



# Phi Sigma Epsilon Delta Alumni Association

Vol. 3 No. 2

Fall 1993

## Phi Sigs - Delta Chapter - The First House

Besides the Brotherhood and friendly camaradery, what was the most important aspect of your Fraternity life? If you guessed the HOUSE, you guessed right. If you think back on it, what else could it be? Even today as we get together in small groups or visit as friends, the musings of life in the House always seems to come to the forefront. It may be remembrances of wild or funny room activities, social gatherings where maybe you met your life partner, great parties or the infamous HELL WEEK.

For many of us it represented our home away from home, even if you didn't live there. For those of us who lived in a House, I'm sure it conjures up many good and happy memories. Since I can only relate to having lived in one House, I must regress to the days when other Brothers lived in other Houses that were once the Delta Chapter House of Phi Sigma Epsilon at EIU.

Most of us know little about the early years of Phi Sigma Epsilon at EIU or Eastern Illinois State Teachers College as it was previously called. After researching old Eastern newspapers on microfilm in the Library, we think we have been able to come up with some interesting historical information about the first House at Eastern. Some of this will be completely new to our



younger members and some may possibly stir up memories for some older Brothers.

The first Phi Sig House at Eastern stood then, much as it does today, at 1010 Sixth Street (the corner of Sixth & Polk Streets) in Charleston. Phi Sig occupancy at this residence began September 1, 1930 and we continued occupancy until

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## Phi Sig Memorabilia Update

As promised in the Spring'93 Newsletter, we can now finally resolve a most sordid chapter in the history of PSE, that being the "trashing" of the House and its contents when the University revoked the PSK charter.

We have had the remaining salvaged, mostly damaged PSE memorabilia in temporary storage for a number of years, trying to decide on its fate. When we decided to offer it on a first come, first serve basis, it was done with the assumption that the memorabilia survived the long storage intact.

Upon recent inspection of the stored items, it was found to be rodent-infested, stained and mildewed to the point of being of no value anymore, even for sentimental purposes. Except for a few pieces, the PSE memorabilia has now been permanently stored away, this time in the local landfill. The following items are still in our possession and will be offered on a first-come, first-serve basis to anyone requesting them and providing the shipping expenses. There are 3 different wall plaques.

They state the following or include the following photo-plaque picture.

1) 1st Place-Bike Race-Phi Sigma Epsilon Fraternity-1979 Greek Week Games. the photo-plaque picture includes Austin Opp, Steve Brown, Rusty Boone, Mike Mintern.

2) 1st Place-Little Man Tug-Phi Sigma Epsilon Fraternity-1979 Greek Week Games. The photo-plaque picture includes Ned Annable, Jim Holtwisch, Austin Opp, Rusty Boone, Mark Drah, Steve Brown, Dave Panicucci, and Coach Mike Mintern. One individual remains unidentified.

3) The third plaque has many small nameplates on it—it probably was a Phi Sig Pledge of the Year plaque or similar. The large title nameplate is missing, as are some smaller plates, but the engraved small nameplates include the following names and years. They are Dave Klemm 78-79, Gary Davis 79-80, Bill Carpenter 80-81, Bob Chapman 81-82 and Steve Rakich 82-83.

## New Phi Sig Hats

At an early June golf outing at Balmoral Woods, in the South-Chicago area, the newly designed and created Phi Sig hat (see picture) made its debut. Again, Jim Porter ("Woody"-1970) has taken an idea that was being discussed amongst many and carried it to fruition. Woody specified the details of the hat to the company he works for, Specialty Advertising Corp. in North Riverside, Illinois, and they again provided a quality product, as they did with the PSE window decal.

We wish that color photos could go with this Newsletter, but lacking that, here is the color description of the hat. It is a baseball-style hat, medium-gray in color, cotton composition and fully expandable at the back, with a red braided decorative rope across the bill of the hat. The red, silver, gold and black PSE crest and banner are machine stitched (not a transfer or silk-screen) as are the words "Phi Sigma Epsilon" above the crest and "Eastern Illinois Alumni" in black stitching below the crest. The result is an extremely attractive and functional hat that proudly announces our fraternity and university. It's a great golf hat too, as we later found out.

