An Invitation
from

Kappa Sigma
of
Ohio State University
1842 Indianola Avenue
"The House on the Hill"
Walnut 3195
Mr. [Name]

Is cordially invited to be a guest at the chapter house during Freshman Week on the dates checked below:

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Xc man may be officially pledged to a fraternity before October 2. Candidates for pledging to fraternities should not sign any rooming contracts before school opens.

**KEEP THIS PART OF THE CARD** to remind you of the times we will expect to have you as our guest.
To Friends of Kappa Sigma

A university education is a training course in the fine art of living. We are convinced that a college fraternity offers an unique discipline to socialize a living which is of vital importance to a successful Kappa life.

From our alumni we have won a splendid heritage, and we have felt our own lives enriched by this fraternity experience. We speak with pride of our organization and its enviable position.

Our sincere desire to realize the best there is in fraternal living and to extend this privilege to others who enter the University each year, prompts us to tell this story of our own Kappa Sigma and its place at Ohio State University.

ALPHA SIGMA CHAPTER

Kappa Sigma's Heritage

Kappa Sigma's historical background, traditional name and ritualistic origin were adopted from the medieval society Ω K—S—, organized in 1400 at the University of Bologna. The order was conceived by Manuel Chrysoloras, the Greek scholar, who came to Bologna, the oldest institution of learning in the western world. It flourished during the Renaissance at Bologna and in several other European universities. From this auspicious historical order has grown our own Kappa Sigma, with its beautiful ritual and tradition of human brotherhood reaching across the centuries to take its place among the great American college fraternities.

Kappa Sigma at Ohio State University

Kappa Sigma Fraternity has occupied a position of leadership on the Ohio State University campus throughout the four decades since its founding, March 4, 1895. In that year a charter was granted by the national Fraternity to the local chapter (Alpha-Sigma), which has been in continuous, successful operation ever since.

The men responsible for the chapter's founding were Renick W. Duval (Assistant Secretary of Agriculture in President Hoover's cabinet), J. W. T. Duval, D. V. Buckett, Charles W. Buckett, Charles W. Sprague, H. H. Brelsford and Ernest J. Rogers.

The chapter was one of the first national fraternities to locate at Ohio State, and has initiated more than 600 men into its ranks since 1895. At least 200 of these initiates are now living in the community. This large group of alumni continues its loyal and active support, and holds weekly luncheon meetings. The Columbus Alumni Chapter of Kappa Sigma, including some of the very successful business and professional men in the city, is ranked as one of the most active and noteworthy groups of fraternity alumni in the country.

Activities

During the past year, Kappa Sigma has been well represented on the campus by men in various activities. Robert Stahl is the newly elected editor of The Sundial, campus humor magazine, and a member of Ohio States, Inc., a group of men who are outstanding in activities for the good of Ohio State University. Vernon Gilmore is the associate editor of The Ohio Stater, campus literary magazine of which Ned Eller is the Art Editor, and also a member of Ohio States, Inc. Robert Tobias is the editor of the Yearling Yelper, freshman newspaper, and a member of the Makkio staff and the Freshman Activities Office.
Bob Eppley is a member of Romulus, sophomore men's honorary, and secretary of the Freshman Gee Club, the Symphonic Chorus and University Chorus, and a member of the Council of the College of Arts and Sciences of which John Warren was the President. Kappa Sigma is well represented in Scrutters Dramatic Society, Scarlet Mask Men's Dramatic Society, Quadrangle Veterans Engineers Dramatic Society, Phi Eta Sigma, freshman scholastic honorary, and Scarlet Key, Varsity manager's honorary.

In Athletics, Ely Bradfield, Earl Carlin, Clifford Heffelfinger, nephew of Yale's immortal "Pudge" Heffelfinger, and Jim Daniell, brother of Pitt's All-American Averell Daniell, are all members of the first-string freshman football team. Bradfield is a member of the wrestling team. Kappa Sigma has won both the University Championship and runner-up in ping pong for the past two years. This year both the active and pledge basketball teams were awarded cups for their winning the flight championships of the Intramural competition. Kappa Sigma is also represented on the swimming and track teams.

This year for the second time in two years, Kappa Sigma won the Ohio State University Spring Step and took second place in the State Interfraternity Step competition with winners from nine Ohio colleges and universities.

Our Home

The Kappa Sigma house at Ohio State is of colonial architecture, traditional with our founding at the University of Virginia. This colonial mansion is located on one of the largest Indian mounds in Franklin County. The house, for many years, known as the Neil Mansion, home of one of the earlier governors of Ohio, was a station on the famous underground railway during the Civil War. The house was completely rebuilt in 1938 during the summer of its eightieth year. Our beautiful hand worked chandelier from India was retained during the remodeling and six marble pillars were added to complete the architecture.

The living facilities in this spacious fraternity house are most complete. The two dormitories upon the third floor which accommodate thirty-four men are cool and airy because of the cross ventilation.

The fourteen study rooms provide a private closet for each man, as well as his own modern study desk, lamp, and half of a bureau high-way. Most of the study rooms are for two men but there are also two large study rooms accommodating three men and two smaller ones for one man, preferably an advanced student.

On the main floor is the large, sunny dining hall seating 50 men, with a barber's parlor adjoining it. There is a dumbwaiter connecting the pantry and the kitchen in the basement to facilitate the quick serving of food. Also on the main floor is an up-to-date library containing a wide assortment of books (Kappa Sigma had the second finest library among fraternities last year) and trophy room; a large living room with an open-hearth fire place; and a colorful powder room for feminine guests. The grill room kitchen, recreation room and chapter room are in the basement and open out on a parking lot in the rear.

