

PHI KAPPA TAU

# MARK OF DISTINCTION

ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
WORKBOOK



**Φ**

**K**

**T**

Phi Kappa Tau



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

WHAT'S BRAND GOT TO DO WITH IT? .....	3
READY, SET, ENGAGE! .....	8
ALL ONBOARD! .....	16
NOW WHAT, SO WHAT? .....	23



## WELCOME TO PHI KAPPA TAU

As you sit in your first meeting as an associate member of Phi Kappa Tau, we are sure you are filled with a mix of excitement, nervousness, happiness, and you might even be a little scared. All of these emotions are completely normal for you to have but we hope by the end of your first meeting, you are feeling excited, comfortable and happy with your decision to join Phi Tau.

Your associate member period is designed to help you learn about Phi Kappa Tau as an organization, who your brothers are, who the other members of your associate class are, and what it means to be a Phi Tau man. It is important to know that we don't expect you to learn every single thing about this fraternity in the next six weeks however we do hope that you develop a good foundation that you will continue to build on during your lifetime membership in Phi Kappa Tau.

This is not a period that you need to prove yourself to anyone and we expect that you are treated with the upmost respect by everyone involved with your associate member process. If at any time you feel uncomfortable, unsafe or if you just have a question, please use the resources on the next page to contact someone who can help you.

We hope that you will have fun, learn, and grow during this time. This is an exciting time for you, your chapter and Phi Kappa Tau as an entire national fraternity and we are excited you have decided to join our brotherhood.

Sincerely,

The Phi Kappa Tau Chapter Services Team



## AVAILABLE RESOURCES

### ON CAMPUS RESOURCES

- Campus Fraternity/Sorority Advisor
- Board of Governors Chapter Advisor
- Campus Health and Wellness Office
- Office of Student Conduct

### FRATERNITY RESOURCES

- Phi Tau Emergency Hotline:  
(513) 523-4193 ext. 251
- Report a Concern Page found on  
[phikappatau.org](http://phikappatau.org)
- Chapter Success Manager
- Email [MOD@phikappatau.org](mailto:MOD@phikappatau.org)
- Anti-Hazing Hotline: 1-888-668-4293

## **Creed**

Phi Kappa Tau, by admitting me to membership, has conferred upon me a mark of distinction in which I take just pride. I believe in the spirit of brotherhood for which it stands. I shall strive to attain its ideals, and by so doing to bring to it honor and credit. I shall be loyal to my college and my chapter and shall keep strong my ties to them that I may ever retain the spirit of youth. I shall be a good and loyal citizen. I shall try always to discharge the obligation to others which arises from the fact that I am a fraternity man.

Roland Maxwell, Southern California '22

November 19, 1950

## **Vision**

The vision of Phi Kappa Tau is to be recognized as a leadership organization that binds men together and challenges them to improve their campuses and the world.

## **Mission**

The mission of Phi Kappa Tau is to champion a lifelong commitment to brotherhood, learning, ethical leadership and exemplary character.



## PHI KAPPA TAU POLICIES

*The Risk Management Policy of FIPG, Inc. includes the provisions, which follow and shall apply to all fraternity entities and all levels of fraternity membership.*

### **ALCOHOL AND DRUGS**

- The possession, sale, use or consumption of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, while on chapter premises or during a fraternity event, in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, or at any event an observer would associate with the fraternity, must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws of the state, province, county, city and institution of higher education, and must comply with either the BYOB or Third Party Vendor Guidelines. BYOB is defined in the FIPG Guidelines as one (1) six-pack of 12-ounce beers or one (1) four-pack of wine coolers brought by a member or guest who is legally able to consume an alcoholic beverage.
- No alcoholic beverages may be purchased through or with chapter funds nor may the purchase of same for members or guests be undertaken or coordinated by any member in the name of or on behalf of the chapter. The purchase or use of a bulk quantity or common source(s) of alcoholic beverage, for example, kegs or cases, is prohibited.
- OPEN PARTIES, meaning those with unrestricted access by non-members of the fraternity, without specific invitation, where alcohol is present, are prohibited.
- No members, collectively or individually, shall purchase for, serve to, or sell alcoholic beverages to any minor (i.e., those under legal drinking age).
- The possession, sale or use of any ILLEGAL DRUGS or CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES while on chapter premises or during a fraternity event or at any event that an observer would associate with the fraternity is strictly prohibited.

- No chapter may co-sponsor an event with an alcohol distributor or tavern (tavern defined as an establishment generating more than half of annual gross sales from alcohol) at which alcohol is given away, sold or otherwise provided to those present. This includes any event held in, at or on the property of a tavern as defined above for purposes of fundraising. However, a chapter may rent or use a room or area in a tavern as defined above for a closed event held within the provisions of this policy, including the use of a third party vendor and guest list. An event at which alcohol is present may be conducted or co-sponsored with a charitable organization if the event is held within the provisions of this policy.
- No chapter may co-sponsor, co-finance or attend or participate in a function at which alcohol is purchased by any of the host chapters, groups or organizations.
- All recruitment or rush activities associated with any chapter will be non-alcoholic. No recruitment or rush activities associated with any chapter may be held at or in conjunction with a tavern or alcohol distributor as defined in this policy.
- No member or pledge, associate/new member or novice shall permit, tolerate, encourage or participate in “drinking games.” The definition of drinking games includes but is not limited to the consumption of shots of alcohol, liquor or alcoholic beverages, the practice of consuming shots equating to one’s age, “beer pong,” “century club,” “dares” or any other activity involving the consumption of alcohol which involves duress or encouragement related to the consumption of alcohol.
- No alcohol shall be present at any pledge/associate member/new member/novice program, activity or ritual of the chapter. This includes but is not limited to activities associated with “bid night,” “big brother – little brother” events or activities, / “big sister - little sister” events or activities, “family” events or activities and initiation.

## HAZING

No chapter, colony, student or alumnus shall conduct nor condone hazing activities. Permission or approval by a person being hazed is not a defense. Hazing activities are defined as: "Any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off fraternity premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: use of alcohol, paddling in any form, creation of excessive fatigue, physical and psychological shocks, quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or any other such activities carried on outside or inside of the confines of the chapter house; wearing of public apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste, engaging in public stunts and buffoonery, morally degrading or humiliating games and activities, and any other activities which are not consistent with academic achievement, fraternal law, ritual or policy or the regulations and policies of the educational institution or applicable state law."

## SEXUAL ABUSE AND HARRASSMENT

The fraternity will not tolerate or condone any form of sexist or sexually abusive behavior on the part of its members, whether physical, mental or emotional. This is to include any actions, activities or events, whether on chapter premises or an off-site location which are demeaning to women or men, including but not limited to verbal harassment, sexual assault by individuals or members acting together. The employment or use of strippers, exotic dancers or similar, whether professional or amateur, at a fraternity event as defined in this policy is prohibited.

## **FIRE HEALTH AND SAFETY**

1. All chapter houses should meet all local fire and health codes and standards.
2. All chapters should post by common phones and in other locations emergency numbers for fire, police and ambulance and should have posted evacuation routes on the back of the door of each sleeping room.
3. All chapters should comply with engineering recommendations as reported by the insurance company or municipal authorities.
4. The possession and/or use of firearms or explosive or incendiary devices of any kind within the confines and premises of the chapter house is prohibited.
5. Candles should not be used in chapter houses or individual rooms except under controlled circumstances such as initiation.

## **EDUCATION**

Each fraternity shall annually instruct its students and alumni/alumnae in the Risk Management Policy of FIPG, Inc. Additionally, all students and key volunteers shall annually receive a copy of the Risk Management Policy and a copy of the policy shall be available on the fraternity website. For more information, refer to [www.fipg.org](http://www.fipg.org)



## INITIATION REQUIREMENTS

### NATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Pay the \$75 association fee
- Pay the \$240 initiation fee\*
- Have at least a 2.5 GPA
- Complete GreekLifeEdu before initiation\*\*

\* *Could be more depending on the Badge selected.*

\*\**There is a 30 day waiting period between part one and part two. Associate Members will need to start GreekLifeEdu within a week of receiving the email to set up their accounts*

### **Your chapter could have some additional expectations for you to meet before being initiated. It is important to remember:**

- These expectations should match the expectations of the chapter. For example, if the chapter requires all members to complete five service hours a semester and that is an expectation for associate members, that would be fine. Now, if they are requiring associate members to complete five hours a semester and brothers have no requirements, that would not be ok.
- These expectations should be relevant to your Phi Tau experience. Your MOO should review every expectation to you and explain the “why” behind it. If the “why” is not something that applies to being a member, it should not be an expectation.
- All expectations should follow the policies of Phi Kappa Tau.
- Expectations should not make you feel uncomfortable.

If at any point during your associate member period, you have questions or concerns we encourage you to reach out to one of the following resources:

- Chapter BOG
- “Report a Concern” link on [phikappatau.org](http://phikappatau.org) (can be found in the Risk Management section of the website)
- Call the Phi Kappa Tau Emergency Hotline at (513) 523-4193 ext. 251
- Call the Hazing Hotline at 1-888-668-4293

If you have any questions about expectations or any other part of the associate member process, please email [MOD@phikappatau.org](mailto:MOD@phikappatau.org)



### Phi Kappa Tau History Activity

This is a weekly activity, with one group going per week, that will help everyone learn some important information about Phi Kappa Tau's history. You will be given an assigned group that will work together to present on information from the assigned readings on the history of Phi Tau. Your group will present on what stood out to you, what you find interesting, what are the things that you would want someone to know about Phi Tau history from this time period, etc. Starting on page 29 of this workbook, you will find excerpts on Phi Tau history from the book, From Old Main to New Century to use for this assignment.

#### Tips for Success:

**Be Creative!:** No one likes to be lectured to for 15 minutes. Think about a fun, unique way to present the information. Maybe you make a video, create a skit, make a game just to name a few examples. This is about having fun while you are also learning about the history of Phi Kappa Tau.

**Remember the Time Limit:** You have about 15 minutes for this activity so make sure to plan and practice what you will be doing and how long it will take.

**Plan Ahead:** Don't wait until the night before to throw something together. Planning ahead will allow you to be creative and thoughtful, while also ensuring that you don't feel rushed or overwhelmed when it is your week to go.

**Use other Resources:** This workbook will be a great place to start but your Phi Kappa Tau Membership Manual is another great resource. You can also use the Phi Tau website (try looking under The Exchange), other websites, other books about Phi Tau, and you should even talk to some brothers within the chapter.

PHI TAU HISTORY ACTIVITY WEEKLY BREAKDOWN				
• Assigned Years	1916 - 1945	1946 - 1975	1976 - 1996	1997 - 2016
• Groups	1	2	3	4

Your MOO will be giving out your group assignments and which week you will be going.

## PHI KAPPA TAU FOUNDERS BIOGRAPHIES

**Taylor Albert Borradaile**

Taylor Albert Borradaile was born on May 15, 1885, in Camden, Ohio. Borradaile entered Miami University in 1904 and was active in almost every phase of university life during his four years as an undergraduate. He was a member of the Erodolphian Literary Society and was its president during his junior year.

Borradaile's major contribution in the planning phase of the Non-Fraternity Association was to personally provide the necessary organizational leadership to start the association. When the association held its first meeting on March 17, 1906, Borradaile was elected the first president.

Like Founder Douglass, Borradaile graduated with a degree in chemistry, but directed his talents towards the teaching field. After devoting a few years to high school work, both as a teacher and a principal, he returned to chemistry as a profession, operating his own chemical laboratory in West Virginia. At the same time, he served the city of Charleston, West Virginia, as chief chemist.

Borradaile subsequently accepted a position with the federal government and served for several years as the chief chemist in the materials testing section of the Veteran's Administration.

Founder Borradaile was well-known to members of the Fraternity everywhere for his quick sense of humor, his warm personality and his calm, genial nature. His later years were spent with his wife Letha in Beckley, West Virginia, where he died in 1977.

## Dwight Ireneus Douglass



Dwight Ireneus Douglass was born and raised in the small McLean County community of Colfax, Illinois. The son of a physician, Douglass entered Miami University in September 1902 to study chemistry. In addition to his academic work, Douglass was active in the Erodolphian Literary Society, belonged to the tennis and golf clubs, played varsity football, and was a member of the Athletic Board of Control.

Douglass has been characterized by his contemporaries as the real leader in the development of the Fraternity in its early years. As the Golden Jubilee History (written by Jack L. Anson) points out: "It was his ability to plan an organize and to anticipate the future, along with his commanding personality, that welded friends to him, which motivated others and made his new organization a fact."

Douglass continued his studies at the Colorado School of Mines following his graduation from Miami in 1906. He received a degree in mining engineering and worked in the mining field for some time. During World War I he served in France with the 28th Engineers, and was gassed and wounded in the final day of hostilities. Following his discharge in 1919, he lost touch with the Fraternity for a period of time.

Because of poor health due to his war service, Douglass accepted a position with the Veterans Administration in New Orleans in 1922. He retired in 1937, moving to nearby Hammond, Louisiana, where he spent his remaining years as a short story writer. He died on February 12, 1940.

### Clinton Dewitt Boyd



Clinton DeWitt Boyd was born in Mt. Orab, a small town in Brown County, Ohio, located about 25 miles east of Cincinnati, in October of 1884. He enrolled at Miami University in September 1904 and soon became recognized for his ability as a public speaker and debater. He was also a capable member of the Miami track team and served as its captain in 1906 and 1907.

Boyd, along with Founder Shideler, organized the non-affiliated members of the Miami student body into a working organization during the period when the Non-Fraternity Association evolved. He completed law school at the University of Michigan after graduating from Miami in 1908 and opened a law office in Middletown, Ohio in 1910.

From 1929 to 1937, Boyd served as a judge of the Butler County Court of Common Pleas and then returned to private practice in Middletown until his death in a 1950 automobile accident.

Boyd's son, Clinton D. Boyd, Jr. and grandson Mark Boyd, are both members of Alpha Chapter at Miami University.

## William Henry Shideler



William Henry Shideler was born near Middletown, Ohio on July 14, 1886 and was the youngest of the four Phi Kappa Tau Founders. Shideler was a member of the North Dorm Senate and the Erodelphian Literary Society. He was the author of the Non-Fraternity Association constitution, along with Douglass, and was the guiding light in directing the preliminaries of the founding.

In 1910, he received his doctorate in geology from Cornell University and returned to Miami where he served as a member of the faculty until his retirement in 1957.

Founder Shideler held every Phi Kappa Tau national office during his long career of exemplary service to the Fraternity. He was National President from 1913-1914, Historian from 1917-1922, and a member of the National Council from 1920 to 1923 and National Controller from 1929 until his death on December 18, 1958. He was also the Fraternity's acting National Secretary during World War II.

Shideler was known as "Doc" even as an undergraduate and was always interested in Miami sports. As an undergraduate, he was on the Miami varsity track team and for several years was Miami's representative to the Mid-American Conference and the NCAA. Shideler's two sons, William Watson and James Henry, also joined Phi Kappa Tau. Shideler Hall, Miami's earth and science building today perpetuates Founder Shideler's memory as a great Miami teacher and scholar. The building was named in 1967.



## PHI KAPPA TAU EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

*Phi Kappa Tau offers a variety of programs for our undergraduate members and chapters. Our programs are designed to develop our members as leaders and men of character and to ensure that our chapters are functioning at the highest possible level. You can learn more about our programs below and by visiting the national website at [phikappatau.org](http://phikappatau.org).*



Leadership Academy is the Fraternity's premier, individualized leadership-development program for rising Phi Kappa Tau leaders. The four-day program is offered in three sessions of 40-60 students at camps across the country. Participants will create connections with rising Phi Kappa Tau leaders while identifying their own leadership style and learning how to effectively use their core values as leaders. If you strive to be a leader in your chapter, on campus and in your community then Leadership Academy is for you.

Regional Conferences are a one-day leadership development and officer training program. Regional Conferences are focused on preparing incoming officers to be strong and effective leaders throughout the year. The program educates participants on leadership development, an overview of Fraternity operations and the day-to-day tasks of the particular offices.



Presidents Academy is designed for new presidents to gain a deeper understanding of the responsibilities of a chapter president. Participants learn to effectively lead chapter meetings, lead an effective Executive Council, create constructive relationships beyond the Resident Council and take positive action during challenging times. Participants also create connections with chapter and Fraternity leaders, enhance their communication skills and leave with a plan for positive change in the chapter.

Offered throughout the year, a Building Men of Character (BMC) Retreat is a two-day chapter focused program which will result in the chapter developing a vision and plan of action for positive change in the chapter. After participating in this program full of engaging activities, chapter members will gain a deeper and greater understanding of Phi Kappa Tau values in order to develop leadership, enhance communication, emphasize chapter identity and strengthen the bonds of brotherhood.



Offered throughout the year and scheduled at a chapter/ colony's request, Good to Great Retreats are customizable retreats that are delivered at the local level to best meet the needs of the specific chapter/colony. Chapters and colonies now have the opportunity to select from different focus areas and work with the Executive Offices staff to create a unique retreat just for your brothers.



PHI KAPPA TAU  
MARK OF DISTINCTION

## PHI KAPPA TAU AND SERIOUSFUN

# seriousfun<sup>SM</sup> children's network founded by paul newman

SeriousFun Children's Network provides a safe summer camp experience for children with serious illnesses and life-threatening conditions.

Founded in 1988 by Paul Newman, Ohio '43, the then-Association of Hole in the Wall Camps was adopted as Phi Kappa Tau's national philanthropy in 1995. Since then, Phi Kappa Tau members have supported the camps through philanthropy and service.

Philanthropy events such as SeriousFun-A-Thons, basketball tournaments, car shows, bowl-a-thons and haunted houses raise money for various camp needs. Phi Kappa Tau chapters collectively raise and donate approximately \$100,000 to the camps each academic year.

Phi Tau members travel to SeriousFun camps throughout the country and overseas to serve as positive male role models. The Phi Kappa Tau Foundation provides up to \$300 in travel stipends to any undergraduate who volunteers at a camp. Volunteers interested in working for one week or more must complete an application and interview.

*You can find a complete list of SeriousFun campus located in the United States on the Phi Tau website at [phikappatau.org](http://phikappatau.org)*



## PHI KAPPA TAU FOUNDATION

*The purpose of the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation is to ensure the philanthropic support necessary to sustain high levels of educational programming by fostering lifelong relationship and commitment to the Fraternity's ideals.*

### WAYS THE FOUNDATION CAN OFFER SUPPORT

- Chapter Education Grant Funds

CEG are accounts within the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation. They are set up to receive gifts and restrict them for the educational benefit of specific chapters. The money cannot be used for any other chapter or for the general endowment of the Fraternity. The local Board of Governors determines how the funds are utilized on the chapter's behalf.

A CEG can be used to cover the cost of tuition payments, awards, recognitions, books or study aids that support academics, including scholarships, academic incentives and academic expenses.

A CEG can be used to cover the cost of registration fees or travel expenses for any of the Fraternity's Men of Character Programs. The following programs are reimbursed at the following percentages: Presidents Academy (100 percent), Regional Conferences (40 percent), Leadership Academy (100 percent), Volunteer Development Institute (40 percent), National Convention (20 percent) and Conclave (41 percent).

A CEG can be used to cover the cost of registration fees, travel expenses, booking fees or logistical costs for any leadership-development program, including Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute, LeaderShape, local/regional leadership programs and local/regional speakers.

## WAYS THE FOUNDATION CAN OFFER SUPPORT

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Academic Scholarships</li> </ul>	<p>The Phi Kappa Tau Foundation provides academic scholarships to students pursuing bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees. Scholarship recipients are carefully chosen based upon their academic success, commitment to the ideals of Phi Kappa Tau, and service to their campus, community and Fraternity.</p> <p>Thanks to the generosity of many alumni, parents and friends, the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation is proud to award a number of academic scholarships each year. The deadline for all academic scholarships is April 1</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UIFI Scholarships</li> </ul>	<p>The Phi Kappa Tau Foundation provides two Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute (UIFI) Scholarships which cover tuition for this outstanding inter-greek leadership development program. UIFI is hosted by the North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC). The deadline for UIFI scholarships is April 1</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joshua Berman Memorial SeriousFun Stipend</li> </ul>	<p>The Phi Kappa Tau Foundation provides one \$1,000 stipend to an undergraduate who has volunteered at a SeriousFun camp in the past and plans to volunteer again for more than five days. This SeriousFun stipend was created in memory of Joshua Berman, the son of Shelley, Southern California '05, and Sarah Berman. Joshua died of cancer in September 1977 at the age of 13. This fund was endowed by Bob Plumleigh, Southern California '47, and his wife, Betty. (Application deadline: April 1)</p>

## WAYS THE FOUNDATION CAN OFFER SUPPORT

- SeriousFun Stipends

The Phi Kappa Tau Foundation provides SeriousFun stipends to Associate and Resident Council members who volunteer for a SeriousFun Children’s Network camp. Phi Kappa Tau is proud of its affiliation with SeriousFun—established by the late Paul Newman, Ohio ’43. Camps across the country and around the world are special places designed to provide a healthy dose of laughter and enjoyment for children with serious illnesses. Each year, Phi Kappa Tau undergraduates and alumni volunteer their time at camps, serving as positive male role models for the children.

The Foundation provides up to \$300 in travel stipends to any undergraduate who volunteers at a camp. The deadline for a SeriousFun Stipend is within 30 days of volunteer date.

- Cornerstone Campaigns

A Cornerstone Endowment is a chapter-specific fund established within the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation utilizing specifically designated charitable gifts from chapter alumni, parents and friends who wish to ensure that students from their chapter will always have access to Phi Kappa Tau’s full array of educational and developmental programs.

The Cornerstone Endowment is designed to produce a perpetual source of revenue that ensures students’ opportunities to participate in Phi Kappa Tau’s Men of Character Programs, including Leadership Academy, Presidents Academy, Regional Conferences, Building Men of Character Retreat and other programs. Alumni interested in starting a Cornerstone Campaign should contact the Foundation staff.



## WAYS THE FOUNDATION CAN OFFER SUPPORT

- Chapter Education Grant Funds

The Brothers Trust is the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation's exclusive undergraduate giving society. Membership in the Brothers Trust is awarded to undergraduates who contribute \$19.06 or more annually to the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation. The Brothers Trust supports the growth of our colonies—and therefore our brotherhood—by providing resources to support the success of colony members. A gift to the Brothers Trust helps colony members attend Men of Character programming, and support scholarships and colony development initiatives.

*You can find more information about the Foundation, ways to give, and how to apply for scholarships by visiting [phikappatau.org/foundation](http://phikappatau.org/foundation).*



## BORRADAILE CHALLENGE

CATEGORY	STANDARD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Membership</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outstanding:</b> Top 15% of chapters ranked based on the ratio of chapter size to their campus average size.</p> <p><b>Exceeds Expectations:</b> Top 33% of chapters ranked based on the ratio of chapter size to their campus average size.</p> <p><b>Meets Expectations:</b> Chapter must reach 100% or more of campus average size.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruitment</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outstanding:</b> Top 15% of chapters ranked based on the ratio of members recruited and initiated to their chapter size.</p> <p><b>Exceeds Expectations:</b> Top 33% of chapters ranked based on the ratio of members recruited and initiated to their chapter size.</p> <p><b>Meets Expectations:</b> Chapter must recruit and initiate 33% of chapter size.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leadership Development</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outstanding/Exceeds/Meets:</b> Chapter must host one Building Men of Character Retreat once every four years and have the following member attendance at the appropriate leadership development program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Conference- 6 members</li> <li>National Convention- 2 member OR Conclave- 1 member</li> <li>Leadership Academy- 2 members</li> <li>Presidents Academy- 1 member</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Service</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outstanding:</b> Chapter must average 35 hours per man with a minimum of 3 SeriousFun volunteers.</p> <p><b>Exceeds Expectations:</b> Chapter must average 20 hours per man with a minimum of 1 SeriousFun volunteers.</p> <p><b>Meets Expectations:</b> Chapter must average 15 hours per man.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Philanthropy</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outstanding:</b> Chapter must average \$130 raised per man to any philanthropy with a minimum of \$2,500 contributed to SeriousFun Children's network.</p> <p><b>Exceeds Expectations:</b> Chapter must average \$75 raised per man to any philanthropy.</p> <p><b>Meets Expectations:</b> Chapter must average \$40 raised per man to any philanthropy.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alumni Engagement</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outstanding:</b> Chapter must produce four alumni publications (Newsletters, thank you notes, etc.) and host four alumni events.</p> <p><b>Exceeds Expectations:</b> Chapter must produce three alumni publications and host three alumni events.</p> <p><b>Meets Expectations:</b> Chapter must produce two alumni Publications and host two alumni events.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scholarship</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outstanding:</b> Chapter GPA must be at or above 3.2 OR; Chapter GPA must be at or above 3.0 and .2 over Campus AVG GPA. Chapter must have an approved scholarship program.</p> <p><b>Exceeds Expectations:</b> Chapter GPA must be at or above 3.0 OR; Chapter GPA must be at or above 2.85 and .1 over Campus AVG GPA. Chapter must have an approved scholarship program.</p> <p><b>Meets Expectations:</b> Chapter GPA must be at or above 2.75 and at or above Campus AVG GPA. Chapter must have an approved scholarship program.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finances</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outstanding/Exceeds/Meets:</b> Chapter must submit two annual budgets and the IRS-990 form. Chapter must remain in good financial standing throughout the calendar year.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Risk Prevention</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outstanding/Exceeds/Meets:</b> Chapter must not have any risk management violations and all risk management seminars and reports must be submitted on time.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retention</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outstanding:</b> Chapter must have a 95% graduation rate. Chapter must have 95% associates recruited initiate per calendar year.</p> <p><b>Exceeds Expectations:</b> Chapter must have a 90% graduation rate. Chapter must have 90% associates recruited initiate per calendar year.</p> <p><b>Meets Expectations:</b> Chapter must have an 85% graduation rate. Chapter must have 80% associates recruited initiate per calendar year.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Membership Development</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outstanding:</b> Chapter must host a Ritual Workshop and host or attend 3 additional Personal/Professional Development workshops.</p> <p><b>Exceeds Expectations:</b> Chapter must host a Ritual Workshop and host or attend 2 additional Personal/Professional Development workshops.</p> <p><b>Meets Expectations:</b> Chapter must host a Ritual Workshop and host or attend 1 additional Personal/Professional Development workshops.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Membership Development</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outstanding:</b> 80% of chapter membership must be active members of another campus or community organization. 20% of chapter membership serve in a leadership position in another campus or community organization.</p> <p><b>Exceeds Expectations:</b> 66% of chapter membership must be active members of another campus or community organization. 10% of chapter membership serve in a leadership position in another campus or community organization.</p> <p><b>Meets Expectations:</b> 50% of chapter membership must be active members of another campus or community organization. A chapter member must serve in a leadership position in another campus or community organization.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communication</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outstanding:</b> Chapter must create and post 12 original multi-media features on a chapter public social media account. Chapter must post a news story to national website. Chapter social media must be Branding and Style compliant.</p> <p><b>Exceeds Expectations:</b> Chapter must create and post 9 original multi-media features on a chapter public social media account. Chapter must post a news story to national website. Chapter social media must be Branding and Style compliant.</p> <p><b>Meets Expectations:</b> Chapter must create and post 6 original multi-media features on a chapter public social media account. Chapter must post a news story to national website. Chapter social media must be Branding and Style compliant.</p>







## BROTHERHOOD ACTIVITY IDEAS

- Have dinner at the house and then watch a movie
- Mario Kart Tournament
- Have a resume writing Workshop presented by Career Development Center
- Go to a ropes course as a Chapter
- Host a Chapter basketball tournament/game with different teams within the chapter
- Go Bowling
- Attend Intramurals and have pizza together after the game
- Tailgate before football game (Remember to follow FIPG policies)
- Host a chapter Dinner
- Go white water rafting
- Karaoke Night
- Play flag football as a chapter
- Attend a university athletic/special event
- Play Laser Tag
- Host a chapter cookout
- Have a coffee break before and in between classes one morning
- Invite a speaker to speak at your chapter (athletic coach, mayor, Congresswoman, Local Leader, etc...)
- Go play mini golf
- Play dodgeball as a chapter
- Have a theme dinner at the chapter house
- Go hiking as a chapter
- Watch Monday Night Football as a chapter

You do not have to use one of these ideas listed above. This is just a list of examples to get you thinking. It is important to remember to plan not only a fun event, but a safe one as well. If you have a question about any of Phi Kappa Tau policies, reach out to your chapter Prevention and Wellness Chair, BOG or the Executive Offices ([MOD@phikappatau.org](mailto:MOD@phikappatau.org)).



