The purpose of Pi Alpha Xi - The Honor Society for Floriculture, Landscape Horticulture, and Ornamental horticulture is to recognize high scholarship, to foster good relationships among its members, to promote or to facilitate the exchange of ideas among members of the professions, and to establish cordial relations among students, educators, and industry members.

PAX OFFICERS

President:
Terri Woods Starman
Department of Ornamental Horticulture and Landscape Design
University of Tennessee
P.O. Box 1071
Knoxville, TN 37901-1071
phone: 423-974-7324
FAX: 423-974-1947
e-mail: tstarman@utk.edu

Vice President:
David F. Graper
Department of Horticulture
Forestry, Landscape and Parks
South Dakota State University
Box 2140-A, NPB 254-D
Brookings, SD 57007-0996
phone: 605-688-6253
FAX: 605-688-4713
e-mail: David_Graper@sdstate.edu

Secretary-Treasurer:
Bridget Behe
A216 Plant & Soil Sciences Building
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824
phone: (517) 432-2450
FAX: (517) 353-0890
e-mail: behe@pilot.msu.edu

Letter from Your President

Pi Alpha Xi National
Winter 2000

Dear Members of Pi Alpha Xi National,

We are looking forward to the 59th National Intercollegiate Floral Crop Quality Evaluation and Floral Design Contest to be held at Texas A&M University. Next year the 60th competition will be held at Cal Poly. What a tradition!

However, as classical as our organization is we are also contemporary and changing with the times. We now have our own website. Please visit it at www.pax.okstate.edu. We are in the process of pursuing publishing the Flower Judging Manual through ASHS Press for the purpose of increasing its distribution and educating more people about the quality of our products. And, what great products they are! How lucky we are to work with the floral industry.

Please help support our Honorary Society by serving on a committee (listed in this newsletter) and attending our annual meeting at ASHS in Orlando this summer. See you there!

Terri W. Starman
Pi Alpha Xi National Committee Charges and Members 2000

**Rules Committee** - shall review the Constitution and By Laws of the Honor Society and suggest changes or additions to the membership.
   Jack Buxton, chair, University of Kentucky
   Virginia Walter, Cal Poly

**Publications and Membership Services Committee** - shall coordinate the publication of the Recruitment Brochure, Flower Judging Manual, Flower Judging Participation and Awards Certificates, and other publications of the Honor Society.
   Bridgett Behe, chair, Michigan State
   Mark Bridgen, University of Connecticut
   Ellen Paparozzi, University of Nebraska
   Terry Ferris, University of Wisconsin-River Falls

**Nominations Committee** - shall develop a slate of candidates for the National Offices and present the slate at the National Meeting.
   Terri Starman, chair, University of Tennessee
   Steve Newman, Colorado State

**Contest Committee** - shall oversee the activities of the National Intercollegiate Floral Crop Quality Evaluation and Floral Design Contest.
   David Graper, chair, South Dakota State

**Fellows Selection Committee** - shall solicit nominations for Fellows of the Society and be responsible for assembling support documentation for selection.
   Doug Needham, chair, Oklahoma State
   Mary Albrecht, University of Tennessee
   Everett Emino, University of Florida
   Jay Holcomb, Penn State

**Ad hoc Calendar and Photo Contest Committee** -
   David Graper, chair, South Dakota State
   Bob Stamps, University of Florida
   Richard Criley, University of Hawaii
   Susan Schoneweis, University of Nebraska

**Website Committee**
   David Graper, chair, South Dakota State
   Doug Needham, Oklahoma State

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59th NATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATE FLORAL CROP QUALITY EVALUATION AND FLORAL DESIGN COMPETITION

A Big Leap Year Howdy From Aggieland!

The 59th annual National INtercollegiate Floral Crop Quality Evaluation and Design Competition scheduled for May 5-7 is fast approaching. We are looking forward to your arrival! A few very important nuggets of information follow:

1. **LODGING:** Please call the Manor House Inn, College Station at 800-231-4100 as soon as you can to secure your room reservations. Ask for the Flower Judging Contest room block #4482 if you are arriving on Wed. April 5 (block #4481 if arriving a day earlier). The room rate is $51 plus applicable taxes for 1 to 4 persons per room.

2. **REGISTRATION:** Please return your registration form by fax, e-mail or regular mail as soon as you can, but no later than March 29th. It would help me if you could send numbers sooner and names later.

3. **SCHEDULE:** The contest schedule is found later in this article.

