

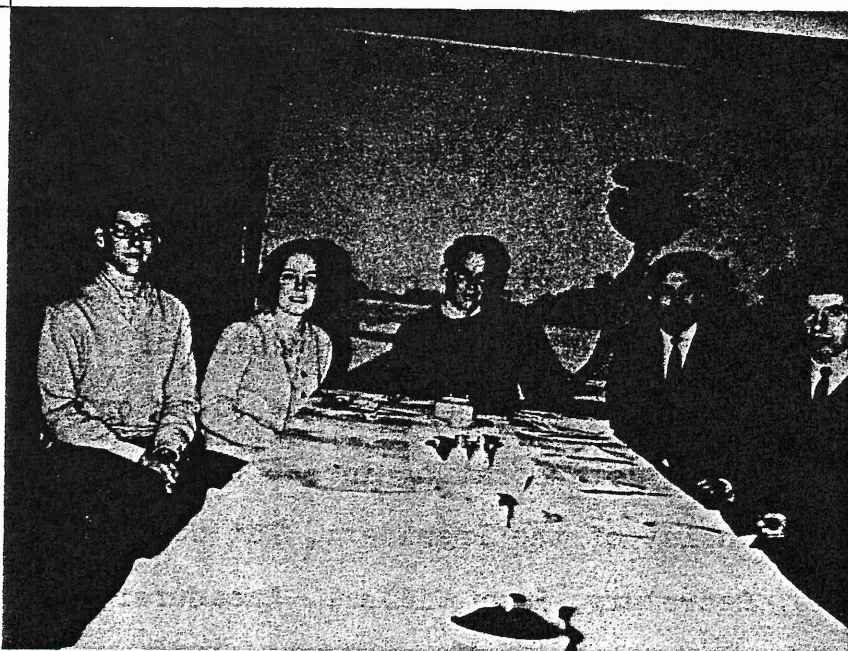
The Viking Newsletter

DREUX AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL

STUDENT GOVERNMENT AT DREUX

This year's Student Council at Dreux is clearly one of the most conscientious and powerful councils in the school's history. Governing under a new constitution, written by last year's council to correct certain weaknesses, mainly the existence of too many student interest groups whose actions were uncoordinated with the main Council, the new Council was elected after the student body had approved the new constitution by a referendum.

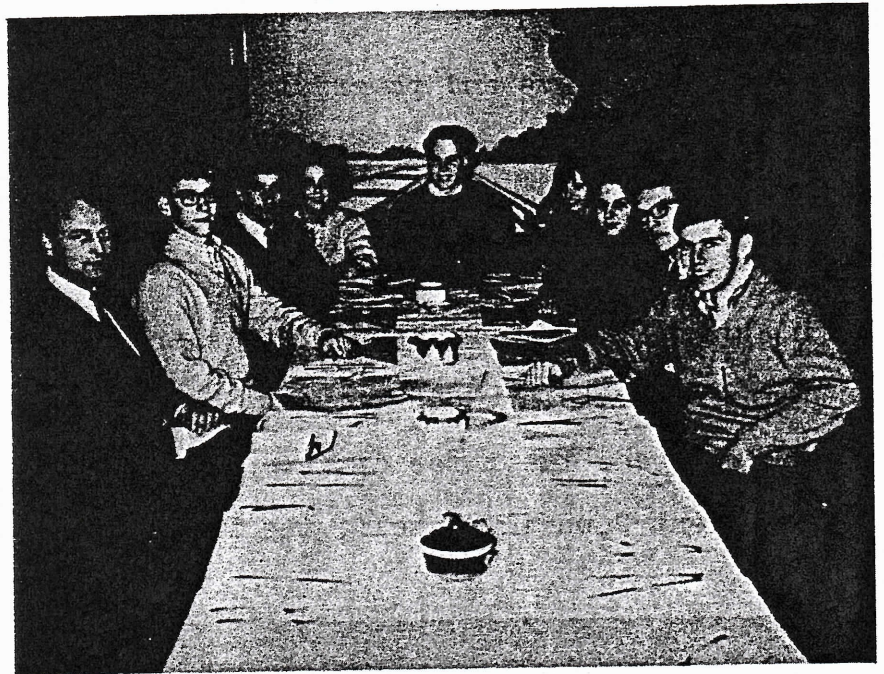
This year the three different areas of student government, the Student Council, itself, the Dormitories, and the four Classes



The officers of this year's Student Council. Left to right: John Mayo, Pat Massengale, Pat Connor, Mr. Lageson, and Karl Steiner. Absent: Dawn Willard.

are now combined into a single governing body which consists of 17 members: 3 Senior Class representatives, 2 representatives each from the Junior, Sophomore and Freshman Classes, the 4 Dormitory Presidents, and the 4 Class Presidents. These representatives meet once a week with Mr. Lageson, the Dormitory Supervisor, to discuss school and dormitory business. Once a month, there is a Planning Dinner at the NCO Club with Mr. Lageson and Mrs. Horne,

The full Council in session at one of the monthly Planning Dinners at the NCO Club.



the Base Recreation Director, to plan the trips, dances, and other special events for the following month.

After the election of representatives at the beginning of the school year, the Council elected its own officers, a provision of the new Constitution which was instituted to safeguard the election of the Student Council President from deteriorating into a popularity contest. This year's officers consist of the President, Pat Connor, Vice-President, Pat Massengale, Secretary, Dawn Willard, Treasurer,

John Mayo, and Historian, Karl Steiner.

