

BETA GAMMA

CHAPTER

Crescent

ALPHA GAMMA RHO

WINTER 1987

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-PLATTEVILLE

NO. 44

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO OUR 15TH ANNIVERSARY And Mortgage Burning Celebration Saturday, March 28, 1987

A Glorious Past A Brighter Future

Establishment of AGR Colony

In the fall of 1968, 34 men from the College of Agriculture formed a fraternal organization known on campus as Alpha Gamma Rho. The constitution was approved and on February 12, 1969, the group became the newest colony of Alpha Gamma Rho.

(Crescent No. 1, Spring, 1969)

Alumni Corporation Formed

In April, 1969, brothers Marotz, Salesman and Wegmueller formed an Alumni Corporation Board. The Board is working to obtain housing for the brothers of the colony.

(Crescent No. 2, Fall, 1969)

Alumni Purchase House

When the brothers of Platteville Colony of AGR returned to campus in September, 1969, they learned the Alumni Corporation had purchased a house at 350 W. Pine Street.

(Crescent No. 2)

AGR's Build New House

During the spring and summer of 1971, the Alumni Board began planning for the construction of a new house. A tract of land was purchased at 845 W. Madison St. Construction is progressing as planned and occupancy should be on Jan. 1, 1972.

(Crescent No. 6, 1971)

Beta Gamma Chapter Installed

A dream became reality on April 22 when 88 members of the Platteville Colony were initiated and Beta Gamma became the 47th chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho.

(Crescent No. 8, 1972)

Rho-Mate Chapter Installed

On Thurs., Oct. 12, Beta Gamma chapter initiated six women as the first members of its little sister organization, the Rho Mates.

(Crescent No. 10, 1973)

The Family Reunion

R.L. Campbell

You are invited to a reunion of the Alpha Gamma Rho family, to be held at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville Student Center.

Before a reunion can occur, a union must have taken place. In the traditional sense, that union is through marriage where serious vows are exchanged as an expression of lasting love. It is a part of American culture for the descendants of that union to join together as families to share experiences, hopes, joys, and sorrows. In doing so, they keep alive the love on which the original union was based. Each time they gather together, it is a reunion.

When you were invited into Alpha Gamma Rho, you also made a serious vow. In a sense, it too was a promise to love, honor, respect and be faithful to your school, to Alpha Gamma Rho, and to your Brothers in the Bond.

Now, Beta Gamma is having a reunion. It is a time for coming together to renew old friendships, to exchange fond memories and to meet the newest members of the family. I hope you have made plans to join the Alpha Gamma Rho family in Platteville.

(The column above is a reprint of an article which appeared in the Winter, 1982 issue of the Beta Gamma Crescent. It is as appropriate today as it was then.)

R.J. Loberger Faculty Initiate

Dr. Richard J. Loberger, Professor, Agricultural Mechanization, was initiated as an Honorary Member at homecoming on October 22, 1972. Dr. Loberger has his Bachelors and Masters degrees from U.W. Platteville and the Ph.D. from the University of Missouri.

Soon after his initiation, Dr. Loberger accepted the responsibility of advisor for Building and Grounds.

(The article above appeared in the Winter, 1972 issue of the Crescent. Dr. Loberger will be recognized for his 15 years of service to the Chapter during the 1987 Alumni Banquet.)

The 1987 Alumni Banquet of Beta Gamma Chapter, Alpha Gamma Rho, will be a very special event. It will mark the end of an era and the beginning of another. Not only will we observe the 15th anniversary of Beta Gamma Chapter, but at the same time, we will celebrate the burning of the mortgage on our chapter house. You have made it happen over these 15 years. Plan now to join in the celebration on March 28.

As the by-line suggests, the banquet will serve as the launch pad for a new area in the development of Beta Gamma chapter. The Long Range Planning Committee of your Alumni Association will announce plans for the improvement and expansion of our fraternity home. Included among the features are a new chapter room, a new dining facility, a housemother's apartment and more space for our men in the sleeping/study rooms. The addition will not provide for housing more men but will provide much needed improvement for those we have.

The Long Range Planning Committee, along with the Alumni Board, feels very strongly about the necessity of these improvements if we are to be competitive in rush and pledging in the future. You can show your support of the Alumni Board and its building committee by attending our 15th anniversary banquet on March 28.

15TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET
BETA GAMMA CHAPTER
ALPHA GAMMA RHO
SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1987
UNIVERSITY STUDENT CENTER
BE THERE!

From the Desk of the Noble Ruler

With the new year comes change and the hope of a prosperous year ahead. As the new Noble Ruler, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the active chapter for the opportunity to work with and lead our chapter in the direction of bettering our fraternity. I feel that I have a fine set of officers to work with and face the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead of us.

The year has only begun but the chapter has already seen quite a few changes. One major change has been in the officer structure. At the last National Convention it was accepted to have a chain of command similar to the business world. The new structure is set up with the Noble Ruler and an executive council made up of eight Vice Noble Rulers, each in charge of specific areas. Overall the new names may seem quite different but the responsibilities and duties have not changed much at all. There are also secondary offices associated with each area which helps to distribute the work and get more of the active chapter involved. One of the first opportunities the new officer team has to acquire new ideas is the Leadership Seminar. This year the event is scheduled for February 27-28 in Omaha, Nebraska and brother Earl Butz is the planned quest speaker.

Thanks to the alumni support, the house has also had some recent changes.

Upcoming Events

Alumni Meeting March 28, 1:00 p.m.
Alumni Banquet March 28, 5:00 p.m.
Alumni Brunch March 29, 12:30 p.m.
Pledge Banquet April 10
Parents' Day April 12

1987 Officer Staff

Kevin Klubertanz Noble Ruler
Brad Otter V.N.R. of Recruitment
Joe Buttel V.N.R. of Membership
Development
James Goking V.N.R. of Alumni
Relations
Rich Grulke V.N.R. of Finance
Roy Hoff V.N.R. of Planning
Ken Updike V.N.R. of Operations
John Oncken V.N.R. of Provisions
Andy Schleicher ... V.N.R. of Activities

We have received new curtains for the Chapter Room and a new overhead and side door for the garage. One of the most recent changes has been to the Computer Room, which has had the closet torn out and replaced with a counter and cabinets. This change has opened up the room and made it more presentable and usable. Recently, the active chapter attended the annual Winter Retreat. Two of the major topics we discussed were rushing and pledging. There is a great number of activities that will be graduating this spring and one major concern of the chapter is to try to rush enough new members to make up for those leaving. The chapter is also faced with the problem of declining enrollment in agriculture and with cut backs in the university system, it looks like there will be fewer students attending college which decreases our population to pick from even more. With these added problems we need all the help we can get and I believe that with strong alumni support and an extra effort by the active chapter we can overcome these obstacles.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the Alumni Banquet, March 28. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me or one of the other officers.

Fraternally,

Kevin Klubertanz
Noble Ruler



Our House

I would like to welcome you to this edition of Our House and would like to introduce myself. My name is Kenneth Updike and I'm the new Vice Noble Ruler of Operations. A fancy name for house manager.

Our house has experienced some changes over last Christmas break. The largest change being the remodeling of the computer room (old house mothers room). The closet was removed and replaced by cabinets for storage and shelving for books. We are currently looking into the installation of wood paneling for the stairway with a chandelier and coat of arms mural on the second floor stairwell landing. I and the long range planning committee are seeking your input and ideas for future house expansion or improvements. I would like for you to fill out the suggestion card in this issue of the Crescent with your ideas or comments and return them to me as soon as possible. I look forward to meeting you at the alumni banquet on Saturday, March 28, 1987, or at the Long Range Planning Committee meeting on Saturday, February 21, 1987.

Fraternally,

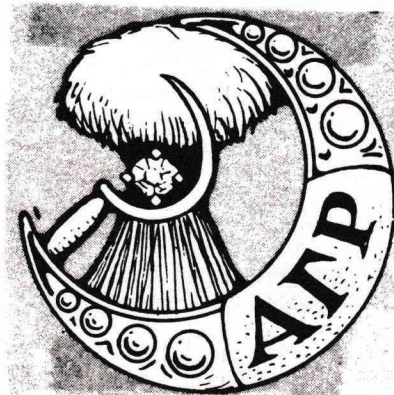
Kenneth Updike
Vice Noble Ruler of Operations

