

The Kleos



What Is The Cure For A Dying Chapter?

Kleos Staff Article (Formatted from **Shield & Diamond**, of Pi Kappa Alpha)

When the prescription is chapter revocation, the chapter's last hope is alumni involvement.

Celebration and enthusiasm surround the chartering of a new chapter. The chartering ceremony is a solemn one, conducted by the national president. Several other Fraternity officials and representatives from neighboring chapters are also on hand to assist with the installation procedures.

The ceremony is then followed by a gala banquet that includes speeches, special presentations, and toasts in which alumni and undergraduates alike dedicated themselves to the long-term success and prosperity of the new chapter.

However, what happens when a chapter dies?

Certainly, there is no such elation nor a special banquet. When a chapter's charter is revoked, for whatever reason, it becomes inactive and no longer exists.

Since Alpha Phi Delta's founding in 1914, a total of 54 charters have been granted, beginning with Alpha Chapter at Syracuse University and continuing to our newest chapter, Gamma Theta at Eastern College.

However, if you were to check the current directory of **active** chapters, you would only find 23 listed.

Whatever became of those 31 chapters, or 57 percent of our total charters granted, which are now missing from the Fraternity's active ranks? Why did they fail?

There is no one answer explaining why chapters fail. While there are usually some common factors which can be found in every silent chapter's demise, there are some notable exception to the rule.

Gamma Gamma chapter at Behrend College of Penn State was a two year school that was chartered in the late seventies. The chapter was only active for a few years before it died. The main reason given for it's demise was that a

two year school cycle was too short to sustain a fraternity. One bad year of rush, and the chapter was in trouble. However, Beta Chi chapter at S.U.N.Y. in Utica was chartered just before Gamma Gamma, and it also is a two year school. Today, after ten years in the fraternity, Beta Chi is still a successful chapter in Alpha Phi Delta. Why does one fail and one succeed? S.U.N.Y. is an upper division school for juniors and seniors while Behrend is a feeder school for Penn State with freshman and sophomores. Perhaps the instability of new students at Gamma Gamma led to its decline, while Beta Chi's brotherhood is more mature to compensate for a two year fraternity lifespan.

In most chapter closings, a few common themes appear over and over again:

- Low membership and failure in rush
- Financial instability and mismanagement
- Loss of housing
- Behavioral and disciplinary problems
- Weak or undeveloped Greek systems
- Lack of alumni support

Individually, these problems would cause serious difficulties even for the strongest chapters. More often than not, however, each problem leads to the development of another, and soon the chapter is beset by a combination of many fatal impairments.

Lack of an adequate number of members is usually the first problem to appear, and ultimately is the primary cause of weak chapter's demise. At the onset, failure to rush effectively or at worst a good rush but few initiates, doesn't appear as a problem because the number of seniors, juniors and sophomores may be adequate to keep the chapter operating for a few years.

Then, two years later, the bottom falls out, and the chapter is left with only a handful of members who don't know how to recruit any "new blood".

THE CHAPTER ROSTER OF ALPHA PHI DELTA

*Syracuse	Alpha
*Columbia	Beta
*Yale	Gamma
*Polytechnic	Delta
*S.U.N.Y. Buffalo	Epsilon
*Rensselaer	Zeta
*City Univ. of N.Y.	Eta
*New York (N.Y.U.)	Theta
*Union	Iota
*Case Western Reserve	Kappa
*Pennsylvania	Lambda
*Cornell	Mu
*Pittsburgh	Nu
Ohio State	Xi
Michigan	Omicron
*West Virginia	Pi
*Carnegie Mellon	Rho
*Boston	Sigma
*M.I.T.	Tau
*Harvard	Upsilon
*Alabama	Phi
Penn State	Chi
Duquesne	Psi
*Rochester	Omega
Manhattan College	Beta Beta
*William & Mary	Beta Gamma
Temple	Beta Delta
*Bucknell	Beta Epsilon
*Ohio University	Beta Zeta
Brooklyn College	Beta Eta
Steubenville	Beta Theta
Utica College	Beta Iota
*Long Island (L.I.U.)	Beta Kappa
St. Francis (PA)	Beta Lambda
*DePaul	Beta Mu
*Miami	Beta Nu
N.J.I.T.	Beta Xi
Youngstown State	Beta Omicron
*St. John's	Beta Pi
Gannon	Beta Rho
St. Francis (NY)	Beta Sigma
*Fairmont State	Beta Tau
*George Washington	Beta Upsilon
Glassboro State	Beta Phi
S.U.N.Y. Utica	Beta Chi
*Catholic Univ. Pace	Beta Psi
	Beta Omega
*Univ. of Chicago	Gamma Beta
*Behrend College	Gamma Gamma
Waynesburg	Gamma Delta
Cleveland State	Gamma Epsilon
Villanova	Gamma Zeta
Trenton State	Gamma Eta
Eastern College	Gamma Theta
N.Y.U. (Downtown)	Theta Beta
*Inactive	

