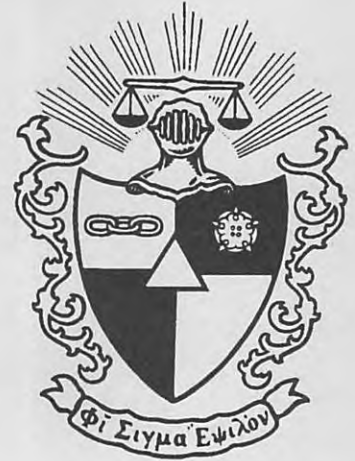


Phi Sigma Epsilon Delta Alumni Association



Vol. 7 No. 2

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Commentary on a Special Brotherhood

This Newsletter opens up to me the opportunity to express some observations that I've been able to make over 30 years of Brotherhood generally and six years of Newsletters specifically. I've seen a lot of comings and goings, but as much as things change, they remain the same. Since I may be accused of waxing philosophic by making such statements, let me elaborate on what I perceive to be the strengths of our fraternal Brotherhood. I believe that I am in a unique position to qualitatively assess the many examples of our commonality.

You know, in the beginning we all had our pledge brothers to form the backbone of the little class seeking to be a part of the larger entity, the fraternity. All of the crap that we had to go through was to teach us the one lesson that I believe is our foundation – that is, that we are all equal as Brothers. And when we get together to socialize or just converse, we can all relate to one another because we have been there and many of us have been there together. It really doesn't matter about the age difference – the games for the most part were all the same. Only the names and faces changed. When I talk to Brothers who are newly located, generally by phone, it is as if the barriers of being total strangers disappear as soon as we start comparing stories of fraternity life. E-mail and letters are great, but a phone conversation is a window to the soul. If you really want to get a feel for the power of our alumni group and the values that we strive towards, just talk to any Brothers that have been part of an organized activity amongst themselves since graduation from college. In my position as editor of the Newsletter, I have been privileged to both hear about these assemblages and often be a part of them, so they can be documented in the Newsletter.

Twenty-five years ago, a group of six Brothers and their wives went on a tent campout to the rustic bluffs overlooking Lake Michigan, in Michigan. That was originally planned as a pledge class reunion for the Winter 1967 pledge class of PSE after graduation several years earlier. Three pledge brothers, Ken Gazda, Jim Porter and Charlie Henry were there, as were invitees Dave Carrell, Gene Everett and me, Gary Brinkmeyer. Goose (Ken Gusewelle - another pledge brother) was supposed to be there, and until we found Goose about five years ago, the annual Phi Sig Campout and Goosehunt, as it came to be called, went on. After finding him, it was simply the Phi Sig

Campout. The number of couples involved increased and changed periodically, but the campout never did. We moved around from two sites in Michigan, to Wisconsin, to Iowa, to two sites in Illinois, ending up and staying at Lake Shelbyville. Each of these campout years provided its own incidents to talk about in future years, whether it be weather-related, individual "Kodak" moments, new jokes or golden oldies or just plain dredging up and living in the past for a weekend, with no kids. This past summer, the same core group and many others assembled for the 25th time, this time as a Campin at Lake Shelbyville. While inside, we recounted past campouts, exchanged new jokes and golden oldies and what else – escaped to the past for a weekend, with no kids. If you've ever seen the movie "The Big Chill", you'll know exactly what I'm talking about.

The youngest of us Phi Sigs is in his early 30's, the oldest in his mid to upper 80's now. There are about a thousand of us located throughout the country, mainly in Illinois. It has been my perception that many of us now have older children or are approaching the empty-nest syndrome. We are often reaching out to find those lost to the years, who were such an integral part of college life. The PSE Newsletters are full of examples of the desire to again seek out those whom we called "Brother" and friend in the past. There are the South Reunions, the PSE Golf outings near Chicago, the group ski outings, the above-noted campouts/campins, EIU Homecoming activities and of course the Big Reunion of 1996.

We endeavor also to do what we perceive is the right thing to do for the PSE Alumni Association given our present circumstances. By equally honoring some of the children of former Phi Sigs here at Eastern, we are saying thank you to those Phi Sigs for their contributions to our fraternity. I could go on and on with stories from letters and conversations of those seeking out lost friends. That is the role that I believe is pivotal to the PSE Alumni Association – to serve as a conduit by making the connection between the past and the present.

