

The Edgecliff News

Cornell University Chapter of Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity

Volume 3

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No. 1

Chapter Honors Alfred Saperston '19, Cornell, Civic Leader for Many Years

In 1958, for the first time in Cornell's history, the Cornell Fund raised more than one million dollars in unrestricted giving. This was done largely through the efforts of the Fund's National Chairman, Alfred Saperston '19, of Buffalo.

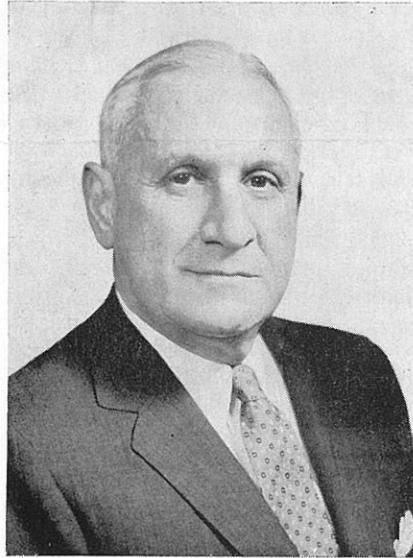
Al is a corporation attorney and a senior partner in the law firm of Saperston, McNaughtan & Saperston. Among his partners are two Cornell ZBT, his brother, Howard '21, and Richard H. Wile '26. Five other partners in the firm are also Cornellians and Al's son, Lee '53, is associated with the firm.

While an undergraduate, Al was an ardent competitor as a member of the track, cross-country and soccer teams. He was a member of the Cornell Era Board, the University monthly literary publication in those days; on the varsity debating team for three years and captain his senior year, on the '94 Debate Stage, and a member of Delta Sigma Rho, National Honorary Debating Society.

After a hitch in the Marine Corps, Al returned to Cornell and was graduated in September, 1919, with an LLB degree. He was admitted to the New York State Bar in January, 1920 and entered the employ of his present law firm, becoming a partner in 1923.

In 1924, he married the former Josephine Lee of Memphis, Tenn. In addition to their son, Lee, they have a daughter Frances Jane, who is married to Lee P. Klingenstein and resides in Scarsdale.

Al is a director of many business corporations, and has been active in many civic and philanthropic organizations. He is a member of the Board of Trustees and immediate past president of the United Jewish Federation of Buffalo; director and past president of the Children's Aid Society; a member



of the Board of Directors of the Buffalo and Erie County Community Chest; a member of the Executive Committee of the Buffalo Chapter of the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

He was recently appointed by New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller as a delegate to the 1960 White House Conference on Child Care.

Besides being National Chairman of the Cornell Fund, Al is active in other Cornell activities. Among these are a third term as a director of the Cornell Alumni Association; immediate past president of the Cornell University Law Association; former president of the Federation of Cornell Clubs of the United States, and president of the Cornell Club of Buffalo.

It is with great pleasure that The Edgecliff News salutes Brother Al Saperston, civic leader, and prominent Zeta Beta Tau.

Board of Directors Designates Chairman; Approves New Dues

As noted in the last issue of The Edgecliff News, the annual meeting of the Board of Directors of Kappa Foundation Inc., resulted in a new slate of officers and the creation of a new position on the Kappa officers slate.

Article II, Section 8, as amended, reads: "If and when the Board of Directors deems it is in the best interest of the Corporation, it shall have the right to designate from its members a Chairman of the Board whose duties shall be those that are designated to him from time to time by the Board."

Gene Kaufman '27, retiring president, was elected to the newly established position, Chairman of the Board, and received a whole-hearted vote of thanks from the attending directors for "his years of devoted and unselfish service to the corporation and their hope that they may continue to rely upon his invaluable guidance and ability in the future."

The newly elected president, Dick Graham '37, (The Edgecliff News, Vol. 2, No. 2) thanked the Board for their confidence in him and spoke glowingly of Kappa Chapter and its reputation both at Cornell and as a member of the National Fraternity.