## SERVICE EVENT IDEAS

- Reach out to a SeriousFun Camp near campus to set up a day of service
- Host a field day event for kids on campus
- Host a Habitat for Humanity house
- Host a Fall/Spring festival on campus
- Rake leaves for the elderly in the community
- Host a food drive
- Partner with another group on campus and do a roadside cleanup
- Volunteer to work with students at a nearby elementary, junior high or high school
- Host a Halloween Haunted House on campus for neighbor kids
- Assist the elderly with winterizing, lawn maintenance, painting and home repair

A good start would be to reach out to local Non-Profit organizations close to your campus to see what help they need. It will be important to plan far enough in advance and make sure they know how many people in your group you are expecting to help.

1906 - 1945

NON-FRATERNITY ASSOCIATION FOUNDED

Regardless of the specific reason for it, on Saturday, March 17, 1906, twenty-one men climbed two flights of ancient, creaking wooden stairs to the old Miami Union Hall in Miami's Old Main Building. Under the watchful eye of the Miami Union Literary Society's mangy mascot owl, Dwight I. Douglass called the meeting to order at one o'clock in the afternoon from the historic rostrum, where Miami's first fraternity had been harshly denounced in 1836 and from where John Reily Knox had led the first meeting of Beta Theta Pi in 1839. Except for a few bare electric light bulbs hanging on long cords from the water-stained ceiling, the Union Hall looked much the same as it had for more than seventy-five years, albeit a little shabby from wear. After Douglass made his introductory remarks, Taylor Borradaile, and Clinton Boyd, two of Miami's finest orators, spoke persuasively to the assembly about the urgent need for a permanent nonfraternity organization built on the principles of democracy, square dealing, and equality.

Someone in the group proposed the "Non-Fraternity Association" as an appropriate name, and the others readily agreed. William Shideler, who

had been keeping minutes of the meeting, and Dwight Douglass agreed to draft a constitution for the association over the coming spring vacation. Since Douglass was set to graduate in June, sophomore Borradaile was elected as president for the coming year.

With its business concluded and winter-term exams looming, the meeting was adjourned after less than an hour and members of the new association headed back to their books. The men who attended that March 17 meeting have come to be known as Foundation Members of Phi Kappa Tau. The roster of Miami's most capable nonfraternity leaders was carefully selected to represent each of Miami's four collegiate classes, and men as young as fifteen in their final year at the Miami Academy, a preparatory school.\*

Dr. Edgar Ewing Brandon, a red-goateed, forty-year-old professor of romantic languages, was one of a small group of Miami's nonfraternity faculty members. He took an active interest in the work of the Founders and became the association's faculty advisor almost immediately. Although he was not present at the first meeting, he is considered a Foundation Member and the first faculty initiate. Dr. Brandon's

leadership in the formative stages of the fraternity earned him the title, "Architect of Phi Kappa Tau."

Shideler and Douglass completed the draft of a Non-Fraternity Association constitution on March 28, 1906, the first day of the spring term. That constitution was ratified without change at a second mass meeting in the Miami Union Hall on April 8.

Under the leadership of Borradaile and Shideler, the Non-Fraternity Association came to dominate campus politics in the 1906-07 school year, effectively breaking up the old "ring" and generally democratizing the campus atmosphere.

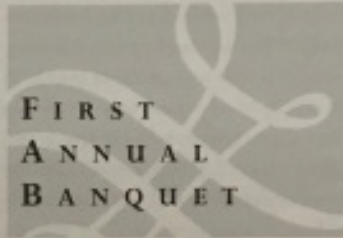
\* Seniors:  
Dwight I. Douglass  
Glenn B. Britton  
R. Burton Reed

Juniors:  
Roy C. Pierce  
F. Atherton Riedel

Sophomores:  
William H. Shideler  
Taylor A. Borradaile  
Clinton D. Boyd  
Harvey C. Brill  
Dwight M. Britton  
John G. Snyder  
Stanley J. Moore

Freshmen:  
Herman H. Beneke  
Henry H. Reighley  
George E. Booth  
Harry R. Crauder  
Earl T. Leeds  
Cary S. Miller

Academy Students:  
Robert L. Meeks  
Paul Teeter  
Hazlett A. Moore



FIRST  
ANNUAL  
BANQUET

It was in this atmosphere of triumph that the Non-Fraternity Association gathered for dinner on the warm spring evening of May 7, 1907, to celebrate its successes and contemplate the future. Though the location of the banquet has been lost to history, it was probably held on campus in the dining room of the new women's dormitory, Hepburn Hall. At the invitation of Dr. Brandon, Miami President Dr. Guy Potter Benton was the guest of honor and zoology Professor Steven R. Williams served as the evening's

toastmaster. Benton, a future national president of Phi Delta Theta, praised the association's "democratizing influence" on the student body and gladly accepted Dr. Brandon's pledge that the association would continue to "work for the betterment of the university."

Though it may have been presumptuous of the young group to call that banquet the "first annual," a springtime banquet did become an annual event and was soon being called the Founders' Day Banquet. Now celebrated at Phi Kappa Tau chapters from coast to coast, the Founders' Day Banquet is considered to be the fraternity's oldest tradition.

The fourth great national fraternity to be borne by Miami University, "Mother of Fraternities," was well under way.

*Miami University in 1906; Old Main is the towered building in the center, and the two matching brick buildings to its left are the North and South dormitories.*



CHAPTER TWO



**BROTHER BARBARIANS**

**A**fter a session at Phi Kappa Tau's Thirty-fourth National Convention at Pasadena's Huntington Sheraton Hotel in 1958 the two living Founders, Taylor Borradaile and William Shideler, walked to their rooms. As they strolled, Shideler—who would die later that year, making this the last time any of the Founders would be together—asked his old friend, "Taylor, when we were organizing this thing in 1905 and '06, did you ever think that it would turn out the way it has today?" Known for his quick wit, Borradaile answered, "Bill, it's exactly the way I planned it."

The truth of the matter is that the Non-Fraternity Association's Founders never intended that their loose organization would become a fraternity, let alone a national organization with dozens of chapters and thousands of members. Rather, it was the vision of the younger members of the foundation group and the men they recruited in 1907 and 1908 that fueled the evolutionary process that transformed the Non-Fraternity Association into Phi Kappa Tau.

Having accomplished their political objectives during the first year, the members of the Non-Fraternity Association could have rested on their

laurels and rejoiced in all they had accomplished—or disbanded the organization altogether. But as early as 1907, the growing membership of the association began to talk of greater things.

The second president of the Non-Fraternity Association, Harvey C. Brill (Miami, 1906), took the first step to tighten the rather loosely organized association by convening a committee to revise Douglass and Shideler's constitution in the fall of 1907. The new constitution was adopted on January 20, 1908. Harvey Brill would probably be a footnote in the association's history were it not for two

peculiar events. The identification of four primary Founders of the association was to some degree arbitrary, and Founder Shideler was clear that Harvey Brill was the fifth most influential of the Foundation Members. Brill's photo actually appears along with those of Douglass, Borradaile, Shideler, and Boyd in the *Nineteen Eighteen Year Book of the Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity* under the heading, "The Five Founders." The photos accompany the first detailed history of the fraternity prepared by Grand Historian Shideler, presumably a credible authority.

Since the 1920s Brill has not been listed on the Phi Kappa Tau membership rolls, because he joined Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity as a doctoral student at the University of Michigan. When Phi Kappa Tau badge numbers were assigned, Brill was never included. Several early members of the associa-

tion joined fraternities at Miami and have long been forgotten, but Brill remains an anachronism because he was the second president. Founder Borradaile thought Brill got a "raw deal" in history. A credit to any fraternity, Brill had a long and distinguished career on the Miami faculty teaching chemistry, and he maintained a life-long friendship with Founder Shideler. Today, Miami's science library is named for Harvey C. Brill, Phi Kappa Tau's "fifth founder."

Wilmer Stover (Miami, 1907), who taught high school to earn money for college and was already a botany instructor in his senior year, was elected third president at the Non-Fraternity Association's Second Annual Banquet in February 1908. The Stover administration concentrated on the acquisition of club rooms and a change in name for the organization.

*A Barbarian picnic at Ohio University in 1909*



Herman H. Beneke (Miami, 1906), who had a long career as a finance professor in Miami's business school, was one of the first to advocate acquiring appropriate quarters. Miami's five fraternities occupied rented houses in the village, and the Phi Deltas were even showing off blueprints for a luxurious brick house on a new "fraternity row." Beneke and others believed that a house would make the Non-Fraternity Association more visible and would give the men a place to hold the social events that were growing in importance to them.



A house committee first asked the university if rooms could be rented in the North Dorm. Although these rooms were available, most committee members believed that finding a house to rent was a more favorable option. Early in February 1909, an Oxford landlord offered to rent the association a large, two-story family home at 14 North Campus Avenue. The new main campus gate being constructed to commemorate the university's centennial was clearly

visible from the house's wide and airy gingerbread porch. This became the official home of the association in March 1909 when ten seniors and two juniors moved into the house in time for the beginning of Miami's spring term. The house was immediately the most desirable address for Miami's non-fraternity men; and because the association's membership had grown to include nearly half of the male student body—over fifty men—a seniority system was developed to determine who would be the first to move in. Cary S. Miller (Miami, 1906), who would be the oldest living member of Phi Kappa Tau when he died in 1986, drew first choice of rooms and selected Walter S. Guiler (Miami, 1907) as his roommate.

To outfit the house, members of the association negotiated a two-hundred-dollar loan for equipment and furnishings. By the end of the second year in the house, the association was running a one-hundred-dollar deficit, and secretary Ralph Keffer (Miami, 1908) was instructed to prepare a fund-raising letter to be sent to alumni. Some things never change.

That first house served the chapter only until 1914 and is today directly across the street from the fraternity's National Headquarters. When the

property came on the market in the 1980s, Phi Kappa Tau Foundation Chairman Ewing T. Boles (Centre, 1914) came to Oxford to persuade Emeritus Mathematics Professor J. Paul Albert (Miami, 1920) to make a major contribution to help buy the house for use as offices for the national fraternity and foundation. As usual, Boles was successful securing a generous gift, and the building is now known as the J. Paul Albert Building. Perhaps it is appropriate that the fund-raising programs of the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation are today conducted in the same rooms where in 1911 Ralph Keffer wrote, "If every person who receives a copy of this paper would send just one dollar, that debt would not hang like a monster over us."

The prospect of a house of their own may have been motivation for the association to move on several organizational issues further tightening the still rather loose organization. Changing the name of the association was the first priority. Almost

since the beginning of the Non-Fraternity Association, many of the members believed that the name was too negative. Members had been careful to say that they were "distinctly not antifraternity." They had formed

political alliances with two fraternities, Phi Delta Theta and Delta Rho; and, according to Founder Shideler, "No particular objection was made to an association member joining either of these for it was 'all in the family anyway.'" Still, the consensus was that a more positive name was needed to better reflect the association's broad ambitions.

*The Phrenocon Association members were photographed in front of their house at 14 North Campus Avenue, January 1911.*

*Several of these men would play prominent roles in the development of Phi Kappa Tau. (left to right) seated ground: Ernest N. Littleton (1), Jesse Day (2); seated in chairs: Joseph Clokey (3), Edward E. Duncan (5), Anthony Poss (6), Roger C. Smith (7), Joseph Bachelor (10), Ralph Keffer (11), J. M. Robinson (16); third row: W.A. Hammond (5); fourth row: W.I. Easy (6).*



## NON-FRATERNITY ASSOCIATION BECOMES PHRENOCON

The name issue was addressed at a January 27, 1909, meeting during which the group's third president, Alexander Paxton (Miami, 1907), also was elected. A committee assigned to the task reported that "Miami Comrades" and "Student's Union," were both being considered, but wasn't until eleven days shy of the Non-Fraternity Association's third anniversary that thirty-six members met in the Miami Union Hall, to select a new name for the association. Sergeant at Arms Emery H. Petry (Miami, 1909) passed out the paper ballots on which members selected one of four alternative names: "Non-Fraternity," "Student's Union," "Miami Union," and "Phrenocon." They settled on the last and Petry moved that the spelling be changed to "Phrenocon."

The derivation of the name Phrenocon has been a subject of some discussion. In his 1957 *Golden Jubilee History of Phi Kappa Tau*, Jack L. Anson (Colgate, 1947) advanced the theory that Phrenocon was a combination of the proposed names, "Friends," "Non-Fraternity," and "Comrades." A 1953 letter from Ralph Keffer corroborates this theory. Two other 1953 letters from Wilford Sizelove (Miami, 1908) and George Oberfell (Miami, 1908), who was vice president of the association in 1909, contend that the words "Free" or "Freemen", "Non-Fraternity," and "Commons" or "Commoner" were combined to form "Fre-no-com." The "F" was changed to "Ph" simply because it looked more classical, and

Petry's motion to change the final "m" to "n" was probably just to make the name easier to pronounce. The fact that "phren" or "phreno" indicates something pertaining to the mind and "con" can mean learn or commit to memory seems to be an unintended but appropriate coincidence.


With a new house and name, the Phrenocon Association moved quickly to adopt symbols and other trappings similar to the fraternities. In April 1909 brown and white were adopted as official colors, and the red carnation that is still used as Phi Kappa Tau's official flower was adopted on May 12.

A third constitution in as many years was adopted on June 12, 1909, at the last meeting of the school year. Embodied in that constitution was a vague genesis of the first initiation Ritual. Apparently, members of Phrenocon wanted to establish some obligations of membership but were not interested in having an initiation ceremony like those of fraternities. Instead, they decided that all members would be asked to take an oath to uphold the new constitution.

On July 31, 1909, twelve senior members of the new Phrenocon Association, dressed in their best suits with

high, stiff shirt collars snug around their necks, posed for the association's first group photo in Frank Snyder's uptown Oxford studio; and Miami's 1909 annual, the *Recensio*, proclaimed that "this large organization is, without a doubt, at Miami to stay."

The membership of the Phrenocon Association included most of the non-fraternity men in those days, and the group was more than twice the size of the largest Miami fraternity. In fact, it was the largest student organization on the campus, with more than sixty members by January 1911. The association was so large that some believed it was becoming unwieldy, and there was still too little to bind members closely to the organization. Membership selection became considerably more restrictive in 1910-11, and an active "rushing campaign" was designed to compete with the fraternities in recruiting manpower.



### THE STAR OF PHRENOCON

*Another constellation has arisen in the sky;  
It shines more bright than any other star;  
It stands a beacon that will ever guide us  
Over paths obscure and ways afar.*

Chorus:

*For other stars may fade away  
And disappear at dawn,  
But one is bright, both night and day—  
The Star of the Phrenocon.*

*The light of Truth it spreads abroad that every one may know  
Its place is in the zenith of the sky;  
No time can dim the light that shines more constant,  
Growing brighter as the years go by.*



To more closely bind new members to the association, Anthony Poss (Miami, 1909) was appointed chairman of a Ritual committee on September 24, 1910. Joseph Bachelor (Miami, 1907), with some help from Ralph Keffer, wrote the Phrenocon Ritual that was adopted without revision on November 30, 1911. That brief Ritual, set out in Bachelor's bold hand, embodied the cardinal principles that are materially unchanged in the current Phi Kappa Tau Ritual. The twenty-one-year-old Bachelor—in the three cardinal principles—captured the essence of Phi Kappa Tau, which is as fresh and relevant today as it was then.

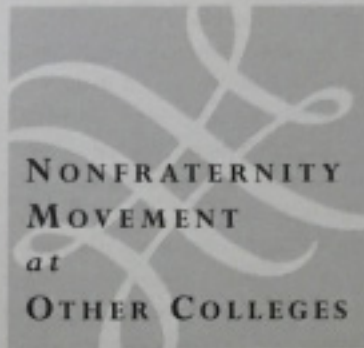
Phrenocon brought together two great budding talents in its new house. At the parlor piano, Joseph W. Clokey (Miami, 1908) whiled away the hours improvising original tunes to the delight of his Phrenocon brothers. When one of Clokey's tunes was ready for lyrics, he called for Bachelor to collaborate. One of the duo's earliest works, "The Star of Phrenocon," became the official song of the association. This song, later modified to reflect the association's name change to Phi Kappa Tau, articulated the vigor and enthusiasm of the Phrenocon men.

After leaving Miami, Bachelor worked on a graduate degree at Harvard and later joined the editorial staff of the Century Company in New York City. In 1927 Miami President Hughes finally persuaded Bachelor to join the Miami faculty, where he became so popular that students stood outside of his classroom to hear his renditions of Shakespeare. His memory remains alive at Miami in the four-hundred-acre Bachelor Wildlife Preserve he bequeathed upon his death in 1947 and in Bachelor Hall, built to house the Miami English department in 1979.

As for Bachelor's songwriting partner, Joseph Clokey became one of America's best known composers of sacred music, with more than three hundred works to his name, including six Phi Kappa Tau songs. He retired as dean of Miami's School of Fine Arts in 1947 to concentrate on composing, and his choral works of that period were some of the most frequently sung in church choirs of the 1950s. A Miami music-practice building was named Clokey Hall for several years, and after it was torn down, Alpha Chapter members placed a marker near its site.

To its new song, flower, colors, and Ritual, Phrenocon added a password, a grip, and a pin. The group also decided to publish a paper called *The Phrenocon*. Bachelor edited the first issue, which debuted on February 27, 1911, and was mailed to all of Miami's non-fraternity alumni. It is not known how many more issues of *The Phrenocon* were published as only copies of the first issue have survived, and when the Ohio University Union became the second chapter of Phrenocon, its

publication, *Side Lights*, was adopted as the official organ of the association.



The struggle between fraternity and nonfraternity students was not unique to Miami University in the early years of this century. Fraternity domination of campus politics and social activities was typical in many small colleges and, in fact, continues today. But this was a period when many of the nation's small colleges, like Miami, Ohio University, Ohio State University, and Ohio Wesleyan University were experiencing tremendous growth.

Once-tiny colleges were just beginning to blossom into large universities, and the progressive politics of the era was also bringing great social change. College campuses were not immune

to the criticisms of the social reformers. There was a call for the abolition of the brutal brand of football in which twenty-six men were killed in the 1905 season. In the Ohio legislature, a law to ban hazing was passed in 1907, and a bill to ban fraternities entirely was building momentum.

Founder Dwight Douglass was certainly familiar with the strong nonfraternity movement during his freshman and sophomore years at Ohio Wesleyan University. At Ohio University in Appalachian Athens, non-Greek students formed a coed organization known as the Barbarians. ("Barbarian," or the shortened "Barb," was a common name for non-Greek students in that day.) The Miami men were aware of the Barbarians' struggles at Ohio University, and Dwight Douglass contributed articles to their magazine, *Side Lights*, as early as 1906. Both of these organizations were considerably more anti-Greek than the Phrenocon Association, but their objectives of democratizing their campuses were very similar.

OHIO UNIVERSITY  
BARBARIANS

*Program from the Sixth Annual Banquet of the Barbarians of Ohio University, February 19, 1910; Alexander Paxton's remarks were the first formal contact between Phrenocon and the Barbarians.*

Two hundred seventy people attended the Sixth Annual Banquet of the Ohio University Barbarians on the evening of February 19, 1910. Crowded in with the Barbarian men and women at long white-clothed tables were members of the Ohio faculty and board of trustees. The large guest list included Alexander Paxton, president of the Phrenocon Association at Miami, and Walter Guiler, principal of the high school at Covington, Kentucky, a Phrenocon alumnus.

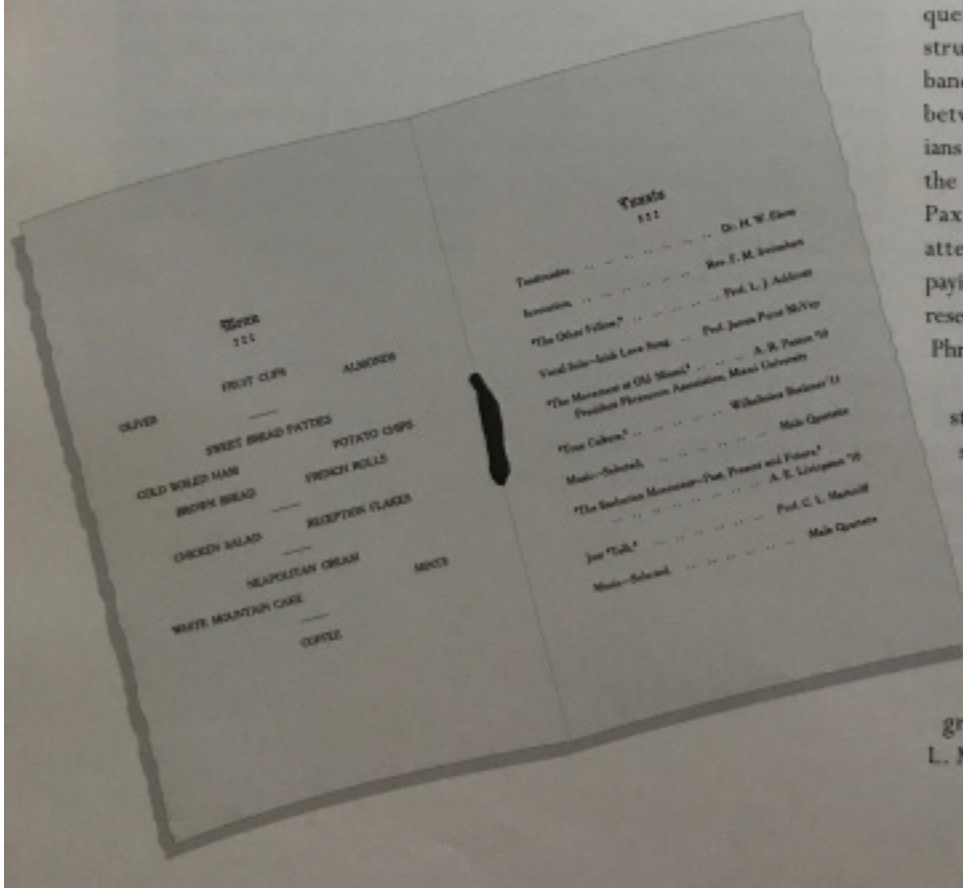
A long program of singing and oratory followed a five-course dinner,

with the Phrenocons finding themselves on the program following two Irish melodies sung by Professor James P. McVey. The *Side Lights* account of the banquet describes Paxton's speech as "a short history of 'The Movement at Old Miami' in which he showed how the association has grown from an almost insignificant beginning to one of the strongest, worthiest, and most influential organizations in the college." He then presented the Barbarians with a brown pennant with "Phrenocon" handsomely lettered in white.

Walter Guiler then made an eloquent speech on the nonfraternity struggles in American colleges. This banquet was the first formal contact between Phrenocon and the Barbarians, who were so eager to hear about the Miami association that they paid Paxton's train fare and expenses to attend. Phrenocon reciprocated by paying the expenses of a Barbarian representative to attend the Fourth Annual Phrenocon Banquet a few weeks later.

The Barbarians had gotten their start at Ohio in early 1905 when a small group of nonfraternity men led by firebrand J. C. Timberman held a banquet and organized to establish the same political equality that the Miami men were seeking at the same time.

This was a radical and unabashedly antifraternity group who, according to Barbarian L. M. Shupe (Ohio, 1911), "went to



battle like the Spartans of old, resolved to come out with their shields or upon them."

In 1906 the "Barbs" took steps to start a magazine to replace the college paper, *The Mirror*, which had been discontinued. Fred Shaw was the first editor, and the publication soon adopted *Side Lights* as its name.

As early as 1907, several of the more moderate "Barbs" thought that a closer organization should be perfected, and in 1910 a new constitution was adopted changing the group's name to the Ohio University Union for many of the same reasons that the Miami group had dropped its old name in favor of Phrenocon. The Ohio Union rented a house at 100 University Terrace that had a first-floor lounge and reading room and living quarters for some of the Union men upstairs.

As with the Miami group, the Union's political goals were achieved early, and the purposes of the organization broadened to stand "not only for democracy and equality of rights but also for the best interests of the non-fraternity students intellectually, socially, and morally."



PHRENOCON  
BEGINS  
EXPANSION

Phrenocon voted in early 1911 to actively pursue expansion to schools where similar groups of non-fraternity men were found, and when Roger C. Smith (Miami, 1908) represented Phrenocon at a second Ohio Union banquet in February, he "spoke very forcibly upon the nationalization of the non-fraternity movement in

America pointing to the advantages of uniting all organizations of this type in a common brotherhood." This visit started an intense period of merger negotiations between the Union and Phrenocon, but an agreement could not be reached before the end of the school year.

Phrenocon President Ernest N. Littleton (Miami, 1909) finalized the merger in Athens during the weekend of October 21-22, 1911. In the merger agreement, the Union's constitution was modified to serve the new "National Phrenocon Association." *Side Lights*, which was being so successfully published, became the official national organ, while the Ritual, badge, grip, and password of the Miami group were retained by the National Phrenocon. It also was



*Side Lights* staff  
at Ohio University in 1908

agreed that female members of the Union would not be admitted to the National Phrenocon and that they would form their own organization. At first the women retained the name Ohio University Union but soon adopted "Aloquin." Their relationship with Phrenocon remained cordial, and Aloquin news and events continued to be covered in early issues of *Side Lights*.



