MAGAZINE OF ALPHA RHO CHI

THE Archi

FRATERNITY FOR ARCHITECTURE
AND THE ALLIED PROFESSIONS
Report of the 27th National Convention

All who attended the Fraternity’s 27th National Convention agreed it was one of the most constructive meetings of Alpha Rho Chi within its forty-seven year history.

The hospitality of Vitruvius, the host chapter, the sincerity and attention of the chosen delegates, the thorough preparation by national officers all combined to produce an atmosphere which can best be described by saying that Alpha Rho Chi is ready and determined to move forward.

Even the weather was reasonably favorable permitting the arrival of all expected officers and delegates. No Nittany lions appeared. However the Vitruvius Chapter was present in full force with its smart, well-kept house, its excellent breakfasts and lunches and its thorough-going cooperation and friendliness.

The only trouble — there was never enough time to take care of all the things to be done and at the same time to see all there was to be seen.

At the opening session Standing Committees were appointed — these being Chapter Operations; Rushing; Expansion; C and B; and Nominating.

Reports of national officers served to emphasize these subjects and pointed out specifically the weak points in the Fraternity’s current operations. Discussed were — weakness in rushing resulting in a decline of active membership, poor enforcement of Building Pledge provisions, inadequate attention to Grand Council correspondence and frequent weakness in initiative both by alumni and active members.

A discussion of the traditions and characteristics of Alpha Rho Chi was next on the program. Emphasis was placed on the fact that our Fraternity must nourish its peculiar and individual traditions if it is to maintain its true character and be distinguished from other fraternities or from other organizations of a somewhat similar nature.

The proper method of conducting a chapter meeting was studied bearing in mind that meetings of our Fraternity chapters should be so conducted that we constantly realize and appreciate the honor and opportunities inherent in membership in Alpha Rho Chi.

A session on Grand Council forms and business procedures followed in which Bro. Murray, W G E explained the necessity of each chapter’s prompt attention in forwarding Forms E-1 to 6 which bear the vital statistics and current situation of our 2500 members.

Dinner in the evening was held at The Tavern, a famous old eating place of the city. Dinner was followed by a visit to the Department of Architecture on the Main Campus. Exhibits of student work and facilities available in the brand-new building were shown to the visitors by Professor Robert Des Marais, W G S.

Thursday’s sessions were given over almost entirely to reports of the Active Chapters and alumni bodies and the reports of the Standing Committees.

An ice-skating party was held in the evening at the new Penn State Rink.

On Friday morning business was concluded with the election of Brother Marion J. Smith, Executive Secretary of the Chicago Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, as Worthy Grand Architect of the Fraternity. He succeeds Brother Robert F. Calrow who had asked that he might be permitted to relinquish this arduous post.

Formal initiation was presented by the Vitruvius Chapter in the afternoon. Candidates for honorary membership in the chapter were John R. Hunter, Jr, of the firm of Hunter, Campbell and Rea, Altoona and Rolf O. Enge, registered architect of Oslo, Norway. Mr. Hunter is a graduate of Penn State University and a
member of Alpha Chi Rho, Scarab and Lion's Paw and is Past President of the Central Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Mr. Enge is a graduate of The University of Pennsylvania with a degree of Master of Architecture from The University of Southern California. A member of Tau Sigma Delta. He has now returned to Norway.

The initiation was successful in every respect. The characters were awe-inspiring and imposing and were made up in really professional style. The ritual presentation was a great credit to our youngest chapter.

In the evening a group of fifty delegates, officers and wives (mostly) enjoyed a delightful banquet at the Nittany Lion Inn. Brother Milton S. Osborne, Dem. '22, Director of the Department of Architecture presided and Mr. John R. Hunter, Jr., was the principal speaker.

The following morning saw Convention delegates and officers on their flight homeward. We believe they will not soon forget the 27th National Convention of our Fraternity at Vitruvius Chapter, State College, Pennsylvania.

The National Scholarship Award was presented to the Mnesicles Chapter at the Convention Banquet. Established in 1954, the plaque was won on two previous occasions by the Iktinos Chapter.

Robert F. Calrow

Robert F. Calrow was elected Worthy Grand Architect in 1953 being re-elected in 1957 to serve two highly successful terms of this exacting Fraternity office.

Noteworthy among the accomplishments of these eight years have been the addition of our new Chapter at Pennsylvania State University, the establishment of a national scholarship award, the appointment of Grand Council Deputies, National Inspector and Grand Advisor. Also, very important, the appointment of an Executive Secretary and establishment of a national office.

