

Season's Greetings from the KAPPA SIGMA

~~At 20~~
Spring 91

Dear Kappa Sigma Zeta Alumni,

Alas, a letter from your fraternity. For those who may have temporarily forgotten about us, we are alive and well in good 'ol Alfred, NY. It has been an interesting two years here. We have changed many aspects of our house, from the actual appearance and shape of the house to the social functions that we have. Due to current demands placed on our brotherhood we have been forced to grow strong and direct our chapter successfully into the future. The following officer reports give an idea of what is going on.

From the desk of: High Alpha

Many challenges have faced our chapter in the past, but none as important as the tasks we must now meet. As of Oct. 7, 1990, the national fraternity has placed the chapter on probation.

For those Alums who attended the housing corporation meeting on Oct. 20, my remarks will sound familiar. I will begin by explaining the origin of our situation.

Three years ago the general assembly passed a resolution stating that no chapter funds were to be used for the purchasing of alcohol. This also prohibits the "pooling of funds" to buy alcohol, as well as bulk containers (kegs). Previously, the brotherhood has tried to ignore the policies by hiding our actions. However, in attempt to comply with national's wishes, in Spring 90 a dry rush program was attempted for the first time ever in Alfred by our chapter. Some of the activities included a basketball tournament, a free bowling night, a mixer barbecue, and a poker night. Unfortunately, with no support from the university administration or from the other fraternities who were still offering free beer, our rush took a beating and no one was initiated that semester.

With a negative image prevalent on campus and a graduation of about 20 brothers, the chapter decided again to be non-conformant with national's

standards. Much of the dissension and apathy was lost and the chapter regained popularity and respect. However, on Oct. 7 the consultant arrived and discovered that we were not complying with national's policies. Other chapters were closed for similar violations, but we were placed on probation outlined by the following:

- 1.) No social functions until Nov. 1, 1990
- 2.) Sell the beer cooler (tap system)
- 3.) Pay an insurance surcharge of \$100/man/year.
- 4.) Elect a risk manager (High Iota)
- 5.) Implement Chapter risk Management Policies and the BYOB party System.

The concern of Kappa Sigma Zeta is of course, the survival of our chapter. Several proposed solutions were generated, but we determined that for the insured success of our chapter, we need the support of the university to enforce a BYOB system. Housing Corp. stated at our meeting that they will be drafting a letter and sending it to all alumni for you to forward to the president of the university, President Coll. This letter will simply ask for his support in helping Alfred University comply with the laws and policies of the state and of each of the national fraternities (Every national fraternity is feeling the same heat from their respective nationals, but has also failed to comply). The pressure from these letters is vital for the prosperous future of Kappa Sigma Zeta of Lambda Chi Alpha.

With the reality of our chapter's charter in jeopardy, we are forced to comply with our probation conditions. Lambda Chi Alpha is the forerunner in risk management and the other national fraternal organizations are moving in the same direction. While the future of our chapter will be dictated in the following months, I know that through the strength of the brotherhood and alumni our fraternity will prevail and be a pioneer on the Alfred campus. The traditions, principles, and ideals

of our chapter are much too important to do otherwise.

Jeffrey A. Harger
KS 1297

From the desk of: High Beta

Another semester has passed, and Lambda Chi Alpha is again number one when it comes to helping the Alfred-Alfred Station community. We raised \$1925.00 through our second annual See-Saw 72. We see sawed for 72 consecutive hours on an oversized, bright yellow, teeter totter on the AU bandstand lawn. We solicited money from passerbys, Alfred faculty and staff, and the area businesses. On December 2nd, and we presented a check to Dr. Harrie Stevens (KS 635), president of the Alfred-Alfred Station Community Chest, at our formal business meeting. As a result, we are the single largest contributor to the community chest's goal of \$25,000.00. Over winter recess I will submit this community affairs project for the Tozier Brown award at the next national meeting.

As you probably know, we participated in the AU Telethon this semester. Every brother went down for at least four hours to solicit money for the university. Whichever organization solicits the most money wins cash awards. The winner won't be announced until mid-January, but we are definitely in the running. We will again participate in this next year, so if you get a call from a student, please ask them to have a Lambda brother call you. It would help us in the competition, but more important it would give us a chance to share stories.