Among the ultra-modern equipment of the house is a power lawn mower to cut the large lawn on the campus; a communication system throughout the house; a huge tiled wash room with a large shower room which is ventilated by a motor driven blower; and a modern stained-glass fountain.

Scholarship

Realizing the primary importance of scholarship in college life, the chapter maintains a scholarship committee whose responsibility it is to maintain strict supervision over the scholastic activities of pledges and actives, and to give help where needed. The members of the active chapter are diversified in their interests so that practically every field of study has its representatives to assist and give counsel to undergraduate men. In addition, the chapter has the service of a preceptor whose duty it is to supervise study in the house and to guide the members of the group in the organization of their studies. The preceptor plan is encouraged by the University and has proved its merit.

The number of Kappa Sigma men in the various honoraries this year indicates the tone of the chapter's scholarship interest. Robert Miller is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma, commerce honorary, and Beta Alpha Psi, accounting honorary. John Ireland is a member of Tau Beta Pi, the Engineering honorary, and Phi Eta Sigma, freshman scholastic honorary. Other Kappa Sigma who are members of Phi Eta Sigma are Herschel Hayo, ElyBradfield and Richard Shevly.

Every year the freshman pledge having the best scholastic standing is awarded a key, donated by Howard Moore, and has his name engraved on a large, bronze loving cup, which is displayed as an incentive to greater efforts by the underclassmen.

Every effort is made to see that pledges get the proper start, both in school and fraternity life. Each pledge has an active as a "big brother," who helps him adjust himself to his new environment. This system has greatly benefited the individual and contributed much to the spirit of the entire chapter.

Kappa Sigma's scholarship record during the past year is an enviable one. It was the only fraternity of the ten big fraternities at Ohio State to place in the upper third of the scholarship ratings for fraternities.
Social Events

Life at the Kappa Sigma house is rich in good fellowship and fine spirit. The routine of school work is lightened by colorful dances and social events which contribute so much to college life. There are also outstanding alumni affairs, such as Jack Kohl’s Milk Social, an annual event since started by Jack when he was a student 30 years ago. Twice during the year, a whole pig, spiced over an open fire, graces the Kappa Sigma banquet table, as the alumni mingle with the actives, to relive old times and retell old stories. On Founders’ Day, December 10, all Kappa Sigma’s in the community gather for another traditional banquet.

Kappa Sigma, A National Institution

Kappa Sigma was established nationally at the University of Virginia, December 10, 1869, by William Grigsby McCormick, retired member of the Harvest Trust, John Covert Boyd, George Miles Arnold, Edmund Law Rogers and Frank Courtney Niederman. Only the first of these original founders still lives to see the order he started now holding a primary position among the great college fraternities of the nation.

One hundred and seven chapters of Kappa Sigma have a current membership of more than 38,750 actives and alumni. These chapters are to be found in 45 states, the District of Columbia, and Toronto, Ontario. The only states in which Kappa Sigma is not established are Delaware, Connecticut and Nevada, indicating the wide distribution and vigorous growth of the Fraternity. All but a few of the chapters own their own homes, estimated at a total value in excess of $3,000,000.

National affairs of the Fraternity are directed by five principal officers elected biennially at a national conclave. The Fraternity has an endowment of nearly a quarter-million dollars for scholarship loans to members and financial assistance to the chapters. Here are alumni clubs in all the principal cities. The Fraternity’s magazine, The Caduceus, is published monthly during the school year.

Other prominent members are: George Jean Nathan, writer and theatrical critic; Lovell Thomas, radio news commentator; Nelson Doubleday, publisher; Leon West, actor; Guyas Williams, cartoonist, and “Hoojic” Carmichael, song writer, composer of “Stardust.”

Reverend DeWitt Clinton Jones, president of the International Convention of the Disciples of Christ; Francis S. Harmon, international secretary of the Young Men’s Christian Association; J. F. Larner, former chairman of the U. S. Board of Tax Appeals; Crandall Green, president of the Middle West Utilities Company; Dwight Green, Chicago’s district attorney and prosecutor of the Capone and Lousch cases; Carter Glass, Jr., chairman of the board of directors of the American Philatelic Society; W. Lee Lewis, inventor of “Lewiscita,” the Graham brothers, automobile manufacturers, and E. P. Hildell, international scientist and director of Mount Wilson Observatory, are also loyal Kappa Sigma’s.

A. B. Lambert, manufacturer of Listerine products and financial backer of the Lindbergh flight; Dean Christian Gann, writer, dean of Princeton University; Roy C. Osgood, president of the Investment Bankers’ Association, vice president of the First National Bank, Chicago; W. S. Kier, financier, former of the National City Bank; Charles S. Peirce, president of the LaSalle, Palmolive-Peet Company; Henry S. Richardson, president of the Vick Chemical Company; John F. Kellogg, president of the National Association of Manufacturers, and R. O. Eif, president of the Austin Motor Company of America, belong to the Fraternity.

These are but a few of the hundreds of nationally known Kappa Sigma’s whose prominence in business and national affairs never dimmed their loyalties to their Fraternity.
Originally of Swiss architecture, the Virginia-style mansion housing 44 fraternity members will undergo a remodeling project to include the addition of a south wing. A tunnel, now closed, reputedly led from the house to the Olentangy River.

By ELIZABETH STAUFFER

IF YOU happen to pass by 1842 Indianola Avenue in Columbus, pause and allow your gaze to sweep up the long slope nearly the length of a football field. At the top, sitting in its place of honor, you'll see a majestic Virginia-style mansion, home of 44 members of Alpha Sigma, the local chapter of Kappa Sigma Fraternity. Now, for the second time since the turn of the century, this historic dwelling will experience a major structural change.

