



Phi Sigma Epsilon Delta Alumni Association

Vol. 5 No. 1

Spring 1995

Phi Sigs - Delta Chapter – The Fourth House

Due to several unforeseen circumstances, specifically this editor breaking his leg in February while skiing and also a major EIU archives "snafu" with the microfilm of old Eastern newspapers, my research for this House will not be as extensive as it could be. I will endeavor to bring you the "rest of the story" or at least important developments in the Fall '95 PSE Newsletter.

I did recently receive several old EIU newspapers from a local auction, one of which was dated Wednesday, Sept. 21, 1938, featuring an article titled "Phi Sig Alumni Purchase Large Residence on Ninth." The byline states that "Actives spend opening week remodeling, redecorating new 16-room domain", and as you can discern from the present picture of this house, it is a very large, well-cared-for house. The article states that "Headed by Lealyn Clapp and Hugh Harwood, the Alumni Association Inc. of Phi Sigma Epsilon fraternity last month purchased a large 16-room house, including dormitory, at 1431 Ninth Street in Charleston, which now houses 20 active members." It goes on further to inform that "For the last two weeks carpenters and members have been remodeling and redecorating the whole interior of the house. It now boasts three living rooms downstairs, seven second-floor study rooms, and a modern shower room in the basement. The dormitory on the third floor provides sleeping quarters for the whole house. In the near future those in charge plan to buy a new overstuffed suite for the downstairs, and shortly thereafter the house will be thrown open for inspection by the whole school."

Reflecting back to the Fall '94 Newsletter to tie in the purchase of this House with the previous rental of houses, you may recall that they were in Sept. 1937, obliged to accept a 1-year lease on the Fourth St. PSE House after having had their Seventh St. PSE House sold out from under them in May 1937. Knowing that, the Alumni Assn. of 1937-38 had time to seek a residence that would fulfill their growing needs and that residence is the feature of this article. The dining service that was started in 1936 did continue through the 2 moving transitions to the 1431 Ninth St. residence. The same aforementioned Teachers College News article states "James Rice, quartermaster, reports that the Phi Sig dining service is now in full swing, accommodating 34 fellows. 'We have two new electric ranges and an electric stove,' he states. Emmett Shipley, '40, and Evon Higgins, '40, are chief cooks."

We must now necessarily proceed from 1938 past the "snafu" at EIU with no Eastern newspapers for information, and stop right around the early fifties, near the end of the Ninth St. House and the beginning of our last House, located at 1509 Second St. More about that House in the Fall '95 Newsletter.

John Simmons ('53 - "The Toe") graciously provided the last bits of history that we have for 1431 Ninth St., when he wrote this editor about his recollections of the time. He relates "Now about our chapter. We consistently swept about 3/4 of class offices. We



made it a point to select outstanding men from all departments across the campus. Then we would campaign for our men throughout those departments for class offices. This is what was amazing." It is now clear why there were always Phi Sigs serving as class officers, as noted in many of the old EIU Warbler yearbooks. I'll bet we would like to be paying the expenses of the early 50's in our own time too, although they were probably similarly relative to the pay of the day. As John remembers them, it cost \$6.00 per week to live at the House (\$216.00/year), plus an additional \$162.00 per year for food, which included your own cooking, buying, serving and cleaning up. Fraternity dues were \$36.00 per year and just for comparison sake to now, tuition was \$105.00 per year. To conclude, John recalls "I believe we had approximately 20 guys in the House and we slept in an upstairs dorm. We had meetings, parties, pledge smokers, pledge initiations, food service, played poker and pinochle, sponsored the Crystal Ball at the college, and what I remember most was the bull sessions we had about every night from 10:00 to 11:00 p.m. We had an outstanding group of men and belonging was a real learning experience."

From my personal perspective of a different time, not much has changed from what John experienced, except we had no food service or Crystal Ball, and of course, things were a bit more expensive. If you have any interesting stories about life at 1431 Ninth St. or more especially next Fall's feature House at 1509 Second St., let us know at the PSE Alumni Assn., so they can be shared.

