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The Rosevine

Newsletter of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Alpha Phi Chapter

Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO * Spring Issue 2003



AS GOOD AS GOLD

By: Kyle Schweiss



above picture
from Sunday Meeting

This fall, the Alpha Phi chapter celebrated our golden anniversary in grand style. It was a weekend packed with old friends, good times, and rekindled memories. Around seventy alumni came in from every decade and from all across the country to celebrate in true Sig Tau fashion.

The weekend was highlighted by the Saturday night reception. Over 200 people (alumni, actives, pledges, and dates) crowded into the banquet hall. After the meal was over many of our esteemed alumni took the stage to make speeches and presentations. The keynote speaker, Col. Don Burggrabe, humored the crowd with jokes, reminisced on his times as an active Sig Tau, told the amazing story of his life, and so eloquently put the meaning of fraternity into perspective.

traveling consultant for the National Headquarters, who presented the chapter with a framed document recognizing Alpha Phi for fifty years of fraternal excellence. Alumni Advisor Tom Roy also spoke on behalf of the active body and presented a Lifetime achievement award

to faculty advisor Larry Hamilton who dedicated over twenty years of service to our chapter and saw us through many low spots along the way.

It truly was an evening full of fun, laughter, and most of all, pride. We have done so many tremendous things over the last half of a century and it was a great thing to celebrate that in such a capacity. After all that the chapter has been through in recent years, this celebration was a tribute to all of you who have supported the chapter in so many different

ways during our roughest hours. It has been you, the alumni, who have driven this chapter to not only survive, but to thrive. And it is you that deserved this celebration. Thank you all so very much.



Founding Father
Don Burggrabe.



National Rep. Bill Hardbeck presents the 2002 Exec. Board with a National Resolution.

Also taking the stage were: Ray Lamb, who introduced Brother Burggrabe as well as adding some of his own memories and advice, Rich Eichhorst, who presented the chapter with a gift of \$500 from a large group of 1950s alumni, and Bill Hardbeck,



Fourth Alpha Phi
President Ray
Lamb entertains
the crowd. (left)

Rich Eichhorst pre-
sents Kyle Eggers
with an Alumni
Donation. (right)

Formal at St. Louis



The Alpha Phi chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma will be hosting their annual White Rose Formal in St. Louis this year. It will be held on Saturday, May 3rd, 2003. Come join us at the Marriott, Downtown St. Louis for what is always an exciting time. Just for those of you that would like to know, a few guys are getting together and attending the Cardinal baseball game the day before.

The price for each plate is going to be \$25 per plate. The room rate is going to be \$99+ tax. Make sure when making reservations that they give you the rate for the group of Sigma Tau Gamma.

For reservations call: 1-800-228-9290.

For additional information contact: Michael Meyer at (573) 450-3509 or michaeljmeyer@hotmail.com



Spring Golf Tournament

Last year the Active / Alumni Golf Tournament was postponed because of weather and all the activities during the 50 Anniversary / Homecoming Celebration. This year the tournament will be held Saturday, April 26, 2003 at the Columbia Golf Club in Columbia, IL. This will be a 4-man scramble with play beginning at 11:00a.m. As of now there are 12 t-times reserved, but others will be reserved if necessary.

The cost of entry to the tournament is \$65 per person. This price includes 18 holes of championship golf along with a cart. Also included in the price is all the bar-be-que you can eat and all the refreshments you can drink following the tournament. If you want to come, but you don't want to play, it's \$25 to eat, drink and watch your brothers make fools of themselves.

Included below are directions to Columbia Golf Club:

- Take I-255 Across the JB Bridge
- After the bridge get off on the first exit, (Columbia Rt. 3)
- this is about two miles off the bridge
- When you get on Columbia take the next exit (on right)
- Make a left on Palmer
- When on Palmer take the 2nd left onto Old State Rt. 3
- The course is up the hill from Weber Chevrolet.



Contact Information

For information pertaining to any of these events contact Jeff Wehner at (573) 332-0909 or e-mail Jeff at: jeff_wehner@hotmail.com

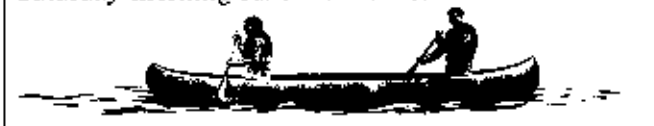


More pictures from the 50 Anniversary / Homecoming Banquet. "We would love to put all your pictures in the Newsletter but there is just not enough room."

Alumni Float Trip

The Alumni Float Trip has been set for May 3rd this year. The past three years we have been able to combine two separate float trips from two separate Sig Tau eras. This year because of scheduling conflicts, the Active White Rose Formal and the Alumni Float Trip are on the same day. Neither event could be moved because of either Easter, Golf Tour., Mother's Day, Graduation or Memorial Day fell on those weekends. We may have a second float trip midsummer for the Actives attending Formal.