That momentous Athens meeting in 1911 is considered to be the First National Convention of Phi Kappa Tau. Graduate student Howard A. Pidgeon (Ohio, 1911) was elected national president and recent Miami graduate Roger C. Smith was chosen as the general secretary. When Littleton

returned to the Phrenocon House in Oxford with news of the agreement, it was enthusiastically ratified on October 27; thus the National Phrenocon Association was born. After the ratification, minor changes to the Phrenocon badge were made, and a motion from the Ohio chapter to change the colors of the association to lavender and gold was adopted.

The development of the Booster Club at Ohio State University mirrored the formation of the Miami and Ohio chapters of Phrenocon. John J. Paine (Ohio State, 1912) led many successful efforts by Ohio State's independent men to band together and win campus elections; but until the fall of 1911, he was not able to form a lasting organization of nonfraternity men.

*Ewing T. Boles (seated, center) was president of the Centre College chapter of Phrenocon when this photograph was taken in 1914*



Finally on Sunday, October 15, 1911, Paine and three of his closest non-fraternity associates gathered at his home on West Sixth Avenue in Columbus to discuss forming a permanent organization. Paine and his compatriots, E. V. Mahaffey (Ohio State, 1912), Harold E. Cowser (Ohio State, 1912), and Walter G. Reitzel (Ohio State, 1912), kicked off an aggressive eight-week recruiting campaign among the campus independents. Thirty men came to the Board Room in the Ohio Union on December 12 to approve a constitution founding the Booster Club. Through the influence of Jesse Day (Miami, 1912), who joined the Ohio State faculty, Paine wrote to Oxford in October for information about the National Phrenocon.

official grip of Phi Kappa Tau, was proposed and C. R. Ridenour (Ohio, 1911) was elected national president. General Secretary Smith, then living in Zanesville, Ohio, was reelected to a second term.



*The Phrenocon coat of arms adopted in 1914*



The Booster Club's application was the major item of business at the Second National Convention on February 24, 1912, at the Ohio Chapter house in Athens. The delegates developed a procedure for approving applications from potential chapters, after an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the chapters. In other business, a new grip, which has continued as the

The Miami chapter proposed that new chapters be installed by the national officers, with the general secretary reading the Ritual and the president giving the oath of membership. That was the plan past President Pidgeon, substituting for C. R. Ridenour, and General Secretary Smith intended to follow in the installation of the Ohio State Chapter on May 9, 1912, except for one detail: Smith had never been given a copy of the Ritual, and Pidgeon forgot to bring his. So the first installation of a new Phrenocon chapter was accomplished with an improvised Ritual frantically reconstructed from memory. "I thought I could write some of it from memory, and [for] what I could not remember, we would try to supply

something just as good," Smith remembered fifteen years later. "We began a thirty minute brain scramble to fix up a Ritual." Pidgeon and Smith completed their work in time to join the Ohio State men and their guests at a banquet in the Music Room of the Ohio Union Building. The ladies and other guests moved to an adjoining room after dinner, and the improvised Ritual and oath of membership were recited by candlelight. No one knew that the official Ritual sheet was still in Athens, seventy-five miles away.

With its three chapters, the National Phrenocon was a national fraternity in all respects but its name. This situation seemed to please the Ohio and Ohio State chapters, but some members of the Miami group were leaving Phrenocon to join Greek-letter fraternities. In 1911 and 1912, small groups of Phrenocon men broke off to form Greek locals, which eventually became the Miami chapters of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Delta Tau Delta. The Miami men believed strongly that Phrenocon should adopt a Greek-letter name immediately.

## ZENOPHILIA at CENTRE

A fourth chapter was added to the Phrenocon roll when a local group known as Zenophilia was installed at Central University, now Centre College, at Danville, Kentucky. The story of Zenophilia is the familiar one of nonfraternity men seeking an organization to represent their welfare.

S. Frank Cox (Centre, 1914) was the driving force behind Zenophilia, which formally applied for admission to Phrenocon on November 22, 1913. The three existing chapters approved Zenophilia's petition in January, 1914, and the installation ceremony was scheduled for February 5, 1914. Founder Shideler, who had been elected national president in the spring of 1913, led the installation team wearing brand new initiation robes especially designed for chapter installations.

Delegates from the new Centre chapter joined representatives from Miami, Ohio and Ohio State at the Third National Convention at Athens, Ohio, on March 6 and 7, 1914. The pledge pin that had been used for several years at Miami was adopted for national use, and the coat of arms developed by the Ohio State chapter was modified slightly for use by all chapters. That coat of arms is similar to that of the modern Phi Kappa Tau, and it carries the Latin motto still used by the fraternity in a Greek translation.

The Miami delegation, led by Ernest H. Volwiler (Miami, 1911), a

future chairman of pharmaceutical giant Abbott Laboratories, argued vigorously for the adoption of a Greek-letter name but to little avail. Although a motion to forever maintain the name Phrenocon was defeated, the name was retained and the convention would only go so far as to describe Phrenocon as "a democratic non-Greek fraternity."

## AGORA INSTALLED at MOUNT UNION

When National Secretary Eckley G. Gossett (Ohio State, 1912) learned that a group of men at Mount Union College in Alliance, Ohio, was interested in forming a non-Greek fraternity, he traveled to the college to visit the group. On March 1, 1915, he described to about twenty eager men the procedure by which an interested group could apply for admission to Phrenocon. By the end of the meeting, the group had elected officers and adopted a constitution based on the National Phrenocon model. Adopting

the name Agora, the Mount Union men intended to petition Phrenocon for admission as soon as possible. Six weeks later, on April 17, 1915, the Mount Union chapter became the fifth outpost of the growing Phrenocon Association in installation ceremonies at the Lexington Hotel in Alliance "at which the punch bowl held carnations and the cocktail glass was dry."

## GREEK-LETTER NAME CONTROVERSY

Minutes of the Fourth National Convention at Ohio State reflect no discussion of the name issue, although the Miami chapter was still advocating change. The issue did come to a head in Danville, Kentucky, at the Fifth National Convention, held the weekend before Christmas 1915. The Miami men once again brought the motion to adopt a Greek-letter name to the floor only to have it rejected by the delegates a fourth time.

When the Miami Chapter men returned to Oxford after Christmas and learned from their convention delegate, Carl Bogart (Miami, 1912), that their proposal had again been rejected, they considered their options. Finally, on March 9, 1916, they voted to withdraw from the National Phrenocon. The proceedings recorded in the chapter's minutes leave no doubt about their intentions:

"Phrenocon House, Oxford, Ohio,  
March 9

Moved and seconded and carried to remove Phrenocon coat-of-arms from front door, March 9, 1916.

Moved and seconded and carried to drop name of Phrenocon and adopt Greek-letter name immediately.

Committee of three drew up name of Phi Kappa Tau.

Moved and seconded and carried that we drop from national organization altogether.

The meeting adjourned."

Founder Shideler led a three-man delegation to inform National President S. Frank Cox of the decision, and the Miami men set about organizing their new Greek-letter fraternity, Phi Kappa Tau.

CHAPTER THREE



EXPANDING INFLUENCE

**B**y the early evening of Wednesday, December 20, 1916, all of the delegates but one had arrived at Phrenocon's Mount Union chapter house for the Sixth National Phrenocon Convention. Representing their chapters were: Howard E. Hendershott (Ohio, 1916); Willard Kirk (Ohio State, 1916); Arthur Dundon (Mount Union, 1915); and James M. Knappenberger (Illinois, 1916). A large contingent of Mount Union brothers crowded with the delegates onto an Alliance streetcar to meet the last delegate, William Wesley (Centre, 1916), from Danville, Kentucky, at the Pennsylvania railroad station.

Walking back to the streetcar for the return trip, Knappenberger asked where the nearest telegraph office was, and R. K. Bowers (Mount Union, 1915), from the local chapter, told him it was a block away—but why? Knappenberger explained that the deadline for the University of Illinois yearbook was the next day, and if the name was to be changed from Phrenocon to Phi Kappa Tau, he needed to know right away so that he could wire the answer back to Champaign. So there on the sidewalk in the dark December night, Knappenberger polled the delegates, and all said that they would vote to adopt the new name. All promised that their chapters would ratify the change. When

Knappenberger made the official motion to adopt the name Phi Kappa Tau the next afternoon, there was apparently unanimous approval and no discussion (but that would have been perfunctory anyway, as the decision had been made the night before).

Knappenberger's chapter at Illinois had been installed earlier that year, and the name change had not been an issue for Loyante, an Illinois local founded as a social club by men of modest means and very similar aims to the other Phrenocon chapters.

With the name changed, Willard Kirk moved that an invitation be extended to the Miami group, which had been functioning under the name Phi Kappa Tau for nine months, to



*Coat of arms adopted at the  
1917 national convention*

return to the new national of the same name.

Ewing T. Boles, who did not attend the convention, was elected national president. It was the first of a long list of national positions Boles would hold over the next seventy years, but he would never play a more challenging role than his first—that of negotiating the return of Miami as Phi Kappa Tau's Alpha Chapter. Early indications were not positive. The Miami group was aggressively pursuing associations with established national fraternities, though Dean Brandon was advising against it.

Boles' great future career in the securities business was built on salesmanship, and that skill got an early test when he decided to make a personal visit to the Miami men. Dr. Shideler later remembered that Boles was allowed to come as a courtesy, but the Miami men had already decided to reject Boles' proposal. At the age of ninety, Boles clearly remembered practicing the speech that changed their minds in the woods of the lower campus before the meeting. He considered Miami critical to Phi Kappa Tau's future. "Anybody that knows anything about fraternities knows that if we were not able to return Alpha Chapter...that our existence and our

growth would come to an end, and so it was therefore necessary to persuade Alpha Chapter that it was in their best interest to come back into the organization with the other three chapters and adopt the name which they had adopted...Phi Kappa Tau," Boles said in 1986.

In addition to his efforts to get Miami to return to the fold, Boles started a local fraternity at the University of Kentucky, Theta Rho, which petitioned Phi Kappa Tau and was granted a charter to become Eta Chapter. But at the last moment (National Secretary A. C. Kerr [Ohio, 1914] was on his way to the train when the telegram arrived), the college administration rejected the plan because of the looming world war, and it was scuttled.

Boles called a special convention in Oxford in May 1917 to welcome Miami back. The convention decided to name chapters in Greek-alphabet order, with Miami as Alpha, Ohio as Beta, Ohio State as Gamma, Centre as Delta, Mount Union as Epsilon, and Illinois as Zeta. President Woodrow Wilson had been calling for America's entry into the war in Europe, and it was clear that many young men would be going overseas. The convention, anticipating the future, decided that Dr. Shideler would take over the presidency in case Boles went into the service before the next convention in December. Boles did enter the service in August 1917, and Shideler assumed the presidency.



HISTORIC  
CHAMPAIGN  
CONVENTION

The 1917 national convention, which was held in December at the University of Illinois at Champaign, is arguably the most important convention in Phi Kappa Tau's history. Delegates to that convention made a number of decisions that have had a lasting impact on the fraternity.

Members of host Zeta Chapter at Illinois had definite ideas about the direction in which Phi Kappa Tau should be heading and had expressed disappointment with the fraternity's slow progress in expansion and alumni involvement.

Phi Kappa Tau was becoming recognized as a national fraternity. In fact, the fraternity's entry in the National Interfraternity Conference (NIC) had been accomplished only days earlier at the ninth annual meeting of the conference. C. B. Richeson (Mount Union, 1916), along with Joseph Bachelor, who was then living in New York, represented Phi Kappa Tau at the meeting. The nonfraternity origins of Phi Kappa Tau haunted it in its request to join the conference. Old reputations are sometimes difficult to overcome. But to Phi Kappa Tau's great fortune, the Reverend Albert H. Wilson, an interfraternity leader and national officer of Sigma Nu from Mount Union

College, was well acquainted with the success of Epsilon Chapter. Based upon that experience, he took up Phi Kappa Tau's cause and saw to it that the fraternity was accepted as a full member of the conference. Wilson, who would actively continue to assist Phi Kappa Tau for years to come, was recognized by the convention for his efforts on Phi Kappa Tau's behalf.

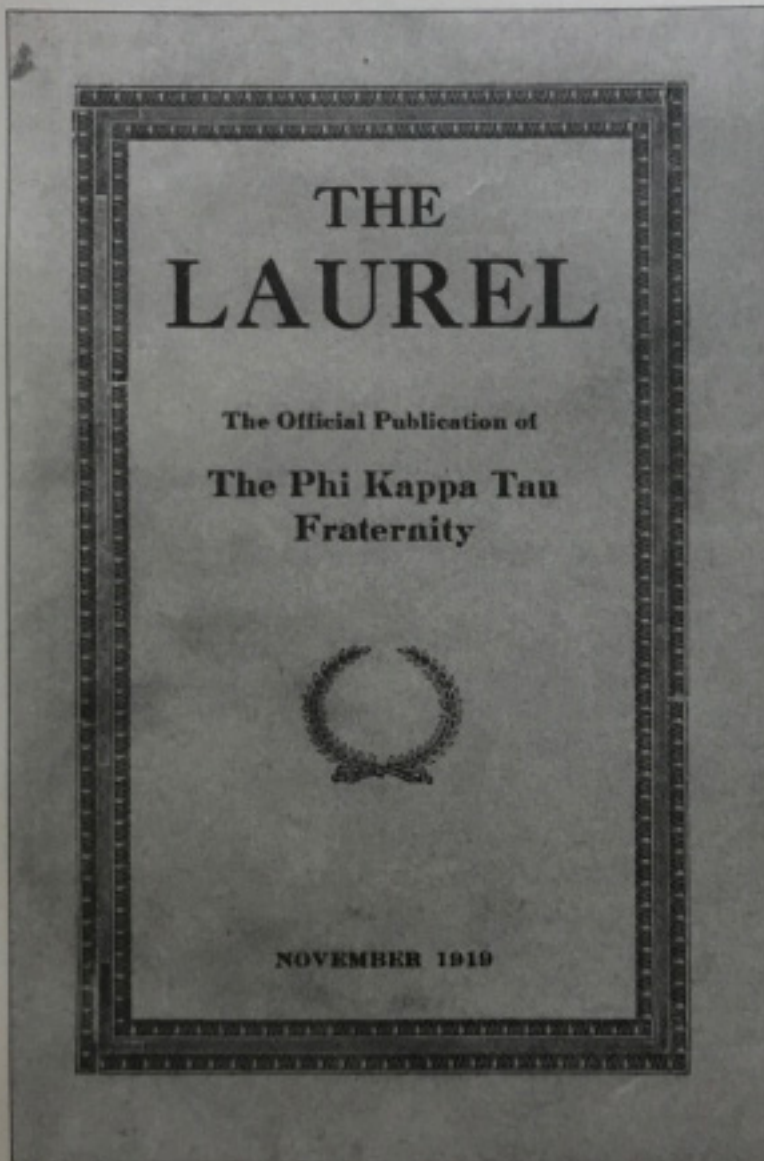
If NIC membership confirmed that Phi Kappa Tau was a full-fledged national fraternity, it was the Champaign convention that took steps to establish that fact from an organizational standpoint.

Acting President Shideler appointed convention committees dominated by Zeta men to deal with insignia, Ritual, and nominations.

The Ritual Committee, chaired by William C. Troutman (Illinois, 1916), who was also elected grand ritualist, made significant additions to the existing initiation Ritual. The committee reversed the order in which the cardinal

*Delegates to the 1917 national convention at Champaign, Illinois; front row: Bowers, Henry, Murphy, Beckley, Schachtsman, Ander, Yeager; back row: Ogden, Knappenberger, Shideler, Fletemeyer, Sandler, Troutman, Shonkwiler*





*The first issue of The Laurel, November 1919*

principles were introduced and added much drama to the simple ceremony, which had been written by Joseph Bachelor.

The committee on insignia, headed by James M. Knappenberger, Ralph K. Bowers, and John Beekley (Miami, 1911), proposed that the jeweled Phi Kappa Tau badge with a diamond star become the official badge but also approved a plain badge, suggesting that the star be changed from gold to white enamel. These were the last significant changes made to the badges. The committee then proposed major changes to the coat of arms, incorporating much symbolism about the fraternity and a Greek translation of the motto, which had appeared in the original Phrenocon coat of arms in Latin. A half-size sister badge, which could be presented to wives and girlfriends of members, was approved as was the pledge pin and grand seal, both unchanged to this day. Old gold and Harvard red were established as the fraternity colors, and the red carnation was retained as the official fraternity flower. Bowers, as an old man, was upset at the fraternity for using maroon as a color in sportswear advertised in the *Laurel* rather than the crimson Harvard red. He sent samples of a Winston cigarette carton to the editor to describe the correct color. The committee on songs awarded a silver loving cup to Gamma at Ohio State for submitting the best song and recommended that a songbook be published by the new secretary. Alumni dues were set at two dollars per year, to be collected by the alumni secretaries of the chapters.

Past the tenth anniversary of the fraternity's founding, a new sense of

history led to the establishment of the office of grand historian, to which Founder Shideler was elected, and Alpha Chapter was authorized to have a tablet made and installed in Old Main on Miami's campus to commemorate the founding. *Side Lights* declared that "the Seventh Annual Convention has been the making of the fraternity."

F. L. Shonkwiler (Illinois, 1917) was put in charge of publishing the *Guide to Ritualistic Work*, including direction on pledge instruction and examination, installation of chapters, and opening and closing of chapter meetings, to replace the three-page *Phrenocon Ritual*, which had been in use up to that time. Grand Ritualist Troutman was directed to devise an officer-installation ceremony and to determine appropriate robes and regalia for the Ritual.

A committee on grip and password made a report that was not published and has since been handed down by word of mouth. The origin of the password was almost entirely forgotten until R. K. Bowers described the committee's work to members assembled at the 1981 and 1983 conventions.

Old stationery and Rituals bearing the name Phrenocon and the now-outdated coat of arms were to be sent in to the secretary and destroyed. Fortunately, several examples have survived and are retained in the fraternity archives.

A committee of the whole considered a complete revision (once again) of the constitution, and the newly elected secretary was instructed to investigate incorporation. To promote expansion, the office of grand field secretary was established, with James

M. Knappenberger being the first elected to the position. He was given a budget of four hundred dollars minimum and five hundred maximum.

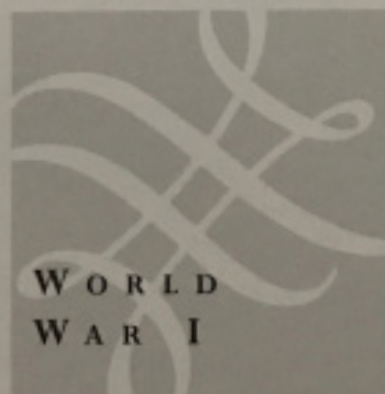
Newly-elected Grand Secretary R. K. Bowers was authorized to secure a steel strongbox in which to keep important records. The box, which is still in the possession of the national fraternity, is emblazoned with the Greek letters Phi, Kappa, and Tau and Bowers' initials, R.K.B., in gold.

A new governing structure was established creating a Grand Executive Council proposed by Ewing Boles and several new national offices.

But even with all the work done, it is likely that the most memorable part of the convention for the delegates was the late night "pow wow" that was reported to have kept lights burning in the Zeta Chapter house until 4:40 a.m.



*Edgar Ewing Brandon  
in his YMCA uniform, 1919*



Just as Phi Kappa Tau got up and running, World War I knocked the wind out of the fledgling national organization and its chapters. College campuses were nearly all becoming military training grounds under the auspices of the Student Army Training

Corps (SATC). Initially, the SATC prohibited its members from joining or participating in fraternities, and countless chapter houses were commandeered as SATC barracks. The NIC lobbied the secretary of war (who was a fraternity man) and SATC students were allowed to participate in fraternity activities. However, chapter sizes were much reduced, and meetings had to be held wherever they could. The Miami men, for example, rented a room above an Oxford movie theater.

More than 250 Phi Taus saw service in Europe. Darrell M. Stratton (Ohio, 1916) was the first member to be killed in action, while serving with the Canadian Expeditionary Forces. Major Samuel M. Johnson (Ohio, 1911) commanded a battalion of black troops in France, earning the Distinguished Service Cross at Bussey farm and France's Croix de Guerre for gallantry at the Argonne Forest.

Two letters from Founder Douglass, who was serving with the 27th Engineers in France, described the gruesomeness of war, saying that Sherman's famous quote should be

revised to read "War is smell—the smell of rotting flesh." Douglass, who was gassed in the final days of the war, would never completely recover from his war injuries.

Even Dr. Brandon at age fifty-three answered the call, serving in France as secretary in the *Foyer du Soldat*. Happily, the armistice was declared at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918 after only several months of American involvement, and all was back to normal on the college campuses.

Grand Secretary Bowers was drafted and turned grand secretary responsibilities over to his brother Clarence (Mount Union, 1915) in Evanston, Illinois. But he had supervised Phi Kappa Tau's incorporation before he left for camp.

*The earliest photo of Kappa Chapter (Kentucky), 1920; left to right: Mathis, Lemon, Luker, Anderson, Long, Pottinger, McWhorter, Cooper, Casner, Elder.*



## RECOVERY AND GROWTH

A hastily called convention was held at the Mount Union chapter house on February 8–9, 1919. Less than ninety days after the end of the war, many undergraduates still had not returned, and at least three of the delegates attended on leave and still in military uniform.

But the delegates were enthusiastic about getting on with the work of Phi Kappa Tau. Bruce K. Brown (Illinois, 1917) assumed the duties of editing *Side Lights*, which had not been published since June 1918. Henry Mochling (Muhlenberg, 1918) was elected grand alumni secretary, and the convention adopted an idea put in place at the new Eta Chapter. The graduate council concept has lasted until today, and Phi Kappa Tau has clung to the idea that there are no Phi Tau alumni—only resident members and graduate members, all having equal status. In addition, provisions were made to establish city alumni associations, a vote was given to graduate councils in the convention, and boards of governors were established.

One of the other most lasting actions of the 1919 convention was the establishment of geographical groupings of chapters, called domains, with a volunteer domain chief to handle chapter inspections.

It was decided to move future conventions nearer to the beginning of the school year rather than meeting during the holidays as had been the practice for several years. Delegates who had to travel a long distance had never liked having to attend a conven-

tion in the few days before Christmas.

So it was just seven months later that the convention met again in Alliance, Ohio, in September—just after the chartering of Theta Chapter at Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky.

At the Ninth National Convention, delegates decided to change the name of Phi Kappa Tau's magazine to the *Laurel*, retaining *Side Lights* as a secret "members-only" publication. Interestingly, from the few extant copies of the post-1919 *Side Lights*, the secrecy seems to have been unnecessary. Though its contents would hardly be interesting to outsiders; there is very little that could be considered "secret."

The *Laurel's* first issue appeared in November 1919 under the editorship of Leonard Utz (Muhlenberg, 1918). Originally published bimonthly, it soon became (and has remained ever since) a quarterly magazine.

The *Laurel's* second issue announced Beta Chapter's purchase of a new home from the Wehr sisters at 50 East State Street in Athens. Excepting a brief absence in the 1970s and early 1980s, this house, now considerably modified, has served Beta Chapter since that time.

Delta Chapter reported that several Centre College Phi Taus played on the famous "Praying Colonels" football team that beat Harvard in one of America's most famous college football games.

The chartering of the local fraternity Delta Gamma Rho at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, increased the



*Henry E. Hoagland and Edgar Ewing Brandon en route to the Nu Chapter installation at Berkeley, California, in 1919.*

chapter roll to nine when the charter was presented during installation ceremonies at the Hotel Montrole in January 1920.

Eta Chapter at Muhlenberg College boasted the purchase of a \$15,000

house at Poplar and Linden in Allentown, Pennsylvania. The brick-and-stone, Victorian-towered house was fitted with luxurious quarter-sawn oak trim throughout the interior.

## FULL-TIME GRAND SECRETARY

Fifty Phi Taus attended the tenth convention in October 1920 at the Claypool Hotel in downtown Indianapolis, the first convention to be held outside of a chapter house. The convention was the culmination of years of discussion about the need to have a paid secretary to handle the fraternity's administration.

The fraternity voted to merge the positions of grand secretary, grand field secretary, and grand alumni secretary into a single, salaried grand secretary's position. R. K. Bowers, who had been grand secretary as a volunteer since 1917, was hired to continue full-time. Grand President E. E. Brandon, Grand Ritualist Arthur Amerine (Ohio, 1915), Grand Treasurer C. L. Riley (Mount Union, 1916), and Grand Historian Shideler were all reelected. Elected to the Grand Council were: Henry Hoagland, newly appointed to the faculty of Ohio State; Knappenberger, who had been grand field secretary; C. S. Weber (Coe, 1920), charter member of Iota; and Melville J. Boyer (Muhlenberg, 1918), charter member of Eta.

Six Alpha undergraduates, including Hugh C. Nichols (Miami, 1920)

and faculty member Joe Clokey, conducted the first model initiation, a traditional convention highlight ever since.

After a failed effort before the war, a chapter was finally installed at the University of Kentucky in November 1920. Two Delta men, John Casner (Centre, 1918) and Otto V. Elder (Centre, 1918), recruited two UK students to help them start the local fraternity, Kappa Zeta Rho. The installation team included Centre's John Y. Brown (Centre, 1917), later speaker of the Kentucky house of representatives, a U.S. congressman, and father of Governor John Y. Brown, Jr.

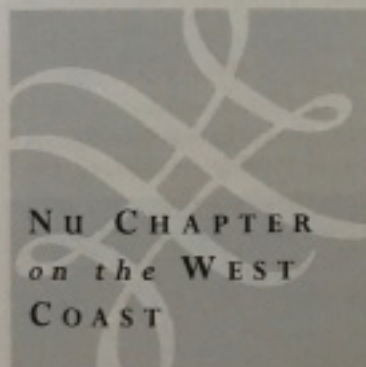
Two weeks later, Beta Xi Alpha, a local fraternity at Purdue University, was installed as Lambda Chapter. With the fraternity's first chapter in Indiana, the gap between Ohio and Illinois was bridged.

Beta Chapter reported the achievements of two of its alumni to the *Laurel*. Roy J. Gillen (Ohio, 1911), who had been blinded in a foundry accident at the age of fifteen, was elected prosecuting attorney of Jackson County, Ohio, and was the county's Republican committee chair-

man. And Elver Porter (Ohio, 1914) shot and killed a fleeing bank robber across the street from his Bedford, Ohio, garage.

Gamma Chapter members pledged \$1,250 in a student drive toward the construction of the new Ohio Stadium.

W. I. Easley (Miami, 1910) organized a local fraternity, Tau Alpha Sigma, at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin. The group, led by graduate student Graeme O'Geran (Lawrence, 1920), was chartered in ceremonies concluded on December 5, 1920.



