

TAU CHAPTER NEWS LETTER

TO AND FOR OUR KAPPA SIGMA BROTHERS IN THE
ARMED FORCES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD



LETTER #10

Austin, Texas, April 1945

Brothers, your Editor craves letters and more letters. This publication of yours needs news of the brothers over-seas and in the Good Old U.S.A. There was a sharp falling off in letters this month from our brothers over-seas. We think we know the reason. They are so busy knifing the Nazis and slitting those slant-eyed sons--of Heaven they have not had much time for writing since our European and Pacific offensives have gotten into high gear. We can excuse these brothers from not writing. But you other brothers who are not moving fast in combat areas, and certainly you here on the Home Front, should get that pen in hand and give the Editor some copy about yourself and other Tau members. Remember:-- News about you is live news in this NEWS LETTER.

CHAPTER HOUSE TRUSTEES CALL IMPORTANT MEETING

The Tau Chapter Board of Chapter House Trustees is being called together for a meeting at the Chapter House on Wednesday, May 9, at 7:30 p.m. According to the notice, the meeting is to "(1) receive and review the financial statement of Tau Chapter, (2) plan the present and future operations of the Chapter during the remainder of the war, (3) review the financial statement of the Board of Chapter House Trustees, (4) pass upon requests of the Chapter for payment of certain expense items, (5) decide upon the suggested campaign for money to pay off the \$4,554.79 debt against the Chapter House and accumulate a fund to have the Chapter and Chapter House ready for Post-War operation, and (6) to consider any and all matters that may be brought up at the meeting."

This is an important meeting to the Chapter which is seeing such a rapid turn over, or turn-out, of its members as they go into the armed forces. We will lose about nine members and two pledges to the fighting forces before the next term beginning in July. It is a terrific boost to our morale to have the Chapter House Trustees, composed as it is of interested and experienced alumni, meet to plan for the Chapter's welfare.

We say more power to these Trustees. We will welcome them with open arms and invite them to have dinner with us before their meeting. Yes, we still have our table going and Mrs. Scott is still running the kitchen for us and giving us good eats.

TAU MEN IN TOP PLACES

Dr. Joe Gilbert, '95, Austin, for many years Director and Surgeon of the University of Texas Health Service has been known and beloved by University of Texas students since 1909 when he became the University Doctor. With the exception of the years 1921-29, when his surgical practice in Austin demanded all of his time, he has continuously served the University of Texas. He has been honored in years past by the medical profession by being elected the top man of the Medicos in Texas--President of the Texas Medical Association. He is listed in WHO'S IMPORTANT IN MEDICINE. He has been tops with Tau and important in Tau Chapter's activities for 35 years. He is Chairman of the Board of Chapter House Trustees since its re-organization in 1936. Dr. Joe will be 72 next year but the University continues him on in partial service although he has already reached faculty retirement age and Tau Chapter will likewise continue him on their list of prized and helpful alumni.

James P. Nash, Austin, an initiate of Alpha Eta Chapter at George Washington University, has been one of Tau Chapter's top helpers since he came to the University of Texas in 1914 as a teaching engineer in the Bureau of Economic Geology as an adjunct professor. The following year he married Ann Thornton, Austin, sister of Tau Chapter's illustrious Tudey Thornton, who has always been a loyal Kappa Sigma girl in her own right. Jim moved in the Kappa Sigma House when he came to the University as a young professor. After Jim left the University and applied his geology to discovering oil fields for himself and

his associates, he never lost his loyalty to and his interest in Tau Chapter. His beautiful and hospitable home in Austin, his wife and three lovely daughters have, with Jim himself, been a loyal Kappa Sigma stronghold and help to the Chapter. Jim has been on the Board of Chapter House Trustees and is one of its most helpful members. The Nashes have been tops with us throughout the years. Jim's standing with the oil men of Texas is evidenced by the fact that he has been elected Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the big and little oil companies in Texas cooperating with the Railroad Commission of Texas to eliminate the wastage of natural gas in Texas. Jim is tops with the oil boys, too.

