Froberg Steps Down after 19 Years as Executive Secretary

Brent M. Froberg, after nineteen years of service as Executive Secretary of Eta Sigma Phi, announced his retirement from the post at the national convention last spring in Minneapolis.

Dr. Froberg, inducted into Theta Chapter as an undergraduate at Indiana University, was adviser of Beta Alpha Chapter at the University of South Dakota at the time of his election to the position of Executive Secretary. He had already served on the society's Scholarship Committee and Contest Committee, holding the position of chairman of the latter.

During his tenure, Dr. Froberg saw the addition of forty-five chapters and over 10,800 members. He reflects on his nineteen years in a statement printed elsewhere in this Nuntius.

Honorary Trustees Bernice Fox of Monmouth College recalls that after the death of H. R. Butts, who had served as Executive Secretary for thirteen years (1955-68), a number of people served brief terms before Dr. Froberg "became the first person to put any stability in that pivotal position since the death of Professor Butts."

Dr. Froberg's immediate predecessor as Executive Secretary (1974-78) is Professor Raymond Den Adel of Rockford College. Dr. Den Adel writes, "Brent Froberg has guided the fortunes of Eta Sigma Phi for almost two decades. He has the gift of bearing much of the history of the society in his mind, available for use when needed. We wish him well in his retirement. For him that will be very nice!" (Professor Den Adel explains that "very nice" became the ultimate compliment for the two of them after a waiter kept bringing wines to participants in a Vergilian Society tour in Sicily, assuring the group that each of the wines was "very nice.").

Reflections on 35 Years in Eta Sigma Phi

Brent M. Froberg

In spring, 1962, the Theta Chapter of Indiana University, the same chapter that had inducted my mother about twenty-five years earlier, inducted me as an active member. How many join honorary societies during their undergraduate days and then remain actively engaged in them for thirty-five years? From my start in 1962, I could not have foreseen that first as chapter president, next as faculty adviser, then as a member of the Scholarship Committee, next as chairman of the Contest Committee, and finally as Executive Secretary, I would come to know well every aspect of our society and its history.

Eta Sigma Phi provided me, as an undergraduate, with an encouraging social outlet, an opportunity to fraternize with other students, upperclassmen whom I admired. In 1962, Indiana University played host to the national convention that featured the late Peter Arnett and his marionette theater, the first of many times that he would perform for our conventions; members of Theta Chapter had a chance to get to know students from many colleges and universities who visited the Bloomington campus that spring to attend the convention, which marked for me the beginning of friendships with students and faculty members from other parts of the country.

After I had completed B.A. and M.A. degrees in Classics at Indiana University, circumstances led me to the Ohio State University's Ph.D. program in Classics. In Columbus, I continued to remain active by affiliating with OSU's Alpha Tau Chapter, and when I left to take my first teaching position at the University of Tennessee in 1968, my chairman, Professor Harry Rutherford, assigned me the task of reactivating and then advising UT's Beta Delta Chapter. Professor Rutherford, one of the earliest winners of an Eta Sigma Phi summer scholarship, knew the importance of having an active chapter of Eta Sigma Phi on campus.

Continued on page 3
Message from the Chair of the Board of Trustees

Salve, omnes sodales, και χαιρετε! With this issue of the Nuntius you can see that the National Office of Eta Sigma Phi has moved from the snowy plains of South Dakota to the sunshine of southern Virginia. I want to take this opportunity to express to Professor Brent Froberg the deep gratitude of all the local chapters for the care and dedication that characterized his nineteen years of service as Executive Secretary of Eta Sigma Phi. For many of us Professor Froberg has been synonymous with Eta Sigma Phi. What delegate to the National Convention could forget the challenge of his certamen questions or the eloquence of his annual reports? And so at the last meeting it was decided that we would not let him go, and Professor Froberg will continue to serve our society as an honorary trustee.