In 1937, a workman remodeling the house, found several Christmas cards behind a fireplace mantel which led ultimately to a revealing investigation of the origin of the 30-room mansion. The structure was subsequently traced back to members of the Neil family and further, to the days of the underground railroad.

When I heard of present remodeling plans, I decided to dig deeper into its historic past and I was not disappointed, having stumbled onto an amusing oversight on the part of curious fraternity members and other interested

(Continued)
In 1862, this historical landmark was known as the Neil farmhouse. It was constructed on part of the 300-acre Neil farm which ran West of High and as far as Summit Street. This is now a fraternity.

HOUSE continued

parties who have sought to uncover the building's history.

Legends say the house was one of several in Columbus used as a refuge by escaping slaves. Secret panels still exist. A small shaft, possibly intended for a laundry chute, houses a ladder leading to a second-floor hiding place.

Inasmuch as Ohio was the "grand trunk line" of the underground railroad, prominent homes in Columbus served as "stations" and it is quite within reason that this house on the hill acquired by Kappa Sigma in 1916, may have been one of the key stop-offs. A tunnel begins in the furnace room, which reportedly at one time ran all the way to the Olentangy River serving as a means for smuggling slaves from the river into the house. The tunnel is now blocked off but winter weather reveals its path, the snow tending to melt far more quickly on the roof of the underground passage than on the surrounding area.

At one time solid brass chandeliers imported from India, hung in the living room. They were removed along with several ornate mantelpieces when the house was remodeled in 1937. The walls of the library are magnificently paneled in walnut, taken from a single tree on the home farm of Renick W. and John H. Dunlap, two early graduates of Ohio State University who provided the comfortably furnished reading room with this unique feature.

Yet in spite of the elegance of the mansion, mystery exists in a hand-lettered document, done by an alumnus of

(Continued)
the fraternity which hangs in the foyer and refers in part to a non-existent governor.

THE HOUSE ON THE HILL

The Kappa Sigma Fraternity House has a rich heritage. Built in 1856, long before the founding of the Ohio State University, the house has been a landmark in the Columbus area. The house was built as a part of the large Neil plantation and served as the Governor’s Mansion during Neil’s term as governor of Ohio.

I wanted to learn more about Governor Neil, hoping to unearth some fascinating stories about his life and the gala parties that existed within these walls. But after considerable research, the fascinating thing I learned was this: there never was a Governor Neil.

Presumably then, this was not a governor’s mansion. How then did so great a misapprehension so positively into the fraternity’s history, to be learned by every pledge? To be hand-lettered and presented to members of the organization by the Wives and Mothers Club of 1963-1964? To be accepted as authenticity by hundreds who never once suspected that the elegant mansion had never been home to a Governor Neil?

The explanations? It may have been a slip of the pen on the part of the author of the document. For the house was indeed built by Robert Neil, oldest son of William Neil, the “stagecoach king” and an outstanding figure in Columbus’ history.

More likely the governor misunderstanding occurred when Anna Eliza, Robert’s sister married Governor Dennison and the latter used the home as a summer retreat from his Civil War duties during 1860 and 1861. Gala parties undoubtedly took place, Mrs. Dennison entertaining and the fact that many years and several wars later, a portrait of Governor Dennison was found behind a fireplace (in 1937) added credence to the story that this was the mansion-home of a governor of Ohio.

The historic significance of the Kappa Sigma house remains however mostly closely tied with the pioneering Neil family who occupied the house and others in the North area of old Columbus.

Robert’s father not only established numerous stagecoach lines but founded the first Neil House in Downtown Columbus, known as the William Neil tavern. An interesting note is that at one time Neil Avenue was a long drive leading from William Neil’s home to Downtown Columbus, then two miles away.

Ultimately Henry M. Neil inherited from his brother Robert, the present Kappa Sigma house and a considerable amount of land extending to the Olentangy River. In 1870 the state acquired this land to establish the beginning of Ohio State University, known as the Ohio Agricultural and Mechanical College. Today much of the land Ohio State stands on was once the large estate so befitting the magnificent “House on the Hill.”

The second remodeling project will allow the fraternity house to accommodate 16 additional members bringing the total to 60, and adding a south wing. Originally of Swiss architecture, the Virginia-style was chosen for the first remodeling in commemoration of the founding of the fraternity at the University of Virginia on December 10, 1869. The present wing to the north was added in 1898.

(The End)
NEVER A GOVERNOR'S

The House on the Hill

The Kappa Sigma Fraternity House has a rich heritage. Built in 1836 long before the founding of the Ohio State University, the house has been a landmark of the Columbus area. The house was built as a part of the large Neil plantation and served as the Governors' Mansion during Neil's term as Governor of Ohio.

The house was constructed on one of many Indian mounds which were located in the area. Indianola Avenue takes its name from this mound. Today the house still stands on the highest point in central Ohio.

During the Civil War the house became one of three underground railroad stations in Columbus. A tunnel which transported slaves from the banks of the Olentangy River to the house still remains. Often inside the house the slaves were hidden in secret passages. Some of these passages are still lost within the framework of the house.

The Kappa Sigma Fraternity purchased this stately mansion in 1916. In 1957 the interior and exterior of the house on the Hill was extensively remodeled to accommodate the increased membership of this great fraternity. In 1961 the interior of the house on the Hill was restored. The future holds promise of still further expansion to enhance and carry forth the spirit of the house's heritage.

The men of Kappa Sigma continually strive to uphold and extend the fine old traditions of the Columbus landmark.

