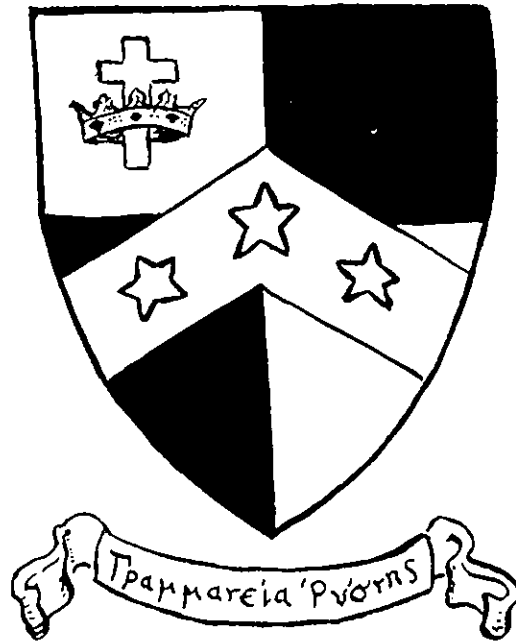
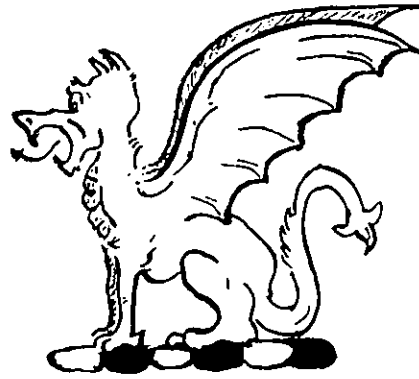


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Gamma Rho of Beta Theta Pi

The Diamond's Ray



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Gamma Rho of Beta Theta Pi

Duke University, Durham, N. C.

1956 - 1957

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DEDICATION



Jack N. Highsmith

Jack N. Highsmith, Jr., Gamma Rho '48, has devoted much of his time and exemplified great alumni interest toward Gamma Rho. Brother Highsmith has personally been responsible for teaching many of us the meaning of the words "Thank God I'm a Beta!" Jack is presently employed by the Vick Chemical Company, and is living at 39-89 50th Street, Woodside 77, N. Y. To him we proudly dedicate this issue of the *Diamond's Ray*.

Letter from the President



Phil Baker

Dear Brothers,

With the passing of another year of Gamma Rho's history, I cannot help but feel that it has been a great year. The officers who were elected and the chairmen who were appointed did a fine job in the coordination and guidance of the chapter during their terms in office.

The past year was a good one as the pledge class clearly showed. The freshman pledges have been considered by the majority of the brothers to be the best this chapter has had. This class has the leaders, spirit, and brotherhood which go to make a top class.

Socially, and Beta Theta Pi is a social fraternity, we were not to be beaten this past year. Every fraternity function was a big success with all of the brothers attending. This I felt was a good sign of a tightly knit fraternity and exemplified brotherhood to the highest degree.

Scholastically, we rose in our standing among the nineteen fraternities on Duke campus. Our place in the list of nineteen fraternities for the year was ninth, which was a definite improvement over past years.

Everything that has happened to Gamma Rho during the past year has pointed to overall improvement. The chapter was given special commendation at the General Fraternity Convention held in Michigan this past summer. We also received an excellence in finances for the first time in several years. The officers, of course, deserve a great deal of credit, but all would not have been possible without the cooperation of the entire chapter.

The job of being President of Gamma Rho has been one of much personal satisfaction. I do not believe any radical changes were made during the past year. However, many small improvements were made which were not obvious to everyone. It was my aim and purpose to better the chapter in some way. I felt that any step toward improvement was a step taken in the right direction. Keeping this in mind, I am very confident that the new officers of the chapter will continue in this light and in doing so lift Gamma Rho still higher in its standing among the fraternities at Duke.

To Jack Highsmith, to whom this Diamond's Ray is dedicated, goes nothing but praise from me and the entire chapter. Jack has truly been a great Beta. His untiring effort to do anything at any time for the brothers of this chapter has been appreciated much beyond the plain thank you's that he has received. So to Jack Highsmith we proudly dedicate this Diamond's Ray to show in one way our great appreciation of him.

-Kai-

PHILIP B. BAKER
President

Pledge Training



Tom Short

AS THE FORMAL PLEDGE period ended in February, Gamma Rho emerged from the fraternity ranks with a fine group of pledges. MIKE YOUNG, who is now in Duke Medical School, and TOM SHORT (58) have assumed the positions of co-pledge trainers.

