

## CRESCENT

of

ALPHA GAMMA RHO

FALL, 1975

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - PLATTEVILLE

NO. 15

## Star Spangled Spirit '75



Housedeck for '75.

Homecoming '75 arrived on the week of October 6-11 bearing the theme "Star Spangled Spirit '75" to commemorate the 200th birthday of our country. The colors red, white, and blue dominated house decks and floats in a salute to the US bicentennial.

The climax of homecoming week came early for Alpha Gamma Rho. On Wednesday night we showed a great deal of enthusiasm at the homecoming games. The pyramid build was the first event the actives participated in. We placed second in the build losing ground only to the smaller speedier Sig Taus. Next came the pie eating contest with our hopes resting on Gary "Ruegs" Ruegsegger. Gary wasted no time in gobbling down a huge cherry pie and placing first in the competition. Last but certainly not least came the tug-of-war competition with the psyched up AGRs weighing in at an average of about 230 pounds per man. After walking away with all Greek

challenges, the Agr's proceeded to cream Melcher's men who took first place for the independents. Their efforts resulted in a first place tie in the greek game division with the Kappa Alpha Sigma sorority.

Thursday featured stunt night, coronation and yell-like-hell preliminaries. Rho-mate Sue Palzkil was on homecoming court representing the Delta Gamma Phi sorority along with Judy Tracy who is presently engaged to alumni Bill Von Rueden. Judy represented Dobson Hall. Rho-mate Cindy Griswold and Brother Steve Fiedler were recognized for being on the homecoming committee. Steve was on the games committee while Cindy was on the publicity committee. In the yell-like-hell preliminaries we just missed the finals by placing third.

The bicentennial homecoming parade started at 9:30 on Saturday morning with the special help from the AGR clowns who volunteered to follow

the bicentennial horses shoveling up "horse apples." Shirley Gay, our sweetheart, added beauty to the procession as she represented the AGR's in the parade. Saturday was also a happy day for the Platteville Pioneers as they won their first game of the season defeating the UW-Oshkosh 7-6.

Sunday activities included a pork barbecue for everyone. The third annual alumni active football game was almost cancelled due to alumni contract disputes. However the dispute was settled and the game started on time. It was a very close game but the alumni got lucky in the closing plays of the game to barely end the game with a higher score than the actives.

This year the AGR's worked hard and participated in all the homecoming events, but unfortunately we didn't win in every event. Consequently we adopted the motto "we are never defeated unless we are cheated" to console ourselves. Oh well we have to let someone else win once in awhile.

# happiness IS reading about alumni.



Dormitory in Santa Domingo.

## Jim Lang

Jim Lang is located in the southern tip of Paraguay in a German colony called Colonia Obligado. This area is a fairly wealthy part of Paraguay where forty per cent of the farmers own tractors and a limited range of farm equipment from a one to three bottom plow to a combine for the wheat and soybeans. Jim is a crop extension agent for the Servicio de Extension Agricola y Ganadera (SEAG) of the Paraguayan Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock. His main function is a soil and crop specialist in relation to farm chemicals and fertilizers. Most farmers in the area know about chemicals and fertilizers but how to use them is a different story.

At the present time, Jim has four projects going which keep him busy. The first project is an experiment with fertilizers and chemicals. He has three plots in various areas that contain eight subplots. Each subplot has different fertilizer and chemical application and attempts to show the farmers which is best in yields and economic returns. Jim says so far these plots have had a magnificent impact on the farmers, as many are using these fertilizers.

His second project is to plant soybeans in these plots. Soil samples are taken and Jim's main concern is in raising the soils low PH and increase its organic matter.

Project number three is centered around the tree called Tung. A highly crude oil is refined from the nuts but the main problem is weed control during harvesting. He has treated this hectare plot with a non selective herbicide called Paraquat. He is trying to make

the harvest easier and prove to the farmers that chemical weed control works.

Project four is working with a number of small farmers who are trying to farm cotton and corn on a soil that is pure sand. As an alternative to their repetitive lack of progress, he is introducing reforestation with a fast growing tree called Kiri. In seven years they can harvest these trees which at that time may have a midtree diameter of eighteen and one half inches. Its very profitable in returns because of the high grade quality of the wood.