"The House on the Hill"

Hand-lettered document hanging in the foyer of Kappa Sigma Fraternity describing the mansion on Indianola Avenue as the residence of a non-existent governor of Ohio. The structure was an important underground railroad stop in the Civil War.
View of the closed tunnel which served as a secret route for escaping slaves. A small shaft, possibly meant for a laundry chute, leads by ladder to a second-floor hideout.
I TOLD last week about the grand Neil family home, Indianola. A huge affair with eight-foot overhanging eaves, many balconies and picturesque details, it was built atop an Indian mound. That 1856 house is embodied in this, the Kappa Sigma fraternity house at 1842 Indianola.

Hugh Huntington wrote how it was acquired in 1909. My friend, Hilda Herbst, knew that Marvin Kemery, her brother and a Kappa Sig, had the history. She borrowed it for me to my great delight.

The Kappa Sigs were renting a house at 76 Smith Place. (Alpha Sigma Chapter was established at Ohio State University in 1895.) One night in 1908 two of the brothers were homebound on a trolley when drunks set upon their neighbor, Thomas Francis. They rescued him and walked him home. Grateful, he told them that he and a partner had recently bought a famous mansion; that he’d lease it to them at modest rent. By 1909 the fraternity was installed in its aeire, the highest point in the section, at a monthly rental of $120.

In 1919 they bought the house for $18,000. In 1938 they remodeled it in the Greek Revival style, similar to the fraternity’s national headquarters near Charlottesville, Virginia. (Kappa Sigma was founded at the University of Virginia in 1865.)

A persistent mystery may be resolved. Generations of pledges have been told of a secret tunnel, supposed to have been used to smuggle runaway slaves via the Underground Railroad. The house having been built in the mid-1850s might have been planned as a “station.” It was the period of greatest activity along the “railroad.” And it was a period of unequalled romanticism, thanks to Scott, Ruskin and Violet-le Duc. Thus it is quite possible that so rich a family might have indulged itself in such romantic appurtenances as secret tunnels and rooms.

My credulity curls up and dies, however, when I’m asked to believe Indianola’s tunnel went all the way to the banks of the Olentangy. The existence of a passage of some pretensions may soon be proved or disproved, I was told by pledge Jim Dillard when I visited the house recently. He showed me a rock-lined antechamber off the basement, accessible through a narrow opening and some feet below the surrounding floor. At one end, a bit of burrowing has revealed a lintel and the beginning of a passage heading westward. Jim said, a bit ruefully, that pledges may be asked to start digging to see where it goes. Fraternity president Jim DiCola says the project may or may not be initiated. In the meantime he points out a curious, closet-like chamber that runs from the first floor clear to the attic.

In 1966 the fraternity spent $150,000 in further remodeling and adding the big wing at right, which makes of the structure a symmetrical whole.
Greeks join to give children holiday lift

By Jodi Oman
Lantern staff writer

An OSU fraternity and sorority are combining their efforts to make this Christmas a special one for the residents of the Hannah Neil Center for Children.

About 48 children from center will be guests at a Dec. 4 Christmas party at the Kappa Sigma fraternity.

"This is the first time we've ever done anything like this but we hope to make it a tradition," said Christine Stack, philanthropy chairwoman of Alpha Kappa Theta.

"Many of the children come from low-income families and they're not able to have much of a Christmas at all," said Douglas Kline, director of community relations at the center.

Although the children do not know all of the details about the party, they are still very excited, Kline said.

The center, 301 Obetz Road, houses children between six and 13 years old with emotional and behavioral problems, he said. The children usually stay at the center for about a year.

Kline said about half of the children return to their families after they and their families have received special counseling at the center. The others are moved to relatives or foster homes.

They probably don't know this, but the old Kappa Sigma house used to be the home of Hannah Neil's son," Kline said. "It's coincidental that they're doing something for the Neil family and living in their mansion, too."

Mark McCrery, a member of Kappa Sigma, said he knew about the previous owner of the house and he is excited about having the party at the fraternity.

"Everyone in the house is really looking forward to helping the center. In a way, Kappa Sigma are in debt to the Neils for the great house that we now have," McCrery said. "I'm glad we're doing something to help some people who need a little lift around Christmas."

The two houses will also be holding a happy hour at Char Bar tonight from 6 to 9 p.m. with all proceeds going to the center.

Esther Craw, an accordionist from Deibel's in German Village, will be playing at Char Bar, Stack said. The cover charge will be $1 at the door.
Greeks protest firing of coach

By SUZY STOLLMAIER
Lantern staff writer

Most OSU students walked around campus Tuesday keeping their mixed emotions about the firing of OSU football coach Earle Bruce to themselves.
But not at the Kappa Sigma Fraternity.
In protest to Bruce's firing, members of the fraternity, as well as fellow greeks, stood outside the Kappa Sigma house and chanted, “No Bruce, No School,” for more than an hour Tuesday afternoon.

“We just wanted to show our support for the team and protest the untimely firing of Bruce,” said Kappa Sigma President Gary Price. “The football team only has a week left and they need 100 percent support from students, faculty, the board...everyone.”
Price said he called all the fraternities and sororities Monday night to get them to come and show their support. He considered the turnout of about 100 to 150 good since there were classes.
“Most of us went to classes anyway. This isn’t the radical ‘60s, we just wanted to show our support,” Price said.
Radical or not, the protest drew a lot of attention. Dave Schneider, a junior from Canton said, “So far we’ve had channels 4, 6 and channel 8 from Cleveland stop by, and a couple radio stations have called.”
Jeff Bahnsen, a senior from Perrysburg, agreed with several other students that Bruce needed to be let go, “but not this week. It’s the timing that’s very unprofessional.”

Thad Coffman, a junior from Coshocton, said he feels Jennings and the board of trustees are a disappointment.
“You would think a school of this size and credibility wouldn’t let alumni pressure force them to make such an untimely firing,” he said. “I don’t disagree with the firing, just with the way it was handled.”