Among the many topics discussed, was the approval by the Board that the annual membership dues be raised to \$6 for general membership; \$10 for sustaining membership and \$2 for new alumni for three years after graduation.

It was also noted by Dick Graham '37 that the last Parent's Weekend was a tremendous success and that the scholarship awards, made possible through alumni support of the Kappa Foundation, were very well received.

THE EDGECLIFF NEWS

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Brickman '61 Elected; Four Vacancies Filled

Paul M. Brickman '61, Warrensville, Ohio, was elected vice president of the undergraduate chapter recently to fill one of four vacancies in the officer's ranks. Paul had been serving as social chairman until his election.

Replacing him as social chairman is Nelson Gordman '62, Omaha, Nebraska. Michael Abrams '62, New York City, is the new representative to IFC and Thomas Rothschild '62, Glencoe, Illinois, was elected Historian. Tom is responsible for publishing The Edgecliff News and the Kappa Chronicle, which appears each February.

President Tells of Florida Convention; Expresses Confidence

The beginning of another school year finds the house at One Edgecliff in excellent shape. Henry Van Horn has taken care of the usual summer improvements, and the pledge class is putting in its final work sessions prior to initiation.

Before the first snow falls, we hope to have the grounds taken care of and especially to have the new land cleared. This is the Northwest section which Kappa purchased last year. It is known affectionately as the "North Forty".

As I enter the final months of my administration, I can see no difficult problems. Thanks to a fine executive committee, the house is in excellent condition physically and financially, and the morale is tops.

At this time I would like to publicly express my gratitude to Chuck Gessner, our past vice president, who transferred to the University of Michigan before the completion of his term. I'm sure all of the brothers of Kappa join me in wishing him the best of luck at his new school.

Chuck's successor, Paul Brickman, is also doing a superb job in his new capacity. He served a term as social chairman prior to his election.

It was my good fortune to attend the 61st annual convention at Miami Beach last summer. Let me assure the brothers that a hectic but good time was had by your representatives. I am afraid our delegation walked off empty handed from the awards banquet. I am also afraid that this is becoming somewhat of a tradition around national. For a more detailed report on the convention, consult the pages of the next quarterly.

Finally let me add that we have been very pleased on the past few weekends to see so many "old" friendly faces around the house. Since this is your house, I wish that more of you would stop at One Edgecliff and say hello.

Holiday Services Held; Passover Seder Planned

Services for the New Year and the Day of Attonment were conducted at Kappa this fall for the first time in recent years.

Approximately thirty members participated in Rosh Hashona evening and morning services conducted by Richard Fine '62 and David Rider '62. The excellent response in this initial effort prompted the house to hold Yom Kippur services on Sunday evening. Again the dining room was converted to a sanctuary and the attonment services were read.

Original opening and closing prayers were given by Richard Fine, Paul J. Mode '60, and David Friedman '60. David Wechsler '60, assisted in the reading of the text and President Richard Schwartz '60, gave the Rosh Hashona sermons. Donald Spero '62, did the same for Yom Kippur.

Through the combined efforts of the above mentioned brothers, prayer books were obtained from nearby congregations and an "Oneg Shabbat" was offered on the Friday evening following the opening Rosh Hashona service.

Interest in a Passover Seder with readings from the Hagadan has already been expressed and Steward David Wechsler has indicated his willingness to arrange the preparation of the traditional meal.

Mitchell S. Meyers '56, is with the Sydney-Thomas Corp., Cincinnati, Ohio. Married to the former Jacqueline Rene Pickard, Cornell Sigma Delta Tau, they are residing at 1127 Cleveland Ave., Park Hills, Covington, Ky.

A physician at the United States Air Force Hospital, Elgin AFB, Fla., is Richard J. Helfman '52. Dick and his wife, Susan, Illinois Alpha Epsilon Phi, have a son, Stephen, 2.

