

LIFE AS A PLEDGE . . .

Pledgeship is the beginning of the strong tie between the fraternity and its members. To be pledged, you have received a 100% vote of the active chapter and you have pledged yourself to the fraternity by accepting the pledge pin.

Your life as a pledge begins with your assignment to room with an active member of the fraternity. This is known as the active father-pledge son relationship. The active father acts as a personal guide in helping you with such things as study habits, getting dates, and how to get along in your new college life.

The pledges form an organization among themselves and carry out their meetings in much the same way as the active chapter. There are always the sorority exchanges and the birthday showers to plan for. An active member known as the pledge trainer sits in on the meetings as an advisor. He teaches the pledges about national history of the fraternity, local chapter history, activities on the campus, and just college life in general.

Sometime during the week there will be song practice. Here we learn the songs that will be sung at serenades, at the dinner table, and at all the parties.

During the week the pledge has certain duties. Each pledge will have something to do. For instance he may have to empty the wastepaper baskets, help the cook or take his turn as call boy. All pledge duties are rotated so that each pledge has a different pledge duty every week. Saturday afternoon finds the pledge class working together in getting the house shaped up for the weekend.

"Turnabout Day" is an oddity which has become a tradition at Delta Tau Delta. This is the day when pledges are kings. All the work in the house is done by the actives, the kinds and amount being left up to the ingenuity of the pledge class. Invariably the actives find themselves in a pie eating contest, an impossible work session or some other ridiculous game engineered by the pledges.

Another weapon of the pledge class is the so called "walk-out." The pledges try to secretly walk out of the house without the active chapter suspecting it. Naturally they walk out with all the phones, the silverware, stove burners, shower heads, and maybe even the front door. The active chapter in turn tries to capture them in the act. To make the walkout complete, the entire pledge class migrates to another college visiting a Delt chapter there for the weekend.



Pledge Skit

On normal weekends the fellows bring their dates over to the house to enjoy dancing, playing bridge, or just resting and watching television.

On Sunday morning the pledges and actives all turn out to go to the church of their choice, sometimes accompanied by their parents or dates.

Your pledgeship together with your freshman year will come to mean more to you than all the rest of your college career.