The Fraternity is grateful to Brother Bob Calrow for these achievements and expects to rely heavily on his ability and experience in the future.

Marion J. Smith

Brother Marion J. Smith was elected Worthy Grand Architect by the 27th National Convention. He graduated from the University of Illinois in 1957, becoming Worthy Architect of the Anthemios Chapter. He was also prominent in other campus activities while in school.

From his graduation to 1960 he was associated with Skidmore, Owings and Merrill in Chicago as Chief of their Production Department and was active in Public Relations for the firm.

He is now Executive Secretary of the Chicago Chapter of the American Institute of Architects with offices at 221 North LaSalle Street.

Brother Smith will be installed on April 22nd in Chicago.
RUSHING COMMITTEE
The Committee presented these recommendations:
1. Show the rushee benefits and what we can do for him.
2. Show the educational value of the Fraternity.
3. Make the house a branch of the school.
4. Make the alumni a part of rushing.
5. Use faculty members.
6. Invite rushees to dinner at the house or outside.
7. Point out to the rushee that members of the Chapter are always available at the school to help them.
8. Make several summer personal contacts with rushees.
9. Plan to over-fill the quota.
10. Provide a project for visiting other architectural schools where we have Chapters.
11. Offer prizes for first-year students.
12. Make the house better known.
13. Establish a reputation for being selective in rushing.
14. Teach the pledges to rush.
15. All Chapters will purchase enough Rushing and Pledge Manuals to take care of two years anticipated needs.

CHAPTER OPERATIONS
Items brought up before the convention for discussion were:
1. Building Pledge. The possibility of payments during active status; the problem of alumni versus actives handling pledge payments; separate funds for maintenance and the Building Fund.
2. Ownership versus Rental of Chapter Houses. Maintenance; improvements.
3. Financing of New Houses. $5000 to $10,000 available from Grand Council at 4%. The Committee presented these recommendations.
1. Partial payment of Building Fund pledge while in school.
2. More formal nature of Building Fund pledge forms.
3. A 10-minute reading and discussion of a section of the Constitution and By-Laws and/or Chapter By-Laws at each Chapter meeting.
4. Election of officers to longer terms.

EXPANSION COMMITTEE
Information to the convention on this subject was:
Arizona State University
Brother John Brenner and other members of the Arizona Alumni Chapter are holding meetings with students and faculty who are showing keen interest.

University of Texas
The attitudes of the new Texas Alumni Chapter and the Dean and staff of the University give strong hopes for the reactivation of Dinocrates Chapter.

Washington University
Brother George Fritzinger, who is in contact with this school, reports that the school offers ninety-nine year leases to encourage the development of fraternities.

University of Washington
Brother Wadsworth, G I, reports the presence of nine interested alumni in Seattle, but also conflicts within the University.

Montana State College
It is a new School of Architecture with an Alpha Rho Chi alumnus at its head but it is too soon to try establishing a Chapter.

University of Detroit
Strong interest has been shown on the part of the faculty and students. Meetings are being held looking toward the establishment of a Colony and subsequent Chapter.

Illinois Institute of Technology
Brother Marion Smith is in close contact with the faculty of this school which has recently indicated interest in an Alpha Rho Chi Chapter.

University of Manitoba
Interest has been shown here from time to time and Brother Milton Osborne, Dean of Architecture at Penn State plans to recontact them.

University of Notre Dame
There are no national fraternities at this school but interest has been expressed by students.

The Committee recommended:
1. That the Fraternity continue to pursue the subject of expansion aggressively.
2. That the Alpha Rho Chi Medal be used as a means of publicizing the Fraternity and the Medal receive all publicity possible through the explanation sheet, through display in the schools and through presentation by an Alpha Rho Chi alumnus on the faculty.
3. Copies of The Archi are being sent to the head of each accredited school of architecture and to the library of each such school.

SEMINAR ON BUSINESS FORMS
The E 1 Form.
This is a card form in quadruplicate. It is a complete record of the man whose name and vital statistics are on the upper part of the card. His college history is on the lower part of the card.

The E 2 Form.
This is a pink sheet. It is used by the Chapter to inform the W G E when a man (or men) are initiated, graduated, withdraw, change course, affiliate with another chapter, drop pledge, return to school or other pertinent information. The information is placed on the man's E 1 card by the W G E, and the same thing should be done by the Chapter on their copy of the E 1.

The E 3 Form.
This is a badge order blank in triplicate. One copy to jeweler, one to W G E, hold one copy. Copy to W G E should be accompanied by E 2, E 4 and Grand Council fees.

The E 4 Form.
This is an order for certificates of membership. Use typewriter and make original and three copies. Original and two copies to W G E.