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Cure For A Dying Chapter

(Continued from page 1)

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THE KLEOS is the exoteric publication of Alpha Phi Delta Fraternity. A quarterly magazine devoted to educational materials concerning college and fraternity interests published under direction and authority of the National Council of Alpha Phi Delta Fraternity.

This situation currently exists at Gamma Delta chapter at Waynesburg College. Poor rush over the past four semesters has brought the chapter roster down from 25 brothers in the spring of 1985 to ten coming back to school this fall. And five of the ten just got initiated this spring — that leaves just five experienced brothers to recruit to keep the chapter alive and pass on the Alpha Phi Delta meaning of fraternalism.

When a chapter's membership declines, income decreases as well, and the problem of financial instability arises. Soon the chapter is no longer able to maintain its rent or mortgage payments, and may lose the chapter house. Bills to creditors rise to substantial amounts over a brief period of time, and before long the chapter's remaining members are faced with a situation of catastrophic proportions.

Pi Chapter at West Virginia University, with over 50 years of continuity as an active chapter, had financial difficulties in the late 1970's. These financial problems led to National selling the Pi house and by 1980 pulling their charter.

There are often occasions when the Greek system is unable to support the existing fraternities, and thus a chapter is severely weakened by its environment.

Alpha Phi Delta seems to face this problem at the large universities. Our chapters at Penn State, Ohio State and Michigan State are all in dire straits. At all three schools we are a small fraternity trying to compete with large fraternities and their large, beautiful houses. Penn State, Chi chapter, has just lost the fraternity house this year. There are about 50 fraternities on campus to compete with us. Most can offer their members residence in an elegant "frat" house. Most also have over 50 brothers. For the past five years, Chi has had less than ten brothers and now can no longer offer off-campus housing. Xi chapter at Ohio State has also been hurt by lack of a fraternity house to compete with other fraternities. This chapter had 25 members one year ago while renting a fraternity house. Last spring, the chapter lost the lease, and now the chapter is dying. Omicron at Michigan has been small since its reactivation several years ago. It is continually struggling to get over the hump with a

large enough membership to enable them to compete against the larger groups on campus.

Any time a chapter becomes weak and ultimately closes, it's a tragedy for Alpha Phi Delta, even more so for those alumni who have a special loyalty to that chapter.

And the irony is that those very alumni, by their active involvement, in many cases could have prevented their chapter's demise.

It's been said that all chapters go through a continuous cycle of highs and lows. Unfortunately, many claim that preventing the lows is impossible, and the best that can be done is to minimize the damage.

However, experience shows than an active and involved chapter advisor, along with a dedicated house corporation board and involved alumni can prevent a chapter from falling into a deep slump, and possibly losing its charter.

Our most successful chapter in Alpha Phi Delta history has been Psi chapter. It is the oldest in terms of continuity — 57 years of continuous activity since receiving it's charter in 1929. It also has initiated the most brothers into the fraternity. Through the years it has had a strong alumni club (Pittsburgh) and several dominant individuals to assist it and guide it in a steady direction. Psi has never had a house, but no fraternity has a house at Duquesne so this is not a factor.

