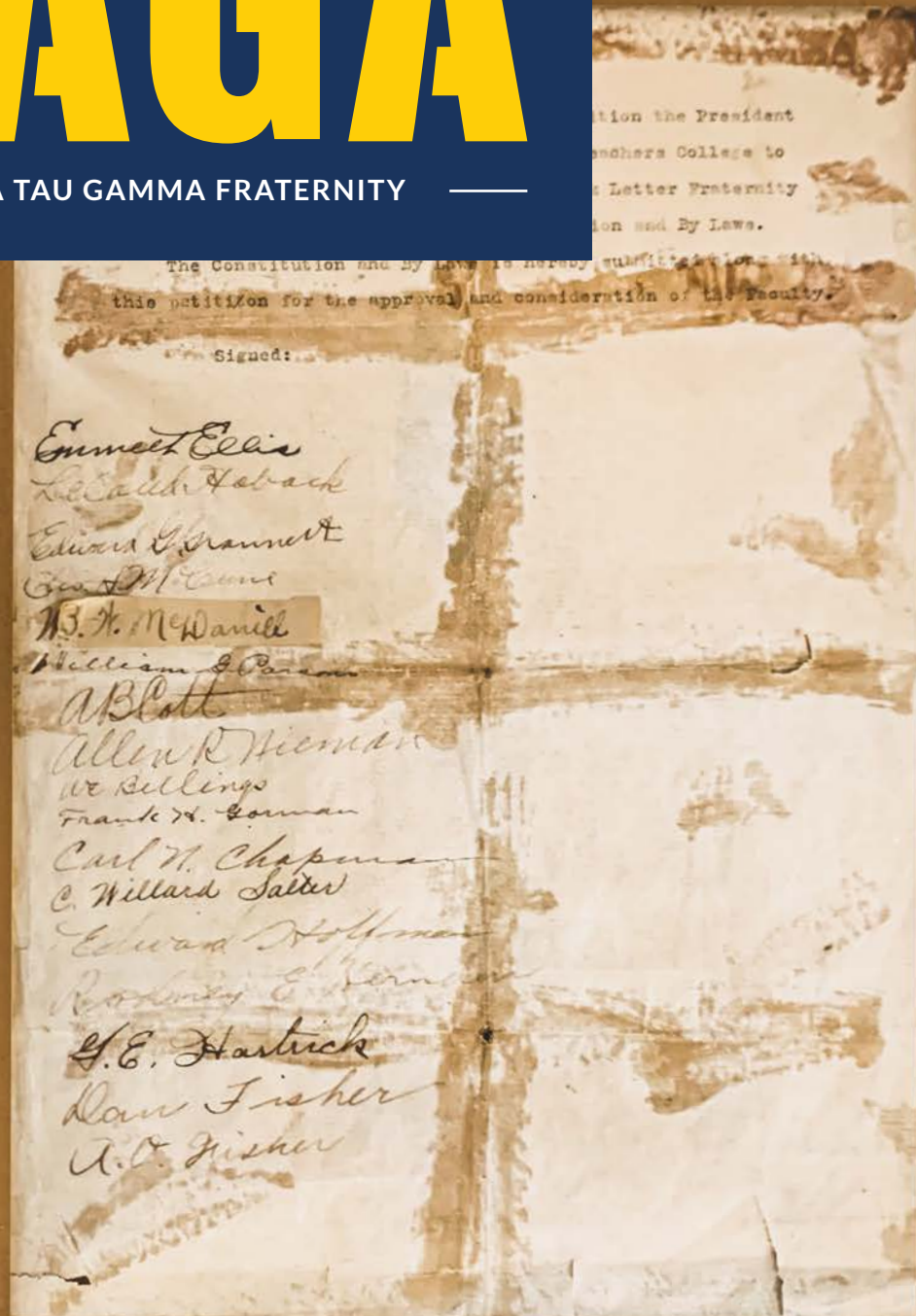


# SAGA

SIGMA TAU GAMMA FRATERNITY

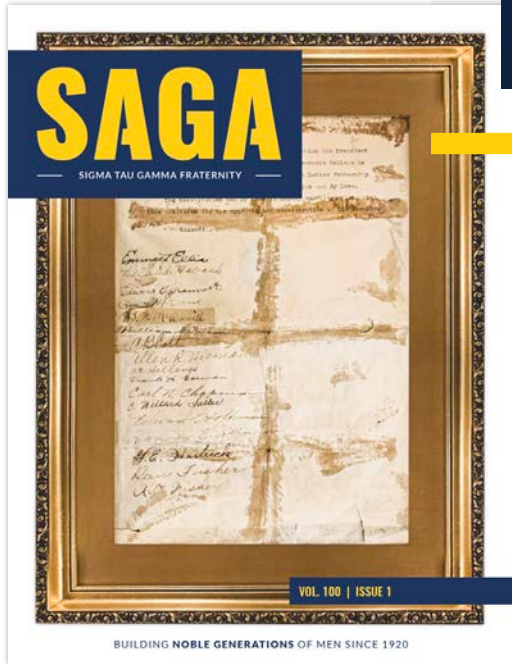


VOL. 100 | ISSUE 1

BUILDING NOBLE GENERATIONS OF MEN SINCE 1920



# CONTENTS



2020

**ON THE COVER**  
This issue honors our past as we look forward to our future. The cover depicts a rendering of Sigma Tau Gamma's petition to charter.

100 YEARS

### PETITION

#### TO THE PRESIDENT AND FACULTY:

We, the undersigned men, do hereby petition the President and Faculty of the Central Missouri State Teachers College to grant us the privilege of organizing a Greek Letter Fraternity under the rules prescribed in our Constitution and By Laws.

The Constitution and By Laws is hereby submitted along with this petition for the approval and consideration of the Faculty.

#### Signed:

Emmett Ellis  
Leland Hoback  
Edward G. Grannert  
Edward H. McCune  
William G. Parsons  
B. W. McDaniel  
A. B. Cott  
Allen R. Nieman  
W. E. Billings

Frank H. Gorman  
Carl N. Chapman  
C. Willard Salter  
Edward Hoffman  
Rodney E. Herndon  
G. E. Hartrick  
Dan Fisher  
A. O. Fisher



1925

1928

1932

1934

1936



1963

1967

1967



1976

1977



2017

### WHO RECEIVES THE SAGA?

Upon initiation, each member is guaranteed a lifetime subscription to the SAGA Magazine. That commitment by Sigma Tau Gamma remains, though, for several reasons some may no longer receive a copy. If you would like to specify that you receive the next issue of the SAGA Magazine, please contact headquarters at 317-644-1920, or at [noblemen@sigtaiu.org](mailto:noblemen@sigtaiu.org).

### HOW DOES ONE GET PUBLISHED?

Content submissions for the magazine are always encouraged. While space constraints naturally make it difficult for the editorial staff to include every idea presented, a fair evaluation process is exercised to publish the greatest variety of chapters, generations, geographical regions, events, and unique member achievements and stories. Pictures should be submitted in high resolution at [noblemen@sigtaiu.org](mailto:noblemen@sigtaiu.org).



1938

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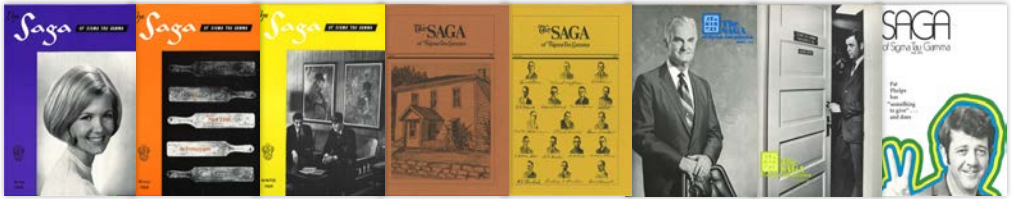
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## EDITOR'S NOTE

### GREG W. WARD, ALABAMA

Director of Communications  
& SAGA Magazine Editor

**This issue is for those who have come before me. For those who endured the trials of editing the SAGA. For those who wrote the stories of our great Fraternity and for those who told the journey of our brotherhood – through our first 100 years.**

I thank you for your dedication, patience, and thoughtful creation of every single issue of the SAGA. Because of you, our history is forever preserved for future generations, for the next Fraternity leader, and for the next... Noble Gentleman.

### LIST OF SAGA EDITORS TO DATE:

- Grand Editor Ellsworth C. Dent, Emporia State '22
- D. Kenneth Winebrenner, IU Pennsylvania '31
- Rudolph Gandy, Arkansas at Monticello '48
- E. Kennedy Whitesitt, Emporia State '24
- Keith Dinsmore, Truman State '62
- Bob Bernier, Kent State '70
- Bill Bernier, Kent State '70
- Michael B. Haake, Missouri – Kansas City '83
- Tom Wood, Southeast Missouri '63
- Eric Deitz, Missouri '90
- Scott Brockelmeyer, Truman State '88
- Justin Kirk, Nebraska Kearney '97
- Steve Latour, Central Missouri '16
- Gregory Ward, Alabama '13

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In this once in a lifetime letter, 12th National President, a 1942 initiate of the Epsilon Chapter at Pittsburg State, Brother Bill Hembree writes about the growth of Sigma Tau Gamma during his lifetime.