We welcome Professor Wayne Tucker, knowing that the National Office will benefit from the devotion to scholarship, the generosity, and the efficiency that he has always shown as adviser of Beta Theta Chapter and as a member of the Board of Trustees. We thank him for his willingness to lead Eta Sigma Phi as Executive Secretary. As we begin this new chapter in the history of Eta Sigma Phi, let us pledge to Professor Tucker our full cooperation through involvement in our society on a national level. Convention information appears in this newsletter. Why not begin now to work toward attendance at the convention? Plan those fund raisers or submit those proposals for travel funds. Keep in mind that in order to remain in good standing your chapter must send delegates to the convention at least once in a six-year period or within the first two years of receiving a charter. When was your chapter last represented at a meeting? If you can’t remember, then perhaps this is the year to turn over a new leaf. Send convention delegates, respond to the call for papers, enter the contests, apply for the summer scholarships, award medals!

Let us remember that we local chapters ARE Eta Sigma Phi and move into this new academic year with energy and enthusiasm! I hope that this will be a rewarding year for each local chapter and look forward to seeing each chapter represented in Richmond in the spring.

Sister Thérèse Marie Dougherty, Chair
Board of Trustees

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

70th Annual ETA SIGMA PHI Convention
April 3-5, 1998, Richmond, Virginia

Hosted by
Beta Gamma (University of Richmond)
Beta Theta (Hampden-Sydney College)
Delta Pi (Randolph-Macon College)

The convention will begin with a reception at 7 o’clock on Friday and end with the final business session at 12 o’clock on Sunday. There will be talks by students, reports on chapter activities, scholarly lectures, a visit to the ancient art collection of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, a certamen, and plenty of time for socializing.
Reflections on 35 Years in Eta Sigma Phi

Continued from page 1

Beta Delta did reactivate in the spring of 1969, and it has remained active ever since.

When I came to the University of South Dakota in 1970 to succeed Grace L. Beebe as the chairman of USD's Department of Classics, I also succeeded her as the faculty adviser of Beta Alpha Chapter, active every year since its founding in 1938. The active status of Beta Alpha put it into a small, special group of chapters that had remained active even through the days of World War II. Then, too, Dr. Beebe, a member of Eta Sigma Phi's first Scholarship Committee, along with Graves Thompson of Hampden-Sydney College and Graydon Regenos of Tulane University, had suggested to then Executive Secretary Mary Ann Burns of Gamma Gamma Chapter at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, that she appoint me to the Scholarship Committee to work together with Philip Lockhart (of Dickinson College) and the late H. R. Butts (Executive Secretary, 1955-1968). It seemed like a sudden introduction to Eta Sigma Phi on a national level, but the task proved pleasant and instructive.

One position led to another, and later Theodore Bodrick, longtime chairman of the Board of Trustees and Executive Secretary proton in 1973-74, asked me to serve on the Contest Committee. Eventually, he asked in autumn, 1977, that I apply for the position of Executive Secretary. I submitted my papers timidly because I considered myself inexperienced and because I knew, vaguely, the amount of work that I would have to assume. Now, with nineteen years of work and experience behind me, the time has come for me to retire from this office.

I became involved in Eta Sigma Phi at an especially good time, for I had the good fortune of knowing almost all of my predecessors who served as executive secretary, including the first, H. Lloyd Stow. I also had the pleasure of meeting the legendary Gertrude Smith at the home of Professor Stow in Nashville in the autumn of 1968. Professor Smith guided Eta Sigma Phi from its inception and wrote the original version of Eta Sigma Phi's Ritual. Knowing Professors Stow and Smith and their successors has always made me feel a little like Nestor when I come to gatherings of Eta Sigma Phi.

From knowing the students who win prizes in the contests or those who win scholarships for summer study abroad, I have gained an advantage by hearing first the names of those who will—if past records indicate anything—make an important contribution later to the Classics. The advance notice that I got as Executive Secretary gave me a prescience to rival that of Nostradamus, at least so far as the Classics went. A number of those winners serve our society today as faculty advisers and even trustees.

I have especially enjoyed writing to and cooperating with those whom I regard as the heart and soul of Classics: the outstanding professors who advise our chapters. I shall miss that level of correspondence as much as anything, but I look forward to continuing to contribute to Eta Sigma Phi as an honorary member of its Board of Trustees, and I have gladly agreed to continue to manage the money in Eta Sigma Phi's Endowment Fund. I shall look for other ways to make myself useful, too, especially during the beginning of C. Wayne Tucker's term as Executive Secretary.