The one key determinant in a chapter's ultimate success or failure is the presence of active and concerned alumni. Alumni involvement provides the continuity so often missing in the undergraduate chapter and provides a support mechanism for the undergraduates that would be missing were the alumni not involved. The undergraduates are the life blood of our fraternity, but it takes alumni to give continuity to a chapter.

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Personal Dynamics and Career Development Series

Qualities Essential For Success

By Glenn T. Boyles

Since receiving his degree from the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy, Glenn Boyles has completed management and communications training with Xerox in Valley Forge, Penna. and McLean, Virginia.

For the past four years, Glenn has written a quarterly series entitled **Personal Dynamics and Career Development**. The objective of the series is to provide the reader with an understanding and working knowledge of the proper attitudes, principles, strategies, and objectives necessary for increased personal effectiveness and career advancement. The series is published and distributed nationwide by many professional organizations, fraternities and sororities.

In the summer of 1984, Glenn received funding from the Carnegie-Peale Foundation of Palm Beach, Florida to promote the distribution of the **Personal Dynamics and Career Development** series. The Foundation's support has allowed Glenn to continue to work on developing a self directed, programmed, personal behavior modification series for those individuals and corporations who recognize the importance of increased effectiveness in their personal and professional relationships. This is the third article from the series to appear in the KLEOS.

A noteworthy change over the past few years is the increased willingness of people in general to try things they have never done before. Some people find it difficult to get past "considering" an attempt at something new, while others find that they can save money, as well as derive a strong sense of personal satisfaction from doing new things themselves. People who stagnate while "considering" are often reluctant to admit that they don't have enough self confidence in their own abilities, or they don't sincerely believe that what they want is within their reach.

If you should find yourself in this situation, increase your self confidence and strengthen your belief in the attainability of your objective by developing an easily understood, well defined plan. Once this is accomplished, and the steps of your plan are committed to writing, the possibility that you will be

unable to accomplish whatever it is that you want to do, or that the end result will be something other than what you had planned for will just never be considered!

Planning and self confidence are just two of the many attributes you will need for reaching your objectives. An analysis of successful undertakings of any kind, in any area, will show that each of the following suggestions are also present to some degree.

***Attitude** - Recognize that whether or not you actually achieve whatever it is that you want is entirely in your hands. Have faith in yourself and also, in the good intentions of others. Always seek to learn more and improve yourself.

***Behavior and Abilities** - Handle situations and people tactfully. Always project sincerity when dealing with other people. Effectively manage your time by scheduling your activities each day. Be sure to block out time for special occasions such as birthdays and anniversaries. Show respect for other people and their ideas at all times. Do not lose your patience or temper! You will attract favorable attention by adeptly handling difficult people and situations.

***Character and Personality** - Be pleasant and cheerful. Develop self discipline. Project energy and enthusiasm in all you do. Be willing to take risks - but not without properly evaluating your chances of coming out ahead, as well as all the possibilities should your plans turn out other than the way you would like them to.

***Develop A Knowledge of Yourself and Others** - Monitor your intuition. Do your instincts ordinarily suggest the best course of action available to you? Learn as much as you can about human nature.

Incorporate as many of the preceding suggestions into your daily living habits as you can. They are but a few of the many personal dynamics that will help you accomplish whatever it is that you want to do, a little more quickly.

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CHAPTER CHATTER

BETA PHI*Glassboro State*

This spring, Beta Phi is proud to announce the addition of four new brothers. In the Fall semester (1985), 14 new brothers were inducted out of our initial 20 pledges.

The brothers of Beta Phi chapter work very hard to stay strong. With the addition of 18 new brothers this past school year, we have also achieved many other accomplishments. This past spring semester, the brothers worked very hard improving the fraternity house. Before we left for the summer recess, we managed to paint the entire interior of the house, along with getting some new carpeting for the first floor. We also, after much persuasion, had the house aluminum-sided.

Financially, the chapter has paid off a large National debt and has paid the new per capita for this year. We have paid all of our debts, and are in good financial health once again.

At Glassboro State College, the week before Spring Weekend is called "Alcohol Awareness" week. During this week there are various events scheduled to deter people from drinking. One of these events is called "Campus Comedy Night", in which all the Greek organizations on campus compete with comedy skits that are rated on laughability. Beta Phi stole the show and won a prize of \$100 for first place. The title of our winning act was, "A typical day in the life of a three foot man".