Now that you can see what is happening around you within the support group of Brotherhood, I urge you to recognize that support and "just let it happen." Be a part of that common ideal that we espoused all those years ago and be enriched by the experience of it.

PSE South Reunion – October 18, 1997

The current craze of nostalgia throughout the country has finally caught up to the Phi Sigs via Larry Carli and his planning for the PSE-South Reunion set for October 18, 1997 at 6:30 p.m. Since Larry Carli and family moved from St. Louis to Edwardsville and picked up some additional acreage behind them, he is putting together an old-fashioned Phi Sig kegger at his house instead of getting together at a local bar/restaurant. There will be plenty of hot dogs and marshmallows to roast at the outdoor bonfire while quaffing down some good old beer from the tap and gassing up on Brinks' baked beans. Plan on attending this annual South get-together – pack up your favorite girl (wife or other), a nice comfortable blanket or two and lots of memories from the past and come on down, up or over for the fun. If you would be looking for a place to stay, Carli's has made

arrangements nearby at The Innkeeper motel, located at I-55 & Rt. 140 in Hamel, Illinois - ph (618) 633-2111. The room rate is \$45.00 per night and you can sleep two couples or four guys in a room or you can just get a room for yourself and another – however you want to arrange it. To get to Carli's house from the motel, travel Rt. 140 west about 6 miles to the intersection of Rt. 159. Turn left (south) onto Rt. 159, go about 3 miles and look on the right for the Carli mailbox. Further questions about directions can be directed to Larry Carli at (618) 659-1580. Take a good look at your schedule, pencil out those prior commitments and make arrangements for the Phi Sig kegger. In case of inclement weather the festivities will be moved inside the large garage area. So that Larry can get a count on attendees, please indicate your intent to go.

Bios and Addresses

Bill Granger – 6410 Ash Dr., Moro, IL 62067 (618) 656-2089. Graduated from EIU in 1969. Worked for McDonnell-Douglas in St. Louis for 6 months prior to being drafted into the U.S. Army. He became a State Farm agent in 1972 in Bethalto, IL and is still with that company today. Bill is married to Lynn Ackerman (Sigma Kappa - EIU) and they have two daughters; Mary Lynn, a senior nursing student at SIUE and Sara, a junior marketing major at EIU. Sara has been a PSE Student Award recipient for the last two years and has followed her mom in becoming a Sig Kap at Eastern.

Ed Root, Jr. – 124 White Pines Circle, Decatur, IL 62521 (217) 422-5802. Has spent the last 21 years living and working in Decatur, IL, with the past 16 years in the Decatur Police Dept. and the last 8 years assigned to the Narcotics Enforcement Task Force. Married Karen L. Stine in 1974, who recently graduated from the U of I Law School and is a practicing attorney in Decatur. Daughter Amy graduated from EIU in 1997 in Psychology and is a mental health case worker in Decatur. Daughter Kelly Ann is 20 and beginning her third year at EIU, majoring in Health Science and intending to teach and coach volleyball. Both daughters were PSE Student Award recipients, Amy receiving it for two years and Kelly Ann receiving it for the first year this Fall. Daughter Jennifer is 18 years old and preparing to enroll at SIU or UI-C to study Drama.

Dick Elke – 854 Millcreek Circle, Elgin, IL 60123 (847) 622-8521. Graduated from EIU in 1965. Has worked in the education field since that time, as a teacher, a counselor and as an administrator. Dick has three daughters; Robyn, who lives in Dallas, Joanna, a sophomore at EIU who has received a PSE Student Award the last two years and Krista, a freshman at Elgin Community College. Joanna is also a member of the EIU Women's Soccer team.

Stephen Woodland – 308 N. Division St., Oblong, IL 62449 (618) 592-4610. Graduated from EIU in 1970. Later earned his Masters degree in Physical Education. He has taught at Oblong, IL since graduation, with the exception of a 2-year term in the

U.S. Army. He teaches Math at all 4 levels of high school - Algebra I & II, Geometry and Calculus. Over the years he has coached football, basketball and baseball and since the mid 1980's he has been involved in working with students participating in the ICTM math contest. He married Diane Keiser (EIU-1970) and has two children; Jill, age 22, is a student at the University of Evansville and Jay, age 19, a sophomore at EIU and a 2-year recipient of the PSE Student Award. Steve's main hobby from the mid-1980's through 1996 was assisting his children participate in competitive water skiing, as well as being an avid golfer and fisherman. This summer Steve also received two prestigious awards for his teaching efforts. First, he was named as a Distinguished Alumnus from EIU, one of five this year and he also received a Walmart Teacher of the Year Award. Congratulations Steve!