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This longform feature spotlights an article from the Summer Issue of the SAGA Magazine from 1970. It is the narrative story of the founding of Sigma Tau Gamma.

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# SAGA

Founded as The Signet of Sigma Tau Gamma in April 1925, by Grand Editor Ellsworth C. Dent, Emporia State in Lawrence, Kansas.

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William Bernier, Kent State

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### VISIT SIGMA TAU GAMMA ONLINE

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Archive issues of the SAGA Magazine of Sigma Tau Gamma are available in electronic form at [sigtau.org](http://sigtau.org)

**\*About this Issue**  
This issue of the SAGA Magazine will help us look to our past to embark on our future. Content in this issue has been re-printed from previous issues of the SAGA Magazine including but not limited to copy, photos, and graphics. This issue continues to align with current Sigma Tau Gamma brand standards and strives to maintain the long-standing integrity of the SAGA Magazine.





1920

# 100 YEARS

BUILDING NOBLE GENERATIONS OF MEN.

2020



## ALPHA

Pictured (Above):  
Brothers of our founding chapter at Central  
Missouri State Teachers College 100 years ago  
in Warrensburg, Missouri, now known as the  
University of Central Missouri.



**SIG TAU**  
SINCE 1920

Check →  
MAR 29 1941

Mar. 22, 1941.  
819 East 71 Terr  
Kansas City, Mo.

Sigma Tau Gamma

Dear Bros:

I am the proud recipient  
of a beautiful "Founder's Key" a  
gift from the National Organization.

The founders little knew that  
when we "cast our bread upon the  
waters," some twenty years ago,  
what would be the returns. Our  
chief purpose was to institutionalize  
a bond of good fellowship; we  
could not of course realize what  
future generations of Sigma Taus  
could and would build.

So you, of the younger generation,  
honor yourselves by honoring us;  
make no mistake about that, for  
it is through your efforts and  
your accomplishments that such  
an award has significance.

Sorry to have had to miss  
the Conclave. Thanks again  
and my regards to my Brothers.

Yours fraternally  
A.O. Fisher

P.S. Send this to the Saga  
or use it if you desire.

ENDEAVOR FORWARD.





## NOTE FROM JIM JOHNSTON

### Brothers and Friends:

At an unusually early hour on June 28, 2020, we will mark a significant milestone, exactly 100 years since our Founders formed Sigma Tau Gamma, becoming the first recognized social fraternity at Central Missouri State Teachers College in Warrensburg, Missouri. For an organization to survive and thrive at 100 years is quite a significant accomplishment. Despite life being noticeably different in 1920 versus today, there is no doubt that our longevity is due to the timeless aspirations set by our Founders: pursuing scholastic exemplification, a genuine desire to better ourselves and our communities, and a recognition that close bonds of brotherly friendship are life-lasting. From these ideals at “Ma Trotter’s” rooming house, we have grown to an organization with over 70,000 initiates from 181 total chapters in two countries.

As we approach our 100th anniversary, I am honored and humbled to serve as National President. As I look throughout our past, I am continually impressed by our tradition of being innovative and open-minded as we have persevered through many challenges. The Great Depression, World War II, and continued social change have, at times, threatened our success. We continue to face challenges today as some question the relevance of fraternities. For me, our role is clear. The friendships and life-skills gained in a fraternity are not found in academic classrooms or other organizations. Fraternities better prepare you for life. I know I would not be where I am today in my professional career or personally without my Sig Tau experience and I want to ensure we continue to provide this opportunity to many future generations of men.

As we collectively look forward to our next 100 years, I hope that we continue the values of service and brotherhood as well as we have in the past century. I am awed by what we have accomplished in the past and look forward to continuing building noble generations of men.

**40th National President**  
Jim Johnston, Carnegie Mellon





Pictured (Below):  
**Bill Hembree**, 99 years old at Endeavor Atlanta 2019, served as Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity's 12th National President from 1962-64, and on the Board of Directors from 1956-1970. He was General Chairman of the Golden Challenge Campaign which raised funds for the Marvin Millsap Headquarters Building. A Trustee of the Foundation since 1970 and its President from 1982-1984, Brother Hembree has a record of service and leadership to Sigma Tau Gamma of more than 50 years. The Hembree Guild is named in his honor, and was an an original inductee into the Society of Seventeen when it was established in 1980. Brother Hembree entered Chapter Eternal on March 22, 2020.



FEB 27 1997

WHY ETΓ

Back in 1938, when I started College, I was a naive young man from the country. Because my major objective was Education and I had very little extra money, I did not have any interest in a Fraternity.

Two years later, some of my new friends got me interested in ETΓ --so I pledged. I learned that a real College Education was more than just books and that the Fraternity training and education was of great value to me.

Social training and proper attire, as well as the necessary requirements to be considered a gentleman, were not only taught but were carefully observed--then followed by constructive criticism. My Brothers really cared!

ETΓ has matured and through it's principles, offers much to it's members, both Active and Alumni.

I believe ETΓ can help prepare young men for leadership and living in today's world. Making these young men into gentlemen is still a noble endeavor!

Because I received so much from ETΓ, I believe strongly that I must give something back in order to make it possible for others to share this experience.

I shall always remember the truism that Marvin Millsap preached: "That which you give is your's forever, but that which you keep--is lost forever." He also said that if we wanted ETΓ to be there for others, it was up to all of us to make it happen!

I know that what Marvin said is absolutely true and therefore, I strive to do my part and more--to insure that our fraternity will be there for future generations.

Bill Hembree



# IN THE MONTH OF ROSES

**Mrs. Trotter** had misgivings about taking **Allen Nieman** as a boarder when the hefty schoolteacher inquired about a room on a warm summer day in 1920. Perspiring, he took off his hat and told her he would like to have a quiet room by himself as he planned to take a full load of classes that summer.

The landlady of **101 Ming** hesitated a bit, perhaps fearful of what **Nieman's** 225-pound frame might do to her furniture, but invited him in. His engaging smile and ready verbal banter soon won her confidence. She showed him one of the front room's downstairs on the southeast corner of the house, sometimes used as a parlor. The room had a fireplace with oak wood mantel and **Mrs. Trotter** did not usually rent it for she sometimes entertained guests there.

But this time she broke her rule and offered the room to him for the summer term. It was a hot Sunday afternoon and the weather was dry, as it often is this time of year in Missouri.

Noticing that **Nieman** was perspiring freely, **"Ma" Trotter** quickly went for a glass of cold water. He drank it thirstily and thanked her for her thoughtfulness. Fellow residents soon learned that his favorite beverage was lemonade and that Al could drink it by the gallon.

**Nieman** soon became a happy and resourceful addition to the **"House of Trotter."** In less than 24 hours he knew every occupant by his first name and made them each feel like they had known him all of their lives. He was, according to **Ed Hoffman**, a unifying force in the house and helped to settle peacefully a good many argument before they got out of hand. The other roomers all liked him, and they soon learned to come to him when they had a baffling lesson assignment to unravel. His very nature seemed to inspire loyalty and trust.

Yet, in spite of Al's outgoing nature and friendly manner, he was very studious and paid close attention to his course requirements. He often worked late into the

night and, although he had a way with verbal expression, his penmanship left something to be desired. If time permitted, he had his class papers and reports typed before he presented them to his instructors.

He had a prodigious memory for names and faces. **Hoffman** recalls that by the time summer school was over **Nieman** could match names with the faces of more than half of the 1,500 students on campus.

**Barney Cott** and **Billy Billings**, who had been students with **Nieman** at William Jewell before the World War, also lived downstairs. Upstairs, **Leland Hoback** and **Emmett Ellis** shared the room on the northeast corner while **Carl Chapman** and **Rodney Herndon** lived in the southeast room. **Ed Hoffman**, a resident at **101 Ming** for three years, lived with another student while **Willard Salter** and **Frank Gorman** were roommates.

## Literary Societies Dominant

**Ellis** and **Nieman** were considerably older than the others, each being 30 at the time and veterans in the teaching field. **Nieman**, however, was the only resident who was married, having left his wife and baby daughter in Iowa while he came to **Warrensburg** for the summer session. With the exception of **Gorman**, who was 18 and had completed one year at the **University of Missouri**, and **Hoffman**, who had a teaching assistantship at the college, everyone at **101 Ming** had teaching experience in the public schools of rural Missouri.

**Ellis** had lived at the **"House of Trotter"** for the first few weeks of the summer term in 1917.

## IN FACT, IT WAS ON THAT CORNER ON THE EVENING OF JULY 6 THAT HE AND SEVERAL CLOSE COLLEGE FRIENDS DECIDED TO ENLIST IN THE ARMED FORCES TOGETHER.

