

1977

THE GRIP



Presidents Message

by D. Sowchuck

As I look forward to my second year as President of Gamma Delta Psi, I see a year that will play an important part in the future of the Fraternity. In recent years, we have observed a steady decline in the number of chapters. This trend will have to cease if we are to demonstrate any kind of strength in our 1979 centennial.

My major disappointment to this date, is that there are no set plans for our Centennial. As of present only a few ideas have been tossed around, no actual plans discussed. The sad humour of it all, is that at this point, only the older passive brothers are showing any interest. The youth of the Fraternity is very content to simply pass the problem on to next years youth.

The Fraternity is fortunate in that they have a strong I.B.C.. The new I.B.C. has over forty years of Fraternity behind them. Each Brother has proven himself throughout Gamma Delta Psi. It is of course hard to plan activities when the chapters participation is doubtful. The treasury is not in any position to lose money, so the future is in your hands.

Although increasing the number of chapters is necessary, it is vital that we prevent our now active chapters from going defunct. The I.B.C. can only do so much in this aspect, it is up to the stronger chapters to assist the board. I realise chapter rivalry has long played an important role in keeping Gamma Delta Psi strong. We must now realise that the stronger chapters assisting the not so strong chapter will keep Brotherhood high, and the Fraternity strong. Just think, one group of young men helping another with one common bond and one goal in mind, "keeping Gamma Delta Psi number one."

In closing I would like to help the people who helped and supported me last year, and I am looking forward to one of the most successful years the Fraternity has seen in a long time.

Editorial Info.

by C. Adams

I'm sure many of you older Brothers will be shocked, maybe even disappointed by this Grip. The times, they are a changing, and we have had to change or be swept aside. A decade ago the fraternity began a period of prosperity and growth in which money and volunteers were readily available to the Board. They were able to publish Grips professionally and regularly. Unfortunately things have changed radically. Half of our chapters have been lost, and the existing chapters have trouble even supporting themselves financially. There are exceptions of course but not many.

There have not been many Grips published in the last few years as a result of lack of interest from the chapters and a lack of funds.

This publication is an experiment of sorts. It has been done as cheaply as possible and has been distributed as widely as possible. We are counting on you the old and new brother alike. If you feel the Grip is a worthwhile aspect of Fraternity life than support it. Support it with your ideas, articles, letters and if possible your donations. The reason we ask this is that Gamma Delta Psi has barely enough money to function within the active regions of the fraternity. It can not take on the financial burden of this publication even though it is minimal.

The Grip could conceivably be lost for some time, unless some of the brothers who care, care enough to support it. With the Grip would go the last means of communication between the many generations of brothers Gamma Delta Psi has proudly produced. This Grip will be read from California and Texas through to Canada. An International publication from an INTERNATIONAL FRATERNITY.

If you don't like the Grip, lets hear it, don't just sit on your duff and huff.

Secretarial Ramblings
by G. (Sparky) Thompson

This year at Convention some interest was expressed in giving Gamma Delta Psi a "booster shot" by building up the present chapters and trying to get crescent clubs. This is a tough job for a variety of reasons. However, it is not impossible. Potential crescent clubs are out there, they just have to be found. This is not a job for seven men on the Board of Control but for every Brother. The Fraternity has survived for ninety-seven years, and to continue to survive past centennial and on to our bi-centennial, expansion is important.

There was not a large turn-out at convention this year, but those there were strong in brotherhood. Gamma Delta Psi can survive on a small number of strong brothers, but not forever. We must expand. Hopefully the centennial and civics done by individual chapters may bring us some good publicity, so go to that meeting, or RALLY Sunday afternoon. Write letters. I'm sure that any board member will answer any hand written letter he receives. We must act now before it is too late. So go out and do it.... You will only get out of Gamma Delta Psi what you put in to it. If you are a Corresponding Secretary please get your address to me, so I can get you on the mailing list.

Lets make a big comeback for our ninety-eighth birthday so that our hundredth may be one that everyone will remember.