Harold Palishen – 12912 W. Court St., P.O. Box 408, Hanna City, IL 61536 (309) 565-7325. Graduated from EIU in 1964. Began his teaching career in the Gillespie School District and later in the Staunton School District. After 7 years in the classroom, he began his administrative career in Staunton as the Elementary Principal. For the past 19 years, he has been with the Farmington Central School District, first serving as the Assistant Superintendent and for the past 6 years as the Superintendent. Harold and wife Maggie reside in Hanna City with their son Brad and their daughter Kari. Kari presently attends EIU, majoring in Psychology and is a 2-year recipient of the PSE Student Award.

PSE Alumni Association Officers & Board Members

Gary Brinkmeyer – President – 910 Tenth Street, Charleston, IL 61920 – (217) 345-4684

Jim Luthe – Vice President – Rt. 1, Box 428, Lawrenceville, IL 62439 – (618) 943-5341

Jeff Moore – Treasurer – 2738 Kimwood Drive, Charleston, IL 61920 – (217) 345-1687

Ron Eichhorn – 8317 Frost Court Woodridge, IL 60517 – (708) 985-9234

Kirk Davis – 1028 North Oak Lane Drive, Kankakee, IL 60901 – (815) 937-8815

Marv Randolph – 1204 "B" Street, Charleston, IL 61920 – (217) 345-3297

Tom Swanson – 11204 N. 14000 E. Rd., Grant Park, IL 60940 – (815) 465-6055

Boone Chaney – 112 Seventh Street, Charleston, IL 61920 – (217) 345-1684

Dick Swing – 1027 Ninth Street, Charleston, IL 61920 – (217) 345-2509

Newsletters Available!

This Issue of the P.S.E. Alumni Association Newsletter represents the thirteenth 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.

PSE Seventh Annual Student Awards

On a windy and cool Sunday, August 24, 1997 afternoon, the Seventh Annual Phi Sigma Epsilon Student Awards presentation came off without a hitch at Southeast Park in Charleston, Illinois. Due to some last minute scheduling conflicts and sickness however, the number of parents on hand for the lunch and awards was reduced. After reacquainting ourselves again, the 21 parents, students and PSE Board members on hand enjoyed a catered picnic lunch of grilled marinated chicken breasts and hamburgers, baked beans, potato salad, cole slaw, rolls and drinks. The coup de grace desserts were the to-die-for heavily-iced, chewy, chocolatey brownies. None survived.

After partaking of the lunch, a few introductory comments were put forth and then the parents got a chance to refresh us with their goings-on since graduation from EIU and a little bit of family background. Finally, the time arrived for the PSE Alumni Association to do what it has enjoyed doing for the last six years – financially helping out children of PSE Brothers from EIU, now attending at EIU. With this year's financial commitment, we have now distributed over \$20,000 since the inception class of 1991 received the first Student Awards.

Receiving checks for \$350 each this year were the following students: Kelly Ann Root, daughter of Ed and Karen Root, received her first year award while Joanna Elke, daughter of Dick Elke; Sara Granger, daughter of Bill and Lynn Granger; Kari Palishen, daughter of Harold and Maggie Palishen and Jay Woodland, son of Stephen and Diana Woodland all received their second-year financial award. There were no third-year recipients, but we did have two senior recipients of their fourth Student Award, that being Brooke Hood, daughter of Dick and Linda Hood and Steve Eichhorn, son of Ron and Lynn Eichhorn. Dick and Linda Hood were here personally to see the end of the Hood family at EIU, while Ron Eichhorn was here to see the passing of the torch from Steve this year to incoming daughter Michelle, who began as a freshman this Fall. It was again heartening to see Dick Hood at this year's Student Awards presentation. Dick continues to make steady progress from his injuries and dreams of the day when he can do many of the things he used to do. If I could ever can the spirit and confidence exuded by this man, I could retire many times over. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Dick.



L to R (front row): Kelly Ann Root, Dick Hood, Kari Palishen, Jay Woodland, Steve Eichhorn.
L to R (back row): Ed Root, Jr.; Brooke Hood, Dick Elke, Harold Palishen, Bill Granger, Stephen Woodland, Ron Eichhorn.