Social Season Opens With Homecoming

Saturday night, October 17, officially started the social season at Kappa as alumni returned to celebrate Homecoming '59. Among those returning alumni were Kelly Marx '55, Joel Sondak '54; Gerald Braverman '55, Emanuel Gold '57, Thomas Litwin '55, Henry Wile '26, and Robert Eskin '54.

Following the Yale-Cornell game, a cocktail party was held at the house which served to lift spirits dampened by the weather and the game. Dinner, by John Brown followed the cocktail party, and finally a party with SAE ended a terrific night for all.

Looking to the future, many fine social events are in the offing and Fall Weekend chairman, Larry Aaron '62 is in the process of planning for that campus-wide event. The usual exchange dinners are planned and the freshman tea party will fill the remaining fall social bill.

'Tony Lee' Seibert New Recording Star

Taking the country by slow storm from the Southland is one of the brothers from Kappa, Anthony L. Seibert '61, from Atlanta, Ga.

"SO SHY"—(Mercury #71511) TONY LEE sings a sad ballad with feeling and warmth, over a good rock and roll beat. He handles it with style . . ."

The above is an excerpt from Billboard (The national amusement and entertainment trade magazine), reviewing the first recording release of Tony Lee (Anthony L. Seibert). Tony has been engaged in semi-professional and professional entertainment for a number of years, and Mercury recording company has high expectations for his future success.

Incidentally, if any Kappa alumnus has 'contacts' in a related field, Tony says he "can surely use all the help he can muster!"

Kappas Ready to Rush; New Ruling in Effect

The Interfraternity Council, with the approval of the Student Government, recently made a significant change in deferred rushing. Many felt that freshmen were isolated from Cornell life during the first term because strict moratorium rules prevented any conversation between freshmen and fraternity men. The original reasoning behind such a rule was that freshmen should not enter rushing with preconceived notions regarding fraternities. However, rumors still prevailed the campus as to which was the best fraternity and this clause served only to cut off freshmen from campus life.

The ruling now states that normal conversations are allowed on campus provided no fraternities are talked of, or about, and no rushing is done. The Interfraternity Council is confident that no fraternity will take advantage of the ruling for "dirty rushing."

At present, members of Kappa are preparing for another successful rushing period and many rushing recommendations have already been sent in from our alumni. To assure another fine pledge class, as in past years, we hope to receive more recommendations from alumni regarding promising prospective Cornell freshmen.



Tony Lee

An address list is extremely perishable. Each day it changes and deteriorates. Each year our editors are faced with the problem of keeping your alumni records up-to-date, and this is a large and difficult task. Help us help you stay abreast of chapter and alumni activities by putting us on your list of people to notify when you change your address. If we don't have your address, you can't get the mail.

The best way to notify us of your current address is by filling in the blue "Our Own Who's Who" form which is enclosed with your copy of *The Edgecliff News*. This blue form not only gives us your current address, both business and residential, but it gives us complete historical and biographical record on each alumnus for our permanent file. The purpose of this form is not to seek successful or active alumni for features, but to compile our alumni records completely and systematically. Simply mail the completed form to the editor, *The Edgecliff News*, 102 West State Street, Ithaca, New York.

(The following articles appeared in the September, 1938 issue of *The Edgecliff News*)

Extremely fortunate last spring was Norman Levitt '39 in selling his antiquated "Eohippus" (nee, Model A Ford), to Jay Seley '40 and Syl Cole '39. For recently comes word that a plan is afoot under the sponsorship of the city fathers to rid the streets of this public eye-sore. Leading the opposition to this movement are the automobile parts dealers, who have enjoyed a thriving business at the expense of brothers Seley and Cole.

Officially and auspiciously adopted by the chapter this fall will be "Coke", a female Great Dane puppie. The pup (which word in this case has absolutely no reference to size), was formally presented to the house at a ceremony specially performed for the occasion.

Degree No Passport, Quality Begets Job

Cornell University reports that an engineering degree is no longer a guarantee for a good job. Today, more emphasis is being placed on the quality of training.

