

# BETA GAMMA

## CHAPTER

# Crescent

## ALPHA GAMMA RHO

SPRING 1987

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-PLATTEVILLE

NO. 45

### Roundtree Hall Damaged by Fire

by  
Kenneth Urdike

On Friday, April 10, 1987, Roundtree Hall was gutted by fire. The fire broke out at 12:30 a.m. Friday morning. Firemen from Platteville, Belmont and Cuba City assisted in helping fight the blaze for over four hours, and stayed at the scene for over 20 hours. The building still smoldered all day Friday into Friday night. By 10:00 a.m., over 1 million gallons of water had been used to fight the blaze. The fire was believed to have started in the rear of the building on the ground floor and quickly spread through the roof. The heat and electricity have both been turned off for many years. The exact cause had not been determined, and the investigation continues as of press time, although arson is the probable cause.

Roundtree Hall, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is owned by Roundtree Hall Inc. The corporation purchased the hall from the city in 1984 for \$60,000 and were undergoing a feasibility study to determine its future use. The hall was sold by the university to the city in 1977 and occupied by the city in 1979. I'm sure that many of our alumni remember Roundtree Hall, they probably had class in it while they were here.

Nearly all of the second floor was damaged heavily, the bell tower and roof were destroyed. The outer walls, built of blue limestone, are structurally sound, according to Fire Chief Jack Reiter. The future of the hall remains uncertain at this time pending insurance settlements and investigation findings. No dollar amount has been set on the damage.

The 135 year old building was dedicated in 1868 by Ulysses S. Grant. It was the state's first Normal School for the training of teachers, and was named for John Roundtree, the city's founder. A historical marker for the Hall was erected in front of the Hall in 1985 by the state of Wisconsin.

### A New Group of Rhomates

This spring seven young ladies joined our organization as Rhomates. The Rho pledge class contained the following: Mary Schroeder, a Criminal Justice major from Reedsburg, WI. Mary is currently our sweetheart and a Junior. Bridget Tally from Viroqua, WI is a Sophomore and majoring in International Studies. Paula Moody, an Elementary Education major, is a Sophomore from Deforest, WI. Robin White, from Mineral Point, WI, is a Freshman majoring in Agriculture Business Communications. Dawn Loomis is a Sophomore Agriculture Education major from Watertown, WI. Laura Lalor, a Sophomore, an Animal Science major is from Hebron, IL. Marie Keehn, from Stoughton, WI, majoring in International Studies is a Sophomore.



Robin White's charmingness helped her to become the 1987 WI Beef Industry Ambassador.

### Rhmate Serves As Industry Spokesperson

Rhmate Robin White, formerly of Mineral Point, WI, was chosen as the 1987 Wisconsin Beef Industry Ambassador in January at the annual WI Beef Industry Convention. Robin was selected queen after competition based on presenting a self-prepared sixty-second commercial about beef and personal and group interviews.

Robin says, "My purpose is to promote the beef industry as a whole by representing the producers, retailers, and consumers". Besides in-store demonstrations, attending banquets, going to cattle and trade shows, Robin will serve as hostess for the WI Beef Industry Cookoff in June sponsored by WISC-TV 3 Madison. When asked how much time the position involved Robin made this comparison, "Being state beef queen is like pledging Alpha Gamma Rho for 365 days."

The National Meat and Livestock Board, the WI Beef Industry Council, and Robin's advisor Nancy Thomas provides her with assistance and plenty of resources, but Robin says, "Most of my job is based on past experience and ingenuity." She has a solid beef background. She comes from a 100 head crossbred Angus cow-calf operations and a 600 head commercial feeder operation. She personally owns nine head of Chianina cross cattle. She showed cattle six out of her nine years in 4-H, and she professionally fitted cattle for one year.

Robin strongly believes in her cause to promote beef. "This world cannot get along without farmers. The beef industry has suffered bad press from researchers and doctors. Consumers are not sure who to believe and usually end by following the researcher's advice. Consumers need to be better educated so they know the truth about beef and how to better prepare beef."

After finishing school, she would like to work for the beef industry in the promotional/public relations area. Robin's mailing address is 825 West Madison St., Platteville, WI 53818 for any person wishing to contact her.

