

The Nugatory Persiflage

Vol. #44

The ΘΣΤ/ΣΝ_{ζτ} Alumni Assn. Newsletter

JANUARY, 2003

Newsletter News

• The time has finally come. This is the last free issue of the snail mail newsletter. The hard-copy version of the newsletter is switching to a "paid-subscription" format. We hate to have to do this, but the costs of doing the newsletter slowly rise as postage rates and other prices climb and as more alumni are discovered. Currently, the newsletter is costing over \$140 for every three months (approximately 150 newsletters are mailed every quarter). This cost does not include the time to type it up and arrange it, simply the physical costs of paper, envelopes, printing, stamps, labels, etc. These costs have been, until now, primarily funded through donations from a single member of the association.

The newsletter will continue to be available on the website and will continue to be free for anyone to read and enjoy there. In light of this availability, the paper newsletter can be seen as something of a luxury.

The paper newsletter will continue to be produced for those who subscribe to it (we already have several subscribers as of this printing). We currently estimate the annual cost at approximately \$5/year. You can use PayPal via the donation buttons on the alumni site to subscribe (just add a note that the money is for the newsletter). Or you can mail cheques or cash to Pete Lenz (address on the last page of the newsletter).

Another way to earn a (temporary) subscription is to send in something for the newsletter other than simply personal news. This could include a story, poetry, a drawing, perhaps a cartoon. Basically something interesting or fun for people to enjoy. You will receive a copy of the newsletter in which your submission appears.

Web Site News

• The response to the ability to use PayPal to donate to the Alumni Association has been good. Several generous members have used the PayPal site in the past three months to donate nearly \$180 towards the annual ≈\$800 cost of maintaining the alumni website! Most excellent!

Donations are always welcome and always accepted. As noted on the website, an annual donation of \$12 by the majority of active alumni would pretty much pay for the alumni site altogether. For those that do not wish to use PayPal, look on the alumni site or contact Plenz (addresses on the back page of the newsletter) for alternate ways to donate.

• Updates to the Alumni Site have been few lately. This is partly due to a dearth of news and partly due to a busy end-of-the-semester schedule for Plenz. Soon to be added will be more personal information in members' directories. This could include snail mail addresses or phone numbers (although we won't post these things without express permission), recent updates taken from newsletters, quotes, and pictures. If your directory entry looks a little sparse, let us know what we can do to spruce it up.

- The House's website is located at www.ThetaSigmaTau.org
- The Alumni Association website is located at <http://alumni.ThetaSigmaTau.org>

Individual News Updates

John Agazim (70) is the chairman of the System Accessories Inc. division of Target International Corp. John lives near Glenview, IL.

Steve Banasiewicz (89) celebrated his 9th year at RGIS Inventory Specialists in December. Steve lives in Southington, CT, with his life partner, Paul Archaski. Steve and Paul are both very active in their church, both being members of the South Church Chancel Choir, where Steve is also Chair of the Board of Worship, Music and the Arts. Paul is a member of the Board of Directors of CONCORA (Connecticut ChORal Artists).

Chris Boydston (87) will be finishing her law degree in May. Chris lives in Lincoln, NE, with her son, Matthew.

Amanda (Miltenberger) Bright (00) reports: I'm living in St. Paul (in a cute little area called Falcon Heights). I'm just about to switch jobs...next week I start at the corporate offices of the same company I work for, but still in Central Supply. I really like it because I have always been fascinated by medical equipment and supplies, and now I get to play with them every day.

I am also attending school for nursing at Anoka-Ramsey Community College, on a scholarship from my company, and I will have my RN in about three years, if all goes well.

I am dating Noah Shepard, who I met through Jaime [Smith (99)], and I am very much in love and very happy. He has been amazing, and very helpful to me in dealing with Andy's loss.

Oh! And I just became the caretaker for my apartment building, along with Noah, which means much lower rent and an interesting resume addition.

Dr. Terry Burkoth (63), is an Independent Consultant and also Chairman and CTO of PowderChek, Inc. Terry lives in Palo Alto, CA. Terry recently donated several scans of images from his 1959 - 1963 Crimsons. Check them out on the alumni site.

Captain André Cunningham (98) is being deployed with his unit of Apache helicopters, the 82nd Airborne Division (a part of the 18th Airborne Corps.) to Afghanistan in January of 2003. André has been stationed at Ft. Bragg in North Carolina for the last couple of years.

