notice. You should now pencil in June 2010 as a bookmark for a future event that you will not want to miss. A firm date will be forthcoming in the Spring '09 issue of this Newsletter. You know, we are not getting any younger and every 5 years is a lot of time between Reunions. Knowing that the bulk of our group has reached the "baby boomer" age, retirement and social security, but hopefully not infirmity, it behooves us to plan on getting together again and remember all the good times we enjoyed in our youth. So, mark down June 2010 as a red-letter date to invigorate our aging bodies and inspire our always young spirit.

Phi Sigma Epsilon
Delta Alumni Assn.
P.O. Box 931
Charleston, IL 61920

