



Phi

An Occasional
Plains Alumni
Fall, 1998

Psi

Correspondence
Association

Rag

of the South

Texas Beta Granted Recognition at Texas Tech

After a Spring and Summer built on hard work the Texas Beta Chapter was granted recognition again as a student organization at Texas Tech University.

In a letter dated August 18, 1998 the Dean of Students, Michael Shonrock, Ph.D. duly noted the effort to correct past misdeeds and he congratulated the Chapter for their rededication to high standards. He also set forth guidelines for continued challenge including:

- *that the chapter take full responsibility for their actions and not rely on their alumni supervisory committee to direct their day to day affairs;
- *that the National Headquarters commit staff resources for guidance and direction to the chapter;
- *that the chapter submit monthly reports detailing progress in specific areas;
- *that the Assistant Dean meet with the Chapter twice yearly;
- *and that the National Headquarters submit progress reports on the Chapter at specified intervals.

Although back on campus the chapter will remain on Deferred Disciplinary Suspension until May 1, 1999 and there remains a possibility of an extension of this suspension through May 2000.

The chapter is required to maintain an alcohol-free environment at any social function and they have established a "zero-tolerance" attitude to the use of alcohol at their gatherings. A step-wise process of dealing with brothers who are not participating or who owe past dues has been implemented. Academic standards above those required by the University have been established for new members.

While the chapter is currently meeting in a room on the campus they are hopeful about acquiring a new lodge. Partnering with the alumni supervisory committee this possibility is being investigated with a clear understanding of the accountability of the chapter for its members in such a facility.

While the current membership is approximately 30 there is a sense of optimism about gaining new members for the Fall. This group seems ready to move forward and is hopeful you will offer your support.

Alumni Supervisory Committee Formed

At the direction of the Executive Council of the fraternity an Alumni Supervisory Committee was empowered to provide guidance and supervision of the rebuilding of the Texas Beta Chapter.

The call for committee members was responded to by 4 local alumni. Sharing in the responsibility are:

- Brian D. Carr, Ph.D.**, Texas Beta 1978, Communication Co-Chair, liaison with Texas Tech University
- Jim Stewart**, Texas Beta 1977, Communication Co-Chair, liaison with the Texas Beta Chapter
- Jay Vollet, Ph.D.**, Texas Beta 1968, Academic Chair
- Mark Zahn**, Texas Beta 1977, Finance Chair

While the committee maintains full control over the Chapter it is their preferred desire to serve in a guidance capacity rather than take over Chapter operations. The group meets several times a month with Chapter officers to review progress.

Their first action will be to conduct an extensive membership review of the Chapter, meeting with each member to discuss academic progress and set goals for the semester. Undergraduate brothers will also be required to sign a legally binding agreement concerning financial obligations.

In encouraging a new direction for the Chapter we are challenging other alumni to help us in providing new opportunities for these young men. Having removed those guilty of the crimes of last December we need to support the remaining members! If you would be willing to offer an activity such as a retreat or you might help in underwriting any of the following please contact Brian Carr at (806) 795-3911 office or (806) 794-6460.

- *leadership/member retreat within 200 miles of Lubbock for 20-30
- *activities such as golf/tennis/shooting matches
- *Sunday dinner at your home for 15-20
- *Mentor program matching alumni's experience with interested undergraduate members
- *scholarship support through the National Endowment

In moments of adversity we can respond to the call and discover the best in ourselves. Please stay in touch.

Bill Collins Scholarship Established

Experience has shown that, if you have students who make their grades, you tend to have lesser problems in other areas. In rebuilding the Texas Beta Chapter the ability to stimulate academic success is essential.

An effective way for alumni to assist in this regard was announced by the Endowment Fund of the national fraternity in July. A donor to that fund has made \$500,000 available in the form of matching funds to assist in the creation of new chapter scholarship funds within the Endowment Fund.

In recognition of his lifelong dedication to Texas Tech University, The Centaur Club, and the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity the SPAA is proud to announce that the **Bill Collins Scholarship** for Texas Beta Chapter was established within the Endowment Fund of the National Fraternity. We hope that the many brothers who have known Bill will make a tax-deductible donation to this fund, which will then be matched when the fund reaches \$5,000.

In order to be eligible for the matching funds, a minimum of \$5,000 must be deposited into the chapter scholarship fund before December 31, 1998. All checks must be made payable to the "Endowment Fund" and include the chapter's name in the memo section. All gifts to this campaign are deductible from income subject to tax, to the extent provided by law. The address is: The Endowment Fund, Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity, 510 Lockerbie Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202-3694.

This fund will remain under the watch of the Endowment Board of Trustees and it will offer support for attracting those undergraduates who possess well-developed academic abilities.

If you normally make a donation to the National Fraternity we hope you will direct your giving to this special fund in honor of Brother Collins. If you have not supported the Endowment Fund in the past we hope you will consider it. For more information you can contact Jay Vollet (806) 794-3867 or Terry Harper at the headquarters (317) 632-1852. Help us to build academic character.

Contacting Us

Brian Carr, Ph.D., 5429-78th Street, Lubbock 79424
(806) 795-3911 office (806) 794-6460 home
email: brianca@onramp.net

HomeComing 98'

Traditions return to Phi Kappa Psi when Texas Tech University hosts the Oklahoma State Cowboys on October 10th. While details remain concerning the day's activities we look forward to a fun-filled day.

10:00 a.m. HomeComing Parade
Gather at 1802 Broadway, site of
Texas Beta from 1969 to 1980

Lunch on your own

4-5:30 p.m. Reception at Brian Carr's office
3410-22nd Place (W of Indiana)

6:00 p.m. Texas Tech vs. Oklahoma State

We look forward to showing off the efforts of our work and the quality of the current Chapter. Please join us for this event.

Visit Us on the Web

Our web site continues to provide a vital link to our members. Here you can view the latest information on Chapter progress and University dealings at <http://www.healthinfo.com/fraternity/justice.htm> or check the growing list of email addresses for members located on the main site at:

<http://www.healthinfo.com/phipsi.htm>

We need your email for your database so please drop us a line.

Legal Matter Settled

After months of waiting the new owner of the Broadway property has settled with the 8 undergraduate brothers who were involved in the property destruction at the former Chapter house. A total of \$8,800 was paid by those accused (no fraternity monies were involved) although it was our contention that damages did not exceed \$4700.

With the criminal charges resolved the Alumni Supervisory Committee will now initiate an internal investigation into the matter. Given the damage done to the Chapter's reputation by this incident it is anticipated that those involved will receive the most severe punishment possible. Check our "justice" web page for updates.

Remember, this newsletter and the activities of the South Plains Alumni Association are made possible only through your financial support. Please help with your contributions. We don't need much...but every bit helps!