According to Donald H. Moyer, director of the Office of Student Personnel at the College of Engineering, a selective demand for high quality engineers began during 1958. That would have been during the recession, when work slow-downs and layoffs resulted in industry retaining only those of the highest calibre.

"An engineering degree per se is no longer an open sesame to a good job," Moyer declares. He goes on to say that at one time, the intense competition for engineering graduates, which developed during recent years, caused many companies to train liberal arts graduates to fill jobs previously held by engineers. Many companies also hired technicians and technical assistants to fill such positions. In the past, over 5,000 companies have been scrambling annually for some 20,000 to 25,000 engineering graduates, with some companies hiring groups of 1000 or more.

Moyer feels that the recent belt-tightening on the part of searching industries may result in an even more competitive atmosphere at Cornell.

Moyer declares that this year, men in the top half of the class will have little placement problems; but the below average student will get a job, yet it may not be just the job he wants or where he wants it. Therefore, he might be forced to take the initiative and go beyond the confines of the placement office interviewing rooms.

An alternative outlook appears, however, when evaluating our present and future business trends. An accelerated economic expansion program could again shoot the demand for engineers sky high; and if our business recovery is at all above average, the lucrative offerings to graduating engineers will once again occur.

The Historian's Corner; Looking Backward Into Kappa's Long History

What's In A Name

It's amazing as to the how's and why's of a nickname. Some are easy to figure out when first heard: we need little imagination for such titles as "Wrong Way" Corrigan, or "Slammin' Sammy" Snead.

Perhaps one of the first aspects of Zeta Beta Tau to strike the new freshman as peculiar is the prevalence of odd and dissonant nicknames for its members.

In 1938, for instance, there were 25 names on Kappa's roll; and to say the least, all but six of them had nicknames which were in no way, shape, or form connected with the first or last names to which they applied.

When the editor came across Francis Greenspan's '40 "Fitsee-Fitsah", he wanted to turn back the clock 20 years and become an eye witness to the reasons for such a handle. According to the record, Francis had to demonstrate why himself.

Noland Blass, Jr. '41 was commonly referred to as "Colonel", primarily because he was from the south.

Because of his debutante complexion, Joseph Block '39 would answer to "Pinky".

And it didn't take much thinking to come up with the label "Max" for Ernest Sinauer '39 after somebody found out that his middle name was Maxwell.

Marne Obernauer '41 acquired the nickname "Senator" because he was considered Kappa's politician.

After Richard S. "Big G." Graham graduated in '37, his younger brother Robert '41 was appropriately called "Little G."

Finally, it must be understood that in every activity there is always room for improvement. The Kappa's were by no means satisfied with letting this collection of informalities remain unchanged, for they were constantly on the watch for anyone who could submit new and poignant labels.

Kappa Foundation Has Many Activities

Judging from last year's dues response and this year's anticipated support of the Foundation, an impressive number of alumni have indicated their approval of The Edgecliff News, and other efforts to keep members of Kappa informed about campus and classmates. We want every member to be well informed so that all can participate in Kappa's affairs, and through alumni support and backing, keep ZBT one of the strongest and foremost fraternities on the Hill.

Besides the alumni program, the Foundation wishes to widen and extend its scope in providing incentive scholarship awards to deserving undergraduates.

Renew your membership in Kappa this year by sending your check in without delay. If you have not been an active dues contributor in the past, indicate your willingness to share in the costs of the Foundation's activities by enclosing a check with a few comments, so that we may benefit from your thinking.

We count on your continued encouragement and support, and acknowledgement of receipt of your dues will be made in the next issue of The Edgecliff News.

The editor of *The Edgecliff News* would greatly appreciate word from any of the alumni on the whereabouts of the following:

Henry E. Abt '25
Walter I. Abt '29
Morton Frederick '11
Dexter Morton Kohn '43
Stephen L. Nordlinger '19
Richard Pierson '53
Ronald Rosenbach '53
Robert Schwartz '27

* * *

Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter was made a member of Zeta Beta Tau the same night he received President Roosevelt's appointment to the high tribunal.