Vice Noble Ruler of Recruitment's Report

Yet it is one week too early for the actual number of pledges, the situation is looking up for now. There were big turnouts at each of our three rushes this January, so we are optimistic regarding future members. Joe Buttel and I have reorganized our traditional programs to become competitive again, as we have experienced slightly decreased numbers in the past few semesters. We are giving bids out one week earlier this year because several ag majors pledged other fraternities last semester who have their bids one week prior to ours. Another change is with "dry rushing". Though we did have a very successful dry rush with the Sig Taus and the Gamma Phis in the student center, we did not "dry up" completely. We had two good rushes here at the house which allowed the minors who were interested to mingle with the actives. Soda was provided, and strict supervision by the chapter proved it was possible to have alcohol also. Several freshman thought it was a good idea because, though they could not drink, they were still able to meet many people of a different age. I believe we will have an average size pledge class this semester, but I am looking for a large class in the fall.

Fraternally,

Brad Otter
Vice Noble Ruler
of Recruitment



Crescent Staff

Crescent Editor Ken Klaes
Asst. Editor Mark Winters
Contributing Editors Dr. Campbell
and Kurt Krueger

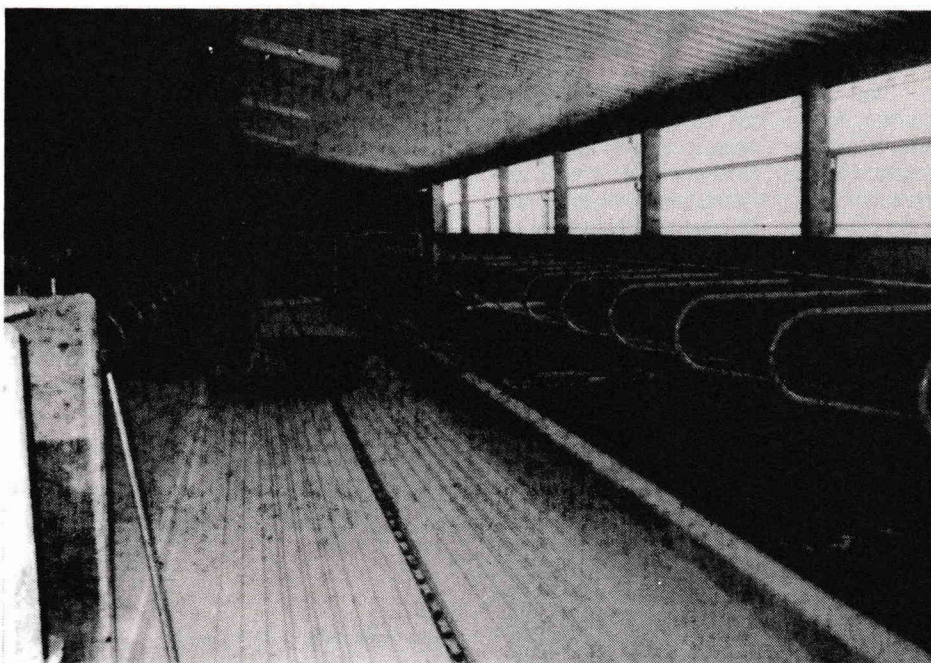
Pioneer Prairie Farm Undergoes Modernization

The university farm has been undergoing new construction since October 1985, when work began on a new classroom/demonstration facility. The educational center replaced an office/classroom building that had been converted from a chicken coop. The new 90 x 75 foot building includes a classroom, a showring/arena, the farm director's office, and restrooms. The facility cost slightly under \$250,000.

Phase two, a freestall barn, began in August 1986 after the education center was completed. The barn replaced a hay shed previously on the site. This caused the hay to be stored in the machine shed which meant that some of the machinery has been left outside for the winter. The barn, which is nearly completed, will have stalls for 80 cows. The barn includes automatic scrapers, a manure pit, and a natural ventilation system. The project cost around \$250,000 also.

"The number-one advantage is that we will have a better environment for the cows," stated Rob MacSwain, dairy herdsman. The cows will be divided into four groups for specialized attention. The groups will be high producing, low producing, high somatic cell count, and dry cows. These groups will receive different feed rations and more individual attention to improve production efficiency.

The third and final phase of the modernization involves constructing a new herring-bone milking parlor, heifer barn, manure storage facility, and silo. The milking parlor is to be added onto the end of the freestall barn and will include 20 tie stalls, research and maternity pens, and a computer facility. The cost of this phase is expected to be \$600,000. Funds for the project have not yet been granted by the state, but the construction hopefully will be completed by the end of 1989.



