

Dear Phi Alpha Theta Faculty Advisor,

Greetings from Phi Alpha Theta National Headquarters and welcome back to another school year!

Please take a moment to peruse the following important announcements.

CHANGE IN CHAPTER ADVISOR

You are receiving this message because our records list you as the current faculty advisor for your chapter. If you are no longer the advisor please: 1) send us an email with the name and contact information (phone and email address) for your successor and 2) transfer all pertinent chapter files to the new advisor. If there are any other changes we should be aware of, please submit a Chapter Update Form, which you may now complete and submit online at http://www.phialphatheta.org/chapter_update_form.htm.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

To reduce postage costs, email is our preferred mode of communication with our 830+ chapters nationwide. If your email address has changed, please let us know.

PHI ALPHA THETA 2006 BIENNIAL CONVENTION

Plans are underway for the 2006 Phi Alpha Theta Biennial Convention to be held January 4 to 6, 2006, at the Hyatt Regency at Penn's Landing in Philadelphia (<http://pennslanding.hyatt.com/property/index.jhtml>). Our convention feeds into the American Historical Association Meeting being held January 5 to 8 in Philadelphia. The Phi Alpha Theta special group rate at the Hyatt is \$99 (plus tax) per night, whereas the AHA room rate is \$109 for a single and \$119 for a double. All information including the registration form, hotel reservation information, presenter/moderator/commentator submission form, as well as a tentative schedule of events is posted on our website at <http://www.phialphatheta.org/biennialO6.htm>. Additionally, if you would like to present a paper or serve as a Moderator or Commentator, you may submit the necessary information electronically by visiting the above website link and selecting the Online Application. Please note that **all student papers must be submitted by the faculty advisor** in order for them to be placed on the program.

PHI ALPHA THETA LUNCHEONS AT MAJOR HISTORICAL MEETINGS

Phi Alpha Theta will be hosting a luncheon at the Western History Association Meeting in Scottsdale. Please note that our luncheon has been changed to Saturday, October 15. The keynote speaker is Patricia Nelson Limerick, Professor of History and founder and Faculty Director of the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado-Boulder. Professor Limerick has authored and edited numerous books including the highly acclaimed *The Legacy of Conquest: The Unbroken Past of the American West*, *The Atlas of the New West*, and *Something in the Soil: Legacies and Reckonings in the New West*. Her talk is entitled, "You Used to Be A Very Good Historian: What Happened to That?" Applied History and the Center of the American West.

There will also be a Phi Alpha Theta luncheon at the Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting in Atlanta on Thursday, November 3 at 11:30 a.m. The speaker will be Michael

O'Brien, University Lecturer at the University of Cambridge and Editor-in-Chief of the Southern Texts Society whose talk is entitled, "On Writing an Intellectual History of the Antebellum South." His books include *The Idea of the American South, 1920-1941*, and *Rethinking the South: Essays in Intellectual History*. His two-volume *Conjectures of Order: Intellectual Life and the American South, 1810-1860*, was recently awarded the Merle Curti Prize from the Organization of American Historians for the best book in American cultural/intellectual history.

INITIATES

Just a reminder when submitting new members to the national office, please be sure to include the following 3 weeks prior to the initiation ceremony:

- A **typewritten list** including the initiate's name and a *permanent* (not school) mailing address for each
- The **date of induction** (month, day, year)
- **One check or money order** payable to "Phi Alpha Theta" to cover the **\$40 membership fee** (please no individual student checks or personal record cards)

Eligibility requirements for membership are posted on our website at <http://www.phialphatheta.org/requirements.htm> and the Membership Application form to give your students can be downloaded at <http://www.phialphatheta.org/prc.pdf>.

HURRICANE KATRINA

As you know, a number of students attending colleges and universities in the areas ravaged by Hurricane Katrina have temporarily transferred to other schools. We would like to ensure that all eligible students who have been displaced and wish to join Phi Alpha Theta may do so. Therefore, we are authorizing faculty advisors to submit these students for membership when they submit new members from their own chapter. The students will be inducted into the chapter of their original school, but their certificates will be sent to the advisor submitting their name. Our thanks to Michael S. Martin, Assistant Professor of History and Faculty Advisor of our Epsilon-Xi Chapter at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette for his excellent suggestion.

ONLINE STORE

The Phi Alpha Theta online store was launched one year ago and has been a huge success! Subscriptions to *The Historian* or *The News Letter* can be renewed online members can order Phi Alpha Theta merchandise including clothing, jewelry and regalia conveniently and securely online. Please announce the existence of our online store to your students. Discount pricing is available for chapter orders on many items. For example, honor cords that are regularly \$15.00 each are only \$12.00 each for orders of 10-19 and \$10.50 each on orders of 20 or more. To receive the discounted price, be sure to click on the special link for larger quantity orders.

PHI ALPHA THETA WEBSITE

Located at www.phialphatheta.org, our redesigned website gives you all the basic information you require on all Phi Alpha Theta matters (except for our ritual for the Initiation Ceremony, which is available by emailing the national office). For quick answers to your questions, visit our website - especially the "About" and "Advisors" sections.

REGIONAL MEETINGS

The Spring 2006 Regional Meetings will be posted on our website as dates and locations are confirmed. Go to our home page www.phialphatheta.org and click on “Regionals” to find out the host school and dates for the regional nearest you. Please announce the regional(s) in your area to your students and colleagues. Interested in hosted a regional meeting? See our guidelines at <http://www.phialphatheta.org/guidelines.htm>

BEST CHAPTER AWARDS

The deadline for submitting chapter scrapbooks into the 2006 Best Chapter Award is July 1, 2006. The Best Chapter Award has been divided into two categories: the first is for chapters who have received the award five or more times in the past and the second is for chapters that have won the award four times or less. Criteria for selecting the best chapters, can be found at <http://www.phialphatheta.org/BestChapterCriteria.pdf>.

OFFICE HOURS

Our office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm (EST).

Best wishes for the academic year and thank you for your continued service to Phi Alpha Theta!

Sincerely,

Jack Tunstall
Executive Director