Jim started his volunteer work in January, 1975 and plans to serve for twenty five months. He has enjoyed the experience very much and feels it has changed him in many ways.

## Dan Matthias

Working in the foothills of the Andes in a town called Santa Domingo des los Colorados is Dan Matthias. Dan joined the Peace Corp in the fall of 1973 where he worked as a cattle extensionist in a little town called Puerto Linoin.

A brief look at agriculture in Ecuador we find that in the past the mountain valleys were primarily utilized for agricultural production. In the past twenty years it has opened up the tropical and subtropical areas for colonization projects to alleviate that overcrowding in the mountainous areas. The area around Santa Domingo de los Colorados was one of the areas opened. The rain clouds that come in off the Pacific Ocean have to rise to go up the Andes and as a result they lose a lot of water, therefore rainfall averages one hundred thirty three inches a year.

The Heifer Project and Peace Corps came to the area about nine years ago and started introducing the Brahman cattle. An experiment farm was started and manned by Peace Corps volunteers. In these years many problems have been discovered and solutions tried. Some have done some good, others were forgotten. An extension program was started and more information was gathered and also some teaching of the local farmers was begun by the extensionists. Later in 1973, Catholic Relief donated some money for the erection of a training center, complete with living and eating facilities for participants. It was completed in 1974 and to date has held seventeen classes of from three to six days, about tropical cattle production for cattle farmers in the area.

About the time Dan was getting into the job of an extensionist he was asked to come out to the farm and work as coordinator of the school. This is his present job and because of this he was required to push his termination date to January 1, 1977. Dan is planning to be in the Wisconsin area some time in December.

## Other Volunteers

In addition to Dan and Jim we also have John McMahon and Dave Wagner who are also Peace Corp volunteers. Both John and Dave are stationed in Quito Ecuador.

If you would like more information on the work these alumni are doing overseas feel free to drop them a line and ask them how things are going. I'm sure any word would be greatly appreciated by these brothers.

# What's Happening With Alumni

What's new with the alumni? Has anything happened lately to you that you would like to share with us? Write and let us know if you have moved, got a new job, or been promoted or honored. A brief look at what a few of the alumni are doing.

**DAN ADAMS** Dan is currently working for PCA in Mankato, Minn.

**JEFF BLASKA** Jeff works for FS in Elizabeth, Ill. for the Jo Daviess Service Co.

**CHARLES BRANDT** Chuck is currently teaching at Weston and finishing up going to Graduate school.

**CY DEITELHOFF** Cy is living back around the Cazenovia area farming.

**DONALD DREWITZ** Don is going to be coming back to Grad school next semester.

**RONALD GOPLIN** Ron is living in Middleton and is a feed salesman for FS.

**TIM HALDIMAN** Tim who is living in Fort Atkinson is a salesman for FS.

**GARY HANSEN** Gary is currently working for Tri-State Breeders.

**DWIGHT HORKHEIMER** Dwight is attempting to teach agriculture at Plymouth high school.

**AL KLUG** Al is the territory manager for southwestern Wisconsin. His job is to promote Furadan for FMC.

**GEORGE KOERNER** George is working at Cottage Grove as herdsman for Link Farms Inc. Rumors have it that George is planning to come to Grad school next semester also.

**JIM McCOMISH** Jim is working for Cassidy farms at Darlington.

**MIKE MYERS** Mike switched this summer and is currently the ag loan officer at the State National Bank here in Platteville.

**DARCY POWELL** Darcy is currently manager at the Little Grant Stock Farm in Lancaster.

**AL RUDY** Al is at home farming with his father.

**NORBERT SCHLEICHER** Norb is currently working for Cenex.

**DENNIS SCHMIDT** Dennis is currently doing his graduate work here at Platteville.

**JAMES SMITH** Jim is working for PCA in Monroe.

**BILL VON RUEDEN** Bill is working out of Spring Green as District Manager for Ralston Purina.



## Noble Ruler Report

When I look back at the over one hundred and fifty men who have pledged Alpha Gamma Rho at Platteville, I find many different types of individuals. Different from the standpoint of backgrounds, though we are practically all farm orientated, there are differences when you have men coming from different parts of the state or country. Yet inside we were all basically looking for the same thing, we weren't satisfied with being an ordinary college student. Either we wanted to get more out of college than a technical education, or we were on the verge of quitting school and looking for something or someone to give us some purpose to college. I have wondered many times how many discouraged young men, that did drop out because of sitting in their dorm room with nothing to do or no one to talk things over with, could have been helped by an organization such as this which might have given them some purpose to college. I know there are several men in the house at this time who are sure they would never have continued in school without being a part of Alpha Gamma Rho.

