



PSI NEWS

The Psi Chapter of Psi Upsilon at Hamilton College

CLINTON, NEW YORK

FALL 1992

Alumni President Introduces New Trustees And Officers

At the September 1992 annual meeting of the Psi Chapter of Psi Upsilon, Inc., alumni association, and at the board of trustees meeting of the same date, the following were elected to the offices of trustees and officers:

John E. Becker II '61—President
Brian Shu '80—Vice President
David Holgate '83—Secretary
Jeffrey S. Randles '89—Treasurer
Gardner Callanen '29
William O. Spicer '43

R. Scott Atwater '76
Aaron Reed '80
Peter Mead '80
Robert Sedor '80
Jeffrey Hawkes '80
Richard Koehler '80

Brother TIM REED '80 asked for and was granted a leave of absence from the board of trustees to assume major responsibilities in his family's company. Brother Reed has been the trustee most responsible for the success of the chapter over the past 10 years, and we owe him a very large debt of gratitude. Fortunately, he remains in the Utica area and is available as we may need him.

The Fallcoming and Parents Weekend activities were great successes, with many alumni and parents of undergraduates attending the after-game festivities. Several first-year students, accompanied by their parents, showed great interest in being part of the next pledge class. Of special interest to me was the presence of Timothy, son of brother Jim Fox '59, who was one of my contemporaries and friends and who played the old Psi piano as well as anybody. That many first-years and parents are showing an early interest in Psi U bodes well for the house and speaks well for the special rushing efforts being put forth by the undergraduate brothers.

The closing of the Wally Johnson house driveway and the enlarging of the parking lot, complete with appropriate landscaping, has greatly improved the appearance of the house! You will have to see it to fully appreciate this transformation!

The future of private societies at Hamilton remains very much up in the air since the Hamilton trustees have undertaken a residential life study this academic year. Frankly, there are no good reasons to ban private societies at Hamilton, except, perhaps, to mimic some of the other Eastern liberal arts schools that have already done so. Private societies play a critical, positive role in the Hamilton experience. They provide leadership growth opportunities and social outlets that are found nowhere else. They also provide the only meaningful link between the undergraduates and the alumni. Through the Inter-Society Alumni Council (ISAC) and through the individual chapter boards of trustees, the alumni continue to work with the undergraduates to strengthen the private society system.

Your support is crucial to our survival. The Hamilton board of trustees, which depends so heavily on alumni for financial support, will not abandon private societies if fraternities and sororities are providing a useful and constructive purpose on the hill and if their alumni demonstrate their support of Hamilton. You can show your support by adding your name to the list of contributors to the Psi Chapter's annual fund. May we please hear from you?

Yours in the Bonds,
Jeb Becker '61
Alumni President

Signing Legal Confession Ensures Payment Of Undergrad Dues



I am generally happy with the financial situation of the Psi. In my job, no news is good news; that is to say, the undergraduate brothers have been most responsible in the submission of their dues. I can only be confident that this trend will continue.

Our accountant in New Hartford has been a great help over the years in handling our various accounts. It is great to have a reliable source for financial management assistance.

Over the summer, a plan was adopted to ensure that all brothers pay their dues while in college or soon thereafter. Undergraduate brothers are required to sign a legal confession of judgement in order to bind them more to their accounts payable. Although it is unfortunate that the situation had to reach these extremes, the fact remains that over the years many alumni have not paid their dues. These measures will ensure that the house will receive its money and that other individuals may share in the similar college experience.

My only true concern is fund-raising. We have received some donations to the Psi over the last months. Those who contributed

can't be thanked enough. Remember, however, what the Psi contributed to your college years. Give a little back—we would all appreciate it. As we continue the process of making improvements to the house, we need your help and support.

Paul Earle, Treasurer

Better Late Than...

Due to tight scheduling of our Fallcoming promotion mailing sent out this summer, we had to go to press with our honor roll of donors before the operating year officially closed. A few donors' gifts were received after that press deadline and credited to the 1991-'92 year. "Eleventh-hour" thanks go to: JAMES Y. BLACKWOOD '84; JAMES KENT JR. '46, a member of the Owl Society; STUART McLEAN '91; and BRIAN C. SCHU '80.

The Psi Rush Process Gets Serious

Due to this year's small, but enthusiastic, sophomore class, the Psi looks forward to having a large and diverse group of pledges. Although college policy prohibits freshmen attending any social events in private societies until after October break, the rush chairmen begin the rush process earlier through other events.