Third PSE-South Reunion – Many New Faces

The 3rd Annual PSE-South Reunion has come and gone since the last Newsletter. It was again organized by Jim "Sac" Davis and Larry Carli, who originated it and continue to look forward to putting it all together. Unfortunately for the St. Louis area Brothers, last year was Sac's final one, as he is retiring to the Las Vegas area. Best of luck, Sac!

This past Reunion was held on November 5, 1994, at Eddy's Lounge in Granite, City, IL., and was attended by 26 Brothers. There were a number of the faithful present, who have attended all three Reunions or at least two of them, and of course there were welcome new faces. Attending their first Reunion was Dave Norris and wife Cheryl, Bob Stephenson (Baylor), Pat Wesley (Dawg), Dick Swing (Swinger), Larry Reed (Gomer) and Ken Gusewelle (Goose), as well as the Casey gang mentioned later in the article. They were part of the larger group, many with wives, that included Larry Carli (Carls) and wife Donna, Dwayne Chaney (Big Boone) and wife Mary Anne, Mel Medder and wife Kitty, Bill Granger and wife Lynn, Otto Daech (Toot) and wife Mary Ellen, Jim (Sac) Davis and wife Mary and Randy Richardson (Rich) with his friend Linda Floyd. Rounding out the attendance was Gary Brinkmeyer (Brink), Gaylen Chaney (Boone), Roger Long (R.L.), Randy Rothrock, Al Ortegren, Bob Colter, Jerry McChristian and Steve Ringhofer (Ringo).

The surprise of the evening though, was the arrival of Bob (Bull) Durham with four of his local Casey, IL. friends, all of whom were Phi Sigs at EIU in the early 60's. This Casey connection included Phil Partlow, Larry Sharp (Redeye), Mike Collins and Larry Matthews (L.D.). They had slipped through the address crack in the PSE Alumni Assn. Roster, so it was great to get them in the listing. In addition, it was even more special, since we got to meet them and visit with them. Larry Matthews (L.D.) even brought one of his old Phi Sig T-shirts as well as his original signed pledge T-shirt that we all remember so well from our meeting room days.

Although the upstairs area in Eddy's Lounge was being remodeled into an upper bar area, we did have the area to ourselves, which facilitated a free flow of cheap talk and stories



about life in the past. The old stories and jokes have been told time and again, and contrary to being stale, they are just as funny now as they were then, if not more so. There is a bond which unites us Phi Sigs, a bond that is incomprehensible to many other people around us, who still are amazed that we continue to get together after all these years. What they don't know, they could never know. The bond of shared experiences that we can all relate to is what nurtures our ongoing efforts to "get together". The fourth Annual PSE Reunion is already in the works and we hope to see even more Brothers together again.

PSE Tidbits

– **The PSE Alumni Assn.** wishes to extend its sympathy to both Gene Everett ('71) of Gibson City, IL. and Gene's wife Sue, upon the recent loss of both their mothers and our sympathy also to Dwayne ('63) and Gaylen ('73) Chaney (better known to many of us Brothers as "Big Boone" and "Boone"), upon the recent loss of their father.

– **The Spring '95 Eastern Alumnus Newsletter** just received, featured a newsnote about PSE Brother John R. Simons ('53), who recently made some golf history of his own. Winning the 1994 Handicap Culbert John Hills Golf Club Championship in Edinboro, PA., he also made a hole-in-one with a four-wood on a 206 yard par 3, and to add insult to injury to us less fortunate duffers, it was his lifetime fifth hole-in-one. Is there an instructional hole-in-one video in this story, John? John also recently retired from teaching at Edinboro University and was in Charleston for his 40th Class Reunion in 1993.