Workers install comfort mats inside the nearly complete freestall barn.

Pat Campbell To Serve As Rhomate Advisor

Mrs. Robert Campbell is once again taking an active interest in the Beta Gamma Chapter. She has agreed to work with and provide guidance for the chapter's Rhomates. There are currently 13 Rhomates. Mrs. Campbell stated she wanted to get involved again because she felt "a closeness to Alpha Gamma Rho which stemmed from lasting friendships and brotherhood of previous years."

Mrs. Campbell will attend Rhomate meetings and assist in developing a program of activities to enhance social graces and professional skills. Mrs. Campbell believes "women in today's society are a worthy influence, but they need to stand tall and take part."

Mrs. Campbell graduated from the UW-Madison with a B.S. degree in Secondary Education with a double major in History and English. She never taught school full-time because of wanting to raise a family but said she did much substitute teaching. The Campbells have three sons, one daughter and one granddaughter.

Rhomate President Tracy Greenheck believes having Mrs. Campbell work with the chapter will also help the actives adjust to the future housemother. Tracy says the Rhomates are looking forward to working with Mrs. Campbell.



The education center located at the university farm receives its first use last fall.



ATTENTION ALUMNI
DON'T GET LOST

Keep the chapter informed of
all address changes!

A Message From The President

Plan now to attend the 1987 Spring Banquet to be held on Saturday, March 28th. The Beta Gamma Chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho will celebrate its 15th year anniversary! The occasion promises to be one of the best ever with several enhancements to the Banquet's timetable. You will be treated to a delicious meal followed by a short program which allows plenty of time for socializing and dancing later in the evening.

Platteville's AGR can be extremely proud of their accomplishments in the past fifteen years. Since the beginning we have enjoyed the satisfaction of attaining many of our goals. Just recently, we were able to pay off the house mortgage thanks in large part to the success of the Building House Fund Program. A Mortgage Burning Ceremony at the banquet will help acknowledge all those brothers who contributed in any way possible. This ceremony signifies our appreciation of the sacrifice many of us have made for the betterment of AGR.

However, we cannot rest on our laurels. Beta Gamma must now focus its attention on a changed environment and develop a strategic plan for the next fifteen years. With a reduced enrollment in the college of Agriculture, we must address recruitment of new brothers with renewed vigor. Alpha Gamma Rho cannot afford to accept status quo. I believe Beta Gamma has demonstrated its vision for the future by winning the bid for the 1988 National Convention by a wide margin. Details of this victory will be shared with everyone at the Annual Meeting.

Many thanks to those alumni who shared their views on the Housemother Program. The strong response was indicative of the many brothers who stay in touch with the fraternity. Just over 70% of the alumni who voted were in favor of implementing the Housemother Program again even if a house renovation or addition is necessary. The Long Range Planning Committee will now act on these results and make a recommendation to the Board of Directors. Plans will be discussed at the Annual Meeting.

The Building Fund Drive continues. Although it has been very successful in the past, we realize the benefits need not end. Capital for a house renovation or addition is needed now. In an effort to again stimulate contributions the Alumni Board has decided to reward those brothers who have paid \$400.00 since the 1982 Banquet with a free meal for themselves and their spouse or guest at this banquet. Please consider a contribution now to help Beta Gamma achieve our new goals.

All alumni are invited to attend the Annual Meeting to be held Saturday, March 28 at 12:30 p.m. in the M Rooms of the Student Center. Many important topics will be reviewed and discussed. In addition,

director elections will be held for three positions. The terms of John Dorshorst, Ken Gibson and myself will expire. Contact any of the present Board members to nominate someone for a three year term as a Director. As usual, we expect a productive, worthwhile, and briskly paced meeting.

Please send in your reservations for the Banquet as early as possible. You'll enjoy reminiscing with old friends and meeting new AGR brothers. Special recognition will be given to all pledge classes for years 1982, 1977 and 1972. Who will have the most in attendance? Hope to see you there!