Individual News Updates (continued)

Debra Halvorson (90) lives in Alma Center, WI and works as a crane operator for Lunda, Inc. This past year she did a great deal of work providing emergency services work for the Pacific Railroad in Iowa and the Canadian National Railroad in northern Minnesota and Canada.

Anne Heilman-Inglis (83) writes: I finally finished my degree at the University of New South Wales, Sydney Australia.

I married an Australian in 1989. My husband's name is Paul and he is a regional IT manager for the Asia Pacific region. We have 10 year old twins, one girl Blair & a boy Preston.

I work for a large financial services organisation as a Regulatory Change Manager. The job is one of those jobs that when you try to explain it you see eyes glaze over. That being said, it is exciting and involves working with government, industry organisations and my corporation; all in all it keeps me busy.

I would love to hear from anyone who remembers me, though my time there was brief, I thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Kind Regards,
Anne Heilman-Inglis

Dave and Alys Humfleet (03/03) recently moved from Fond du Lac to Madison.

First Lieutenant George Johnson (00) is expecting to soon be deployed, possibly to the Middle-East in support of the beefed up military presence near Iraq. George is currently stationed at Ft. Bragg in North Carolina. George is platoon leader for the 101st Chemical Company, which is part of the 18th Airborne Corps.

Viola (Martin) Lenz (02) reports: I got a job! I am no longer a sponge. I am using my degrees from Ripon (English & Religion double major) oh, so well while I work at Columbia Hospital as a pharmacy technician.

Julie (Johnston) Milavec (91) works at the Plainfield Library in Plainfield, IL. Julie is married to John Milavec, who is a stay-at-home dad for their three kids: JJ (5), Rachel (3) and Luke (1).

Dan Nagel (93) was recently diagnosed with MS. He is currently recovering from a severe attack which has him temporarily unable to see. He's unable to use email at the moment, but would enjoy hearing from friends by phone.

Mike Post (84) is the Assistant Production Manager of the Alabama Shakespearean Festival in Montgomery. This is Mike's fifth year with ASF (www.asf.net).

Individual News Updates (continued)

Tricia Roll (02) joined the Wisconsin National Guard this fall. Tricia lives in Ripon, WI, and is looking for a job that is more rewarding than the job at Subway that she had while attending Ripon..

Jannan Roesch (87) and her husband, Steve Prestegard, and son, Michael, announce the birth of their second child Dylan Carston. Dylan was born on December 5, 2002, at 8:11am at Mercy Medical in Oshkosh (thank the gods they didn't go to Ripon Memorial!) Jannan is the Director of Alumni and Parent Relations at Ripon College. Her husband, Steve, works for Marian College in Fond du Lac.

Jeanne Norton Shera (99) reports: I have two tidbits about myself, and since I am so interesting, I decided to share:

1) I received my Masters degree in Polymer Science and Engineering from the University of Southern Mississippi in May 2002. I am continuing work at USM toward my PhD.

2) On August 17, 2002, Neal Shera (former social member and Merriman alum) and I were married at the home of my parents Drs. Gregory A. Norton and Mary Williams Norton. Patti Beck Johnson was the maid of honor, and Jason P. Duffecy (Duff) was the best man.

Jharick Shields (05) was a semi-finalist in prose interpretation and a semi-finalist in impromptu speaking at a forensics invitational hosted by UW-Stout in Menomonie, WI, in December. Jharick's performance helped Ripon College finish in second place at the invitational. Go, Jharick!

David Shogren (84) lives in Maplewood, MO.

David Slate (02) was unceremoniously thrown out of the alumni association when he re-enrolled at Ripon college after a leave of absence. Dave will be welcomed back into the alumni association when he once again becomes an alumnus!

Enrique Solorio (95) is living in Pewaukee, WI, working for US Cellular.

Lisa (Flegel) Sottile (88) is House Manager for Next Act Theatre in Milwaukee. Lisa lives in Milwaukee with her husband, Craig, and their two children: 'Becca (8) and Tony (4).

Sam Temple (89) is living in Israel where he is studying to become a rabbi. Sam travels around the world doing fund-raising for the Sharei Bina Women's Center for Jewish Studies and for the Yeshiva Shalom Rav in Tzfas, Israel.

JoAnn Vitullo (93) recently purchased a new home in Bloomington, MN.

