

Hazleton Campus Deversified Extracurricular Program

ORCHIDS TO THE GIRLS OF THETA SIGMA PHI SORORITY

Olga Markus Crowned 12th May Day Queen



THETA SIGMA PHI. (Left to right) Mrs. Elizabeth Bodenstein (Advisor), Anne Stebnitsky (President), Frances Werpshaw (Secretary—standing) and Olga Markus, this year's Highacres May Queen, meeting in the Conference Room of the SUB to discuss details of the May Day.

Since the Theta Sigma Phi Sorority was started in September, 1951, it has grown in size and in importance.

When the school year began in September of '51, the girls felt that a sorority should be formed so that the girls would have something to call their own. Miss Florence Yannes was the college nurse and Dean of Women at Highacres then, and at her suggestion the sorority was formed and given the name of Theta Sigma Phi, which means "secret sisters." At the first meeting of the newly formed society nominations for officers were held. According to the bylaws of the sorority formulated at that time, the president and secretary must be sophomores and the vice-president and treasurer, freshmen.

Miss Dolores DiRubbo took over the duty as advisor to the sorority when Miss Yannes left Highacres. During the time that Miss DiRubbo was advisor, the Frosh were pledged with Blue Bows, pins with the Theta Sigma Phi insignia were ordered, payment of dues were instituted, and secret pals names exchanged.

From 1953-56 Miss Helen Dossenbach, now on the faculty of the West Hazleton School District, was the advisor. During her term the sorority progressed rapidly, and when Mrs. Elizabeth Bodenstein took over in September '56, the sorority was in full swing.

Although the May Day tradition is thought of as a sorority-sponsored affair today, it was started in 1945 at the Hazleton Center and was a student body activity. The combined ceremonies were then, as now, the coronation of the queen with the May Day rites, and the Queen's Ball all held indoors, however. When the Center moved from Broad Street to the present site at Highacres in 1950, the May Day tradition took on a new and natural freshness. Ceremonies were held on the lawn in front of the Administration building, and the ball held at a local ballroom. Past queens have been the following:

1945—Irma Masley; 1946—Catherine Conahan; 1947—Shirley Van Nauer; 1948 — Jean Uzmann; 1949 — Doris Bartol; 1950 — Mary Louise Pollock; 1951 — Jane Margworth; 1952 — Josephine Donish; 1953—Marie Jacko; 1954—Harriet Lee Tulin; 1955 — Elaine Ferko; 1956 — Theresa Bokowski; 1957 — Jacqueline Kessel; 1958 — Betty Ann Fieck; 1959 — Olga Markus (present queen).

Another activity of the sorority is the annual banquet at which time secret pals are revealed and gifts exchanged. A hayride is usually held in the fall, and a dance is sponsored by the sorority some time during the school year. Bake sales, teas and suppers were held in past years.

Theta Sigma Phi has truly distinguished itself in aiding the girls who attend Hazleton Campus to

develop themselves as gracious and cultured young women, and will continue to do so in the future. This year Anna Jean Stebnitsky is president. Mrs. Elizabeth Bodenstein is faculty advisor.

Belles-Letters Society Flourishing at Highacres

Literary Society Now In Its Second Year

One of the newest organizations on the Hazleton Campus (instituted only since 1957-58) and fast becoming one of the most popular is the Belles-Letters Society.

Included in its activities for 1958-59 was the joint sponsorship (with the English, Speech, and Library Departments of the local campus) of the highly successful First Annual Highacres Reading Festival, and participation in the 11th Annual Reading Festival at the Main Campus of The Pennsylvania State University. Much acclaim was given the Hazleton Campus' contingent by experts at the festival. Winners of the local reading festival who were sent to the Main Campus are these: Andrew Kavalecs, George Walker, Anthony Santore, Barbara Jean Pace, Anna Jean Stebnitsky, and Eleanor Svok.

Plans for next year include a Second Annual Highacres Reading Festival, a cultural tour, talks by several guest speakers, and discussion on the merits of poems, essays, novels, and short stories composed by members of the society and by professionals.