In addition to the group going through pledging this Spring, we have several men who will compose a Fall class next September. The present pledge class is well represented on Duke Campus, in that its members are quite active in a wide variety of extracurricular activities.

RICHARD KATZ, from Baltimore, Maryland, is president of the class. Dick is quite active on the Freshman Tennis team as well as in Phi Eta Sigma honorary and YMCA and was recently elected treasurer of the rising sophomore class. From out Muncie, Indiana way, we have JIM FARRIS, who was recently elected to BOS Freshman honorary. Jim likes hunting and golf and also is very active in WDBS, Student Union and Campus Chest. CAL GRANT, from Chester, South Carolina, likes journalism and writes for the Chronicle and NROTC publication. Hailing from Front Royal, Virginia, we have BOYD EATON. Boyd is a weight lifter, and as such, has been active in the weight events in Freshman Track this Spring, in addition to singing in the Glee Club and Chapel Choir. The bridge player of the group, DON SINGER, lives in Rahway, New Jersey. Don is on the Chanticleer staff and is active in the Young Democrats Club. From Jackson, Michigan, comes a fine athlete and scholar in the person of BOB ZIMMERMAN. Bob played on the Jackson State Championship basketball team and was junior golf champ in Michigan. His pre-med course of study at Duke is keeping him very busy. DAVE WINGERTER, brother of ROX WINGERTER (54), is from West Orange, New Jersey. Dave is active in NROTC, YMCA, Shoe and Slipper, and intramurals. Sports car enthusiast is BILL BOYS from Farmington, Michigan, who is on the APROTC Drill Team and photo crew. HERB KAIS, from Fort Worth, Texas, is newly-elected president of BOS honorary. Herb sings in the Glee Club, Chapel Choir, and Beta sing practices. JIM BARTON hails from Grand Rapids, Michigan, and is playing Freshman Tennis as well as devoting his time to YMCA duties. Hi-fi and fly fishing are Jim's hobbies. JIM WALLACE, recently discharged from a period of Army duty in Germany, comes to Duke from Foxborough, Massachusetts. Jim works on the Chanticleer Business Staff and likes people and places. DAVE WARNER is our third contribution to BOS honorary. A very fine engineering student from Greenville, Pennsylvania, Dave is president of the Freshman Engineering Class and was just elected President for next year also. He likes sports and was intramural manager for his dormitory.

The addition of this fine group of men to Beta ranks can be attributed to an excellent rushing program handled very capably by NEIL JONES (58) and a Senior named JOHN W. PERRY. Thanks also goes to the active chapter for a job well done.

Beta Theta Pi at Duke

When a freshman joins a social fraternity, he stops thinking about himself; he stops bringing honor, or disgrace to himself, and he starts thinking about bringing honor, or disgrace to his fraternity.

Duke University is a community of students. Like any community, there are many student organizations whose job it is to make life during the days in college as liveable, enjoyable, or to some as tolerable as possible. Among these different organizations, there are those men who have been chosen to direct the efforts of these organizations. These men are the Committee Chairmen, the Presidents, the leaders. And many of these leaders of the organizations in the Duke University community are Betas, men who have brought honor to both themselves and their fraternity.

One of the newest and most important organizations is the Student Union. A Board of Governors rules this organization and the chairman of this board this past year was brother MIKE JACKSON. Three other Betas, KEN WHITEHEAD, JOHN COLE, and BOB WALTON, were awarded "keys" of recognition for outstanding work on different committees of the Student Union.

A very important branch of the Men's Student Government Association is the Men's Judicial Board of which WILLIAM McLAIN was Chief Justice.

Probably the most popular organization on this campus is the Shoe 'n' Slipper Club. Two Betas held offices in this club this past school year. BOB STUART was its President and WOODY FURMAN its Treasurer. JACK PERRY served in many capacities over the years and was Dance Chairman and a member of the Executive Committee this past year. ROLE TOWE was Assistant Dance Chairman and also a member of the Executive Committee.