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Theta Sigma Tau/Sigma Nu Alumni Association

January 2003

Traditions

Of course, the house has many traditions, as it should be with any organization like Tau. Some of the traditions, such as Spring Formal seem to have always been a part of the house. Some traditions, such as Open Bar Party, have fallen by the way (it's hard to get permission for a party specifically oriented around alcohol when the drinking age is 21 years old). And some traditions are newer, having arisen in the past decade or two.

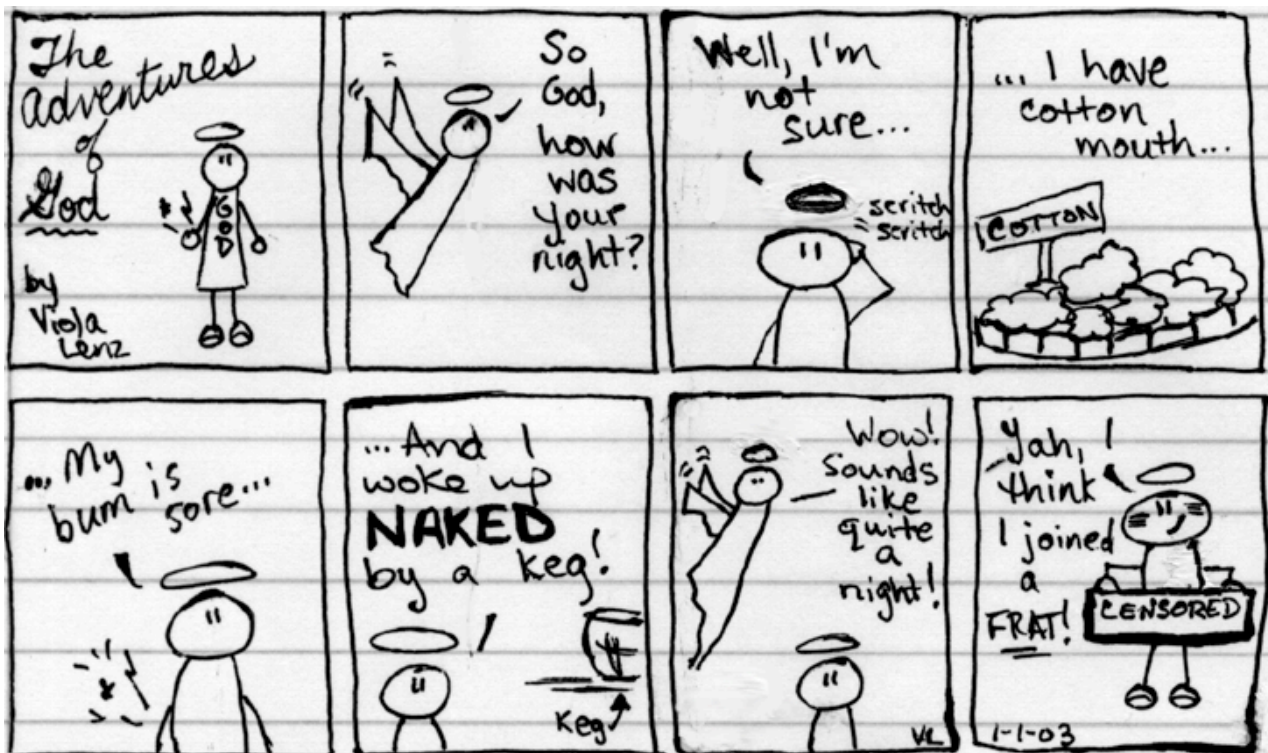
One tradition that is relatively new is that of the "Pledge Song." Since the fall of 1988, every semester in which the house has had pledges there has been a Pledge song. The Pledge Song is chosen by the active members of the house during the Activation Meeting held at the end of the pledge period. The song is usually chosen to reflect something about the nature or feel that the actives have for the pledge class. Sometimes a song is chosen to taunt the pledges a bit, sometimes a song is chosen because, taunting aside, it seems to fit the class very well.

The pledges don't find out what their pledge song is immediately. During the Activation Party, the pledge songs for all previous pledge classes are played, with the newest played at the very end. It adds a little sense of suspense to the party and entertainment when the no-longer-pledges hear "their" song for the first time.

To the right is a list of the pledge songs, to-date. We intend to put this up on the alumni site along with downloadable mp3s for all of them.