Among this group were representatives of the three men's literary societies, the only social organizations on the campus. Literary had dominated the social activity on many college campuses in the early twentieth century and Central Missouri was no exception. Male students could choose between the Athenians, the Irvings and the Baconians.

Several of the men at **101 Ming** had joined a literary society before the World War. The societies were held together largely by what the army has called esprit de corps and there were fierce rivalries between the groups, particularly in the debating activities. Friendships formed were usually transitory at best and the groups often provided nothing more than a chance meeting place for fellow classmates. Meeting places often consisted of vacant classrooms on the campus, reception rooms in dormitories or in a rooming house parlor.

Service together in the battlefields of France provided a new dimension of friendship for the group of **Warrensburg** students who

had enlisted together. As members of the Ambulance Company 355, **Ellis** and **Leland Hoback** served alongside **Ed Grannert** and **Glenn Parsons** to transport the wounded soldiers from the regimental aid stations to the fields and base hospitals.

Sharing the anxiety of their many comrades in a game of life and death, they served shoulder to shoulder, coming to know each other for their true worth. Joys and sorrows of one were shared by all and, in the words of **Glenn Parsons**, "you remember men for that inward God-given sense of service, responsibility and affection for their companions."

All men were brothers, or so it appeared to these young men whose education had been interrupted by war.

## Sense Need for Fraternity

When they returned to the campus, much of the attraction which the literary societies had held prior to the war was missing. In fact, those who lived at **101 Ming**, began to talk of the need for an organization which would cut across the boundaries imposed by the societies. "Lines were drawn so closely," **Ellis** recalls, "that we were not privileged to fraternize with members of other groups."

**Nieman** sensed almost immediately the desire on the part of his fellow students for a fraternal organization in the truest sense. He and **Billings** had become familiar with fraternities while they were at William Jewell and knew something of the benefits to be derived from closely-knit organizations.

Doubtless he also saw the need for more suitable and more permanent meeting places

which would provide a wholesome climate for college men to become better acquainted with their classmates; an atmosphere in which friendships could be nurtured and develop into enduring associations with great meaning for those involved. Indeed, if the development of such a fraternity became his goal, according to **Hoffman**, "he was the man ideally suited to initiate and implement." His outgoing personality, crusading zeal and organizational ability were personal ingredients necessary to accomplish his aim.

Phi Sigma Pi, a professional honor fraternity for men in education, was the only Greek letter organization on campus for male students. It had been founded at **Warrensburg** in 1916 for undergraduate students for the purpose of challenging men "to attain the same high scholastic standing and professional leadership" that Phi Delta Kappa was achieving in graduate schools.

Several of the men involved in discussions concerning a social organization had accepted invitations to become members of Phi Sigma Pi but, nonetheless, felt the need for an organization which would have as its primary goal the perpetuation of lasting friendships.

**"Bull sessions"** was the term for late evening discussions in 1920 and they were held nightly on the front porch at **101 Ming** and on the stone wall which was at the bottom of the sloping lawn on the corner. "What days those were!" recalls **Frank Gorman**. "As we discussed the possibilities of making such fraternal feelings as existed there among us a cherished experience of many others through the catalytic influence of a fraternity, I am sure that none of us dreamed that we would witness the present development of Sigma Tau Gamma."

The Administration Building at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg, Missouri.





Late Evening Discussions

Students from other parts of the campus were invited to the “house” for discussions, some extending far into the summer nights. Various ideas were proposed, but the one that recurred most often was that of a fraternity. Although social fraternities were unheard of in teachers colleges, they vowed to be the first to meet the need that each of them felt so deeply. They were planning for what to them would provide an improved climate on their campus - hence, the loss of a few hours’ sleep was of little concern. A list including names of several men who lived in the house and other students who were known well by the organizers was prepared one evening and **Emmett Ellis** was assigned to post it on the campus bulletin board.

The list, containing the names of about thirty men, was posted **“at an unusually early hour.”** Attached to it was the request that they meet that afternoon in what was known as **Campbell-Irving Hall**, a room on the northwest corner of the Administration Building on the **second floor**. The notice had the proper effect, according to the minutes of the first meeting, as “there appeared a goodly number of interested men to learn what was in store for them.”

One of the founders remembers that it was abnormally hot that afternoon and that the windows were up so they could get some fresh air.

Nieman Explains Purpose

**Nieman** began the meeting by explaining its purpose and told them what he thought a fraternity could mean to the men of the college. He drew upon his knowledge of fraternities at **William Jewell** in relaying to them some suggestions concerning the internal “workings” of such an organization.

“It was soon found that the proposed organization was just what the men really wanted and a temporary organization was made in order to perfect a permanent fraternity” at **C.M.S.T.C.** With that, **Leland Hoback** was elected Temporary Chairman and **Emmett Ellis** became temporary secretary. The minutes, written by **Rodney Herndon**, illustrate that a sense of destiny prevailed over the meeting, once those who had not been involved during the initial plans were informed of the purpose. They were aware of the importance of the document which they were preparing as they had to present it to a high-minded and conservative faculty. Thus,

“as a result of the Immaculate Conception, during the month of Roses 1920, there was born in the minds of a certain group of college men who had their own, as well as the best interests of the College at heart, an idea regarding the organization of a social fraternity.”

“**Immaculate Conception**” was used advisedly by Secretary **Herndon** - meaning by the grace of God; singular privilege; also, indicating the beginning of time. The poetic phrase of **“During the Month of Roses”** probably was inspired by the beautiful roses which were to be seen everywhere on campus in June.

Although a temporary plan had been agreed upon, other hurdles had to be overcome. They had to enlist a sufficient number of qualified men who were willing to challenge the traditional college landmarks and lead the way in what was certainly a bold adventure.

They insisted upon having a **“fraternity,”** although there was a feeling among some that a negative stigma might be attached because of recent press releases concerning feuds between Greeks at the **University of Missouri**. On the other hand, the fraternity idea offered a challenge to men not far removed from the barbaric influences of war. Several of the men whose names were

included on the list inviting them to the organizational meeting declined. Some undoubtedly were skeptical of becoming involved in an organization which was yet to gain faculty approval. Others belonged to Phi Sigma Pi, the professional fraternity, and considered this to be a sufficient outlet for their organizational energies. **(It is interesting to note that Emmett Ellis and Leland Hoback were initiated into Phi Sigma Pi on June 29, one day after the organizational meeting.)**

Set Temporary Organization

Following the initial meeting, its proponents realized that a temporary organization was needed to formulate a plan as to how they would proceed toward their goal. On July 2, four days after the first meeting, another was called in “Prof. Parker’s room” to discuss more fully their purpose and to appoint committees which would draft a Constitution and a set of By-Laws.

Chairman **Hoback** appointed **Allen Nieman, Ed McCune, Emmett Ellis, Glenn Parsons** and **Frank Gorman** to the Constitution Committee. To the By-Laws Committee he named **Buell McDaniel, Barney Cott, Ed Grannert, Carl Chapman** and **Eugene Hartrick**. **Rodney Herndon** and **Ed Hoffman** were assigned to design a coat of arms and a badge.

Characterized as a **“natural leader”** by the other founders, **Hoback** proved to be an excellent choice as the fraternity’s first presiding officer. He had been a school superintendent during the previous year and his administrative skills were already evident.

Like seven other founders, he was a member of the Irving society and he had also served

with **Ellis, Parsons** and **Grannert** during the war. Under **Hoback’s** guidance, the committees worked hard during the next several days to prepare their reports. In addition to working on the design of the badge, **Hoffman** recalls that he did research in the college library to see if there was any organization named Sigma Tau Gamma which, they thought, had a nice euphonic arrangement. Finding that there was none, they decided upon the name of the new fraternity.

Adopt Constitution and By-Laws

“Those were the days and nights of feverish effort,” **Gorman** recalls, and the committees were prepared to give their reports when the next meeting was called on July 7, again in Prof. Parker’s room. The proposed Constitution was adopted as proposed and the By-Laws were accepted with only a slight change regarding “fines.” **McCune** recalls that some of the founders had “become quite obstreperous” and the imposition of fines was considered imperative if the fraternity was to grow.

A motion was then made “that three copies of both documents be made and that a committee be appointed by the chair to present one of them together with a petition signed by the prospective charter members to the President of the Faculty for action. Motion carried.” Use of the word “prospective” indicates that they did not want to appear presumptuous to the faculty. **Billy Billings, Barney Cott** and **Carl Chapman** were appointed to the committee and the meeting was adjourned.

The three men chosen to go before the faculty were highly respected and well-liked by their

teachers. **Billings** was quiet and unassuming and **“Chappie”** was energetic. **Barney**, who would remain a bachelor, was “the daring young man on the flying trapeze” type and the answer to a beautiful girl’s prayer. The founders believed that if this committee failed to do the job, they might just as well throw in the sponge. Most of the “prospective charter members” were well acquainted with **Dr. Wilson C. Morris**, who had been a beloved member of the faculty at **Warrensburg** since 1906. For many years he had been faculty sponsor of the Irving Literary Society so some of the founders had known him in this capacity. He also taught a Sunday School Class in the First Presbyterian Church which attracted a good number of college students.