### Upcoming Events

Graduation ..... May 9  
Summer Retreat ..... July 17



## From the Desk of the Noble Ruler

As the semester comes to an end, I feel that we have had a rather successful and productive semester. I hope that those that attended the Alumni Banquet had an enjoyable time. This past Alumni Banquet was special in that we burned the mortgage on the house and had our National Grand President Zane Akins as our guest. As was mentioned at the banquet, I would like to encourage everyone to look at this mortgage burning as the end of one great accomplishment and the start of more yet to come.

One of our more recent accomplishments was the induction of a new set of actives and Rho-mates into the chapter. We had an enjoyable pledge banquet and with the help of the nice day we had the following Sunday, our annual Parent's Day was a great success.

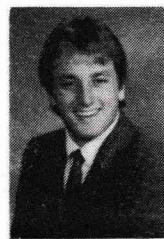
Our biggest challenge for the next semester is in the area of rushing. We are faced with a declining enrollment in the college of agriculture which gives us a smaller population to choose from when we go out to rush. Despite the smaller numbers we have to work with, the chapter plans to work hard next semester to get a large pledge class. In order to do this we have already begun our efforts for next fall. By the time this is published, we will have had a special rush seminar which is to be presented by a national officer. The purpose of his discussion is to help us to be more confident when we approach individuals and to be prepared for questions that may be asked by those that we rush.

In addition to preparing ourselves, we would like to prepare the freshmen by at least letting them know more about us before they come to school. We would like to get across to them that even if they do not know anyone they could have a friend at Alpha Gamma Rho.

To accomplish this, Brad Otter, our rush chairman is gathering a list of those freshmen planning to major in agriculture at Platteville. With this list of individuals and their hometowns we can target both actives and alumni to visit these people and inform them of what Alpha Gamma Rho has to offer. I would like to remind you that rushing is not just a job for the active chapter, but everyone. I would appreciate your help if we should happen to contact you and if you have any information about someone coming to Platteville please let us know.

In closing, I would like to wish our recent graduates the best of luck in their future careers. I am also looking forward to seeing all of you at this year's Summer Retreat, so reserve July 17-19 on your calendar right now!

Fraternally  
Kevin Klubertanz



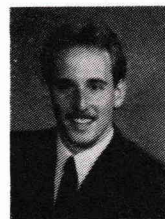
## Vice Noble Ruler of Alumni Relation's Report

Once again we have experienced another Alumni Banquet. There were several awards presented to both actives and alumni. Kent Weigel was the recipient of the Ron Suda Scholarship award for the third consecutive year, other award recipients were: Herb Yanke - Outstanding Active, and Kenneth Updike - Key Committee Man. A special award was presented to Dr. Loberger for 15 years of outstanding service to the Beta Gamma Chapter. Again I would like to congratulate these brothers of the Beta Gamma Chapter on their successful achievements.

The mortgage burning was probably the highlight of the evening, this ceremony was presented by Francis Friar, Robert Campbell, and Ron Keil. The other events included a review of the National Convention video by Dave Badula and Ron Martin, and a greeting from the Grand President, Zane Akins.

This summer the Klug brothers will have a good time hosting the summer retreat. I'm sure everyone will have a good time and I urge a good turnout to renew old friendships, with a name like Klug, how can you not have fun!

Sincerely,  
James Goking  
V.N.R. of Alumni Relations



## Our House

At our annual Alumni Banquet, held on March 28, the Beta Gamma chapter started a new area of growth for the future. In just 15 short years we have paid off the house mortgage and are planning for the future. Dr. Campbell, Francis Friar and Ron Keil each assisted in burning the mortgage on the house. Quite an accomplishment for 15 short years.

Also at the annual Alumni Banquet, the plans for the new addition were unveiled. The decision to implement these plans was put on hold for various reasons. I would like to thank everyone on the Long Range Planning Committee for all their efforts in obtaining these plans.

Our new computer arrived recently. We purchased an IBM PC XT. Everyone now can get on either of the two computers with little or no waiting time.

I would like to welcome Mike Meyers, Jeff Laufenberg, and John Dorshorst (who was re-elected) to the Alumni Board. I and all the other officers are looking forward to working with you!

Fraternally,  
Kenneth Updike  
Vice Noble Ruler of Operations



## Vice Noble Ruler Membership Development

Joe Buttel

Alpha Nu - it has a pleasant sound, doesn't it? Yes, brothers, the Alpha Nu pledge class has recently been initiated and the brotherhood at Beta Gamma is now at 355 members strong! As the recently elected VNR of Membership Development, it was my privilege to work with these fine young men in their pledging ALPHA GAMMA RHO - BETA GAMMA.