– **EIU Homecoming '95** is back to the more normal time of the playing season after being so early last year. This year's Homecoming Football game will be on Saturday, October 28, 1995, at 2 p.m. against the Illinois State Redbirds, who are always ready to play the Panthers of EIU. It should be a great game, so plan to be here.

Homecoming
October 28, 1995

Newsletters Available

This issue of the P.S.E. Alumni Association Newsletter represents the ninth 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.

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.

Wendell K. Davis

Burl Ives

Welcome, New Readers

As you peruse this Newsletter, now beginning its fifth year of PSE circulation, many of you may be reading it for the first time or reading it again after an interlude of time from when you last read it. If so, we welcome you back into the Phi Sigma Epsilon Alumni Assn., an organization that is still very active in spite of or perhaps because of the fact that Phi Sigma Epsilon, as many of us remember it, does not physically exist anymore. However, it does exist in the heart, and that is more important.

Due to an extensive name and address search through the newly published Eastern Illinois University Alumni Directory, many recently found Phi Sig Brothers address information etc. have been entered into the PSE Alumni Assn. computerized address directory. As well as finding many long-lost Phi Sigs, many addresses have been updated for correctness, even down to changed telephone numbers and zip codes from this EIU Directory and also from post office first class mailing returns and personalized notification. Our address directory now contains

about 700 currently correct addresses for Delta Chapter Phi Sigs going back to 1931. Besides the address, we also maintain as much as possible, the phone numbers, year of graduation, nicknames that we may have carried during our undergraduate years, and those now deceased, when known.

We hope that you enjoy reading the Newsletter. If you would like to comment, good or bad, about anything, we elicit your remarks, and also seek input as to the types of articles or information you would like to see in upcoming Newsletters. It is the personal goal of the PSE Alumni Assn. to complete the address search this year and to also include in the new directory the complete listing of all known Delta Chapter Phi Sigs since 1930, even if an address or status isn't known. Perhaps recognition of a long-lost name without an address will remind any one of us that we have that Brother's address or even that we still communicate with that person

Summer 1996 PSE Reunion Plans

During the PSE Alumni Board meeting of March 5, 1995, discussions ensued relative to the proposed Summer 1995 Phi Sig Reunion as discussed in the Spring 1994 Newsletter. Following these discussions, a motion was made to postpone the Reunion until the Summer of 1996 and was passed unanimously.

To update you on what brought us to this point, we offer the following. Originally, EIU was chosen by the Alumni Assn. to both house those attending in a dorm setting and to provide facilities for the planned brunches and banquet. However, in numerous discussions with Eastern, there was an extremely tight time use for dorm use and very restrictive accommodations relating to any alcohol use, leading us to conclude that we

should look elsewhere. Local motels with facilities for banquets could not meet our room and banquet needs for any given date, with the exception of one motel in Mattoon. By the time we finally ascertained all this information, it became obvious that our time line would be too tight to still consider having it this Summer.

As we have stated, we want to tentatively begin planning the PSE Reunion for the Summer of 1996. To plan it properly, we are seeking input from you. The Reunion is **on** and will happen next Summer. Be a part of it and help us out in determining its future.

Addresses & Bios

Mike Collins – P.O. Box 426, Casey, IL 62420
Larry D. Matthews – #3 Court Five, Effingham, IL 62401
Phil Partlow – P.O. Box 476, Casey, IL 62420
Dave Greear – 515 E. Calumet St., Centralia, IL 62801
Herschel A. Jones – 4122 Acacia Dr., Columbus, GA 31904
Aaron G. Gray – 226 Kingsboro Lane, Fairfield Glade, TN 38555
Bruno Ejankowski - 211 St. Andrews Dr., Windsor, Ontario Canada N8N-3L4
Dan Pickowitz – 615 Maddox Dr., Mt. Zion, IL 62549
Dave Panicucci – 211 Cordoba Ave., Cedar Falls, IA 50613
Gary Wintjen – 130 Miles, Bethalto, IL 62010
Mike Stivers – 526 Montana, Bethalto, IL 62010
Randy Richardson – RR1, Box 264, Oreana, IL 62554
Ron F. Spraggins – 21 Via Piedras, Manitou Springs, CO 80829
Art Newton – 1 Leland Lane, Jacksonville, IL 62650
Dale Simon – 128 W. Klubertanz Dr., Apt. 4, Sun Prairie, WI 53590
David L. Reilly – 3540 22nd Way NE, Olympia, WA 98506