Plans are in progress towards the purchase of our house. We believe that

owning a "house" forms a very strong foundation for a chapter. We are working hard and greatly hope to achieve our goal towards ownership of our house. Beta Phi will be returning with 21 brothers strong this fall semester and obtaining pledges never seems to be a problem.

The brothers at Beta Phi wish everyone a great summer and we look forward to the upcoming convention! Our chapter president for 1986 is Howard Beder.

GAMMA ETA*Trenton State*

Fred Janiszewski, chapter president, was elected to the office of Student Government president this past spring. Fred, a junior majoring in Computer Science, won in a landslide over the current Student Government vice-president. Three other brothers from the chapter were elected as senators. Additionally, the outgoing president of SGA, Mike Peyton, was initiated into the chapter in March.

Getting involved in student government is very beneficial to a chapter in terms of prestige, recognition, popularity, and strength, both with the students and the school administration. With the entire brotherhood helping to campaign, getting a brother elected is an easier task.

Congratulations to Fred and Gamma Eta. Though they are one of our youngest chapters, they are on the road to success.

BETA Xi Appeals to Alumni to help buy house.

The BX Housing Corp., who presently owns the Beta Xi chapter house, has announced its plans to sell the house by the end of this summer. The reasons they cite are rising insurance costs and the fact that they have carried the responsibility for long enough. The asking price is \$30,000.00 and the house will be sold by the end of the summer, either to Beta Xi chapter or to anyone else who can pay the freight.

In response, several alumni have set up a non-profit corporation called the Beta Xi Foundation with the purpose of maintaining the chapter house in perpetuity and avoiding a recurrence of the present situation.

The foundation has seven elected trustees who will serve for two year periods. One of the trustees is the president of the undergraduate chapter. All members of Beta Xi and the NJAC are members of the foundation.

The foundation needs to raise several thousand dollars in a hurry in order to buy the house. They are seeking a low interest loan from the National, but first must have matching funds. To obtain these funds, they are turning to those who benefited most from membership in Alpha Phi Delta, its Alumni.

The foundation is soliciting both tax deductible donations and loans. Loans would take the form of \$1000.00 increments and would be paid back over fifteen years at a rate of \$100.00 per year. John Pappas, Beta Xi '78, is the fundraising chairman.

BETA CHI**SUNY's Taking On A New Look!***by Joseph Malecki*

For those of you who don't know, SUNY College of Technology at Utica/Rome is an Upper Division college. Most of its 1,400 full-time students already possess a two-year degree and wish to obtain a higher degree in curriculums ranging from Nursing, to business, to a wide range of engineering disciplines. Established in 1966, the College of Technology serves as one of four specialized colleges in the State University system.

Last summer was filled with anticipation as the college began its move from a temporary campus, known as The Factory, to a permanent location in beautiful suburban Marcy, New York.

An interesting fact about Marcy: located just a few miles from our new campus, is the Marcy Psychiatric Center, home

to many criminally insanes such as David Berkowitz (Son of Sam murderer), and David Chapman (John Lennon's assassin) . . . "Gee Officer, how should I know who was howling out in the woods behind the school?"

So far, two buildings have been completed and are in use. Construction of the remaining sixty million dollar campus (which includes an additional classroom building, a Student Activity/Recreation Center, Residence Hall, and athletic fields) is underway with completion targeted for 1988.

In the spirit of our founding fathers from Alpha chapter, the brothers of Beta Chi are planning a donation to the new campus which will stand as a proud reminder to all of who, and what we are.

The Fraternity Scoop:

The Pittsburgh Alumni Club has an event that keeps growing in popularity each year. The Shipley Valeriano Golf Outting, as the event has come to be known for the names of its hosts, was played for the 14th consecutive year on June 6th. The tournament was played at Alcoma Country Club in Pittsburgh with 28 participants — some of whom came from faraway places like Cleveland and Washington, DC.