When I look at the men who are really involved and concerned with the fraternity and its members and who are always willing to do something extra, this is where you find the ones who fraternity membership is benefiting the most. Whether he is an active, alumnus or pledge each has his own way of being involved. It's sad for me to see these men, who have so much pride, hurt and disappointed by another brother when that brother doesn't give his fraternity responsibilities the priority that they deserve. Whether it's in the form of attendance at meetings or fraternity activities, house or kitchen duties, Ways & Means projects, or just offering to help with something that isn't your assigned responsibility. Being a member of a fraternity is of little benefit if you don't get involved. The benefit of belonging to a fraternity comes in being an active member. You don't learn to do much by just watching them. You have to do it yourself and assume the responsibility of seeing that it is done right for it to be a real learning experience. Likewise; Pride and

Fraternity spirit is something you have to put some real effort into. Because you can't really have too much pride in the fraternity if you've had no responsible part in the work necessary to keep it functioning.

I hope it doesn't sound like I'm disappointed with the progress of the fraternity this year. Nothing could be farther from the truth. I feel we have as strong and active of a membership as we've ever had. We've done more work on the House and on Ways and Means this fall than we did in my whole two and a half previous years in the fraternity. We have the strongest, most active and most purposeful fraternity on campus. I just hope that I might be able to give some of the brothers and pledges, who maybe don't yet have as large an AGR spirit as they might, some idea of what I feel is the necessary commitment each of us must make to keep our chapter a true fraternity for everyone of its members.

Faternally,  
John W. Marotz



## Mom Comments

Dear AGR's, wherever you are

It somehow does not seem possible that the fall semester 1975 is this far completed. And once again time to enlighten you as to the going's on here at the chapter house of Beta Gamma; which is the purpose of the Crescent.

Many activities have taken place thus far.

For those of you who could not attend Homecoming, (we missed you). For those who did; we hope it was an enjoyable experience. For us, it was rewarding and the weather was cooperative. Not that great honors were achieved, but everyone worked hard, played hard and did his best. And after all, that is what it is all about.

My gratitude to the alumni for providing the funds, and to Dale for purchasing the little space heater for my room. It is much appreciated. Though the weather has not made it necessary for use very often up to this date, I'm afraid it will.

Thanks to everyone, Rho-Mates, Actives and Pledges, for many kindnesses and cooperation.

Love,  
Mom



After a successful fall rush we ended with nine pledges in the xi pledge class. They began their pledge period by being actively involved in Homecoming activities and their pledging program. On October 15 the pledges ran the traditional butterrunk. Even though they didn't break the record they still had a good time with twenty-four minutes and forty one seconds. The weekend of November 7 the pledges went on skip-out to Illinois State University at Normal Illinois. Actives going along with the pledges were Joe Jarvis, Steve Fiedler, Randy Lenz, Dale Mondloch, Jim Goodman, Dan Dreis, John Marotz and Joe MacDonald. Arriving back on November 9 it was soon learned by the other actives that everyone who went on the trip had a great time. Pledges for the semester are:

**STEPHAN FAY** - Steve is a sophomore from Belleville Wis. majoring in Ag Mechanization and a minor in Ag Economics. Steve decided to pledge AGR for the reasons that it would broaden his view on life, to increase his knowledge of agriculture and to have a common fellowship.

**DALE HANSON** - Dale is a junior from Barron, Wis. Dale's major is Ag Education with a minor in Animal Science. He pledged AGR for another chance for making friends, and different type of friendship.