Mike Ford - 614 S. Pleasant St., Centralia, IL 62801 (618) 532-8454. Graduated from EIU in 1967. Mike is the owner of his own Men's clothing store in Centralia, while his wife Donna (Arheiger), also a graduate of Eastern, works in the Bureau of Identification at Centralia Correctional Center. They have 3 children, Deborah (26), a graduate of Eastern presently working in

finance at St. Mary's Hospital, Steven (24), a graduate of SIU-Carbondale, now working as District Supervisor of Underwriting in Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama for an insurance company and Richard (17) a straight B high school student.

Duane Beck - 726 Beverly Ave., Macomb, IL 61455 (309) 836-3596. Graduated from EIU in 1947. Retired in May 1982 as the Assistant Dean of Records and Admissions at Western Illinois University and his wife Clara is a former teacher. They have 6 children, Michael, Barbara, Jean, Lisa, Robert and Joe. Barbara is married to Michael Watts, who is the Director of the Tarble Arts Center at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston.

John Ziebarth - 1011 Hadley Dr., Champaign, IL 61821 (217) 398-6187. Graduated from EIU in 1972, MS in 1974. Taught at Kishwaukee College near Dekalb and then worked at Argonne National Laboratory near Chicago before going to Mississippi State Univ. and completing a Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering in 1983. Worked in California for Rockwell International Corp., then to Colorado State Univ. and for the last few years taught at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. Moved to Champaign in Sept. '94 and joined the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) at the U of I as Associate Director for Education and Outreach. In this job he directs all the K-Ph.D education related activities at NCSA and directs all the NCSA community, state and national networking projects related to Internet connectivity. John was married in Sept. '94 to Beth Ann, who is a chemistry teacher at Centennial H.S. in Champaign. His daughter, Lara, is 14 and a ninth grader in Huntsville, AL.

The addresses in the most recent edition of the Newsletter will always reflect the most current addresses or changes that we know about.

FIFTH ANNUAL STUDENT AWARDS

As you may well know by now, the Phi Sigma Epsilon Alumni Association has embarked on an annual Student Awards program to financially assist identified children of former Phi Sigs (P.S.E., that is), Delta Chapter at Eastern Illinois University. The Association has been able to award grants totalling over \$12,500 the past 4 years.

With the receipt of this Newsletter, eligibility is open for you to submit to the P.S.E. Alumni Association, the names of children who will be attending EIU in Fall 1995 or those already in school as full-time undergraduates.

The cutoff date for submission of the Student Award Information questionnaire form in this newsletter is July 1, 1995. Upon

receipt and verification of children attending or about to attend EIU, notification will be forwarded to you regarding the Student Award. Only one monetary award will be granted per family. This monetary grant is free of all payback and has no provisions as to how it must be used. Additionally, it is restricted by age to those 25 or younger and the PSE Board also reserves the right to make discretionary exceptions to the above-noted guidelines on a case-by-case basis.

Further inquiry may be addressed to the attention of the Phi Sigma Epsilon Alumni Association, P.O. Box 931, Charleston, IL 61920. Please be sure to send your address and telephone number.

STUDENT AWARDS INFORMATION

ALUMNUS INFO.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____

Year Graduated from EIU _____

Years Attended EIU-19____ to 19 ____

PHI SIGMA EPSILON INFO.

Pledge Class Year _____

Active Member-19____ to 19 ____

STUDENT INFO.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ SSN. _____

Projected EIU Start Date (Semester) _____

Projected EIU Graduation _____



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