Ensign Paul F. Opp (Mount Union, 1915) cultivated a relationship with the respected Orond Club at the University of California, Berkeley, while he was in the navy on the West Coast. Because of the quality of the group and Opp's strong recommendation, the Orond Club was chartered in four days of ceremonies at Berkeley. Secretary Bowers recorded his long train trip to California with Hoagland and Brandon on film with an early home-movie camera. Alumni from the area assisted in the installation, and

Opp made the trip up from San Diego, via destroyer, for the chartering. Opp was recognized at a Friday banquet at the famous Bohemian Club of San Francisco and the festivities concluded with a chartering ball at the Palace Hotel.

The Eleventh National Convention was held in a hot and humid Columbus, Ohio, at the Gamma Chapter house in September 1921. Over one hundred attended this largest convention in the fraternity's history, including two brothers from Muhlenberg who hitchhiked for five days from Allentown, Pennsylvania, to serve as editor and business manager of the *Eleventh Convention Morning Call*. This mimeographed newsletter was a forerunner of the newsletter *Sidelights* published by John Sayers (Bethany, 1978) at recent conventions. A highlight of the convention was a tour of the D. L. Auld jewelry factory, where the conventioners watched a badge being manufactured from start to finish.

Near the end of the convention, Grand Secretary Bowers and Grand Councilor Boyer presented an ebony gavel with engraved sterling mountings to Grand President Brandon, who stated at the time that he intended to use the gavel as long as he was president and then pass it along to his successor. That gavel has remained the official gavel of the fraternity through more than fifty conventions held since that Columbus meeting.

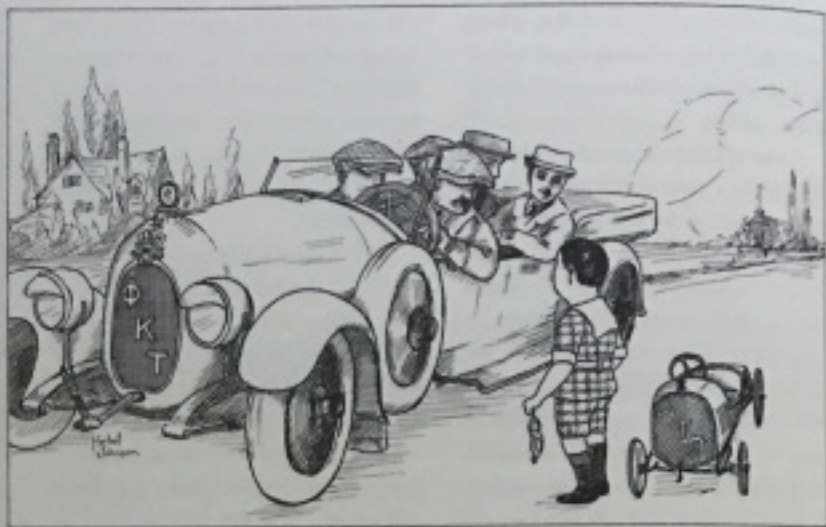
The first year under a full-time grand secretary had been a good one financially, as installation income had helped bolster fraternity coffers. And

expansion was aggressively under way, with the convention approving expansion in all but the "Old South." Secretary Bowers reported to the convention on his visits to Arizona, Utah, Stanford, Wisconsin, Southern California, and Tulane. The convention tabled a plan to allow chapters to be admitted by a four-fifths vote rather than the unanimity of chapters that had recently been required.

Tinkering with fraternity jewelry continued; the size of the official plain badge was reduced. And it might be interesting to know what prompted convention action to go "on the record as officially opposing the practice of gambling on the outcome of the student athletic contests."

Brandon was reelected to his second of three terms as grand president, Howard Stephenson (Transylvania, 1919) was elected grand ritualist, and Bruce K. Brown was elected grand editor.

"Hey fellers, I'd rather ride in your car" was the caption for this cartoon which was a part of the Delta Tau Omega's petition to become Omicron Chapter at Penn State.



## SMALL-SCHOOL CONTROVERSY

Members of Gamma Chapter at Ohio State resisted approval of a petition from the Marshall Club at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The Gamma men believed that Phi Kappa Tau was too heavily represented in small schools and that the fraternity's future success would be determined by its ability to compete in larger state schools like theirs. But others argued that Franklin and Marshall was an excellent school and the Marshall Club, which had been established for more than twenty years, was a respected group. Gamma finally relented, and Xi Chapter was installed during Thanksgiving week 1921. Sixty-nine men were initiated, including many of the club's alumni, twenty-three of whom held the title of professor in colleges throughout the East. The installation banquet was held on Thanksgiving day, with a menu of

traditional Pennsylvania country fare.

Alumni clubs were reported to be functioning in Los Angeles, Ann Arbor, Chicago, Philadelphia, and Boston (where a unique club was developed entirely from Phi Taus earning graduate degrees at Harvard).

Unpleasant news about Epsilon Chapter at Mount Union was getting a good deal of press in various Greek publications across the country. In some sort of scavenger hunt, Epsilon pledges overturned headstones and entered a locked toolshed at an Alliance cemetery. In addition to the bad press, the incident cost the chapter \$245 to settle the issue with the township trustees.

In the March 1922 *Laurel*, E. A. Sandler (Illinois, 1917) critiqued several of the chapter publications, including Miami's newsletter, *The Link*; Mount Union's *The Forces*; Illinois'

*Inner Circle*; Muhlenberg's *Pep*; Coe's *Iotan*; Purdue's *Lambdanite*; and Berkeley's *The Nu Ray*.

Bruce K. Brown resigned as grand editor in February 1922, and he was replaced by Paul Opp, who was now in graduate school at Columbia Teachers College in New York. Opp's first issue was a directory of the membership as collected and organized in the files of the grand secretary.

Delta Tau Omega at Pennsylvania State University became Omicron Chapter in May 1922, and a second California charter was granted to Alpha Phi Kappa at the University of Southern California. Phi Kappa Tau became the fourth national fraternity on the Southern California campus when the installation activities concluded on May 26, 1922.

In considerable contrast to the spartan 1921 national convention at Ohio

State, the Twelfth National Convention was held at the Chicago Beach Hotel in September 1922. Organized by the Chicago alumni association, with Morgan Fitch (Illinois, 1918) as chairman, the convention had especially good turnout from the closest chapters at Illinois, Coe, and Lawrence. Petitions were accepted from Kappa Omicron Sigma at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Phi Sigma Psi at Syracuse University. Grand President Brandon was elected to his third term, Norman M. Lyon (California-Berkeley, 1921) joined the Grand Council, Paul Opp was elected to a full term as grand editor, and Alvin Zurcher was elected to replace W. H. Shideler as grand historian.

Only once has a Greek-letter name been assigned to a Phi Tau chapter out of order. In November 1922 Sigma was assigned to Syracuse just days ahead of

Rho's chartering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute at Troy, New York. Travel arrangements made it more convenient to install the Syracuse group first; but for alliterative reasons, the chapters each wanted the Greek-letter name that represented the first letter of its school name. Grand President Brandon led the installation team in ceremonies at Syracuse, beginning on November 23 and concluding two days later. Most of the same team continued on to Rensselaer on November 26. Initiations took place on Monday and Tuesday, and the installation banquet was Tuesday evening at the Ten Eyck Hotel in Albany.

Phi Kappa Tau's historian, Jack Anson, claimed that Tau Chapter at Michigan was the first "colonization" of a new chapter. A Michigan chapter had been a goal of the fraternity for several years, and a good bit of negotiation

*1922 national convention at the Chicago Beach Hotel*





*Installation banquet of Rho Chapter (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute) at the Ten Eyck*

took place with a local fraternity there. But the group seemed to have some objectionable characteristics, and a petition was not encouraged. So Frank Mickle (Ohio State, 1912) and Alfred Fischer (Miami, 1912), both members of the Ann Arbor alumni association, called together four Michigan undergraduates and began the Phi Tau Club on November 10, 1921, with the express intention of petitioning Phi Kappa Tau.

But this probably was not a true colonization. That concept had not yet been approved, and the procedure for starting the chapter was no different from that used in two attempts to establish a chapter at the University of Kentucky. R. K. Bowers claimed that Kentucky was the first coloniza-

tion. Regardless, the Phi Tau Club's petition was accepted and Tau Chapter installed on February 17, 1923. It was an especially gratifying moment for Grand President Brandon, who was a member of Michigan's class of 1888.

The May 1923 *Laurel* reported on the new Burr-Patterson jewelry plant, built by contractor F. R. Fletemeyer (Illinois, 1916) and designed by the famous modern industrial architect, Albert Kahn.

The anti-small school prejudice that had caused Xi Chapter problems was much more serious for Phi Beta Sigma at Nebraska Wesleyan University, a small Methodist-affiliated college in suburban Lincoln. Phi Beta Sigma was the oldest social organization at

Wesleyan, organized as the Orophilian Literary Society in 1888. The faculty had opposed national fraternities until 1921, when Phi Beta Sigma sought to petition Phi Kappa Tau. But the petition was not initially encouraged. Past Grand President Henry Hoagland, who was an alumnus of Illinois and a member of the Ohio State faculty, opposed the admission of small-school chapters. His interest lay in the acquisition of a chapter at the University of Nebraska, also in Lincoln, and he hoped that the Phi Beta Sigma alumni also could bring along a local there. Hoagland made a personal visit to Dr. Harry Taylor, a Lincoln physician who was a prominent Phi Beta Sigma alumnus. Taylor convinced Hoagland to relent, and the petition was accepted.

Hoagland could have had no idea that as a chapter of Phi Kappa Tau the group would give the fraternity five national presidents, starting with Dr. Taylor.

Thirty-six undergraduates and thirty-two alumni (including a state legislator, five doctors, three lawyers, ten teachers, and five ministers) were initiated in three days and nights at a Lincoln Masonic lodge in spite of torrential rainstorms that prevented many alumni from navigating the muddy Nebraska roads to Lincoln. The installation banquet at the Hotel Lincoln featured a menu of caribou meat from Baffin Bay north of the Arctic Circle, which was a gift of Dr. Taylor.

The three Kentucky chapters at the University of Kentucky, Centre, and Transylvania hosted the 1923 convention at the Phoenix Hotel in downtown Lexington. Dr. Brandon reviewed his three years as president, saying, "When the national convention assembled in 1920, nine chapters responded to the call; four were located in Ohio, two in Kentucky, one in Illinois, one in Iowa and one in Pennsylvania. Since that time eleven new chapters have been added and this convention is to act upon the petitions of five more. Should these be granted...Phi Kappa Tau will be represented in thirteen states and its twenty-five chapters will stretch from coast to coast and from the Lakes almost to the Gulf."

He then reaffirmed the philosophy that he had initially articulated at that first Founders' Day Banquet in 1907: "At the installation of new chapters where I have had the pleasure of assisting in recent years, it has been my

policy to pay a visit of courtesy to the president, dean of men or dean of the institution, and in the course of the interview to say that Phi Kappa Tau enters the college as an aid to the administration and as a help in formulating and advancing the best influences in college life."

The financial position of the fraternity was so strong that a proposal advanced by Grand Treasurer Ray Wilson (Illinois, 1915), Grand Councilor J. M. Knappenberger, and past Grand President Henry Hoagland to create a permanent endowment for chapter-house financing with \$5,000 savings was heartily endorsed.

With the growth of the fraternity and an increased need for administrative support, the domain plan of chapter visitation was revived to allow Grand Secretary Bowers to spend more time in the Central Office which had been moved from Bower's home to rented space in downtown Indianapolis.

As usual, the convention passed some less-than-earth-shattering legislation, establishing that the official fraternity informal name should be "Phi Tau." A peculiar spelling, "Fitaw," had been used in some of the recent *Laurel* issues edited by Bruce K.

Brown, and apparently some delegates disapproved.

Several new officers were installed: Delta Chapter founder John V. Cotton (Centre, 1914), an Akron, Ohio, attorney, replaced Dr. Brandon as grand president; past Grand Councilor Charles S. Weber was elected grand historian; and Grayson L. Kirk (Miami, 1921), who was serving as principal of the high school at New Paris, Ohio (though still an undergraduate), was elected grand editor.

Dr. Brandon initially declined a nomination for a five-year term on the Grand Council, replacing Dr. Shideler—not wanting to set a precedent that the outgoing president be elected to the Council. He was persuaded to accept.

Dr. Harry Taylor (Nebraska Wesleyan, 1923) wrote about his experiences at his first convention for the *Laurel*, saying, "The loyalty, the democracy and the very high moral and intellectual fiber of the delegates and grand officers stand out most prominently in my mind." Grand Editor Kirk responded: "When men of broad experience among collegians are so impressed, Phi Kappa Tau has indeed something to be proud of."

Nu Chapter at Berkeley was the first chapter on the West Coast and in 1923 became the first chapter to build its own house. Built on a prime (but narrow) lot next to Pi Beta Phi Sorority on Piedmont Avenue, the house was designed in the Italian Renaissance style and featured a huge living room with fireplaces at each end and views of San Francisco and (later) the

Golden Gate Bridge from the third-floor chapter room. Construction was supervised by Carl Loorz (California, 1921), who in later years also would oversee the building of the Hearst Castle at San Simeon. The same firm totally rebuilt the Nu house thirty years later, when Loorz' two sons had joined Nu Chapter (and the family firm).

The 1923–24 school year was busy with five charterings. The twenty-three-year-old Rechabite Fraternity was chartered as Phi Chapter at Bethany College in Bethany, West Virginia, on October 27. Phi Psi Lambda Fraternity at North Carolina State became Chi Chapter in three days of ceremonies during the first week of December 1923.

Alpha Beta Fraternity at the University of Colorado was the first chartering of 1924, when forty-one men were initiated into Psi Chapter in February. It was an impressive group, including Ward Darley, a future president of the University of Colorado; Lou Gerding, a future national president of Phi Kappa Tau; future Domain Chiefs Ray Bushey and Lew Culver; and Ed Paullin, who became a trustee of the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation.

Jesse Day, who helped to start Gamma Chapter, and Mu Chapter founder Graeme O'Geran, were prominent among the members of the alumni association in Madison, Wisconsin, who organized a local fraternity at the University of Wisconsin, Alpha Theta Pi. This group was installed as Omega Chapter in April 1924 after acquiring a chapter house as required by the Lexington convention. Of the forty-four men initiated,

*Alpha Beta (New York) degree team, 1924*



two would play prominent roles in the fraternity. Paul A. Elfers later established the Elfers Omega Scholarships with the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation, which would see that his name lived on for years to come. Alvin Huth gave a lifetime of service to Lambda Chapter at Purdue.

The Dorian Literary Society of Michigan Agricultural College (now Michigan State) became Alpha Alpha Chapter on May 14, 1924.

Detroit alumni intended to outdo the Chicago and Lexington convention hosts by putting on the best convention ever in 1924. Headquarters for the convention was the Hotel Tuller; but delegates were transported to the Masonic Temple Country Club for the convention banquet, where Harry Taylor gave an inspiring speech about how Upsilon alumni actively encouraged scholarship in their chapter—with admirable results.

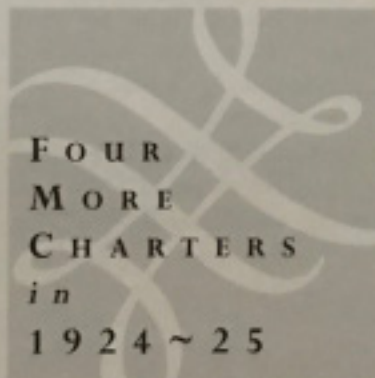
Carl M. Tausig (Franklin and Marshall, 1921), secretary-treasurer of the American Seed Company at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, was appointed grand treasurer, and Bruce K. Brown succeeded his Zeta Chapter brother J. M. Knappenberger on the Grand Council. Capt. Frank W. Bryant (Purdue, 1921) replaced Howard Stephenson as grand ritualist.

For the first time ever, the Council approved a budget to bring the domain chiefs to Indianapolis for a workshop.

The fraternity's official flag was proposed by Eta at Muhlenberg and adopted.



*Domain Chief Conference in Indianapolis, 1924. Seated (l to r) R. K. Bowers, Mrs. E. E. Brandon, John V. Cotton, Harry A. Taylor, Melville J. Boyer. Standing (l to r) E. T. Leutz, E. E. Brandon, L. M. Utz, C. C. Goddard, Richard C. Lennox, F. C. Runkaup*



The Mount Union team of Paul F. Opp and Sigma Nu's A. H. Wilson worked to secure the Phi Lambda Beta Fraternity at New York University as Alpha Beta Chapter. Thirty-six men were initiated during Thanksgiving week 1924. Rev. Wilson spoke at the installation banquet at the Hotel Martinique on Wednesday evening, and the



*At the Psi Chapter (Colorado) installation in 1924; left to right: Harry A. Taylor, unknown, unknown, R. K. Bowers, H. Clay Barkholder, John V. Cotton*

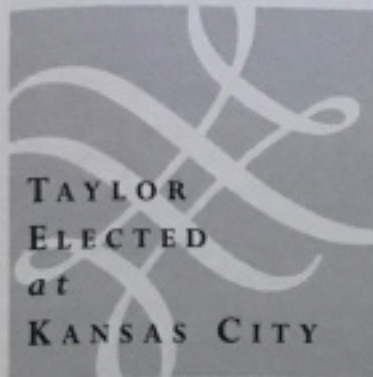
festivities completed with a dance in the White and Gold Ballroom of the Plaza Hotel on Thanksgiving.

Opp and Wilson's work also resulted in a chapter at the University of Delaware, when Gamma Delta Rho Fraternity petitioned to become Alpha Gamma Chapter. Installation was completed during the first weekend in December 1924.

Tau Gamma Psi at the Case School of Applied Science (now Case Western Reserve) was chartered Alpha Delta

Chapter after initiations conducted by the Cleveland alumni association on January 31, 1925.

The fourth charter of the 1924–25 school year, Alpha Epsilon, was granted to the local Phi Kappa Theta Fraternity on May 23, 1925. Dr. Roger C. Smith, the fraternity's first national secretary and member of the Kansas State University faculty, influenced the decision to choose Phi Kappa Tau.



Harry A. Taylor, the Lincoln, Nebraska, physician who had until 1923 been an alumnus of a local fraternity, so impressed his new brothers that he was elected grand president at his third convention at Kansas City in 1925.

Taylor had not traveled a great deal, but as grand president he visited every chapter he could to learn more about his fraternity. His first trip as president was to Oregon State University to install Lambda Phi Delta as Alpha Zeta Chapter, visiting Psi at Colorado, Pi at Southern California, and Nu at Berkeley on the way. Oregon State's Lambda Phi Delta accepted the Alpha Zeta charter on October 15, 1925.

On the way to the National Interfraternity Conference annual meeting in New York in December, Taylor visited Syracuse, Rensselaer, and New York University before the meeting, then visited Eta at Muhlenberg and

locals at Pennsylvania and William and Mary on his return to Nebraska.

A third trip began with a visit to the petitioning local at Alabama Polytechnic (now Auburn) and continued with the chartering at the University of Florida, where professor Harley Chandler (Coe, 1920) influenced the members of Sigma Kappa Phi to petition Phi Kappa Tau.

The Alpha Eta charter banquet was held on March 9, 1926, ten years to the day after the Miami chapter of Phrenocon adopted the name Phi Kappa Tau. From Gainesville, Florida, Grand President Taylor and Grand Secretary Bowers headed north to Ohio to celebrate another anniversary.

CHAPTER FOUR



CELEBRATIONS & CRISES

**J**ust as they had done on another chilly March day twenty years earlier, Dr. William H. Shideler, now chairman of the geology department at Miami University; Judge Clinton D. Boyd of the Butler County Court of Common Pleas; and H. H. Beneke, professor of finance at Miami, climbed the creaking stairs to the old Miami Union Hall on the top floor of Miami's Old Main Building.

This day, March 13, 1926, the three old friends were not joined by their college contemporaries but by the national officers and representatives of six chapters of the mature Phi

Kappa Tau that had grown from the Non-Fraternity Association they had founded twenty years earlier. The task at hand now was to celebrate the accomplishments of those twenty years. In an afternoon ceremony in the Miami Union Hall, a bronze tablet was unveiled to reveal the simple inscription:

IN THIS ROOM  
ON MARCH 17, 1906  
THE PHI KAPPA TAU FRATERNITY  
WAS FOUNDED BY  
DWIGHT I. DOUGLASS  
WILLIAM H. SHIDELER  
CLINTON D. BOYD  
TAYLOR A. BORRADAILE

Though a new building stands on the site of Old Main today, the tablet, periodically polished by Alpha Chapter undergraduates, is mounted just inside the east entrance of the new Harrison Hall, within sight of the Founders' old North Dorm rooms.

The second twenty years of Phi Kappa Tau continued the maturation of the fraternity and presented some of its greatest trials. Phi Kappa Tau was well established in the East to Delaware and New York, in the North to Michigan and Wisconsin, in the West to Oregon and California, and, with the chartering of Alpha Eta, in the South to Florida.



Memorial tablet in Old Main, 1926



In splendor befitting a mature fraternity in the “roaring twenties,” the luxurious West Baden Springs Hotel, famed southern Indiana resort, was the site of the Sixteenth National Convention in late August 1926. Near the end of the hotel’s summer season, the convention nearly had the place to itself, allowing delegates to take the sulfur-spring baths, play golf, watch movies

under the hotel’s vast atrium dome, or even gamble in some of the illegal but well-known local establishments.

In convention business, statutes were passed requiring that a chapter get permission from the grand secretary prior to initiations, prohibiting intoxicants from being brought onto chapter property (even though prohibition had been the law of the land since 1920), and bonding chapter treasurers.

Phi Kappa Tau’s first scholarship commissioner, Dean E. E. Brandon, recommended a statute that would automatically suspend any member placed on academic probation by his college or university. The statute was passed.

Grand Ritualist Frank W. Bryant was authorized along with patent attorney Bruce K. Brown to secure patents on the designs for Phi Kappa

Tau jewelry. Bryant and a committee of Lambda men also were appointed to publish a coded edition of the *Ritual*, which could be kept by members without their having to hide it. After considerable effort by Bryant’s committee, a coded *Ritual* was published but never widely used.

Two new Grand Council officers were elected at West Baden: L. W. Morris (Lawrence, 1920) became grand historian and Leonard M. Utz replaced fellow Eta charter member Melville Boyer on the Grand Council. Boyer was appointed by the Council to a new position of grand comptroller. Lest modern Phi Taus think that their predecessors had no sense of humor, copies of a postconvention newsletter, *The Stool Pidgeon*, full of “news that ain’t fit to print,” survive among the personal papers of Ernest Littleton and Melville Boyer to prove otherwise.

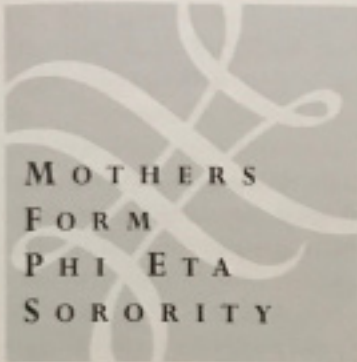
## CHARTERS in VIRGINIA, PENNSYLVANIA, and WASHINGTON

Three new chapters were installed during the 1926–27 school year. Pi Epsilon Beta became Alpha Theta of Phi Kappa Tau at the College of William and Mary. Williamsburg minister Horace E. Cromer (Ohio, 1911) advised the seven-year-old local and encouraged its members to petition Phi Kappa Tau.

Sigma Alpha Fraternity at the University of Pennsylvania was founded in 1923, when members of the Philadelphia alumni association recruited two

Penn undergraduates to form the nucleus of a new fraternity. Forty-five men signed the Alpha Iota charter on November 19, 1926.

At Washington State University, the local Omega Phi (whose name was derived from Greek symbols used in electrical calculations) petitioned to become Alpha Kappa Chapter. They already owned their own house when the thirty-six members signed the charter in June 1927.



Mothers' clubs, or what today are more often known as parents' clubs, have been an important part of many Phi Tau chapters for years. But a concept unique to Phi Kappa Tau is Phi Eta Sorority, a national organization of Phi Kappa Tau mothers begun in 1927. The concept of a national organization was developed by Pi Chapter at the University of Southern California. Lyman Hazzard (Southern California, 1925) designed the Phi Eta monogram badge, and Raymond Harvey (Southern California, 1928) designed the attractive coat of arms containing much Phi Eta symbolism. A constitution and an elaborate Ritual were printed and bound.

Libby Rohr Cutting, mother of Henry Rohr (Southern California, 1925) was the first grand president of Phi Eta. The relationship with Phi Kappa Tau is described in an introduction to its constitution: "Politically and socially, the policy of Phi Eta towards Phi Kappa Tau chapters is 'hands off.' The policy of non-interference with the fraternity should be constantly guarded. It is ours to furnish the 'mother touch.' Any gossip regarding fraternity affairs is forever taboo."

Seven Phi Eta chapters were in operation by the end of 1928, and twenty-one chapters were listed in the *Laurel Wreath*, a magazine published in

*Founders Boyd and Shideler with alumni and undergraduates in front of the Alpha Chapter house following the dedication of the memorial tablet at Old Main, 1926*



January 1935. But the success of Phi Eta was not long-lived, and in 1947 the fraternity withdrew recognition of Phi Eta and encouraged the remaining few chapters to continue operating as local mothers' clubs.

Records of Delta Chapter of Phi Eta at Colorado and the correspondence of Josie Klotzbach, mother of Willis O. Klotzbach (Lafayette, 1934) and president of Phi Eta's Sigma Chapter at Lafayette, have been preserved in the fraternity archives and provide interesting insight into this unique organization, which has been out of existence for nearly fifty years.

## CANADIAN CONVENTION STARTS 1927 ~ 28 YEAR

The Phi Eta concept was first presented to the 1927 convention, which was the first and only Phi Tau convention held outside of the United States. Capitalizing on the success of the resort convention at West Baden in 1926, delegates made their way to the Bigwin Inn on Bigwin Island in the Lake of Bays, Ontario.

The newly instituted Domain Chief Trophy, a forerunner of the Roland Maxwell Award, was presented to Alpha Beta Chapter at New York University as the outstanding chapter in the fraternity. Dr. Shideler was appointed grand comptroller, and Roland W. Maxwell (Southern Califor-

nia, 1922) was elected to the Grand Council, beginning his remarkable thirty-two-year tenure as a national officer.

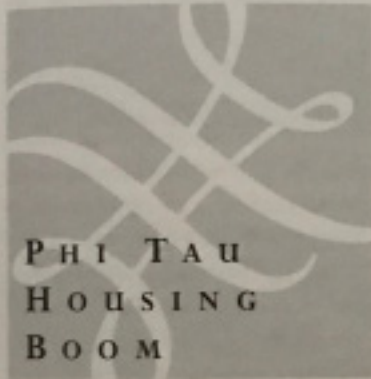
Leo Raskowski (Ohio State, 1927) became the first Phi Tau football player to earn All-American honors when the Buckeye tackle made his way onto nearly every sportswriter's 1927 roster.