Since the second week of classes, the house has invited groups of about five or six prospectives to dinner every Thursday evening. In addition to enjoying the traditional spaghetti dinner, they also are given a tour of the house and, most important, have a chance to start friendships with the brothers.

Now that October break has passed, we will begin the rush process more seriously. The freshmen will be invited to watch *Monday Night Football* in the newly furnished library. The house depends very much this year on a successful pledge class, and, in light of the sophomore class's attitude, there should be no problem in achieving our rush objective.

Dylan Ade '95
Bob Simonds '95
Rush Chairmen

Remodeling Promotes Positive Attitude

A new wave of optimism abounds as Psi U maintains its reputation for cleanliness. Some interior and exterior remodeling have brought significant alteration to the "hut"—most notably, the construction of two parking lots out back. New landscaping can be seen in place of our former driveway.

Many alumni will be pleased to know that the "tube room" is working since we purchased a new television along with some couches and rugs. Also, the kitchen now sports fresh paint and minor rearrangements. It has never passed inspection with such ease. Both the tap room and the second-floor bathrooms have been painted as well. New locks have been installed in most of the rooms, and our fire and security systems have been updated.

Since the attitude of everyone in the house this year is much more positive than in past years, the house should continue to remain clean.

Michael Hodgin '94
House Manager

The Psi Waits For Reforms From Administration In Late Spring

The Psi, like all of Hamilton's private societies, opened the 1992 academic year under intense scrutiny. The college's trustees are currently engaged in a formal evaluation of the presence of private societies on the hill. A decision in the late spring is expected to determine the role of societies at Hamilton in the future. Looking at the national trend, particularly at small, private colleges in the East similar to Hamilton, the Psi expects the college to recommend certain reforms that will affect the existence of societies to some extent. Rather than sit back and wait for these reforms, the Psi, in tandem with the rest of Hamilton's societies, has engaged in an active public relations campaign to alter any predetermined misconception the trustees and the administration may have toward the role of societies at Hamilton.

One of the areas the Psi is targeting is the "condition of the house." The condition of the house has always been an area of concern from the point of view of the administration. Although we are constantly waging what appears to be a never-ending war for cleanliness in the house, the brothers have proven themselves equal to this challenge. A new-found respect for the house was espoused by the existing brothers. Sadly enough, though, this appears to be something that should be expected; the realization of this respect has not always been present in the past. This year, led by an energetic junior and sophomore class, the house is establishing new identity.

Immediate improvement was seen in the outside of the house. During the summer months, the school "grassed over" the driveway to the north side of the house. In its place, the school built and paved a split-level parking lot. This drastic change in scenery resulted in a number of trees being removed; however, the positives far outweigh this negative. As a result, our backyard is much easier to maintain, and, with the removal of the numerous cars parked along the old driveway, the front of the house is far more presentable than in past years. With the removal of additional dead trees in the front of the house, the Psi is an impressive sight as one travels up the hill. Additional work to be done includes landscaping with bushes and small trees in the area around the dumpster.

With the outside of the house receiving a remarkable facelift, the next area of concern was the inside of the house. The house received an unusually early spring cleaning and is currently in a constant state of improvement. In addition to the annual paint jobs and constant scrubbing, noticeable improvements are scattered about the house. One of the improved areas is the second-floor women's bathroom. In the past, this room was used solely as a storage room. After a visit from an area plumber, hours of scrubbing tile, a new paint job, a new door, and some new bathroom accessories from Mrs. Famigletti (mother of Doug '94), the bathroom is now fully functional.

The Psi has also done major work on renovating the library. Used sparingly in the past, the library is now recognized as an official common room in the house. The addition of new couches, a rug, and a television set has made this possible. In addition, a number of old

composites are being reframed and cleaned to remove years of dust and mildew. The library is currently being used as an informal place to gather for *Monday Night Football* and, on a more formal level, as a room in which to hold rush functions and other formal gatherings.

Other areas currently under construction are the tap room (which incidentally received a new coat of paint last week), the kitchen, and the dishwashing room.

As stated previously, it appears as though the Psi will always be fighting this war with the house facility. However, with the renewed hopes of altering the present administration's perception of societies, we felt that these improvements would reflect our intentions to reform ourselves, not only for the betterment of the Hamilton community, but for maintaining many longstanding traditions and years of brotherhood as well. I encourage all brothers and friends of the Psi to stop by the house and witness some of these changes for yourself.

