

A Special Letter To Alumni...

Realizing the limited amount of space that has been given me, I am compelled to make myself very brief (?).

A very hearty hello to all of you. It has been quite a while since I have seen some of you. It would be a pleasure to see you on Founders Day. I trust that those of you that have been away so long will find it convenient to be present. Therefore, I shall anticipate the same. I shall be waiting to greet you whenever you return. It is always good to see you.

As you can see, God has been good to me. I am still here serving in the same capacity and enjoying the very best of health. I'm hoping and praying that my only dream will come true, as I wait to enjoy my one and only desire, and that is to prepare a nice dish of Black Death for one of our legacies to see if his resentment would be like that of his old man. Therefore, for those of you who cannot be present on Founders Day, I will gladly forgive and compromise for a son.

It will be good to see all of you again, and I trust that you will make this a must. Brothers like Owens, Price, Kellburg, Burkey and McKay have not returned since they graduated. Brother Helpin I have seen once. I was visited once by Brother Woodock. At one time there were so many brothers who visited me quite often. For instance there was Brother Metzger who discovered why I was never made a brother - "Because I have two black-balls." So you can really see that you owe me a visit. I would enjoy seeing you. Do come and let's have a party. There are plenty of excuses for you to get away. We can celebrate our fifth, our tenth, our fifteenth reunion and we can also discuss a lot of interesting things.

A lot of things have happened to make me think I am getting old, but I'm not that old yet. Naturally living through two wars and overnight slipping out of one age into another does make a fellow think. So you have been challenged to come and see the new look with the forward approach: from a house with forty brothers, an old worn-out stove, a kitchen with wood sinks, and two cars in the parking lot plus a college with five thousand students and Giff, to the same house with the same furniture, fifty or more members, a nineteen forty-two broken down stove, a kitchen with a sink, forty cars in the parking lot, nearly 15,000 students, and a Giff waiting to enjoy some new furniture, new stove, new sink (new kitchen and you).

May I extend to you an invite to enjoy some of Giffie's Afro-Italio spaghetti Saturday, April 8, 1956. Time being served: when you arrive—the same spaghetti (only new pot) for seventeen years. In all sincereness, it will be good to see you and I only want you to realize that we are trying to keep pace with the growth of our university. Much is needed for us to comply with these demands, and the only way you can get the picture is to come and see for yourself. I sincerely hope that you will consider this opportunity to come and visit with us. May I ask that God will bless you with all the success and happiness that you can endure. I trust that those of you that have been coming will not hesitate, but will make yourselves conspicuous by your presence. I sincerely remain your humble servant.

Fraternailly,
Giffy

A Special Hello From Giff

Boy! How time flies. Here we are looking forward to our 101st year, and it seems only yesterday we were celebrating our centennial.

Well, it has always been said that the first 100 years are the hardest; so here we go with the second.

At this time I would like to thank those alumni who found it necessary to visit with us last year, and the results of that visit are just wonderful.

The interest that was created among the alums and brothers has been wonderful, and when you return you will be amazed at the unity and improvements that have been accomplished in such little time.

My parlor (the kitchen) is getting all dressed up. My old army stove has been replaced by a new one, a new sink and a much needed new coffee urn. I am very proud of the new things for the kitchen because so many things are needed for the house in general, replacements are needed on the first and second floors. These replacements would aid us in meeting the new requirements of the university in its Fraternity expansion program and would also aid us in rushing.

I am sure that all of these things can and will be properly attended to in the interest of the house we so dearly love. I want to thank each and every one of you for your splendid cooperation and with such wonderful efforts put forth I know it won't be long before our house in general will be in appearance as to coincide with our good taste. So I am inviting you to be present. Come and meet your old friends, and new brothers. I, too, will enjoy seeing and talking to you. I have something cooking that should be a humdinger. You could guess if you think hard enough. Well, it is about me and our 20th anniversary. Boy, that should be a Founders' Day that will be well remembered by all.

