# No Place to Hide

By Martha Peterson, President of Barnard College

These are not easy days for the bright woman who is educated, or in the process of being so.

**SPRING, 1973** 

In the first place, she has not much of any place to hide in the current cultural and social climate. She can't say, "I'd like to be an engineer, but women don't do that!" They do, and what she is really saying is that she doesn't have the necessary drive, or interest, or specific ability to make the effort. She can't say, "I'd like to go to college, but my father doesn't believe that women should be educated!" Such fathers exist, but they are considered strange and unenlightened, and there are ways to do it on her own. Is she saying, "I'm frightened to go out on my own?"

She can't say, "I'd like a career, but my husband insists I stay at home to have dinner ready for him after his long day at the office." Sure he would, but why did she marry such a selfish representative of the human race unless she secretly wanted to be at home? Or she may say, "My children need me, so I can't run for the school board" only to be greeted by "She knows quality of mothering is more important than quantity—isn't she overprotecting her children because she doesn't want them to grow up!"

There are those who might argue that society is too rough on the women who just want to stay home to be wives and mothers, but the current push for equal rights has led to equal responsibilities, and the able woman finds she cannot hide her abilities, her strengths, her training under the myth that someone else or something outside her control prevents her from realizing her potential. She may choose homemaking, mothering, but not as an escape from using her other talents.

There is a second aspect of the current demands on women that creates problems for the able one. Not only has she no place to hide—there are numerous challenges in coming out into her newly acquired status of equal rights and responsibilities for which she is not prepared. Nor are the others with whom she may live and work prepared.

She may face the problem of being the "first woman"-first female editor of the college newspaper, first woman on the tennis team, first woman on the Board of the Athletic Association or General Motors, first woman faculty member with tenure in electrical engineering, first woman in the pulpit, first woman pilot-and so on. She has no model, and those among whom she now moves in full partnership are often uncomfortable. She is likely to be there because men put her there. She may react by "out-maling" the male stereotype-with language and toughness. If she is a token woman, chosen because having a woman was a good public relations stroke, or the group she has joined needed her to satisfy H.E.W. she may be tempted to react by trying to be "nice and non-militant," not upsetting the applecart. Or she may use the tokenism "to correct the basic problem that made a token necessary." Under any circumstances, as a first or a token, it is not an easy world.

As women of ability claim equal rights and equal responsibilities, equal pay for equal work, the tension may arise from such a little thing as who opens a door, gets the coffee, pays the check to major barriers such as clients who won't talk to a woman, the inability to obtain a credit card, or needing to go to a committee meeting at the club where women are not

admitted. And not only is the "new-comer" uncomfortable, the traditional membership feels tension and that causes her even more discomfort.

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For the bright woman, the talented woman, there is no place to hide, despite claims that bright women do not have high enough aspirations—and once out of hiding she faces new challenges, social discomfort, as well as marvellous new opportunities.

You may ask why has this happened to women now in the early 1970's? Is it a side effect of the civil rights movement? Awareness of discrimination towards minority groups probably has contributed to awareness of discrimination on sex. Certainly the law that inadvertently listed sex with race, religion, and ethnic background as a cause for cancelling federal support, laid the foundation for new action to obtain equality for women, as well as minority groups. The attention paid to the Equal Rights Admendment has also created keen interest in women's rights. But perhaps all these changes in the status of women are a direct result of the increased proportion of educated women in the United States and the fact that their brainpower is needed, yet not always used. The magnitude of current problems-war, overpopulation, clean air, dishonesty-may finally have led to the realization that the abilities of womenspecial or additional—can no longer be ignored.

You will recall the history of the suffragette movement; it was a drive in the beginning for the vote for women because there was no logical reason to deny it on the basis of sex. Its final passage, however, came because the (Continued on page 2)

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voters (men) were convinced that women had a special humanity, a special sensitivity, that would help in creating a better society. It's a little difficult from the public record since 1920 to prove that female suffrage has made society more humane. Nor should we make claim that equal rights will contribute much to the cause of justice, except for the intrinsic value of equal rights. On the other hand, whether or not women have special sensitivities, they certainly are not inferior mentally by any test, so their potential cannot be ignored in sorely troubled times like these.