Reflecting over these last nineteen years makes me happy when I think of the forty-five new chapters added during that period. It makes my hand ache, a little, just to think about having signed and issued over 10,800 membership cards! The growth of the number of members and number of chapters augurs well of our future. And when I think of that future, I set my sights on a time fifteen years from now when I hope to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of my induction into Eta Sigma Phi. I can safely predict that we shall have by then a larger, stronger organization than we have now. Thank you for letting me serve this organization. Best of all good wishes to you.

Brent M. Froberg
August 12, 1997
Vermillion, SD
Froberg Steps Down after 19 Years

Continued from page 1

Sister Thérèse Marie Dougherty, chairman of the Board of Trustees and adviser of Beta Kappa Chapter at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland, recalls the image, unforgettable for all who attended the 1995 national convention at the University of Arkansas, of Dr. Froberg emerging from the cave-crawl unscathed. While the rest of the convention delegates looked as if they had taken a mud bath, there was "not a speck of earth on his Eta Sigma Phi T-shirt." Professor Daniel Levine, adviser of the host chapter, commented, "What a great sport he is!" Sister Thérèse adds, "Only Professor Froberg could be that good a sport while at the same time retaining the image of impeccable gentleman scholar."

A former student of Dr. Froberg's, Keely Lake, writes:

Brent Froberg did more for my education than any other teacher for or with whom I have ever worked because he instilled in me a respect for all types of knowledge. He is, of course, an amazing scholar and teacher of the Classics, but he also taught me not to disdain "common" knowledge, from baseball facts to the latest Tonya Harding scandal.

He has taught me reams about true Christian kindness. He believes in peaceful solutions and tolerance for others, and that comes through in his statements and actions; he is one of the best role models I've ever had.

I hope I can follow his example in encouraging students and making people feel comfortable with learning.

At the Saturday banquet during last spring's convention, Dr. Froberg was honored for his service to Eta Sigma Phi with a gift from the Board of Trustees and an ovatio, written by his friend Arthur P. Stocker, Professor of Classics, Emeritus, at the University of Virginia and read by Megas Hyparchos Ellen Sassenberg at the convention banquet when Dr. Froberg was honored for his nineteen years as Executive Secretary.

Nunc quidem oportet quendam virum sagacitatem atque Pietatem atque filialis insigni examen laudibus ornemus, cui est nomen Ancile redditor BRENT MALCOLM FROBERG.


Deinde sita propitius ut illas linguis litterasque antiquas in ea vasterum camporum mediterraneorum parte quae South Dakota ab incolis nominaretur iuvens ingenio acutissimo docebat. Quae res nem prospere eventit ut ipsa American Societas Philologica, cum anno millesimo nonagente-simo nonagente-simo quarto post Christum natum suo more conve-re-dit, hunc virum singularem perfuse atque undique laudaret, quod se docendi arte praestantisimum praebuisse.

Nunc tamen videtur hic vir optimus maxime dignus qui commemoraret, quo eae erat ut se cum eis Societatis plerumque coniunguerat quibus esset curae ut studium rerum classicarum inter iuvenses promoveretur. Socium enim se cum americano Foedere Classicum (ut alius) continuerit, necnon etiam cum ea hominum P. Vergili Maronis operum studiosorum sodalitate et cum illa Americana Societas Philologica et cum quanam Societate Classicum Hominum Regiones Mediterraneae atque Australes Habitatium, quae eum abhinc annos duodecim ovatione honorifica decoravit.

Nobis iigitur qui sub litteris Graecis ETA SIGMA PHI consociati sumus propter hanc causam in animo est hunc virum praecertum vehemens laudare, quod non modo per multos annos rebus huius sodalitatis atente consulebat sed per proximos annos undeviginti eum magistratum habebat quem plerique quadam titulo Anglicus usi Executive Secretary appellant.

Maxime quidem decet nostrum laudibus miris in eo oppido affici quo se recipere solet cum histriones canticorum petiti ad partes agendas venerint.