E 6 Form (no E 5).
This is an application for permission to initiate a man. It goes to the W G E with the initiation fee. There is a receipt and permission granted line on the back and is returned to the Chapter. Should be mailed at least ten days before scheduled initiation.
Andronicus

Andronicus Chapter of Alpha Rho Chi has 9 active members and 10 pledges. There are 19 members eating at the house with a live-in number of 11.

Andronicus is continuing its building program. The alumni are working for commitments in products, labor and financial support for the new house.

Other projects include an annual award of architectural magazines to the winners of a first-year wood sculpture problem. The awards are made at the Chapter’s “Apple Polishers’ Luncheon” attended by all the members of the Architecture faculty.

There are also the brown bag luncheons, hosted by Alpha Rho Chi, where guest speakers and department heads from other schools on the campus appear. This serves as a means to broaden the outlook of the student and familiarize him with outside intellectual concepts.

Anthemios

The present membership of Anthemios Chapter is made up of 31 actives and 11 pledges, 37 of whom live in the chapter house.

Last year members of the Chapter placed in all major prizes offered by the Department of Architecture at Illinois. Included among these prizes were the Fountainebleu Scholarship, won by Dick Diedrich, and a European travel scholarship, won by Bill Davis.

Among the many cultural activities held at the house were Sunday lectures given by faculty members and coffee hours held after many of the lectures held elsewhere on campus.

By stressing scholarship we have brought the second-place trophy for scholastic improvement to the house and a fourth-place ranking to our pledges.

Demetrios

Demetrios Chapter is currently composed of 10 actives and 3 pledges. There are 10 persons living in the house.

Seven men graduated from the fraternity last spring leaving us with a big job to do in rushing. We pledged six men during the autumn quarter but have succeeded in keeping only three of these men. We are now searching for any underlying reasons for our failure.

Scholastically the last Spring quarter was among our best as we finished fifth on campus and had an improvement over the previous quarter.

The social schedule is seeing only limited use this year. Most of our parties are house parties, often highly decorated, with only about two big dances a year.

Iktinos

The Iktinos Chapter has at present 15 members and 4 pledges. Fourteen of the actives and two roomers comprise the physical limit of the present facilities of the house.

Physically our house has been greatly improved. The house has been brought up to code structurally, electrically and mechanically. We have also remodeled two existing bathrooms and added a women’s bath along with many new chests and closets. These improvements have been made in accordance with plans for a future “living unit” addition.

Socially our Chapter has broadened its interests to include participation in campus-wide events such as float entries in Homecoming and Spring Week-end. We also maintain some kind of social or professional function about every other week.

Mnesicles

Our membership status has improved considerably since the last Convention. There are at present 21 actives and no pledges— we just had initiation— with seven actives living in the house and five roomers.

Outstanding among our social activities was our three-day fraternity party in Racine, Wisconsin last spring. A special tour of the Johnson’s Wax office and several houses was a feature. Our annual Christmas Party for thirty children of a settlement house was enthusiastically supported by the Chapter and the alumni.

Mnesicles Chapter has improved tremendously over its status two years ago and, with our high spirits channeled into organized productive efforts, Mnesicles Chapter will continue on this upward trend.

Vitruvius

Vitruvius Chapter of Alpha Rho Chi now has 15 active members and 11 pledges, of whom 22 are living at the house.

In the past two years, the Fraternity’s youngest Chapter has established dining facilities for 24 people; the project having been brought about by donations from the alumni, parents of members and with money secured from the purchase of savings bonds. The actual work was completed through the earnest enthusiasm of actives and pledges. We have installed pine paneling in the basement and a new oil furnace.

Vitruvius’ scholarship is in the upper quarter of the 53 fraternities at Penn State. Seniors and fifth-year students consistently take top honors in design.

The members of Vitruvius Chapter feel that it will grow to become one of the most prosperous and influential fraternities at Penn State University.

Kallikrates

Brother Raoul Wilkins reported strong interest among the students and their optimism about purchasing a chapter house. A potential alumni group is present in Charlottesville in the 31 local alumni there and a campaign is under way to organize a Kallikrates Alumni Association to give the active chapter stronger alumni support.
OFFICIAL PICTURE OF OFFICERS AND DELEGATES

CONVENTION OFFICERS, DELEGATES AND VITRUVIUS CHAPTER MEMBERS

The Archi is published by Alpha Rho Chi, collegiate fraternity for students of Architecture and the Allied Arts. Founded at the Universities of Illinois and Michigan on April 11, 1914.

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THE ARCHI
APRIL 1961