It is that time of year again when many of us are busy trying to get a variety of projects completed before winter covers us with cold and snow. It seems like there are always more projects and tasks that demand more and more of our time. Many of you are also busy with teaching classes… preparing lectures, grading homework and quizzes and trying to fit that into all the other activities associated with the fall. This is also a time when many of our Pi Alpha Xi chapters have their annual banquet and initiation of new members.

Pi Alpha Xi has been around for a long time! It was founded in 1923 by a group of forward-thinking individuals in New York. We have grown to over 11,000 members since that initial meeting, and hope to continue to grow for many more years to come. However, while we have 36 chapters in four-year institutions around the country, many of these have not been very active in recent years. Surprisingly, this list of inactive chapters includes some of the larger schools in floriculture and ornamental horticulture. Why are we seeing this decline in involvement of these chapters? The reasons are many, but I think that much of it relates to the fact that we are all so busy with so many projects that some things have to be put aside.

I have been told by my administration that we can’t do everything for everyone anymore. While I know that is true, I would hope that we could prioritize our list a bit and that an active local chapter of Pi Alpha Xi stays on the list. Or, that it could be added back to the list if it has been dropped off in the last few years.

I think we need to remember what our founders had in mind for this organization… to unify students, educators and industry members and to promote high scholarship, fellowship, professional leadership and the enrichment of human life through plants. The events of recent weeks have helped to unify the American people and allow us to focus on what is really important in our lives. I would hope that we each take the time to refocus a tiny bit of our lives to recall what is truly important to each of us and that perhaps we can find the time to remember the ideals of our PAX founders and reinitiate some time and interest in your local honorary horticulture society – Pi Alpha Xi. If you are an administrator, I would hope that you would encourage a faculty member in your department to work with PAX and in turn, reward them for a job well done! I know that at SDSU, student retention has been very strongly tied to student involvement. So, get your students involved in Pi Alpha Xi… they will thank you for it!

Dave

David F. Graper
Pi Alpha Xi National President
60th National Intercollegiate Floral Crop Quality Evaluation and Design Competition held at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

The Environmental Horticulture Science Department at California Polytechnic State University -- San Luis Obispo hosted the 60th National Intercollegiate Floral Crop Quality Evaluation and Design Competition April 4-6, 2001. Students from ten universities (California Polytechnic State University, New Mexico State University, Oklahoma State University, South Dakota State University, Pennsylvania State University, University of Illinois, University of Minnesota, University of Wisconsin -- Platteville, University of Wisconsin -- River Falls, and Utah State University) participated in both the flower judging and floral design contests. The flower judging contest consisted of 15 classes of potted plants and 15 classes of cut flowers that were judged on a criteria of quality standards that include cultural perfection, floriferousness, and freedom of disease, insect and mechanical injury.

The Annual contest is co-sponsored by The American Floral Endowment and Pi Alpha Xi National Floriculture Honor Society. Chairman of the contest was Professor Virginia R. Walter.

Flower Judging Contest

First Place Team

Pennsylvania State University
Team Participants: Ann Bond, Kevin Brothers, Tina Gentile, Lee Ann Pramuk, and Carl Richard
Coach: Dr. Dennis Wolnick

Second Place Team

University of Wisconsin -- River Falls
Team Participants: Kim Bode, Jessie Bruss, Nick Folk, Becky Matheson, Carrie Rupnow, Michelle Stay, Melanie Welles
Coach: Dr. Terry Ferris

Third Place Team

University of Illinois
Team Participants: Joel Davidson, John Garlisch, Molly Karnes, and Kathy York
Coach: Dr. Marvin Carbonneau and Dianne Noland
Individual Flower Judging Contest Scores

First Individual Overall
Jessie Bruss, University of Wisconsin -- River Falls

Second Overall
Erika Brooks, Oklahoma State University

Third Overall
Ann Bond, Pennsylvania State University

First Individual Potted Plant
Erika Brooks, Oklahoma State University

Second Potted Plant
Kevin Brothers, Pennsylvania State University

Third Potted Plant
Jessie Bruss, University of Wisconsin -- River Falls

First Individual Cut Flowers
Melanie Welles, University of Wisconsin -- River Falls