The PSE Alumni Assn. has made an initial purchase of these hats from Specialty Advertising Corp. and is offering them to Phi Sig Alumni for \$8.00 each plus an additional \$2.00 shipping when necessary. So why don't you save yourself two bucks and pick one up at Homecoming or any time from the PSE Alumni Assn.

Thanks again Woody, for all your efforts in providing the PSE Alumni Assn. with an abiding reminder of the good times we shared in school and continue to have when we get together.



## Homecoming—October 23, 1993

On Homecoming Day each year at our business meeting, a slate of nominees is advanced to the current PSE Alumni Assn. officers for consideration of Alumni Assn. upcoming officer nominations. These nominations take place on the first regularly scheduled Alumni Assn. meeting following Homecoming, typically sometime in November.

This year's meeting will be held Homecoming Day at 12 noon in the McDonald's Restaurant within the older, original part of the Union, now called the Martin Luther King, Jr. Union.

Please take time to attend this meeting. It is important to the PSE Alumni Assn. to find out what you think about present ongoings and future anticipations.

## Third Annual Student Awards Recipients

The "interest" fairy was not as kind to the Phi Sigma Epsilon Alumni Assn. this year during the presentation of the monetary Student Awards. Again, for the third consecutive year, the Phi Sigma Epsilon Alumni Assn. is proud to have contributed financial help this year, in the form of \$350.00 checks to each of seven EIU students.

As you know from the past Newsletters, the PSE Alumni Assn. has been able to financially contribute \$500.00 individual Student Awards to 16 qualified students during the first two years. This year marks the first downturn in the amount pledged to each Award, but was necessary by the present investment economy. The only source of money for these awards is from investment interest income, and I'm sure everyone reading this can relate to the kind of earnings available right now.

Notwithstanding that however, on a beautiful August 22, 1993 Sunday, the PSE Alumni Assn. again hosted the Student Award recipients and their parents to our version of a sit-down dinner, that being a more relaxing outdoor picnic, again this year at the Kiwanis Park Pavilion in Charleston. It appears that everyone present had an enjoyable time again, seeing old friends and

meeting new ones, and from the comments received by the Board, the informality of the occasion also appeals to everyone.

Graduation has taken several of our past Student Award recipients to new endeavors. However, we were still able to help 5 Eastern students that were in the original class of Award recipients. Those receiving the Student Award for a third consecutive year were Tracy Swanson of Grant Park, daughter of Tom Swanson, Paige Hood of Belleville, daughter of Dick Hood, Nicole Collins of Crystal Lake, daughter of Gary Collins, Mari Beth Long of Springfield, daughter of Roger Long and Karin Garbe of Edwardsville, daughter of Gale Garbe. Additionally, Christopher Perry of Naperville, son of Richard Perry received his second Award, while Bradley Neathery of Decatur, son of Lynn Neathery, was the lone rookie Award recipient this year.

The occasion of the annual Student Awards is something that the PSE Alumni Assn. and more specifically the PSE Board genuinely anticipates. We see it as a gesture of philanthropy in honor of Brothers who have passed through the halls of PSE and whose children now follow in **DADS** footsteps, inasmuch as they too attend EIU.



## Bios & Addresses

**Lynn Neathery** - 3750 N. Woodford, Apt. 701, Decatur, IL 62526. New address after Nov. 15, 1993 will be 3536 Pleasant View Ct., Decatur, IL 62526, (217) 875-3989. Graduated from EIU in 1975. Has been employed in the agricultural credit field since graduation, living in Central Illinois; Memphis, Tennessee for eight years with W. R. Grace & Co. and two years with Bartlett & Co. Presently employed by ADM in Decatur as Area Credit Manager. Wife Linda is employed by Maritz Travel Co. while son Phil is a junior at Warrensburg-Latham High School and Bradley, a Student Award recipient, is a freshman at EIU.

