

mendel biological society

The Mendel Biological Society, the oldest extracurricular organization in St. Francis College, was one of the original five charter members of that national organization.

Actively revived in 1946, the group has enthusiastically undertaken to stimulate interest in Biology and its allied fields.

The purpose of the Society, as stated in its constitution, is to secure for the members advantages in the biological field and enable them "to pursue scientific knowledge beyond the regular school curriculum, and to further the Catholic Philosophy in the sciences." In executing this policy the Society has divided its activities into four phases: Publications, with Mr. Walter Smith as Moderator; the Seminar Group under Professor Joseph J. Martorano and Mr. Joseph J. McNicholas; Social Activities guided by Professor Edwin F. Corlis and Business Activities moderated by Professor John C. Baiardi.

The Publications Division, with the Mendel Notes as the chief medium of expression, serves as the voice of the Society and circulates information about its activities to the student body.

The Seminar Group, representing a newly organized facet of the Society's endeavors, offers to the students the opportunity of preparing, presenting and discussing selected reports on biological research.

The Social Group fosters such functions as the Christmas Social, the Basketball Team and the Annual Scholarship Dance. Each Spring the Society sponsors this dance in order to raise money for the Scholarship Fund. The Fund, when found, will enable two worthy Biology majors to represent St. Francis College at the Marine Biological Station, in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, offering these students the opportunity of graduate and research studies.

During the course of the year the fourth Group has presented a series of guest speakers as well as selected motion picture films in the fields of Biology and Medicine.

As a result of the concerted efforts of these four groups, the Mendel Biological Society looks forward to the attainment of the true Franciscan Spirit in its future scientists.

pi alpha fraternity

In 1906, eight students of St. Francis College, guided by a spirit of common devotion to their Alma Mater and a feeling of good fellowship, conceived a means whereby their staunch loyalty and firm friendship might be combined in the best interests of St. Francis. This was the beginning of Pi Alpha, which has been so active in the school.

Pi Alpha has run two dances this year, both of them smashing successes, and many socials and other functions. The student body will long remember the antics of the pledges, the poor "dogs", around school, in their fantastic costumes. Dogging Week is a time of merriment for most, with just a few complaints from the "warmed-up" pledges. It is a tradition for the fraternity to hold some affair at the end of the year for the Seniors. This year they are sponsoring a boat ride and baseball game at Bear Mountain during Senior Week.

The bonds of loyalty, unity and fraternity which bind the members of Pi Alpha in a lifelong friendship are apparent at all Pi Alpha affairs. Pi Alpha will continue as it has for the past 42 years, to live up to the traditions established by generations of Butler Street graduates.

