

MERRY MERRY CHRISTMAS



The Alpha Belt
Christmas - - - 1949

VOL. XII — NO. 4

THE ALPHA DELT

Published regularly by the Cornell Chapter of Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity at Cornell University for its members and friends.

John D. Higgins '53 *Editor*
Contributors

James R. Thomas II '50

Thomas S. Foulkes '53

News and picture contributions are solicited at all times. Address all communications to the Editor, Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity, 777 Stewart Avenue, Ithaca, New York.

House Officers

President — *James R. Thomas II* '50.

Vice-President—*Jack D. Smith* '50.

Secretary — *John D. Higgins, Jr.* '53.

House Manager—*David L. Brooke* '50.

Rushing Chairman — *Donald T. Armington* '52.

Pledge Master — *Alfred W. Fairer II* '53.

★

Undergraduates Reduce Mortgage By \$1,500

At the house meeting of December 12, 1949, the brothers approved a motion to donate \$1,500 of the surplus in the chapter account to the Alumni Corporation to be spent for the reduction of the mortgage. This is contributed as a partial payment on mortgage reduction under an agreement with the Ithaca Savings Bank in 1946. With this sum the mortgage now stands at \$38,500.

★

Send In Those Blanks

The response to the news blanks enclosed with the last issue was indeed gratifying, but some of you are holding out. Don't delay. Fill out your blank or write a letter and let us know what you are doing.



Alpha Delta Phi Extends Season Greetings

Our President's Message

Dear Brothers:

As the spirit of Christmas, with its snow covered fields and the carols from the chimes of the Library Tower, begins to pervade the Cornell campus, and the brothers on the "Hill" prepare to depart for a pleasant vacation with their families, we wish to express our sincerest hopes that your Christmas will bring new happiness and the New Year will present itself with new challenges and success to you and your families.

In reviewing the successes of rushing, homecoming weekend and other events during this past fall, I must extend the heartfelt thanks of all of the brothers for your cooperation in our program. It was grand to see so many of you here during the homecoming game. We are looking forward to a still greater turnout next fall. The letters you have written in response to our rushing, the invitation to homecoming, and "The Alpha Delt," have been very much appreciated by all of us.

As I have stated in letters to some of you, your interest in the chapter is a tremendous incentive for us to prove our worth by producing young men capable of taking their places in the business world.

The brothers of the chapter hope you will take the opportunity of visiting us frequently during the year. You are always most welcome and we are looking forward to a large attendance at the corporation meeting in the spring.

Fraternally yours,

James R. Thomas, 2nd

OUR TRIBUTE TO TWO OLDTIMERS

Fond To The Hearts of Alpha Delt Alumni Everywhere



Rose Reber

Back in the early nineteen thirties, the chapter was steadily losing money, mainly in the kitchen. Since then, we have been going full steam in the department of the house budget, and are receiving better and more food. The sole cause of this miracle is our cook, Rose Reber.

Rosie was born in Elernbach, Switzerland and came to this country in 1915, when she was twenty-one. She went to work in Monroe, Wisconsin, in a Swiss hotel where she learned the fine points of cooking. She moved around, cooking in several places until she ended up in Buffalo. While she was there she was asked to come to Ithaca to cook for the boys in one of the fraternities here. She refused, but they kept asking her until she came to the Hill and started to work in our house. From her first day she cut down on the costs and prepared food that was most beneficial for the brothers. She has put her whole heart into Alpha Delta Phi and everything that she has done has been for the benefit of us.

It has been often said that to enter the kitchen would take the nerves of the lion hunter, but who would relish an interruption when you are trying to prepare a meal for fifty boys all by yourself. There is really no one who is more on the lookout to please a large group of men than Rosie. She works constantly on the job from daybreak to after sunset, especially on these steak suppers that we have every week.

It is almost a thankless job, to cook and serve a banquet every time there is a house party for eighty people, but Rosie enjoys seeing the brothers and their dates going away from the banquets well satisfied. Yes, it is a thankless job, but there are never any complaints from the kitchen. That is Rosie's way, always giving and never asking.