E-mail Addresses

With the advent of electronic mail (e-mail) and its phenomenal popularity, several requests have come forth that we publish e-mail addresses in the newsletter. If you have one and would like it included, send it to the PSE Alumni Assn. and we will endeavor to publish them in each forthcoming issue. The second set of names and e-mail addresses that I have are:

Gary Brinkmeyer – psebrink@mail.stlnet.com (corrected from last newsletter)

Jeff Estes – jmestes@ix.netcom.com

Al Ortegren – aortegr@siue.edu

Paul Klopfenstein – pklopfen@juno.com

Mike Ellis – ellis.7@osu.edu

Dave Carrell – dave_carrell@ajg.com

Charles Henry – chhenryjr@worldnet.att.net

Bill Crail – PilotBill@aol.com

Ron Doris – rdoris@mail.isbe.state.il.us

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.

Charles W. Grisamore

G. Cass Richardson

James P. Hawkins

George W. Adair

PSE Tidbits

– **A big Thank You goes out to John B. Stoner ('41)** for his recent donation of some old Phi Sig photos from his school days at Eastern in the early 40's. They will go into the PSE picture archives collection. Thanks J.B.! And if anybody else has some old photos or other Phi Sig memorabilia that they would like to donate to the PSE Alumni Assn. instead of throwing it away, we would love to have it.

– **Thanks also to Steve Cooper ('41)**, who recently wrote to notify us that he hadn't received a Newsletter in about two years. Due to an address change on his part, we had lost track of him. He wrote back to us giving us a list of new nicknames of Brothers he remembered from his school days and a monetary donation to use towards the Newsletter postage or whatever we choose. Thanks for all your help and support Steve!

– **After the 66th PSE Reunion was history** (June 22, 1996), the Alumni Assn. was left with a number of commemorative blue foam can coolers with the PSE crest and relevant Reunion info emblazoned in white paint onto the coolers. We also had left over about a dozen of the PSE favors that were given to each

Brother in attendance. This favor was a black-finished clock and picture frame combination, that was highlighted by each personalized name in calligraphy on a background of the full-color PSE crest and relevant information about the Reunion. We would like to close out these items and put that money into the checking/savings account. The coolers sell for \$3 apiece or \$15 for a six-pack of them and we will pay for the postage. The clock/picture frame combination sells for \$15 and we will have it personalized for you and pay the postage. If you are interested but unsure, I can forward a picture to you, especially of the clock. Contact the PSE Alumni Association at P.O. Box 931, Charleston, IL 61920 or contact me personally – Gary Brinkmeyer (217) 345-4684.

– **The annual PSE Alumni Association Homecoming meeting** will be held on EIU Homecoming Day, October 25, 1997 at noon at the McDonald's Room in the University Union (original part). The purpose of this meeting is mainly to elect the new PSE Board, who then in November will elect the new officers. Please try to attend this meeting and find out what else is forthcoming for the Phi Sigs.

Missing Brothers – Do You Know Where They Are?

What do the names Sanford Blovad, Dave Sakata, James (Mike) Ford and Tom Andres have in common? They were all listed in the Missing Brothers column in at least one previous newsletter. They are all found now, thanks to the efforts of different Brothers throughout the country notifying us of their whereabouts or in some cases turning them up on the Internet. But we still have a lot of missing individuals and we would like to find them or find out about them, in the case of those now deceased. If you know the whereabouts of anybody listed below, even if it's only the city with no address, please let us know, so we can fill the voids in the PSE Address List.

Jim Acklin
Joe Asma
Charles R. Barth
Jerry Boles
Michael Caple
Frank Consiglio
Russell Davenport
Gerald C. Ditman
Warren S. Fatland
Sam Forzley

Gene Allison
Larry Baker
Carl Benander
Greg Breningmeyer
Thomas Ciolino
Edwin W. Fryer
Donald E. Daykin
Ben F. Edman
Peter B. Fenolio
G. Robert Frost

David E. Andres
William R. Baldwin, Jr.
Reno Bianchi
Marvin Caple
Pat Clifford
Bob Daniels
David L. Dickerson
Robert W. Edwards
William R. Field



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

*Homecoming
October 25, 1997
Austin Peay University*