As Chairman of the Curriculum Committee and a respected teacher, his opinions were heavily weighed by most members of the faculty. Knowing the importance of having someone speak on their behalf when the petition was presented to the faculty on July 10, a committee of founders approached him to ask if he would support their petition. He agreed to do so and, when the motion was made to act upon their request, Dr. Morris spoke favorably of petition because of the high purposes espoused by it.

With his endorsement, the faculty and administration voted to sanction Sigma Tau Gamma as an official campus organization.

THE BATTLE WAS WON!

The first official meeting of Sigma Tau Gamma took place in the room at far left on the second floor.





## A BRAND BUILT ON NOBILITY

From the battlefields of Europe during World War I, to a small, rural Missouri teachers college in the summer of 1920, to the Sigma Tau Gamma of today, our brand has been built on Wisdom, and crafted with a Purpose.

Our brand may evolve, but we remain steadfast and endeavor forward - living a life based on six Principles and Building Noble Generations of men.

Upon the shield it was customary to place a helmet. This typified the combatant's equipment to protect his head and use his head to the best advantage as the shield meant the protection of his body. This helmet is that of an esquire or gentleman and hence is of steel with silver trimmings--it must face the left or dexter the bearer's right and have visor closed.

On the helmet rests a twist of silk or ribbon called a torse. This is composed of six portions and is in the two chief colors of the shield. It is a memory of the colors given to a knight by his lady. Upon this torse rests the crest proper. It was originally an object of armor affixed to the top of the helmet to serve as a rallying point for a leader to his followers when the leader was completely equipped in coat of mail.

The crest in this instance is a circle or oval composed of seventeen links typifying the unit of interest and the close affiliation of the society as well as commemoration of the seventeen founders.

Mantling is the scroll ornamentation that flows from the helmet and encircles under the shield. It is a souvenir of a cloak with which a combatant enveloped his armor when off the field of conflict. It is always in the chief colors of the field.

On a scroll or ribbon appears the motto or device representing it.

In brief, this design signifies unity of purpose as well as exchange of purposes and ideas. It also emphasizes the fraternal bonds and suggests sacrifice.

BY J. LINTZ, TRIER (GERMANY).

CREST: A circle of 17 links argent.

MOTTO: ΣΤΓ

PER PALE indicates that the shield proper or field is divided in the direction of a pale, that is, perpendicular. It was the upright portion of a wall or stockade and hence a symbol of defense.

**PURPLE** is purple. It was the color of prosperity. In monotone drawings it is indicated by diagonal lines from right to lower left.

**ARGENT** is silver. It was deemed a metal and hence by heraldry might have upon it colors or furs or itself. It was the color of purity and was frequently shown by metal was not to be had. However, heraldry recognizes. In monotone drawings argent is shown by an uncolored face. The moon is the symbol of argent.

A **CHEVRON** is so well understood to need defining. It is a symbol of a house and hence means protection and comfort. It is a symbol of a home, a symbolism most adaptable to a

**COUNTERCHARGED** explains that the portion of the chevron, part of the field is silver and that on the silver, purple

# The SAGA



GRAND COUNCIL

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Lawrence, Kansas

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT—  
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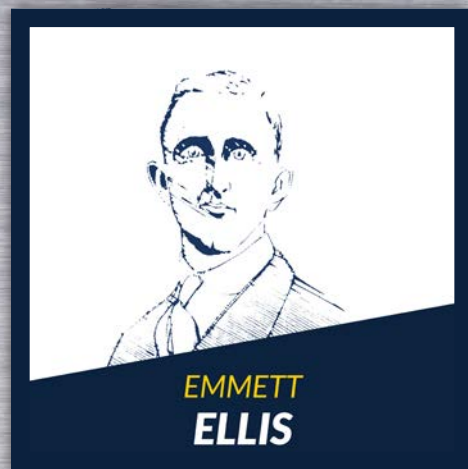


SIGMA TAU GAMMA

"The Oldest Social Teachers College Fraternity"

FOUNDED 1920

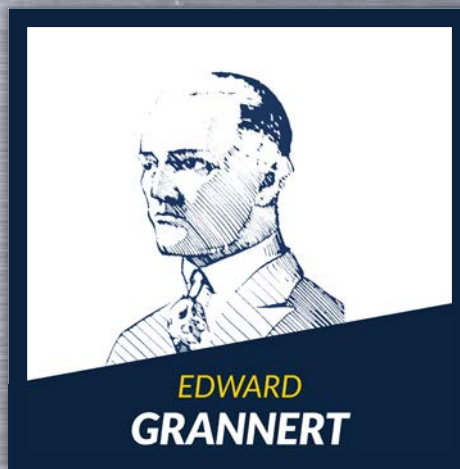




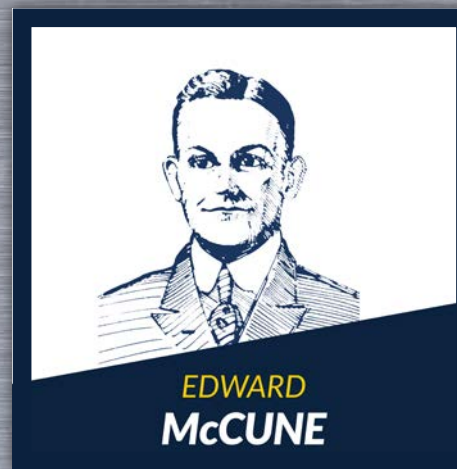
EMMETT  
ELLIS



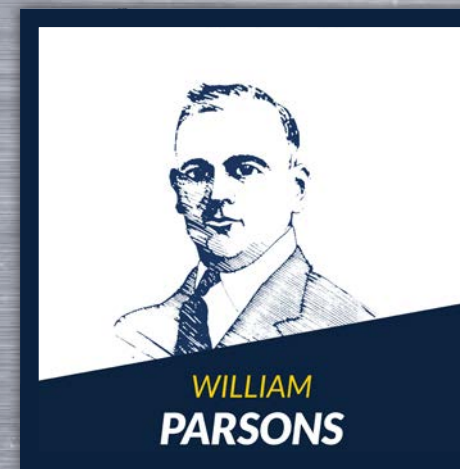
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HOBACK



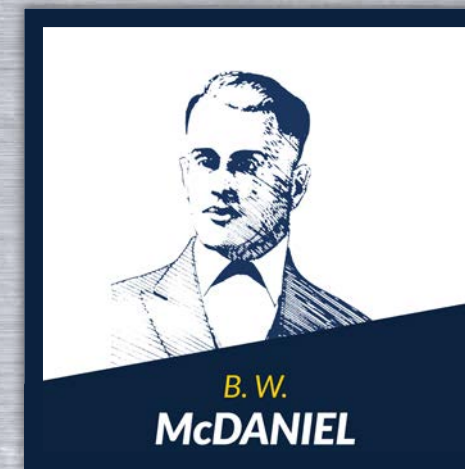
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GRANNERT



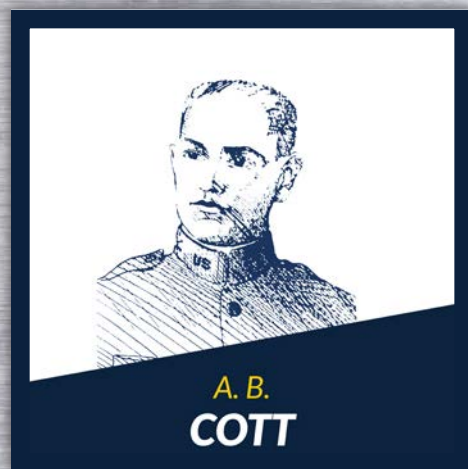
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McCUNE



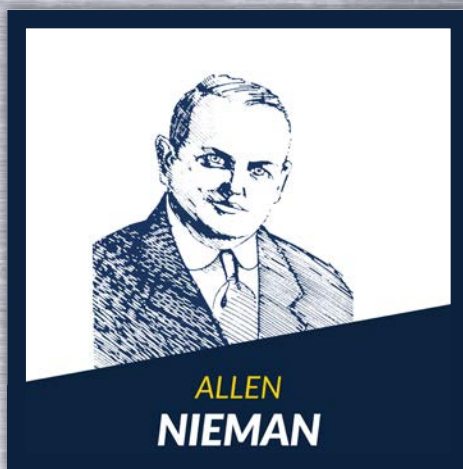
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PARSONS



B. W.  
McDANIEL



A. B.  
COTT



ALLEN  
NIEMAN



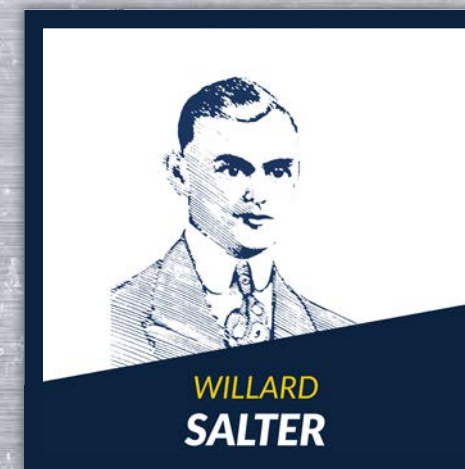
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BILLINGS



