

ZΣΛ Newsletter

Spring 2002 • Volume 2 Issue 2

54th Annual Western Regional Convention

From April 25th through April 28th, the men of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity gathered in San Jose, California at the Doubletree Hotel to participate in what was expected to be a phenomenal Western Regional Convention. The convention consisted of 226 of the Region's most able College and Alumni Brothers attending legislative sessions, luncheons, seminars, and social gatherings.

By the end of the convention, Brothers were leaving filled with reenergized spirits; from the daily morning fraternal breakfasts to the successful conclusion of Alpha business conducted at the business sessions to the wide spectrum of information available at its numerous seminars.



Bro. Ron Celestine, Western Regional VP (shown here with Bro. Payton Cook) and Eta Sigma Lambda, the host chapter, graciously welcomed the Brothers of Alpha to their city. All the meetings they conducted were well organized, full of very useful information, and there was no lack of interaction between the brothers.

On the first day, each district had their own Caucus where they discussed issues facing their particular region. The Southern District discussed the MLK Memorial Foundation, email distribution of information, Life Membership issues, and the need to document Chapter History.

On the second day, General President Bro. Harry E. Johnson (shown here with Bro.



Frank Robinson) gave the State of the Fraternity Address. He praised his National Office staff for being more responsive to the brotherhood, and coined the term 'We're not Playin' Alpha, We're Bein' Alphas'; referring to the success our organization enjoys for our participation in The March of Dimes and Big Brothers. He reiterated the new policy for Chapters that violate hazing policy by coining another phrase: 'One Call - That's All'.

On the last day, the Fourth Business Meeting featured the final reports from all regions. All district reports were accepted. Financial issues were discussed thoroughly.

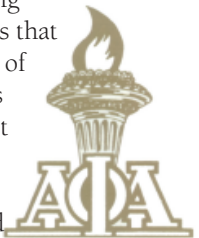
There were several luncheons and dinners where brotherhood was very evident. On Friday, the MLK Jr. Fraternal Luncheon gave brothers an opportunity to give a full report on the Memorial effort. Additionally, the

Black & Gold Pageant and Step Show were well attended. On Saturday, the Life Membership Breakfast, the College Brother's Luncheon, and the Black and Gold Ball were also enthusiastically attended.

Overall, the Convention was a very successful event. Brothers renewed old ties and made new ones. Many promises were made to keep in better contact with each other. Brothers left San Jose with a renewed sense of brotherhood in Alpha. **A Phi!**

President's Message

Frequently Brothers ask, "What do I get for my annual dues?" As its first response, the Executive Committee established a quarterly chapter newsletter that is distributed to all of you to foster greater communication. It features recent and upcoming Chapter events and activities that allow you to remain abreast of relevant news and programs supported by your dues. But best of all, it can be shared with Brothers who may be inactive and thus influenced.



to become active. Additionally, it can also be shared with others who may be interested in becoming a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. Brothers, enjoy your newsletter and share it with your family and friends.

Upcoming Events

Activity	Date and Time	Location
Next ZΣΛ Meetings	May 24, 2002 • June 28, 2002 • July 26, 2002	Neighborhood House
Executive Committee Meetings	May 8, 2002 • June 12, 2002 • July 10, 2002	Neighborhood House
Breakfast for MiLady (ΔΣΘ)	May 11, 2002 @ 8-11 AM	Doubletree Hotel, Mission Valley
CAEP Scholarship Breakfast	June 22, 2002 @ 8 AM	Doubletree Hotel, Mission Valley
Sweetheart Party	June. 30, 2002 @ 2-6 PM	TBA (POC Payton Cook)
Veterans Standown	July 20, 2002 @ 12 PM	Balboa Park, SD High School
National Economic Summit	Aug. 1-4, 2002	Bally's, Las Vegas, NV
SD Nat. Pan Hellenic Council Picnic	Sept. 28, 2002 @ 11 AM - 4 PM	Crown Point, Mission Bay

Alpha History

The *Sphinx* was established at the 6th Annual Convention at Howard U. in December, 1913. It was first published in February, 1914. The first editor was Bro. Raymond W. Cannon, then Vice-President of the Fraternity.



CAEP Scholarship Luncheon

The CAEP Scholarship Luncheon held on March 14th at the Christ United Presbyterian Church was a complete success.

Alan Bersin, Superintendent of the San Diego City School District spoke of his experiences growing up in New York and also spoke about some of the issues facing the current school system. The students also posed some very good questions for him.

The CAEP program awarded ten \$50 savings bonds to these students for having the highest GPA in their grades:



Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
Zeta Sigma Lambda Chapter
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Lincoln

Adrian Gray 3.60 Gregory Nelson 3.60
Tramel Norman 3.60 Asim Hicks 3.40
Jason Sharpe 4.17

Morse

Anthony Collins 3.67 Phillip Amerson 3.83
Brian Lawless 3.83 Marcus Vaughn 3.67
Julian Thomas 4.33

The CAEP committee would like to thank all the brothers that could attend.



Alpha Center

Bros. Charles, Long, McCord, and Moore have purchased property for Zeta Sigma Lambda Chapter in order to secure an Alpha Center facility in San Diego.

Escrow has closed on a piece of property 100ft by 150ft adjacent to the old Safety night-club on Imperial Avenue in Southeast San Diego. This property can be the basis for building an Alpha Center that can serve multiple roles both for San Diego Alpha brothers and the San Diego community as a whole.

Bro. Charles has outlined a financial plan so that as many brothers as possible can participate. He will be contacting you all shortly with the details of this plan which he discussed at several General Meetings. It is very important you participate. It's your house!



Southern California District Meeting

The Southern California District Meeting of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. was held in Santa Ana, California on Saturday, March 2nd, 2002. Attendees from Zeta Sigma Lambda were Brothers Moore, Long, Marbray, McCord, Sadler, Russell, and Cook.

Zeta Sigma Lambda members reported on Education (Cook); Life Membership (Moore); Membership, Standards, and Extension (Long); and the Zeta Sigma Lambda Chapter report (Marbray/McCord).

Regional Vice President Brother Ron Celestine reported that with 58 chapters in the Western Region, only 12 are in good standing. Chapters not in good standing are due to minor issues like not having a list of

officers on file. Good standing chapters means all fees paid, a chapter directory on file, and at least seven (7) members.

Brother Celestine noted we need to have about 200 attendees at the Western Regional Convention in San Jose on April 25 through 28. The Districts have been requested to have their "fair-share" of attendees appear in order to make the convention a success. The number of Brothers attending for Southern California is 78 brothers with 118 bookings for hotel room nights. This convention will include much needed training. Other issues discussed included:

- Alpha Head Start can provide \$10,000 to chapters to cover the expense of the federally-funded program.

- An Economic Summit is scheduled for August 1st through the 4th, 2002 at Bally's in Las Vegas. Featured is an alumni step show and an award for the chapter with the highest percentage of brothers attending.
- Other Regions have assessments of some kind to provide funding for the region and the Western Region does not. Moreover, the region needs to clear the long time indebtedness of some chapters. Accurate financial records with open books are needed.



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