

Sigma Phi Sigma Fraternity Message from the president,

10/18/2008

To the Active brothers of Sigma Phi Sigma,

If you are new to the fold, let me say welcome. I pledged in the spring of 1976 and I believe that Sigma Phi Sigma is for life. The purpose of this message is to share with you my fraternity philosophy and to pass along what I have learned about Sigma Phi Sigma and what I personally believe in this regard.

Once the initial pledge period is over and you are IN. Your journey has only just begun. You are a Sigma for life. Act like it! You never stop pledging! Never forget that. We can never stop learning about our brothers, and the fraternity. I have been a brother for over 30 years and I still am learning about, working for, and loving the fraternity.

Brotherhood is what we are all about. However, Sigma Phi Sigma stands for many other things too. One of which is leadership! Sigma Phi Sigma was the first fraternity on campus and is the only group of any kind that has it's own active alumni association at William Penn University. The actives of Sigma Phi Sigma have been above all the other groups on campus in terms of philanthropy and community service on and off campus. I challenge any group on campus to match what we have done in the last 15 years. We are the number one active group on campus. That did not happen by accident. It took a great deal of effort from the past actives and alumni. Men, it is up to you to carry the torch on campus and help preserve our brotherhood for now and into the future. Represent the fraternity in all aspects of campus life. Demonstrate leadership!

I want to take this opportunity to give you some expectations for all active brothers in Sigma Phi Sigma.

1. Brotherhood. Always be there for each other. Serve! Be a doer and not a talker. Look for ways to give back to the fraternity. Pay your dues and other fraternity obligations. Wear our colors daily! Attend alumni events after graduation. Network after life at Penn.

2. Academics. Attend classes daily, do your work, stay eligible, earn your degree! Earn academic honors if possible. Brothers who live 2-3 years together and earn their degrees build deep relationships, stay connected, and make good alumni. Brothers, who do not stay at Penn and earn their degree, seem to drift away. Stay in school!

3. Campus Involvement. Every brother should get involved in other activities on campus in addition to Sigma Phi Sigma, it can be sports, SGA, Greek Council, clubs, committees, professor assistant, etc. Every active brother should be a part of at least one other activity annually. We need brothers serving on SGA and the Greek council every semester! If you can't be a member of SGA, than attend meetings! Protect yourselves by being informed.

Strive to be an officer, captain, or any position of leadership, in other activities. If you can't be an officer than be a good member.

Campus involvement serves many purposes. A. Demonstrates leadership for yourself and for Sigma Phi Sigma. The more we are active on campus the stronger Sigma Phi Sigma is. B. Personal resume building C. Campus networking D. Faculty recommendations. E. Recruiting new members for Sigma Phi Sigma, F. It raises the image of our fraternity G. Educational benefits H. Fun

If you choose not to be in any other activities, then bust your rump twice as hard for Sigma Phi Sigma. We are Doers. Not Talkers. We are leaders, we are brothers, and we are number one. That is who we are. Don't you ever forget it! . Act on your talents and lean on your brothers for strength. Have fun, and play hard! But remember to balance fun and responsibilities. There is time for everything, you just can't do everything all at the same time. Time management and common sense is the key.

4. Communication. Keep on top of William Penn's E-mail or any other means by which the University sets up to contact you. This is how university personal gets important information to you. I and other alumni may attempt to contact you. Respond to your e-mail in a timely fashion. Keep your contact information up to date on the Sigma Phi Sigma web site now and as alumni.

We had trouble times. We once had a group of actives that were only interested in partying and bitching about the college administration. We about lost this fraternity and the whole Greek system. It took about 5-6 years to really get it going again. We pulled together and became even stronger. I have always said, "Sigma Phi Sigma is strongest in the face of adversity." Ask yourselves this. What will be your legacy?

Last fall we had a great 45-year reunion. The next 4 years will prove to be very fun, meaningful, and productive. Then in the fall of 2012 we will celebrate our fraternities golden anniversary, the 50-year reunion. I hope to see you all there and with a William Penn University degree on your resume.

Finally. Let me say this. Every Hell Night a re-pledge ceremony for the actives is held. Just like singing the anthem together, re-pledge is a valued tradition that must be carried on. The symbolism may have a different meaning for every brother. This is what Re-pledging means to me.... Every time I am contacted by a brother and I respond, I get a call for comfort in times of trouble, write an agenda for our meetings, take on a new fraternity project, attend a brothers child's wedding, attend a brothers funeral or send a card for a loss in their family, or even hoist a beer with a brother, I am re-pledging. Like the ole saying goes "If you are going to talk the talk then you got to walk the walk." If you learn anything from my words, please learn this: You never stop pledging!

Andy Davidson, sp.76
President, Sigma Phi Sigma Alumni Association, Inc.