LIST OF OFFICERS

Board of Control

President-----Don Sowchuck
Southern V.P.-----David Stevens
Northern V.P.-----Bruce Johnstone
Secretary-----Gerry Thompson
Treasurer-----Gary Condon
Historian-----Malcolm Allen
Editor-----Chris Adams

Board of Trustees

Chairman not yet elected
Member Ken Marskell
Member Ron Fleming
Member Mac Stoodley
Member Barry Yeates
Member Danny Wyatt
Member Kevin Stockdale
Member George Sowchuck

EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO AND ATTEND

- Oct. 8, 9, 10, & 11 -- Canadian Thanksgiving Weekend-
Southern Rally at Richard Bland College
Canadian Brothers will attend in force
So will Southern Brothers
- Oct. 16, (Sat.) -- Southern I.B.C. dance at the Armory
All should attend
- Oct. 30, (Sat.) -- Northern I.B.C. Pub - Night HALLOWEEN
The Elizabeth room at the Queensway Hotel
In St. Catherines
All should attend
- Nov. 7, (Sun.) -- Northern Presidents Conference at Pres.
Sowchucks Apt. in St. Catherines.

Further information for all up-coming events will be forwarded by Sparky T.

Historian Report(with a slight editorial)

by K.Stockdale for Malcolm Allen

50 yrs ago-1926- Brother E. J. Stewart of Nu was elected President of the National Board of Control.Nineteen active chapters stretching from Eau Clair Wisconsin through Philadelphia and Washington to Brookline Massachusetts.

30 yrs ago-1946- Gamma Delta Psi going through rough times,World War 11 was over.Brother Don Lichty of Zeta elected President at Detroit Convention, first held since 1942. Maybe six semi-active chapters exist.

10 yrs ago-1966- An "unknown" Brother, R.E.(Bob) Guthrie re-elected at Richmond VA. Convention.An era is off to a great start with FIVE chapters inducted, more than any other year, with 1909 being the only year to match it. We have been an International Fraternity for twelve years now and the Board is in Canada.

1976 now-----Fraternity led by Don Sowchuck holds a very successful Convention in Hamilton.With a great deal of spirit Gamma Delta Psi looks to an uncertain 1977.

1977 ----Best Convention in twenty years, attended by over 100 Brothers. All chapters present,Beta Gamma re-activated. Gamma Delta,(last years most improved chapter, and attendance award winners) volunteers brothers for IBC offices.All southern chapters support and sponser functions, previously done only by Gamma Theta.Old Alumni contacted, invited to attend meetings. Dues paid on time. Younger brothers volunteer to assume IBC positions. Fraternity means more than dope and beer parties.All brothers working for and looking forward to Centennial 1979.

Brothers, that 1979 can be a reality, but only if YOU want it.Please dont be shy ,submit ideas,volunteer.Stealing a line from the Washington Redskins I say our motto for 1977 MUST be "IF NOT NOW,WHEN?"

THOUGHTS

Individuality is everywhere to be gaurded and honored as the root of all good.
Richter

To know how to hide ones ability is great skill.
La Rochefoucauld

To live is not to live for ones self alone;let us help one another.
Menander

Letters from Interested Brothers

Dear Bro. Don (Sowchuck)

I was surprised at a letter from Canada. I did receive one back in Mar. of 76 from John Miszik from Toronto, Canada. He was Int. President from 71-73 he states. How did you find me?

Back two or three years ago I wanted to go to the National (Con.), planned to, and then something came up at the last minute and I was unable to go. I did get a wire sent from Crystal City Va., I guess the convention was Arlington Va. I have been writing on and off since 73 but then the fellows graduate and go out in life, and I never hear from them again. Then along comes a letter and the correspondance begins again.

I appreciate knowing there is to be a Centennial. I hope so, I would like to go, which no doubt will be in the summer of 79. Will there be a Conv. in 77 or 78 in the interim? I hope I can go, plus I hope I am living.