We threw another christmas party for the Adopt -A-Youth. They were very disappointed when they saw that we no longer have a cooler. After dressing the christmas tree and a visit from Santa, the children left a much happier group of people.

Since national has done away with our faculty wine and cheese party, we are going to have a different type of faculty mixer next semester. We are investigating the idea of a "southern BBQ", "tea party", or a "Breakfast before classes". If you have any ideas for a theme (that does not involve alcohol), please send let me know.

Due to the deletion of AU's nursing school, we have assumed full responsibility for the Alfred University Blood Drive, next October.

We plan on continuing what we have started next semester. We are planning to have a campus wide "Airband", and another "run (drive) to Mansfield", to raise money for our community. Again, we are soliciting some of your ideas for fund-raisers.

High Beta
Andrew Sosnick

From the desk of: High Iota

This is the first semester that our house has had the office of High Iota. The general assembly created the new High Zeta office to develop, implement and supervise a risk management program at the chapter level. I am responsible for implementing safety measures for all social events, community service events, kitchen operations, house management and fire safety. So far this semester I have concentrated on social events and bringing the house up to fire code, two areas requiring the most attention. With these areas going well, I am looking to direct the responsibilities of my office to other areas of the house next semester.

In Zax,
Darren Kraft

From the desk of: High Sigma

This December Kappa sigma has Six brothers graduating. They are (and their respective degrees): Rob Piersielak (IE), Sean Gilbride (CE), Peter Tomanovich (CE), Steve Brzytwa (CE), Scott Van Woert (Pol. Sci.), and finally, Michael Kinner (Bus.). We wish them all luck.

High Sigma is now an ex-officio member of the executive. Changes have also been made to the Association requirements. All members associating after Jan. 1, 1991 shall have at least a 2.25, and brothers are required to keep a minimum of a 2.0, or

will be placed on scholastic probation.

Any member on scholastic probation will meet regularly with the exec. committee and High Sigma to review his academic progress. No member is to attend chapter functions which the exec. committee deems would interfere with the academic success of any brother placed on scholastic probation. In addition, no member placed on scholastic probation can hold any office in the chapter.

These rules, as passed by the national assembly, will hopefully motivate all members to maintain an acceptable GPA and assist with their academic success.

In Zax,
Greg "Cheesy" Coccagnia

From the desk of: Historian

We at Kappa Sigma would sincerely like to thank all of those alumni brothers who came back to Alfred and our chapter house this past Homecoming weekend. We appreciated the insightful comments about how we should proceed into the future as a brotherhood.

During their stay with us, many Alumni's donated old pictures for the house as well as composites. This was greatly appreciated as I am putting together a pictorial history of Kappa Sigma Zeta. If anyone has any pictures or ideas to donate, please send them to me in care of the house.

In Zax,
Patrick "Axe" Stowell KS1296

From the desk of: High Delta

On December 4, 1990, Alfred Universities Inter-Greek Council (IGC) met and created a dry rush program which will take place this upcoming spring semester. With the help of Don King (VP of Student Affairs), President Coll, and IGC a solution to a big problem within the Greek system has apparently surfaced.

For the first week of rush each fraternity is given a two hour time slot where they may have a dry rush function. No other greek organization may have a function at this time. The next two weeks will follow the same format with the exception of four hour time slots.

During the first three weeks there are going to be inter-greek activities including a ski trip and a greek's only night at Gentleman Jims.

Another change to the current system is the implementation of a bid system as used by most fraternities around the country. Instead of having just a pref night, each prospect is given a bid, which is an invitation to associate at Kappa Sigma Zeta of Lambda Chi Alpha. The prospective member will be given this bid three nights before preference night to determine whether he desires to strive to become a brother of our house. We feel that this is a more formal way of handling pre-association, not to mention a good method of enticing young men to join our house.

Though this program is a major step in our conforming to nationals policies, it will work only if we get the promised support from the university. If successful, this should assure us of having a large spring class.

Mark "Pop-Pop" Speyer
KS 1309

From the desk of: High Phi

This semester we initiated six new brothers to our chapter, hitting the KS 1316 mark. The ritual team was well prepared and performed flawlessly. I would like to invite any interested Alum brother to attend either the tapping (February 15, 1991) or brothering ceremony. I will be sending out invitations to the brothering ceremony next semester when the date is determined. Hopefully we will see many of you there.