This annual tournament is eagerly awaited each year by the avid golfers in the Pittsburgh AC. Now in its 14th year, the golf outting is one of the most popular events on the PAC social calendar. But that wasn't always the case. As with most things in life, this event started out small. In 1973, four golfers participated in the first outting that was organized by the then Psi undergrad Calvin Shipley. Since then, more golfers have played each year. This year's attendance was the biggest ever, but unfortunately not everyone teed off. As has happened in about half of the Shipley Valeriano Opens, rains came about one hour before tee-off. Eight old timers decided not to play that afternoon, but they ended up missing an enjoyable day as not another drop fell for the next four hours.

This year's tournament brought out a variety of golfers — undergrads from Duquesne and Waynesburg chapters, young alumni and old, good golfers and bad (high score was around 135 strokes!), brothers from near and far. There was one constant, however, as there has been in all of these tournaments. For the 14th year in a row, host

Calvin Shipley won his own golf tournament. This year he had some competition though, and he had to wait until the 17th hole to clinch the championship from challenger Doug Daczkowski. Fortunately, Doug is only an undergrad at Psi and should continue to challenge for this title for years to come.

After golfing, the group had a sit down dinner followed by an awards presentation. Good or bad, everyone had a chance for a prize. And for the 14th year in a row, everyone who attended had a good time — an Alpha Phi Delta tradition in Pittsburgh.

Brother Ann DiNardi, longtime housemother for Pi chapter at West Virginia University, donated \$3,000 to the General Fund of Alpha Phi Delta. She had received the \$3,000 from the fraternity as a repayment of a loan that she had made to Alpha Phi Delta years ago. Upon receipt of the loan repayment, Ann donated the money back to the fraternity. Ann has served and supported Alpha Phi Delta and Pi chapter for over 50 years from Morgantown, WV.

Jimmy Lentini (Beta Sigma '84) was elected Third District Governor this spring. He will succeed Frank Raccano (Beta Beta '83) who declined a second term in the position. Jimmy is also secretary for the Brooklyn Alumni Club.

Mike Cecilian (Theta Beta '81), Pete Gaudio (Theta Beta '85), and Rich Esposito (Beta Omega '81) were all reelected to a second term assistant 3rd District Governors.



Golfers at the 14th Annual Shipley Valeriano Golf Outting on the first tee at Alcoma Country Club.

The Fraternity Scoop is a regular feature of the KLEOS in response to reader demand. Contributions to this column can be sent directly to the KLEOS Office, 201 Verdant Street, North Huntingdon, PA 15642. Photographs are also encouraged.

A pictorial year end summary of the 1985 Brooklyn Alumni Club softball team. They are representing Alpha Phi Delta for the tenth year in The Staten Island Softball Association.



"Crack" 3rd Baseman Jeff Uliano is presented a map to help him get to the club's events. Presentation made at the annual BAC barbecue.



Joe Nunziata accepts the retired uniform of his father, the team's late softball coach, Tony Nunziata, at the annual barbecue.



Former BAC President Joe Calderella finally discovers where he "lost a step" over the years.

HERITAGE

Vincent Larcy Communications Award

Neil Anastasio, Theta Beta '73
Former Kleos Editor

Vincent Larcy was editor of The Kleos from 1937-1955. He was the third editor of this publication and at 18 years he has held tenure the longest. In an effort to stimulate inter-entity communications, Neil Anastasio as editor of The Kleos in 1983 announced a new award to be presented in the fraternity. The honor was named the Vincent Larcy Communications Award for our long-term Kleos editor. The initial recipient was Joseph Randazzo, the newsletter editor of the Long Island Alumni Club. Neil's thoughts on establishing this award was that The Kleos would honor those brothers who communicate to the fraternity through the use of newsletters. Brother Randazzo and last year's recipient, Al Fafara of the N.J.A.C. both exemplify what Neil had in mind in developing this award. But this year, using editor's privilege, The Kleos is honoring the man who started the award. Neil Anastasio, sixth editor of The Kleos, is named the third recipient of the Vincent Larcy Communications Award, for his communications effort for the fraternity in his six years as Kleos editor.