**EARL HEIMERDINGER** - Earl who claims Pearl City, Illinois as his hometown is a junior majoring in Animal Science and a minor in Chemistry. Earl is a transfer student from Highland Community College in Freeport, Illinois. He pledged AGR to increase his social life, learn manners, overcome his shyness and give more leadership. He also pledged to try to become a better man that lives life to

its fullest extent.

**JEFF JARVIS** - A cousin to the other Jarviss', Jeff also comes from Wautoma, Wis. A freshman majoring in Agri-Business pledged AGR to help his schooling and social life. AGR's was a good way to meet people and take on responsibility.

**LARRY JERRETT** - Larry is a sophomore from Lancaster, Wis. majoring in Ag Education. Larry, a brother to Lynn and Lee, pledged because he knew a lot of the guys and wanted to get into a fraternity.

**RODGER LUCKEY** - Rodger is a junior from Caledonia, Illinois was a transfer this year from the Kishwaukee Junior College in Malta, Illinois. His major is Ag Economics pledged AGR to get involved on campus and meet a bunch of guys with mutual interests.

**MICHAEL MARTZ** - Mike is a transfer from Highland Community College in Freeport, Illinois, is now a junior at Platteville. Mike comes from Lanark, Illinois, and is majoring in Ag Education. He pledged AGR to improve his social activities, mental attitudes and to expand my friendship to people that are interested in the same thing--agriculture.

**JOHN MEYERS** - John is also a transfer from Highland Community College is a junior majoring in Ag Engineering. John comes from Lena, Illinois and pledged AGR to improve his general character, to meet other people and learn to work with people for a common goal.

**JOHN WEGMANN** - John is a freshman from Bloomington, Wis. majoring in Ag Business. He pledged AGR to see what a fraternity was like and to help him socially and grade wise and to have a good time.

## House Manager Statements

The house has taken on a new look this semester receiving a fresh coat of paint this fall. It took approximately four weeks to paint due to acrophobia and the lack of ladders. The interior of the house has also been rejuvenated with the help of Mom Johnson and the Rho-mates serving as interior decorators and supervisors. The chapter room, hallways, kitchen, five bedrooms and the basement ceiling tile have been painted.

One of the major projects undertaken this fall was wiring the garage. Under the supervision and arrangements made with our housing director, Doctor Loberger, the Farmstead Electrification class was given an opportunity to apply classroom training to practical wiring. Besides the electricity class gaining experience, the brothers in "Dirt" class learned how to dig a 40 foot trench in drought conditions. The men in the house would like to thank the alumni association for purchasing an additional water heater, it sure is nice to have hot showers again. A coin operated washer and dryer are also being purchased this semester with a loan through the alumni corporation. All proceeds after the initial cost is repaid will go into the chapter fund.

I would like to extend my thanks to Doctor Loberger for his guidance in directing housing projects, Mom for her womanly touch, Ken Wilcox for his financial management, and all the brothers, Rho-mates, and pledges who have participated in housing projects.

Dale Mondloch  
House Manager

*Have  
A  
Merry  
Christmas!*



Jame Hofrichter receiving scholarship from John Marotz. Chancellor Carrier and Doc Campbell also present.

## Scholastic Report

Last spring Beta Gamma initiated a new scholarship program for incoming freshmen. Instead of having a six hundred dollar scholarship jointly with Iota and Alpha Psi, each school gave out a two hundred dollar scholarship. Under the old program only one of the three schools would get benefit from the scholarship. However under this new system each school would benefit from it since the award would be given to a freshman student attending that university. Last spring we received thirteen applications from FFA members throughout the state who were planning to enroll in agriculture at Platteville. The College of Agriculture Scholarship committee selected the recipient on various aspects. The recipient this year of the scholarship was James Hofrichter from Hillsboro, Wisconsin who is presently enrolled in Ag Engineering. The scholarship was awarded the night we had Chancellor Carrier at the house for supper.

For the year of 1974, as a chapter, we received an award of excellence on the national level. We were ranked eleventh out of fifty seven chapters and colonies. Our grade point was 2.81 based on fifty five members. Our grade point average for last spring was 2.73. It was a slight drop but we are working harder this fall and plan on attaining excellence as a chapter.