In this era of change, the house is sad to recognize the loss of service of two members long associated with the Psi. The spring of 1992 marked the retirement of Ariela Smith—"Ma," to those who knew her. Ma decided it was time to spend a little more time with her grandchildren as well as raise her horses, do some undercover work for the government, and improve her bowling scores. Her services and personality are greatly missed by all brothers. Fortunately for us, the beginning of this new era has been quite smooth with the addition of a new cook, whose meals are quieting the shouts of "Where's Ma?"

Brother Tim Reed has had to step down from his post as a trustee, due to conflicts with family and business commitments. Tim was long recognized as one of the reasons the house still exists after some dark days in the 1980s, and the trustees consider his resignation to be temporary. A longtime resident of the Utica area, Tim will assume a diminished role in the house, but his opinion on house matters will be sought after with respect and appreciation. On behalf of the house, I would like to thank Tim for his endless time and effort and wish him the best of luck.

Yours in the Bonds,
Patrick F. Dorsey '93, President

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Published by the Psi Chapter of Psi Upsilon at Hamilton College for its members and friends. News and pictures are always welcome and should be sent to Psi Upsilon Fraternity, Alumni Records Office, P.O. Box 57, Syracuse, NY 13210-0057.

Alumni News

EUGENE H. H. BAXTER '37 retired in 1987 and, since then, has done as little as possible. He has, however, finally finished paying for his two children's education: his daughter, Abigail, got her PhD in 1990, and his son, Andrew, received his MD this past May. Send your hellos to Eugene at 207 Haldane Dr., Southern Pines, NC 28387.

Retiree DAVID C. CHILDS '39 is living at 3111 Heatherwood at Kings Way, Yarmouthport, MA 02675.

After 42 years in public school education, WARREN E. MOORE '49 retired last April. "I am enjoying my free time by completing projects around the house, traveling, and returning to the hill periodically to meet with fellow Phi members of the late '40s. My son, PHILIP MOORE '79 (the only one of four sons to attend Hamilton and the Psi), is a senior tax manager at Price Waterhouse." Warren makes his home at 124 Mohawk Dr., Schenectady, NY 12303.

Kudos to JON K. HOLCOMBE '58, who earned his master's of science degree with a concentration in child and family studies from Syracuse University in May 1991. An attorney, Jon and wife Sandra have a practice in divorce mediation in addition to their other work. Contact them at 4223 Young Rd., Syracuse, NY 13215.

Reporting a change of address is THOMAS S. DAVIES '68: P.O. Box 1703, Groton, CT 06340-1703.

R. SCOTT ATWATER '76, his wife, and their three daughters reside at 562 South St., East Aurora, NY 14052. Scott is an attorney and partner at Lustig & Brown. He writes, "I partied with 'Woodstock' (ANDREW ZASADA '76) at our 15th reunion. He is a radiologist living in Virginia. I had dinner with 'Pipes' (JOHN

NEEDHAM '75) when I was in Manhattan a couple of months ago. He's an attorney with Legal Aid in New York City."

Send mail to JAMES E. ROSETTIE '81 at 150 Seneca St., Corning, NY 14830.

STEPHEN C. CONLEY '87 writes, "JACK O'BRIEN '87 and I opened up (bought) a pizza/sub shop in Somerville. Jack is now married to Diane Merrill, while I live with brother GORDON FERGUSON '85 in Cambridge (10 Norumbega St., Cambridge, MA 02138). I am in contact with, among others, DREW HALL '88, a public relations executive in Waltham, and JIM WHITCOMB '86, an attorney who is working for the attorney general of Massachusetts. Please stop by and eat some 'za. Ma would be proud!"

We thank Mr. James K. Johnson Sr. for filling out a newsform for his son, JAMES K. JOHNSON JR. '89. Jim Sr. reports that Jim Jr. has been working for GE since his graduation and has been moved from San Francisco to L.A. to Madrid, Spain, and is now in Tokyo (Apt. 202, 2-96 Minami Azaru, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106 JAPAN.)

Send correspondence to JAMES BUTLER '91 at 1840 Van Ness, #4, San Francisco, CA 94109.

DECEASED

We regret to inform you of the death of the following alumni:

HENRY L. GEORGE JR. '23, December 1, 1991
ALFRED L. SEAVER JR. '23, July 20, 1991
EDWARD W. STANLEY '27, August 29, 1991
ROBERT J. TILLMAN '51, July 4, 1991
GEORGE R. TORGE '32, June 29, 1991