Dave O'Neal is the alumni contact person for this event. He has taken it upon himself to get the event set up and if you have any questions, you can reach him via e-mail at Dave.ONeal@ipaper.com. Please consider attending this event. It is a great time and is of very little cost to you. Camping is available on both Friday and Saturday nights at the same place we camp at every year. Bus pick-up Saturday morning runs from 7-10.



INTERNET INFO:

Active: www.fnd.net/sigtau/ or

Alumni: www.geocities.com/sigtaualphaphi



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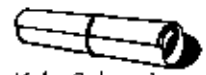
**More Pictures
From Homecoming**



"I would like to thank Kyle Schweiss (above with cup) for writing most every article for the Rosevine in the past two years. He has been a huge help. Good luck in the future."
- Tom Rose



Senior Sounds Off



By: Kyle Schweiss

These past four years have been quite a learning experience. Not only have I lived the typical life of a college student--early morning class, countless parking tickets, and endless nights of cramming--and the typical life of a Greek student--making the most out of my weekends, putting Homecoming before Christmas, and thinking the best cure for a Friday night hangover was an early Saturday morning start--but I've also lived the typical Sig Tau life--brotherhood at it's best.

Through it all, there stands one recurring theme. Change. With regard to the fraternity, in recent years many things have been altered. Some due to legal issues, some University policies, and still others changes passed down by our National Headquarters. "Pledges" are now "associates", the huge Friday night beer busts are now invite-only, BYOB gatherings, and being academically successful is no longer just a personal choice, but also a fraternity obligation.

I am proud to say that through it all, the fraternity and its members have not lost sight of their ultimate purpose. The underlying ground-

work on which our fraternity was founded--our Principles, our Creed, and our Brotherhood--still remains in tact and is as strong as ever.

As we close the chapter of our first fifty years and look ahead to the next fifty, more changes are sure to come. As such, it is important that our solid alumni base understands and accepts these changes. As an active chapter, we have gone to great measures to protect and keep our valued traditions. Some have had to be modified and many are still around. But even though some have been discarded due to aforementioned reasons, our greatest tradition of all--our brotherhood--has always, and will always remain.

Before I go, I would just like to say that it has been a tremendous honor working on the Rosevine these past three years. I apologize to anyone I bored or offended, it was certainly not my intention. And as I cross over to your side, I look forward to hopefully reuniting with many of you in the future. And on behalf of the chapter, thanks to all of you who have supported us through both the good times and the bad.



Alumni Spotlight



Alpha Phi brother, Rich Hantak ('61), concluded his second career this year as he officiated his final game in the National Football League. Hantak, who graduated from Southeast with a degree in Physical Education and Industrial Arts, officiated for 35 years on four levels, which either coincided with or followed a 31 year teaching career. In addition to his undergraduate degree, he also received a Masters in Guidance Counseling from Southeast in 1971.

As an educator, Hantak taught, coached, and counseled in the St. Louis city and county public school systems. He spent the majority of his time as a teacher in the Mehlville district, where he taught and guided students for 23 years. He retired from teaching in 1993, and continued his part-time career of officiating.

Hantak began officiating high school games in 1968. Within a span of ten years, he hurdled his way to and through the college ranks, making stops in the MIAA Division and the Big 8 Conference. In 1978 he broke into the NFL as a Line Judge, where he became one of the first rookie officials to be selected to work the playoffs.

This was a trend that would continue for the next twenty-five years. Twenty-four of those years, Hantak was selected to work the post-season, excluding only his inaugural season as a referee. He was also given the highest honor an official can receive. He was selected to work two Super Bowls; Super Bowl XVII, which saw the Redskins upend the Dolphins which he worked as a Line Judge and Super Bowl XXVIII, which saw Dallas dismantle the Buffalo Bills despite the infamous Leon Lett fumble. Hantak worked this game as the referee. He retired this fall after 25 years in the League.

During his experience as a teacher, he had a student who would become a future Alpha Phi brother and go on to do extraordinary things. Lieutenant General Jim Conway of the United States Marines is still serving in active duty. He is a three-star General currently stationed in Kuwait. With the possibility of war in this region looming, Brother Hantak asked me to make mention of this and send out his best wishes and prayers for Brother Conway. His request is not only granted but seconded. May God bless our Brother and all the soldiers who serve beneath him.



**Sigma Tau Gamma
Alpha Phi**

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OFFICERS

President:
Mike Garber

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Gabe Hoxop

Membership:
Nick Schweiss

Programs:
Michael Meyer

Finance:
Brent Bohnert



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Sig Tau Calendar of Events

April 26th Sig Tau Golf Tournament

May 3rd Sig Tau White Rose Formal

May 3rd Sig Tau Alumni Float Trip

May 17th SEMO Graduation

June 21st SEMO Night at Busch
4:00 pre-game party at Drury Plaza
7:10 Game with Kansas City

Aug. 25th SEMO classes begin



Oct. 3-5th SEMO Homecoming Weekend

Check Web Site for updates: www.geocities.com/sigtaualphaphi

Make check payable to:
Sigma Tau Gamma

Please return to:

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727 N. Sprigg
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701



Cut bottom off and return to Brent Bohnert.

Help secure the future of the fraternity to afford the brothers of tomorrow the same opportunities you had.



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Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____