One of the most unique accomplishments of Rosie is her secret formula for the Sunday morning fruit juice which restores the errant party boys from the wild Saturday night escapades.

All in all, the house could never do without Rosie. She has put everything that she has into the house and has done more than we can ever repay.

★

Annual Christmas Party Held

The annual faculty Christmas party was held Sunday evening, December 18 at the house. Over 250 faculty members and friends attended this gala occasion.

Brother *Henderson Riggs* '41, returned to the house from his home at 413 W. Water St., Elmira, to officiate as "maker-of-the-eggnog." Both alumni and undergraduates will attest to his skill in this art.

Always when alumni return the first thing they ask is "Where is Captain?" Just why is this? For those of you who know Reggie Lee, there is no need for an explanation for at the end of this year, 'Captain' Reggie Lee will celebrate his thirtieth anniversary with the house. Many have come here and many have gone, but the one who has seen them all since 1920 has been the 'Captain.'



Reggie Lee

Reggie was born in Fairfax, Virginia, October 20, 1885. When he was twenty, he left his home and started to roam the country. In 1914 Reggie came to Ithaca, where he stayed for several winters. By this time the first World War came, and Reggie enlisted. After the war he returned to Ithaca and started to look around. Finally he decided to live in New York City, but after two or three months returned to Ithaca.

When Reggie got off the train a man met him and asked if Reggie wouldn't like to go to work on the Hill. With the wanderlust still in him, Reggie said no, but he promised that he would come up and see the boy at the house. Although refusing a permanent job, Reggie agreed to stay with the house over the summer and look after it. At the end of the summer of 1920, Reggie decided that it was time to settle down and work in one place, and this was the place. Since then, he has become almost as much a part of the Alpha Delta Phi house at Cornell as the bricks in the wall.

One of the most interesting stories of Reggie to come out of the twenties happened February 11, 1929, a date most memorable in the history of Cornell Alpha Delta Phi. This was the night of the great fire. As the brothers stood helplessly watching the house burn to the ground, Reggie made a sudden dash back into the flames to rescue some 'valuables.' When he came out he had a suitcase in his hand. The firemen asked Reggie what was in the bag that had made him go back in to get it. It seems that all the bath tub gin made in the house was brewed in Reggie's room and that suitcase held the majority of the beverage that had been made.

His nickname, 'Captain,' came to him in 1938, when it was found that when there was anything to be done around the house, the person to see was Reggie. Thus, the man to see when work was to be done was the 'Captain' of the house maintenance.

During the last war, the man who kept the house in condition while the Navy occupied it was 'Captain.' He saw to it that no major destruction was done to the house, and when the brothers returned, the house was clean and ready for them to move in.

'Captain' will never be forgotten by any of those who knew him and his unlimited generosity.

NEWS BRIEFS ABOUT ALUMNI EVERYWHERE

F. C. "Wally" Wallower, Jr. '31 920 N. 24th St., St. Joseph, Mo., recently purchased the General Motors Corp. dealership for St. Joseph and moved there from Joplin, Mo. His firm is known as the K-Wall Truck Co. Wally writes us, "I am planning now to get back for the 20th homecoming in 1951, but hope to stop for a visit before that."

* * *

Sanford G. Lansing '16, president of the Socony Paint Products Co. now lives in Metuchen, N. J., where his company has erected a new paint plant. Incidentally, he also became a grandfather on November 16th, the parents being Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lansing, Ridgewood, N. J.

* * *

The Lazy H. Sky Ranch at Valley Center, Calif., owned by rancher, club and restaurant operator and owner *Thomas B. Colby* '23, is being developed into a true out-of-doors club. The ranch will open to members and guests this spring and will feature a landing strip for light planes, swimming pool, tennis, deck games, riding stables, small golf course, children's supervised play area, skeet, trout ponds, and a hunting and camping area. A country inn and cocktail lounge adjoins the club property, all of which are on the sunny slopes of Mt. Palomar.