At Alabama Polytechnic (now Auburn), Sigma Theta Fraternity became Alpha Lambda Chapter on December 3, 1927. Prof. Jesse M. Robinson (Miami, 1909), chairman of Auburn's faculty fraternity committee, was instrumental in Sigma Theta's decision to petition Phi Kappa Tau.

*Fifth anniversary dinner of the Rho Chapter (New York) of Phi Eta Sorority, November 11, 1930*



A “who’s who” in Phi Kappa Tau installed Phi Alpha Pi at Ohio Wesleyan University on March 16, 1928. The degree team included Founders Shideler and Boyd, Grand President Taylor, past Grand President Brandon, Grand Secretary Bowers, Grand Historian L. W. Morris, and Grand Councilor Leonard M. Utz.



A building boom responsible for some of the fraternity’s most attractive chapter houses began at Purdue in 1927, when Lambda Chapter moved into the fifty-man, Tudor-style home designed by Richard C. Lennox (Purdue, 1921), still in use today. Epsilon Chapter dedicated a thirty-five-man house, which would serve the chapter for twelve years, on the Mount Union campus on March 19, 1928. Zeta dedicated its English Colonial-style house, sited at an angle on a prime lot in the Illinois fraternity district, later that spring. Upsilon built a red-brick colonial-style immediately adjacent to the Nebraska Wesleyan campus and took possession in the fall of 1928. The Upsilon and Zeta houses, though expanded, are also still in use

today. Psi, Omicron, and Alpha Chapters also would build substantial new homes before the end of the fraternity’s first quarter century.

On May 19, 1928, Alpha Kappa Delta Fraternity became Alpha Nu Chapter at Iowa State University.

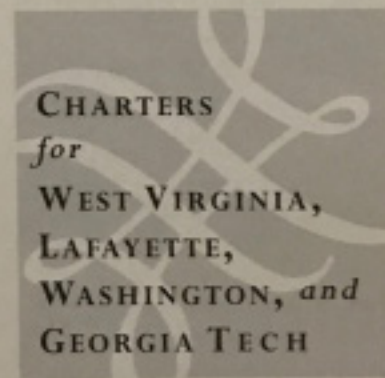
The fraternity returned to West Baden, Indiana, for its Eighteenth National Convention in August 1928. F. C. Ruskaup (Purdue, 1922) and brothers-in-law Richard C. Lennox and Joseph C. Matthews (Purdue, 1921) staffed the local organizing committee.

The 1928 convention adopted a new constitution and statutes, cleaning up the hodgepodge of additions and amendments made over the years. The major changes included the elimination of the offices of grand ritualist and grand historian and the combination of the offices of grand secretary and grand treasurer making it unnecessary. The addition of a grand comptroller in 1926 provided the appropriate checks and balances in the financial system but duplicated much of the role of the grand treasurer. Bookkeeping and check writing could be more efficiently handled in the Central Office. The Domain Chief Trophy went to Alpha Gamma at Delaware.

Dr. Isaac Miles Wright (Muhlenberg, 1918) was elected grand president, succeeding Dr. Taylor. Wright, like past Presidents Taylor and Brandon, was initiated into Phi Kappa Tau as an older man and was almost fifty when he became grand president. A highly regarded educator, he was chairman of the philosophy and pedagogy (education) departments at Muhlenberg. The age and

experience of these men certainly added a great deal of stability and wisdom to Phi Kappa Tau in its early years.

Outgoing Grand Treasurer Carl Tausig replaced Shideler as grand comptroller. Grayson Kirk, who was heading to Paris for a year of study at the Sorbonne, retired from the grand editorship and turned the job over to Jack Jareo (Wisconsin, 1926). Kirk was beginning a great academic career, which would lead to the presidency of Columbia University. A farm boy from Jeffersonville, Ohio, Kirk earned part of his way through graduate school with the few hundred dollars he earned in the five years he edited the *Laurel*.



Four more chapters accepted charters in the 1928–29 school year. Tau Theta Rho at West Virginia University became Alpha Xi Chapter. It was the fifth chartering in which Paul Opp, now a professor at Fairmont State College in West Virginia, played a major role. Opp and Founder Taylor Borradaile, living in Charleston, West Virginia, helped to install



*Richard J. Young, 1928*

the chapter. It was Borradaile's first opportunity to participate in such an event and possibly the first time he ever saw the Ritual performed. Morgantown's Mayor Barrickman declared a general holiday in the city on the afternoon of the installation banquet.

Delta Sigma Fraternity at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania, became Alpha Omicron Chapter on December 8, 1929. The Alpha Pi charter was granted to Sigma Tau Epsilon Fraternity at the University of Washington on April 6, 1929, and three weeks later Pi Lambda Delta at the Georgia Institute of Technology became Alpha Rho Chapter.



Being the only paid staff member in an all-volunteer organization is often frustrating and never easy. For Grand Secretary Bowers, that frustration came to a head during the presidency of Dr. Wright. Though he had been the grand secretary since

1917, Bowers was just thirty-one years old in 1929, and fraternity work was practically the only work he had ever known. His youthful gregariousness and strong opinions rubbed some the wrong way and were criticized as "chronic infantilism." While he had many loyal supporters, others thought it was time for him to move on; and under increasing pressure, Bowers made his intentions to resign known to the Grand Council.

In June 1929 Dr. Shideler wrote to Richard J. Young (Miami, 1925): "Now as far as the secretaryship since it is officially and publicly known that Bowers will not be with us another year, the field is wide open for candidates." Shideler went on to explain to Young, who was just a year out of Miami and working as a newspaperman in Portsmouth, Ohio, that there were three official candidates for the secretary position and that the leading candidates were Domain Chiefs Ernest Littleton, a teacher in the Columbus, Ohio, public schools, and Harley Chandler, who was registrar at the University of Florida. Shideler confided that "neither is as 'flashy' as I would like... [though] either would make a good Secretary." Conceptually, the Council seemed to want a "more mature man of experience," but Shideler (who was chairman of the search committee) did encourage the twenty-two-year-old Young to become "an out and out candidate" by sending a biographical sketch to be circulated to the rest of the committee.



*Members of Psi Chapter at Colorado in front of their new house*

## RICHARD YOUNG APPOINTED GRAND SECRETARY at LEXINGTON

The committee must have seen something it liked in the boyish Dick Young, and he was invited to a personal interview just prior to the Nineteenth National Convention at the Lexington, Kentucky, Phoenix Hotel in August 1929.

Young's appointment and Bowers' resignation were announced to the convention delegates at the same time. Young would begin as assistant to Secretary Bowers, whose resignation would become effective December 1, 1929. Harley Chandler was elected to the Grand Council, succeeding Bruce K. Brown. Past Grand Presidents

Henry Hoagland and Ewing Boles were appointed to a committee to investigate a plan to establish a life-membership fee. Shideler replaced Tausig as grand comptroller, a position he would retain for the next thirty years.

The convention also accepted the petition of Alpha Kappa Fraternity at Colorado Agricultural and Mechanical College (now Colorado State), guided in its early years by Carrol O. Simmonds (Nebraska Wesleyan, 1929), whose undergraduate fraternity, Phi Beta Sigma, had become Upsilon Chapter. Installation ceremonies at Fort Collins were completed on November 16, 1929.

## CENTRAL OFFICE MOVES to OXFORD

As grand comptroller, Dr. Shideler served as a mentor to Secretary Young as he assumed full responsibility for the Central Office of the fraternity. Shideler proposed moving the office from Indianapolis to Oxford, the birthplace of the fraternity and his home. Phi Delta Theta had recently moved its office from Indianapolis to Oxford, and Shideler believed that having Young close to the experienced Phi Delta secretary Arthur Priest would also be helpful. Shideler's persuasiveness was effective, and the Central



*Delegates to the Eighteenth National Convention, West Baden Springs Hotel, West Baden, Indiana, August 1928*

Office opened its doors in rented space at 121 East High Street in July 1930.

At the famed Grove Park Inn, nestled in North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains, Phi Kappa Tau's 1930 convention approved a plan to erect a headquarters building for the fraternity as a memorial to the Founders in Oxford. It was to be completed one year later in time for dedication ceremonies at the Silver Jubilee convention. The Founders' Memorial Fund, established ten years earlier, had grown large enough that a building costing \$25,000 to \$30,000 could be paid for completely in cash.

The Twentieth National Convention also went on record abolishing "Hell

Week" as a pre-initiation practice. Hazing was repugnant to the Founders, but undesirable activities had crept into the traditions of some of the chapters; and the convention took a formal stand against hazing with this action.

Cornell's oldest local fraternity, Phi Delta Sigma, gained the convention's unanimous consent to become Alpha Tau Chapter. The local was the result of a 1918 merger of two earlier groups at Cornell: Bandhu, founded in 1901; and Skull, founded in 1902. Phi Delta Sigma occupied a beautiful home on the Knoll in Ithaca, New York, which had housed Bandhu since 1910. Still owned by Alpha Tau's Phi

Delta Sigma corporation, Cornell's chapter house is the fraternity's longest-held chapter property.



In the depression year of 1931, Phi Kappa Tau celebrated its Silver Jubilee during the four-day August convention. Organizers hoped for four hundred to attend; but considering that the nation was nearly two full years into its greatest economic depression, the attendance of over two hundred was all the more impressive and still twice the attendance of any other recent convention. The convention was highlighted by the dedication of two beautiful new buildings, the Memorial Headquarters Building and the new Alpha Memorial Chapter House.

The red-brick colonial chapter house was dedicated first, with young attorney Hugh C. Nichols presiding over the short ceremony. William T. Amos (Miami, 1928) gave the dedication address as a "pinch hitter" for Anthony Poss, who was unable to attend. Dr. Shideler, as president of Alpha's house corporation, accepted the house, making glowing comments

about Alpha Chapter, which he believed to be at a particular high point in its history. But Shideler's greatest honor came about an hour later, when the delegates walked the dozen or so blocks from the Alpha house to the dedication ceremonies of the memorial headquarters.

Ewing Boles, who had tagged along with building committee chairman Henry Hoagland on trips from Columbus to Oxford to inspect progress on the headquarters, presided at the dedication ceremony on the Campus Avenue lawn in front of the building, the front porch making a stage.

Genuinely moved by the honor of such an impressive memorial to the Founders, Professor Shideler, his prematurely white hair blowing in the breeze, said, "I feel proud of the achievements that have been carried

out by this organization which is regarded as one of my children, so to speak. At probably no time in my career will I receive the honor that I am receiving right now."

With similar sentiment, Judge Clinton D. Boyd responded, "I have had a great many undeserved honors in my lifetime, but this is probably the greatest that I have ever had bestowed upon me, that is, being credited as one of the Founders of this great national fraternity."

The fraternity's new Central Office building was built on a lot at 15 North Campus Avenue, originally purchased by Alpha's house corporation for a chapter house. It is directly across the street from Phrenocon's original house, in the middle of a block between Beta Theta Pi's Alpha Chapter house and a large home built by Dr. Brandon some years earlier.

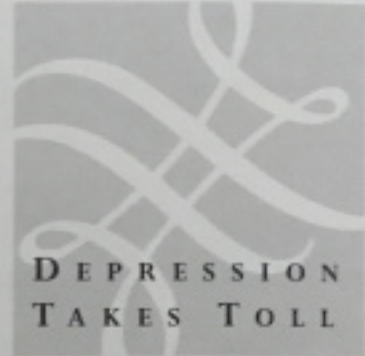
*National Council meeting in Oxford, Ohio, in the 1930s; left to right: A. C. Eichberg, Harley Chandler, Richard J. Young, Roland Maxwell, Ernest V. Price, Richard C. Lennox*



Dr. Hoagland chaired the building committee, composed of Herman H. Beneke, Hugh C. Nichols, and Richard C. Lennox, the project architect who also was elected to the Grand Council during the convention. Lennox designed a handsome, solid edifice of concrete and steel construction faced with red brick and Indiana limestone. Built with room to grow, the first floor contained an oak-wainscoted office for the grand secretary, a large clerical office, and a mail room. The second floor was designed with two spacious offices for future growth and a conference room large enough to hold meetings of the Grand Council.

Dedicated just weeks after Sigma Alpha Epsilon's Levere Temple in Evanston, Illinois, Phi Kappa Tau's headquarters was the second building built specifically for use as a fraternity headquarters.

The Silver Jubilee closed with a banquet at which Dr. Shideler recounted his familiar version of how the fraternity was founded. He read parts of a letter from Founder Borradaile, who was testifying in a trial and at the last moment unable to attend the convention. The closing paragraph is vintage Borradaile: "Well, Bill, have a great time and express my congratulations to the fraternity and my regards to my old personal friends—and Bill, if they begin to tell what a hell of a great bunch of guys we were, sneeze, cough, faint or anything else, but don't laugh. We'll do that when I see you later."



The Great Depression had a profound impact on Phi Kappa Tau in the 1930s. Expansion was curtailed after the Alpha Tau installation in 1930, and only six chapters were chartered between 1930 and the end of World War II.

A Pasadena convention originally planned to follow the Los Angeles Olympics in 1932 was twice postponed, and the plan was finally given up. In 1932 and 1933, the Grand Council, with the approval of a majority

*Alpha Tau installation banquet at Cornell, 1930*





*Founder Shideler is the guest of honor at the Twenty-fifth Anniversary Founders' Day Banquet of New York and Pennsylvania chapters in Philadelphia, 1931.*

of chapters, called the Twenty-second and Twenty-third National Conventions to order and immediately adjourned them for lack of a quorum. The Grand Council handled the routine business of the fraternity from the conference room of the Central Office.

Though several chapters struggled financially, the conservative management of secretary Young and Grand Comptroller Shideler kept the national fraternity on solid financial footing. In 1933–34 they were able to reduce the budget by about 25 percent.

Even in tough financial conditions, chapters persevered, and some prospered. At Pi Chapter, John Baker (Southern California, 1929) kicked the winning field goal in the 1931 Southern California defeat of Notre

Dame, the first Irish loss since 1928, earning Baker All-American honors. But for the first time in the fraternity's history, some chapters came perilously close to failing.

By 1933 the chapters at Centre, West Virginia, and Lafayette were in serious financial trouble, and the Grand Council appointed alumni to help resolve the difficulties. But in the spring of 1934, Delta at Centre and Iota at Coe fell victims to the depression and became the first two chapters to fail in Phi Kappa Tau's twenty-eight years.

## PURDUE CONVENTION, MAXWELL ELECTED PRESIDENT

With the plan for a California convention totally abandoned, a more economical convention at the Purdue Memorial Union took place in August 1934. The general chairman was Lambda stalwart Col. Frank W. Bryant, a member of the Purdue staff and former grand ritualist.

Prompted by depression-era financial concerns, the convention adopted the policy that a resident council member whose account with a chapter became thirty days in arrears was automatically suspended, and a committee was appointed to consider holding conventions every two years. Rev. Horace Cromer was elected to succeed Roland Maxwell on the Grand Council. Maxwell, who had served seven years on the Council, became the fraternity's first president from the far West. He had hoped to be elected at his hometown of Pasadena but waited instead to attend his final convention as national president in Pasadena—twenty-five years later!

Maxwell was an impressive figure. Tall, handsome and a natty dresser, he

"looked and acted the part of a president," remembered Ewing Boles, a man who was not easily impressed by such things. And not only did Maxwell look the part, but as a successful young attorney, he was a skilled writer and orator. Three objectives announced in 1935 would guide his twenty-five-year term:

First, a continued effort toward the elevation of the scholastic standards of the chapters. The college fraternity which does not promote scholarship has failed.

Second, a recognition of the serious nature of the responsibilities of fraternity leadership. The activities of each chapter should be of such a constructive nature as to provide the strongest possible answer for...criticisms.

Third, a general strengthening of our individual chapters. Without adequate personnel, no chapter can do more than preserve a precarious existence.

Again in 1935, the Grand Council dispensed with the work of the convention following its August meeting. The Twenty-fifth National Convention was convened long enough to accept a new proposed constitution submitted by Comptroller Shideler and Hugh C. Nichols, and then was promptly adjourned.



*Delegates and guests at the 1934 national convention at the Purdue Memorial Union*

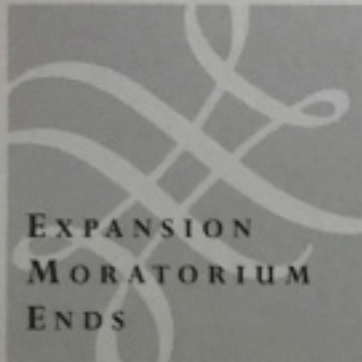
MODERN  
GOVERNANCE  
STRUCTURE  
ESTABLISHED

At the 1936 national convention held at the Nittany Lion Inn in State College, Pennsylvania, Phi Kappa Tau's governance structure was given its present form and its current

constitution adopted. The new constitution changed the officer titles from "grand" to "national." The size of the renamed "National" Council was increased from five to six members, with terms being lengthened by a year to six years. Conventions would only be held every other year, and two councilors would be elected at each convention.

An inefficient system of collecting annual *Laurel* subscription fees came to an end when the convention approved the long-standing procedure by which resident council members would pay a

lump sum at the time of initiation to include a lifetime subscription to the *Laurel*. The portion earmarked for a lifetime *Laurel* subscription was to be set aside in the *Laurel* Endowment Fund, which could be invested in chapter-housing loans, with interest helping to defray the magazine's publication expenses.



Ending the seven-year expansion moratorium, the Alpha Upsilon charter was granted to a highly respected local Delta Pi Sigma at Colgate University in Hamilton, New York. Dr. Everett F. Cox (Miami, 1927), a Colgate physics professor, introduced the members of Delta Pi Sigma to Phi Kappa Tau, and the installation took place in May 1937.

In another modern innovation approved by the 1936 convention, Jerry D. Page (Southern California, 1936) became the fraternity's first field secretary in the fall of 1937. Page, who went on to a great military career, was the first of more than a hundred young alumni who would spend a year or two traveling the country to visit and encourage the fraternity work of undergraduates and alumni.

Using a newly revised Ritual prepared by Paul T. Gantt and Rev. Horace Cromer, a record one hundred eight undergraduates and alumni

of Sigma Beta Nu Fraternity at the University of Akron were chartered as Alpha Phi Chapter on February 20, 1938.

Mississippi State University's Phi Tau Club was organized by Professor Paul H. Dunn (Mississippi State, 1938), who was a graduate of Miami University, protégé of William H. Shideler, and chairman of the Mississippi State geology department.

At the Twenty-seventh National Convention at Troutdale-in-the-Pines, Colorado, Ewing Boles announced the organization of a trust fund to meet the growing need for financial support by chapters and members. Three membership levels offered were: Sustaining, at ten dollars; Life, at fifty dollars; and Memorial, at one hundred dollars. The establishment of this trust fund by Boles may be identified as the first direct antecedent of today's Phi Kappa Tau Foundation, though it would be another seven years before an Educational Endowment Fund would be officially incorporated.

The tradition of presenting a wide-ranging array of chapter and alumni awards was first implemented at the 1938 convention. Purdue was recognized for outstanding chapter publications, and Penn State earned the Central Office Cooperation Award. The first Shideler Award was presented to William Cromer (Miami, 1936), recognizing him as the fraternity's outstanding graduating senior based on fraternity activity, scholarship, campus activity, and personality.

The Palm Award for meritorious alumni service was inaugurated by presentations to five of Phi Kappa Tau's greatest past leaders: William H. Shideler, Edgar E. Brandon, Ewing T. Boles, Henry E. Hoagland, and Harry A. Taylor, all past national presidents of the fraternity.

When the Twenty-eighth National Convention met at the peaceful French Lick Springs Hotel in the rolling hills of southern Indiana in August 1940, no one could have imagined that conventions would be called off until 1947 because of a world war.

Two innovations at the 1940 meeting have continued in some form at many conventions since. A chapter officers' workshop, featuring a series of panel discussions, was an early effort in educational programming, so much a part of fraternity meetings today. And for alumni, an "oldtimers' roundtable" for past officers and others who had previously attended a convention was a welcome innovation.

Two Shideler Awards were presented to equally qualified contenders—Herman Taylor (Southern California, 1937) and Harold Short (Colorado State, 1936), who forty-five years later would become national president.

The thirty-fifth anniversary of the fraternity was celebrated by hundreds of alumni and undergraduates at Founders' Day Banquets at chapters and in major cities across the country. Ten chapters celebrated together in Philadelphia in one of the largest events. Founders Shideler and Boyd and past National Presidents Boles and Hoagland attended the Columbus, Ohio, event.

In May 1941, Rho Sigma Phi Fraternity was chartered Alpha Psi Chapter at Texas College of Mines (now Texas–El Paso).

By the time the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor in December 1941, Phi Taus were already involved in the escalating world war. Richard Massock (Illinois, 1917), chief of the Associated Press Rome bureau, had predicted war since 1935. Watson Bidwell (Colorado, 1926) was the last American to leave the British ship *Athenia*, torpedoed in the Atlantic eight and a half hours after war was declared between England and Germany in September 1939.

James L. S. Dunlop (Bethany, 1939), who volunteered with the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1939, was the first Phi Tau killed in World War II as he flew over the English Channel three months before the Pearl Harbor bombing. Six Phi Taus were at Pearl Harbor during the bombing, and it is estimated that as many as eight thousand Phi Taus served in the military between 1941 and 1945.

In Jack Anson's *Golden Jubilee History of Phi Kappa Tau*, the immediate effort to maintain the fraternity through war is explained:

"Recalling two periods in the past when the fraternity was threatened—during World War I and again during the depression—the national officers immediately prepared to meet the consequences of war, to place full Phi Kappa Tau strength at work to gain victory for the cause of democracy and to weather the consequences of enrollment decreases and diminished income. Within a month after the first appeal for the War Emergency Fund

was sent to alumni, more than 200 alumni responded and contributed approximately five dollars each to the fraternity's war chest. By January 1942, more than 500 members had answered the call for service in the nation's armed forces."

The most poignant story of Phi Tau heroism and sacrifice is that of Robert J. Meder (Miami, 1936). Meder was one of eighty volunteer "Doolittle Raiders" who flew from the aircraft carrier *Hornet* to bomb the Japanese mainland in April 1942. Meder, a B-25 pilot, ran out of fuel and was forced to crash-land in mainland China. His fate was unknown until the end of the war, when it was learned that he had been captured along with several other Doolittle Raiders and died of dysentery in Nanking, China, on December 1, 1943.

The February 1946 *Laurel* recounted the story of Meder's last days in the words of Robert Hite and Jacob DeShazer, who had been imprisoned with him:

"The rest of us figured he couldn't get well, but we did our best to cheer him up and Bob himself never lost hope. Sometimes the guards would permit one of us to clean up his cell. He was too weak to do it himself.

"The day he died, December 1, 1943, was a cold, clear day. Bob dragged himself out of his cell to join us at 10:30 in the morning for our exercise, though he was too weak to participate. One of the guards pushed him around a little,



*Doolittle Raider Robert J. Meder died in a Japanese prison camp.*

not so much in anger as in ignorance. Bob grinned at him.

"Mixing Japanese words with the English so the guard would understand, he said: 'Listen, sick as I am I can lick the whole damn bunch of you.'

"He staggered back to his cell at 11:00 and a couple of hours later he was dead."

Among Meder's few personal effects acquired after the war was his Phi Kappa Tau membership card.

Meder was just one of ten Alpha men and one hundred and fifty-one Phi Taus altogether to make the ultimate sacrifice during the war.

*Members of Lambda Chapter at Purdue in 1943-44; the chapter house in the background was leased to the navy.*



## W A R T I M E O P E R A T I O N S

Even in the midst of war, two chapters were installed during the 1942-43 school year.

Zeta Kappa Fraternity at Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, had a heritage dating back to 1859, when it was founded as the German Verein Literary Society. When Zeta Kappa was chartered, Alpha Omega of Phi Kappa Tau became the Phi Kappa Tau chapter with the oldest tradition.

Phi Theta Tau at the University of Texas-Austin became Beta Alpha Chapter on February 6, 1943, the last chapter to be chartered before the end of the war.

Secretary Young was called to active duty in the naval reserve in October

1942. With Field Secretary Robert Decker (Syracuse, 1939) already entered in the service, the Central Office was left vacant. The National Council arranged for the business of the office to be handled by a committee of past Presidents Brandon, Hoagland, and Boles. Shideeler, who lived within walking distance of the Central Office, chaired the committee and was named acting secretary. Past Editor William F. Smiley (Ohio, 1925) agreed to resume editorial responsibility for the *Laurel*.

Paul L. Newman (Ohio, 1943), arguably Phi Kappa Tau's most famous alumnus, was initiated into Beta Chapter during his short stay on the Ohio University campus in the military V-12

program. Phi Taus of that era remember the fun-loving Cleveland native entertaining at the chapter piano.

By the 1944-45 school year, a remarkable twenty-two chapters were still operating in a valiant effort to keep the fraternity alive. Most chapter houses were rented to schools or sororities or were being used as military barracks.

The surrender of Japan in August 1945 brought an end to a terrible chapter in the lives of America's young men. And with that came prospects for the greatest enrollment boom in the history of American colleges. Phi Kappa Tau was poised to capitalize on that opportunity.

1946 - 1975

CHAPTER FIVE



THE PHI TAU FIFTIES

**W**ithin weeks of the Japanese surrender in August 1945, Phi Kappa Tau's National Secretary Richard J. Young had traded his navy uniform for a business suit and was back in his Oxford office putting the pieces of a war-strained fraternity back together. "Prospects for Phi Kappa Tau are brighter than at any time in the Fraternity's 40-year history," Young declared in the February 1946 *Laurel*. "All chapters are not back in operation, but an excellent start has been made, and there is every reason to expect that many more will be restored by the fall of 1946. The

goal is to return to the 49 schools in which chapters are located. The Central Office is working with might and main to return to peacetime basis of operation." *Laurel* headlines were already proclaiming "Fall Initiations at All-Time High" and "Rushing Breaks All Records."

In addition to the efforts to rebuild existing chapters, expansion work began immediately. Prof. Morton Walker (Kentucky, 1930), a faculty member in the University of Louisville's engineering program, selected a core group of five undergraduates who, with the help of the Louisville alumni association, devel-

oped into Beta Beta Chapter, the fraternity's fiftieth, which was chartered on May 30, 1947.

Typical of the thousands of veterans returning home to attend college, taking advantage of the GI Bill of Rights, was a twenty-four-year-old infantry veteran of the European theater, Sgt. Jack L. Anson. Coming home in the fall of 1946 to Huntington, Indiana, where he had been a cub reporter for Huntington's newspaper, the *Herald-Press*, out of high school, Jack was planning to attend Indiana University. For Jack, like so many other veterans, a college education had been only a dream before the war. Now that he

had the opportunity, he was impatient to start school but found out that it was too late in the fall to register at Indiana. However, he learned from a friend in the service that he could still enroll at prestigious Colgate University in Hamilton, New York. Once at Colgate, he fell in love with the school, enrolled, and soon chose English as a major. In March 1947, Anson was asked to join Colgate's Alpha Upsilon Chapter of Phi Kappa Tau, an offer that he readily accepted.