One of these young men is DAVE WELSH, a sophomore from nearby Montfort, WI, majoring in Ag-Business. Also pledging was RICK THOMPSON (R.T.), another sophomore, from Burlington, WI, majoring in Ag-Business with an Animal Science minor. Additionally, JON LOITZ, a sophomore Soils and Crops major from Geneseo, IL is a new initiate. Finally, GARY HODGE, a sophomore from Rock Falls, IL, pledged, and Gary is an Animal Science major.

These four men went through all of the rites and passages of pledging and passed with flying colors. I am sure they will be the leaders of BETA GAMMA, and continue to make the BEST fraternity at UW-Platteville.





# Goodbye Actives, Hello Alumni



Herb Yanke (309) is from Prairie du Sac, WI. Herb is graduating with a major in Tech Ag and a minor in Animal Science. Herb pledged in the spring of 1984 in the Alpha Eta pledge class. While at Platteville, Herb had been active in Phi Eta Sigma, Dairy Club, Meat Selection and Evaluation Team, and Intramurals. During his stay at the house, Herb was the Commissary Manager, and the Noble Ruler. After graduation, Herb plans to join the home dairy operations.



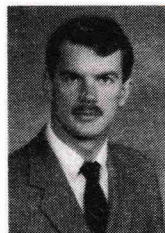
Kent Weigel (299) will graduate in May with a double major in Animal Science and Biology. Brother Weigel is a member of the Fall 1983 Alpha Zeta pledge class and has served as Assistant Pledge Trainer. On campus, he has been an active member of the Rugby Club, Pioneer Dairy Club, Alpha Zeta, and the UW-P Judging Team. Following graduation, Kent plans to attend graduate school at Iowa State University, majoring in dairy cattle breeding.

Jon Braymer (335) will graduate with a degree in Agricultural Business on May 9, 1987. Brother Braymer was a member of the Alpha Kappa pledge class in the fall of 1985. Jon has served the chapter as reporter. After graduation, Jon plans on finding employment in the challenging fields of sales or finance.



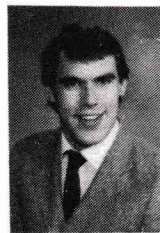
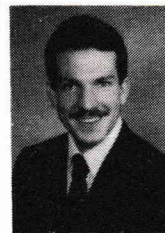
Mark Keller, (313) will graduate this May with an Agriculture Economics major and an Animal Science minor. Brother Keller was a member of the Alpha Eta pledge class in the Spring of 1984, and he has served as social chairman. Mark's campus activities include President of the Pioneer Dairy Club, Pioneer NAMA, and the UW-P Dairy Judging Team. Following graduation, Brother Keller plans to pursue a job in the dairy industry.

Reed Trefz (316) will graduate with a degree in Criminal Justice and a minor in Animal Science. Brother Trefz was a member of the Alpha Theta pledge class in the fall of 1984. Reed was active in intramural sports, the Big Patch sky diving club, and the Army National Guard. He served the chapter as Homecoming Chairman. After graduation, Reed plans on finding employment in law enforcement, or re-entering the service as an Officer.



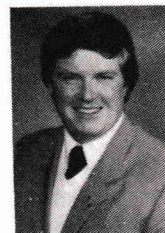
William Cody (314) is graduating this May with an Agricultural Economics major and an Animal Science minor. Brother Cody pledged in the spring of 1984 and was a member of the Alpha Eta pledge class. During his three years as a member, Bill held the offices of Pledge Trainer and Usher. Bill's campus activities include Pioneer Dairy Club, Pioneer NAMA, Ag Council Representative, and the UW-P Meat Animals Judging Team. Following graduation, Brother Cody plans to pursue a career in the meat industry.

Upon graduation in August, Larry Raupp (288) will seek a position employing herdsman responsibilities on a commercial dairy. His goals include managing a registered commercial dairy. During his undergraduate tenure, Larry was active in student organizations. Those involvements included Greek Council - treasurer, Dairy Club - vice president, Ag Business Club, Homecoming Committee - co-chair (2), intramurals and AGR. Larry, from Whitewater, held First Vice Noble Ruler (86), and Alumni Secretary (85) positions at Beta Gamma.