Perhaps it is enough to say that women now have the right to live their lives as they choose. They have, in addition, the responsibility to exercise their right.

What must a bright, able young woman do to justify both her rights and her responsibilities to full participation in the world in which she lives?

First, she must take herself seriously. She must develop the self-discipline to use her ability, not electing an easy way out. A young woman who has an interest in law and the ability to study law in the top law school will have difficulty living with herself for the next 50 years if she does not do so, not to mention the loss to others she will have failed. The young woman who has what it takes to be a physician cannot settle for being a nurse's aide. The potential poet, or engineer, or teacher, or politician must not only learn how to, but also, must do. And if she really has what it takes she need not deny herself marriage or children, or success, or joy. It will be difficult to combine them all, but she can do no less.

Secondly, the able woman must take seriously her responsibility to other women. If by a curious combination of circumstances, or hard work, she becomes the first or token woman, or can open the way for other women, she has no choice but to do it with style, humor, and as much distinction as she can muster to protect the interests of all women.

Thirdly, she must learn to live cooperatively and not as an antagonist in a world with men. These changes aren't easy for men either—but except in the rare cases of the Archie Bunker syndrome, most men are overjoyed to find themselves joining in an enterprise that encourages all people to be positive, productive, contributing members of our society.

And finally, she must learn to take full responsibility for what she does—success or failure, joy or despair, progress or plateaus in her life. She may be handicapped by her father's prejudices, or her own ethnic background, or her husband's biases, or an unappreciative professor's discouragement, or "the times," but who can prove that these are the real reasons for her failures? What difference does an alibi make anyhow if she is dissatisfied by her failure to do what she knows she can do?

Modern women—the 1973 kind—have no place to hide, nor do they have well defined roles into which to move. In the long run, those who have needed talents and develop them fully will stand unafraid in a world that needs fearless

folk. Those who don't try, or quit, must accept protected mediocrity. Fulfilled potential may be a difficult assignment but it is the obvious choice for a woman who cares.

Martha Peterson, a native Kansan, is president of Barnard College. Her alma mater, the University of Kansas, not only awarded her three degrees, but the Distinguished Alumni Award in 1968. In that same year she was given honorary degrees by Chatham College, Douglas College and Columbia University. Hofstra University and The Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania awarded her Doctor of Laws and Doctor of Humane Letters in 1969 and 1970 respectively. She is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi and Mortar Board, Having been a dean of student affairs, president of a woman's college and advisor for two terms to the Intercollegiate Association of Women Students, she is well qualified to provide food for thought in this issue of The Flame.

## **Advisor Receives Award**

Dr. Julia Hereford, professor of nursing at Vanderbilt University and advisor to Alpha Lambda Delta since the society was chartered at Vanderbilt received the Chancellor's Cup for this past year. This coveted award is made annually to the teacher making the greatest contribution outside the classroom to student faculty relationships. Recommendations for the award are made by representative graduate and undergraduate organizations, and a check for \$500.00 and a silver cup are given the recipient.

Dr. Hereford began teaching in the School of Nursing in 1938 and was dean of the school from 1949 to 1965.

Consistently active outside the classroom, throughout the years Dr. Hereford has contributed to many student-related activities at Vanderbilt. She has served as a member of the University's Human Relations Council, the Undergraduate Student Affairs Committee and the Community Affairs Board.

Dr. Hereford has also participated in professional nursing and educational organizations. She has held numerous offices including president of the Tennessee League of Nursing Education, secretary and chairman of the Tennessee Council for Nursing, member and chair-

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Dr. Julia Hereford, adviser for the Vanderbilt chapter receives award from Chancellor Alexander Heard and Frank Smith, president of the Nashville Vanderbilt Club.

#### **Bowling Green State University**

As part of the Bowling Green State University Dad's Weekend festivities, 134 women were initiated into Alpha Lambda Delta on November 12.

Installed as officers were: Ethel Green, president; Valerie Newell, vice president; Jean Rowland, treasurer; Debbie Hutton, secretary; Vickie Black, historian, and Rose Hume, editor.

In January, Dr. Alma Payne, our chapter advisor, was honored by being elected to a three-year term on the National Executive Council of the American Studies Association. She is director of the University's American Studies Program and the University American Studies Center.

