



Alpha Pi Epsilon Candlelight Ceremony

In a recent Candlelight ceremony in Marks Hall Auditorium, 14 students including (The names of students were listed here and release was sent to newspaper indicated for home town.) were initiated into membership in Alpha Pi Chapter, Alpha Pi Epsilon, National Honorary Secretarial Society at Chowan College.

New members, shown standing with their membership scrolls, are, from left: Jeannette Lynn Stephenson, Severn, N.C.; Heidi Lynn Smith, Branford, Conn.; Mary Jeanne Ranslem, Puerto Rico; Betty Jean Moore, Severna Park, Md.; Willie Patricia Monger, Como, N.C.; Barbara Jean Leonard, Ashland, Va.; Nancy Lee Griffin, Raleigh, N.C.; Melonie Griffin, Boykins, Va.; Peggie Leigh Davis, Conway, N.C.; Margret "Cristina" Creed, Belvedere, S.C.; Mary Sue Copeland, Winsor, Va.; Deborah Elizabeth Bryant, Pendleton, N.C.; Debbie Blowe, Murfreesboro, N.C.; and Donna Frances Baines, Suffolk, Va. Not present when picture was taken was Sherry Kay Phelps of Suffolk, Va.

Returning members who performed the formal induction ceremony, are, from left: Lyn Griggs, Falls Church, Va.; Charlotte Woodward, secretary Murfreesboro; Patricia Edwards, sponsor; Patricia Byrum, president, Suffolk, Va.; Vivian Wilson, treasurer, Clarendon, N.C.; and Connie Evans, social chairman, Edenton, N.C.

In order to qualify for membership in Alpha Pi Epsilon, students must maintain a 3.0 quality point rating on all academic work and must possess the qualities of accuracy, dependability and initiative.

"In selecting candidates for membership, the society seeks young people of character, intelligence, leadership, scholarship and superior competence in secretarial subjects," Mrs. Edwards said.

"During the Candlelight Service, initiates pledged to uphold the high ideals of scholarship, leadership, and cooperation—watchwords of Alpha Pi Chapter, Alpha Pi Epsilon," the chapter sponsor added.



Congratulating the new members of Alpha Pi Chapter, Alpha Pi Epsilon, National Honorary Secretarial Society at Chowan College, are four members of the Department of Business, from left, Mrs. Patricia Edwards, sponsor; Tom Ruffin, Departmental Chairman; Mrs. Andrea Eason; and Mrs. Dorothy Wallace.

SMOKE SIGNALS SCHEDULE

Deadline
January 19
February 9
March 1
April 5
April 26

To Be Printed
January 28
February 18
March 10
April 14
May 5



Literary Musings

By PROF. ROBERT G. MULDER

Before she died my grandmother insisted that THE BOOK become my personal property. From the time I could remember, she had for special protection kept it neatly wrapped in plastic paper and carefully placed in her top dresser drawer. She had read scattering accounts to me through the years, and each frightening but intriguing picture I had seen many times.

Today THE BOOK is one of my most prized possessions and each time I consider the volume it becomes just a little more nostalgic. The title of the much worn possession is *Sinking of the Titanic*, a memorial edition of the "ocean horror with graphic descriptions of hundreds swept to eternity beneath the waves."

The fact that my grandmother purchased the volume from a Titanic survivor (so he told her in 1913, the year after the tragedy) who spent the night in her home probably accounted for the special place with her THE BOOK always held.

My father recalls that the traveling salesman came to their community during the summer, going from door to door making his sales and taking lodging wherever he could find a family to welcome him.

Published in 1912, only a few weeks after the sinking, this book contains the "accurate compilation" of Jay Henry Mowbray (the well known author, according to the title page inscription beneath his name and degrees). The Minter Company of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, published the account.

Much is contained in THE BOOK other than stories connected with the Titanic's sinking. A "Hymn for Survivors" (to the tune "O God, Our Help") introduces the table of contents which is followed by a listing of great marine disasters from 1866-1911. The study is complete with an assembly of the survivors and the then-known lost at sea.

My earliest introduction was to the pictures, however. Even before I fully realized that the ship was no longer with us, I marveled at the beauty and size of the luxurious liner. One picture has the ship end-on-end to show its unbelievable length, taller than the Washington Monument.

The unsurpassing luxury adorning the ballrooms, dining hall, and guest

apartments was thrilling to my young eyes. To this day I can hear my grandmother as she explained the pictures to me, both the happy and the sad ones, and at the time I never realized why she became so personally involved as we viewed the book.

Years later the Titanic acquired greater significance with me. I learned to read for myself, and the stories told by passengers who survived the tragedy become the most exciting reading of each weekly visit.

My love for *Sinking of the Titanic* grew with each perusal. The statue and bravery of Captain Smith and others who went down with the ship became legendary and inspirational. The ship's band playing "Nearer My God to Thee" completely touched my young heart and I never hear the hymn today without this association.

I must have asked hundreds of questions about the book before I was twelve years old, but each one was well answered since both my grandparents were thoroughly furnished with information from this account. The only question unanswered was the identity of a Theodore Mulder, listed as one of the passengers rescued.

Having the book now with its faded pictures and ragged pages holds more fascination for me than reading the accounts I so much enjoyed as a boy. The book is not well written (it was a hurry-up job) and each account, as accurate and exciting as it may be, seems to have one aim: to extract every drop of sympathy from the reader possible. A great part of the writing is repetitious and obviously much of this is based upon hear-say.

I could never have told my grandmother this, however, and would not have written this if she were living. To have criticized THE BOOK would have been as bad to her as saying that David never killed Goliath or that the whale never swallowed Jonah.

To my grandmother this book was a sacred account of a terrible tragedy in the history of our country. She wept for the lost in a very personal way, and for her this was what brotherhood was all about.

Supper completed, I can still hear her say, "Want to look at some of the pictures in THE BOOK?" I was always ready.

Chowan Students Set 3 Academic Records

Chowan College students set three academic records during the fall semester.

A record number of 13 students were named to the President's List for straight A work. The previous was 10 recorded in 1974.

The Honors List of 123 students who achieved a B average with no grade lower than C is the highest percentage ever.

Chowan also maintains a Dean's List. Fifty-three students were named who made a grade average between 3.50-3.99 on a 4.00 system.

A total of 189 students representing approximately 18th of Chowan's enrollment of 1,015 students earned a place on one of the three honor lists. This is record for the highest percentage.