So come with your suggestions. We want to make this one a good one. Our spaghetti is still the same old Afro Atalio spagto with all the trimmings.

Now with the Regional at Omega this year we are expecting to see many of you back to help us make this convention the best in Omega's history; so come and we will try and make your stay an enjoyable one. As you know I am always around to add as much *color* to the affair regardless of what the occasion may be.

Much more could be said on this subject but I will leave the rest up to your imagination, so I trust you will wish us on Founders' Day. It would be a wonderful thing to see all of you again.

May God bless you and your families. May you continue to enjoy all the success and happiness in all the forthcoming years.

I still remain your faithful servant.

Fraternally,
Giff

Greetings Alumni:

It is time to welcome you home again. I am over anxious and bubbling over with enthusiasm to see your smiling faces again. The brothers are going all out to see that you have an enjoyable visit. You will notice new improvements in the house, and also get a chance to meet the new brothers.

They have done a wonderful job of rushing this year and the pledge class is one of the best in years! So come to see us and enjoy the fellowship with the brotherhood.

As for my part, I'm still the same, doing the same thing. You may find me a little older and a little fatter, but still colored.

I am always happy to serve you in my capacity. Therefore, I am anticipating seeing a lot of you this alumni weekend. Those of you who cannot be present please try and give us your moral support. Write and tell me all about yourself. (Good or bad!) It is always wonderful to hear from you.

With the university expanding year by year, we find ourselves faced with new problems every year. With such problems we need the cooperation of all you alumni, so those of you who have not been interested in the past, kindly consider our position because we need your help. As our problems become more acute. Competition is greater now than ever before. So your generous cooperation is very much wanted. Come and see for yourselves and help us to meet our obligations, fully confident that we may succeed in coping with the conditions that confront us.

So let's make this a big one - the bigger the better!

Your most humble servant.
Giffy

A LETTER TO THE ALUMNI
from E. T. Gifford

Greetings Alumni of Omega chapter
of Theta Chi.

It gives me great pleasure to
welcome you home again. I am look-
ing with great anticipation of
seeing you who have graduated
from this great institution in the
past twenty years. Seeing and
serving you will be a great plea-
sure and honor. I do feel that
it is the will of God, the great
Architect of the universe, who has
blessed us with the best of health,
enabling us to carry on our duties
of service in the communities
where we live.

Since this is true, I do think
that you should take time out to
visit me, and to help celebrate my
twentieth year of service at Omega
chapter. Seeing those who were
instrumental in employing me for
this job, of which I am humbly
proud, will bring me much happi-
ness. Many changes have been
made through the years, and they
have been great ones. Through
these changes have come progress
and achievement. And, I have
enjoyed the love and friendship
of the entire brotherhood. As
with all men some have made the
supreme sacrifice, the fulfillment
of the prophecy. But known to all
of us as great men they will be
missed. Let us show our apprecia-
tion by being present on this
founders day.

Who knows-this may be the last
twenty years I may be able to
celebrate with you. I am pre-
paring something real great for
you. You will not recognise the
college. Everything has changed:
the College is a University and
is having a face-lifting, the
enrollment is increasing yearly,
and the town is bulging at its
seams.

There are no pigeons for the
pledges to let loose in the
theatres, no hazing, no hell week,
no joy-riding up and down the mall
(there's no room!). But Theta Chi
is in the same place even though
it may seem strange for it to be
sitting in the center of town in-
stead of out on the edge. Giff
is the same, only a little fatter
and a little older. The spaghetti
is just like that you ate twenty
years ago.

So come enjoy yourselves
with the new Brotherhood and
pledges!

"Behold how good and how
pleasant it is for brethren to
dwell together in unity. It is
like precious ointment upon the
head that ran down upon the beard,
even Aaron's beard that went down
to the skirt of his garment, as
the dew of Hermon that descended
upon the mountains of Zion. For
there the Lord commanded a bless-
ing, even life forevermore."

Please extend my best wishes
to your families. May God bless
you.