Rogamus ut illi BRENT MALCOLM FROBERG manus vestras in plaudendo nunc consumatis.

Froberg Ovatio

The following ovatio was written by Arthur P. Stocker, Professor of Classics, Emeritus, at the University of Virginia, and read by Megas Hyparchos Ellen Sassenberg at the convention banquet when Dr. Froberg was honored for his nineteen years as Executive Secretary.

Nunc quidem oportet quendam virum sagacitate atque pietate et atque filialis insigni summis laudibus ornemus, cui est nomen Ancile redditor BRENT MALCOLM FROBERG.


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Maxime quidem decet nostrum laudibus miris in eo oppido affici quo se recipere solet cum histriones canticorum petiti ad partes agendas venerint.

Rogamus ut illi BRENT MALCOLM FROBERG manus vestras in plaudendo nunc consumatis.
Zeta Sigma Hosts 1997 Convention in Minneapolis

Zeta Sigma Chapter at the University of Minnesota hosted the 69th National Eta Sigma Phi Convention on April 11-13. The chapter's Chrysophylax and the Megas Hypharchos, Ellen Sassenberg, headed the local arrangements committee, aided by Prytanis Emily I. Dolan, Hypharchos Christopher Knox, and Grammateus Emily Beck.

A full program of events—held at the University, the convention hotel, the Radisson Metrodome, and the Fredrick R. Weisman Art Museum—had been planned for representatives of chapters from across the country.

The program began with a reception at the Radisson, followed by the official opening, with welcomes by Oliver Nicholson, the Director of Undergraduate Studies, and Sassenberg. The response was given by the Megas Prytanis, Charlie Homiller, of Beta Theta Chapter at Hampden-Sydney College, followed by the roll call of chapters by Megas Grammateus Omar Jared Medina of Epsilon Iota Chapter at the University of Florida. The following cortomem, with Executive Secretary Brent M. Froberg and Beta Rappa Chapter advisor Sister Thérèse M. Dougherty serving as quizzmasters, proved to be both informative and entertaining, and the winning team, from Baylor University, was presented with prizes by the Zeta Sigma Chapter.

The first business meeting was held on Saturday morning, beginning with reports from the chapters and continuing with minutes of the 1996 convention, announcements of contest and scholarship winners, committee meetings, invitations for the 1998 convention, and election of national officers.

Adjourning to the Weisman Museum, participants heard the papers which had been selected for presentation and enjoyed a Greek lunch catered by the gardens of Sakorina. Professor Nicholson gave an enjoyable postprandial talk on "Late Antiquity is Later Than You Think."

Participants divided for Saturday afternoon's activities, some visiting the Minneapolis Institute of Art, and others going to the shoppers' mecca, Mall of America.

Saturday evening's banquet was followed by the presentation of the ovatio recognizing Brent M. Froberg's nineteen-year tenure as Executive Secretary (see the article on p. 1) and a performance of Plautus's Aulularia by students of St. Olaf College under the direction of Professor Anne Groton, who wrote the music and lyrics for the lively production.

Saturday morning's business session included the reports of the Board of Trustees and Executive Secretary Froberg, the selection of Richmond as the site of the 1998 convention, and the installation of the new officers.

Elections Result in New Officers, Executive Secretary, Trustees

Jeffrey Johnson of Gamma Omega Chapter (Baylor University), who served as Megas Chrysophylax in 1996-97, was elected Megas Prytanis at the 1997 National Convention in Minneapolis. Elected to the other offices were Jennifer White of Epsilon Xi Chapter (Gustavus Adolphus College) as Megas Hypharchos, Mary-Helen J. Holley of Zeta Lambda Chapter (University of Louisville) as Megas Grammateus, and J. Matthew Harrington of Beta Pi Chapter (University of Arkansas) as Megas Chrysophylax.

To replace the retiring Brent M. Froberg as Executive Secretary, the convention elected C. Wayne Tucker, adviser of Beta Theta Chapter (Hampden-Sydney College) and a member of the Board of Trustees since 1994, who served as chair of the Scholarship Committee in 1985-87.