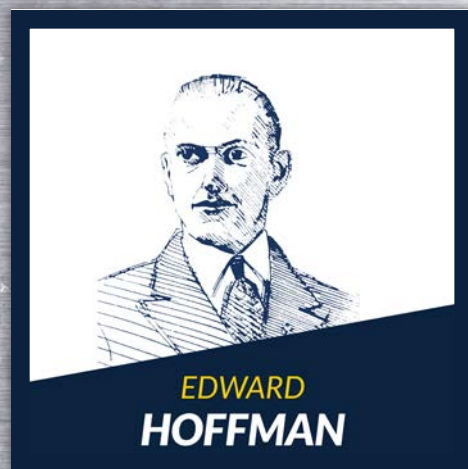
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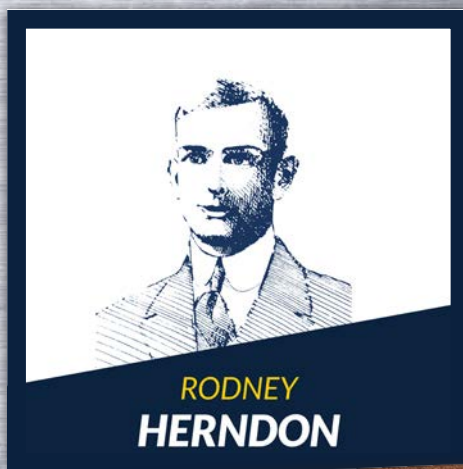
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CHAPMAN



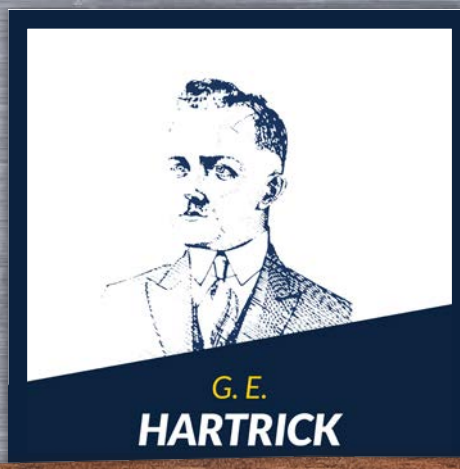
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SALTER



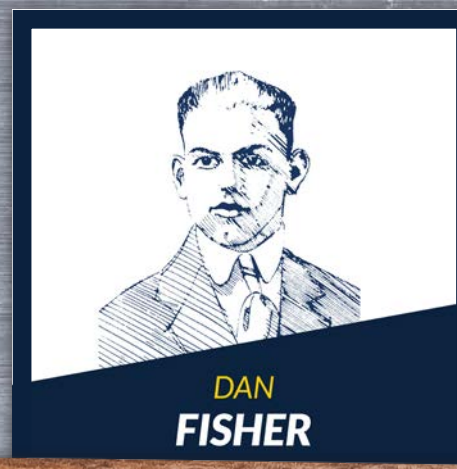
EDWARD  
HOFFMAN



RODNEY  
HERNDON



G. E.  
HARTRICK



DAN  
FISHER



A. O.  
FISHER



# SEVENTEEN NOBLE MEN

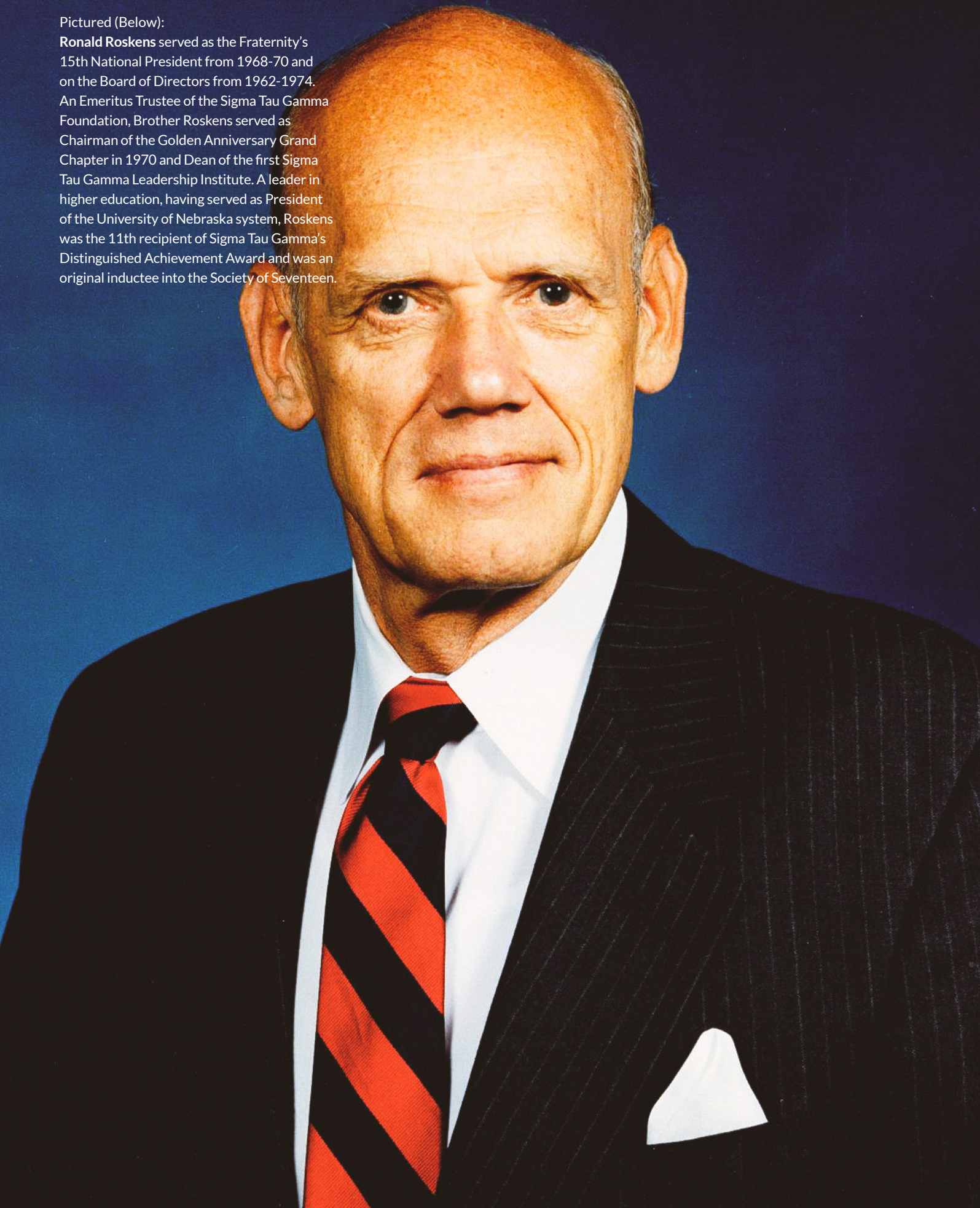
Pictured (Above):  
The seventeen founders of Sigma Tau Gamma  
Fraternity who signed the original petition to  
charter 100 years ago on June 28, 1920.

*Emmett Ellis Leland Hoback Edward Grannert Ed. H. McCune William B. Parsons B. W. McDaniel  
A. B. Cott Allen R. Nieman W. E. Billings Frank H. Gorman Carl H. Chapman C. Willard Salter  
Edward Hoffman Rodney E. Herndon G. E. Hartrick Dan Fisher A. O. Fisher*



Pictured (Below):

**Ronald Roskens** served as the Fraternity's 15th National President from 1968-70 and on the Board of Directors from 1962-1974. An Emeritus Trustee of the Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation, Brother Roskens served as Chairman of the Golden Anniversary Grand Chapter in 1970 and Dean of the first Sigma Tau Gamma Leadership Institute. A leader in higher education, having served as President of the University of Nebraska system, Roskens was the 11th recipient of Sigma Tau Gamma's Distinguished Achievement Award and was an original inductee into the Society of Seventeen.



**PRESENTED** to attendees at the Golden Anniversary Conclave in 1970.

## THE UNSPEAKABLE BOND

Imagine that you, with sixteen of your good friends, huddled regularly in the cloistered atmosphere of a rooming house, seeking resolutely to interweave strands of individuality and selfishness into a durable fabric of profound human concern for one's fellows; the fruit of which loom would be the foundation garment of a fraternity. What a difficult assignment!

We can scarcely envisage the arduous labors of our forebearers, some seventeen young men, who a half century ago sought to hammer out on the anvil of human inspiration and compassion an inimitable bond of fellowship, subsequently to be labeled Sigma Tau Gamma. Theirs was a noble - even electrifying objective, and the consequences of their handiwork which we witness today testify eloquently to the clarity of the vision inscribed in their collective mind's eye.