Neil J. Anastasio

Neil Anastasio, Past Kleos Editor 1978-84, is this year's recipient of the Vincent Larcy Communications Award for his many years of services to Alpha Phi Delta. Neil's present position as President of the Brooklyn Alumni Club is merely the most recent item of service in his fraternity career.

As an undergraduate at NYU, Neil served as Chapter President, Vice-President and Pledge Master after being inducted into Theta Beta in his sophomore year. After graduation, he served as Secretary to the New York Alumni Club, Assistant Third District

Governor, Vice-President for Good and Welfare, and of course, as Kleos Editor.

As the Editor of the Kleos, Neil professionalized the publication calling upon members of the fraternity with professional skills in writing and advertising along with retaining paid professionals. Perhaps the highlight of Neil's six year career as editor was the 50th Anniversary Edition of the Kleos.

In addition to an active involvement with the fraternity, Neil is the Coordinator of Rehabilitation Services for Lutheran Medical Center and maintains a private practice known as Ridge Physical Therapy in Brooklyn. He is currently Secretary of the New York Chapter of Registered Physical Therapists and has served as an Instructor in the Physical Therapy Graduate Program at Long Island University. Neil has been married to his wife, Catherine, also a physical therapist, since 1980 and has one child, John Francis, who attended his first convention in 1983 at the age of six weeks. John's induction is currently scheduled for December 1, 1998 on his father's 25th Anniversary in the fraternity.

What Is An Italian Cultural Center?

by Professor Philip J. DiNovo

An Italian Cultural Center is a place where Italian Culture is recorded and encouraged. The purpose of the center is to preserve our Italian Culture and Heritage.

If you asked most people not of Italian background what comes to their mind when they think of Italian-Americans their response most likely will be! Emotional, jealous people; Italian food — especially pizza; mafia; hard hats; overweight mammas and sexy girls, etc.

We have recently opened the Central New York Italian Cultural Center in Utica, N.Y. In our reception room, framed in calligraphy, is the following: "Italy, Mother of Arts, Thy hand was once our guardian, and it still is our guide — Lord Byron." In my opinion the American public, including Italian-Americans, know very little about Italian Culture. Very few know anything

about Italy's contribution to literature, dance, sculpture, cinematography, music, architect, theater, etc. Do you know anything about: Galladio, Toscanini, Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio, Donatello, Giotto, Botticelli, Manzu, Marini, Montale, Quasimodo, Rossini, Rota, etc.?

Do you know anything about the following Italian Americans: Constantino Brumidi, Pietro DiDonato, John Fonte, Angelo Pellegrini, John Ciardi, Lawrence Jerlinghetti? What about the following who have contributed so much to America: Philip Mazzei, Enrico Tonti, Francesco Vigo, Amadeo P. Giannini. My list is very short; we have such a rich heritage and culture, and yet so few are aware of it.

Italian Immigration to the United States brought an enormous antischool bias with them. Most of relatives who

came from Italy were from the Contadini class, poor and often illiterate. They came for work and bread. How could they teach us about our culture, they had very little education. They had to deal with bigoted myths, rumors and suspicions. Their main goal was to try to squeeze out a living. I am often surprised to know how much they did know when you considered their past.

I want the world to know that the contribution of Italy and Italians to art and architecture has exceeded that of any other people in the Western World. The skills and genius of Italian artists and writers, builders and thinkers were crucial to the cultural development of Western Civilization.

America, we discovered it, we named it and helped built it! Starting with Columbus, Amerigo Vespucci, Giovanni and Sebastiani Caboto (Cabot), and

ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

George Vecchione, Beta Sigma '67, Profiled as Hospital President

The following article is reprinted from the Tomorrow Newspaper of New Rochelle, NY. George Vecchione graduated from St. Francis College (NY) in 1967, where he was a member of Beta Sigma chapter. He is now President of New Rochelle Hospital and Medical Center of Westchester County, New York. This is another in a series of articles highlighting the accomplishments of Alpha Phi Delta alumni who have excelled in their field.