* * *

Roderic B. Crane '21, is a member of the faculty of the University of Omaha, where he functions as assistant to the president and chairman of the department of economics. He is also treasurer of the Colonial Hotel Co., while civic activities include service on the board of directors of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, the general manager of which is a fellow Cornellian, *Oliver W. Roberts* '21.

* * *

F. M. Gillies '18, recently returned to the States after spending seven months in Germany where he was employed by the U.S. Military Government as chief of production for the combined steel group (U.S., U.K., and France). This project involved

aiding the Western German steel industry in stepping up production and supervising the activities of the Germans in reorganizing the old companies. Fred is works manager of the Inland Steel Co., and lives at Flossmoor, Ill.

* * *

Willard J. Crawford III '36, vice president and superintendent of the Enos Coal Mining Co., Oakland City, Ind., is also a director of the Enoco Collieries, Inc., and a director and general manager of the A.W.W. Railroad. Bill is also a 32nd degree Mason and an officer of his Sunday school class at the Presbyterian church. The Crawfords have two children; Peter, age 10 and Christopher, age 7. They completed a three weeks trip last summer after visiting Ontario, N. H., Quebec, Maine, Vermont, and stopping over at Krebs in Skaneateles for a wonderful dinner.

* * *

After serving as President of the State Bank of Blue Island, Ill., for fourteen years, *Carleton B. Hutchins* '07, 2445 Birdsall St., Blue Island, recently resigned so that he could devote his entire time to his lumber interests, as secretary and manager of the Hutchins Lumber and Storage Co.

* * *

Ben O'Hara '11, vice president of the Commerce Trust Co. in Kansas City, Mo., writes that he has been in touch with *Pete Peterson* '11 and *Guthrie Packard* '11. Ben has three grandsons; ages, seven, three, and two. We understand that Ben expects to retire from business in about five years.

* * *

Robert R. Ware, Sr. '08, and wife are flying down to San Antonio December 23rd to spend two weeks with son *Ralph C. Ware* '47 and family. Robert (Hobby) wants to particularly visit with Ralph's (Mike) daughter, ("my baby") Susan, age one and one half years. After they visit they expect to spend six weeks in The Valley of the Sun, Paradise Inn., Phoenix, Arizona. Mike lives at 215 Claremont St., and is ranching 90 miles east of San Antonio.

Silas H. Crounse, Jr. '12, whose first wife passed away in 1945, is the father of a son by his second marriage. Si, who lives at Clover Crest Farm, North Wales, Pa., is in the chemical business, and farms.

* * *

Merton F. Gerhauser '39, president of Conditionaire, Inc. (industrial heating equipment), sees *J. B. Perkins* '36, quite often. Merton was married a little over a year ago. He attended the June 1949 tenth reunion at Cornell.

* * *

Henry F. Gerhauser '42, is now with the Gardner-Denver Corp. in Quincy, Ill. He is married and has two children.

* * *

"Nothing new or exciting," writes *Frank F. Wooley, Jr.* '31, 25 Sigourney St., Jamaica Plain 30, Mass., "unless you can call two sons 2½ and 1½ years old, news. At least they are exciting." Frank is head of the printing department of the Massachusetts General Hospital. (Ed's note: We'd say that is plenty of news, and agree that they must be plenty exciting.)

* * *

The *Henry W. Lowe* ('35) family has three children; ages, nine seven, and three. The Lowes live at Wesskum Wood Rd., Riverside, Conn. Henry is an advertising executive with the William Esty Co., Inc. in New York City.

★

Brother *Harry W. Embry, Jr.* '43 of Louisville, Ky., recently spent the night at the chapter on his way to Providence, R. I.

★

Fill Out That Blank!

Christmas season is the time to give. All we want is just two minutes of your time. That's all it takes to fill out a news blank, like we enclosed in the last issue. If yours has been mislaid, merely drop us a short letter about yourself, your family, fellow alumni, your job, etc. Alpha Deltas are interested in you, they want to know what you are doing.