And in the many other organizations on the Duke Campus, we Betas strove to do our best. AL MEAD was the President of the Engineer's Senior Class. DICK STRAWTHER was President of the Sophomore Class. In any community, the YMCA plays an important role, and one of our brothers, PETER JONES, did

Signifies Leadership



Gary Taber

some fine work as a member of the Junior Cabinet. Another organization that is both important and necessary is the Campus' radio station, WDDBS. This past year, the Program Director of the station was a Beta, JOHN MOORE. When it is time for football or basketball, it is time for cheering. Carrying on with tradition, Brother PETER JONES was the Duke Blue Devil, doing an admirable job. Behind all this cheering is the Pep Board and BOB STUART was the co-chairman of this group. In the past few years, Gamma Rho has taken a keen interest in intramural athletics. Leading and sometimes pushing us on to victory was WARREN HAGEN, who last year won the individual high point trophy.

There are also other organizations made up exclusively of the leaders of the Duke Community. In these organizations are the men who have done outstanding work in either or both scholastic areas or areas of organizational directorship. Brother WILLIAM McLAIN distinguished himself in both these areas, being elected to Phi Beta Kappa and to the Duke honorary, the Red Friars. Brother McLAIN was also selected for membership in Omicron Delta Kappa and *Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities*, as were Brothers MIKE JACKSON and ALLEN MEAD.

Leadership means Beta, and in the Gamma Rho chapter can be found many men with high leadership qualities. Early this spring elections for Chapter offices were held. Brother PHIL BAKER, after a most successful year as President, handed his gavel and his many responsibilities over to Brother RICHARD BURTON. As Vice President the Chapter elected JOHN COLE; as Recorder, HENRY ROUSE; and as Treasurer, JOHN MOORE. Assuming the responsibilities of Secretary were LEROY KING and JAMES ELLIOTT. Alumni and Corresponding, respectively. These are the men who are going to lead Gamma Rho for the coming year. These are the leaders and Beta means leadership.

It Means "Unity of Action"



George Whyte

The school year 1956-1957 will go down as one of Beta's greatest in Intramurals. This year Beta's enthusiasm and participation in intramurals has been extraordinary. At this writing, Beta Theta Pi stands first in the race for the intramural high point trophy.

We started off well this year as our football team, led by the passing of HUGH PATERSON, finished in a tie for second place. In the fall individual sports, WARREN HAGEN, the university individual high point trophy winner last year, won the handball singles for the second straight year, and teamed with O. K. NEISS to win the handball doubles championship. PETE SHUPPEE also went to the finals in the tennis singles.

In basketball, Beta really had a chance to show its enthusiasm, as we had eight teams in competition, meaning that virtually every brother participated in this sport. Although we did not win any league titles, we had three teams finish second, and the other five all had respectable records. It was through this tremendous participation that Beta was able to reach first place in the race for the high point trophy. In the only other winter sport, Beta placed third in the swimming meet, as WARREN HAGEN, HOWARD ELDREDGE, and GEORGE WHYTE won valuable points.

With the final phase of the intramural program, the Spring sports, in the immediate future, Beta Theta Pi's chances of maintaining their first place standing look extremely good. If the enthusiasm and unity that Beta has shown throughout the year can be continued, we will be *Hard to Beat*.



Bob Kohl

And Stands for "Devotion to the Cultivation of the Intellect"

Est Nota Bene that the all Greek average on the Duke campus is usually above the all men's average. There are those who seem to expect a laxity in studies because of the emphasis put upon social activities in a Fraternity, but campus scholastic averages show the opposite to be true. Gamma Rho was again above the all-men's average this fall semester and lacked only one-quarter of a quality point of being in first place among the social fraternities on campus. Gamma Rho's first semester average—2.2658.

Eighteen brothers and pledges had a 'B' average or better. Active above the magic three-oh mark were: TONY WEIR '58, JOHN COLE '58, TED ELLIS '57, TOM LOWE '57, ALLEN MEAD '57, JOHN MOORE '58, HOWARD ELDREDGE '59, KARL PETERSON '59, and ROLE TOWE '59. Engineer KARL PETERSON was elected into Pi Mu Epsilon honorary math fraternity. A fine pledge class produced nine men for the "dean's team." Three of our pledges were elected to Beta Omega Sigma honorary freshman fraternity, and one, DICK KATZ, was elected into Phi Eta Sigma, an honorary freshman fraternity for those attaining a 3.5 or above average.

All in all, the chapter had a very impressive record for the fall semester.

Beta Is a Social Fraternity



Pete Denker

Gamma Rho stalwarts began drifting back to the Gothic arches around the fifteenth of September. The weather was warm, stories were long, and plenty throats were dry—results—much time the first week spent at Bailey's and at the club.