When asked to comment on what they believed the general feelings are toward the Michigan game, Price and Coffman said the students don’t really care that much about what happens, but the team will be playing for Bruce.

“If we win, it’s because the team decided to win,” Price said. “Their winning isn’t going to change anyone’s opinion of Jennings or what happened.”
Fraternity house once slave shelter

By NANCY SUTTON
Lantern staff writer

The “House on the Hill,” home of the Kappa Sigma fraternity, once sheltered runaway slaves and possibly a governor.

Legends say the house, built in 1856, was one of several in Columbus used as a refuge by escaping slaves. Secret panels still exist in the house.

A small shaft, possibly intended for a laundry chute, contains a ladder leading to a second-floor hiding place. Since then, the house has been remodeled with a secret passage-way between the second and third floors.

In 1966 a Columbus Dispatch reporter wrote, “In as much as Ohio was the ‘grand trunk line’ of the underground railroad, prominent homes in Columbus served as ‘stations.’” It is quite within reason that this house on the hill acquired by Kappa Sigma in 1916, may have been one of the key stop-offs.

A tunnel begins in the furnace room, reportedly at one time running all the way to the Olentangy River, and served as a means for smuggling slaves from the river into the house. The tunnel is now blocked off, but winter snow reveals its path, tending to melt far more quickly on the roof of the underground passage than on the surrounding area.

Legends have also said the huge house was once a governor’s mansion. The house was used as a summer home for Anna Eliza, Robert Neil’s sister who married Governor Dennison. A portrait was found behind a fireplace in 1937, leading people to believe they might have lived there for a while.

Henry M. Neil inherited the Virginia-style mansion, and approximately 300 acres of land extending to the Olentangy River from his brother Robert.

The house was originally named “Indianola” because it was built on top of an Indian burial ground. When a new addition was built in 1967, Indian burial remains were found.

The street built in front of the house adopted the name of Indianola. The house address is 1842 Indianola Ave.

It has been through many structural changes, in 1898, 1937 and the latest in 1967. The last remodeling added a new wing which included 2 floors.

In 1966, 44 members of the Alpha Sigma chapter of Kappa Sigma fraternity lived in the house. Currently there are 48 members living there and their housemother.

Some fraternity members have explored the passage ways that honeycomb the house.

“We have crawled back through the passage ways towards the front of the house many times. There is an opening in the front as you crawl through so that you can actually see the original structure of the house before the renovation in 1937. Many of our alumni have signed their names on the inside of tunnels. I put my name on it, too,” said John Maitino, a sophomore from Aurora.
OSU fraternity receives service award

By Beverly Kearns
Lantern staff writer

Ohio State's Kappa Sigma fraternity was selected on Aug. 4 as one of 21 chapters in the United States to receive an award for outstanding service to their fellow man.

The local chapter received the 1989-1990 Kappa Sigma Fraternity Community Service Award because of a high number of man-hours and a high standard of community service, said Mitchell B. Wilson, executive director of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity.

"Kappa Sigma doesn't engage itself in national philanthropy," said Wilson. "The individual chapters are involved more on a community level."

Wilson said a selection committee decides who receives the award by examining all the activities performed by the fraternities and to what extent the activities were beneficial.

The OSU chapter was selected out of a possible 212 college and university chapters. The University of Minnesota and Ohio State represented the Big Ten universities among award recipients. Ohio State was the only chapter to receive the award among Ohio colleges.

The Kappa Sigma Fraternity worked in conjunction with the Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority on its community service projects.

Mike Gabor said he and Scott Benaglio were in charge of activities for the 1989-1990 year, which included a Christmas party for the children at the Hannah Neil Center For Children and the Reggae Fest held on May 17.

The Christmas party was held the week before finals autumn quarter. Chris Logadon provided entertainment, and said one gift and a stuffed stocking were given to each child.

"The Christmas party has been a project of ours for the past four years," said Gabor. "It's been very successful--the kids seem to like it."

He said the Reggae Fest was the big money maker for the year. An estimated 6,000 people came to the event, and the $3,000 profit went directly to the Hannah Neil Center.

"The Reggae Fest was such a success last year that we want to do it again," Wais said. "We will try to make a few improvements on last year's fest."

He said although police commented favorably on crowd control, a couple changes would be made to better accommodate the crowd. He said there was a possibility of two bands performing instead of one.

A new project for the Kappa Sigma house is a recycling program. Wais said he plans to try to spread the program throughout the greek system.
Kappa Sigma haunted by 7-year-old

By Keith Montgomery
Latern staff writer

Most children dream of staying in a candy store or toy store forever. But members of the Kappa Sigma fraternity, 1842 Indiana Ave., say a 7-year-old girl is spending eternity in their house.

Fraternity members have some interesting ghost stories to tell. David Gilby, a junior from Monroe and the house historian, said the fraternity’s house used to be the home of Ohio Governor Mordecai Bartley and his family. Bartley was governor of Ohio from 1844 to 1846.

While the governor lived in the home, a fire in the basement took his 7-year-old daughter’s life, Gilby said.

He said ever since the house became a fraternity in 1895, members have reported seeing a little girl running around the mansion or standing in corners of the bedrooms.

Unexplainable events have also taken place in the basement, he said.

One summer, residents investigated the sound of someone playing billiards, Gilby said.

All the investigators found in the rec room was balls moving and no one around, he said.

The investigators reported all the pool cues were in the rack, but it looked as if someone was playing. Gilby said.

House members have also complained of hearing the sounds of a party on the upper floor when no one was up there.

Mark Thompson, a senior from Cleveland, told of one investigation in which he took part.

Two Halloweens ago, Thompson said, he and three friends were in the basement playing with a Ouija board.