Newly elected to the Board of Trustees were R. Leon Fitts, a member of the faculty at Dickinson College, where Delta Theta Chapter is, to a three-year term; and R. Alden Smith, advisor of Gamma Omega Chapter (Baylor University), to serve the final year of Dr. Tucker's term. In addition, Sr. Thérèse Marie Dougherty, advisor of Beta Kappa Chapter (College of Notre Dame of Maryland), was elected to another three-year term, and Dr. Froberg was elected an Honorary Trustee.
1997 Summer Scholarship Winners

American School of Classical Studies at Athens: Meredith Banasiak, Zeta Chi (Xavier University)
American Academy in Rome: Karl Hayes, Gamma Gamma (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee)

The committee reviewed eleven completed applications (three more than in 1996) for the annual scholarships for the summer sessions of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens and the American Academy in Rome. Applicants who were not selected may reapply in subsequent years in which they are still eligible, and the files of unsuccessful applicants remain with the Scholarship Committee for a period of five years.

Scholarship Committee:
Margaret Musgrove (Chair), Alpha Lambda (The University of Oklahoma)
Francis Dunn, Zeta Phi (The University of California, Santa Barbara)
Caroline Perkins, Beta Upsilon (Marshall University)

Maurine Dallas Watkins Translation Contests 1997

Forty-Eighth Annual Greek Translation Contest

Advanced
1st: Benjamin Sousa, Gamma Epsilon (University of Wisconsin, Madison)
2nd: Catherine Kuuske, Delta Chi (St. Olaf College)
3rd: Gwendolyn Gruber, Epsilon Nu (Creighton University)
Honorable Mention: Joe Palmer, Epsilon Kappa (Brigham Young University)

Intermediate
1st: Bekki Richards, Epsilon Kappa (Brigham Young University)
2nd: David Sorensen, Epsilon Kappa (Brigham Young University)
3rd: Amy Dill, Alpha Mu (University of Missouri, Columbia)
Honorable Mention: Whitney Kalin, Psi (Vanderbilt University)

Forty-Seventh Annual Latin Translation Contest

Advanced
1st: Leonard Barry, Gamma Epsilon (University of Wisconsin, Madison)
2nd: Jason Roberts, Epsilon Kappa (Brigham Young University)
3rd: Kevin Rydberg, Gamma Epsilon (University of Wisconsin, Madison)
Honorable Mention: Luke Henderson, Epsilon Zeta (University of Idaho)

Intermediate
1st: Levi Hardyman, Epsilon Kappa (Brigham Young University)
2nd: Susan R. Eckerle, Alpha Mu (University of Missouri, Columbia)
3rd: Melissa E. Brand, Delta Chi (St. Olaf College)
Honorable Mention: Steven Karanikolas, Gamma Epsilon (University of Wisconsin, Madison)

Thirty-First Annual Latin Prose Composition Contest

1st: Levi Hardyman, Epsilon Kappa (Brigham Young University)
2nd: Melissa E. Brand, Delta Chi (St. Olaf College)
3rd: Gregory M. Nolle, Epsilon Nu (Creighton University)
Honorable Mention: Doug Hartman, Zeta Chi (Xavier University)

A total of 117 papers from nineteen schools were entered in the contests. For the advanced-level and Latin prose composition contests, the first-place winner received a prize of $50, second-place $40, and third-place $30. For the intermediate-level contests, the first-place winner received a prize of $35, second-place $25, and third-place $15.

70th Annual ETA SIGMA PHI Convention
April 3-5, 1998, Richmond, Virginia
Quid Novi?

Res Gestae will resume in the spring Nuntias. Send information on your chapter’s activities to the Executive Secretary by March 15, 1998, for inclusion in the newsletter. Pictures are encouraged, and be sure to identify the people in the photographs.

Eta Sigma Phi Medals

Eta Sigma Phi medals awarded to honor students in secondary-school Latin help to promote the study of Latin in high school and give Eta Sigma Phi an excellent contact with high school students of the Classics. Chapters can use them as prizes for contests or as a way to recognize achievement.