Second Cut Flowers
Jessie Bruss, University of Wisconsin -- River Falls

Third Cut Flowers
Ann Bond, Pennsylvania State University
Individual Floral Design Contest Scores

**Division I, Class I**
(One-sided Design)

- **First:** Kendi Nelson, Oklahoma State University
- **Second:** Lisa Stratton, California Polytechnic State University -- San Luis Obispo
- **Third:** Lee Ann Pramuk, Pennsylvania State University

**Division II, Class III**
(Corsage)

- **First:** Jamie Blomquist, Utah State University
- **Second:** Kirstina Lewis, Oklahoma State University
- **Third:** Scott Rusch, South Dakota State University

**Division I, Class II**
(Table Centerpiece)

- **First:** Christine Hawkins, California Polytechnic State University -- San Luis Obispo
- **Second:** Tina Gentile, The Pennsylvania State University
- **Third:** Tracy Payton, Oklahoma State University

**Division II, Class II**
(Designer’s Choice)

- **First:** Kim Bode, University of Wisconsin -- River Falls
- **Second:** Laura Baune, University of Minnesota
- **Third:** Miranda Towerton, South Dakota State University

Miranda Towerton, South Dakota State University, Third Place Designer’s choice

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2002 Team Coaches
New Members of Pi Alpha Xi

New initiates (2000/2001)

**ALPHA**

**CORNELL UNIVERSITY**
- Leah L. Walters
- Michael T. Wimmer
- Anthony M. Engel
- John May
- Bryan Carmer
- Jason I. Munn
- Tricia L. Snyder
- Brandon Shrom
- Mitchell Bortz
- Christine Romanoski
- Daniel Walmsley
- Tanya R. Bromfield
- Kellie Davis
- Ann Bond
- Nicholas De Vito
- Kimberly Marchek

**BETA**

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-CHAMPAIGN**
- Melissa Sommer
- Amy Bohner
- Rachel Dauch
- Hillary Maurer
- Scott Simindinger
- Sherry Hawley
- Scott Stewart
- Jennifer Pope
- Howard Hahn
- Mark Radick
- Bradley Harvey
- Tony Zaya
- Paula Bigelow
- Cindy Schroeder
- Holly Hawkins
- Michael Bridgewater
- Nancy McAllee
- Travis Beck
- Marcia Feller
- Brian Schutte
- Arthur Wells
- Monica Hopes
- Barb Fair
- Ann Gayek
- Matt Suppler
- Kurt Bresko
- Kerry Harman
- Jennifer Harach
- Katy Larkin
- Josh Nichols
- Ed Popper
- Nora Somiham
- Annette Swanberg
- Jennifer Webb

**EPSILON**

**OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**
- Michael Papagiannis
- Elizabeth M. Hartman
- Sara R. Mahoney
- Megan N. McCabe
- Le Ann Pramuk
- Janice M. Schneider
- Mathew Sober
- Jeremy Walters

**GAMMA**

**PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY**
- Rebecca Wehry
- Kevin Brothers
- Liesl Sybrant
- Colleen Ashbaugh
- Amber Leventry
- Matthew Collavo
- Matthew Pruski

**IOTA**

**NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY**
- Ross Lester Andrews
- Adam W. Barb
- Misty Barefoot
- Adrienne D. Bryan
- Jim Burton
- Peter Condon
- Angel K. Durhman
- Kristina M. Fox
- Lane Greer
- Tiffany Harrelson
- Jessica Hyatt
- David Ingersoll
- Caren Judge
- Ellen Kennedy

**ETA**

**WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY**
- Carrie W. Edwards
- Vicki L. Newman
- Paula Marie Paton
- Jeffery Steven Whitney