Term	Pledge song	Artist
F 88	With a Little Help From My Friends	Beatles
S 89	I Wanna Be Sedated	Ramones
F 89	88 Lines, 44 Women	The Nails
S 90	Take the Skinheads Bowling	Camper van Beethoven
F 90	Happy Birthday	Concrete Blonde
S 91	Welcome to the Jungle	Guns 'N' Roses
F 91	Masochism Tango	Tom Lehrer
S 92	Bohemian Rhapsody	Queen
F 92	I Touch Myself	Dyvinyls
S 93	Dancing Queen	Abba
F 93	59 th Street Bridge Song	Simon & Garfunkel
S 94	No Rain	Blind Melon
F 94	Stonehenge	Spinal Tap
S 95	Mexican Radio	Wall of Voodoo
F 95	All By Myself	Green Day
S 96	Hymn	Music Instructor
F 96	Basket Case	Green Day
S 97	Low Rider	KoRn
F 97	Molly	Sponge
S 98	Pass the Dutchie	Buck 'o' Nine
F 98	Personal Jesus	Depeche Mode
S 99	(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction	Rolling Stones
F 99	Lime in the Coconut	Harry Nilson
S 00	Dare to be Stupid	Weird Al Yankovic
F 00	no pledge class	
S 01	I'm Going Slightly Mad	Queen
F 01	no pledge class	
S 02	Party Till You Puke	Andrew WK
F 02	no pledge class	

A new comic series by Viola Lenz



The Seventeenth Annual Conclave of Evil: Aug 8 - 11

That's right! It's time once again for Pete's Annual Summer Party!

Dates: Thursday, Aug 8 to Sunday, Aug 11.

Where: The wonderful location used for the last few years has been such a hit that we are going to be going back there yet again! It is the family property of a house alumna, Carol Shay Hornung (88). Located on Sawyer Lake, north of Langlade, WI. That's north and a little west of Green Bay. The site is a 5-acre peninsula with a cabin and a good deal of space for camping. The cabin itself has hot & cold running water, an outdoor hot tub (enclosed in a screened gazebo to foil the sparrow-squitos), and plenty of access to the lake.

There are a few beds in the cabin and people are welcome to use them. However, we are trying to reserve them primarily for people who are coming from far away and/or don't have camping gear. So if you are living in WI and either have or can borrow camping gear, please do, that way we can accommodate as many people as possible. Of course, floor space is usable too. If you think you will need a bed, it is imperative that you contact Carol or Pete ASAP. Phone and e-mail info for both are listed at the end of this page.

The cabin has a nice kitchen, large bathroom with shower, living room, rec room and a couple of bedrooms. There is also a deck facing the lake and a larger deck with the hot tub/gazebo and plenty of space for folks to visit.

Directions: from Green Bay (I'm assuming you can find Green Bay), take US 41 north. When US 141 branches away from it, stick with US 141. When you come across state hwy 64, head west (left) on it. When you reach Langlade, you will hit hwy 55 (just before you cross the Wolf River). Head north (right) on 55. Sawyer Road is up the road a couple miles, on the right. Turn onto Sawyer, and then left on to Kielcheski Road. Near the end of Kielcheski Rd. will be the driveway to the party. I'll put up some sort of sign to indicate which road to turn on.

If you're coming from more western parts, you'll probably be headed north on US 51. State route 64 crosses US 51 at Langlade, so head east (right) on 64. Langlade is about 1/2 hour east of Antigo (which is on 64 between Hwy 51 and Langlade.).

See the enclosed maps... or get your own maps of the state.

It is unlikely that either of the hosts (Pete & Vin or Carol & Tony) will be there earlier than Thursday noonish, so try to time your arrival accordingly. If you get there and no one is there yet, amuse yourselves in whatever sick and depraved way you can think of. Someone will show soon. Pete and Vin are going to try to get there early in order to have the hot-tub warmed up, the fridge cold, (and to get the choicest camping spot!)

What might we do while there, other than visit with each other? We've got a few ideas, I'm sure that others can come up with more.

- The party is scheduled to coincide with the height of the Perseids Meteor Shower (peaking August 11). Perhaps we'll have a great light show! Add to that the Northern Lights (which often make an appearance) and it should be exquisite.
- The Wolf River is nearby, an excursion will be arranged to go white-water rafting or canoeing on the river. We've done it before and had a blast. We MUST make reservations ahead of time, so let Pete know by July 20th if you're interested in going.
- The Nicolet National Forest is across the lake from us. They have horseback riding and hiking trails available.
- There will be a rowboat and several canoes at the cabin for bopping around the lake. It is a nice lake, not too large and pretty quiet. Canoeing the entire lake only takes an hour or so, and you wind up going in a very scenic circle.