Ten years ago, when George A. Vecchione arrived at New Rochelle Hospital Medical Center, he assumed the position of chief Financial Officer. It was work he was familiar with and enjoyed. With a major in Accounting from St. Francis College, to be followed with an MS in Management from Reneselaer Polytechnic Institute and the Executive Development Program of Cornell University, he had moved from Haskins and Sells, CPA's to become Associate Director of Finance at Mount Sinai Hospital.

The state of hospital accounting in the late '60's was, to quote Vecchione, "abysmal," and his firm's professional advisor had recommended the health care field as one that had great opportunity for advancement and improvement. "I had been assigned to a number of hospital clients during my three years with Haskins and Sells," Vecchione explained, "and began to enjoy the atmosphere of that industry." One of his responsibilities was to do the audit for Blue Cross at Mt. Sinai. As a result he was offered the position there.

A New Challenge

Vecchione spent more than six years at this prestigious, New York City Hospital, and found it "interesting and rewarding." But when, in early 1976, he was offered the position of Chief Financial Officer at New Rochelle Hospital Medical Center, he was happy to accept. In addition to taking on a new challenge, Vecchione, a resident of Larchmont, could now contemplate the pleasure of working and living in his own community.

He took over the post on June 1, 1976, at a time when the hospital faced serious financial problems. The physical plant was decaying, putting accreditation in jeopardy. There was serious union, pen-



George A. Vecchione

sion and malpractice problems. Morale was poor. Five months after his arrival the Administrator resigned. Vecchione became Acting Administrator in November of 1976 and was appointed CEO in March, 1977.

New Plant, New Start

"Immediately," Vecchione explained, "we began to look at a new building and renovation program." Work toward this required significant time and energies during the years 1977-1981.

The results of that four year endeavor are now history. At the present time, New Rochelle Hospital Medical Center has a completely modern physical plant, with state-of-the-art equipment, programs and services. "While the trust of future capital expenditures will probably be toward replacement of existing items with ever more modern equipment," Vecchione said, "there will be an expansion of the Ambulatory Surgery Unit into a separate area." Work is scheduled to begin on this in the near future.

Has the hospital industry changed during the past sixteen years? "Greatly," says Vecchione. "Hospitals are moving toward heightened competition, presumed quality . . . with emphasis on cost." The greatest challenge, he states, is to make certain that quality of care and access to care are not compromised during this period of rapid change. "We must be aware," he noted, "that the system for many years did work well and that change, in and of itself is not bad. However, a steady view must be kept upon the goals of quality access."

"In the hospital industry, we strive for perfection," Vecchione observed, "and as in all human endeavors, this goal is seldom achieved. But the citizens of our community and country have reason to be proud of their health care system." To bolster this assertion he quoted the most recent statistics on life expectancy in the nation.

Newborn children are likely to live nearly a dozen more years than their grandparents. The National Center for Health Statistics reports that life expectancy at birth has climbed to a new high of almost 75 years. During that same period, the U.S. death-rate decreased to a record low. "These statistics are more than lines on a graph," Vecchione stated. "They are the concrete evidence of the efficacy of our health care system.

Will change continue? "Absolutely," he says, "and at an accelerating rate. New drugs, new procedures, alternative forms of health care delivery, revolutionary revision in insurance plans, competition, cost containment, and an increasingly informed and educated public are among the factors that will shape our future. But, while all change is not progress, it is certain there can be no progress without change.

One way to be a part of that change, a part of the evolving solutions, Vecchione believes, is to participate in industry related groups and organizations. He has done this on a broad scale. Currently he is Adjunct Professor, Health Care Graduate Program at the Bernard Baruch College of the City University of New York; is Chairman of the Westchester Consortium of Hospitals; Treasurer of the Hospital Association of New York State; Director, Greater New York Hospital Association; Member of the New York State Senate Health Advisory Committee; Treasurer, YMCA of New Rochelle; Director, Westchester Federal Savings Bank and Director, American Red Cross, Westchester County Chapter.

How does he view this challenging future? "As an opportunity," he states. "We can look at upheaval as either negative or positive, and the way we look at it has a lot to do with what we make of it. It's our job, in the hospital industry, to look for that positive and then make it happen."