**LOTUS LEAFLET**

Spring/Summer 2001
KAPPA VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC & STATE UNIVERSITY
Joshua G. Leab
Jeffrey A. Leindecker
Anna Elizabeth Mabie
Jessica Seem
Colleen Sparks
Andrew Wagoner
Meredith E. Young

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC & STATE UNIVERSITY
Jeanette Ankoma-Sey
Joshua Cocceano
Jennifer Ducote
Amanda Joines
Larry Madison
Maria Mauceri
Sarah Riggely
Gene Williams

UPSILON CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
Hollie D. Franklin
John W. King
Rachel E. Power
Claudia J. Tantum
Christopher L. Wassenberg
Angel M. Jones
Jacey L. Garrison
Narana Hibbard
William H. Hill
Jenny M. Ingram
Jordan L. Johnson
Stephen R. Kirkpatrick
George N. Kneckt
Eibleis E. Larkin
Alicia L. Payne
Andrew S. Ryan
Terry L. Smith
Michael T. Steinfeld
Nicole M. Syllis
Kourtney M. Becker
Elizabeth T. Bemis
Savannah Bluth
Monica T. Britton
Ellen Marie Chaffins
Megan C. Fleming
Darcy E. Hill
Gina S. Armus
Dianna L. Deem
Brent G. Hallock
Carolyn S. Hiatt
Kimberly A. Mendonca
Laura A. Ramage
Mark D. Shelton
Janis Van Bever

PHI SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY
Stephanie Benson
Margie Gallagher
Tanya Lieberman

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
CHI
Timothy Corey
Elizabeth Coyle
Cynthia Craig
Theresa Daigle
Josh Davis
Arthur Fairburn
Timothy Fogelson
Joanne Griffin
Brian Hogan
Anh Quy Huynh
Amy Katherine Kiker
R. Blaine Mathews
Molly McDonald
W. Scott Pitner
Robin Schreiber

OMEGA CHAPTER KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
Timothy J. Abbott
Dave Berner
Carrie Bonebrake
Christina Breneman
Barry B. Burson
Hyejin Cho
Michael J. Crawford
Julia Claire Denning
Kathryn Silin Galliher
James D. Goodrich
Joshua Graber
Heather Hall
Valerie M. Jonas
Kylea Knight
Ann Lesan
John Paul McLenon
Keith Niebaum
Geraldine B. Opena
Lesly Parker
Julie Rayburn
Cody Reed
Brett M. Robinson
Peggy Rush
Minnie Hahn Shelor
Jane M. Sparks
Katie Stucky
Mark P. Stulhsatz
Jessica D. Sullivan
Jennifer Sweet
Nicole Wenke
James Widman
Jennifer L. Yockey
Han-E Zhou
Mingwang Liu
Yuriko Yamaya

ALPHA BETA UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
Alan Hale
Andrew D. Knight
Shasta McCoy
John Moody
Pat Morse
Nicole Pendleton
Laura Elizabeth Porter
Michael W. Shelton
Jason Arnold
Amy Bartel
Evelyn Boutz

PSI TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY
Roxanne Boyer
Lucila Carpio
Jennifer Earley
Craig Felterhoff
Catherine Gregory
Melissa Hannah
Ashley Hartmen

Ralph Miller
Wilfred Zeuner
Cassie Trien
Joy McCoy
Kerri Griess
Todd Einhorn
You may note that this is the first issue of the Lotus Leaflet that you have received since the Spring / Summer 2000. Since that issue, there has been some changes in the executive structure of Pi Alpha Xi at a national level.

I am now the interim Vice-President for Pi Alpha Xi and will be preparing the next few issues of the Lotus Leaflet. I intend for the next issues to be prepared in a more timely manner.