Phil Schleicher, (318) will graduate with a major in Agricultural Education. Upon graduation, Brother Schleicher will be seeking a career as a vocational agriculture teacher. Phil pledged in the fall of 1984 and was a member of the Alpha Theta pledge class. In addition, Brother Schleicher served as the chapter chaplain and has been active in several campus organizations.

On May 9, 1987, Mike Daniels (320) will have the honor of becoming an alumni of this outstanding organization. Mike was a member of Alpha Theta pledge class. During this four years at the University, Mike was involved in a number of different clubs which include: Alpha Zeta, Ag Council, NAMA and Newman Club (treasurer 84-85, president 86). He is graduating with a degree in Agri-Business and a minor in Business Administration and is looking for employment in Ag Finance or Ag Sales.



Peter Maier, (338) is from Cross Plains, WI and the son of Clarence and Majorie Maier. Brother Maier will be graduating with a degree in Agri-Business with a minor in Business Administration. While attending UW-Platteville, he was active in Pioneer NAMA - Vice President, National Competition Team, Ag Council Representative, and Intramural sports. Through his association with Beta Gamma, he has been assistant treasurer, high scholastic pledge of the Alpha Kappa pledge class (Fall 1985) and outstanding active. Pete plans on pursuing a career in Ag Sales or Ag Finance.

DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN  
ADDRESS CHANGES FOR THE  
NEW ALUMNI DIRECTORY!



## Alumni Profiles

Brother George Kilbride (181) currently resides at 29702 Road 162 Visalia, CA 93291. He pledged Alpha Gamma Rho in the autumn of 1976. He was a member of the Pi pledge class. He graduated in 1979 with an Agriculture Mechanization degree. He is currently employed by FMC Corporation in the Agriculture Machinery Division as district sales manager for California and Arizona. He mainly works with sprayer equipment sales and maintains about 60 dealer accounts. George believes he benefitted the most from Alpha Gamma Rho by being able to interact with many other people. His advice to graduating seniors is to get a lot of experience and to keep sending out resumes.

FMC Corporation  
Agricultural Machinery Division  
5601 East Highland Drive  
Jonesboro Arkansas 72401  
501 935 1970

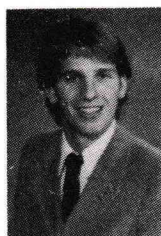
George J Kilbride  
District Sales Manager



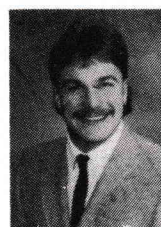
Res 29702 Road 162  
Visalia California 93279  
209 732 1689



On May 9, 1987, John Schmidt (319) will be graduating with a degree in Agricultural Business with a minor in Business Administration. John was a member of the Alpha Theta pledge class. During the past 4 years, John has been involved in: Alpha Zeta, NAMA, Student Recruiter, Intramurals, along with being the Ways and Means Chairman and the Usher for Alpha Gamma Rho. Presently John is looking for employment in the field of Ag Finance or Ag Sales.



Kent Rear (339) will graduate with a degree in Agricultural Business with a minor in Agricultural Economics. Kent was a member of the Alpha Kappa pledge class. While attending Platteville, he was involved in NAMA, Alpha Zeta, and Intramurals. His hobbies include sports and listening to music. Kent would like to work in Ag Sales or Ag Finance.



Jeff Agnew (308) will graduate with a degree in Agricultural Education on May 9, 1987. Brother Agnew was a member of the Alpha Zeta pledge class in the Fall of 1983. Jeff has served the chapter as homecoming chairman and reporter. He has also been an active member of the Pioneer Dairy Club, and the UW-P Dairy Judging team. After recently completing his student teaching at Whitewater High School, Jeff is currently seeking a job teaching vocational agriculture or a position in the dairy industry.



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## Alumni News and Notes

Brother Dan Wetherall (144), his wife Nancy and their two children, Emily, age three and Nathan, nine months, presently live at 1405 Valley Drive, Humboldt, IA 50548. He is currently employed by Pig Improvement Company, Inc. (PIC). Here he works as Production Manager, supervising farms which are under contract to produce breeding gilts for the company. Dan pledged Alpha Gamma Rho in the spring of 1975 along with eight other young men in the Nu pledge class. After graduating in the spring of 1976, he entered the Peace Corps. He worked in Ecuador, South America as a beef extensionist. His experiences there have been "interesting and enjoyable". After returning home, he worked for Babcock Research and development farm by LaCrosse for two years and then went to PIC.