It was a strange and curious setting; a rooming house situated adjacent to the campus of a small midwestern teachers college. This was not among the old line institutions which had spawned and nurtured fraternal organizations that were then alive and prospering. One senses an atmosphere of rebellion, perhaps even of revolution. Surely, the "sagacious seventeen" were dissatisfied with the existing fraternal establishment, but they did not respond with hateful retribution; neither did they castigate existing fraternal societies with vile and filthy tongues; nor did they threaten through violent means, if necessary, to destroy existing fraternal societies.

Examined in the light of our current collegiate scene, we can say without equivocation that their ennobling characteristic, indeed, their magnificent triumph was adherence to a cardinal article of faith that a common bond of love, charity and equality, in tandem with unity of effort to achieve at the highest level of human capability would yield a fraternal harvest more bountiful than the record to date.

### 'To Envisage a Future'

Now some fifty years later we reflect humbly and affectionately upon the indomitable energies and the manifold personal sacrifices which eventually forged the 18th, 19th, 20th and now the more than 34,000th link in the Chain of Honor. We revere and adore our founders and we salute heartily those in our midst.

Yet, in my view, our overriding task - yours and mine - is not to honor the past, not to celebrate the present, but to envisage a future for Sigma Tau Gamma. With due respect for our heritage and appreciation of our current perplexities, we must, nevertheless, devote our primary attention to the legacies that will confront our successors. Let us muse for a while then on **This Unspeakable Bond**, Sigma Tau Gamma, in the next half century.

I shall not presume to offer panaceas for the problems which beset us; but I do wish to discuss with you some of our collective frustrations and perhaps I shall pose a few suggested remedies for your consideration. Neither will I refer to some preconceived priority of problems, but rather to a catalogue of concerns.

1. Is Sigma Tau Gamma, or any fraternity for that matter, a durable instrumentality, a significant force in the lives of college men of the next half century? We must address this question unemotionally and courageously. As you know there are many who consider the fate of fraternalism to be foredoomed, and the evidences of diminution of interest seem to abound in our midst. May I say that I have no qualms whatsoever, about the conceptual validity of the fraternal model as we know it in Sigma Tau Gamma. But periodic verbal endorsements of the fraternity idea are by no means sufficient. To be real, fraternalism must be lived. Are 'There Undeserving Chapters? No terms, it seems to me, are used more frequently to describe campus dilemmas of the moment than insensitivity, depersonalization, lack of involvement, etc. Are these not the very antitheses of brotherhood? In my view sensitivity, personalization and involvement are hallmarks of fraternalism, the prime ingredients of Sigma Tau Gamma. Whenever local Chapter conditions enable these dimensions to thrive, it is impossible to snuff out fraternalism.

2. Are there not Chapters in our fold who do not warrant such status? Candor compels us to admit that certain of our Chapters have by their own ineptitude failed to grow and prosper in the style of Sigma Tau Gamma. Our records will document cases of virtual indifference to the principles and values of this fraternity. It seems clear to me that future advances will be stymied unless we protect ourselves internally from the insidious cancer of those Chapters who deny the qualities to which the fraternity at large subscribes.

3. Are changes necessary in Chapter programming? Obviously, the answer to this question, in general, is affirmative. To detail specific program adjustments which might assure a promising future is a much more difficult assignment, however. Here we encounter, for example, questions of the extent to which traditional values are to be rejected out of hand. From my vantage point, it seems clear that the esteemed virtues of past generations are worthy of reincarnation. Tendencies toward animalistic and even brutish behavior have in no way enhanced us as men among men. Thus, it seems to me that a Chapter program which reflects recognition of basic values while at the same time stimulating the creative genius of each brother would yield rich dividends. Must Shed Gimmickry I share the sober analysis of a Chapter president of Delta Upsilon fraternity who recently wrote, and I quote,

"The Chapter of tomorrow must be responsive to the needs of its members and must be able to meet the challenge of the society in which it is placed. It must become an intellectually oriented society with the constituents becoming involved in all facets of the university community of which it is a part. It should become a roundtable where conflicts can be aired and a political base where positive action can be undertaken. It should be a testing ground for many ideas and it should force its members to accept the responsibility of their thinking. In order to survive, the Chapter will have to be responsive, involved, and must accept the responsibility of meeting the challenge of the future."

It would be well for us, it seems to me, to consider shedding ourselves of much of the gimmickry, the sham and pretense of rushing, the ludicrous and even inhuman elements of pledging, and the deplorable standards of everyday conduct to which some of us have fallen prey.





4. Can we be both successful and financially solvent? This is, of course, a many faceted considerations and one which eludes easy solution. I suspect that each of us has given more time to the matter of fiscal responsibility than to any other topic. I shall not bore you with a recitation of past proposals or those that will come before the convention within hours.

Let me remind you simply that it was absolutely essential to pare what was without doubt a minimum budget for the recently ended current year not only to the bone but the marrow. You are only too familiar with the resulting decrease in Chapter services and programs.

It seems obvious to me that we cannot face the future with any degree of assurance unless we can do so with feasible financing. Are Our Basic Documents Viable?

5. Are the basic documents of the fraternity viable? Let me refer first to the Constitution and Laws which have been scrutinized and updated under the aegis of the Constitutional Revision Committee. This diligent group has labored something over four years in preparation of this revised document which we now commend to you for adoption. Similarly the Ritual Study Committee has thoroughly reviewed our ritual and has offered for your consideration what I regard to be meaningful suggestions for improvement.

There are many specific aspects of these two revisions which I should like to call to your attention but in view of time limitations I shall mention only the new structure of officership which is proposed in the Revised Constitution and Laws. I think this represents a meaningful step for us.

A rendition of the State of the Fraternity should, of course, include a resume of developments from the date of previous report. I know that it is incumbent upon the President to elaborate upon actions pursuant to mandates from the previous Grand Chapter. Moreover, he is expected to relate progress in other areas during the recent biennium. One could, therefore, discuss at length such matters as expansion, building site, foundation, publications, leadership institute, etc. Your president has elected not to proceed in that fashion, however, for two reasons.

First, as I noted earlier, it seems to me imperative that we focus primary attention upon the future of This Unspeakable Bond and, secondly, as I contemplated the various items which should be reported, I concluded that to offer such a presentation would be presumptuous, and would reflect undue credit upon the reporter. It was, after all, the members of the executive staff, my fellow council members and you of the Chapter leadership who were primarily responsible for whatever accomplishments there are to outline. Consequently, I asked the Executive Director to prepare for distribution, a commentary relating to the status of the fraternity in this biennium.

Guard Integrity of Institutions

I turn now to a final comment. Having alluded to elements of fraternalism which seem to me imperative, if our fraternal aspirations are to come to fruition, I want to direct your attention now to an overriding consideration - survival of the colleges and universities which you and I know and love. At the very heart of the fraternal bond, it seems to me, is a firm personal commitment to guard the integrity and defend the welfare of that college or university with which a Chapter is affiliated. We have experienced, in recent times, what we must regard as the darkest hours for higher education in our lifetimes. At issue, as you know so well, is the continued existence of college and university environs which are open and free. You know the litany of revolt, the rhetoric of radicalism, the horror of violence and the shame of unaccountability. You are also wise enough to comprehend the grave consequences of politicizing colleges and universities.

If such institutions on whose behalf we have all guarded so zealously the tradition of a free and open environment for teaching and learning unencumbered by the whimsical passions of external forces - I repeat - if such institutions become the corrupt handmaidens of any power lusting group, they shall perish; and without them one surely cannot predict survival of the values we so deeply cherish in this beloved country.

In the spirit of This Unspeakable Bond, Sigma Tau Gamma, I admonish you to speak with a clear voice and to act with firm resolve in defense of a free and open environment on your campus. Consider yourselves always to be one of seventeen committed, active visionaries.

Do not leave the burden for others to bear alone. In the inimitable words of poet John Donne, " . . . therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee."

GENTLEMEN,  
THE STATE OF THE FRATERNITY,  
THE UNSPEAKABLE BOND,  
RESTS IN YOUR HANDS.

THE BELL TOLLS FOR THEE.



WARRENSBURG DAILY STAR-JOURNAL

EDITORIAL

REPRINT

AUGUST 27, 1970

1920 50TH ANNIVERSARY FEATURE 1970

A SALUTE TO SIGMA TAU GAMMA

A warm welcome goes out to all the members of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity who have arrived in Warrensburg to launch the celebration of the fraternity's Golden Anniversary and to the men of the fraternity's Alpha chapter at Central Missouri State College, as well.

Fifty years ago, this summer, seventeen young men with common goals founded this organization which has grown to national prominence. It can now boast of more than 30,000 members initiated at 87 colleges and universities. Sigma Tau Gamma at the present time has 69 chapters and 14 colonies.

Since the founding site of Sigma Tau Gamma is at the corner of Holden and Ming Streets, it is quite fitting that the fraternity has purchased the land and is making plans to build its national headquarters there.