Fraternally, your obedient
servant,
GIFF

LETTER TO THE ALUMNI
from E. T. Gifford

Greetings Alumni:

It gives me great pleasure to have this honor to express my sincere appreciation at being able to welcome you to another Alumni Homecoming-- this being my twentieth year with Theta Chi, a period of which I am justly proud. I boast of the lasting friendships and acquaintances that I have made and am now enjoying throughout the years. I am grateful to Our God, Who has allowed me to enjoy good health down through the years. I am sure you join me in giving thanks to Him for being so wonderful to us all. Sometimes our fields are so green that we, as human beings, lose perspective with our surroundings and that of our brothers and unknowingly become ingrates and take everything for granted. But let us forget not our lives, our successes, and our happiness, and give thanks to our God for He is just. Therefore, let us us His blessings to the best of our ability and treat ourselves by coming to Theta Chi to dwell once again in unity with the Brothers, both old and new. I am still able and willing to serve you in the same capacity. And with great anticipation I hope you will make this reunion the best in the twenty years that I have been serving you.

I realize that conditions will not permit osme of you to visit with us, but we will be waiting for you anyway. I will have lots of things to shoot the breeze about with you. We have lots of room for you; you see, we also have felt the cold grip of the steel strike, and it has been a little unkind to us too. So come and let us forget together and reassure ourselves by cementing our friendship with some Theta Chi

spaghetti--Giffie style, and a pig dinner. Maybe the first twenty years are the hardest, but I am unsubdued; I have hoped, I have planned, I have striven; to the will I have added the deed; the best that was in me I've given; I have prayed, but gods would not heed; I have dared to reach only disasters; I have battled and broken my lance; I am bruised by a pitiless master that the weak and the timid call chance. I am old, I am bent, I am cheated of all that youth urged me to win... but name me not with the defeated. Tomorrow again, I begin.

Your humble servant,
GIFE

A LETTER FROM GIFF

Greetings Alumni- This is Giffie asking you for your attention- thanks. May I have the honor and pleasure to thank each and everyone of you for the most wonderful gift and plaque which was presented to me at Homecoming. My wife, Mrs. Giffie, joins me in saying thanks to all of you for this wonderful honor that was bestowed upon us, and we are indeed grateful. It was just as wonderful as the twenty years I have spent at Omega chapter of Theta Chi. Twenty years of service filled with enthusiasm and excitement, surrounded with honesty and brotherhood. I am highly honored to have had the privilege of working with and knowing so many splendid of your men. Your respect acquaintance, and friendship I shall always treasure. May I also express thanks to those who were not able to attend but were so thoughtful as to send me cards, letters, and telegrams of congratulations. I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart.

I am looking forward with great anticipation of serving and being with you on this Founders Day. So don't forget we have a date. My plaque will be on display at that time so you can all look at it.

The newly elected officers are trying to make everything very interesting and comfortable for you, in hopes that this Home Coming will be the greatest. Our number is small but courageous, and after meeting them I am sure you will go along with me in saying that we have a wonderful group of brothers and pledges.

This being my twenty-first Founder's Day, I do trust you'll join me and the boys of Omega in making this a very succesful Founder's Day. May God bless and keep you.

I sincerely remain your most
obedient servant,

Giffy

Gifford's Views

Greetings Alumni!!!

I feel highly honored to have the privilege of greeting you again. It was indeed a pleasure to see so many new and old alumni return for Homecoming in the Fall. I was very happy to see so many looking so prosperous. I would like to thank those who were so thoughtful in sending me letters of my twentieth anniversary, which was last year. I feel indebted to those who were instrumental in preparing such a wonderful ceremony. This is something I shall never forget. I would also like to thank Mr Carl Stauta for the wonderful letter I received from him last May 5, acknowledging the items of national value that I salvaged many years ago during a cleanup at Omega. These items were turned over to Mr. Starr Lasher for his approval. He then turned them over to Mr. Stauta, the National Historian. Now they are in their proper place.

