



ORDER OF THE S.C.
Celebrating a Century

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

2019 – 2020 Biennium



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REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Brothers,

As you have seen or will be seeing there are a number of reports regarding the SC that are coming forth. With regard to a President's report, I see no need to repeat or try to out-do Chic's, so Ditto what he said :)

There are a couple of items to consider. The first is the issue as to what constitutes verified attendance at the GAC. I asked Brothers Greg Knapp, Shannon Price and Lee Reid for their advice. To be considered, does signing the registration book count as proof or does someone who pays registration but not sign the book count? What if someone comes in and signs the book but never registered or paid the fees?

The committee reviewed and determined that in order to be considered as verified attendance at the GAC and have it count to receiving a star the member must pay full registration fees, be current with his dues and be able to prove he was in attendance (i.e., sign book, record of roll, etc).

The committee moves this for consideration at our next business meeting. Please let your thoughts be heard.

The second item for consideration is for the SC to consider taking on the duties and function of the burial ritual for all Brothers who so wish to have this performed. A committee to work out the details is to be formed and to report to the membership at the next business meeting. Details would include a budget (travel, lodging, etc), establish regions to be covered by individuals, etc. I have discussed this with both Ron Ransom and SWGP David Moyer and they liked the concept. I have asked David to run it by the EC for feedback. Considering the EC is in favor then the committee (John Cicarelli, Dan Schwitzgable and David McDonald) will move for consideration at the next business meeting. Again, please let your thoughts be known.

Finally, we are considering having the SC banquet at Laurel Hall (HQ) in 2022. However, we need a head count to see how many might be attending so we can see if the



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numbers will fit. Therefore, if you think you might be attending, let Ron know now (OK soon). I'll go first. Ron please plan on Jackie and myself attending.

Thank you, Brothers. Again, let your thoughts be known. We will resend these proposals before the GAC as reminders but don't wait to get your say in.

ITB,

Steve O'Rourke
Missouri Alpha



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REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

Dear Brothers of the Order of The S.C.,

"Vivemus et Vigemus ' "We Live and We Flourish" in Phi Kappa Psi of this the beginning of our Second Century as members of the Order of The S.C.

The nationwide pandemic now nearing its first anniversary has had a major effect on every aspect of daily societal life and has greatly challenged our Host College Institutions, undergraduate Chapters and Alumni Associations. In these present-day realities.... we are reminded of the original founding of the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity and of its inherent mission in the "Great Joy of Serving Others".

The Order of S.C. represents the true loyal spirit of fraternal comradeship by which as both individuals and collectively we pledge ourselves to represent the highest ideals of our Brotherhood and to emulate as lifelong Phi Psi S.C. role models.

I am happy to share along with our S.C. Officers that the Order of S.C. has made great progress over recent Biennium's in improved communications, S.C. Roster accurate data base and in the creation of strong SC Financial Reserves overseen and also administered by our appointed S.C. Finance Steering Committee designed to improve transparency. We wish to express our appreciation to the Executive Council of Phi Kappa Psi. our Executive Director Ron Ransom, and the Phi Kappa Psi Charitable Foundation in provided resource assistance.

We especially wish to thank each of you as members of The S.C. Brother Roster who continue to assist local Chapters and Alumni Associations and by doing so bring honor and purpose to the Order of The S.C.

The activities of the S.C Centenary Observance Commission will be highlighted in a separate Co-Chairmen Report of which we look to our future phase Observance leading up to the 2022 Grand Arch Council in Indianapolis, Indiana.

I am pleased to share that The Order of The S.C. will be exploring ways to be the "Keeper of The Flame" within Phi Kappa Psi in terms of the protection and maintenance



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of Phi Psi Historical grave sites, Buildings and Phi Psi Memorial Fountain, George Washington MT Vernon estate Phi Kappa Psi American Elm Tree.

We together are proud to be a valuable catalyst in the support of Nationwide Founders Day Observances. April National Day of Service, September 17th Phi Kappa Psi Constitution Day and in the active attendance of District Councils, Leadership Conclaves and the Grand Arch Council.

It is a pleasure to work alongside S.C. President Steven O'Rourke and Secretary / Treasurer Dan Schwitzgable as we all look to the bright future of the Order of S.C. along with each of you to promote its highest ideals throughout the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity.

In S.C fellowship

Fraternally,

Chic...



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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY/TREASURER

Dear Brothers of the Order of the S.C.,

I am pleased to present the report of the Secretary/Treasurer of The Order of The S.C for the 2019-2020 biennium.

As Your Secretary

In 2018 users of Yahoo! were notified of upcoming changes to their Yahoo! Groups feature. All documents we had placed there for storage and member access needed to be removed. This was immediately done and they are being safely stored but no determination has been made for the replacement of the feature that made them available for viewing by you, our members.

The need for a method of email communication had been determined due to the major costs and time required for hardcopy mailing to everyone, so the orderofthesc@gmail.com account was created, enabling the officers to broadcast emails to the full membership when needed. For the few members without emails, the intent is to snail mail same communication.