The society's objectives include encouragement of creative writing, criticism of all students' works when submitted, and analysis of literary compositions for the purpose of examining writing techniques.

The present president is Henry Richard. Former presidents were Olga Markus and Rita Sappe. The faculty sponsor is Professor Andrew Kafka.

Highacres Dance Band Reorganizes

The Highacres Dance Band, the newest extra-curricular activity to appear on campus, has been inactive this spring because the brass section transferred to the main campus. The band is presently holding a series of reorganization meetings, however, with the aim of an improved and enlarged aggregation for the 1959-1960 season. Several incoming freshmen have already expressed the intention of joining. These people plus the nucleus of this year's group which will return to Highacres insures students many enjoyable dances next year.

Dance Band members who performed so faithfully and well last semester are to be heartily commended for the enjoyment they gave to the many people who attended dances at Highacres.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, CO-ORDINATOR OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES, JOINS IN MARKING SILVER ANNIVERSARY

The Student Government Association is sharing its Silver Anniversary with the Hazleton Campus.

Professor Stewart Geas, who is now at the Main Campus of the Pennsylvania State University, organized and drew up the constitution for the first student council in 1934. Since then, it has been very active in off-campus activities as well as in on-campus functions. For example, when the Pennsylvania Association of Student Government Associations of Junior Colleges, of which Hazleton Campus' SGA is a member, was first formed for off-campus centers of PSU, they soon extended an invitation of membership to all Junior Colleges of Pennsylvania. The first Junior College Basketball League was formed by this organization, and for many years Highacres was an active member of it. The same is true for golf and tennis.

How many people realize that the Student Union Building was brought to Highacres largely through the efforts of three successive Student Government Associations? In 1951, a member of the SGA, while sitting on the Student-Faculty Board, first proposed this idea. Seventy-five per cent of the student body endorsed a petition which would have assessed them \$5.00 per semester for the SUB fund. Main Campus officials decided that this sum would be insufficient, and in 1952 a new petition was put forth for the amount of \$10.00 per semester. Passage of this petition failed until in 1956, largely through the efforts of the SGA, it was endorsed.

We should not confine ourselves to past achievements, however, lest one would think that recent



HIGHACRES STUDENT COUNCIL: (Top—left to right) Hank Richard, Al Hinger, Thomas Brennan, Frank Kleckner.

(Bottom—left to right) Frank Kostos, Jr. (Treasurer), Jack Sotack (President), Ann Colancecco (Secretary), Bonnie Schechterly.

councils have been dormant. The benches that are placed around the campus are but one example of a recent SGA activity. This year's council has purchased, among other things, a world globe for the library, a portable stage, trash cans, and a water cooler to be installed in South Hall. In addition, the SGA handles financial matters for the student organizations, and sponsors many of the social events that take place at Highacres. It is the representative body of the students, and is responsible to them.

Professors Richard Mattern and John Longo are faculty advisors.

Hail To Parnassus

Parnassus, the Hazleton Campus' honor society, originated in the academic year of 1951-52 as a result of the faculty's student welfare committee who decided that recognition be given to the well-rounded student, one who attains high scholastic standards and who also actively participates in extracurricular activities.

Professor James R. Steel, a member of the faculty at Highacres and a charter member of the society, suggested the name, Parnassus. Parnassus is the name of a two-peaked mountain in Greece, which was sacred to the Muses, the goddess of learning, and to Apollo, the sun god, who represented purity, loyalty, good citizenship, and justice.

The society now has 87 students, faculty and honorary members.

Students are chosen on the basis of their scholarship averages and total number of activity points. They must have completed one or more semesters of college work, earned a 2.8 average and accumulated four activity points per semester.

Parnassus sponsors the election for Most Valuable Freshman and Sophomore which takes place each year.

Miss Pearl Garbrick is advisor to the group.

COLLEGE-COMMUNITY CHORUS DRAWS LOCAL TALENT

The College-Community Chorus was begun by Miss Pearl Garbrick in 1946 when the Hazleton Penn State Center was located at the Broad Street School building.