The board spelled out that a 7-year-old spirit was in the house, but Thompson could not recall her name.

Thompson swears no one was cheating, and said everyone involved was spooked.

Phi Kappa Psi members say equally mysterious events have taken place at their house across the street, 124 E. 14th Ave.

Jeff Haskett, a senior from Stow and president of the fraternity, said the house was built to be a governor’s mansion.

See GHOST page 2

Halloween through the Years

- "All Hallow’s Eve" was first celebrated by the ancient Celts in Ireland in the fifth century B.C.
- "All Saints’ Day" started in the seventh century by Pope Donatus to replace the pagan festival of the dead.
- "All Saints’ Day (Nov. 1)" is a holy day of obligation in the Roman Catholic Church. It commemorates all the saints and martyrs known and unknown.
- "All Souls’ Day (Nov. 2)" was started by the Abbot of Cluny in A.D. 999.
- "All Saints’ Day and All Souls’ Day were not celebrated uniformly in Christendom until the 13th century.
- "All Saints’ Day and All Souls’ Day were adapted by many groups to set aside a special time to honor the dead and usually signified the end of the year.
- "The Romans celebrated All Souls Day from Oct. 31. The Buddhists honored April 15, the day Gautama Buddha died. The Japanese celebrated with the Feast of Lanterns.

SOURCE: John C. Messenger, Jr., professor emeritus of anthropology.
Fraternity raises money for children

By Tanea Lewandowski
Lantern staff writer

Bet you didn't know that Ohio State hosted the third largest college party last year.

The 1992 Reggae Fest, sponsored by the Kappa Sigma fraternity, attracted a crowd of 6,500 students last spring and was rated the third largest campus party, according to Playboy Magazine, said Reggae Fest coordinator Anthony Nicolaides, an OSU sophomore majoring in communications.

Behind all of the jams and brew there was actually a purpose. The $7,000 proceeds gained from the concert was presented to the Hannah Neil Center for Children, Thursday afternoon, by Nicolaides and Adam Spiess, a senior, majoring in economics and the representative for Reggae Fest.

The center provides guidance and counseling to children who have emotional and behavioral problems, said Patricia J. Gibboney, the center's director of development and community relations.

Workers at the center are proud of never turning away needy families who cannot afford to pay for help, said Gibboney. She went on to explain, it's because of private donations, such as the proceeds from Reggae Fest, that the center is able to exist.

"Many of the kids here come from homes where they're uncertain if anyone cares, and it's nice for them to see that people do care about them," said Robert Marx, director of the center.

The center has programs tackling such challenges as alcoholism and drug abuse, sexual abuse and family communication. It is a non-profit organization and relies heavily on outside donations, Marx said.

This isn't the first time Kappa Sigma has done something for the children at Hannah Neil. Before Christmas, they raised $2,000 in private donations and paid for a Christmas party for the kids, complete with Santa and presents, Nicolaides said.

"It's more than a good time for the kids," Marx said. "It makes them feel as if someone really cares and it's part of their treatment."
Heave!!

Members of the Kappa Sigma fraternity practice the tug-of-war, one of the events to take place during Greek Week next week.
SILVER LINING

Last spring, there were some complaints about a fraternity party that drew almost 9,000 student revelers to the Kappa Sigma Reggae Fest on the frat house lawn at OSU.

Here's the upside.

Last week, the Kap Sigs turned over a check for $14,000 to the Hanna Neil Center for Children and a bonus check for $3,258 for the Michael Curran Memorial Foundation for disadvantaged children.
Kappa Sigma’s Reggae Fest raises $10,000 for needy kids

By Tiffany C. Miller
Latern staff writer

The OSU chapter of Kappa Sigma fraternity has given $10,000 to the Hannah Neil Center for Children, which provides mental health services to families.

The donation came from money raised at the fraternity’s Reggae Festival in May and will be used to help fund treatment services for families with children experiencing behavioral and emotional problems.

“This is our way of giving something back to the community,” said Kappa Sigma member Dan Clifford. “Some of these kids’ stories are really unfortunate.”

Clifford said the fraternity has given profits from the festival to the Hannah Neil Center, 301 Obetz Road, for the past eight years.

The donations have ranged from $10,000 to $14,000, depending on the festival’s success each year.

“I usually wait until the holidays to give the money because we want to help give the kids a nice Christmas,” Clifford said.

Clifford said festival profits are donated to the Hannah Neil Center because of the fraternity’s historical link to it. Hannah Neil’s father was a plantation owner who lived in what is now the Kappa Sigma house. The center was founded in 1858. The center’s programs include foster-care, home-based therapy and community education services.

The center provides services under contract with Franklin County Children’s Services and emphasizes treatment of the entire family — not just children experiencing problems.

“This crisis the child is experiencing is part of a larger symptom,” said center representative Pat Gibboney. “We will identify the crisis and then look towards the family to help them rebuild their lives by concentrating on their strengths.”

Gibboney said the Kappa Sigma donation has become a major part of the private donations the center accepts each year. It operates on a $5.5 million annual budget with private support of about $600,000 a year.

“We are thrilled to get this support. We know that a lot of work and effort goes into it, and it makes members of Kappa Sigma feel good that they are giving something to the community,” Gibboney said.
Greek play Santa Clause for kids

By Karen Adler
Lantern staff writer

About 24 children from the Hannah Neil Center for Children will get to have a Christmas this year thanks to the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority and the Kappa Sigma fraternity.

Most of the children that come to the center, 301 Obetz Rd., are from single-parent homes in some sort of crisis said Jim Hoverman, senior educator at the center.

The two greek houses have raised about $1,200 through fund raisers and donations to hold a Christmas program for the children Friday at the Kappa Sigma house, said Aaron Lilly, Kappa Sigma philanthropy chairperson.

