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Mu Chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha Newsletter, Spring 1976

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MU CHAPTER NEWS

Mu Chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha started its activities in the fall with a pizza party for prospective pledges, members and guests. Everyone enjoyed themselves as they forgot their diets and consumed a total of 15 pizzas!! Incidentally, Mu Chapter acquired 35 pledges in the fall. Perhaps the pizza had some influence, but we like to think it was our friendly personalities that convinced them to be a part of us. We were very proud of this pledge class which was the largest pledge class in some time. We are also proud of our spring class which consists of nine pledges. Keep it up ABA!

An important and busy time of the year for Mu Chapter occurs at Homecoming time. This year Mu Chapter was proud to present its walking float entitled "ISU Libraries on the Move" in the Homecoming parade. Miss Speer, Mr. Jackson, and Miss Welch highlighted the event by graciously riding in a flashy red and white convertible driven by Mr. Easton. Immediately following the parade, a tea was held in honor of ABA alumni in the faculty lounge of Milner Library. Mu Chapter, who hosted the affair, served coffee, cider, and lots of goodies. It was great to get together again and see old friends.

This year Mu Chapter was very fortunate to have had a variety of interesting speakers and programs. The speakers and programs for this past year includes: Dr. John Cragan "Story Telling", Dr. Joe Kraus "ISU's New Library", Mrs. Branyan "Little Red Riding Hood", Director Dallas Baillio "Public Support and Planning a New Library" (new Bloomington library). A special thanks is due to these speakers who took the time and effort to share their presentations with us.

Christmas comes but once a year, and Mu Chapter is always ready for it--never fear. Last Christmas Mu Chapter began its holiday festivities on December 1 with the Christmas pledge skit. For those of you who were not there, you really missed some fun. The theme was "Fictional Library Characters", and the skit included about 30 pledges each of which portrayed a specific storybook character. Incorporated in the delightful skit were stories, conversation and music. Christmas was further celebrated on December 7 with carolling and a party following at Miss Gowdy's where everyone enjoyed singing and friendly talk. Again, Mu Chapter enjoyed good food at the party. Special compliments and thank yous go to Miss Gowdy for allowing us to use her home and for her delicious casserole; to Miss Matthews for her yummy dessert; to Miss Cline for her tasty salad; to Miss Harper for her excellent Russian tea; and to Miss Wilford for the festive decorations. What would Mu Chapter do without its dedicated alumni and sponsors?

Mu Chapter does not always party and eat, we also do some work. This year we have been very busy in a number of activities. Between March 18 and March 20 the ABA Triple I conference was held in Chicago. Chris Baum, Kathy Ellis, and Pam Norkus served as representatives of Mu Chapter in helping to serve a reception for the Illinois Association of School Libraries on Thursday of the conference. These girls along with Chris Bergeren also assisted with the ISU Information Sciences Department open house for alumni and potential students on Friday afternoon of the conference.

Mu Chapter also helped in assisting with the Illinois Student Librarians Association which took place on April 24 here at ISU. Mu Chapter aided in organizing and planning the program besides gathering a great amount of free materials from area businesses. Everything from beer nuts to balloons were given to the visiting students. To top it off, Mu Chapter donated a large cake to commemorate the association's 20th anniversary.

There's more!!! Mu Chapter also made some money this year. In one day, we made \$46.00 during a strenuous slave day. By having this special work day, we were also able to make a deal with Miss Gowdy. If we cleaned her basement, we could use it for our Christmas party and we did, too.

Another project that Mu Chapter engaged in was helping with the division catalog for the new Milner Library. For four Friday nights along with the Milner staff, we worked sorting and putting in order approximately 70,000 shelf list cards. 70,000 sounds like an impressive number, but it was only a beginning compared to the large amount of cards that remained to be dealt with.

NEWSFLASH!---Miss Laura Gowdy has agreed to serve as interim national executive secretary of Alpha Beta Alpha in an effort to regenerate and strengthen the national organization--more information about this later.

Mu Chapter ordered subscriptions of Newsweek for the Vietnamese families in the area.

This year marks the second year of awarding the Eunice H. Speer Scholarship, but probably many of you are unaware of the qualifications and criteria involved in the selection of the scholarship recipient. Minimum qualifications include: 3.5 overall grade point average or better, full time student, major or minor in library science, member of Mu Chapter of ABA, a junior or senior who has finished one half of the courses in library science (this has been revised for next year--must have finished 12 hours of required courses in library science). Criteria used for selection include: scholastic achievement, professional promise and contribution to Mu Chapter. This year's scholarship committee consisted of: Miss Speer, Miss Gowdy (sponsor), Miss Ilford (sponsor), Kathy Ellis (student officer), and Samuel Bourke (alumni officer). Faculty members and Mu Chapter members may write recommendations for the candidates, and then the committee holds conferences with each candidate. It is a very hard decision for the committee to make regarding the recipient, because there are so many good and worthy candidates.

The first Eunice H. Speer Scholarship 1974-75 went to Barbara Hand who is now coordinator of elementary libraries in Geneseo, Illinois. This year's recipient for 1975-76 is Christine Berggren who will attend the University of Denver this fall to work on her Masters degree in library science.

As another school year draws to an end, it is always a sad occasion for all of us especially for the graduating seniors. Listed below are those ABA members who will be graduating in May, after first nine, or in December:

Ben Bailey	Jane Hextell
Chris Baum	Kevin Jaeger
Cris Berggren	Karen Knoch
Jo Alice Bressan	Elaine Knight
Cindy Cripe	Robin Manuel
Rick and Mary Delaney	Cheryl Miletich
Mary Dicks	Pam Norkus
Barb Dirks	Maria Tuckman
Audrey Doyle	Sara Welch
Helen Herbst	Lynn Snail

Congratulations seniors and good luck!

As you can see, Mu Chapter has been very busy this year. We hope that next year will be just as active.