#### **Bucknell University**

The Alpha Lambda Delta chapter of Bucknell University sponsored a forum "The Woman's Role as Educator at Bucknell", December 4, 1972. Participating in the forum were Marilyn Carens, instructor in English and sponsor of the honorary, who acted as moderator; Mary Jane Stevenson, Assistant to the Dean of Student Affairs and Executive Secretary of National Alpha Lambda Delta; Brenda Gordon, Director of the Office of Residential Life and Administrative Sponsor of Alpha Lambda Delta; Hulda Magalhaes, professor of biology; Katherine Littell, assistant professor of German; and Joan Landes, assistant professor of political science. Women faculty members expressed their ideas and exchanged opinions on their experiences, position, and influence in the university community.

#### **Central Missouri State University**

The Alpha Lambda Delta Chapter at Central Missouri State University held a banquet in the spring of 1972 to honor Dr. Laura J. Nahm. Dr. Nahm was a professor of biology at CMSU for more than twenty-eight years. A charter member of the chapter, Dr. Nahm was the chapter's first faculty advisor. She devoted herself to this position as advisor from February 11, 1961 until the fall of 1971. A gift and plaque from the local chapter were presented to Dr. Nahm at the banquet in recognition of her years of loyal service to Alpha Lambda Delta.

#### University of Evansville

"Alpha Lambda Delta: Service vs. Honorary" was the main issue discussed at a workshop conducted at Georgetown College on September 23, 1972. Participants in the workshop were officers for the 1972-73 school year from the University of Evansville and Georgetown College.

Prior to this year, Alpha Lambda Delta has been primarily an honorary organization at both schools. This year, chapter officers have concluded that its freshman members should become more involved in service to the school. Some of the suggested projects for this year were: 1) sponsoring a faculty tea, 2) having trips to nearby places of interest and 3) publishing a calendar of events.

#### Florida State University

On December 3, 1972 the Florida State University chapter of Alpha Lambda Delta held a ceremony for its new members, initiating those girls who



Alpha Lambda Delta meeting at Bucknell University.

# Alpha Lambda

became eligible for the honorary during the spring quarter of last year. Presiding were President Susan E. Esterhay, Vice President Linda Hutt, Secretary Madeline Domino, Treasurer Joyce Gardner, and Historian Carol Jackson. Also present was Dr. Annie Mary Hartsfield, assistant professor of government, Alpha Lambda Delta's new advisor.

Dr. Hartsfield succeeds Miss Estha Freeman, former advisor, who recently retired after many years of service to the FSU chapter. Her help, advice and encouragement have been greatly appreciated.

Launching plans for this year's activities, Dr. Hartsfield treated the officers to dinner at a popular restaurant on the coast and a day of sightseeing. In the absence of Susan Esterhay, who is studying in Florence both winter and spring quarters, Linda Hutt will provide leadership for the chapter. Recently appointed to the Honors Day Committee by the University president, Linda will act as Alpha Lambda Delta representative.

#### **Kent State University**

During fall quarter, the Kent State University chapter participated in the Portage County Red Cross Bloodmobile drive. It was held at the Health Center on the Kent campus for two days. The members worked with the Kent community as well as with the students. The drive was very successful and went beyond the quota.

Initiation ceremonies were also held for the new members during fall quarter. The ceremony, held at the Student Union, was followed by a social hour.

The 1972-73 officers are Pam Gruver, president; Mary Ann Stana, vice president; Joyce Horning, secretary-editor; Joan Hess, treasurer; and Doris Pudloski, historian. Miss Esther Sump is the faculty advisor, and Mrs. Susan Reis is the administrative advisor.

#### **University of Massachusetts**

The University of Massachusetts chapter has had a busy year sponsoring two discussion programs in addition to initiating over fifty new members and three distinguished women faculty as honorary members.

# elta on Campus

In October Alpha Lambda Delta sponsored a program "Consider Study Abroad Next Year." A panel of seven students who had studied abroad told of their experiences, and the Director of International Programs, Dr. Barbara Burn, gave information to the group about costs, credits and opportunities offered.

In November faculty members and alumni joined forces to discuss "Career Opportunities for Women." The questions of "Where will your major lead you?" and "How to be practical about the future while securing a liberal education" provided an informative and helpful program.