4. **TRAVEL INFO:** You can fly into College Station on American Eagle (commuter) from Dallas or on Continental Express (commuter) from Houston. Our airport is on campus, just a mile from the Hort. building. Auto rentals at the airport include: Advantage, Avis, Budget and Enterprise. The Manor House Inn has free airport pickup service.
5. FEES: The registration fee of $60 per person will cover the student party, two lunches, awards banquet and bus transportation and is due upon arrival April 5. Make your checks payable to TAMU Horticulture.

6. BUSH LIBRARY TOUR: A fee of $3.50 cash will be collected on the bus from each student and coach for this tour. I hope this won’t be too invasive.

7. FREE TIME: Your arrival evening, Wed. April 5 will be your free evening. I plan to have some light refreshments on hand at the social room in the motel but this will not be a full-fledged reception. Our student mixer/party will be Thursday evening instead, and it will include supper.

8. CONTEST RULES: Rules for both contests remain the same as the last few years.

   This winter, like last winter has been extremely mild and dry. We are now having temperatures in the 70’s and 80’s so you can expect that in April. However, there is always a chance that a cold front will come through so bring a jacket. I would expect that our wild flowers would be a month ahead of time this year. I hope the bluebonnets will still be in full bloom for your arrival.

   The judging and design competitions will be held in a similar manner to past years. We will be staging the judging contest on Thursday and the design contest on Friday. The scoring cards will be the same as before. The design competition will again have two divisions. Division I is open to individuals that do not have any professional design experience. Division II is geared toward those individuals that have some professional design experience but this is not a requirement to participate.

   Division I Class 1 (one-sided asymmetrical triangle) designers will be provided with a similar, pre-sorted selection of flowers and foliage for a 6” vase appropriate for the class. Division I Class 2 (round or oblong table centerpiece) designers will be provided a similar, pre-sorted selection of flowers and foliage and a 6” flat dish suitable for use on round or rectangular tables.

   Division II designers will be required to prepare a cost analysis of their designs. A list of local wholesale costs will be provided in the packet of registration materials, which will be handed out upon your arrival Wednesday. All Division II designers will be allowed to select their own flowers and foliage from stock provided, each in turn by lots. Themes for Division II classes will be given in the design room before the contest begins. Division II Class 1 is a corsage and Division II Class (Designer’s Choice) will be provided a 10” ginger vase or similar container.

   I look forward to welcoming you Wed. afternoon or evening and letting everyone meet one another then have a free evening to dine and catch a view Z’s. We will be starting early Thursday morning. The Manor House Inn provides free continental breakfast, but those who wish a full breakfast, the Kettle restaurant is next door -- a few steps away. The motel is located adjacent to shopping centers with a supermarket, restaurants, fast foods and almost anything you could want. The motel has an outdoor pool.

   We’re looking forward to ya’ll comin’ to Texas A&M!

   Sincerely,

   James L. Johnson AAF, AIFD, TMF, Distinguished Lecturer and Contest Chair
59th National Intercollegiate
Floral Crop Quality Evaluation and Design Competition
Pi Alpha Xi - Texas A & M University
April 5-7, 2000
REGISTRATION

To: James L. Johnson
Texas A&M University
Department of Horticultural Sciences
College Station, TX 77843-2133
Phone: 409-845-3841  FAX: 409-845-0627
E-mail: a-boney@tamu.edu

Institution Name____________________________________  Department Name_________________________
Address:  __________________________________________________________________________________
Phone:  __________________  FAX:_________________  E-mail:____________________________________
Name of Coach:  ___________________________________________________________________________
Name(s) of Assistant Coaches:_________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________

Floral Crop Quality Evaluation Team Names:
1._______________________________________
2._______________________________________
3._______________________________________
4._______________________________________(alternate)

Design Contest Team Names:
Division I (Nonprofessional only)
   Class 1 - One-sided, asymmetrical
   Class 2 - Round, oval (centerpiece)
Division II (Professional or non-professional)
   Class 1 - Corsage
   Class 2 - Designer’s Choice

Number of Individuals Attending:
_____  Total team members named above
_____  Additional persons not enumerated above
_____ TOTAL PERSONS ATTENDING

*Please return this form by mail, fax or email by March 29 if possible
*Keep a copy of this form to bring with you
*Final registration will be at the Manor House Inn April 5th from 3-7PM
   and in the morning 7-8AM April 6th.
*Fee of $60 per person payable at registration. Checks may be made
   payable to: TAMU Horticulture

Special Needs (Please indicate special dietary needs, transportation needs and other special needs here.)