Brother Dave Martin (248) and Beth Dickenscheidt will be married on Saturday, August 22, 1987. The service will begin at 4:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Roselle, IL.

Brother Rick Kuhle (181) and Brenda Larson are planning to be married Saturday, July 11, 1987 in LaCrosse. Rick is presently employed in Viroqua as a Regional Manager for Farm Credit Service.

Brother Thomas Bull (271) is engaged to Molly Lovgren. They are planning a 4:00 p.m. wedding on Saturday, May 23, 1987. The service will be held at the Ohio Methodist Church, Ohio, IL. The reception will begin at 6:00 p.m. at the VFW Hall in Dixon, IL. Tom is currently teaching vocational agriculture and Molly works for the Soil Conservation Service.

Brother John Schmidt (319) is engaged to Jacki Schuster of Poinette, WI. They are planning a wedding for Saturday, October 3, 1987 in Portage, WI. Jacki is an Executive Marketing Director for Massachusetts Mutual Financial Group and John is looking for a position in Ag Finance or Ag Sales.

Congratulations to Brother George Kilbride (181) of Visalia, CA, on his marriage to Leslie Laux of Porterville, CA. They were married on April 25, 1987. George is employed the FMC Corp. and Leslie is employed by Laux Management, Inc.

Brother Eric Johannsen (326) is the new agriculture instructor and FFA advisor at Iowa-Grant H.S. in Livingston, WI. Eric graduated in December, 1986. He pledged in the spring of 1985 and was a member of the Alpha Iota pledge class.



## Gratz Reaches "Alice" Finals

Past Lafayette County Dairy Queen, Kris Gratz, has come within one step of her life-long dream to hold the position of Alice in Dairyland. After continued support from her family and college professors, Kris completed the initial application and resume in February. After screening many applications, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection arranged for a combined ten minute interview, two minute sale presentation on a Wisconsin Ag product, and six minutes of questions asked by the selection committee. After this screening, Kris became one of twelve finalists for the position of public relations specialist for the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture to be chosen June 17-19 in Madison. The final selection will be based primarily on the sales presentation and response to questions. Kris says, "It's been an honor making it this far".

Kris has been very active in agricultural organizations for the last ten years. She has served as the National Agri-Marketing Association organization President and national project chairperson. Other activities include: Ag Business Club-Secretary, Alpha Zeta, AGR Rhomate, Rangerette pom pom squad, and University and Madrigal Choir. We at Beta Gamma wish Kris the very best of luck. Kris will be entering the work force upon graduation in May. Wisconsin needs it's second "Rhomate Alice" in three years.

### Alumni

#### Board of Directors

Gary Herzberg, President  
1836 Weiland, Apt. 2  
Appleton, WI 54914

Ron Keil, Treasurer  
1301 Hinkley Ave. NW  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405-3705

Jeff Laufenberg, Secretary  
117 West Prospect St.  
Ottawa, IL 61350

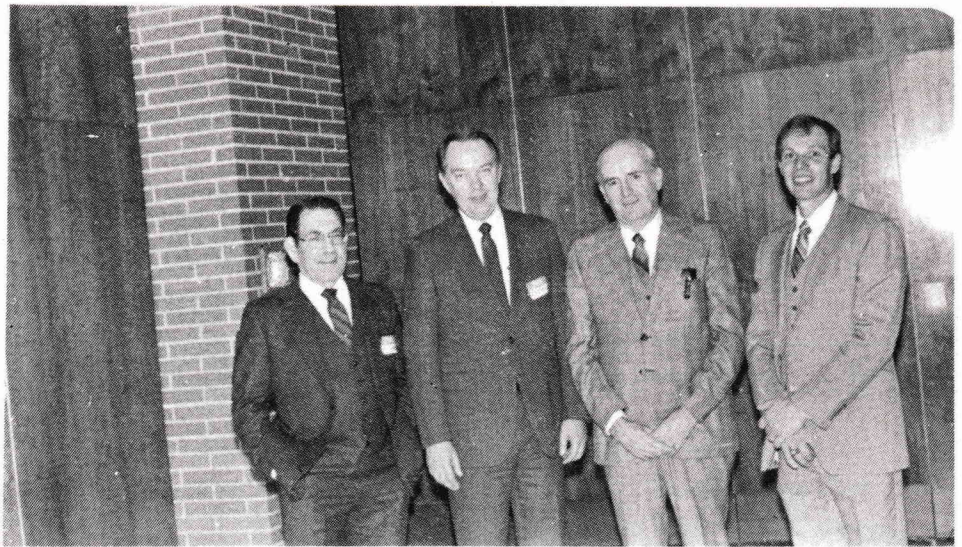
David Badula  
R.R. 1, Box 18  
Argyle, WI 53504

