

# Campus Organizations Fulfill Students' Lives

On a campus of approximately 621 students, 434 of which are residents, you might wonder how their free time is occupied. Since most residents do not have cars, and bus service to Gastonia and Charlotte is virtually non-existent, the College and its various campus organizations have the primary responsibility to provide leisure activities for Belmont Abbey students.

Apparently this obligation is being met, since an estimated 66 per cent of resident students at BAC are currently involved in one or more campus activities. Here's a look at where the action is as we near the end of this school year:

Some student organizations are financed by student tuition fees, while others are either wholly or partially self-supporting. For instance, each student pays a "publications fee" of \$9 per semester. This money supports the

student newspaper, **Free Lance**; the literary magazine, **Agora**; and the college yearbook, **Splre**. **Free Lance** boasts a staff of twenty-five students. In addition to money received from the College, the newspaper supports itself through advertising. This year, **Free Lance** set a campus record by publishing an unprecedented fourteen issues.

**Agora**, the second beneficiary of the publications fee, is a literary journal that is published once each year. All of the writing and editing is done by students. **Splre**, with 20 members, semi-supports itself through advertising.

Students also pay a \$20 College Union fee per semester. This money supplies the campus with such activities as the weekly "Friday Night Things," entertainment for the big weekends, and a bi-monthly showing of Saturday night movies. In addition, the Union's fine arts committee has provided members with such entertainment as

the St. Louis Jazz Ensemble, a presentation of Shakespeare's *Lovers*, and the Mad Mountain Mime Troupe. There is also a recreation committee which sponsors camping trips and other outings.

The Campus Ministry also receives tuition fees, with which to carry on its religious and social activities. This group has hosted two coffee houses and four retreats in conjunction with the College Union's recreation committee.

The Student Association receives \$3 of each student's tuition, which has gone this year toward stipends for student officers, furnishings for Poellath Hall lounge, and expenses of students who attended various conventions as representatives of Belmont Abbey College.

A new constitution, drawn up this year by the 48 members of the Student Association, will be in effect as of the Fall semester. This organization presents the students' opinions to the administration through

the efforts of the executive and legislative branches of the association, which meets every two weeks.

Also financed by the college is WABY Radio, which, with a staff of ten, broadcasts from 7-9 a.m. on weekdays and every day from 10 p.m. until 1 a.m.

The Abbey's Athletic Department, in addition to supporting the College's intercollegiate sports program, also sponsors the eight-girl Abbey cheerleading squad. Intramural sports on campus are also the responsibility of this department, and include football, baseball, basketball, volleyball, handball, and various track and field events.

Other groups on campus that are self-supporting include Rotaract, Circle K, ROTC, and the Science Club. Rotaract is a junior division of the Rotary Club, an international organization for businessmen. Belmont Abbey's junior club has twenty active members who sponsor speakers and campus entertainment.

The Circle K Club is a branch of the Kiwanis Club, which organizes service projects to collect money for charity. Circle K has a membership of fifteen.

Although relatively small, the Abbey's ROTC program nevertheless can boast three coeds among its list of ten members.

For the Science majors on campus, there is the Science Club, which meets every two weeks for movies and guest speakers.

The objective of the Black Student Union is to provide an atmosphere of communication and harmony among students on campus. There are approximately 25 members and, through various fund-raising activities, they are able to host such events as the Oriental Art Show, being presented this month in the College library.

The Monogram Club, for those athletes who have been awarded varsity letters, serves refreshments at the Abbey's basketball games and recently sponsored a C.Y.O. basketball tournament for boys ages 13-18 in the Charlotte area. The club has thirty members. Last month the Monogram Club was

reorganized and became a branch of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Four social fraternities and one service fraternity, plus their little sister groups, round out the list of organizations available to students at Belmont Abbey College. Alpha Phi Omega, a service fraternity of twenty brothers, has participated in such national drives as the March of Dimes and the Shamrocks for Dystrophy campaign. They have also held clothing and book auctions for local charity and sponsored three visits of the Red Cross Blood-mobile.

Relocated recently in a new fraternity house, Tau Kappa Epsilon social fraternity has twenty-five members on its roster. In collaboration with their little sister group, the Order of Diana, the Tekes have given a succession of parties for the children at Holy Angels nursery throughout the 1974-75 school year.

Phi Kappa Theta and their little sisters held a Thanksgiving food drive and raised money for cerebral palsy. Another community service activity for the sixty brothers and sisters was painting a church in Mount Holly.

Over \$1000 was collector for muscular dystrophy by the brothers of the Sigma Phi Epsilon social fraternity and the sisters of the Golden Hearts. The Golden Hearts also work with the elderly at Beams Nursing Home in Lowell, N.C. Last February, the brothers hosted a sports day for sixteen Sig Ep chapters from North and South Carolina colleges and universities. There are seventy students involved in the Sig Ep chapter at the Abbey.

Pi Kappa Phi completes the list of social fraternities and has a membership of fifteen.

Altogether, there are 408 members in the various organizations on the Belmont Abbey campus. Obviously, there are some duplications in memberships. Even a 30 per cent duplication factor, however, would net 290 Abbey students, 66 per cent of the resident student population, who have found an outlet for their leisure-time talents and energies.



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Obviously happy with the results of the recent student government elections at Belmont Abbey College are these new Student Association officers (left to right) Dan Farrell, vice-president; Robbie Lake, secretary; Robin Roberts, president; and Stella Ferris, treasurer.

## Student Officers Elected

Students at Belmont Abbey College have elected their Student Association officers for the 1975-76 school year. Robin Ray Roberts, a junior from Jacksonville, Florida, was elected president. In this position he will be the student association's chief executive officer, and will act as liaison between the student body

and the faculty and administration, and the community at large.

The new vice-president is junior Daniel Joseph Farrell of South Amboy, New Jersey, who will preside over the Abbey's Student Assembly. Robbie Lake, a freshman from Delran, New Jersey, is the new secretary, and Stella Ferris, a sophomore from

Colorado Springs, Colorado, was elected treasurer.

The Belmont Abbey Student Association serves as the official voice of the student body in college affairs. It also sponsors on-campus projects and will administer programs within the college dormitories.