Howard Dies, '39-'42, Leander, is and has been since he joined Tau Chapter a top man with the Chapter and the alumni of his vintage. He continues being tops by the job he is doing as Editor of TAU CHAPTER NEWS LETTER. The flavor of his writing in "Of Our Brothers Throughout the World" is delightful to the readers in the service. He knows most intimately the brothers since 1939-42 and that is why he can add the deft touch of his priceless sense of humor to his reporting on them. But Howard is tops for other good and sufficient reasons. He is a loyal, enthusiastic Kappa Sigma. The Dies Ranch near Leander some 25 miles northwest of Austin, with its spring-fed swimming pool, open-air dance floor, scenic beauty and hospitable ranch house and guest houses have been for years the scene of countless Kappa Sigma parties. His gracious mother is a veritable mother to all Tau men. They all genuinely love her. Many are the rushees who pledged Kappa Sigma at the Dies Ranch. The hospitality of the Dies family is contagious. Jack Dies, the husband and father, created that hospitable atmosphere during his life-time. Howard and Mrs. Dies have continued it and managed the ranch since he died in 1943. Howard and his mother are both tops with Tau and Tau's alumni. Howard is making a lasting contribution to Tau Chapter and its alumni in the job he is doing as Editor of this publication.

CAN YOU HELP US LOCATE THESE BROTHERS ?

When we mailed out the letters to 212 brothers and pledges whose names we added to our mailing list last month we expected some of the addresses we had of them would not be correct. Thus far 66 of these NEWS LETTERS have been returned. Here are the names of these brothers whose NEWS LETTERS were returned because of improper address. Will you write the Editor giving their proper address if you know it?--O. F. Ackley, '14; Henry B. Beeler, '41; W. C. Bell, '07; Maclin Hobbs Benagh, Jr., '38; Ben Bird, '31; Robert Blackshear, '35; Walter B. Booth, '16; Joseph Lester Brooks, '40; Richard E. Brook, '37; Robert Frances Brown, '42; H. M. Carroll, '17; Walter Compton, '28; Frank E. Crimmins, '15; James M. Davis, '03; Charles B. Dewees, '42; H. A. Dosier, '24; William A. Eklund, '44; Eugene Ellingson, '36; Joe E. Estes, '27; Louis Ferguson, '29; Raymond W. Fischer, '30; Joe Fenley Flack, '43; Kenneth B. Ford, '40; Marion Gray, '25; E. H. Griff-ith, '31; Bill Hord, '34; J. C. Hutcheson, '31; John C. Hyatt, '40; Joe Russell Isbell, '19; Isaac Jalonik, '84; Harry Jordan, '35; John Thomas Lawson, '97; Branch Coleman Lipscomb, '42; Wm. Taylor Long, '30; Hilmar Luetcke, '31; Claibourne Lynch, '29; Grady S. McCarter, Jr., '40; Oscar McCracken, '26; James K. McKay, Jr., '38; E. Sinks McLarty, '40; Cullen Pace Massie, '19; Winston B. Massie, '27; Ernest Nalle, Jr., '44; Daniel Parker, Jr., '98; Jack C. Phillips, '40; Nash McDowell Phillips, '41; Samuel W. Polk, '26; J. R. Pope, '24; William Neal Powers, Jr., '41; George Richardson, '35; R. P. Sansom, '11; A. V. Sawyers, '29; Francis Ball Scheuber, '04; John V. Singleton, '06; Jimmy Hannaford Smith, '42; Stephen Girard Smith, '15; Tom D. Smith, '26; Cornelius C. Sullivan, Jr., '29; H. E. Taylor, '34; Ralph M. Turner, Jr., '36; Gregg Cooper Waddill, '38; Knox Williams, '19; Parker Frank Wilson, '42; Charles J. Worrel, Jr., '40; Charles Wm. Worrel, '41; and W. Flowers Wren, '21.

OF OUR BROTHERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

The Austin-Statesman of April 17 contained the following interesting item:-- "Capt. George D. Hendricks, 6 Enfield Rd., Austin, has been awarded the Bronze Star medal for meritorious service during the 95th Infantry division's drive through Metz to the Siegfried line. "Throughout this period of offensive operations, Capt. Hendricks performed his duties in such manner as to greatly facilitate the combat operations of his unit," said the army announcement of the award. Capt. Hendricks was graduated from the University of Texas with a masters degree before he entered military service Feb. 1, 1941."

Col. Hamilton Folts (Pat) Searight, '15, Austin, initiated in 1909, a Regular Army Field Artillery officer was in command of the 31st Philippine Field Artillery when the Japs invaded the Philippines. The last word his wife or family had from him was written from Bataan March 6, 1942, received the following August. Pat's friends are anxiously hoping that he will eventually turn up safe and sound.