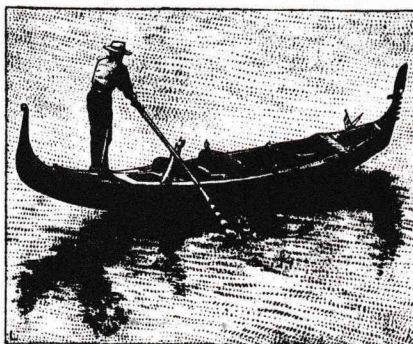
Richard Kuhle,
President

Scholastic Report

As another semester has been recently completed, some actives look forward to the Steak or Beans Supper. The fraternity grade point average (GPA) was 2.97. The pledge class average was 2.62. The top actives were Brother Brad Otter and Brother Kent Weigel with a GPA of 4.0. The top pledge was Brother Mark Winters with a GPA of 3.5. The most improved active was Brother Dave Schoppe who increased his semester GPA by 1.07. Twenty-five actives improved their GPA, ten went down, and two remained the same scholastically.

Badula's Boating Misadventures

The insurance money finally came through, and Brother Dave Badula has a boat which is like new. Sources close to Dave have submitted the picture which is a close facsimile to the way the boat actually looks. When Dave was questioned about the matter, he replied, "It's fixed, and I will always carry three or four extra props from now on." So we wish Dave the best in his future boating adventures. Stay tuned for further updates.



A New Idea

Alumni, please send your business cards to Mark Winters, 845 West Madison, Platteville, WI 53818. These will be used for future Crescent publications and alumni files.

Hello Alumni,

My name is Mark Winters and I am the assistant Crescent Editor. There will be many important happenings occurring in the Beta Gamma chapter in the next couple of years. I strongly urge you to get involved and provide input and assistance. There will be a general alumni meeting on Saturday, March 28, starting at 12:30 p.m. The meeting will be held upstairs at the Student Center in the M-Rooms.

The Rhomates are planning a program for alumni wives and past Rhomates during this afternoon meeting. Details are not complete at this time so further information will be forthcoming. Please indicate on the reply card if you intend to attend this function.

The Alumni Banquet is being planned for March 28 also. The starting time for social hour is 5:00 p.m. Please note that this is one hour earlier than previously announced. The cost of the banquet will be \$13 for advanced tickets and \$15 for tickets at the door. I strongly urge you to send in the advanced registration form so that adequate planning will allow the night of the banquet to run smoothly. The program will include the burning of the mortgage, viewing the national bid video, and recognizing alumni from the 1972, 1977 and 1982 pledge classes. Alumni board member Gary Herzberg has arranged for the band HIGH STEPPING to provide music for dancing.

Attention Old trophies and other articles will be on display and up for sale by silent auction. Support the chapter and buy some good memories.

On Sunday at 12:30 p.m., there will be a special dinner for all who would like to come. The cost of the dinner will be \$2.50 per plate.

A block of forty motel rooms has been reserved at the Governor Dodge Motor Inn here in Platteville. If you plan on staying there on Friday night, March 27, and/or Saturday night, March 28, individual reservations can be made by phoning (608) 348-2301. Reservations must be made by March 15. If you stay both nights the Inn is offering a package deal. If you stay on either night regular rates will be charged. The rates are as follows:

Regular, 2 persons, 1 bed . . . \$42+tax/night
Package, 2 persons, 1 bed . . . \$35+tax/night
Regular, 2 persons, 2 beds . . . \$48+tax/night
Package, 2 persons, 2 beds . . . \$37.50+tax/night

The package deal also includes a \$20 credit which can be used at their restaurant or cocktail lounge.

YOUR INPUT IS WELCOME!

I would like to see the following included in the future house expansion plans:

NAMES _____ PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____

Alumni News and Notes

Brother Steven (237) and Erna Keil of Whitewater are the proud parents of a second son, Jason William was born January 2, 1987. He weighed 6 lbs. and 11 ounces and was 20 inches long. Steve and Erna's first son is Christopher.

Brother Kenneth Jenks (294) is engaged to Carla Zimmerman. They are planning a June 6, 1987 wedding at the First English Lutheran Church, Oshkosh, WI. The ceremony will begin at 2:00 p.m. The church address is 1013 Minnesota Street. There will also be a reception and dance from 6:00 p.m. until 12:30 a.m. The reception will be at the V.F.W. Hall, 129 West 17th Avenue, Oshkosh.

Brother John Scott (282) is engaged to past Rhomate Barb Wegmann. The ceremony is being planned for 2:00 p.m. on April 25, 1987. The wedding is at St. Mary's Church, Bloomington, WI. The reception will be at Prairie du Chien.

