



Photo by Steve Pearce

Honor society inducts 16

Sigma Tau Delta, the English Honor society, inducted new members last Thursday night at their induction and banquet on second floor McEwen. New members are from left to right: Frank Isley, Missy Jones, Susan Bowling, Donna McNeill, Marie Burns, Felicia Fogleman, Jim Cahill, Chris Quad, Kim Morrison, Chuck Parks, Alice Essen, Ann Butler, Becky House. Absent from the picture are inductees David Bartenfield, Gerald Gibson and Pricilla Hayworth.

Fowlie relates his problems in writing autobiographies

By Penny Thomas
Associate Editor

Dr. Wallace Fowlie, author and professor emeritus of Wake University, is working on the third volume of his autobiography *Memoirs*. He said that this section deals with "rites," in other words he said, "rites that have meant a great deal to me."

Fowlie spoke in Mooney Theatre last Thursday as a guest of Sigma Tau Delta Honor Society. He said that when he started on this project, "an emotion takes over when I begin writing on an episode in my life." This emotion, Fowlie said, is "panic."

He went on to discuss other problems of autobiographical writing and said that no one can know anyone else's life unless it is written about and read about—inevitably, he said, it becomes an allegory. Sometimes this allegory of a person's life "is not far away from fiction" since the writer has to link back and sometimes strange episodes by memory.

Fowlie said that he goes against what he was taught in college in the 1930s and 1940s about the "new critics" way of reviewing written work. The new critics, Fowlie said, tend to disregard author's intentions and feelings and hold that the work should be looked at for the work itself and not let any of

the author's influences interrupt the piece.

But Fowlie said that he believed that the true self of man is always displaced in the language. He also relates autobiographical writing as similar to self-portraiture in painting and perhaps even to dance and other literature.

He said written autobiography is like Van Gogh's or Rembrandt's paintings of themselves and even Martha Graham's dances can be forms of autobiographical expression.

Fowlie said that he tries to "record particulars to stir the imagination of his readers." A writer turns the story into a personal myth and images persistently return in this cycle, he said.

Fowlie strongly emphasized the phrase, "It is myself I remake" as almost an oath that he goes by. He said he also believed that "we are always

weaving novels; and said, "Myself is the groundwork of my book."

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