Again I would like to thank the Alumni Corporation for coming to the aid of our Omega Chapter, which was so badly in need of assistance. We are working overtime to meet our proposed obligations and at the same time keep up our chapter activities. I am very happy and grateful that I am in the position to do all I can to assist them in their every effort.

Those of you who return year after year can easily see how the university has expanded, and with this growth how it has also provided facilities that are most adequate for students who are exposed to them. The dormitories are being constructed more and more extravagantly. This has made quite a problem for the Greeks. We are plugging away trying to fill the house, and I think that the boys are doing an excellent job. They have at present a pledge class of thirteen men, a most high number for the spring semester. And they are never letting up.

The financial guidance so vital to fraternity has been provided this year by Dr. Remaley. Dr. Remaley has given his time most unselfishly to the boys and his time and efforts are greatly felt and appreciated. I can echo the feelings of the boys by saying that the honorary membership extended him was only a small token of our appreciation for his wonderful help.

May I again thank you for the help rendered. May we have your prayers to help us carry on this task. Good luck to all of you. I will anticipate serving you on Founders' Day. Until then, your most obedient servant,

"GIFF"

GIFFORD'S VIEWS

Greetings Alumni,



May I have the honor and pleasure of greeting you for the 23rd time, and inviting you to join us in celebrating Founder's Day here at Omega on the 14th of April.

Since it is the will and pleasure of the great architect of the universe, whom I so graciously serve, to allow me to enjoy a reasonable portion of good health and to serve mankind in the only way that I am, or he finds me, best prepared to do so I would like to invite those of you whom I have served in the past to join with those who I am serving now in celebration of the founding of Theta Chi Fraternity one-hundred-six years ago. I enjoy working with the young people of Omega, trying to render the best that is in me each day, and now with great anticipation, I am once again waiting for you to return so that I am able to serve you in the same capacity. So please accept our invitation.

Year after year time plays an important part in our way of life. The University continues to grow and improve, creating new and efficient methods and physical facilities, all of which we have to cope with. We have many new improvements around the house here most of them thanks to the fore-sightedness of our wonderful Alumni. Without such improvements, we would be lagging behind and at this stage it could mean disaster.

May I, at this time, thank the Alumni Corporation and the Brotherhood for such a lovely kitchen. Although I had to make a few adjustments in losing half of my living quarters it still compensates for the loss. Besides, nothing should stand in the way of progress. With your

next visit you will understand why I am so proud and grateful for this wonderful improvement. I trust I will have as much pleasure working in it as I have in the past. I want to thank you again.

The University has changed to a quarter system instead of the old semester system. With the new system in effect, it is now feasible for a rushee to become a Pledge, go through Help Week, Bluebooks, Final Exams, be Brotherized and Graduate in 10 weeks. So you see things are really being improved at Penn State and looking up.

As I think of the years gone past, I also think about all the young men that were Brotherized. I cannot remember all of their names and faces. Some are getting dim now. Some return, some stay away, some I will never forget and lastly, some I've forgotten. I do remember all of them as a wonderful group of men. Speaking of memories, I am reminded of a young man that graduated a few years ago. He was President of Omega Chapter. He signed the placque that was given to me on my 20th Anniversary of service here at Theta Chi. As fate intervenes, he is not with us anymore. A man of splendid character and of good deeds has paid the debt that all men must pay. His memories still remain though. Of course I'm speaking of Brother "Shrink" Jones to whom this issue of the Omegaphone is dedicated.

May I thank you for your patience, indulgence and time. See you Founder's Day.

Your most obedient servant,

"Giff"

E. T. Gifford



HI ALUMNI!!!

Well, it's time again to greet you, and to inform you that I am anticipating seeing a large turnout, on Founder's Day.

Last year for some unknown reason the attendance was very small, and I was somewhat disappointed, but this is another year, maybe a better year, for those who were unable to attend last year. So try to arrange to visit Omega this Founder's Day. I am always glad to see you and to greet you, and to serve you in the same capacity, as I have done in the previous years.