The architect's drawing of the building clearly portrays the attractive addition the colonial styled structure, centered by a four-column portico, will be to our community.

In addition, Warrensburg's name will be fanning out over the nation on the fraternity's printed materials and mountainous correspondence. In numerous ways, by being the site of Sigma Tau Gamma's national headquarters, we will gain a great deal of favorable recognition. The community can take pride in it.

The fraternity system, maligned by many in recent years, is founded on high ideals. Chief among its adverse critics are those who lack understanding of it.



All fraternities are built on traditional values that are time honored. True, they cannot stand still. They must constantly strive for improvement and be flexible to change. This they are doing.

The fraternity experience can be a genuinely enriching one for all college men and women.

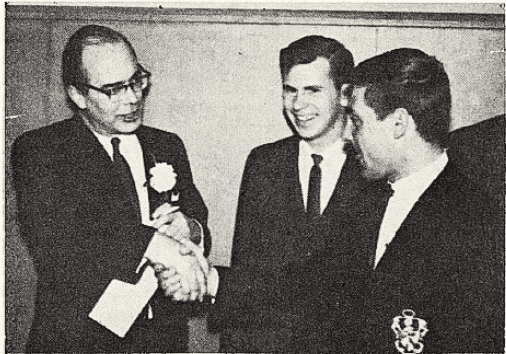
It can mold character, promote scholarship, leadership, understanding and service to others. The problem is not the fraternity system, but those, who through their membership, demean it.

We are pleased to be Sigma Tau Gamma's homebase. We are glad they are here. On this, their 50th Anniversary, we salute them and extend our heartiest congratulations. As they chart their fraternity's course in its second half-century, may they emulate the high degree of success they have enjoyed in the first fifty years of their history.



CHAPTER NEWS

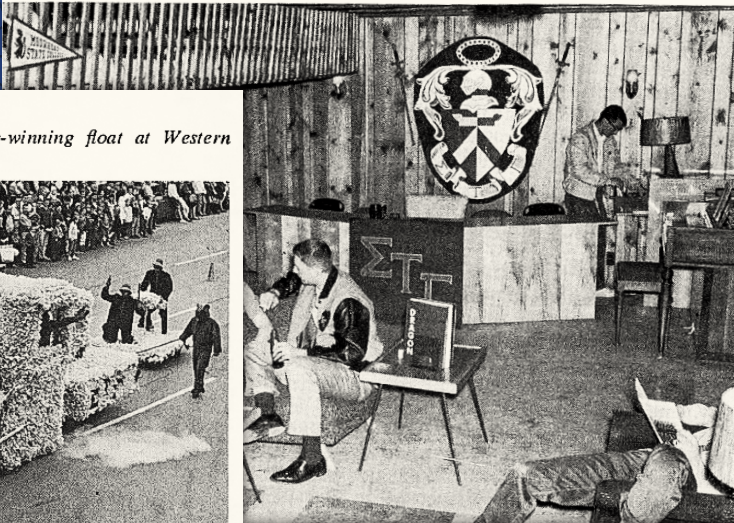
Chi CP Paul Gulbis, right, welcomes a distinguished brother, Dr. Gardner Ackley, to Western Michigan



"Wind in the Willows"—Prize-winning float at Western Michigan



MEETING PLACE of Moorhead Taus is this attractive Fraternity Room located in MacLean Hall, the principal administration building on campus.



poem she wrote about the Fraternity. The framed picture and poem now hang in the Fraternity house. The chapter members also visited with other residents of the retirement community.



**DELTA PHI CHAPTER**  
(FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY)

At the end of Fall 2008 semester, the city of Fitchburg had an ice storm that left the majority of the city without electricity. With many residents without power and heat, they were forced to evacuate their homes and go to shelters and senior centers. Alumnus **Craig Leger**, Delta Phi '06, and members of the Delta Phi Chapter volunteered to go to the senior center in Fitchburg and help wash the blankets for the shelter and help serve dinner.

*Pictured above from left: Patrick Taylor, Chapter President*

**Honor Brother Killed in Vietnam  
Zeta Establishes Memorial**

Zeta Chapter has established the S. W. George Memorial Scholarship Foundation in honor of the first member of Sigma Tau Gamma to be killed in Vietnam. The late Brother George, a 1963 graduate of Northeastern (Okla.) State College, was shot down on his last scheduled mission in Vietnam last year.

As an air force pilot, Brother George was awarded the purple heart, the flying cross, and the oak leaf cluster. Jim Howard, Zeta Chapter president, said that the chapter felt the scholarship foundation will be a fitting memorial.

Upon establishing the foundation, chapter members began working on several projects to raise money for the fund. Peanut drives were conducted in seven Oklahoma cities and a benefit dance in Tulsa were among the fund raising projects.



**The Eta News**

VOLUME V      SPRING 1932      NUMBER 1  
Published by Eta Chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma, Fort Hays  
Kansas State College, Hays, Kansas  
JAMES McGRATH, EDITOR

**FRATERNITY AND THE COLLEGE MAN**

There are, in my opinion, three purposes for which one goes to college. They are practical learning, culture and social life. The American college adequately takes care of the practical and cultural learning, but it leaves the last of the three to be had elsewhere. College furnishes contacts, to be sure, but not of the type with which one meets in later life.

Fraternity life attempts to give its participants training in social customs. Fraternity gives the man his finishing; it takes the complete man and rounds the corners, smooths the surface, and gives a pleasant coat of manners.

When a man comes to college he has had home training. He has learned to tip his hat to a lady and which fork to use on the salad but he has not learned how to make

himself part of a group and how to converse pleasantly and interestingly.

When a college student joins a good fraternity he takes onto himself the glory of the group. The fact that he belongs to a good fraternity furnishes him with a higher standing on the campus which he could not attain so easily were he not a fraternity man. The converse of that is also true. Any fraternity which takes in an active, intelligent man raises its standard.

Then, finally, fraternity gives the college man club life. It is a place to talk, smoke, and otherwise amuse himself. It gives him a group—a "gang"—with which to closely associate himself on the campus.

Fraternity gives the college man social training, prestige, and pleasure.

**ROLL OF NEW MEMBERS**

This year we have taken in as brother eight fine college men. They are Vester Davidsan, Harry Davis, Adrian Dawson, Jack McDowell, Carl Park, Nolan Reetz, Hubert Shryock, Beverly Taylor and Meryl Wamhoff.

(2)

Don Avery, Tackle      Omicron Varsity Gridders      Dick Hunt, Quarterback



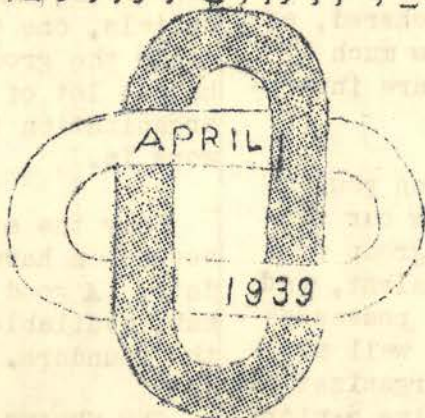
VOL. 1

NO. 4

THE LINK



PUBLISHED  
BY  
ALPHA CHAPTER



**THE LINK**

"THE LINK," was the first chapter news publication published by a chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma.



# CHAPTER ETERNAL

The Chapter Eternal list represents deceased members reported to Headquarters between August 2019 and May 2020.

To report a deceased member, send the brother’s name, chapter, address of closest living relative, and obituary (if applicable) to Headquarters at [noblemen@sigttau.org](mailto:noblemen@sigttau.org).