**Paul Anderko** - 2516 Morningside Drive, Bedford, TX 76021 (817) 571-7743. Graduated from EIU in 1971. Lived in Elgin, Illinois area for 14 years prior to moving to Texas in 1985. Regional salesman over a 6-state area for Simpson Door Co. Paul and wife Maureen have three boys, Paul Jr. - 15, Keith - 14 and Mark - 12. Paul has been very active as both a coach and assistant coach in the Youth Soccer Program. Recently, he stopped by in Charleston to visit local alumni board members.

**Charles Venarsky** - 10 Blossom Lake Lane, Glen Carbon, IL 62034 **Daniel N. Sherrick** - 6228 Aquavista Dr., Sebring, FL 33870 **Tom Adamitis** - 1224 Santa Barbara, San Diego, CA 92107 **Richard A. Elke** - 993 Pacific Ave., Apt. B, Hoffman Estates, IL 60194 **Roger Hellinga** - 202 W. Wood St., New Lenox, IL 60451

## Missing

Dave Sakata  
Bob Frost  
Roy K. Wilson  
Jim Tucker  
Bob Jacobs  
Art Steele  
Frank Consiglio  
Darrell Turner  
Garyl Seiler  
Dave Hansing  
Kirk Hile  
Dawn M. Neil  
Royce Reed  
Charles Stokely  
Carl D. Hance  
Hugh C. Harwood  
Ron Spraggins  
Jeff Miller

James Nugent  
Alex Amigoni  
William E. Kessler  
Thomas Andres  
James M. Ford  
Michael D. Greear  
Carl Yates  
Jerry Boles  
Larry Sargent  
Mel Tamaye  
Dan Lathrop  
Donald R. Ackman  
Ted Teegarden  
Jim Tiburzi  
Pete Klein  
Eric Seymen  
William Rotolo  
Frank Wyland



## PSE South—Planning Another Reunion

As if the St. Louis area Phi Sigs didn't have a good enough time together last fall at Fast Eddy's Bonair Bar and Grill in Alton, Illinois (see Fall 1992 Newsletter article), they are planning on doing it again with a larger turnout. As before, Larry Carli and Jim "SAC" Davis are behind the organization for this reunion. It is tentatively set for Saturday, October 30, 1993, using the Saturday as a hopeful draw instead of Friday, for more Brothers to show up. Phi Sig Brother Bob Hilligoss (1964) has graciously offered to host the reunion at his restaurant/bar establishment called "The Shoe Factory" in Alton, Illinois, from 7 p.m. until who knows. It offers seating for about 95 people and we have it to

ourselves, since Bob has decided to close it for the evening for our exclusive use. Sounds like this could be a grand opportunity for cheap talk and living in the past. Further details can be obtained from Larry Carli, 1965 Ox Bow Lane, St. Louis, Mo. 63138 at (314) 355-3097 or Jim "SAC" Davis, c/o Mitchell School, 316 E. Chain of Rocks Rd., Granite City, IL 62040 at (618) 797-2460.

Mark it on your Calendars. What about it, you PSE-Northerners? How about a North Reunion so we can announce it in the Newsletter.

## P.S.E. TIDBITS

The large glass-doored walnut trophy case that was donated to Ikes Bar (Fall'91 Newsletter) has unfortunately found another and final resting place, the landfill.

Unbeknownst to the PSE Alumni Assn, Ikes Bar decided to scrap the trophy case after a potentially serious incident took place. It appears that a patron at the bar leaned back too far into one of the large glass sliding doors while seated in a chair.

Because of the age of the trophy case, the sliding glass doors were not safety glass and when the glass broke, the upper part literally become an impromptu guillotine. Fortunately, no one was severely injured.