Two silver medals are available: the large (1 1/2 inches) at $24.75 and the small (9/4 inch) at $10.25. A bronze medal (3/4 inch) is available at $6.50. The large silver medals are excellent prizes for fourth-year students, the small silver medals for third-year students, and the bronze medals for students in their second year of Latin.

Medals may be ordered from the Executive Secretary, whose address is on p. 2 of this Nuntias. Please add $1.00 per order to cover the costs of postage and handling. Checks should be made payable to Eta Sigma Phi Medal Fund and should accompany the order.

Is Your Chapter Interested in Hosting a National Convention?

If your chapter would like to propose hosting the 71st annual convention, here are some things to consider:

1. The support of your adviser.
2. The availability of lodging, either on campus or at a motel or hotel.
3. Travel to the convention by air, train, bus, and automobile.
4. Financial support of the chapter, the Department of Classics and/or the college or university, as well as of state and local organizations.

Bids for the next convention will be considered at the 1998 convention in Richmond. Come prepared to make your case!

Web Pages

The National Office is currently setting up a web page. In the meantime, you may want to check out the two local web pages that we have been informed of:

- Gamma Alpha (Indiana State University): http://baby.indstate.edu/classics/
- Gamma Omicron (Monmouth College): http://www.monmu.edu/academic/classics/etasigmaphi/header.htm

If your chapter has a web page, let the Executive Secretary know, and the address will be published in future mailings.

Call for Papers

Eta Sigma Phi members are invited to submit papers for consideration for presentation at the convention, April 3-5, 1998. The papers will be judged anonymously, and the three members whose papers are selected for reading at the convention will have their registration fees remitted.

Requirements:

1. Papers should deal with some aspect of classical civilization or language and be directed to an undergraduate audience. (Papers written for a class are acceptable.)
2. Papers should be typed, double-spaced, and no longer than 15 minutes in length.
3. The names of the authors should not be on the papers.
4. Each submission should contain a cover sheet with the author's name, address, phone number, and e-mail address.

Deadline for receipt of papers: February 15, 1998

Send your papers to:
C. Wayne Tucker, Executive Secretary
Eta Sigma Phi
H-S Box 68
Hampden-Sydney, VA 23943-0068
The Eta Sigma Phi Summer Scholarships for 1998

The Trustees of Eta Sigma Phi are pleased to announce that two scholarships will be offered in 1998 to enable one member of Eta Sigma Phi to attend the 1998 Summer Session of the American Academy in Rome, Italy, and another to attend the 1998 Summer Session of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Greece.

The Scholarship to the American Academy in Rome will have a value of $2,800.

The Brent Malcolm Froberg Scholarship to the American School of Classical Studies at Athens will have a value of $3,400, which includes the tuition fee remitted by the American School.

At either summer session, six semester hours of credit may be earned and applied toward an advanced degree in Classics at most graduate schools, provided that arrangements have been made in advance with the graduate school.

Eligibility: Eligible to apply for the scholarships are Eta Sigma Phi members and alumni who have received a Bachelor's degree since January 1, 1992, or shall have received it in or before June 1998, and who have not received a doctoral degree. In selecting the recipient of each scholarship, the Scholarship Committee will give attention to the quality of the applicant's work in Greek and Latin, the applicant's intention to teach at the secondary school or college level, and the applicant's contribution to the activities of Eta Sigma Phi at the local and national level.

Selection of recipients is made by the Eta Sigma Phi Scholarship Committee, whose members are Professor Margaret Musgrove of the University of Oklahoma (chair), Professor Caroline Perkins of Marshall University, and Professor Francis Dunn of the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Those wishing to be considered for a scholarship must submit an application form, a transcript of undergraduate work, three letters of recommendation, and a statement not to exceed 500 words to include the reasons for applying for the scholarship.


The recipients will be announced about January 25, 1998.

For a copy of the application form and other information, get in touch with:

Professor Margaret Musgrove, Chair
Eta Sigma Phi Scholarship Committee
Department of Classics
The University of Oklahoma
780 Van Vleet Oval, Room 101
Norman, OK 73019-0250

The application packet may also be requested by e-mail:

musgrove@ou.edu

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Eta Sigma Phi Jewelry

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