**Howard E. Barnes**  
Eastern Illinois, 1946

**Donald L. Bauer**  
Clarion, 1955

**Melvin A. Baumann**  
Ball State, 1946

**Donald Behlke**  
Southeast Missouri, 1962

**Edward W. Brabham**  
Southeastern Louisiana, 1959

**Frank Cole**  
Edinboro

**Wilbur L. Cole**  
Youngstown State, 1959

**Joseph D. Cortese**  
Youngstown State, 1959

**John A. Daudt**  
Valparaiso, 1966

**Wayne C. Dew**  
Northwestern State 1954

**Mitchell Z. Domanski**  
Alliance, 1965

**Myron D. Drinkwater**  
Emporia State, 1957

**Dale L. Dye**  
Northern Iowa, 1956

**William B. Dye**  
Missouri S&T, 1956

**Thomas B. Eastman**  
Emporia State, 1963

**Norman T. Endsley**  
Eastern Illinois, 1950

**John L. Evans**  
Central Missouri, 1969

**William E. Falder**  
Western Illinois, 1943

**Dolores Frank**

**Walter F. Garrett**  
Ball State, 1954

**James E. Glynn**  
Missouri S&T, 1972

**Terry A. Heater**  
Ball State, 1956

**Kim A. Heermann**  
Central Missouri, 1976

**Kenneth F. Heezen**  
Western Michigan, 1950

**William A. Heidorn**  
Valparaiso, 1966

**W. T. “Bill” Hembree**  
Pittsburg State, 1941

**Joseph R. Herman**  
Buffalo State College, 1953

**Scott J. Hootman**  
UW - La Crosse, 1973

**Stephen C. King**  
Northwestern State, 1969

**Richard L. Klaas**  
Northern Iowa, 1948

**Phillip P. Lewis**  
Salem, 1975

**Joseph B. Loop**  
Central Michigan, 1989

**C. Patrick Lyman**  
Northern Iowa, 1973

**Dominic E. Lynch Jr.**  
Western Illinois, 1951

**Patrick J. Mazely**  
Indiana State, 2000

**Perry O. McKee**  
Missouri, 1958

**Albert J. Michel**  
Northern Iowa, 1951

**David C. Montgomery**  
Western Michigan, 1950

**Thomas “Tom” C. Morgan**  
Southeastern Louisiana, 1981

**Bernard S. Oleniacz Jr.**  
Alliance, 1972

**Milton T. Pana**  
SIU Carbondale, 1951

**Francis J. Patterson**  
Frostburg, 1960

**Robert D. Pearson**  
IU Pennsylvania, 1969

**James E. Plantikow**  
UW - Oshkosh, 1964

**Samuel A. Pribula**  
Western Illinois, 1951

**Henry A. Putre**  
Cleveland State, 1961

**B. Don Rankin**  
Truman State, 1962

**Charles L. Ritchey Jr.**  
Northwestern Oklahoma, 1952

**William R. Roth**  
Ball State

**Richard L. Rush**  
Emporia State, 1975

**Francis P. Santicola**  
IU Pennsylvania, 1962

**Alan J. Scardina**  
IU Pennsylvania, 1964

**Robert D. Severson**  
Northwest Missouri, 1958

**Terry B. Shreves**  
Fairmont State, 1970

**James W. Simmons**  
Concord, 1949

**John C. Snider**  
Central Missouri, 1952

**Victor J. Sockrider**  
Ball State, 1968

**Roger J. Vanharen**  
UW - Oshkosh, 1960

**Lawrence Warren**  
Central Missouri, 1939

**Edward R. Werder**  
Missouri S&T, 1957

**Richard T. Wickert**  
Eastern Illinois, 1964

**Francis X. Woods**  
Seton Hall, 1972

**Harley R. Whitemarsh**  
UW - Oshkosh, 1962

**Elijay R. Wrigley**  
Northeastern State, 2019

**Victor Zambelli**  
Seton Hall, 1978

**Glennon J. Zoll**  
Southeast Missouri, 1963

## BROTHER OF NOBILITY, W.T. “BILL” HEMBREE

“Please tell the brothers I love them.”

**FT. LAUDERDALE, FL –Society of Seventeen Inductee and 12th National President W.T. “Bill” Hembree, Pittsburg State, ’42 entered Chapter Eternal on Sunday, March 22, 2020. Bill gave his entire life to Sigma Tau Gamma, being a national volunteer for over 60 years.**

Through his service, Bill demonstrated a lifelong commitment to Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity. Of the thousands of Sig Taus linked in membership over nearly 100 years, only a select few have fully demonstrated their commitment to Sigma Tau Gamma as Bill did.

Bill served as National President of Sigma Tau Gamma from 1962 – 1964 and served 14 years as a member of the Fraternity Board of Directors. He was Chairman of the Golden Challenge Campaign, the capital fundraising effort to build a headquarters building in Warrensburg. He was also President of the Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation and was President of the Wilson C. Morris Fellowship.

In recognition of his many decades of continuous service and inspiration, Bill was one of the first men to be honored as a Society of Seventeen inductee, the highest honor that can be bestowed upon any Sigma Tau Gamma Brother. He eventually became the second Chairman of the Society. He received the Winebrenner Distinguished Fraternity Service Award in 2016 and received the Marvin Millsap Distinguished Foundation Service Medal in 1985.

Additionally, the 1990 Grand Chapter in Dallas, TX was named the “Bill Hembree Grand Chapter,” the “Hembree Guild” recognizes giving through estate planning and the “Hembree Campus Leadership Award” is a coveted annual award given to deserving chapters.

Bill never forgot his roots. He served Epsilon Chapter as a member of its alumni board and as a trustee of the O.F. Grubbs Educational Foundation, which he served as Awards Chairman. In addition, he was an active member of the Greater Kansas City Alumni Chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma.



Bill was full of wisdom, found his purpose in life, and lived a life of nobility. We Hail Thee Brother!

## 37TH NATIONAL PRESIDENT, TOM MORGAN



**HENDERSONVILLE, NC – 37th National President Thomas “Tom” C. Morgan, Southeastern Louisiana ’81, entered Chapter Eternal on Tuesday, April 21, 2020. Tom served as National President during one of the largest periods of growth in Sigma Tau Gamma history and was pivotal in Special Olympics becoming our national philanthropic partner.**

Tom was initiated into Sigma Tau Gamma on December 17, 1981. During his time as an undergraduate in Hammond, he first served as Vice President of Finance in 1983, then Vice President of Membership in 1984, and finally as Chapter President in 1985. Also, in 1985, Tom was selected as the Ellsworth C. Dent Man of the Year Award recipient, one of only two Phi Chapter members to receive the honor.

Tom served two separate terms as a Foundation Trustee, served as Regional Vice President, and was on the Fraternity Board of Directors for 10 years from 2008 – 2018. Tom presided over the William P. Bernier Grand Chapter in 2014 held in New Orleans, LA. He was honored with the Winebrenner Distinguished Fraternity Service Award in 1986.

The lasting impression Tom wanted to leave on Sigma Tau Gamma was that **we should continue to grow and to serve others.**

Under his leadership as 37th National President, Sigma Tau Gamma saw record growth. In total nine chapters earned their charter under Tom and four new associate chapters were installed.

One of Tom’s proudest achievements though, was being the Big Brother for 34th National President Chris Mauer, Southeastern Louisiana ’86. Chris was there for Tom in life, and Chris was one of Tom’s “Phi Guys.”

“At every stage of our lives we should be growing. When we take on responsibilities and obligations, we face challenges... we learn and grow. We care about more than ourselves. We exist for the benefit of our fraternity, college, community, and country. Our service to others defines our character both individually and as an organization. Whether you are young or old, by taking on that challenge and throwing yourself into the fraternity, you will be better for the experience.”







# FROM THE ARCHIVES

## 'Buddies' from World War I Extend Comradeship to Fraternity

By Emmett Ellis

SOCIAL LIFE on the campus of Central Missouri State Teachers College before World War I revolved around six literary societies and a so-called fraternity meeting sub rosa off campus. An unwritten law held that one could not switch his membership from one to another and, by the same token, a strong but exclusive spirit of comradeship developed. But, the War produced changes.

Enlisting early were 27 men from the Warrensburg campus—all in the same Ambulance Unit. Among this group were men from all of the organized groups, and two years of intimate association did much to change their attitudes toward each other. Friendships and comradeships developed that transcended the confines of literary societies and when they returned to campus, a nucleus of the group decided to attack the former traditions to provide broader social participation.

### A Bold Adventure

Leadership of this new order originated in a rooming house at 101 Ming Street, where contacts elsewhere gave rise to the idea of "fraternity." Individuals from other parts of the campus were invited for discussions; a temporary plan was agreed upon and the bold adventure launched to enlist a sufficient number of qualified men. A temporary organization was set up with instructions to formulate a plan of procedure.

Somewhat mysteriously one morning a group of names appeared on a bulletin board in the Administration building calling for a meeting. From this meeting, a list of 17 names was secured of men whose ambitions were nearing realization. A petition was presented to the

faculty and administration. Dr. W. C. Morris, who had spoken favorably to the group, helped win faculty approval to organize a local fraternity, the first authorized social fraternity on the campus of Central Missouri State Teachers College. The document, signed on June 20, 1920, now hangs in the Executive offices in St. Louis.

### The Call to Expand

This "first" fraternity on the campus of a Teachers College was soon to become national in scope. In 1921, a group of students from Northeast Missouri State Teachers College at Kirksville petitioned Alpha for a charter. Until this time, no particular thought had been given toward expansion, nor any ritualistic ceremony for installation of a new chapter considered. Northeast's petition forced the issue. Two faithful members, Allen R. Neiman and Leland T. Hoback, prepared a tentative ceremony, rode the train to Kirksville, memorizing their ritual en route, and upon arrival installed Beta Chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma in a commendable fashion. Soon thereafter, a third chapter was installed in Oklahoma and a fourth in Kansas. The required number of chapters now existing, steps were taken to nationalize.

Growth has been steady since that time. Today the membership roll includes men in all walks of life with special emphasis on men who now hold or have held high and enviable positions in government, the professions, science and business, as well as those enjoying semi-retirement, for a good Sig Tau never quits.



Alpha's founder in his World War I uniform.



Dinner Smoker  
Pi Chapter  
of  
Sigma Tau Gamma  
College Lodge  
March 18, 1935



'Sig Tau for Life' is theme for 1982-1984





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