Sadly, the trophy case's demise marks the end of another chapter of PSE history at EIU.

## NEWSLETTERS AVAILABLE

This issue of the P.S.E. Alumni Association Newsletter represents the sixth issue since the Spring 1991 initial newsletter. The Spring Newsletter is followed by its Fall counterpart for each year. For those of you who did not receive any particular newsletter, we do have extras available and will be happy to forward a copy to you upon request - let us know.

## P.S.E. T-SHIRTS/SWEATSHIRTS

Because we are short on space with this issue and because we have pictured the T-shirt/sweatshirts that are available in all back Newsletter issues, we need only to mention that everything previously pictured is available in virtually all sizes. In fact we have just acquired sweatshirts in XXL size, any style also. The T-shirts and sweatshirts are 50/50 blends and the sweatshirts are Russell Athletic brand name. We are holding the price on T-shirts at \$10 but sweatshirts have gone from \$18 to \$20, which includes all shipping costs for singles or quantity.

## Phi Sigs - Delta Chapter - The First House *from page 1*

### *From page 1*

January 1, 1935, when the Phi Sigs moved into the second PSE House. But more about that House in the Spring '94 Newsletter.

Historically, the House at 1010 Sixth Street was built in 1906 by John Shortess, who operated the Fuller & Fuller Lumber & Coal Yard, and it thereby became known as the Shortess House. An article in the Eastern newspaper dated June 17, 1930 states "The Phi Sigs have secured the Shortess house on Sixth Street for their home for next winter and will move into it about September first. The members of the fraternity are quite pleased with their new house."

It was built during the building boom of large houses, shortly after the Normal School (EIU now) was started in 1895. The Pictorial Landscape History of Charleston, Illinois describes the Shortess house as a "Cube house that exhibits Neo-classicism styling", or more simply expressed, it is a large Colonial residence. A September 8, 1930 Eastern newspaper article states "The house . . . is a nine-room residence with a sleeping porch" and that "The new house is a large Colonial style affair with huge white pillars rising to the top of the second floor. It is finished with hardwood floors throughout and is ideally arranged for the fraternity's purposes. Its proximity to school and the business district also serve to make it a fine location."

A recent meeting with Irvin V. Singler of Nokomis (PSE President - 1932), who happened to be in Charleston for an EI (Athletic Club) meeting, yielded a wealth of everyday goings-on information.

There were about 30 Phi Sigs in the active chapter at the time, with about 20 of those (including Irvin) living at the Sixth Street House in groups of four per room. The House offered no cooking or dining room facilities, as later Houses did, since the homeowner also lived there. A long-gone restaurant on Lincoln

Avenue, the Sig Bell Restaurant, apparently was a favorite amongst Phi Sigs, with full plate meals costing 50-60 cents and breakfasts even less. But before breakfast, all students were required to attend morning Chapel services, by request of Dr. Livingston Lord, the first Eastern president. The standard dress of the day was suit/sportcoat and tie not only for Chapel, but for class also. However, after classes, Phi Sigs then, as when we were in school, were very active in intercollegiate athletics and the social scene present at the time. The three primary sports of the day, football, baseball and basketball found numerous Phi Sigs in leadership and player roles. Socially, Phi Sigs attended and sponsored many get-togethers with other students in general and Pem Hall women specifically. These gatherings ranged from informal picnics, bridge parties, House dances and smokers to the more formal Fall Frolic, Spring Formal and even the Mid-Winter Semi-Formal. The Lowery Clark Band of the day seemed to be very popular for these functions that were chaperoned by PSE advisors Simeon Thomas and Kevin Guinaugh, who were Eastern teachers at the time.

Hopefully, this exposé has given you a glimpse of the PSE beginnings, that for all its differences, is also very reflective of the not so distant past that many of us younger Phi Sigs can relate to.

My sincere thanks to Irvin Singler for taking the time to provide much information for this article.

**HOMECOMING -  
OCTOBER 23, 1993**



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