The chorus presents two concerts yearly — at Christmas and in the Spring. It also sings at convocation and other special events.

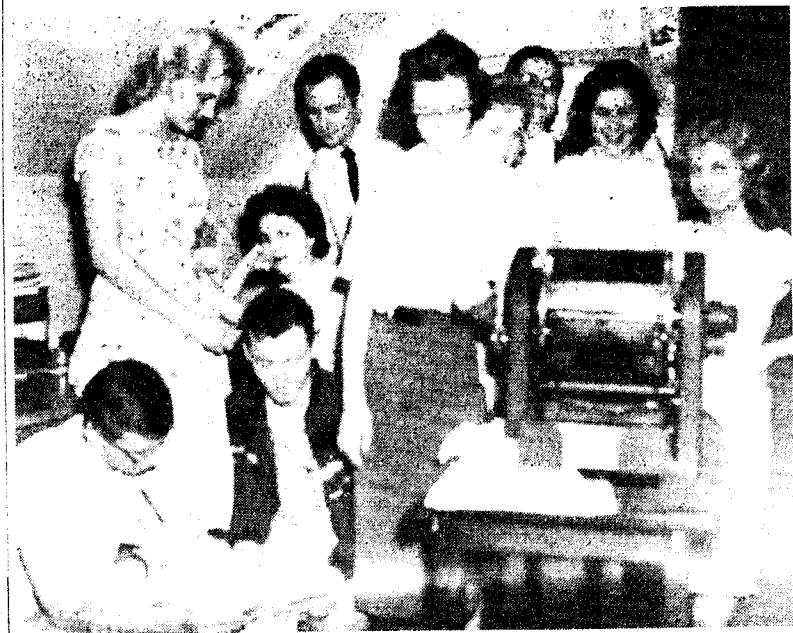
The only requirement for membership is interest in singing this kind of music. Community persons, students, and faculty members comprised the group which is still under the tutelage of Miss Garbrick.

This spring's presentation, given May 24 at the SUB, included the entire "Requiem" by Gabriel Faure, sections of "The Peaceable Kingdom" by Randall Thompson, and "O Jesus Christ, My Life and Light," one of Johann Sebastian Bach's cantatas.

Among the student members of the Chorus are Al Hinger, Olga Markus, Thomas Clatch, Karen Snyder, Fred Keller, Edwina Roland, George Walker, Jonathan Kaereher, Joe Jumpeter, Hank Richard and John Benner.

The faculty members are Mrs. Elizabeth Bodenstein and Gordon Wilcox.

Collegian Serves Campus By Printing News Bi-weekly



COLLEGIAN STAFF pause during a busy time while publishing a bi-weekly Collegian. Left to right Frances Werpshaw, Nancy Bradney (Editor), Hank Richard, Celia Kalinowski, Adeline Schumacher, Prisca Stiles, Pat Reteneller, and Bobbie Jean Pace.

Studying copy to the lower left are Francis Sullivan and John McCullough.

Highacres has had a "Collegian" in one form or another almost since the Center began. Back in the Markle Bank days, the Collegian came out in mimeographed form every week or so. Then, as now, it dealt mainly with the activities of the students and faculty. When the Center moved to Highacres, the paper had its office in what is now the Zoology storage room on the third floor of the Main Building.

In the 40's, it came out as a printed edition once a month. At this time, Professor Peightal was the advisor. However, after a few years, the printed edition became too expensive and the paper went back to the old mimeo format. The typing was done in Professor Kafka's present office, and it was mimeographed in the old bookstore on

the first floor of the Main Building. Soon, however, the Collegian had its own office again. A drafting storage on the third floor of the Main Building was cleaned and supplied with desks and chairs. This has remained the Collegian office to the present. The Collegian now appears as a bi-weekly with the aid of two typewriters, a reconditioned mimeographing machine, and, of course, the staff with Professor Andrew Kafka advising.

The newspaper has a number of important campus functions: (1) It brings news to everyone on our campus and, via exchange, to other places as well. (2) It is an outlet for students' writing, art, and opinions. (3) It offers training and experience to students who plan to major or minor in journalism.