The children, ages seven to 13, will play games, decorate t-shirts, eat pizza, open presents and receive a visit from Santa Claus, said Amy French, Theta philanthropy chairperson.

"These kids have a troubled life and don’t really have a Christmas," Lilly said. "This is a great way to give them a Christmastree and presents."

Lilly said the greek houses will purchase gifts for the children that they specifically asked for.

Five staff members from the center will be at the program to give assistance if any behavioral problems arise, Hoverman said.

"It’s unbelievable how much energy is in the room at one time, and it’s just amazing watching their eyes light up when they get presents that they asked for," said senior Amira Aljabouni, who has previously participated in the Christmas program.

The program will help the kids to come out and interact with people,

—Jim Hoverman

For the past eight years, Kappa Sigma has been donating money raised from its annual Reggae Fest to the center. But the Christmas program is separate from their springtime philanthropy, Lilly said.

The center started as a residential treatment center for orphaned children in the 1860s, but changed two-and-a-half years ago to care for children with short-term crises, Hoverman said.

About 85 percent of the children stay at the center for thirty days before being placed in foster care or back in their homes, Hoverman said.

All children are stabilized before they are released, and all of the children attending the Christmas program will be stabilized, Hoverman said.

The Christmas program is a learning experience for the children as well, Hoverman said.

"The program will help the kids to come out and interact with people," Hoverman said. "It normalizes them back into the community in a structured way so that they can work on their social skills."

For the program, older children were paired up with younger children earlier this week so that the older child could help the younger child feel more comfortable, Hoverman said.

Aljabouni said she was paired with two children from the center last year.

"One of the children was very hesitant and shy and it was amazing to watch the other one try to get her excited," she said.

All money left over from the program will be donated to the Hannah Neil Center, Lilly added.
Fraternities ask Student Affairs to reopen cases

By Sandy Nelson
Lantern staff writer

Theta Tau fraternity has filed a formal request asking OSU's vice president for student affairs to review its Student Judicial Affairs case file, according to fraternity officials.

Kappa Sigma fraternity will also submit a written request later this week to have its case file reviewed, said Nick Picolo, president of Kappa Sigma.

Both fraternities say they want the university to reopen their cases because of similarities to a case involving the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity in which a conviction was overturned because of procedural violations. Charges against the fraternity were later dropped.

"The parallels between the Theta Tau and Tau Kappa Epsilon cases are frightening," said Michael Abraham, assistant executive director of Theta Tau National, in a May 9 letter to Vice President for Student Affairs David Williams II.

"In both instances, the fraternities were punished when individuals held primary responsibility for the actions," Abraham said in the letter.

Elizabeth Allan, a graduate student, was the case manager in all three cases. Allan has denied allegations stemming from her handling of the TKE case. On Tuesday, Allan also denied allegations involving her conduct on the Theta Tau case.

Williams said he has appointed a committee that will review all cases that have gone before the Judiciary Panel in the past two years.

The committee will look for inconsistencies in procedures and sanctions used by Judicial Affairs, Williams said.

Williams said they will reopen cases if they find discrepancies.

Abraham said his office became very concerned after the fraternity told him about the recent decision in the TKE case.

"In both cases, Ms. Allan sought to keep the parties separated so they might not reach a resolution on their own," Abraham said. "In both cases, Ms. Allan manipulated the judicial process to predetermine the outcome."

Allan, in a response to the Lantern, said "I did not manipulate the judicial process to predetermine the outcome of the hearing."

Abraham also said Allan was "less than forthcoming" in his conversations with her about the fraternity's case.

Abraham also complained that Judicial Affairs failed to notify the fraternity's national office in March 1994 when it was put under sanctions.

The Judiciary panel found Theta Tau, a professional engineering fraternity, guilty of violating the sexual harassment policy in November of 1993, according to the public review file on the case.

As punishment, the panel ruled the fraternity had to be monitored for two years. If any problems occurred, the fraternity could be kicked off campus.

Theta Tau also was found guilty of violating a section of the student code which prohibits inflicting "Bodily or Emotional Harm," according to the file.

These charges were filed against the fraternity after a member of the Pi Beta Phi sorority at Washington and Lee University received an obscene birthday card at her home in Virginia.

The card was signed by some members of Theta Tau fraternity at Ohio State, according to the file.

Laura Purcell, the card's recipient, said it included sexually explicit messages that frightened her. She said she contacted OSU's Office of Judicial Affairs to file a complaint.

Purcell said she did not testify at the panel hearing and she did not testify over the phone before the panel.

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In the absence of her testimony, the panel ruled Theta Tau guilty of both charges, based on a copy of the card and a written statement taken by Allan over the phone, according to the file.

According to the Student Code of Conduct, written statements signed by the witness can be admitted only if there is a good reason the witness cannot attend the hearing. There is no provision for allowing statements made by witnesses to Judicial Affairs case workers to be read into the record.
By Erica DeGennaro
Lantern staff writer

As Jamaican sounds filled the air, about 7,000 people packed the Kappa Sigma fraternity lawn Saturday for the 11th annual Kappa Sigma Reggae Fest.

"We made some changes this year," said Jack Chaney, philanthropy chairman for Kappa Sigma. "The stage is 10 times better. We moved the stage from the top of the hill to the bottom, creating a natural amphitheater effect."

The Itals, a band from Jamaica, headlined the show in front of the Kappa Sigma house located at 1842 Indianola Ave. The band has produced at least 10 records and have a couple of albums that have reached number one on the reggae charts, Chaney said. Ark opened the show at 6 p.m. and was followed by First Light.

"The Itals were amazing," said Josh Klein, a junior majoring in history. "They are a very tight band, rhythmically speaking."