No football game the first weekend, but an invitation arrived from the Betas at Carolina. Our hosts showed us a great time with a kick-off party that included a jazz concert on the lawn, a supper, and dancing afterwards. The next weekend the cry was U. Va. for the game there with the Cavaliers. Pettit took a load of potential luses up in his car that included Tom Short and Ron Mogel. Denker took Molly Guyer up and met Fatback, his Sweet Briar date, and John and Dorothy Schwartz there. Also on hand was Dave Beveridge from Quantico.

On October 6 we had our first home game with Tennessee and along with it our first post-game open house. Fatback was on hand.

Homecoming weekend rolled around the following Thursday as we put up our display and consumed a few hundred that were iced in the prexy's tub. Friday the move was to Bailey's after the homecoming show where songs and you know what were the order of the evening. Saturday's game with S.M.U. brought in many Betas from W. & L. and a raft of alumni. On hand were Kit Weir and Gibby, Rick Flynn with Mary Anne, John and Dorothy S., Eddie McLellan, Ken Towe, Howdy Doody, Grummy, and Fatback. It seems like the "Back" didn't like to leave D.C. after all. Higgy's combo blasted in the section after the game and a cabin party out at Antry's was the cry for the evening.

Soon November arrived and Shoe & Slipper time with its concert and dances. After the concert we had a dinner party with special guests bandleader Dick Malthy and vocalist Frankie Crockett. The after dinner toasting seemed to last for quite awhile, but everyone made the dance by twelve. Sunday's tomato juice party at the cabin was a lifesaver to those who attended.

The middies blew into town the next weekend and practically all of us could be found at the Saddle Club talking and toasting. Seems there was an awful lot of toasting this fall.

Just before Thanksgiving we had a great dinner party and dance at Turnages. Although the chaperones cut off the keg, we kept the party going till the early hours with emergency rations from the cars.



Beta Theta Pi

19



57



Duke



It seems like half the chapter found their way to swingin' Robesonia, Pa. over Thanksgiving. The destination was a rambling fieldstone house where Anne and the whole wonderful Milliken family gave us a vacation we'll never forget.

Our annual party with the Pi Phis and the Edgemont children was one of the best ever. Who could forget all the girls playing "farmer-in-dell" in the quad or George Whyte, our stage-struck Santa?

The time before exams saw moves to the club and to Jack's. Then—study, study, study.

BETWEEN SEMESTERS: You name the city—there was probably a Beta there. New York, Lauderdale, Washington, St. Pete, Chicago, Pinchurst, and Charlotte. The last was the scene of a three day open house courtesy of the parents of Neil Jones and Chuck Kuebler. I think the Charlotte girls are still trying to catch their breath.

With all that relaxed feeling that comes from not being behind in any classes, the "diamond-bearers" ushered in the new semester. The familiar sound of cans being kicked down the hall, "fourth for bridge," Bailey's anyone," and "flick train" once again augmented the monotony of the college routine.

Then it was rushing—talk, and party, and talk some more. Rush functions included great blasts at the Club and Turnages and also the final stag party at Hartman's. The pledge you know what party was held with the K.A.'s out at Hatcher's Acres. It will probably go down as one of the best stag affairs in Gamma Rho's history.

With great tans the Woogies returned from Spring vacation for the last lap until June. Right off the bat the move was to Raleigh *en masse* for our Spring formal in honor of the pledges, complete with Loving Cup and favors.

Then Joe College with Woody Herman's Herd, G.&T., the floats, G.&T., parties in the woods, G.&T., the parade, and of course, more G.&T.

As May rolls in, we roll out. To Wrightsville and the Landis where you can't help but have a great time.

A few last parties at the rock, a drive-in flick with coolers, exams come, exams end. Talk's only of summer jobs and Uncle Sam now. A last fling at Bailey's, a phone call to cast, pack the car. So long—it's been real.



Ken Whitehead

The History of Gamma Rho

In 1939 the Centenary Convention of Beta Theta Pi, under the direction of John R. Simpson, was held at Miami University. Although a hundredth anniversary is an event in itself, the convention was highlighted by many important actions, one of the most notable being the granting of a charter to the Duke Chapter.

The history of our Duke Chapter began with the desire of interested Betas in North Carolina and throughout the South for the establishment of a chapter at Duke. Actual plans for establishing a chapter were formulated at the time of the visit of the General Secretary, G. Herbert Smith, to the University of North Carolina and Duke in May 1938. It was decided to follow a practice previously used in the fraternity and colonize at Duke. Accordingly, the General Secretary suggested that the Eta chapter at North Carolina seek permission from the 99th convention to initiate Duke students until the group was large enough to petition for a chapter of the fraternity. Eta chapter obtained permission at the 99th convention and subsequently on November 10, 1938, initiated five Duke students.