Alpha Lambda Delta joined Phi Eta Sigma after respective initiation ceremonies in a program at which opportunities for honor students were discussed by Dr. Cynthia Wolff, Director of Honors.

#### **Purdue University**

Forty-three freshman women were initiated into Alpha Lambda Delta on November 30, 1972 at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana.

As a part of the ceremony, officers of the 1971-72 class presented quotations they had found which further emphasized the ideals of Alpha Lambda Delta. These expressive quotations greatly enhanced the initiation which took place in the West Faculty Lounge of the Purdue Memorial Union.

The high point of the evening ceremony was a talk by Miss Beverley Stone, Dean of Women at Purdue University and Midwest District Advisor for Alpha Lambda Delta. "Say Yes to Life" was the title of Miss Stone's warmly received talk.

A reception followed the ceremony where the new members were served punch and tarts as they discussed future plans of the chapter. Future work includes activities with Phi Eta Sigma and carrying on the chapter's volunteer program at the Indiana State Soldier's Home.

#### University of South Alabama

As a service project The University of South Alabama chapter of Alpha Lambda Delta joined with Gold Key and sold mum corsages for Homecoming. The profit from the sales will be used to purchase a bookdrop for the library. The members also participated in homecoming by sponsoring our chapter president, Lee Weisinger, as a candidate for Homecoming Queen.

Members of the chapter are working with the AIDS program to tutor students. This project will provide additional funds for the chapter and will furnish assistance for deficient students.

#### University of Southern Mississippi

Our first interest this year has been to acquaint freshman women with Alpha Lambda Delta. Through dormitory visiting, chapter members introduced students to Alpha Lambda Delta and encouraged them to make good grades and exhibit leadership qualities.

All organizations need money, and Alpha Lambda Delta is no exception. Our initial money-making project was selling doughnuts in the dorms.

In order to donate to the United Givers Fund we operated a bean-bag

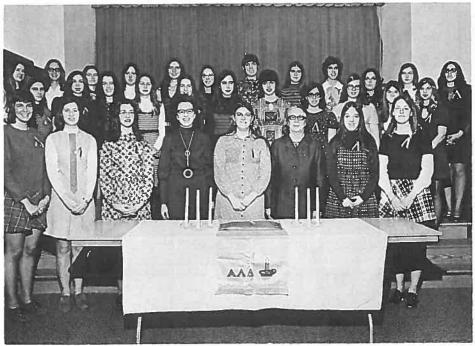
booth at the Halloween Carnival sponsored by the University Activities Council. This booth not only provided an opportunity to publicize Alpha Lambda Delta on campus, but to help those in need in the surrounding community.

#### **Bethany Nazarene College**

The local chapters of Alpha Lambda Delta and Circle K joined together to serve others one fine fall Saturday. While consuming hot chocolate, cokes and doughnuts cordially given by a neighbor, the group painted the home of a retired minister and his wife near the campus of Bethany Nazarene College. Paint and supplies were donated or loaned by local businesses and individuals. Although some admitted to getting more paint on themselves than the house, the laundry and windows were washed and the lawn raked by time for supper that evening. Not only did everyone enjoy the pleasure of slapping on fresh paint, but also the sense of helping those who had spent their lives helping others was reward

#### **Year-Old Chapter Initiates**

Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania held its first initiation as a chapter of Alpha Lambda Delta on January 14, 1973. At that time 28 members were initiated. A reception for members and guests followed. Officers installed and advisors who participated are as follows: Nancy Renninger, Editor; Kathy Fuller, Vice President; Carol Klinger, President; Miss Anna Carper, Administrative Advisor; Sue Taggert, Senior Advisor; Miss Vera Hackman; Paula Youandvich, Secretary-Treasurer; and Julie Stout, Historian.



New initiates of Elizabethtown Chapter, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania.

## Fall 1972 Installations

#### Midland Lutheran College

Alpha Lambda Delta was installed at Midland Lutheran College in Fremont, Nebraska on November 4, 1972. The ceremony held at 12:30 o'clock in Eppley Auditorium was one of the events of the annual Parents' Weekend. Parents of the initiates and faculty members were in the audience. Miss Erma Anderson, District VII Adviser, presented the charter to Miss Lynn Glandt, chapter president.