I undertook an audit and review of all SC member roster information as part of the biennial requirement following each GAC, producing the information contained in the SC Directory. We are indebted to several members who provided the hardcopy that was distributed to everyone in 2019. The costs for printing and mailing have become prohibitive along with the labor of producing and assembling it. Future editions will be provided as an electronic file, as was sent out last fall, in the same style as previous editions. My hope is that in the future to provide you with interim updates during the biennium as enough changes are received.

I have established a series of information to be provided to brothers on the Prospect, Rush and Pledge Lists (following 4, 5 and 6 GAC's respectively). These will enable new members to be more fully prepared with the obligations, knowledge and responsibility as a member of The Order.



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I have continued to maintain a database of all members. While much of the same information is contained in the headquarters database system, your other officers and I feel it is important for us, as an independent organization within Phi Psi, to keep our own records, where practical. I have been working with HQ staff on improving the capabilities of their system to eventually, perhaps, eliminate the need for our own database.

As Your Treasurer

I undertook a review of SC expenses and income for the 2018 GAC. The results were broadcast to the membership in an email May 3, 2019.

In preparation for future GAC expenses and charges by The Order, the allocation of expense items was reviewed and subsequently submitted to the SC Finance Steering Committee. Following their review, the following were approved:

1. The New Member Fee will include the actual current cost of the Badge from the jeweler with 6 past GAC stars attached to the ribbon. As long as the costs for the engraved nameplate with holder do not exceed the \$15.00 add-on required by the by-laws, they are also included.
2. The meal charge will include the actual cost of the meal, taxes, gratuity and service charge, the cost of the current year's star, carnation and pro-rated bar and flower costs. All rounded to the nearest dollar.
3. The Ladies' meal charges to be approximately \$15.00 less than the actual meal cost, taxes, gratuity and service charge rounded to the nearest \$5.00 increment. The treasury of The Order will subsidize the undercharge.
4. New member badges will not be ordered until the candidate has registered for his 7th GAC and has paid for both his New Member Fee and SC Dinner.
5. The number of stars ordered is to be based on the anticipated number of members and pledges attending plus 10% to be kept as replacements.
6. Members registering for the GAC but not paying for the SC Dinner will have to purchase their star from the GAC registration desk sometime following the SC Dinner at the current cost of the star rounded up to the nearest whole dollar.

In working with Ron Ransom, the Fraternity set up a separate money market bank



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account in the name of The Order of The SC. The initial deposit of almost \$10,000.00 came from previous biennium dues payments and net gain from the 2018 GAC. The SC Finance Steering Committee addressed more on this in its report.

Following the directive passed by The Order in 2018, members were invoiced in April for their 2019 dues with a follow-up reminder a few months later. The request by members to be able to pay electronically was put to the finance committee. Again, their report addresses this item.

The Centenary Celebration Committee inquired about the cost of providing a commemorative star in place of the cancelled 2020 Minneapolis GAC. Once the costs were established, the finance committee approved doing this at no additional cost to the members by taking it out of our treasury. One stipulation was that 2019-2020 dues must be paid by what would have been the date of the 2020 SC Dinner.

This resulted in a 77.5% full payment of the biennium's dues by 191 members, totaling \$9,425.00. As of December 31, 2020, we have \$16,545.80 in our bank account.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel R. Schwitzgable...
Ohio Iota '72
Secretary/Treasurer



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REPORT OF THE S.C. CENTENARY OBSERVANCE COMMITTEE

When word got out that the 2020 Grand Arch Council had been cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic, many of us could hardly believe things could get any worse. We would be deprived of our biennial conclave AND miss the Centenary Celebration of our beloved S.C. Both gatherings had been carefully planned to be in the same city and coincide with the day of the S.C.'s founding, now over 100 years ago.

Yet things would get much worse. The pandemic would bring illness and death to our members, their families and an unprepared world. It continues to cause loss of lives and economic and social disruption on a scale not seen outside of world war. Yet out of this tragedy comes heroic acts by first responders, ordinary citizens and many of our brethren who shouldered their responsibilities both in the 'real' world and as elected and appointed officers, chapter advisers, house corporation members, staff and rank and file donors and volunteers, keeping the Fraternity running at the local and national levels amidst many challenges. Such loyalty is our North Star that guides us especially in times of adversity. And we will gather to celebrate that indomitable spirit in Indianapolis in 2022.

The Centenary Observance Committee has encouraged engagement of our members to be active participants in Phi Psi daily life and to lead by good example. Our first initiative was increasing participation in last year's Founders Day celebrations and creating the theme, 'I Am Phi Psi,' as was chronicled in The Shield. The intention was to emphasize our life loyal commitment to our fraternity and to discourage the mindset among far too many that membership in Phi Kappa Psi culminates in one's college years.

Building on that theme, we were pleased on July 3, 2020 to have brothers sharing a 'Virtual Toast' from sea to shining sea. Through the miracle of digital technology, video conferences were held and photos were shared in real time around the country showing members marking the actual anniversary of the S.C. founding 100 years earlier at the 1920 Minneapolis 'Victory' GAC.