On November 15, 1938, the first meeting of the newly formed Gamma Rho Chapter of Duke University was held. New initiates and faculty members made plans for the coming rush period, and Dr. Kenneth Clark, Yale '24, accepted the position of faculty advisor to the chapter. Negotiations were begun for a chapter room, and in the meantime the meetings were held in the rooms of various members.

During the rush period, the second week in February, open-houses were held in a reception room in the University Union. Eta chapter and William C. Schertz, chairman of the national rushing committee and Chief of District VI, supervised Beta rushing at Duke resulting with the pledging of fourteen freshmen to the fraternity. Shortly after another upperclassman was pledged bringing the total membership up to twenty-three. Through hard work and much real Beta spirit, the efforts of the early members materialized into a continually strengthening and growing chapter.

A Backward Glance



Thanks in old age - thanks are I go...
For precious, ever lingering memories.

W. C. WHITMAN



Tony Weir

Looking back over the years, a senior notices many things about Beta Theta Pi which, as he graduates, become nostalgic memories, remembrances of the full life he led at Gamma Rho. He remembers the night Jack Highsmith visited the chapter; the building of the Homecoming display with the traditional Thursday night bathtub of ice and brew; the noise in the fraternity meetings; the Christmas Party with the Pi Phi's; the use of paper cups at open houses; evenings at Bailey's; the party with the KA's; the Beta Flying Club; Spring and the time spent on the benches outside the section; vacation in Ft. Lauderdale looking down Sunrise Boulevard; Joe College; Beach Week end; the sun-bathing parties on the roof; the annual water fight with the pledges; the seniors' attitude as graduation draws near - these and many other memories become a valued part of the past.

Who can forget such things as John Lynch in the Oak Room, Al Mead and the weekends Prudy came to Duke, Tom Lowe chewing out the pledges, "Judge" McClain rousing the bell, Mike Jackson and that year after a date with Sidney Jack Pettit - need we say

more!; Warren Hagen and his not wanting his trophies used as ash trays; Bob Walton singing in the shower; "Bear" Ellis and late-night phone calls from Florida; Carl Miller and Jarvis House; Pete Fischer and Aycock parking lot; Bob Stuart and his hundreds of activities; Phil Baker on Monday nights; Dave McClain's anger when he lost the Ugly Man Contest and his wanting to say something; Pete Shippee and Meyer Ward; Woody Furman's hustling to get to his Friday night 8:10 Ec class; George Whyte as Santa Claus; the "burly-portsider" Dick Burton; Neil Jones poli-ticking; John Moore trying to collect dues; Tony Weir and his speeches; "Hooks" Cole and that wide-brimmed hat; "Squarehead" Hobbs and what he did with the scholastic average letters; Pete Denker as the "most social engineer"; Bob Weaver and the absent member; Tom Short as Pledgemaster; Dick Risley at Hope Valley; "Lobster" Colwell; Ken Whitehead and his parties; Bruce "the Owl" Bottoms; "Foggy" Bobby Miller; Warren Sparrow and "Birdland"; Charlie Wendorf yelling "Chow Man!"; "Groober" King buying out Walton Enterprises; Hank Rouse taking role and collecting fines; Dick Cornwell and his comments; Charlie Wills, the "White Fats Domino"; Dick Straw, then receiving so many birthday cards on Dec. 25; Bob Kohl studying; Dick Watson and his opinions; Gary Tabor retreating; Pete Jones and his all purpose MG.





Karl Peterson wearing Brooks Brothers T-shirts; Hugh Paterson re-named "Hump"; Ron Clarke and his lacrosse stick; Larry Parsons and the weekend trips to Averett; Ace Elliott and the Joe College Float; Dave Bimestefer and his Pinchurst wardrobe; Bill Dowling and his one-man band; Rolf Towe and his Plymouth Agency; Admiral Howard Eldredge being squared away; Tom Euck's laugh; Jack Tibbetts, the quad-ball king; Chuck Kuebler and "Peanuts"; "Jet Rink" Wynn; Dick Siderowf teaching Ben Hogan how to play golf; Chet Giltz and "Who!"; Doug Plynn yelling "Fourth for bridge!"