Our chapter started in about 1900 I estimate. Chi Chapter, the third chapter in Eau Claire, Wisc. I was delegate to the Nat. in Boston in 1924 I believe. Result was I was kicked out of everything in school because I belonged to a Fraternity.

I loved Gamma, it was the finest item in my life. To be a member of Gamma, was like being a member of the U.S. Senate in my School. Two members a year taken in from a school in a town of thirty thousand and a large student body. I sent all of my personal mementoes to your National Archives one year.

I sure hope I am living and well and I have money to spare to attend the Convention. I will also have to work on my wife so she will want to attend. Maybe get her to want to see Canada.

I still work 16 hrs a week to supplement my retirement. I have been in the wholesale and retail meat business all my life, never got rich, but lived comfortable and raised a family. Never did finish College, had only two years.

Thank you for writing me, don't forget to write again. If there is an active Chapter near me please have them write me.

Fraternally

Malcolm S. Dixon

P.S. Send a memo to all chapters to keep going- send it over my name- Gamma Delta Psi is a character developer of good men. Just think how I feel at 71

Expansion Now

Gamma Delta Psi is going through a very trying period and is threatening to become an Alumni Fraternity. This indicates that an influx of new blood is urgently needed.

If you know of anyone, cousin, son, grandson, friend, nephew, who is currently in high school, and who you feel would benefit from the Fraternity. If you think he would be interested in forming a Chapter, contact us at once.

We are employing every means possible to turn the tide of apathy around, and expand enthusiastically into the coming Centennial of Gamma Delta Psi.

GRIP MAILING ADDRESS
GAMMA DELTA PSI
706 GREEN MEADOW CR.
MISSISSAUGA, OMT.
L5A 2V5

A CHANCE FOR THE CHAPTERS TO BRAG

Gamma Delta

This year Gamma Delta hit 95 Brothers with 15 active at present. We held two Pledge Periods and inducted 13 new Brothers. We held a dance and raised 100 dollars for Charity, and threw many fine Parties. We were awarded two awards at Convention including Most Improved Chapter. The coming year promises to be a fine year for Gamma Delta.

Gord Smith

Alpha Eta

Alpha Eta inducted 6 new members this year and with we hope comes the strength to carry our Chapter forward. We have had many parties with Sororities in the area. We have also been active in sports, mostly football. We went undefeated again this year. We hope this year, with a little help from our brothers we can become stronger in brotherhood, and more active within the Fraternity

Lou Muraca

Only two chapters sent in reports so I have to assume the rest of you have nothing to brag about. Ed.

ALUMNI NOTES

Tom Smelle-Beta Xi- To be married Oct 9
Kevin Rouselle-Beta Xi- Married Sept. 18
Gary Levenson- Gamma Theta- now attending V.M.I.
Danny Wyatt -Trustee- Congratulations on the birth of your son Rusty
Bruce Johnstone, Kevin Stockdale, & Chris Adams- are now members of the Mortgage Club
John Burns -- Is a V.P. in the Westinghouse Broadcasting System
Bob Richbourg-Gamma Nu - Is stationed some place in Texas & a newlywed
Cornellius Zelliher- Zeta- Is serving his country in the C.I.A.
Mike Terry -Gamma Nu- Is attending U of Richmond
Ron & Don Denny -are attending U of C.V.
Tom Peyton - is also hanging around U of C.V.
Steve Lambert -Beta Alpha- Working at the Hyatt Regency in Richmond.
Scott, Dave, & John Manning -Gamma Alpha- Are all attending Institutions of higher education in Ontario.
Milt Gillies-Gamma Alpha- Is attending U of Toronto,
Baul Auger-Beta Sigma- Is attending College in Toronto
Gen. Douglas MacArther was definitely a brother in Rho in Milwaukee*
Edsel Ford WAS vice president of the Fraternity around 1933*
Rumour-Bernard Stroh of the Strohs Brewery family is a brother*

CHRIS ADAMS
706 GREEN MEADOW CR.
MISSISSAUGA, ONT. L5A 2V2



Jim Fermoile
8300 E. Jefferson
Detroit Mich.

48214

USA