Pledging Part I: The Problem

by Dr. John A. Muffo, Vice-President for Cultural Affairs

Did you know that since 1978, at least 39 college students have died in hazing related incidents in the United States? Did you know that hazing is illegal in 18 states (including most in which Alpha Phi Delta has chapters), and that legislation against hazing is currently pending in 9 other states? Did you know that hazing is in violation of the policies of Alpha Phi Delta and the National Interfraternity Council, not to mention every other major Greek organization in the country? Of course you must know that hazing still goes on, even in chapters of Alpha Phi Delta, despite all of the above.

One of the weakest links of the chain of brotherhood is the pledge period, with all the potential for hazing and other abuses. No number of laws, fraternity rules, or college regulations seems to be able to eliminate the notion in the heads of some brothers that the only way to earn membership in the brotherhood of the fraternity is through an extended period of servitude and downright abuse. There is, of course, no evidence that such a period makes for better brothers than something more constructive, but like many cultural myths, this one seems to linger on. Barring accidental tragedy, the fiction appears to have a life of its own in many chapters.

Beyond the headlines lies another reality: many good men are lost to fraternity membership because of hazing, experienced or expected. Very often strong student leaders see no need to join an organization which forces its initiates to perform demeaning, useless, and sometimes dangerous tasks, all in the name of belonging. In addition to the loss of potential members, such activities also damage the reputation of the

fraternity in the eyes of other students, the faculty and administration, and the community at large. Such unnecessary damage is often difficult to repair.

State legislators and college presidents have better things to do than worry about hazing, so why do they pass laws and rules against such activities? The answer lies in the groundswell of criticism from former pledges, parents, and others appalled by what they have seen and experienced. The entire fraternity system, with all of its positive aspects, is weakened when the larger community feels compelled to intervene in pledging procedures in order to protect the public safety.

One other negative aspect of hazing that is less obvious is the lost time and effort put into such activities by pledges and brothers alike. There are a virtually unlimited number of constructive jobs to be done in the world, things large and small that would make our communities better places to live. When the pledge period is devoted to destructive behavior of people and property, then this same effort cannot be expended on community improvement. Hence a destructive pledge period is twice as negative as it would first appear to be, due to the lost opportunity to make a positive contribution.

In a future edition of the KLEOS, I will offer some suggestions for alternatives to hazing. In the meantime, pick up a copy of the March 12, 1986 **Chronicle of Higher Education** at your local college library, and read about state and national efforts against hazing. You may be surprised, and you may even change your attitude about what pledging is all about.

Italian Cultural Center

(continued from page 6)

Giovanni da Verrazzano their discovery was the basis for the English, French and Spanish claim to North America. Filippo Mazzei was a founding father, a close friend and advisor to Jefferson. It was Mazzei who coined the phrase "all men are by nature created free and equal."

We have fought in the Revolutionary War. Some of our heroes: Stefano Almero, Giovanni Norile, Major Cosmo Medici, Francis Vigo. A number of Italians emerge from the archives of the Civil War on both sides, including Talliaferro, Finizzi, Medici and many more. Over 1 million Italian-Americans fought in World War II.

There are thousands of books on our contribution including the great sacrifice, hard work and contributions of the Italian immigrant. In an article such as this I am unable to do justice to the contributions of our people to the nation and the world. We have great worth as individuals and as a people. Italy is the mother of Western Civilization. In my opinion it is our responsibility to share the gifts God has given to us as a people with our nation and the world. Italian-American Heritage Month should be a celebration and a source of personal growth. Share your Italian Culture and Heritage with your Community — especially during October. We should let the nation know we treasure our Italian Heritage because it has enriched our lives and given us deep solid roots.

Obituary

PSI Founder Passes Away Anthony Presogna PSI '27

Anthony "Prof" Presogna, 79, died this past winter in Erie, Pa. He was a graduate of Duquesne University, and while there he was a founding father of Psi chapter in 1927.

Mr. Presogna taught at Academy High School in Erie for 32 years and was a guidance counselor at Tech Memorial, also in Erie, for eight years until his retirement 13 years ago. He is survived by his wife Lena.

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