Thirty-seven members formed the chapter group. Mrs. Mildred Sic, Dean of Women, and Mrs. L. Dale Lund, wife of the president of the college, were

installed as honorary members. Mrs. Ann H. Jones, faculty adviser, assisted in the installation ceremony. The president of Midland Lutheran College, Dr. L. Dale Lund, welcomed the new chapter and spoke of the pride of the institution in its students.

On Friday night members of the chapter, along with the faculty adviser and the installing officer, were entertained at a dinner party in the home of Mrs. Sic.

#### West Chester State College

Alpha Lambda Delta was installed at West Chester State College on November 30 in the Phillips Memorial Library by Miss Mary Jane Stevenson, Executive Secretary. Miss Stevenson was assisted by Miss Bernice Bernatz, Dean of Women at West Chester, and Dr. Alice Markow, Faculty Advisor. West Chester thus became the 178th chapter of Alpha Lambda Delta.

Among the forty-five charter members were Geri Eisenthal, President; Carole Soucaze, Vice President; Carol Rothstein, Secretary; Wendy Burns, Treasurer; Sandy Robak, Historian, Nina Watson, Editor; Kathy Neral, Junior Advisor; Patricia Schaefer, Senior Advisor.

Viewing the ceremony was Dr. Margaret Young, who established the local honor society at West Chester State College several years ago.



Charter members at Midland Lutheran College.

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Charter officers and advisers at West Chester State College.



Charter members at Western Carolina University.

#### Western Carolina University

The installation of Alpha Lambda Delta at Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, North Carolina, was held in the Cherokee Room of A. K. Hinds University Center October 29, 1972.

The following women were initiated as charter members: Retha Adams, Pamela Adickes, Kathy Bingham, Wanda Causby, Kathryn Curle, Rebecca Curle, Mary Duncan, Sandra Hall, Joyce Hite, Betty Johnston, Wanda Keener, Margaret Long, Nancy Lunsford, Jean McGranahan, Sue Mashburn, Meta Masket, Margaret Miesiaszek, Patricia Moore, Lydia Nicholson, Catherine Noland, Patricia Penland, Sheila Ramsey, Olivia Schreiber, Gail Sifford, Shelia Smith, Teresa Snow, Rebecca Staton, Melody Stinson, Pamela Teague, Lynn Wright and Sue Wright. The chapter initiated as charter honorary members Miss Christine Friesner, Dr. Constance Head and Miss Linda Perry. Advisors: Miss Pamlyn Atkins and Dean Barbara Mann were also initiated as honorary members.

1972-73 officers include Olivia Schreiber, President; Kathryn Curle, Vice President; Margaret Miesiaszek, Secretary; Pamela Adickes, Treasurer; Rebecca Curle, Historian; Rebecca Staton, Editor; Melody Stinson, Senior Advisor; Nancy Lunsford, Junior Advisor.

Parents, faculty and friends attended the reception following the installation program which was a part of Parents' Weekend.

## **National Council Directory**

- President-Katharine C. Cater, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36830
- First Vice President-Margaret Berry, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712
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- District II, Advisor—Margaret Cuninggim, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN 37240. Southeast-Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee.
- District III, Advisor—Heimtraut Dietrich, Wittenberg University, Springfield, OH 45501. Great Lakes-Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin.
- District IV, Advisor—Beverley Stone, Purdue University, Lafayette, IN 47907. Midwest-Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky.

- District V, Advisor—Peggy Stroud, Arkansas State University, State University, AR 72467. Mississippi Valley-Arkansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi.
- District VI, Advisor—Jo Ann James, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX 76129. South Central-Louisiana, New Mexico, Texas.
- District VII, Advisor—Erma Anderson, University of Denver, Denver, CO 80210. Plains States-Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota.
- District VIII, Advisor—Karen L. Kohne, Willamette University, Salem, OR 97301. Western-Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah, Washington.

### Advisor Receives Award

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man of the Nursing Advisory Committee of the American Cancer Society, president of the North Central Tennessee League for Nursing and is currently president of the American Association of University Women in Nashville.

Her degrees are from Vanderbilt, Columbia University and the University of Chicago. In addition to being an honorary member of Alpha Lambda Delta, she holds membership in Delta Kappa Gamma, Pi Lambda Theta and Sigma Theta Tau.



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