Rules & regs: A few rules, regulations and instructions to consider while deciding whether you want to come to the party. These rules must be adhered to while we're using this property...if you don't feel that you can abide by all of the following rules then perhaps you should not come. We have been offered the use of this land at no cost other than following a few simple and reasonable rules, so we should respect the wishes of the owners! If we do, they may continue to let us use the place again for future summer parties as they have for the last 6 years.

- No building campfires. In August it is pretty dry up there and there isn't a firepit on the property. We've a Weber for cooking out and a fireplace in the cabin. Besides, a campfire might drown out the wonderful vault of the heavens (more stars than you can shake a stick at!)
- For those who wish to go boating: anyone in the boat or canoe must be wearing them, adults should have them within reach.
- Don't break anything! Additionally, clean up after yourselves. Don't leave litter or trash lying around. This means cigarette butts, too. If you must smoke, carry a baggie to put your butts in, don't just toss them... discarded butts are ugly.
- Recreational pharmaceuticals should be left at home. Not only will there be a number of children at the party, but the use of such substances may make some of the other attendees uncomfortable. Alcohol is acceptable in moderation, but other chemical compounds should be left home.
- Bring along a donation of \$5 or \$10/head as a gift to Carol's parents to defray the costs of the electricity, hot tub chemicals and any cleaning up we don't remember to do.

Provision: What should be brought? Well here's a list of things that could be useful:

Absolutely necessary:

- a tent (or arrangements made with someone else to share their tent or for a bed in the cabin);
- a sleeping bag (and/or blankets, it gets cold at night);
- an air mattress, small futon, or similar padding (the ground at the tent site is a bit lumpy & rocky);
- a flashlight or two;
- food and drink for yourself and to share (or cash to go shopping);
- cash for various other reasons;
- changes of clothes & toiletries (or we'll dunk you in the lake)

Less necessary, but still useful:

- one or two tarps (often useful);
- a cooler (for beverages);
- swimming trunks & towels;
- bug repellent;
- sun-screen;
- calamine lotion (in case you discover poison ivy or the sparrow-squitos circumvent the bug repellent with gas masks);
- lawn chair(s);
- a camera of some sort.

Obviously, I could go on and on about this. Use common sense (and if you don't have any, borrow some common sense from a friend.)

That's it! I'd love to have many people there! Call, write, or e-mail to let me know you're coming, especially if you need help making sleeping arrangements and the like! I'd like to know how many people to expect, but if you suddenly decide to come last minute, that's cool. We usually have between 8 and 12 adults and 2 to 10 kids of ages ranging from infant to teenager.

**Theta Sigma Tau / Sigma Nu
Alumni Association**

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QUOTABLE QUOTES

“I’ve sucked a lot of stuff out of... stuff.”
- Tric Roll (02)

“Ahh-CHOO! Aw, jeez! It went down the shirt!”
- Lexie Natkin (01)

“Can I have your penis back?”
- ‘Toni Bourn (89) to Pete Lenz (89)
re: naughty “hopping penis” toy

“All a man has to know is that I like peanut butter and I like potatoes and he has to do something with them.”
- Tric Roll (02)

“This thing is getting smaller... that might be good.”
- Liz Rottler (alum social)
while opening a gift

“My dad grew up without noodles, my mom grew up with noodles.”
SaraH Hoffman (02) re: chili

QUOTABLE QUOTES

“... The situation is less pressing for the basement of Bovay, which is used as a storage facility for the Quads.

Dean of Students Chris Ogle thinks that the space is an untapped resource on campus.

‘We think that it would be a great conjugating^[sic] place for all of the Quads residents with a great view to the west,’ Ogle said.”

- Spotted on the Ripon College Days web page by Steve Banasiewicz.

We’re sure a lot of conjugating WILL take place there!

“Here, I can hold your toys.”

- SaraH Hoffman (02) to Daven Howard (96) while he opened presents.

“So, if you don't work on it for a while, it will shrink back?”

- Sarah Hoffman (02), re: stretching dough for mini pizzas at work

“That's all I got, you got the whole three inches.”

- From the TLC television show *Trading Spaces*, one of the husbands to Ty, the Carpenter

A pair of haikus by Viola Lenz:

Christmas

little dog peeing
all over the new carpet
what a lov'ly gift

II

kitten cat climbing
the dead xmas evergreen
breaking ornaments