Steven E. Newman, Ph.D.
Colorado State University
Pi Alpha Xi established a photography contest in 1996 to be held annually in conjunction with the Annual Conference of the American Society for Horticultural Science. The purpose of the contest is to promote excellence in photography as well as promote Pi Alpha Xi. A scholarship program is supported by entry fees associated with the contest. For full contest rules, see http://www.pax.okstate.edu/PDFs/phcontst.pdf
Richard Criley
Second Place Flower
University of Hawaii
Strelitzia reginae

Richard Criley
Second Place Ornamental
University of Hawaii
Sempervivum tectorum

D. N. Maynard
Third Place Flower
University of Florida
Pentunia
Tim Elkner
First Place Landscape
Penn State Cooperative Extension
Conservatory at Longwood Gardens

D. N. Maynard
Second Place Landscape
University of Florida
Callaway Gardens
PRESIDENT DAVID GRAPER CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 12:45PM AND WELCOMED THE GROUP

SECRETARY/TREASURER DENNIS WOLNICK CALLED THE CHAPTER ROLL. TWENTY MEMBERS WERE PRESENT REPRESENTING CHAPTERS BETA (U. OF ILLINOIS), GAMMA (PENN STATE U.), EPSILON (OHIO STATE U), ZETA (RUTGERS), ETA (WASH. STATE U), IOTA (N.C STATE U.), LAMBDA (U OF MINNESOTA), MU (U. OF FLORIDA),OMICRON (PURDUE U.), PHI (S D STATE U.), CHI (COLORADO STATE U.), PSI (TEXAS A & M), OMEGA (KANSAS STATE U.), ALPHA BETA (TENNESSEE), ALPHAKAPPA (MISSISSIPPI STATE U.).

Copies of minutes for the 2000 meeting in Orlando, FL were distributed and approved with a correction changing “Ohio” to “Ohio State” in the list of chapters represented at the meeting.

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

(A request was made at the 2000 meeting to provide a list of current committees with their duties and current membership. In the committee reports that follow the duties and composition of the committees are included- DJW)

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

A list of new Pi Alpha Xi members, initiated through Spring 2001 and not yet listed in Lotus Leaf, was distributed to the members. There were 397 new initiates in 14 chapters. It was noted that initiates from South Dakota State U. and Colorado State U. were missing from the distributed list. They are counted in the total of 397 initiates. The Secretary/treasurer acknowledged the omissions and reported about the loose ends still to be tied up regarding the recent transition from Bridget Behe to Dennis Wolnick as Secretary/Treasurer. The complete list of new members appears in the Summer 2001 Lotus Leaf.

FINANCE REPORT

Final check closing out PAX checking account at Michigan State received just prior to meeting. All Pi Alpha Xi financial and new member business is now done through Dennis Wolnick at Penn State. The starting balance in Pi Alpha Xi National’s treasury as of July 27, 2000 was $9384.02. Income, primarily in the form of a grant ($4368.05), from the American Floral Endowment, and as initiation fees from new members ($2755.00) were the major sources of revenue for Pi Alpha Xi National during this last year. Total revenue was $7338.05. Pi Alpha Xi National’s largest expense category was reimbursements for flower judging teams to travel to participate in the contest. Much of this travel money comes from AFE and is supplemented with funds from Pi Alpha Xi National. $4500 was returned to eight judging teams in 2001. Total expenses during this past year were $5731.17, leaving a balance of $10,990.90 as of August 31, 2001. (Detailed financial report is attached)

AD HOC CALENDAR AND PHOTO CONTEST COMMITTEE

Duties: To organize, publicize, operate and evaluate the annual photography contest held by Pi Alpha Xi at the ASHS annual meeting. Money earned from entries are targeted for Pi Alpha Xi National’s chapter scholarship matching funds program.