Mrs. Clayte Binion, Jr., of Lufkin writes as follows:--"Just received my husband's

copy of the TAU CHAPTER NEWS LETTER; please accept my compliments on a piece of literature which I know men overseas enjoy reading. I enclosed the letter in my daily correspondence to my husband, now a Marine stationed in the Marianna Islands, and know he will be looking forward to future publications. My husband, Private Clayte Binion, Jr., is a newspaper man from the toes to the head. He isn't in public relations but is unattached currently pending assignment in those divisions which are mopping up on the Japs. Clayte volunteered April 21, 1944, and went overseas January 1945. The three children and I are still here in our home. I am trying to make my feet follow some darn good tracks made by my husband on the Lufkin Daily News. By the way a younger Binion brother, a Kappa Sigma from Tau Chapter, Cavett, is now in Ft. Worth in the capacity of Assistant United States District Attorney. Thanks for your letter -- keep it up."

J. K. Lyles, '28, Amarillo, writes saying that he appreciates every word in the NEWS LETTER. He says:-- "Frankly I would certainly hate to see the LETTER discontinued after the war is over, what I think should be done is to take subscriptions for the NEWS LETTER at so much a year." Juke says he has been busy since the war started making 105MM shell boxes for the Pantex Ordnance Plant and that the NEWS LETTER is about the only contact he has had with Austin and his many friends mentioned in the NEWS LETTER.

Rufus G. Ransome, LL.B. '20, of the law firm of Davenport & Ransome, Brownsville, giving his present address as the First National Bank Building, Brownsville and says that he has been enjoying these NEWS LETTERS and hopes they will continue to come.

Major Bill Crombie writes in to say that his wife has forwarded several of the NEWS LETTERS and that he wants to express his very sincere thanks for a very fine little gossip column. "It's really nice to find where some of the brothers are stationed, especially so since I've lost contact with most of them." Bill straightens us out on his address and tells us that he is from El Paso instead of Sherman. Bill says that much to his regret he has not run across any of the brothers since he went to Dumpy Thompson's wedding about a year and one-half ago. Bill reports: "The German airforce seems to be almost completely non-existent except for a few jets. They don't even come up enough anymore to keep our morale up. They still have a lot of flak, although, even that is not as bad as it used to be." Bill's address: Major W. S. Crombie, O-417286, 385 Fighter Sqdn., 364 Fighter Group, APO 557, C/O Postmaster, New York, N. Y.

Tau Chapter is proud of the officers of the National Fraternity for the recognition Kappa Sigma will give to families of Kappa Sigmas who give their lives in the service of our country in this war. A memorial certificate and a pin, designed by the National Fraternity Jeweler, will be sent to the family of each Kappa Sigma who gives his life in service. To our way of thinking this is a great and appreciative act by a great and appreciated National Fraternity.

NEWS OF THE CHAPTER

The excitement mounted high this month as the advent of the annual "Round-Up" made necessary the selection of a University Sweetheart. After much campaigning, party throwing, etc.; Sammie Farrier of Z.T.A. was chosen. The actual revue was colorful and the dance fine. The Chapter played host to the Sweetheart nominees and the visiting Sweethearts of the schools of the Southwest Conference. Mrs. Scott came through, as usual, with tasty meals and the event seemed a great success.

The intramural standings so far in the all year trophy race have come out. We rank second, trailing slightly the Delta Taus and right above the S.A.E.s. Baseball as well as volleyball have come into their own along with tennis singles. Our capable managers are racing to assemble potent teams from material that is, sometimes, all too scarce. They were rewarded somewhat last week when our volleyball team eaked out a victory over the Sigma Nus.

The front woodwork of the house is now being repainted and looks almost new. This is only one of the improvements planned, pending the close of the war and the refilling of our ranks.

We have been receiving, besides the always gratifying letters, voluntary contributions from various alumni throughout the country. These gifts are appreciated greatly by the Chapter and are being applied to various things which seem pressing. It is not, however, so much the money as it is the encouragement of knowing that our efforts are not unnoticed. Besides being reassuring, these letters often give us news of alumni and keep us in touch with their doings. We hope you will not forget your Chapter and we know your Chapter will not forget you.

Bryan Williams, G.S.

ADDRESS YOUR REPLIES TO THE EDITOR, TAU CHAPTER NEWS LETTER, 203 W.19th St., AUSTIN, TEXAS.



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