

The

Diamond's Ray

GAMMA RHO OF BETA THETA PI, DUKE UNIVERSITY, DURHAM, N.C. MARCH, 1955

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(NOTE: This is just a brief summary of current events, undergraduate chapter wise. They will be covered in a fuller extent in the Diamond's Ray, April-May.)

Elections were held and officers installed at Gamma Rho in early March. Elected president was Robert E. (Bob) Leak of Rockingham, N.C.; Vice-President is John Swartz from Overland Park, Kansas; Recording Secretary, Mike Jackson, Denver, Colo.; Ed McLellan, originally from Uniontown, Pa., is treasurer; Blake Byrne, Riverside, Calif., assistant treasurer; Bill McLain, Sarasota, Fla., corresponding secretary; Tom Lowe, Baltimore, Md., alumni secretary; and Warren Hagen, Cincinnati, Ohio, custodian.

Since then, Brother President Leak has appointed the following. Social committee, Bill Gahan, Pete Fischer, Jack Pettit; Song chairman, Jack Pettit; Intramurals, O.K. Niess; Scholarship, Al Mead; Publications and publicity, Pete Taylor, Bob Webber; Initiation, Bill Graham.

As the enclosed letter reveals, Gamma Rho is having some "inside" work done. This includes a new rug and TV set and paint job for the chapter room, and of course, the cost of the bar and new paint job in the card room.

Meanwhile, the pledges are cleaning up broken eggs in the halls and outside the section. Hell week, hell night, initiation, etc., was held during the week of March 6-14, and by the time you receive this, there will be twenty new brothers --numbered 348-367-- in the lodge.

Ex-president John Schmitt is married and now lives in Durham. Cotton McKay, Pete Shippey and O.K. Niess returned at semesters.

And if any of you are going to be in Miami on Friday night (calendar watches never do work!) April 1st, there will be a function at the home of Dick and Pete Taylor, 5615 Orduna Drive, Coral Gables; MOhawk 1-5290; this is for Beta's and friends, so let me (PT) know if you'll be there. Bring bathing suits and a date. Now, on with the news.

A REPORT FROM THE ALUMNI COMMITTEE

For those of you who did not attend the Homecoming Weekend at Duke this fall I might relate some of the details of a meeting of the chapter alumni at that time. After discussing several ideas which various participants had, a vote was taken to determine the number present who thought the time was ripe for establishing a chapter alumni organization. Though the number present for this meeting was small, the vote was unanimous in favor of proceeding with the plans. I was asked to serve as chairman of a small organizing committee composed of alumni members who had fairly good contact with the chapter. Therefore, I appointed the following men to this committee: Alex McMahon, 16, Chapel Hill, N.C., Counsellor to the chapter; Bill Griffith, 186, Durham, N.C.; John Sherrill, 168, Greensboro, N.C.; and Stew Stokes, 209, Pulaski, Va. These men all make frequent visits to the chapter.

This committee met in Durham on Saturday, November 20, and made the following recommendations:

1. That the Diamond's Ray shall once more be placed in the hands of the active chapter. It shall be in the form of an alumni newsletter. It shall be edited and published by the members of the undergraduate chapter, but it shall be paid for by the alumni. Consequently, the news contained therein shall be written and assembled by both members of the alumni organization and the chapter.

2. That we shall continue to solicit from the alumni members an annual fee of \$3.00 to cover the cost of publishing the Diamond's Ray and other incidental expenses which the alumni shall have in connection with Homecoming and alumni mail.

3. That the committee (so named) shall continue to guide the affairs of the chapter alumni until Homecoming of 1955. At this time, officers shall be elected.

4. That the permanent chairman of this committee shall be Stew Stokes, 136 13th Street, Pulaski, Virginia, and that he will name agents among the several classes to contact those brothers in that class. This shall be his plan of organization during the interim year.

These recommendations are being carried out. Of course, it will take us a little time to switch over, but you shall be hearing from us again soon.