The annual spring show has achieved high rankings, Chaney said.

"Playboy rated Reggae Fest the second best party in the country," Chaney said.

All profits from the show go to the Hannah Neil Children's Foundation, a charity organization for homeless and abused children. In the past seven years, Kappa Sigma has donated between $7,000 to $15,000 every year, he said.

The center's program includes foster care, home-based therapy and community education services.

"It is a very reputable organization," Chaney said. "It is very rewarding because you see where all of your work is going towards."

Reggae Fest reaches more than just Greek students, said Tracy Caldwell, a sophomore majoring in communications.

"I think it is more geared towards everyone," Caldwell said.

Kappa Sigma hired 40 security personnel, as well as 12 off-duty Columbus police officers, two of which are sergeants, to help control the crowd.

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Groovin' to the beat

Some of the 7,000 estimated party-goers fill the Kappa Sigma fraternity's front yard during the 11th annual Reggae Fest Saturday. See related story on page 3.
3 frats lose charter, face uncertain future

By Gale Delco
Lantern staff writer

The national headquarters of Kappa Sigma, Phi Kappa Sigma and Sigma Phi Epsilon have all decided to revoke charters and take time out to restructure their chapters at Ohio State.

Kappa Sigma, located at 1842 Indiana Avenue, was the first to close its doors March 26 for failing to comply with fraternity policies.

"We worked out a deal with the university to return and renege in two years with a new group of students that will be recruited by our general fraternity representatives," said Mitchell Wilson, executive director of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

According to Wilson, other reasons leading to Kappa Sigma's closure were far more serious.

"They participated in activities that we felt were inappropriate," he said. "They violated the hazing policy and Kappa Sigma does not tolerate hazing in any form or fashion."

Wilson also said there are values each chapter is to support that were not met. These included fellowship, leadership, scholarship and service.

"I think that Ohio State and the fraternity that have made the decision to close these chapters are being responsible in ensuring that abuse of any form, regardless of alcohol, hazing or whatever, is not going to be tolerated," he said.

Two months later Phi Kappa Sigma, located at 224 East 10th Avenue, lost its membership to the university and its national charter was revoked in May primarily for low membership as well as financial and housing issues.

According to John Wojman, president of the Interfraternity Council, Phi Kappa Sigma's membership to OSU was revoked because of non-payment of dues to the council.

"They made no attempt to get back in good standing with the IFC," Wojman said.

In addition to cheating on fee obligations, the chapters overall recruitment rate has dwindled.

"Their membership has been down over the last few years and we did some training on how to attract new members," said Robert Miller, executive vice president of Phi Kappa Sigma International. "Once a chapter gets down, it's kind of hard to come back."

The most recent closing, the Ohio Gamma chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon, located at 1943 Waldeck Avenue, shut down June 15 for failing to implement the national headquarters' traditional "balanced man" value system.

"Chapter members work to build a sound mind and sound body which includes no pledging; it's a continuous membership development program," said Paul Ashley, director of volunteers and chapter development for Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Ashley also said the fraternity will remodel and expand recruitment strategies beginning winter quarter 2001.

"We will have two full-time professional staff members on campus," he said. "We will create an environment, both within the chapter and physical facility, where it is easy for men to be successful and difficult for them to do poorly."

After being plagued with so many closings in one quarter Wojman said, "it means that fraternities need to more aware of following the principles set forth by their fraternity and their chapters as well as the Interfraternity Council."
EUPHONIOUS Indianola! We have an area, an avenue and two schools bearing the name. This house, also called Indianola, was built 114 years ago atop an ancient Indian mound. It still stands there, altered beyond all recognition, at 1842 Indianola Avenue.

I had been inclined to believe the name was unique, that the builder had coined it by combining Indian and knoll. Then I checked an atlas and found towns called Indianola in Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Utah. And I read somewhere that the Indians themselves used the name. No matter; it’s a beautiful name. And the house was and is a beautiful house.

Its story starts with William Neil, the Stagecoach King. In 1818, as a youth, he came to Columbus and established a stagecoach line to Granville. He soon added lines to Sandusky, Ohio; Wheeling, Virginia and Buffalo, New York; and eventually to other terminals. In the meantime he bought the picturesque Vance Farm that later became the Ohio State University campus.

Neil continued to buy land in present Columbus until he owned between three and four thousand acres—more than any other individual. At one time he owned practically all the land west of High Street from Goodale to Lane. East of High he owned the site of the State Fairgrounds and some hundreds of acres that included the site of this home.

William Neil’s home stood where OSU’s library now stands and Neil Avenue was his private lane. In 1856 (or 1858) he built this house for his eldest son, Robert. Its days of special splendor began when the original Neil home burned in 1863. Then Indianola became the center of Neil family social life and sheltered an astonishing variety of famous and prominent guests, including a Bonaparte of France. One Neil daughter married an Ohio governor-to-be, William Dennison. That fact, apparently, was the basis for some published misinformation: “Indianola was the Governor’s Mansion during Governor Neil’s term.” No Neil was ever governor, but Dennison and his wife may have lived there for a time.

By 1872 the house was owned by Maj. Henry Neil, William’s youngest son. An 1856 Harvard graduate, he was the first Ohioan to enlist in the Civil War. He rose from private to major, fought in many battles and was four times wounded. His most severe wounds were incurred at the Battle of Iuka which may account for our street of that name in his subdivision.

The original house has been called a Swiss chalet. More likely it was influenced by Sir Charles Eastlake, a passionate devotee of great brackets, balconies, oriel windows and such. It is claimed as a station on the Underground Railroad and is said to have a secret tunnel and hidden rooms.

More next week: How it became a fraternity house by curious coincidence and how it looks today.