I am also re-installing the formal opening and closing ceremonies for conducting business. The first formal meeting was when we presented the Alfred Community Chest with a check from our fund

for them.

John Corn
KS 1285

From the desk of: House Manager

The house has been in a state of remodeling for the past two years. Two summers ago a few brothers stayed in the house for the summer. The kitchen was remodeled and a new commercial stove was installed. Other projects included remodeling the public bathrooms in the party room and repairing the walls in the hallways and rooms. During that next semester, the driveway was repaved, all broken windows in the house were replaced or repaired, the water heaters were replaced, and many of the doors to rooms were replaced. In addition, the hallways and chapter room received new carpeting. The total for these repairs was approximately \$30,000.

This past summer the house received a new roof (with the help of Mark O'Meara). These projects were the main structural projects that had to be done, and with their completion the interior aesthetics are now being addressed.

The Chapter room is now receiving a new sheet rock ceiling which will be completed over break. The infamous sleeping porch is being renovated into a brothers' lounge. Old composites, the pool table, TV, and video games will be located in this room as the Chapter room will be locked and used only for brotherhood only functions. The study/boff room is being renovated into a study/computer room. This room will include a vax terminal, the exam and homework file cabinets, and some usable desks. In addition, all woodwork in the entire house was restained and will be polyurethaned next semester. All hallways also received a fresh coat of paint.

Future renovations for the house include redoing the sheet rock walls in the hallways, sealing the new driveway, replacing all remaining broken doors, and renovating all remaining ceilings in the house.

The house is looking better than it has ever before in the years that I have been a brother, and with continued alumni support, it will look even better.

Rob Piersielak
(ex House Manager)
Kai Lincoln
Current House manager

From the desk of: High Rho

I would like to apologize for the lack of alumni communication in the past two years. That negligence on our part should not happen again.

I would also like to thank all the alums that showed up for the housing corp. meeting held homecoming weekend. I have never seen such a good turnout of alumni for any event.

The main topic of this meeting was the chapter's probation situation. Options were discussed, current brothers explained the current status of the house, and various alums offered their opinions of what to do. Probably the most significant opinion of the day came from Robert Cotton, KS 320. He reminded us all that fraternities are much more than just parties. They are about friendships, shared experiences, and that they should be an academic stimulant as opposed to a hindrance. He also reminded us that when he was an Alfred student this was a dry town and that did not detract from his fraternity experience in the slightest.

Another result of this discussion was Ernie Germano's (KS 842) suggestion of an Alumni mailing to President Coll asking for University support in helping us to achieve compliance with national's requirements and policies. Ernie has already mailed several letters to President Coll and to our house. Enclosed is a copy of one such letter to our house. Ernie expresses his feelings of the housing corporation meeting and of our current brotherhood. Please take the time to read this letter, as it sums up much of what has been stated elsewhere in this letter.

Another topic of this meeting was the creation of an Alumni fund to be used exclusively for house maintenance and upkeep. Annual donations by each alumni given directly to the housing corp treasurer will keep this account alive and the house well. More information on this will be given in a future mailing to be sent out by Brian Feinberg (KS 1201), housing corp. secretary.

Lastly, housing corp elections were held. Gary DelRegno was reinstated as president, Licio Pennisi as vice-president, Brian Feinberg as secretary, and Mark O'Meara as treasurer. A new board was also elected.

The meeting closed, and all brothers and alums attended a BBQ down at the AU bandstand to celebrate the 72nd hour of see-sawing.

It was great to meet so many Alfred Lambda Chi's. Unfortunately, our house has not enjoyed the strong Alumni support that other fraternities do. From the events of this past meeting, I believe that this is changing. If every brother would make an effort to come back to Alfred AT LEAST once every five years, our alumni program can grow to the level it should be at. I am asking every brother who attended this past homecoming to call the brothers they associated (or pledged) with and ask them to attend next falls homecoming.

The input from Mr. Cotton was valued by the entire brotherhood. Ernie's letters have been a great support to the house, and many of us have developed a friendship with him as well as other alums. Furthermore, our entire brotherhood is looking forward to the visit of Ernie's boy scout troop this upcoming January which will give them an idea of college life. We would love to get involved in other alumni activities and welcome your suggestions.