Mike Myers  
Rt. 3, 987A Golfview Dr.  
Platteville, WI 53818

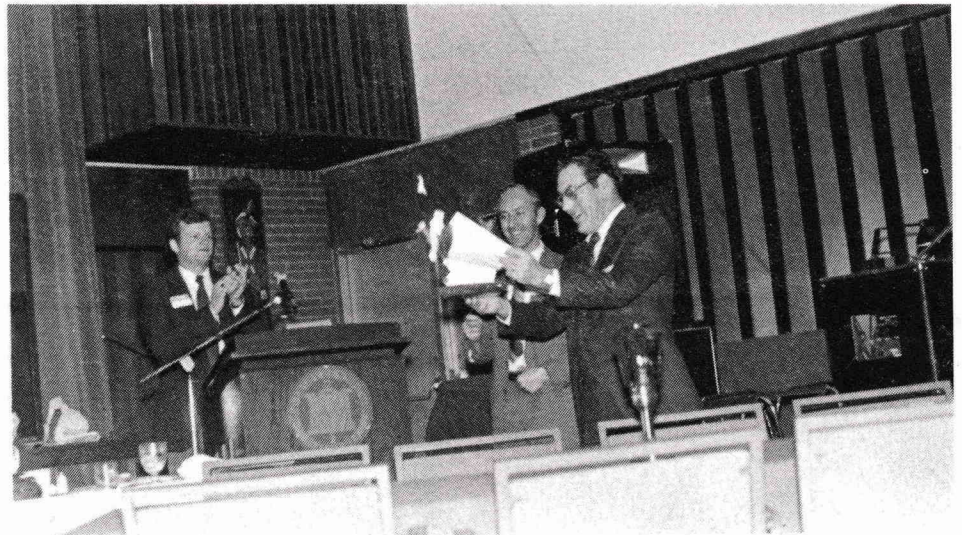
John Dorshorst  
656 Schreiners Park Rd.  
Lancaster, WI 53813

Kerry Henning  
723 St. Paul Street  
Keil, WI 53042

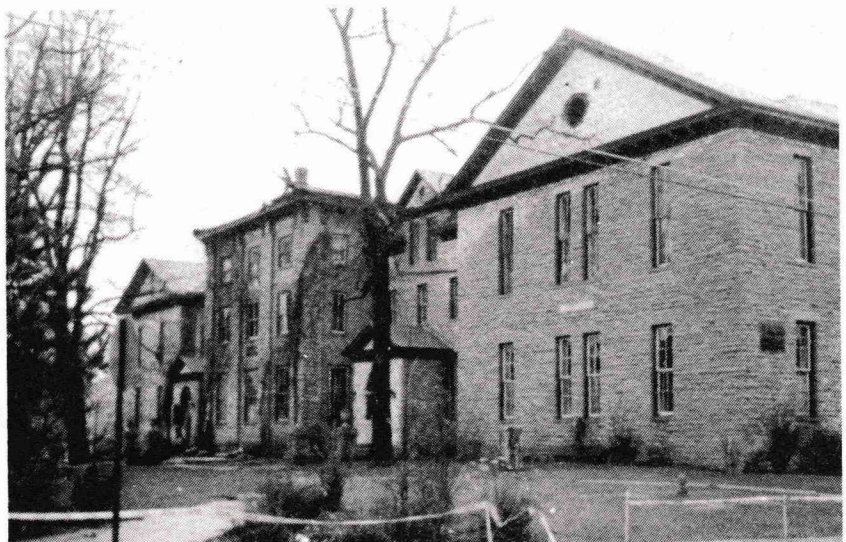
Dale Pertzborn  
Rt. 3, Box 211  
Viroqua, WI 54665-9543



Advisor Robert Campbell, Grand President Zane Akins, Advisor Richard Loberger, and Advisor Dan Adams take a moment at alumni banquet for pictures.