Current members:
- David Graper, chair, South Dakota State
- Bob Stamps, University of Florida
- Richard Criley, University of Hawaii
- Susan Schoneweis, University of Nebraska

REPORT: 2001 PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST AWARDS, SACRAMENTO, CA

There were seven entries from four individuals in the 2001 Photography Contest held in conjunction with the ASHS Annual Meeting in Sacramento, CA. Robert Stamps (University of Florida) received the first place award in the contest.
Ornamenta division (subj. *Euphorbia pulcherrima*) and also won Best In Show for this photograph. Bob Stamps (Univ. of FL) received first place awards in the Flower (subj. *Gerbera jamesonii*). Richard Criley (Univ. of HI) received second place awards in the Flower (subj. *Strelitzia reginae*) and Ornamental (subj. *Sempervivum tectorum*) divisions. Tim Elkner (Penn State Cooperative Extension) won the first place award in the Landscape division (subj. Conervatory at Longwood Gardens) D. N. Maynard (Univ. of FL) won a second place award in the Landscape (subj. landscape at Calloway Gardens, Pine Mountain, GA) division and third in the Flower (subj. Petunia X hybridæ) division. Total entry fees received, $35. Total cash prizes awarded, $285.

**PUBLICATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Duties:** shall coordinate the publication of the Recruitment Brochure, Flower Judging Manual, Flower Judging Participation and Awards Certificates, and other publications of the Honor Society.

**Current members:**
- Bridgett Behe, chair, Michigan State
- Mark Bridgen, University of Connecticut
- Ellen Paparozzi, University of Nebraska
- Terry Ferris, University of Wisconsin-River Falls

**REPORT: JUDGING MANUAL (SEE ALSO OLD BUSINESS)**

Discussion continued from the 2000 meeting regarding alternatives for printing and distributing the Judging Manual. ASHS was approached and offered to do it, but the general feeling at this time was that Pi Alpha Xi would lose control of the manual. There is an immediacy to demand for manuals, orders often made by phone to Terry Ferriss, and up to now Pi Alpha Xi has been able to respond promptly to requests, more so perhaps than ASHS would be able to do. It was moved and seconded that Terry Ferriss be authorized to reprint sufficient copies of the manual to get through the year, that is through spring 2002. The motion was passed unanimously. Additional discussion centered on the need to publicize the manual in appeals to floriculture course instructors for use in classes and to organizations such as FFA, NIHA, 4-H for use as a resource in their activities. The importance of simply making potential users aware of the existence of the manual and its value for judging activities was stressed. Suggestions for publicizing the manual included articles and advertisements in association newsletters, having an exhibit at the FFA convention in Louisville, KY and promotion via the Pi Alpha Xi website.

**CONTEST COMMITTEE**

**Duties:** shall oversee the activities of the National Intercollegiate Floral Crop Quality Evaluation and Floral Design Contest

**Current members:**
- David Graper, chair, South Dakota State

**REPORT: INTERCOLLEGIATE FLORAL CROP QUALITY EVALUATION AND FLORAL DESIGN COMPETITION REPORT**

A brief report by David Graper summarized the 60th Intercollegiate Floral Crop Quality Evaluation and Design Contest held April 4-6, 2001 at Cal Poly State University and coordinated by Virginia Walter. Penn State University placed first in the floral crop Quality evaluation competition, University of Wisconsin-River Falls placed second and the University of Illinois was third. Complete results from the 60th competition are available in the Summer 2001 Lotus Leaf.

The 61st Intercollegiate Floral Crop Quality Evaluation and Design Contest coordinated by Terry Ferriss will be held April 3-5, 2002 at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. Ferriss reported that the evaluation competition will be held at Bachman’s in Minneapolis and the floral arrangement competition will be held on the River Falls campus. One primary objective of the 2-day competition will be to provide abundant opportunities for students and their faculty coaches to interact with members of the floral industries, not only in Wisconsin and Minnesota but also nationwide. Steve Martinez, Exec VP for the American Floral Endowment, is expected to attend the 61st competition in an effort to increase contest awareness among AFE members and thus encourage increased support from AFE, already a key sponsor of the contest.