It's extremely difficult to put into words just what Beta Theta Pi has meant to so many of its members. Some call it a "bond of ever-increasing affection," some simply say "brotherhood." But regardless of how it is said, each brother has felt deeply the love of his fraternity, and will never forget this most memorable part of his past.

THE ACTIVE CHAPTER

- 326 John Chaplain Lynch '58--Beaufort, N. C.
- 327 Allen Mead '57--Pt. Wayne, Ind.
- 328 Thomas Francis Lowe '57 -Baltimore, Md.
- 329 Lee William McLain '57-- Sarasota, Fla.
- 334 Michael Hodges Jackson '57- Denver, Colo.
- 335 John Whitney Pettit '57-- Washington, D. C.
- 337 Warren Earl Hagen '57-- Cincinnati, Ohio
- 338 Robert Aldridge Walton '57-- Fernandina Beach, Fla.
- 340 Theodore Richard Ellis '57--Hamilton, Ohio
- 342 Carl Anthony Miller '57-- Canton, Ohio
- 343 Morton Peter Fischer '57-- St. Louis, Mo.
- 347 Robert Davidson Stuart III '57-- Saylesville, R. I.
- 350 Edward Blake Byrne '57--Riverside, Calif.
- 351 Philip Benton Baker '57--Baltimore, Md.
- 356 Sherwood Murry Furman '58--Jackson, Mich.
- 357 George Kenneth Whyte '58--Webster Groves, Mo.
- 358 Richard Greene Burton '58--Providence, R. I.
- 360 Frederick O'Neil Jones '58--Charlotte, N. C.
- 361 Wilmot Hurst Losee, Jr. '58--Garden City, N. Y.
- 362 John Foster Moore '58--Winter Park, Fla.
- 363 Anthony Weir '58--Langhorne, Pa.
- 364 John Oscar Cole '58--Webster Groves, Mo.
- 365 John Earl Hobbs '58--Ladue, Mo.
- 366 Peter John Denker '58--Locust Valley, N. Y.
- 367 Robert Earl Weaver '58--Jacksonville, Fla.
- 368 Thomas Donald Short '58- Celina, Ohio
- 370 Oliver Kinze Niess, Jr. '57 - Denver, Colo.
- 371 Samuel Campbell Colwell III '58 - Southport, Conn.
- 372 Richard Risley '58 - Toledo, Ohio
- 374 Kenneth Leslie Whitehead '58 - Winter Park, Fla.
- 375 Alton Bruce Bottoms '58 - Canton, N. C.
- 376 Dave Hollingsworth McLain '57 - Sarasota, Fla.
- 377 Robert Cosner Miller '58 - Denver, Colo.
- 378 William Warren Sparrow '59 - Charlotte, N. C.
- 379 Leroy Harry King, Jr. '59 - Paducah, Ky.
- 380 Henry McCormick Rouse '59 - Hartford, Conn.
- 381 Richard Guy Cornwell '59 - Charlotte, N. C.
- 382 Charles William Wilks '59 - Queens Village, N. Y.
- 383 Richard Strawther '59 - Springfield, Pa.
- 384 Robert Edson Kohl '59 - Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.
- 385 Richard Frank Watson '59 - Glenside, Pa.

- 386 Gary Richard Tabor '59—Pittsfield, Mass.
- 387 Perry Thompson Jones '59—Winnetka, Ill.
- 388 Karl Bock Peterson '59—Rockville, Md.
- 389 Hugh Humphrey Paterson '59—Toronto, Canada
- 390 Lewis Ryland Clarke III '59—Baltimore, Md.
- 391 Larry Edward Parsons '59—New Kensington, Pa.
- 392 James Henry Elliott '59—LaGrange, Ill.
- 393 John David Bimestefer '59—Dundalk, Md.
- 394 William Laine Dowling '59—Hinsdale, Ill.
- 395 Rolf Harvy Towe '59—Greenwich, Conn.
- 396 Howard Sunderlin Eldredge '59—Arcadia, Calif.
- 397 Thomas Emery Enck '59—Ashland, Ohio
- 398 John Weldon Tibbetts '59—Raleigh, N. C.
- 399 Charles Herman Kuebler '59—Charlotte, N. C.
- 400 John D. Wynn '59—Tulsa, Okla.
- 401 Richard Laurence Siderowf '59—New Britain, Conn.
- 402 Chester Stoner Giltz '59—Massilon, Ohio
- 403 Douglas Sherman Flynn '59—Scarsdale, N. Y.



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