I might say that all of the recommendations were generally agreed upon by the alumni and the active chapter, and we think they will serve to bring to you eventually an active and a strong alumni organization.

Please note once more that Brother Stokes is now the man behind the ball insofar as the alumni organization goes. All mail and inquiries should be addressed to him. The alumni files, records, and properties have been turned over to him. Please send all changes of address to him.

In closing I would like to say that I cannot express to you how much I have enjoyed doing the work I have done during the past year. The letters which I receive almost daily meant everything to me, and I can tell you that if they sincerely express the desires of the chapter alumni, in a few short years we will have the best organization found.

Though my work forces me to drop out of the picture for the present, I want you to know that I will keep in contact with those who are

taking over, and it won't be too many years until you will hear from me again. But one thing is most important: please don't lose your interest now. This is the very time when we need all the support we can muster, and we will certainly appreciate yours.

Yours in

--kai--

C.P. Deal, 229

GAMMA RHO'S SERVICEMEN

(NOTE: The remainder of the material in this issue was compiled by Stew Stokes, with additions, as received, by the undergraduate chapter.-ED.)

We have been planning for a long time to publish an article on the men of the chapter who are now members of the Nation's armed forces. Unfortunately, their addresses are continually changing and to get a time when all of them are accurate is impossible. Therefore, we shall take this opportunity to acquaint you with them and at the same time say, "Don't be surprised if you write them and the letter is returned." Most of the addresses, however, are accurate at this time.

Comparitively few of the alumni members of the chapter seem to prefer the Army as a service. Perhaps, the absence of an Army R.O.T.C. unit at Duke accounts for it. Nevertheless, there are four graduates in the Army. They include Walt Adams, 257, who is now in the Far East; Stan Collyer, 287, who is now stationed at Ft. Holobird, in Baltimore; Gus Wacker, 269, who was stationed at Fort Knox, but they thought the Nation's stores would be safer if he went to the West Coast which he recently did. Also, Lt. Jim O'Connor, 155, is in the Airborne Division at Ft. Campbell, Ky., and Bob Kibler, 89, is with the medical unit at Ft. Richardson, Alaska.

The Navy seems to be the preferred service among the graduates at this time. Ens. Bill Anderson, 259, is now stationed in Glenview, Ill. Ens. Jack Kistler, 297 (in a letter to Sam Hooper, 295) was on the U.S.S. Wasp (CVA-18). At this time he is in Manila, P.I., and leaves for San Francisco on March 26. Upon return home, he plans to announce his engagement to Becky Johnson, Duke '54. Several others are serving at sea at this time. Dave Robbins, 51, Lieutenant on the U.S.S. Hamul (AD-20); Lt. Dave Johnson, 247, on the U.S.S. Brinkley Bass (DD-887); and Ens. Bill Schaffer, 266, is on the U.S.S. Montague (AKA-98); these are all out of San Francisco. (Bill Schaffer was married in Arlington, Va. to Pat "Muff" Morgan, Duke '54; the wedding was attended by Chuck Bazemore, 309, who sang the "Lord's Prayer" in the ceremony, and undergraduates John Price and Pete Taylor). Lt. Tom Trout, 148, on the U.S.S. Worcester (CL-144) is sailing out of New York at the present time. Two now serve in a teaching position for the Navy: Lt. Charles Watkins, 232, was recently appointed an instructor at the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, and Bob Gorham (Lt.), 228, is instructing electronics for FAETUPac in California. Being allowed a deferment to go to school is Ens. C.P. Deal, 229, at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, N.C. Seaman Neal McNamara is now stationed at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Bremerton, Washington, and Lt. Howard Gillen, M.D., is stationed at the Naval Medical Research Laboratory in New London, Conn. Lt. Bill Furst, 120, is stationed in Baltimore. We have no current address on Lts. Lou Randle, 279 or Bud Short, 289.