## Planning Ahead

Mark these dates down on your calender so you will be sure not to miss them.

March 20-21 - This year Beta Gamma will be the host to the 1976 Officers Training Seminar. If any of the alumni are in the Platteville area this weekend feel free to stop by the house and get acquainted with other AGRs from other states.

April 3 - This is the date for the Founder's Day-Alumni banquet. Mark your calender and plan to attend. Plans are currently underway to make it one of the best banquets.

## Intramurals

And now for a look at sports at Beta Gamma.

The football team this year showed a lot of enthusiasm and spirit, but only won one game. There was only one game however that wasn't close. We have bigger and better things to look for next year.

This year's basketball team, the AGR's, are in the average league and shows a lot of height and with a few breaks should win a few games this season.

We are also supporting another franchise this year. The Milwaukee Tumors, all carrying a little extra weight and hardly any experience, should prove to be an exciting season all around.

Finally the bowling team is doing fine this semester. At the present time they are one game out of second with sixteen games to go. The team members are hopeful that they will at least take second.

## CUPID'S CORNER



This past year this little fellow has been around the house influencing many of the actives. Every once in awhile his targets would show up. Over the past year he has been pretty busy, with some of his targets being:

BILL VON RUEDEN is engaged to Judy Tracy and plan to be married December 27 in the town of Muscoda, Wisconsin.

AL KLUG who was engaged last spring to Janet Tonn has set their wedding date as June 12 in Mequon, Wisconsin.

STEVE FIEDLER during the summer felt the sting of cupid's arrow. He got engaged to Marcia Krupke and have set their wedding date to be May 22 in Galena, Illinois.

JIM McCOMISH last spring got engaged to Denise McFarlane. They plan to get married on June 19 in Mequon, Wisconsin.

MIKE KRUTZA Yes old cupid found a strong enough one for him. He got engaged to Laurie Hippenbeck and have plans to be married sometime this next June also.

STEVE TOWNS got engaged to Debi Bilhorn. They are also considering a June wedding also in Edgerton, Wisconsin.

GARY HOUSNER also got engaged last spring. Mary Stanek and Gary have tentative plans to get married on July 24 in Hillsboro, Wisconsin.

MARK MUELLER got engaged to Barb Dixon last spring. If you are planning to attend Mark's wedding start saving your pennies today. Mark and Barb have tentative plans to get married some time in September in London, England. Yes London, England. However he is planning to have a reception back here in the United States at Racine, Wisconsin afterwards.

DENNIS SCHMIDT last spring got lavaliered to Beverly Noble. This fall they got engaged and have plans to get married on February 7 in Lancaster, Wis.

Even this semester pledges felt the sting of cupid. Pledge Steve Fay got married to Renee Fay on November 7, 1975.

CHUCK RASMUSSEN recently got engaged to Mary Mara however, no definite plans have been arranged for their wedding date.

RON SUDA is the latest victim of cupid. Ron recently got engaged to Diane Schultz and have an April 3 wedding in Plain, Wisconsin planned.

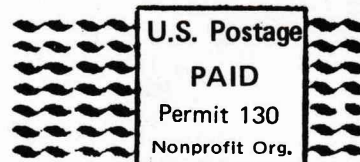
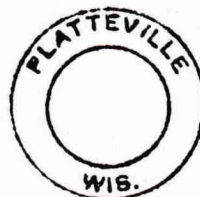
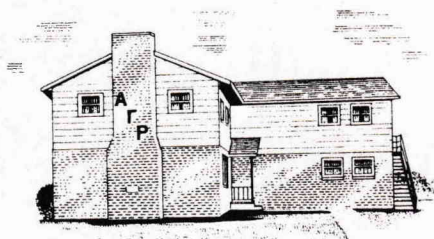
Over the past year we have had three get lavaliered. Wayne Zentner got lavaliered to Claudia Wantoch, Darcy Powell is lavaliered to Jane Mueller and Jack Ellickson is lavaliered to Judy Gallagher.

This past week Janet Murray got her wish as she is now lavaliered to Duane Sherven.

*Happy  
New  
Year!*

**"College is four years, AGR is forever."**

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