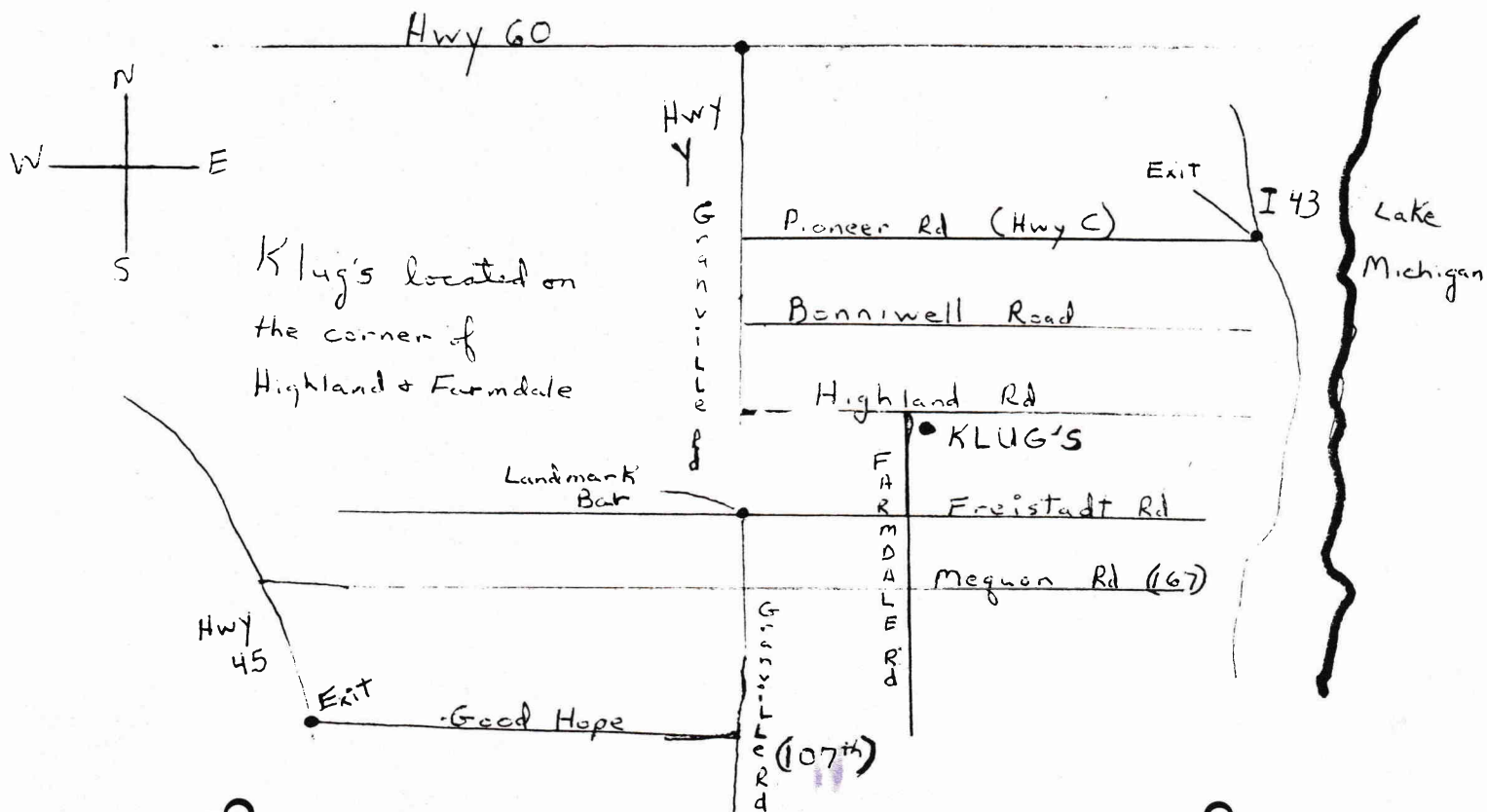


Retiring Alumni Board President Rick Kuhle looks on as Francis Friar and Dr. Campbell burn the mortgage.

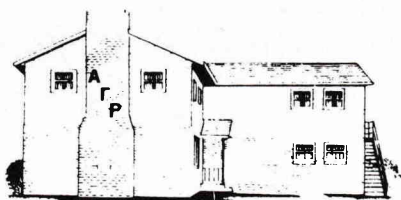


Roundtree Hall remains standing but was severely damaged by the fire.





## PLAN FOR SUMMER RETREAT



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