There was discussion stressing the need to have more schools involved in the competition. Suggestions related to soliciting funding for coach recruitment activities, and providing increased publicity about the competition via the ASHS Newsletter, articles in ASHS publications, discussion via the ASHS listserves and via information and reports about the competition on the Pi Alpha Xi Website. Both Pres. Graper and T. Ferriss also stressed that the contest was not limited to floriculture students because judging activities had broad application in plant science. Any students in horticultural programs interested in learning about judging floral crops and willing to attend practice is welcome to participate.
FELLOWS SELECTION COMMITTEE

**Duties:** shall solicit nominations for Fellows of the Society and be responsible for assembling support documentation for selection.

**Current members:**
- Doug Needham, chair, Oklahoma State
- Mary Albrecht, University of Tennessee
- Everett Emino, University of Florida
- Jay Holcomb, Penn State University

**Report**
No Fellows candidates identified for 2002

D. Graper for Chair Doug Needham

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NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

**Duties:** shall develop a slate of candidates for the National Offices and present the slate at the National Meeting.

**Current members:**
- David Graper, chair, South Dakota State
- Steve Newman, Colorado State

**Report**
No committee report. Discussion occurred under New Business about finding a new vice-president (see new business)

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RULES COMMITTEE

**Duties:** shall review the Constitution and By Laws of the Honor Society and suggest changes or additions to the membership.

**Current members:**
- Jack Buxton, chair, University of Kentucky
- Virginia Walter, Cal Poly

**Report**
No report by committee except an entry in Minutes for 2000 Annual Meeting referring to a change in the Constitution and By-Laws, approved by the membership, to state that the Vice-President shall serve as editor of the Lotus Leaf.

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WEBSITE COMMITTEE

**Duties:** organize and supervise the Pi Alpha Xi Website

**Current members:**
- Bridget Behe, chair, Michigan State
- Doug Needham, Oklahoma State University

**Report:** No report.

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OLD BUSINESS

Continuation of Photo Contest

Members discussed changes that could be made to in the contest to attract more entries (7 entries in 2001). Some potential participants have stated that the prize money, or other rewards for entering the contest, were not significant enough for the work involved. It would help to not request such technical details as speed and lens opening on the entry form. While not a requirement such details may be intimidating to some, and often these details are not collected when using cameras with automatic exposure adjustment. Pres. Graper commented that the exposure details requested on the entry form were intended to provide helpful information to other photographers and are not required for entry. It could be made clearer that the photo contest was not restricted to members of Pi Alpha Xi. Additional publicity is needed to make potential participants aware of the purpose of the competition (to raise money for PAX’s Chapter Scholarship matching program). Additional comments related to other uses of participants’ photos, such as in calendars produced and sold to earn money for the Scholarship program. Solicitation of sponsors for the contest prize money was a suggestion. The inclusion of digital images as a contest category was discussed, but no action was taken. The Photography Contest will occur at the 2002 Toronto ASHS Annual Meeting, organized as in 2001, with no digital image division. Acknowledgement was given to Mary Albrecht for an article she wrote for HortScience describing the benefits and purposes of Pi Alpha Xi and how many ASHS presidents over the years were (and are) Pi Alpha Xi members.
NEW BUSINESS

New Vice President

President Graper accepted Bridget Behe’s resignation as PAX Vice-President shortly before the 2001 Annual Meeting in Sacramento. A lack of time to devote to the office was mentioned as the primary reason for Behe’s resignation. Subsequent discussion at the meeting focused on the need to identify an interim VP, particularly because of the vice-president’s new responsibility to edit the Lotus Leaf. Steve Newman was willing to undertake production of the Lotus Leaf provided he had the assistance of other members in doing so. It was moved by acclamation (and passed) that Steve will serve as interim VP with the particular responsibility to produce the Lotus Leaf. There being no other new business, the meeting was adjourned at 2 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis J. Wolnick
Secretary/Treasurer

PI ALPHA XI NATIONAL -- FINANCIAL REPORT
July 27, 2000 through August 31, 2001
Submitted for Annual Meeting

Beginning Balance                                                                 $9384.02

INCOME

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EXPENSES

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Ending Balance, 8/31/01                                         $11024.98

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis J. Wolnick
Secretary/Treasurer