Besides actually making many of the rules governing student conduct, and planning the monthly activities with the help of Mrs. Horne, the Council acts as a liason between the student body and the Administration. Student ideas and criticisms are discussed in the weekly meetings in order that they may be acted upon through the joint efforts of the Council and the Administration.

The success of this joint effort was well proved during the Student Council Assembly in November. With the idea of pointing out certain problems but with the desire to avoid boring speeches, the Council decided to dramatize these problems by a series of skits.

The assembly opened with a brief and witty talk by Dr. A.S. Hurlburt, Professor of Education at Duke University, who was visiting Dreux with Dr. Lancaster, Area Superintendent, and Dr. Bastendorf, Assistant Superintendent. Each skit that followed, though humorous in nature, brought to light a specific area of student life where both the Council and the Administration felt student conduct could be improved. Such subjects as food waste in the dining hall, consideration of ones fellow students in the dormitories, and consideration of ones fellow students in the crowded school corridors during change of classes were covered and were well received by the audience.

In the coming months, more and more Council ideas are to be implemented such as greater freedom for High Honor Roll students, discussion groups dealing with teen-age values, and cultural exchanges with neighboring French schools.

THE EIGHTH ANNUAL TEEN FORUM -- CHIEMSEE, GERMANY

This year, because our Teen Club's student direction is being handled by the Student Council, Mrs. Horne chose Pat Connor, the Student Council President, and Pat Massengale, the Vice-President, to represent us at the 8th Annual Teen Club Forum which took place in Chiemsee, Germany. They returned with copious notes which were written up, mimeographed, and sent to other Teen Clubs throughout France which were not represented at the Forum. Although space does not permit us to reproduce these notes in full, we would like to quote a few paragraphs not only to show how interesting the Forum was, but because we are most proud of the "Two Pats" and the excellence of their notes.

"Patrick Dillon of Munich High School began the workshop discovering: "What is Leisure?". He emphasized that teenagers today want to be continually entertained, and they tend to disregard the fact that a weak character not only is harmful to the person but leaves an ill effect with the surrounding society. Leisure time is the key which enables us to benefit ourselves as well as society. A warm thank-you can mean more than any amount of money, and everyone loves the feeling of accomplishment; but it is unfortunate that most people need to be prodded. Our generation is facing an era of mechanization and excessive leisure time. You must decide now to take the opportunity to develop a richer life or to sit back and watch the world pass you by.

Bremerhaven Teen Club led a parent-teenager relations discussion. The conclusions they arrived at were: parents must trust their teenagers, allowing them more freedom, chaperones should sit in



Mrs. Horne and the
"Two Pats" plan the
trip to the Teen Forum
in Germany.

front of AYA tour buses, and chaperones should try to stay with other chaperones as well as act their own age.

Several of the adult advisors present at the conference organized an excellent rebuttal to Bremerhaven. They concluded that teenagers should: take more pride in their parents, realize that their sponsors continually live by regulations and it is only natural for them to pass some of these regulations to other members of their family, and face the fact, whether they like it or not, that a parent's responsibility is looking out for his child.

The conference was closed with a banquet at which John Francis, lecturer in Psychology at the Munich Division of the University of Maryland, was the guest speaker. He made us conscious of the fact that we belong to a society of our own, the teenage world, and although we must conform somewhat to our own group, we have a

responsibility to respect the ideas of our parents' society as we, in turn, expect them to respect ours. The teenage years seem to be a difficult period for all Americans, but we will just have to wait like everyone else has waited for the time when our semi-independence will become a reality."

BASKETBALL

After dropping their two opening games against Paris, Coach John Manzoline's Dreux Vikings came roaring back with a 62-40 win over Toul. Jim Edmond was high scorer with 21 points. The following day, Toul put two men on Edmond and employed a full court press, but with the aid of Paul Hodnick's 20 points and Edmond's 15, Dreux came out the winner 56-55.

THE CASE OF THE UNMONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Where have we been? A murdered editor? A strike of our reporters? In truth the copy for this issue has been ready since November, however we had some excellent photographs which disappeared with our student photographer when his father was rotated back to the States. After several weeks of desperate letter writing, we finally located the photos and are happy to tell you that they are now somewhere between Europe and America safely packed in his home baggage or household goods as they are called. However, we do not anticipate further trouble and will have another issue out next month.

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PARENTS

We are most interested in sounding you out for your ideas concerning not only ways to improve our Monthly Newsletter but the possible addition of articles and sections that would be of interest to you. If you would be kind enough to answer the following questions, cut off this last page, and mail it back to us, we would appreciate it very much.

- 1) I feel the idea of a Monthly Newsletter is worthwhile Yes No
- 2) I would like to see a Letters to the Editor Column Yes No
- 3) I would like to see articles by the students Yes No
- 4) I would like to see more less the same amount of sports coverage.
- 5) I would like to see articles on the weekend tours Yes No
- 6) I would like to see more less the same amount of photos
- 7) I would like to see more coverage of the academic program at Dreux (ie Articles by the various teachers on what they are doing in their classes). Yes No
- 8) I would like to see more less the same amount of coverage of social events (ie Dances, Record Hops, etc.)
- 9) I like the present format of the Newsletter Yes No
- 10) I would like to see it more like a real newspaper if this could be arranged Yes No
- 11) Below please write in any other suggestions you may have--Thank You.

Mr. Thomas M. Livingston
Editor
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