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Among the very special highlights of the S.C. Centenary Observance to date are the creation of a special logo for the Centenary Edition of the S.C. Directory and of course the arrival of the highly anticipated 'platinum' S.C. Star emblazoned with the number '100' in honor of our first century.

Our Committee takes pleasure in the fact that, thanks in part to Centenary awareness efforts, nearly three hundred S.C. Brothers boast current membership in the Order, having submitted their S.C. dues and making them eligible to receive the coveted '100' platinum star. A new record for the S.C. Many members also offered ideas which we have submitted to S.C. leadership, including gifting Ritual books to new chapters, more S.C. participation in installations and honoring the memory of the Fraternity's Founders through maintaining and decorating their graves when and as appropriate.

In the months leading up to the 2022 Grand Arch Council our committee will continue to announce its plans to commemorate our Centenary. Like the rest of the world, we have adapted to the challenges of the pandemic and we are rebranding our original theme for the 2022 S.C. Meeting and Dinner accordingly. Most of all we are looking forward to being with all our S.C. brothers in 2022.

In the meantime, we ask that our members do their part to ensure we all make it to our next meeting: Wash your hands; wear your masks; maintain social distance; and by all means get the vaccine.

In S.C. Fellowship we submit this report,

Steve Nieslawski *Illinois Delta '79* & John V. Ciccarella *California Theta '72*



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REPORT OF THE S.C. FINANCE STEERING COMMITTEE

Dear Brothers of The Order of The S.C.,

The 2018-2020 S.C. Finance Steering Committee began its work in March 2019. We started with the following items to consider:

1. A budget and how to allocate our income and expenses,
2. The proposal Brother Justin Steinhard made at the 2018 Business Meeting that we provide some sort of financial support to Phi Psis wishing to attend a GAC,
3. Options for allocating/spending our biennial dues income to be invoiced each April.

Item 1

Treasurer Schwitzgable provided a breakdown of SC expenses for the Las Vegas GAC as distributed to the general membership in a broadcast email on May 3, 2019. Although there was a slight shortage in New Member Fees charged, we are pleased that a brother who wished to remain anonymous donated \$208.00 to cover that shortfall.

In preparation for future GAC expenses, the committee reviewed the expense categories and agreed how to allocate them against the costs we charge members to join us and attend a GAC. We also set guidelines for the ordering of New Member Badges and ribbon Stars. Those recommendations are detailed in the Report of the Treasurer.

Item 2

In thinking about what might be done with our anticipated income we began with Brother Steinhard's idea to create an endowment using a portion of dues income and member contributions.

The proposal would allow those monies, held in trust, to promote GAC attendance, remembrances of those having passed into Chapter Eternal, for supplies and operating



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expenses outside of the GAC meeting and to print and distribute an annual mailing to the members and pledges of the Order.

Following months of discussion and revisions to the Proposal, its administration, uses and purposes, the committee voted not to present it to the full membership for consideration.

Item 3

There were no other ideas submitted to the Committee or its members on planned uses for our money. We did approve of memorial donations in our name to entities requested by the family of members who passed into Chapter Eternal. We are open to suggestions from members of The Order on uses for our funds. The Order ended the 2018-2020 biennium with \$18,277.08 in its treasury.

Other Business

In May of 2020, Treasurer Schwitzgable reported that the Fraternity had set up a bank account for all SC monies to separate them from those of the general Fraternity. The Committee expressed concerns to the leadership of Phi Psi about this being a rather one-sided relationship for the S.C. and its funds. It was eventually agreed to keep an arrangement in which the SC Treasurer is sent monthly bank statement copies and will also be notified and approve of any withdrawals from the account until the end of the 2020-2022 biennium.

Members of The Order have expressed a desire for the ability to pay dues for multiple years and via electronic means, rather than just by hardcopy check mailed to HQ. Ron Ransom reported that this would require collection of a service fee for each transaction made this way. He would have staff add a dues payment page accessible only by our members on which they can pay their dues and make additional gifts/payments (replacement stars) to The S.C.

(<https://www.phikappapsi.com/orderofthesc/>) The committee set an additional \$1.00 for each year of dues being paid in this manner to cover the service fee. No additional fee will be added for donations or payments made by this method.



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Finally, the committee approved \$2,375.00 to purchase and provide each member with a Commemorative Platinum Ribbon Star in place of the one to have been provided to those attending the 2020 GAC had it been held this past July. A stipulation was made that all 2019-2020 dues must be paid in full to be eligible to receive the star.

In conclusion I cannot thank the members of the SC Finance Steering Committee listed below enough for their service. They have worked diligently over the last biennium to help your treasurer bring some order financial picture. Again, thanks so much for your efforts.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel R. Schwitzgable...

Ohio Iota '72
Order of The S.C. Treasurer

Cc: 2019-2020 Order of The S.C. Finance Steering Committee

Bob Bird, West Virginia Alpha '72
John Burke, Ohio Lambda '72
Justin Steinhard, New York Theta '00
Keith Troutman, Pennsylvania Nu '70