Just as the fraternity had done for the last convention before the war, it returned to an Indiana resort for the June 1947 "Victory Convention" at the Hotel Spink on Lake Wawasee. Jack Anson was elected to represent Alpha Upsilon's resident council at the convention, because he lived nearest the convention site. At the first of twenty-one Phi Tau conventions Anson was to attend over the next forty-two years, he met some of the true giants of the fraternity, including Roland Maxwell, Dr. Shideler, Dr. Brandon, and six other past national presidents.

It was a bittersweet convention.

While everyone was invigorated by the fraternity's rapid recovery and prospects for the future, many, like Anson, were veterans and keenly aware of the tremendous price that so many members of the fraternity had paid to achieve victory in the world war.

Past National President Harry A. Taylor conducted the moving memorial service for the 151 members of Phi Kappa Tau who had given their lives. After quoting Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, Dr. Taylor closed his remarks, saying, "It is for us who live to bear their torch, to resolutely advance their beloved fraternity, and to emulate their indomitable spirit." As Russell Danburg (Lawrence, 1928) played soft background music on the piano, secretary Young read the list of 151 Gold Star brothers into the official minutes of the convention.

The primary agenda for the convention was to discuss the business of Phi Kappa Tau that had been neglected during the war. Russell Danburg was chosen to edit his first of several

*Delegates to the victory convention at Lake Wawasee, Indiana, June 1947*



editions of the *Phi Tau Songbook*, and the thirty-year-old coat of arms underwent its last significant change, being simplified by deleting certain symbols that did not conform to heraldic strictures. Donald A. Pearce (California, 1921) and Ernest F. Nippes, Jr. (Rensselaer, 1935), were elected to the National Council, replacing A. C. Eichberg and Ernest V. Price, who had had no idea their six-year commitments would turn into eleven-year terms when they were elected back in 1936. Roland Maxwell entered his fourteenth year as national president.



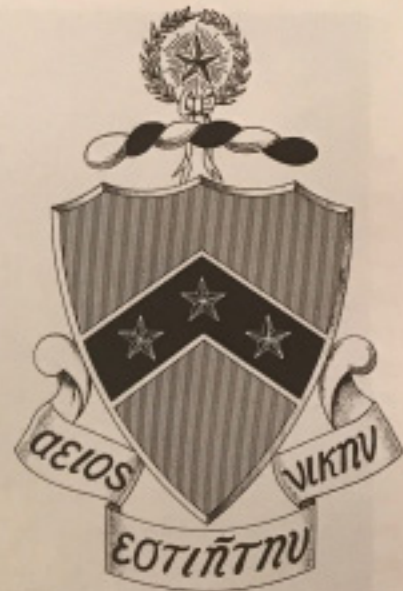
No time in the history of fraternities had presented such a fantastic opportunity for expansion. Secretary Young, Dr. Shideler, Roland Maxwell, and other Phi Kappa Tau leaders had been anticipating the opportunity for expansion ever since it had become apparent that victory was imminent. They were keenly aware of the success Phi Kappa Tau had had in expansion following World War I, and they were eager to capitalize

upon this unique opportunity. But most other national fraternities had the same idea, so aggressive action was important. In his address to the Wawasee convention, President Maxwell set a goal of establishing twenty-five additional chapters for a total of seventy-five by the fraternity's fiftieth anniversary in 1956. An enormous step toward that goal was taken in the 1947-48 school year, when twelve colonies were established.

Three field secretaries joined the Central Office staff to help Dick Young manage the aggressive expansion program, including future National President Harold E. "Hap" Angelo (Mississippi State, 1942), who became the first postwar field secretary in February 1947, just out of the Marine Corps. Young wanted a war veteran in the job who could exert some influence on the ex-servicemen who were swelling the ranks of the chapters. Young had confided to Shideler before the end of the war that the veterans would "exert a mighty influence—for good and bad—on the younger men."

Chapters were installed at nine new campuses in the two years between the 1947 and 1949 national conventions. Four Phi Taus on the campus of the University of Idaho established a colony which was chartered as Beta Gamma Chapter in December 1947. In Florida, Beta Delta Chapter at the University of Miami became the fraternity's southernmost chapter during installation ceremonies on February 28, 1948.

Past National President John V. Cotton, a charter member of Delta Chapter at Centre College, returned the original Delta charter on April 10, 1948 to eleven undergraduates



*Coat of arms as revised at the 1947 convention*



*Founders Shideler and Boyd at Alpha Chapter's Founders' Day, 1948*

who were working to restore Phi Kappa Tau to the Danville, Kentucky, campus. Delta had been dormant since the depression year of 1934.

By the 1948–49 school year, every prewar chapter had been restored except those at Coe, Wisconsin, New York University, Kansas State, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. Jack L. Anson, who had graduated in just two years, Thomas W. Athey (William and Mary, 1942), and Birney A. Stokes (Pennsylvania State, 1947) assumed the three field secretary positions at the Central Office in the fall of 1948.

Phi Kappa Tau was the first national fraternity to enter Mississippi Southern College (now Southern Mississippi) when the local fraternity Beta Kappa Tau was installed as Beta Epsilon Chapter on October 15, 1948. The fraternity's first two chapters in New Mexico were chartered

on two successive days in November 1948. President Maxwell and Domain Chief Lou Gerding took part in ceremonies establishing Beta Zeta Chapter at New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanics (now New Mexico State) on November 15, 1948, and the next evening at Beta Eta Chapter at the University of New Mexico.

Just two days later, in Lawrence, Kansas, a colony at the University of Kansas became the Beta Theta Chapter. Chapter President Alan Pickering (Kansas, 1948) would serve as the fraternity's educational director some forty years later. For the first time in the fraternity's history, the national fraternity used its assets to purchase a house, which it leased to the new chapter at Kansas.

In unique ceremonies at Florida State University, Phi Kappa Tau, along with six other national fraternities, chartered the school's first seven fraternity chapters at once in an enormous installation banquet on the Tallahassee campus on March 5, 1949. The petitioning local Gamma Phi Fraternity was founded on December 1, 1947.

In four days in May 1949, new chapters were chartered in three states. Beta Kappa was installed at Oklahoma State on May 16, Beta Lambda was installed at Indiana University on May 18, and Beta Mu became Phi Kappa Tau's sixtieth chapter at Kent State University, the ninth chapter in Ohio. Don Ebright (Ohio State, 1921), treasurer of the state of Ohio, was toastmaster at the Kent installation banquet.

## MEMBERSHIP RESTRICTIONS RECONSIDERED

At the Elms resort hotel in Excelsior Springs, Missouri, just outside Kansas City, delegates to the fraternity's Thirtieth National Convention began to grapple with the issue of racial and religious membership restrictions. Though the idea of restricting membership to white men was not a part of the founding principles of the fraternity, that racial restriction had found its way into the new National Constitution adopted in 1936. By 1949 many members of the fraternity were uncomfortable with these restrictions and believed that it was time for the racial barrier to come down, though Phi Kappa Tau's first African-American member was probably not initiated until 1954.

Lengthy discussions resulted in two actions—a compromise of sorts. First, restrictive language was removed from the constitution to simply state: "Any male student not a member of a national college fraternity other than an honor society or professional fraternity, who is pursuing undergraduate, post-graduate or professional study, or is a member of the faculty of the institution where a chapter of Phi Kappa Tau is located, may be pledged and initiated into Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity." But that noble move was tempered by the adoption of a "declaration of policy," which would continue to be debated and altered at many coming conventions. This policy, binding on all chapters but not a part of the National Constitution or statutes, stated that "Phi Kappa Tau as a national fraternity includes members

from all sections of the country and of widely varying viewpoints. In selecting pledges and members, a chapter has the obligation to keep in mind the varying viewpoints and shall not select any man who for any reason would cause embarrassment to the other chapters or their members."

Dr. Shideler wrote at length about the issue. His views seem to reflect the action of the convention. He was against an overt policy of discrimination but was staunchly opposed to the infringement on the rights of a fraternity to freely associate. Further, he believed that it was important that no chapter initiate a member who would be objectionable to others. The inherent difficulty with this idea was that

certain chapters, if they forced the issue, could object to any member pledged by a more progressive chapter.

Other important actions of the Thirtieth National Convention included the approval of the new Key Award to be given to an alumnus for outstanding contributions to a chapter. It was first given to Paul DeCora (Akron, 1938), a member of the University of Kansas faculty, who had been helpful in establishing Beta Theta Chapter. Domain Chief Lou Gerding, who had been active in the establishment of the two chapters in New Mexico, and Morton Walker, founder of the Beta Beta at Louisville, were elected to the National Council.



The aggressive expansion program continued into the 1949–50 school year, bearing new chapters in the Far West, the South, and in the East and establishing the first Phi Tau outpost in New England.

The nearly twenty-five-year-old local Kappa Phi Sigma became Beta Nu Chapter at San Diego State University on February 24, 1950. Thirty-two members of a colony at the University of Georgia became Beta Xi on March 10, and four days later President Maxwell and Secretary Richard Young installed Beta Omicron at the University of Maryland. Ned Brooks (Ohio State, 1922), moderator of "Meet the Press" on NBC radio, was toastmaster and Founder Borradaile came from his Washington, D.C., home as well. Beta Pi Chapter became the fraternity's first in New England, when a colony at Middlebury College in Vermont was installed on March 16, 1950, two days after the Maryland chartering.

President Maxwell had been personally involved in efforts to establish a chapter at the University of California, Los Angeles. Beta Rho was installed at UCLA on May 12. And a week later, at the University of Idaho in Pocatello, a colony started by transfer students Bernard "Gus" Bengal (Colorado, 1947) and Culbertson Martin (New Mexico, 1948) became Beta Sigma Chapter.

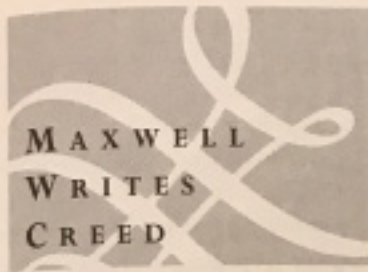
The Korean conflict in the early 1950s did not have a significant effect on the membership of existing chapters, but it curtailed the fraternity's rapid expansion program. Field Secretary Anson was recalled into the service and temporarily left Dick Young short-handed in the office.

## FOUNDER BOYD DIES

Honored Founder Clinton D. Boyd, Sr., entered chapter eternal on September 29, 1950, when the car he was driving to the Ohio Republican convention skidded into the path of a truck four miles west of Lebanon, Ohio, on U.S. 42. His wife was seriously injured, and her sister also was killed in the accident. A large contingent of Phi Taus from southwestern Ohio attended the funeral. Boyd's son,

Clinton D. Boyd, Jr. (Miami, 1948), whom Founder Boyd had helped to initiate, was an undergraduate at Miami when his father died.

When Delta Phi Beta Fraternity at Bowling Green State University in Ohio began to consider national affiliation early in 1950, it gave Phi Kappa Tau an opportunity to enter a school it had long had its eye on. Through the influence of past National President Ernest N. Littleton, a member of the National Council and well-known Bowling Green school principal, the local chose to become Beta Tau Chapter. Four national presidents attended the installation, including Littleton, Ewing T. Boles, Founder Shideler, and Roland Maxwell on November 17, 1950.



MAXWELL  
WRITES  
CREED

At a meeting of the National Council on November 19, 1950, immediately following the installation weekend at Bowling Green, President Roland Maxwell wrote the "Creed of Phi Kappa Tau." Details of just how he came to write the creed are not clear, but it seems that it was a pragmatic decision—a brainstorm. Maxwell, so the legend goes, simply wrote the creed out in longhand on a scrap of paper. Those words, now memorized by almost every new member of the fraternity and recited at conventions and chapter events across the country, state in succinct terms what it means to be a member of Phi Kappa Tau:

"Phi Kappa Tau, by admitting me to membership, has conferred upon me a mark of distinction in which I take just pride. I believe in the spirit of brotherhood for which it stands. I shall strive to attain its ideals, and by so doing to bring to it honor and credit. I shall be loyal to my college and my chapter and keep strong my ties to them that I may ever retain the spirit of youth. I shall be a good and loyal citizen. I shall try always to discharge the obligation to others which arises from the fact that I am a fraternity man."

The number of inactive chapters was reduced to four when twenty-nine members of Chi Beta Phi at Coe College reactivated Iota Chapter,

closed since the depression year of 1934. Chi Beta Phi was founded in 1930 when two older societies founded in 1909 and 1917 merged.



BEDFORD  
SPRINGS  
CONVENTION

At the Bedford Springs Hotel in Pennsylvania, the fraternity assembled for its Thirty-first National Convention. It was not uncommon for two Founders to attend a convention. Shideler and Boyd had been together many times, and Douglass had joined Shideler for the 1917 convention. But 1951 was the first national convention for Taylor Borradaile, though he had participated in two chapter installations and activities of the Washington, D.C., alumni association. Shideler was widely known in the fraternity, but it was a special treat for delegates at Bedford Springs to get to know Founder and Mrs. Borradaile. They enjoyed the meeting so much that they attended every convention for the next twenty-five years.

Attorney Hugh C. Nichols and Prof. H. Adam Durham (Nebraska Wesleyan, 1923) were elected to six-year terms on the National Council,

and retiring Councilor Littleton was named alumni commissioner. Dean Morton Walker from Louisville was appointed scholarship commissioner.



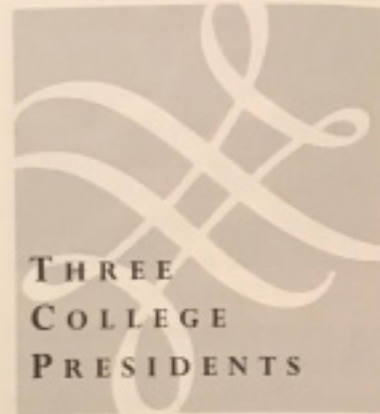
OLYMPIC  
SWIM COACHES

For the 1952 Olympics in Helsinki, Finland, Matt Mann (Michigan, 1926) coached the men's swimming team, and Richard Pappenguth (Michigan, 1923) coached the women's team. Mann headed the Michigan swimming program, and Pappenguth, Mann's former student and protégé, was coach at Big Ten rival Purdue.

The local society Phi Tau, organized by C. Brandon Chenault (Cornell and Hobart, 1948) at Hobart College in Geneva, New York, became Beta Upsilon Chapter on May 17, 1952. A three-year-old local, Delta Nu, was installed as Beta Phi Chapter at Westminster College in the Amish village of New Wilmington, Pennsylvania.



*National President Roland Maxwell presents a Golden Jubilee medallion to Grayson L. Kirk, 1956.*



THREE  
COLLEGE  
PRESIDENTS

“Kirk Named Columbia Head as Successor to Eisenhower” was the front-page headline of *The New York Times* on January 6, 1953. Grayson Kirk, vice president and provost of 199-year-old Columbia University, had been acting president since Dwight Eisenhower took leave from the university presidency to head NATO. The appointment was effective January 19, the day before Eisenhower was inaugurated president of the United States. *The New York Times* made much of the urbane Kirk’s Ohio farm upbringing and public education—but no mention of his older brother, Willard, an early member of Gamma Chapter at Ohio State who stayed on the family farm near Jeffersonville, Ohio, and was named 1953 “Corn King” at the International Livestock Exhibition in Chicago for his outstanding hybrid-corn production.

In addition to the Columbia presidency, Phi Taus captured the presidencies of two of the nation’s leading public universities in the 1950s. At the University of Colorado, Ward Darley, a charter member of Psi Chapter, was inaugurated as Colorado’s seventh president in 1953. Darley had headed CU’s medical center

and been at CU for more than thirty years as student and faculty member. William Aycock (North Carolina State, 1934) became chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he had been a leading member of the Law School faculty.

At Transylvania, Theta Chapter dedicated a tiny chapel, eleven feet wide and twelve feet long, designed for personal devotion, in Old Morrison, the historic main building on the Transylvania campus.



Returning to the sulfur-spring resort area of southern Indiana for the fourth time, the fraternity's 1953 convention was held at the French Lick Springs Hotel. A highlight was the initiation of the 20,000th member of the fraternity, W. Lee Hidy (Miami, 1953), whose father, Frank Hidy (Miami, 1925), participated. At this convention, the issue of membership restriction was debated again, as a few chapters, primarily in the East, were anxious to break the racial barrier. The only progress was a resolution: "Resolved, that it is the opinion of the

convention that the best means of insuring the continuation of our democratic society is through education; and that it is the opinion of this convention that in the future it may be possible to break down the racial barrier, but that any breaking down must come through educational means."

One of the most lasting actions of the convention was the approval of a "development fund." Alumni would be solicited for funds to develop new chapters and alumni associations for the fraternity.

Franklin and Marshall charter member Rev. Charles Spotts (Franklin and Marshall, 1921) and former Field Secretary "Hap" Angelo, who was in his final year of law school at Michigan, were elected to six-year terms on the National Council. Roland Maxwell was unanimously reelected president to begin his twentieth year in that office.

Chi Delta Chi Fraternity, with a distinguished local history dating to 1932, became Beta Chi Chapter of Phi Kappa Tau on November 24, 1953. Beta Chi, at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, increased the fraternity roster to seventy chapters.



A tremendous 1950s building boom began during the 1950-51 year, when new chapter houses were built at Centre College, Auburn, and Colgate. By the middle of the decade, new houses had been dedicated at Ohio State and at Southern Mississippi, where Phi Kappa Tau was the first chapter to build a house. The Illi-

nois house was expanded considerably, and in Berkeley, Nu Chapter almost entirely reconstructed its house, dramatically transforming the style into a modernist showpiece. Alumni at Texas-El Paso and New Mexico designed and built lodges for their chapters.

For the first time, two members of Phi Kappa Tau were serving in the U. S. House of Representatives in 1953. William C. Lantaff (Florida, 1931) and William E. McVey (Ohio, 1915) were representing districts in Florida and Illinois, respectively. It was an all-Theta event when at Transylvania's 1955 commencement, four prominent ministers in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) received honorary degrees. Charles Lynn Pyatt (Transylvania, 1921) was retired president of the College of the Bible; Earl Rhodes Thompson (Transylvania, 1921), a minister at Paris, Kentucky, had initiated the effort to preserve the denomination's founding site, the Cane Ridge meeting house; Hoke S. Dickinson (Transylvania, 1925) was leading the Wilshire Boulevard Christian Church in Los Angeles; and Joseph S. Faulconer (Transylvania, 1925) was a minister at the First Christian Church of Ashland, Kentucky. Faulconer's son Harold "Ted" (Transylvania, 1951) also was graduating that day.

## FRATERNITY CELEBRATES FIFTY YEARS

Fiftieth anniversary Founders' Day celebrations were held across the country in the spring of 1956. Founder Shideler attended celebrations at Miami and Muhlenberg, and Founder Borradaile helped celebrate at Maryland. But the largest celebration was combined with the installation of Phi Kappa Tau's seventy-first chapter at Long Beach State University. Members of the Southern California alumni association, the Pi resident council, and the Beta Rho resident council all attended the March 17, 1956, installation of the newest chapter.

*John Heisey (Miami, 1948)  
directing the Phi Tau Warblers  
at the Golden Jubilee convention, 1956*

Phi Kappa Tau entered her Golden Jubilee year in outstanding condition,

with strong and stable leadership. Maxwell had been president for twenty-two years, and Young had been secretary for twenty-seven years.

The fraternity had assets of \$328,936.85; the *Laurel* Endowment Fund had grown to \$220,498.98 in twenty years, and the bulk was invested in chapter-house loans. Contributions of \$20,054.02 had been made to the Educational Endowment Fund, precursor to the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation.

In all, 22,705 men had been initiated, with 96 percent still living. Seventy-one charters had been granted, and sixty-five of those chapters were operating.



The Golden Jubilee celebration held at Miami University in June 1956, showcased some of Phi Kappa Tau's great successes. Hugh C. Nichols, chairman of the Miami University board of trustees, was general chairman, and two featured speakers were Grayson Kirk, president of Columbia University, and Fred Hall, the recently elected governor of Kansas, the first Phi Tau to govern a state.

The Phi Tau Fifty Club was unveiled, and Shideler and Borradaile were there to accept their memberships along with Dean Brandon at age ninety, attending his last convention. To honor Brandon, a scholarship fund in his name was begun at Miami, with a gift of \$2,500 raised mostly from Alpha alumni.

Governor Hall and Reid Morgan (Auburn and Washington, 1951), a Seattle architect, were elected to the National Council. Three hundred fifty attended the final banquet, including eight national presidents and eighty-one members of Alpha Chapter. Brothers Glenn and Dwight Britton were among the early members of Alpha who came to that dinner. Many years later, Borradaile's wife, Letha, told the story that Taylor and the Brittons began their celebration prior to the final banquet in an uptown Oxford watering hole and were having such a good time that they forgot about the banquet. The Brittons were able to slip into the back of the banquet hall, but Borradaile had to make his way to the head table, rather late and bow tie askew.



**T**he *Golden Jubilee History of Phi Kappa Tau*, a monumental work, documented the fraternity's first fifty years. A history committee was appointed at the 1953 convention, but the work fell primarily to Jack Anson, who collected material and worked closely with Shideler, the fraternity's informal historian, to write the book. The 409-page work included detailed histories of the first seventy-one chapters. It was published in 1957.



*Founders Borradaile and Shideler at the Golden Jubilee banquet, 1956*



*Jack L. Anson (in suit) in the buffet line at the welcome luau of the 1958 Pasadena convention*

**INSTALLATION  
and  
CONVENTION  
in CALIFORNIA**

More than two years since the installation at Long Beach State, Phi Kappa Tau added another California chapter at Chico State. Beta Omega Chapter evolved from a thirty-six-year-old local fraternity, Iota Sigma, the oldest Greek-letter organization on the campus. The group had thirteen hundred alumni at the time of the installation.

Pasadena, California, was the scene for Phi Kappa Tau's 1958 convention. Roland Maxwell had originally hoped to welcome the convention to his hometown in 1932 but because of the depression, the 1932 and 1933 conventions were called off, and Purdue University was chosen as a less expensive alternative for the 1934 convention, where Maxwell was first elected president.

The meeting, held at the Huntington Sheraton Hotel, set an attendance record that still stands for a Phi Tau convention. Over five hundred delegates and guests, including many local alumni, each attended some part of the convention. W. Arthur Rush (Bethany, 1925), a Hollywood talent agent, arranged the entertainment for the convention, which ranged from a diving exhibition and the Hawaiian music

**BRANDON DIES in  
NINETY-SECOND  
YEAR**

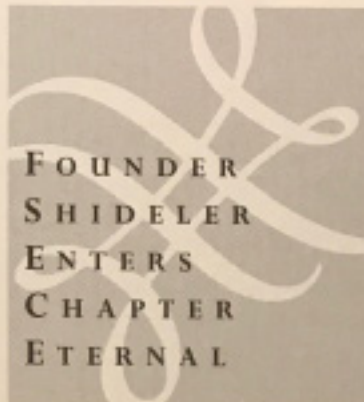
The grand old man of Phi Kappa Tau, Dr. Edgar Ewing Brandon, died at almost ninety-two on June 8, 1957. Just a week earlier, he had completed work on the manuscript of the fourth volume of his work, *Lafayette, Guest of the Nation*, which chronicled the Marquis de Lafayette's travels in the United States. His will included a \$5,000 bequest to the Educational Endowment Fund, which he had been so active in establishing.

of Johnny Ukulele's Polynesians at the opening luau to appearances from Doc and Kitty from television's "Gun-smoke." Rush and airline executive Carryl "Casey" Britt (Transylvania, 1935) were elected to the National Council.

Dr. William A. Hammond (Miami, 1910), president of the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation, reported to the convention that its name was changed from the Educational Endowment Fund on May 21, 1958, and that the assets of the foundation had grown substantially thanks to the Brandon bequest, an anonymous gift of \$5,000 (from Dr. Shideler), and a small number of other substantial contributors. He closed his talk saying, "Let's build the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation to the point where every chapter that needs financing can have it and every able young prospect who needs help can receive it."



*Founder Shideler watching the demolition of Old Main, 1958*



As a college student, Dr. Shideler had jumped over some of the trees that now stood in the way of a hundred-foot crane that was demolishing Miami University's Old Main Building. Shielding his eyes from the sun, Shideler, now seventy-three, could see the niche in the third-story wall from where the Miami Union's mascot owl had watched over the first meeting of the Non-Fraternity Association fifty-two years before. By December 1958, the remains of Harrison Hall (as Old Main had come to be known in more recent years) would be cleared away and a new Harrison Hall would begin to rise.

Dr. Shideler never saw the new building. He died from a cerebral hemorrhage on December 18, 1958, after a very short illness. He had been in the Central Office conducting fraternity business the day he went into the hospital for the final time. Founder Shideler's pallbearers were five of his closest Phi Kappa Tau associates: Ewing Boles, Henry Hoagland, W. A. Hammond, Paul Dunn, and Richard J. Young. The sixth was Karl Limper who replaced Shideler as chairman of Miami's geology department.



*The last Old Main tower comes down in 1958. The niche visible on the third floor is in the remaining wall of the Union Literary Society Hall.*



*The house of Gamma Alpha Chapter at Michigan Technological University, chartered in 1959*



Even though Shideler had passed on, the ideals that he and the fraternity's Founders stood for were very much alive in a group of students at Michigan Technological University on the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. In 1957 they founded Mu Kappa Mu in opposition to the other campus fraternities and were chartered as Gamma Alpha Chapter of Phi Kappa Tau on April 24, 1959.

Gamma Beta Chapter was installed at the University of Cincinnati on November 9, 1959. It was the last charter signed by Roland Maxwell as national president and Richard J. Young as national secretary.

MAXWELL,  
YOUNG  
COMPLETE  
LONG TENURES

Roland Maxwell was the first Phi Tau to be elected president of the National Interfraternity Conference. He had been an NIC officer since 1958 and was serving as vice president when he was elected to the top office during the Thanksgiving weekend 1959. Because of the demands of that office, he resigned the Phi Kappa Tau presidency after more than twenty-five years, and Harold E. "Hap" Angelo was appointed by the National Council to fill the remainder of Maxwell's term.

Richard Young retired as national secretary on June 30, 1960. He had been in his position for thirty-two years and only the second man to hold the job in forty years. He had recently been involved with the formation of the Oxford Natural Gas Company and would spend his retirement working with that new firm and his real-estate interests.

It is not a cliché to say that the absence of two Phi Kappa Tau leaders of such long standing brought an end to a distinct era of Phi Kappa Tau's history. New leadership would guide Phi Kappa Tau into the 1960s, which would be a decade of revolutionary change for the fraternity and the world.