I would like to thank Mark O'Meara for his years of help and assistance to our house. While here in Alfred, Mark was always available and willing to help with any problem or project we were involved in, and was always a positive voice

for Lambda on the Alfred campus. We miss his presence on the Alfred campus, and on behalf of the entire brotherhood wish him the best of luck in Virginia.

I am now in the illustrious ranks of the Alfred Alumni Association as I am DONE!! My years at Lambda Chi Alpha have been personally rewarding, and I will never forget the guidance, friendships, and experiences that have made me who I am today. I wish the entire brotherhood the best of luck, and look forward to seeing you all (and a ton of other alums) next Hot Dog Day and Homecoming next fall. I'm outta here.....

Yours In Zax,
Rob Piersielak
KS 1281

Alumni Update:

Marriages:

- Rick Smith
- John Vachon
- Eric Groat
- Pete Collela
- Randy Anastasia

Births:

- Ray Canovan
- Andy Belling

If you know of any other alumni information please let us know and we'll put in next semesters Kappa Sigma.

Alumni Reference File:

Remember what it was like to be in school and unsure of what your potential job will be?? I would like to start a reference file of alumni for younger brothers to call and ask for any tips, tricks, or traps you can offer in your related field. If interested in filing your name, send your name, phone # (work also if you don't mind), address, brief job description, and degree(s) held to the house care of High Rho. Thanks!!

October 22, 1990

An Open Letter to the Active Brothers of Kappa Sigma Zeta;

It was a pleasure to return to Lambda Chi this past weekend. I was impressed with the caliber of Brothers to be found at the Chapter. The recent improvements in the House underscore the commitment of the Active Brothers to return to the fraternity a measure of what you as Active Brothers and we all have received over the years as members of a closeknit brotherhood. I was also impressed with the commitment of many fellow LXA Alumni who returned, particularly those graduates from the past 5-7 years.

You as Active Brothers of Lambda Chi have many challenges ahead of you, some of which we have faced before and some of which you are breaking fresh ground. Certainly, the challenges of maintaining the House and continuing to upgrade the structure are challenges that have faced us all. Any Alumni retruning to Alfred will want the appearance of the House to measure up to how it was when "we were there". The appearance of the House is a very traditional barometer of the "health" of the Active Chapter. It is a measure of the pride that Active Brothers have in themselves and their fraternity. I was pleased to learn of the roof improvements and other costly basic repairs that have left little room for cosmetic improvements. It is my hope that the fund we started this weekend will grow and enable the Active Brotherhood to set up a program of interior improvements that will reestablish the kind of standards that you want future prospects to know is expected of a Lambda Chi Brother.

You are breaking new ground in attempting to lead the Alfred fraternities through the newly evolving alcohol standards and laws. It was a bold move to attempt a Dry Rush, a move which some Brothers probably regret but still a move that is necessary for you. You are facing the challenge of trying to accept the realities of alcohol, something that many of us in the past gave little thought to. By the way, I felt sad to see the beer tap system being sold that I remember seeing Jimmy "The Greek" Argyros, KS800 something buy in 1970. My pledge class broke in the new taps on Tapping Night. Back then, we did not have to accept the responsibilities that you are being challenged with.

Nonetheless, you have the leadership in the Active Chapter to accept these realities and to make the choices that you can live with. Some of these choices you must make as a group. No doubt, a Dry Rush policy must continue. Hopefully, the Alumni can support you in this by pressing the University to apply this policy to all fraternities. Some of these choices will be individual choices. Today's reality is clear in that we as individuals accept the

consequences of those under 21 for whom we purchase alcohol. Again, my classmates and I never had to deal with these issues. We did not, however, escape the consequences. Many Brothers, over the years, can recall accidents they or close Brothers or friends had because they had been drinking at the time. To a man, each one of us can reach back and find regrets associated with alcohol. Your challenges are great.

Perhaps the greatest asset I saw this weekend was the leadership in the Active Chapter. You will need this leadership to survive as a Lambda Chi Chapter in the future. The solutions you design now will set the future course of the fraternity we have all had a hand in building over the years. I would like to both offer you my confidence and challenge you to take the difficult roads that lie ahead of you now as Lambda Chi Brothers, and in the future in the careers and lives you choose.

Please be sure that there are many Brothers such as myself that stand ready to assist you in your endeavors. Call on us to help. We are ready.

Yours in ZAX,

Ernie Germano
Ernie Germano, KS 842

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