Brother Kevin McArtor (280) is engaged to past Rhomate Denise Fitzsimmons. The wedding is being planned for August 29, 1987 at Mineral Point.

Brother Rob MacSwain alumni member of Alpha Psi is currently the herdsman at the UW-Platteville Pioneer Prairie Farm. Rob graduated from River Falls with a B.S. degree in Farm Management and a minor in Animal Science in 1980. He served as a Noble Ruler while at River Falls. Rob's wife Julie (Berg) was a Beta Gamma Rhomate from 1980 to 1983.

The following alumni are lost according to our knowledge. If you have any information about their current whereabouts please contact James Goking, Vice Noble Ruler of Alumni Relations, 845 West Madison Street, Platteville, WI 53818.

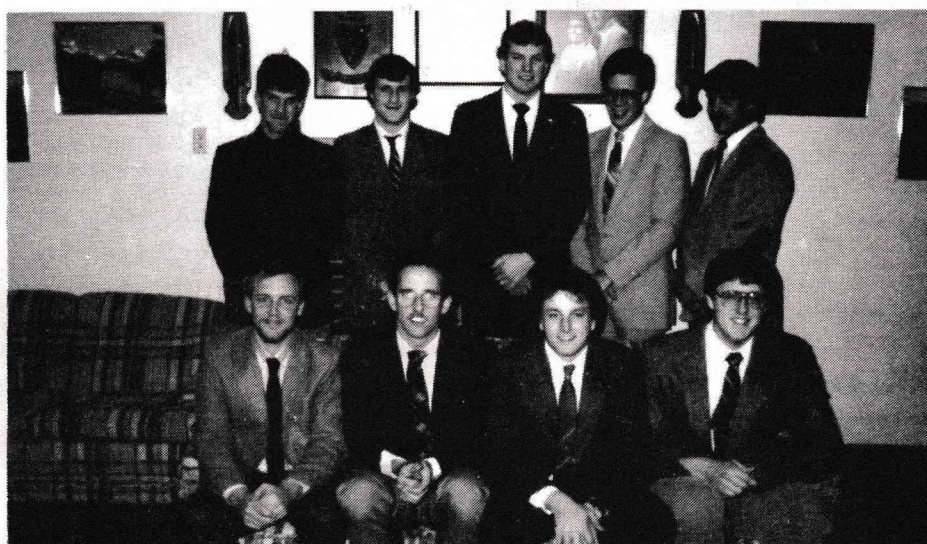
Brother Allen Fox (208)
Brother Richard Guenther (99)
Brother Bob Ratzburg (63)

Schroeder Named As Sweetheart

Mary Schroeder was chosen in September to be the chapter sweetheart for the year. Mary, from Reedsburg, is a junior majoring in Criminal Justice with a minor in Psychology. One of Mary's career goals involves working with juvenile delinquents. On campus, Mary is a member of the Theta Phi Alpha colony (formerly Delta Gamma Phi sorority), the Psychology Club, and the Criminal Justice Association.



Mary Schroeder is the current chapter sweetheart.



The 1987 officers include Jim Goking, (L to R), Joe Buttell, Kevin Klubertanz, Brad Otter, John Oncken. (back row), Andy Schleicher, Roy Hoff, Ken Updike and Rich Grulke.

RESERVATION FORM

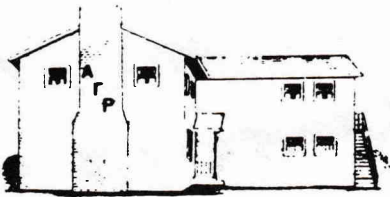
- _____ person(s) will attend the annual Alumni Banquet. I will enclose a check for \$13 per person.
- _____ person(s) will attend the Special Alumni Dinner. I will enclose an additional \$2.50 per plate.
- _____ person(s) will attend the Rhomate Program during the general alumni meeting on Saturday afternoon.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Please make checks payable to Alpha Gamma Rho. **NOTE:** It is important to have reservation forms mailed by March 13, so that appropriate plans can be made. Mail reservations to James Goking, Alpha Gamma Rho, 845 West Madison Street, Platteville, WI 53818. **REMINDER:** Please make motel reservations before March 15, 1987. Phone (608) 348-2301.

CE
JH



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