*Thomas L. Stennis II, receiving the  
1961 Shideler Award from  
Dr. Obed L. Snowden, chapter advisor  
at Mississippi State*



*Outgoing National President Harold "Hap" Angelo with incoming President W.A. Hammond in 1962*

CHAPTER SIX



BOOM & BUST

**W**ho would shape the new era for Phi Kappa Tau? Many assumed that Administrative Secretary Jack Anson, who had been Young's assistant since 1950, was the heir apparent for the national secretary position. But members of the National Council had other ideas—or more accurately, didn't have a clear idea whom they wanted in the job. Anson was clearly a Richard Young protégé, and those on the council who were interested in dramatic change thought Jack would simply be a continuation of the past. When Anson was not immediately appointed to the position, he

resigned and wrote in the *Laurel* that he was relocating on the West Coast. William D. Jenkins (Bowling Green, 1957), a relatively new field secretary who had joined the staff in early 1960, was appointed acting secretary late in July 1961 and coincidentally received a draft notice the same day. He was able to get a deferment until September, presenting a very short deadline to make a permanent appointment. Jenkins was assisted by Field Secretary Ross Roeder (Michigan Tech and Michigan State, 1957), who was destined for a successful business career and important leadership roles in the fraternity.

When the decision was made to make Anson an offer to accept the national secretaryship, President Angelo found Jack fishing in Colorado, and the two negotiated a deal for Anson to return as national secretary. In addition, Anson would retain the responsibility for editing the *Laurel* until a new editor could be appointed. Jack returned to Oxford and took over the national secretary duties, well rested from a six-week "vacation," on September 11, 1961.

One of Anson's first public responsibilities as national secretary was to participate in the installation of a distinguished local society, Archania at

University of the Pacific, as Gamma Epsilon Chapter on November 13, 1961. Archania was founded as a literary society in 1854 and at the time of the chartering was the oldest local fraternity in America. Dean Edward Betz (Pacific, 1961) and the university's academic vice president, Dr. Samuel Meyer (Pacific, 1961), were initiated as charter members.

Two weeks later, on the opposite coast, Phi Chi Alpha was installed as Gamma Zeta Chapter at the University of Connecticut. Phi Chi Alpha was an outgrowth of the pharmaceutical fraternity, Phi Delta Chi, which had been on the campus since 1949.

Gamma Eta Chapter was installed at East Carolina University on February 4, 1962. The East Carolina colony had been organized by Field Secretary Roger W. Vaughn (Illinois, 1954).

And on April 13, Gamma Zeta was chartered at Western Michigan University. The local Beta Theta Epsilon negotiated the purchase of a house that spring, which the new chapter renovated for occupancy in the fall of 1962.

Over the years, few chapters have consistently celebrated Founders' Day as well as Alpha Eta at Florida, and the 1962 celebration was an especially outstanding event. Two prominent Floridians, State Senator Verle Pope (Florida, 1962) and Dean Robert L.

Beatty (Florida, 1962), director of Florida's Alumni Loyalty Fund, were initiated in special ceremonies. Participating were a long list of Alpha Eta's political notables, including U.S. Congressman William Lantaff, Florida Attorney General Richard W. Ervin (Florida, 1926), and Clyde Atkins (Florida, 1935), past president of the Florida Bar Association and a future federal district judge. Pope's initiation brought the number of Alpha Eta members serving in the Florida legislature to four.

## ASHEVILLE, 1962

In North Carolina's Blue Ridge mountains, the 1962 national convention was held at the Grove Park Inn. In 1930 the first national convention under Richard Young's direction also had been held at the Grove Park Inn. Both meetings were filled with the optimism and ambition of new leadership.

At the Thirty-sixth National Convention, Roland Maxwell was named president emeritus, and the handsome new Maxwell Award trophy purchased by the Chicago alumni association was presented to Upsilon Chapter at Nebraska Wesleyan, the outstanding chapter in the fraternity. Their success was not surprising considering that the chapter had two future national presi-

dents among its outstanding leaders, John M. Green (Nebraska Wesleyan, 1960) and Thomas C. Cunningham (Nebraska Wesleyan, 1960). For the first time, the traditional model initiation was conducted by domain chiefs using a newly updated set of recommended regalia.

Dayton CPA Donald E. Lease (Miami, 1950) and an outstanding domain chief, Melvin Dettra, Jr. (Ohio State, 1945), won election to six-year terms on the National Council, and the convention initiated the practice of making the past president of the fraternity an ex-officio member of the National Council.

But the election of a national president may have been the most important part of the convention. Many of the delegates wanted the dynamic "Hap" Angelo to run for a second full term; and while he could have been easily

reelected, he thought running would be hypocritical since he had long argued that Roland Maxwell's extensive service had prevented capable men from serving in the fraternity's highest office. He believed it was important that he step down and set a new precedent for national presidents, serving only one term.

Well-respected National Councilor and Domain Chief Lou Gerding from Albuquerque had expressed an interest in running and seemed to some to be the likely candidate. However, another last-minute candidate presented himself. Seventy-three-year-old businessman Dr. W. A. "Arch" Hammond, president of the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation, seemed to be an excellent candidate for two reasons. First, he lived in Dayton and was close enough to the Central Office to provide some assistance and supervision to secretary Anson, who was still new on the job. Ewing Boles and some of the fraternity's other "old timers" believed that Maxwell had been too far removed from the headquarters to provide much oversight.

In addition to Hammond's proximity, some also believed that he was in a position to give substantial financial support to the fraternity or foundation. He had been a trustee of the foundation since its incorporation in 1945 and one of its largest contributors. Hammond had recently given a gift of \$25,000 to Miami University to establish the W. A. Hammond lecture series.

Gerding agreed not to give opposition in 1962, and Dr. Hammond was elected, promising to visit every chapter in the fraternity at his own expense.



The Phi Kappa Tau that Arch Hammond found in 1962 was much different from the one he had known as an undergraduate fifty years earlier; but in general, the fraternity was still enjoying enormous strength and success. Two chapters were chartered during the Hammond presidency. Gamma Iota at Sacramento State was installed in California, and Gamma Kappa was chartered at C. W. Post College campus of Long Island University on Long Island, New York.

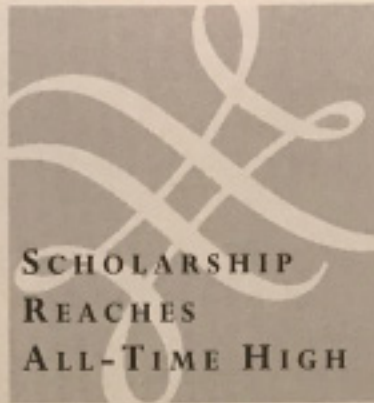
And the fraternity's housing boom continued. Beta Kappa dedicated a handsome new home at Oklahoma State, with such unique features as a sunken fireplace seating area. Elbert Wheeler (Oklahoma State, 1951) won a design competition held among several Beta Kappa architects. Baldwin

*National Chaplain Charles D. Spotts, National President W.A. Hammond, and National Secretary Jack L. Anson at the 1964 national convention in Boulder, Colorado*

Wallace occupied a specially designed on-campus house provided by the college. Colorado State purchased a large private home that had previously housed a sorority. Chi Chapter at North Carolina State sold its old home and moved into a university-financed house on the new fraternity row.

Rho Chapter at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute dedicated one of the finest homes in the fraternity in impressive ceremonies. Rho undergraduates spurred the effort to get the new house started when they pledged their own money to the effort. "The Rensselaer Plan," as it has come to be known over the years, has proved to be a model for fund-raising in successful chapters.

And in the news, Charles Bassett II (Ohio State, 1951), was accepted into the third class of NASA astronauts; Washington State's Keith Lincoln (Washington State, 1959) was playing halfback for the American Football League's champion San Diego Chargers; and former baseball player John Berardino (Southern California, 1936) was starring as Dr. Steve Hardy in a new daytime drama, "General Hospital."



Dean Ben David (Ohio State, 1945), national scholarship commissioner, reported that the grades of 70 percent of Phi Tau chapters were above the all-men's averages on their campuses, ranking twelfth among the sixty national fraternities in 1962-63. The leading chapters in scholarship were at Franklin and Marshall, Transylvania, Lafayette, Colgate, and Nebraska Wesleyan.

America's involvement in the war in Vietnam had an enormous impact on Phi Kappa Tau, which began about the time the war started to escalate in 1964. Initially, because of increased college enrollment, the war's impact was positive; but by the end, the college fraternity would be one of the many institutions severely shaken by the antiwar and anti-establishment sentiments among the students in America's colleges and universities.

For its 1964 national convention, Phi Kappa Tau went to the campus of the University of Colorado, where past President Angelo was dean of men. The snapshot by Hugh C. Fowler (Colorado, 1945) that appeared on the cover of the *Laurel* following the convention told the story of the presidential contest. A rather sour-looking W. A. Hammond was passing the presidential gavel to the fraternity's new president, Lou Gerding, who was beaming. Dr. Hammond, who had visited all but nineteen of the fraternity's chapters, believed strongly that he needed to continue as president for another two years; but during his presidency, he had ruffled some feathers, and some on the National Council believed that while his travels to the chapters had been helpful, he had not provided the kind of leadership to the fraternity that it needed. Lou Gerding was not willing to postpone his run for president any longer. He believed that he was at the right point in his career to accept the responsibility, and he thought it would be especially appropriate to be elected president at the convention held at his alma mater, with eleven of his fellow Psi charter members in attendance. The political wrangling of the convention embittered Hammond, who was not accustomed to losing, though he vowed to continue his travels to the remaining chapters. Another Psi charter member, Ray Bushey, was general chairman of the convention and elected

to the National Council along with John A. Edwards, Sr. (North Carolina State, 1950).

After the convention, Gerding appointed Councilor Mel Dettra to lead a committee to study the feasibility of a

national leadership school. Dettra had directed leadership workshops at conventions and long been an advocate of holding a national leadership school as many other leading national fraternities had been doing for years.

*Gamma Mu Chapter at Bradley University chartered in 1965*



Populations of college men were expanding rapidly as many took educational draft deferments to keep from going to Vietnam. Secretary Anson appointed Field Secretary Tom Cunningham to a new position designed specifically to capitalize on the new opportunities for expansion. Bill Jenkins returned to the Central Office staff from military service in September 1964, and was named assistant national secretary. In May 1965, the Lambda Nu local was chartered as Gamma Lambda Chapter at Central Michigan University, and Gamma Mu was chartered at Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois. And under Cunningham's leadership, new colonies were in the works at eight more campuses.

And Phi Kappa Tau chapters continued to build and buy new chapter houses at an unprecedented rate. At Delaware, Alpha Gamma joined two identical houses on adjoining lots with a large pillared portico to form a single house. The new chapter at Northern Michigan bought a Victorian mansion in Marquette. Pi Chapter at the University of Southern California moved into a unique modern house on

fraternity row, designed by Francis J. Heusel (Southern California, 1926); and another striking modern home was being built at the University of Kentucky for Kappa Chapter. Chapters at Kansas, Indiana, and Mississippi State all had ambitious building plans on the drawing board that would never be executed.



The Thirty-eighth National Convention at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, Michigan, met in the midst of a great expansion boom. Delegates from Gamma Nu Chapter at the Rochester Institute of Technology and Gamma Xi at East Central State University in Oklahoma were attending their first convention as chartered chapters, and a large number of dele-

gates from colonies added excitement to the convention.

At Mackinac, convention delegates voted to increase dues to fund a national leadership school, but they were not willing to make the increase effective until the following year, delaying the inaugural school until 1968. Two future national presidents, Mississippi attorney and 1961 Shideler Award winner Tom Stennis (Mississippi State, 1958) and Domain Chief Ray Clarke (Bowling Green, 1951), were elected to the National Council. Retiring National Councilor Warren Parker won the nomination and election for president over Arch Hammond, who was further frustrated by convention politics.

Jack Jarco, who had been editor of the *Laurel* in the late 1920s and headed the Stewart Howe alumni service in Champaign, Illinois, for many years, was appointed national alumni secretary and editor to relieve Anson of the responsibility for editing the magazine, which he had done "temporarily" for five years. The magazine's schedule had become irregular and had been a great source of criticism from Hammond and others.

During the biennium following the Mackinac convention, the fraternity was chiefly concerned with growth and expansion. Twelve new chapters were chartered in that period. The oldest local at the Fullerton campus of California State University became Gamma Omicron in September 1966. Zeta Phi Fraternity, founded by Korean War veterans at Youngstown State University in 1956, was chartered as

Gamma Pi Chapter during a January snowstorm in 1967. Nebraska Wesleyan alumni and undergraduates were instrumental in founding and nurturing a colony at Kearney State College (now Nebraska-Kearney), which was installed as Gamma Rho Chapter in ceremonies on April 1, 1967. Phi Kappa Tau became the eleventh national fraternity chartered at the University of California–Davis. The fraternity had been invited to expand at Davis, and Tom Cunningham was assisted by Dean Harold Hakes (Bowling Green, 1950), Davis’ director of housing, in founding Gamma Sigma Chapter.

The first installation in the 1967–68 school year was Gamma Tau at Old Dominion University. The local society, Omega Phi Sigma, was five years old when the installation ceremonies were conducted on December 2, 1967. The next day, thirty-three undergraduates and eleven alumni of Gamma Sigma Fraternity were installed as Gamma Upsilon Chapter at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama. The mother of Richard Lynch, a former president of the local who died while visiting Mexico, signed the charter for her son. In January 1968, Zeta Gamma Rho, a ten-year-old Northeastern University local, was installed as

Gamma Phi Chapter.

Dennis G. Smith (Mississippi State, 1962) founded the Phi Tau Delta local fraternity at Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi, with ten men in 1963. The local was chartered Gamma Chi of Phi Kappa Tau on February 25, 1968. Dr. Walter S. Corrie (Colgate, 1941), a member of the sociology faculty at Southwest Texas State University, held a reception in his home for participants in the chartering of the local Sigma Kappa Epsilon Fraternity as Gamma Psi Chapter of Phi Kappa Tau on April 20. Gamma Omega Chapter was installed at La Salle College in Philadelphia on

*Delegates to the 1969 IMPACT at Georgetown College*



April 27, 1968. The petitioning local, Sigma Phi Lambda, traced its history to November 1935. Iowa Wesleyan University became the home of Delta Alpha Chapter on May 19, 1968. One of the most successful chapters chartered during this era was Delta Beta Chapter at the University of Evansville. A local group named Sodalitas chose Phi Kappa Tau from twelve national fraternities and became the sixth national fraternity represented on the southern Indiana campus, when the charter was granted to forty-three men on May 28, 1968.



The entire fraternity came to southern Indiana three months later for the first national leadership school at Indiana University in August. The new program was called "IMPACT," standing for imagination, management, programming, attitudes, communication, and training. The faculty of the three-day workshop was a combination of Phi Taus and outside experts including Sigma Chi John Pont, the Rose Bowl-bound head football coach at Indiana.

Mel Dettra, who had spent his entire term on the National Council working toward the program, chaired the IMPACT steering committee. He was assisted in that inaugural effort by Assistant National Secretary Bill Jenkins, who served as IMPACT administrator; Dr. Robert Mills (Kentucky, 1935), president of Georgetown College and IMPACT keynoter; Al Beretta (Hobart,

1957), coordinator of student services at Hobart; National Councilor Ray Clarke; 1965 Shideler Award winner Thomas L. Good (Illinois, 1962); Domain Chief Otto L. Schellin (Akron, 1947); and National Secretary Anson.

From Bloomington, the first IMPACT "graduating class" headed south to French Lick, Indiana, to the Thirty-ninth National Convention. While the IMPACT program in its idyllic campus setting was an enormously positive and uplifting event for the fraternity, the following convention laid open some long-festering problems underlying the successful façade.

In contentious discussions the convention approved three policy statements: (1) regarding membership selection, the fraternity is "opposed to infringement from any source on the right to selection of members"; (2) regarding the fraternity's relationship with universities, "its chapters and individual members pledge themselves to cooperate with college and university officials and to work only through legal and orderly means to bring and strive diligently to enhance the good name of their institutions"; and (3) stating the fraternity's opposition to the use, sale or possession of illegal drugs.

The convention grappled with a proposal to alter the Ritual. Past National President Gerding had chaired a Ritual review committee to consider changes to the existing initiation ceremony, because the National Council learned that members of the Colgate chapter had found portions of the Ritual objectionable to members who held religious beliefs other than Christianity. The resident council

delegates took a very conservative view toward the efforts to change the Ritual and rejected the proposal resoundingly. Further, when it was learned that the resident council delegate from Alpha Upsilon at Colgate had not been initiated by the standard Ritual, his voting credentials were withdrawn. This action was one of the final steps in the eventual decision of the chapter to withdraw from Phi Kappa Tau and operate as a local fraternity. This issue was especially painful for National Secretary Anson, who, as an Alpha Upsilon alumnus, had worked hard to preserve the tenuous relationship between his chapter and the national fraternity.

Ohio State alumnus Melvin Dettra, Jr. was elected president. John Edwards was elected to the newly established vice president's position. Otto Schellin and Edward "Ted" Marye (Kentucky, 1948) were elected to the National Council.

Outgoing President Warren Parker had the unique opportunity to present a newly authorized past president's badge guard to all former presidents in attendance. The gold tetrahedron with a ruby at its apex was presented to Lou Gerding (1964–66), Harold "Hap" Angelo (1959–62), Roland Maxwell (1934–1959), F. R. Fletemeyer (1917–1919), and E. N. Littleton (1911). Calling it the "greatest honor in his life," Parker presented the final guard to the fraternity's first president, Taylor A. Borradaile.

VIETNAM  
and  
CAMPUS  
UNREST

Phi Kappa Tau was not functioning in a vacuum. It is instructive to understand the tensions in America during the summer of 1968. The war in Vietnam had continued to escalate since 1964; and being of draft age, college men were deeply affected by the prospect of going to a far-off unpopular war. The first known Phi Tau to die in the conflict was Capt. William W. Nichols, Jr. (Pennsylvania State, 1958), who was killed in a Viet Cong

ambush in October 1964. Lengthy reports on "our gallant Phi Taus" appeared frequently in *Laurels* of the era, and too many Vietnam deaths were listed in the obituaries. At the highest levels of the military, Secretary of the Navy Paul Ignatius (Southern California, 1938) and Marine Corps Commandant Leonard F. Chapman (Florida, 1932) were both involved in executing the war.

Generally, fraternities and many Phi Taus had been supportive of the war effort. Members of Beta Chi Chapter at Southern Illinois got national publicity when they ran from the campus to KXOK radio in St. Louis carrying a message: "It's about time, say the men

*National Secretary Jack L. Anson presents the Borradaile Award to Gen. Leonard F. Chapman, Jr., commandant of the Marine Corps, in June 1968.*





*National President Melvin Dettra, Jr., signs the Delta Gamma charter at the University of Mississippi. Chapter founder F. Harrison "Buzz" Green is at far left. National Secretary Jack L. Anson and Assistant Secretary William D. Jenkins are at the right.*

of Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity that publicity be given to the fact that there are college students who believe that it is important that we who are a part of SEATO [Southeast Asia Treaty Organization] HONOR our commitments and it's about time that our fighting men in Viet Nam know that there are students who appreciate the tremendous job they are doing."

Opposition to the war on the many of the nation's campuses was reaching a fever pitch, especially in the liberal arts institutions on the West Coast and in the Northeast. Three weeks

after the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr., the radical Students for a Democratic Society occupied the office of Columbia University president Grayson Kirk. Phi Tau alumnus Kirk was forced to call in police after a five-day sit-in, and classes at Columbia were suspended on May 5. Presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy was murdered June 5.

In addition, 1968 was a presidential campaign year, and the issues of the day were being argued in the political conventions that summer. The Democratic convention in Chicago had stirred massive demonstrations and rioting. A much calmer Republican convention engineered by Republican National Chairman Ray C. Bliss (Akron, 1938) nominated Richard Nixon, who would be elected in November.

As long-time National Chaplain Rev. Charles Spotts capsulized the struggle in one of his frequent *Laurel* messages: "You may not agree with their aims or their methods, but must listen to them. They are, in many cases, a voice for change, for change that is long overdue."

The last two years of the 1960s were, if nothing else, a time of change.

Remarkably, the 1968-69 school year was, on paper, one of the most successful in the fraternity's history. All-time records for numbers of pledges and initiates were set, and three new chapters joined the Phi Tau family. Frederick H. "Buzz" Green (Indiana and Mississippi, 1966), a field secretary initiated at Indiana University, is considered the founder of Delta Gamma Chapter at the University of Mississippi. He recruited the initial group that built the chapter that was chartered on March 23, 1969. A local fraternity, Kappa Tau, which was initially founded on November 15, 1945, by World War II veterans on the Bryant College campus in Providence, Rhode Island, became Delta Delta, Phi Kappa Tau's hundredth chapter. And the next week, a colony at St. Cloud State College (now University) became Delta Epsilon Chapter, the fraternity's first in Minnesota.

For the first time in the history of the fraternity, three undergraduates were invited to attend the meeting of the National Council, held immediately prior to the 1969 IMPACT at Georgetown College in Kentucky. The report of that meeting printed in the Fall 1969 *Laurel* is the first indication to the general membership that some serious problems were cropping up in the fraternity. The National Council

was becoming concerned over a significant drop in scholarship and the alarming increase in the number of housing loans to chapters that were not being repaid on schedule. Presi-

dent Dettra also appointed another committee to consider changes to the Ritual in a continuing effort to resolve differences with the Colgate chapter.

## ANGELO ENTERS CHAPTER ETERNAL

Past National President Harold E. Angelo died in September 1969 after a long illness. Only forty-five years old, Angelo had had an impressive career in both business and higher education, including an appointment as dean of Dartmouth's Amos Tuck School of Business, and a stint as dean of men at the University of Colorado. He was serving as executive vice president of the Colorado National Bank of Denver at the time of his death. Following his service as national president, he became active in affairs of the National Interfraternity Conference, serving as secretary, treasurer, and vice president. A large number of Phi Taus attended his Denver funeral.

Though the National Council had curtailed the expansion program, three charters were granted to colonies that had been working for two or three years to achieve chapter status. Delta Zeta Chapter was installed at Emporia State University in Kansas. Founder Borradaile, in his eighty-fifth year, attended the chartering of Delta Eta Chapter at Marshall University near his West Virginia home on April 18, 1970. Two hundred fifty attended the installation of Delta Theta Chapter at Georgetown College on April 25, 1970. College president Robert Mills, a Kentucky Phi Tau, welcomed the

chapter to the campus. Kappa Theta Fraternity, a local society on the New Mexico Highlands University campus since 1931, was granted the Delta Iota charter on May 2.

*Beta Kappa Chapter members at Oklahoma State University in a typical 1970s pose*





*William D. Jenkins accepted the executive director's position in 1971.*



The long-range planning committee chaired by National Councilor Ray Clarke introduced Phi Kappa Tau's membership development plan to the delegates attending the third IMPACT program at Southern Illinois University in 1970. In an effort to rethink the traditional "pledge program," the membership development plan was designed to help build the "total man." The plan included four "experience areas": (1) manpower recruitment, (2) membership orientation (rather than pledge training), (3) membership education, and (4) membership involvement. The plan encouraged use of the term "associate member" rather than "pledge" and a four-to-eight-week orientation program. The program was hailed in the interfraternity world as a logical and progressive innovation. The concepts are still embraced twenty-five years later.

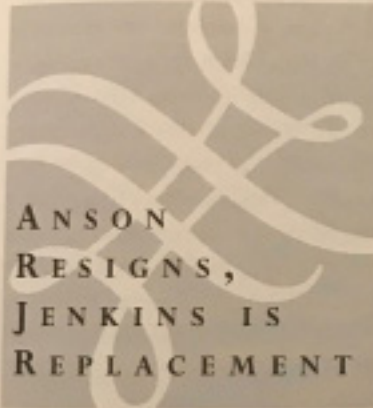
"I want to introduce my friend and fraternity brother, Zev Putterman... a drug addict." Those were the words used by Jack Anson to open one of the most effective presentations of the meeting to an absolutely hushed audience. W. Zev Putterman (Colgate and Syracuse, 1947) had been initiated into Alpha Upsilon Chapter at Colgate side by side with Jack Anson. In spite of a successful career in television, Putterman had become addicted to heroin in the 1960s. Recently recovered from his addiction, he openly shared his story in frank and direct terms. The undergraduates respected him as a peer, and the difficult issue of drug abuse that was devastating the campuses was confronted.

The most significant change to come from the Fortieth National Convention, which followed the IMPACT program in St. Louis, was the addition of three appointed undergraduates to the National Council to serve two-year terms without a vote. The first three to serve were Duane G. Merrill, Jr. (Southern California, 1970), Mark R. Shaw (Emporia State, 1970), and E. Michael Mastrandrea (Florida, 1969).

Thomas L. Stennis II, was elected national president and Ray Clarke vice president. Former Field Secretary Robert D. Leatherman, an attorney with the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and future National President and Executive Director John M. Green, an Omaha banker, were elected to six-year terms on the National Council. E. A. "Ted" Marye was elected to a four-year term, filling a vacancy. Domain Chief Robert Hampton and former Director of Chapter Development Thomas C. Cunningham were elected to fill the

remaining two years in the terms of Stennis and Clarke.

In semantic changes, the positions of national secretary and assistant secretary were changed to executive director and associate executive director. Domain chiefs became known as domain directors and field secretaries were now chapter consultants.



Executive Director Jack Anson enjoyed his new title for only three months. He resigned, effective November 30, 1970, to accept an appointment to a newly created position of executive director for the National Interfraternity Conference, the umbrella organization of national fraternities organized in 1909. Announcing Anson's resignation, Stennis observed that "the Jack Anson years have been of unequalled progress — our chapters have doubled, our membership has tripled, and our total assets have increased more than three-fold. To the post-1950 generations, Jack Anson and Phi Kappa Tau have become one and the same." William

D. Jenkins, who had been Anson's assistant since 1964, was immediately appointed acting executive director and was soon offered the position permanently.

## CHALLENGES for PHI KAPPA TAU

Jenkins took over an organization with serious problems. The campus unrest had made its way to the Midwest. In one of the most poignant events of the period, four students were shot to death by the National Guard during a demonstration at Kent State University. One of the two young men killed was Jeff Miller, who following his older brother Russ (Michigan State, 1965), had pledged Alpha Alpha Chapter as a legacy in 1968, and later

transferred to Kent State.

Even some of the traditionally strong chapters were experiencing tremendous difficulty. With the help of local alumni, Jenkins had personally conducted a major overhaul of Alpha Chapter, whose membership had gone from over one hundred to four, its smallest membership in history. At Michigan State, alumni closed the chapter and sold the house, investing the proceeds for the future.

*W. Zev Putterman in an informal discussion at the 1971 IMPACT at Miami University; left to right: Tom Snyder, Art McClanahan, Jim Skovran, W. Zev Putterman*





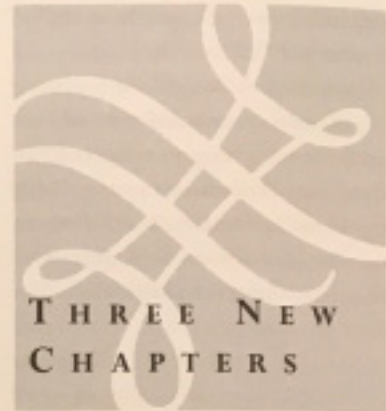
Taylor Borradaile autographs copies of the Golden Jubilee History at the 1972 national convention in Miami, Florida.