Years have passed and birthdays may come and go, but the warm memories of your undergrad days, are as fresh as yesterday, and that I do hold and cherish these dearly. Naturally, I am still enjoying the wonderful blessings of good health, therefore I remain the same old "Giff," with the same old spaghetti, every Saturday afternoon.

The system at the University has changed. We now have quarters, instead of semesters, and our Pledge classes are closer together, so they graduate faster, and spend less time at the fraternity. Therefore, if you stay away a year, without visiting us on Founder's Day, you can clearly see that a whole class of brothers can graduate without you even meeting them, or knowing they were brothers of Theta Chi. Therefore it is imperative that you lend us your presence and support by attending Founder's Day, in order that you may be brought up to date, on all that happens at Omega, both good and bad.

My philosophy of life is very simple. To some it may be a little exaggerated. Therefore youth is not a time of life. It is a state of mind. It is not a matter of ripe cheeks, red lips, and supple knees: it is a temper of the will—a quality of the imagination—a vigor of the emotions. Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years—people grow old only by deserting their ideals. Years wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul. Worry, doubt, self-distrust, fear, and despair—these are the long, long years that bow the heart and turn the greening spirit back to dust. Whether 60 or 16, there is in every human being's heart the lure of wonder, the undaunted challenge of events, the un-failing child-like appetite for what next, and the joy of the game of living. We are as young as our self-confidence, as old as our fear; as young as our desire, as old as our despair.

So come and visit. You may pick up some of the pieces that were left of your youth, that may motivate you to a new life. Wishing you the very best of luck, happiness and success, may God bless your families.

Your most obedient servant!!!

"GIFF"

HI ALUMNI!



My, oh my, how time flies and where does it go? Here it is, another year gone by and it is again time for me to welcome you on Founders Day of 1964. Too many things have happened that I don't know where to start. I do know one thing, last year's turnout was a little better than the previous year. During these changing times, we realize that conditions will not permit some to attend as they have done in the past. Founder's Day seems to have become only a get-together for committee men to transact business for the coming year. Just the same I welcome you all to Omega Chapter of Theta Chi on my 25th year. It's always wonderful to see you and tender old memories.

Speaking of changing times, the University is expecting all fraternities on campus to eliminate certain clauses of discrimination in their charters. Naturally Theta Chi will comply and treat all with fairness. This is only the beginning. There is more to come to help us build this gigantic pyramid of achievement. Who knows? I may be a first!

At this time I must acknowledge the loyalty and devotion of a dearly beloved friend and brother, who has given his best for 39 years as editor-in-chief of the Rattle of Theta Chi. I have known Brother George Starr Lasher for a number of years, and I have always looked forward to his visits to Omega Chapter. I will miss his visits. He is a great and wonderful man and his vacancy will never be completely filled.

To those of you who will not be able to visit us on Founder's Day, may I say with great anticipation that I expect to see everyone back for Alumni weekend this fall of 1964.

"What Happened on Earth," read it; t's good, by Alexander T. Coyle, thanks to the William Gruns.

Wishing you the very best of luck, happiness and success. May God bless you and your families.

E. T. SPEAKS

Hi Alumni. Once again it is time to salute you, and wish you and yours a Happy Easter, with all its joys and fulfillments.

We are expecting to see many of you returning for Founder's Day and when you do visit us, you will experience a new feeling, a feeling of welcome and brotherhood to all.

Years may come and years may go, but memories of your undergrad days still haunt these old walls, and I cherish these memories dearly. Some are related to the new pledges to make them feel at ease, by being molded into shape, to fit their new roles as brothers of Theta Chi.

The house looks wonderful with new furniture and new decorating, plus a new heating system. The brothers are doing a splendid job of rushing, and everything is looking up again. To most of us, that is very, very encouraging.

Therefore, it is imperative that you visit us on Founder's Day, to meet and create new interests among the pledges and brothers.

Remember, you are as young as your self-confidence and as old as your fears. As young as your desires and as old as your despairs. So come visit us on Founder's Day. Your presence will motivate us to new heights.

The best of everything to everyone.

Yours,
Giff