For years, the *Laurel* had been an organ of good news; problems and embarrassments were rarely discussed. So President Stennis' report on "The State of the Fraternity" in the spring 1971 issue must have come as a shock. "The 'state' of Phi Kappa Tau," he said, "might easily be considered one of transition." In language of the day, he intended to "tell it like it is." Discussing the challenges of the 1970s, he gave an honest evaluation of the financial problems confronting the fraternity:

"Chief...are the challenges of finance. The fiscal squeeze is being applied at all levels. Chapter rushing efforts have fallen off (pledge retention has fallen off even more), houses are not filled to capacity, accounts receivable are being permitted to sky-

rocket, rents are not being paid on a timely basis and house corporations are reluctant to lower the boom, and over a period of years, the National Council and Executive Office have been too permissive with the chapters and various alumni organizations."

One economy measure was evident in that same issue of the *Laurel*. The magazine was down to eight pages, and it was the second consecutive issue without a color photo on the cover. The magazine's endowment fund of over \$250,000 was nearly all invested in chapter loans, which were not being repaid. Only the generosity of the Phi Tau-run Lawhead Press, the magazine's publisher since 1930, allowed the *Laurel* to continue being published on credit. And that generosity was extended to the limit.

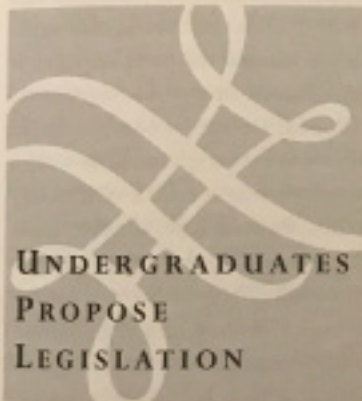


In spite of the challenges of the era, three new charters were granted in 1971. No additional chapters would be added until 1975. Delta Kappa Chapter at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville was chartered on January 23, 1971. Field Secretary "Buzz" Green had recruited the initial members of the colony in the fall of 1968. The Alban Club at Muskingum College in New Concord, Ohio, received the Delta Lambda charter on April 17, 1971. A colony since 1969, the Alban Club had been founded in 1925. On November 13, the Delta Mu charter was presented to members of the colony at the College of Santa Fe in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

During the fiftieth anniversary celebration at Xi Chapter at Franklin and Marshall, the Palm Award was presented to Dr. Charles Spotts, who had served the national fraternity as scholarship commissioner, member of the National Council, and, for the last twenty years, national chaplain. As chaplain, the Xi charter member had written inspirational messages in the pages of the *Laurel* in addition to overseeing the ritualistic work of the fraternity. President Stennis replaced Spotts with Frederick Johnson

(Colorado State, 1933), chaplain of Parkview Episcopal Hospital in Pueblo, Colorado. Johnson had entered the Episcopal priesthood as a second career after many years as a pharmacist.

Upsilon Chapter, which continued its strength at Nebraska Wesleyan through the 1970s, increased the capacity of their chapter house from thirty-nine to sixty with a \$150,000 addition.



To save money, the 1972 IMPACT program was conducted in conjunction with the national convention at the Doral Country Club in Miami, Florida. Founder Borradaile, now walking with the help of two canes, was the convention's celebrity as undergraduates and alumni waited in line to purchase copies of *The Golden Jubilee History* autographed by Borradaile.

Undergraduates took the lead in making significant changes to fraternity policy. Future National President John F. Cosgrove (Florida, 1968), attending his second convention, led

the effort to grant constitutional approval to the "little sister" organizations that were successfully operating in several chapters. A special membership card, badge, and initiation Ritual were designed for these women's auxiliary organizations. Resident council delegates finally gained full voting status for the three undergraduate members of the National Council. Domain Director James Heilmeier (Kent State, 1949) and Thomas C. Cunningham were elected to six-year terms on the National Council; Ray Clarke became president and Ted Marye vice president. Jack Jareo announced his retirement from a very successful six-year stint as editor of the *Laurel*, now in its second year in cost-saving tabloid format. Terry Leaman (Ohio, 1963) would succeed Jareo on February 1, 1973, with the new title of director of communications and public relations.



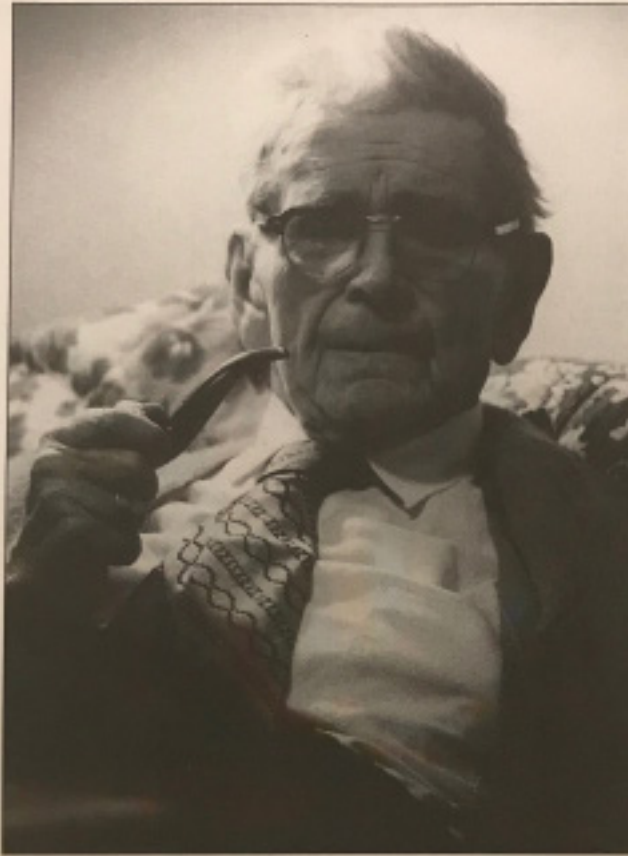
*Capt. Bruce Archer is reunited with his wife after five years in a Vietnamese prison camp.*

## POW ARCHER RELEASED

Phi Taus at Rho Chapter finally got some good news from Vietnam as the United States was extricating itself from the long divisive war. Capt. Bruce Archer (Rensselaer, 1962) was released from a Viet Cong prisoner-of-war camp, where he had been held since his helicopter was shot down in 1968. Initially reported dead, his wife learned he was alive from a 1968 Christmas card. Rho advisor David Merow (Rensselaer, 1956) organized a

letter-writing campaign to plead for his release when he learned about Archer's imprisonment in 1971. Archer was honored at Rho's homecoming celebration shortly after his return.

As a national fraternity, austerity was the order of the day for Phi Tau throughout the middle 1970s. The rapid decline in the number of men associated and initiated that came so quickly between 1969 and 1972 lev-



*Taylor A. Borradaile at home in 1975*

eled off, and an equilibrium was reached by the 1973–74 school year. Initiations, for example, reached a high of 1,724 in 1967–68. By the 1971–72 academic year, initiations had dropped to a low of 977 men. Climbing back to 1,105 initiates in 1973–74, that number would remain absolutely stagnant until the 1981–82 academic year. Though there was a general feeling of recovery, what really took place in the 1970s was a struggle to survive on a severely restricted budget and to find ways to reposition the organization for growth.



The 1974 convention planned for Tan-Tar-A resort in Missouri's Ozark Mountains was postponed until 1975. President Clarke's public explanation blamed the postponement on the national energy shortage and the National Council's desire to hold a 1981 convention to celebrate the fraternity's seventy-fifth anniversary. While that was true, another important reality was that the fraternity could not afford it. IMPACT was now being conducted on a regional basis with an extremely tight budget and staffed with volunteer help from the revitalized domain director corps.

The spring of 1975 saw the installation of the only three chapters chartered between 1971 and 1982. The first two charters went to primarily commuter campuses in Ohio cities. Delta Nu Chapter was chartered at Wright State University in Dayton, and Delta Xi Chapter was installed at the urban Cleveland State University. Far from urban Ohio, the Delta Omicron charter went to a colony at Pan American University in Edinburg, Texas.



A bright spot in the seventies was the athletic prowess of several Phi Tau alumni. Wendell Ladner (Southern Mississippi, 1969) was a standout in the American Basketball Association. Bill Mallory (Miami, 1954) was head coach of his alma mater's undefeated football squad that beat Florida in the Tangerine Bowl. Wes Stock (Washington State, 1954) was pitching coach for the Oakland A's in two World Series appearances.

The Tan-Tar-A convention of 1975 was memorable as the last one Founder Borradaile was to attend. Several lasting changes to the governance structure of the fraternity were made. The convention approved the creation of a system that allowed the vice president to automatically become president and finally permitted the election rather than appointment of the three undergraduate national councilors.

Raymond A. Bichimer (Ohio State, 1953) became the first representative of the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation to sit ex-officio on the National Council. Bichimer, who had been president of the foundation since 1971, had made

tremendous strides to improve the relationship between the trustees of the foundation and the National Council.

Two past national presidents who had been key players in foundation activities since its formation were lost in the year following the 1975 convention. Dr. Henry Hoagland died in September 1975, and F. R. Fletemeyer died in 1976. Their loss dramatically changed the complexion of the board. Ewing Boles, the foundation's only remaining incorporator, had been chairman of the board since Bichimer became president.

*Roland Maxwell presents the Maxwell Award to Dean Moors, president of Upsilon Chapter at Nebraska Wesleyan in 1977.*



## KEYSTONE CONVENTION DEDICATED TO BORRADAILE

The 1977 national convention at Keystone, Colorado, was dedicated to Taylor Borradaile, who had died just before the convention at age ninety-two. As Phi Kappa Tau's only living Founder since 1958, Borradaile had been the link to the founding for an entire generation of Phi Taus. He had not missed a convention since he attended his first in 1951.

The delegates approved the first set of chapter standards to begin to hold under-performing chapters accountable. The campaign to get all chapters in compliance with the standards was called the "Borradaile Challenge."

Architect F. L. "Mac" McKinley acceded to the presidency, and Thomas Cunningham was elected vice president. Thomas Hendricks (Georgia Tech, 1961) was elected to fill the remaining two years of Cunningham's term. Johnny Johnson (Mississippi State, 1964) and Robert B. Mintz (Ohio State, 1971) were elected to six-year terms on the National Council in an open election, which included campaign speeches for the first time ever.



The big news of the convention came in the executive director's report when William D. Jenkins announced his intention to resign his position no later than June 1, 1978. The financial problems of the national fraternity had made the job an unpleasant one and Jenkins was ready to do something different. "I told myself that when the job was no longer fun, I'd look for something else to do." By 1977, that time had come. He ended up leaving sooner than he had anticipated, when a job opportunity became available in the spring of 1978.

1976 - 1996

CHAPTER SEVEN



REFOCUS & RENEWAL

**J**ohn W. Meyerhoff (Colgate, 1961) was the right man for the job of executive director in the spring of 1979. A navy veteran, Meyerhoff had been head basketball coach at Brevard College in North Carolina for six years, where his record was 121–79. To the executive director’s position, he brought a coach’s enthusiasm and the experience of managing the tight budget of a junior college basketball team—exactly the right skills for Phi Kappa Tau.

The fraternity had been without an executive director since Bill Jenkins’

departure a year earlier. A team of volunteers and staff members kept the Oxford office running in the meantime. National President McKinley oversaw the executive office’s administration, Vice President Cunningham worked with director of field operations Greg Hollen (Maryland, 1975) to supervise chapter services, and National Councilor Tom Hendricks oversaw the tenuous financial situation. At least, the absence of an executive director freed up some room in the budget for chapter support.

“Coach” Meyerhoff, as he soon became known around the fraternity, also gained the nickname “El Cheapo,”

which he accepted as a badge of honor in his efforts to rebuild the financial strength of the national fraternity. One of his first tests was to coordinate a national convention, which would be the first fraternity convention he ever attended.

1979  
CONVENTION

**T**o keep costs low, the 1979 national convention was held on the campus of the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Nebraska Wesleyan

pledge brothers Tom Cunningham and John Green became the only president and vice president team to come from the same pledge class in the same chapter. Two other future national presidents were elected to six-year terms on the National Council. Harold Short, chairman of the Flatiron Companies in Boulder, Colorado, and winner of the 1940 Shideler Award, would become president in 1983. The ambitious young president of the Miami, Florida, Bar Association, John Cosgrove, would assume the national presidency at the 1985 convention.

An extremely moving and memo-

orable part of the 1979 convention program was the appearance of Eileen Stevens, whose son, Chuck Stenzel, had been killed in a hazing incident at an Alfred University local fraternity just eighteen months earlier. Mrs. Stevens described the painful path that led to her realization that her son's death from alcohol poisoning and exposure was a result of fraternity hazing. She was just beginning to speak out to seek support for her fledgling Committee to Halt Useless College Killings (C.H.U.C.K.). National fraternities had initially been wary of Mrs. Stevens, fearing she was on an

antifraternity crusade. "I am not antifraternity, absolutely not," she explained, "I am anti-abuse." Two standing ovations indicated that Phi Kappa Tau had made the right decision in being the first national fraternity to invite her to speak. Since that time, she has returned to Phi Kappa Tau events several times and has spoken to almost every national fraternity and sorority and on hundreds of college campuses.

A convention tradition was established with the debut of the Rump Club which was established as an informal organization to encourage

*1976 Shideler Award recipient Ed Lowry (center) relaxing with Beta Beta Chapter brothers at the University of Louisville*

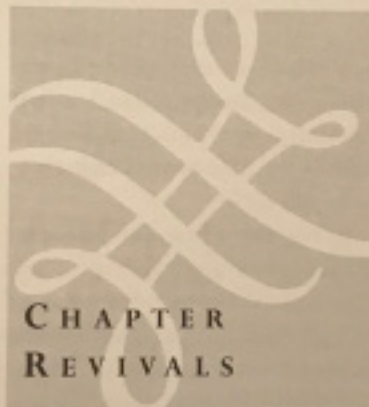




*Mrs. Eileen Stevens shares the story of her son's death with the 1979 national convention.*

alumni attendance at conventions. Primarily geared toward former national officers who no longer had an official role to play in the conventions, the club was named for England's powerless seventeenth century Rump Parliament.

The Knoxville convention kicked off a year that would finally show signs of a turnaround for Phi Kappa Tau. The popularity of fraternities was clearly on the rise. No single reason accounted for the change in attitude; but observers of the trend pointed to the new conservatism, the "preppy" craze, and the *National Lampoon's* 1978 hit movie, *Animal House*, whose impact was as much blessing as curse.



Alpha Sigma Chapter at Colorado State and Alpha Pi Chapter at the University of Washington were both revived in the spring of 1980. Indicative of a new emphasis on scholarship, newly appointed Educational Director Dr. Monroe Moosnick (Transylvania, 1953), Theta Chapter's long-time faculty advisor, reinstated the national fraternity's scholarship award for the chapter with the best grades in the fraternity. The trophy had not been awarded since 1966.



By the time the Diamond Jubilee convention was called to order to celebrate the fraternity's seventy-fifth anniversary at Miami University in July, 1981, the initiation trend line was on its way up. The 1980-81 year had seen an increase of two hundred initiations over the previous year, the first increase in nearly ten years.

An attitude of optimism and enthusiasm permeated the entire Diamond Jubilee convention. Jack Anson presided at the dedication of the fraternity's anniversary gift to Miami University. Sometimes called Phi Tau Park, the circular grouping of stone benches surrounds a bronze marker with the inscription, "Phi Kappa Tau, 1906-1981, presented on the Diamond Anniversary of its founding at Miami University on March 17, 1906," encircling the coat of arms. The park, which was designed by architecture student Bert Elliott (Miami, 1978), is within sight of the old North



*Phi Kappa Tau Foundation Trustees J. Oliver Amos and Raymond A. Bichimer chat at the dedication of the Phi Tau Park in 1981.*

Dorm (now Elliott Hall) and the site of Old Main, the buildings that had figured so prominently in the fraternity's founding. National President Thomas C. Cunningham presented the gift to Miami University President Paul G. Pearson. As a living link to the Silver and Golden Jubilees held on the Miami campus, Hugh C. Nichols gave the dedicatory address. Nichols was honorary co-chairman of the Diamond Jubilee along with Ewing Boles, and he had served as general chair-

man of both the 1931 and 1956 gatherings. He had attended his first convention in 1920 and received the Palm Award at the awards banquet later in the convention.

In regular convention business, the delegates approved the first-ever national undergraduate dues of \$25 per man per year and elected domain director and former chapter consultant Walter G. "Sonny" Strange (Auburn, 1970) and Seattle architect Robert G. Aldridge (Washington, 1954) to the National Council.

Raymond Bichimer was elected vice president to succeed John Green at the 1983 convention.

Former National Councilor Richard C. Lennox was joined by his son, Richard K. Lennox (Miami, 1954) and grandson Michael W. Lennox (Purdue, 1979) at the convention banquet. The Lennoxes were thought to be the only current three-generation Phi Tau family. Also attending the banquet was Cary S. Miller, one of two living Foundation Members who had been present at the founding March 17, 1906. The Non-Fraternity Association's first secretary, Robert L. Meeks, sent greetings but was unable to attend.

The fraternity's revitalization continued with the rechartering of Beta Alpha Chapter at the University of Texas-Austin over the weekend of February 5-7, 1982, exactly thirty-nine years after the original chartering.

In April two new Kentucky chapters were installed as Delta Pi Chapter at Murray State University and Delta Rho at Eastern Kentucky University. Delta Sigma Chapter became the first national fraternity on the Webber College campus in Babson Park, Florida.

## THE BOLES CHALLENGE

One of the most important meetings ever held in the history of Phi Kappa Tau occurred in December 1982 at the venerable Columbus Club in Columbus, Ohio. At that meeting, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation, Ewing

T. Boles, told members of the executive committee of the foundation and officers of the fraternity that he would personally match any gift to the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation up to one million dollars. Boles' dramatic announcement, often referred to as the "Boles

Challenge," started a flurry of activity. By the end of that luncheon meeting, the groundwork was laid for what would become a capital campaign titled "The Decision for Phi Kappa Tau." The initial goal was two million dollars, just enough to meet Boles' challenge, but it soon became apparent that the two-million-dollar goal could be exceeded and, it was raised to three million.

The foundation had been talking about a major fund-raising campaign for a number of years. Boles, who had made the foundation his life's work, realized that he could jump-start the process by making an attention-getting pledge. The key to success in the campaign, consultants told the trustees, was to identify a group of major prospects who could be approached for significant "leadership gifts" and to assemble a volunteer corps who had the clout and willingness to ask.

The all-star steering committee, with Boles as honorary chairman, included Foundation President Dan L. Huffer (Ohio State, 1961), National President John M. Green as chairman of the current officers committee, and Thomas L. Stennis II, as chairman of the past presidents' committee. Attorneys Lawrence L. Fisher (Ohio State, 1960) and Raymond A. Bichimer headed the heritage gifts committee. Past National President Thomas C. Cunningham chaired the official family committee, former Executive Director William D. Jenkins chaired the former staff committee, past National President Melvin Dettra, Jr., was the

general alumni chairman, and John Meyerhoff chaired the effort to get undergraduate chapters to make pledges. National Councilors Harold H. Short, Ross E. Roeder, and John F. Cosgrove were all at-large members of the steering committee.

Another key to the success of the campaign was Boles' ability to persuade Jack Anson to postpone his just-announced retirement from the National Interfraternity Conference to serve as campaign director on a part-time basis. Anson opened an Oxford campaign office at the National Headquarters and spent two days a week there on campaign business. He was assisted by J. Luke Strockis (California State—Long Beach, 1977), who also had responsibility for the alumni relations and development work of the fraternity.



*The bronze marker at the center of the Phi Tau Park*

*The Phi Tau Park was the fraternity's memorial gift to Miami University at the Diamond Jubilee in 1981.*





*National officers and chapter members in an "Old West" pose during the rechartering of Beta Alpha Chapter at the University of Texas–Austin in 1982*

## GULFPORT CONVENTION, 1983

Evaluations of the Forty-sixth National Convention, held at a branch of the University of Southern Mississippi on the gulf coast, were in near unanimity on several points: the food was awful, the banquets were crowded, the humidity was unbearable, the dormitory accommodations were spartan, and the convention was one of the best in history. "At least that's what former Grand Secretary R. K. Bowers thinks and he's attended

40 of the 46 [Phi Kappa Tau conventions]," reported the *Laurel*. No particularly important legislation was passed, but two events stand out in almost every delegate's mind.

One was a shrimp boil hosted by past National President Tom Stennis and his family at their Gulfport home, Stenhaus. The outdoor party, complete with New Orleans Dixieland music, gave the whole convention a genuine taste of southern hospitality.

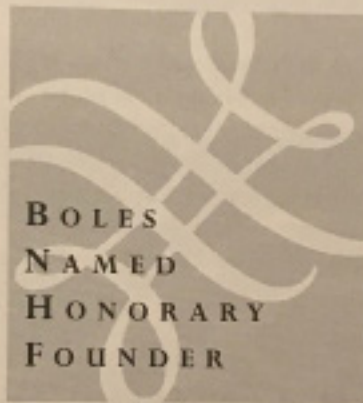
And the event that no one who attended will ever forget was the announcement of the "Decision for Phi Kappa Tau." Most of the delegates had no idea about the behind-the-scenes work that had gone into the campaign. The well-orchestrated announcement struck strong emotional chords. A multimedia presentation called "Phi Kappa Tau: Mirroring an American Century," produced by Luke Strockis, preceded the actual announcement of



*"Reach for the stars" was the theme of Ewing T. Boles' dramatic speech at the 1983 national convention.*

the Boles Challenge. Campaign director Jack Anson introduced Boles and revealed his one-million-dollar challenge publicly. Anson explained to the awed crowd of 275 that Boles' gift was the largest ever made to a fraternity or fraternity foundation in the more than two-hundred-year history of Greek-letter organizations and that \$2.26 million toward the three million dollar goal had already been pledged.

But the star of the show was the eighty-eight-year-old Boles himself. His inspiring talk, interrupted many times by ovations, was completely extemporaneous and overtook the audience. He raised his enormous hand high above his head, exhorting the crowd to "reach for the stars" as he explained his incredible loyalty to Phi Kappa Tau by saying that "no matter how much I do for Phi Kappa Tau, I can never repay it for all it has done for me."



For Boles' lifetime of service to Phi Kappa Tau and his tremendous generosity, the National Council hit upon a unique and appropriate way to honor him. In addition to naming the National Headquarters building for him, he was named an honorary founder of Phi Kappa Tau, to be forever remembered in the same breath as Douglass, Boyd, Shideler, and Borradaile.

In the convention's officer elections, Harold Short was elected national vice president, putting him in position to succeed Raymond Bichimer at the 1985 convention. Jack Anson and Ross Roeder were elected to six-year terms on the National Council. Domain Director and former staff member Greg Hollen was elected to fill an unexpired term.



No Phi Tau chapter had built a new chapter house since Alpha Phi Chapter at the University of Akron completed its new home in 1973. With the dedication of its new house on October 1, 1983, Gamma Mu Chapter at Bradley University started a new trend. The \$300,000 home was designed for a capacity of forty-four men, with ample space for dining and chapter activities. Soon after the completion of the house, Gamma Mu's



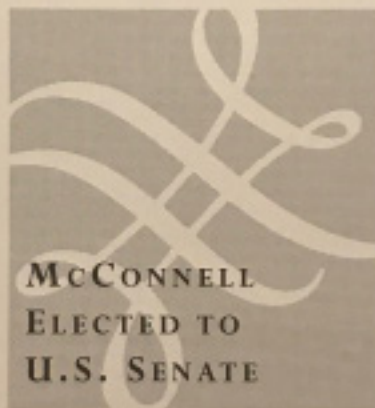
*Hugh C. Nichols was honorary chairman of the Diamond Jubilee and general chairman of the Silver and Golden Jubilee celebrations.*

membership topped the sixty mark for the first time in its history.

The fraternity continued to grow, with three charterings in the spring of 1984. Alpha Kappa Sigma, a local society founded at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, California, in 1958, became Delta Tau Chapter on May 5, and the Delta Upsilon charter was granted to a colony at the University of Tennessee

at Martin. Beta Rho Chapter at the University of California—Los Angeles, inactive since 1959, was rechartered on June 3, 1984.

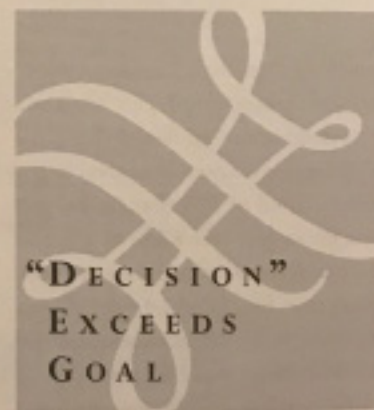
For the second October in a row, a new chapter house was dedicated. The 1984 dedication came at the University of Mississippi's Delta Gamma Chapter. A handsome thirty-six-man house boasted a large paneled living room, basement party room, and dining facilities for one hundred.



In the fall 1984 elections, A. Mitchell "Mitch" McConnell (Louisville, 1961) pulled off a surprising victory in a race for one of Kentucky's U. S. Senate seats. A series of television commercials, now studied in political science classes, used late in the campaign, helped McConnell defeat longtime Senator Dee Huddleston by a slim margin. He was the only

Republican to unseat an incumbent Democrat in U.S. Senate races around the country.

Phi Kappa Tau held a victory dinner for McConnell at the Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts in Louisville. Several of McConnell's classmates, Beta Beta Chapter founder Morton Walker, and a large number of undergraduates turned out to congratulate him. While the *Laurel* reported that McConnell was the fraternity's first U. S. Senator, that was incorrect. The late Hugh Morris (Delaware, 1930) had represented Delaware in the U.S. Senate many years earlier.



The "Decision for Phi Kappa Tau" officially closed on December 31, 1984, after a general appeal to all members and chapters. The three-million-dollar goal was exceeded by over \$230,000, making the drive the most successful of any Greek letter organization in history. For his extraordinary leadership and generosity, Ewing Boles was given the National Interfraternity Conference's Gold Medal at its

1985 annual meeting. The Gold Medal, the highest possible award for a fraternity man, had been given to Ronald Reagan, Tau Kappa Epsilon, in 1983, and Boles received the honor along with Barry Goldwater, a member of Sigma Chi.

The Tau Chapter charter was returned to a colony at the University of Michigan on December 1, 1984, in ceremonies at the chapter house and the Michigan Union. In January 1985, Delta Phi Chapter was installed at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, the first chapter in that state. Later that spring, Delta Chi Chapter was installed at the University of Rochester in New York, joining Gamma Nu as the second chapter in that city.

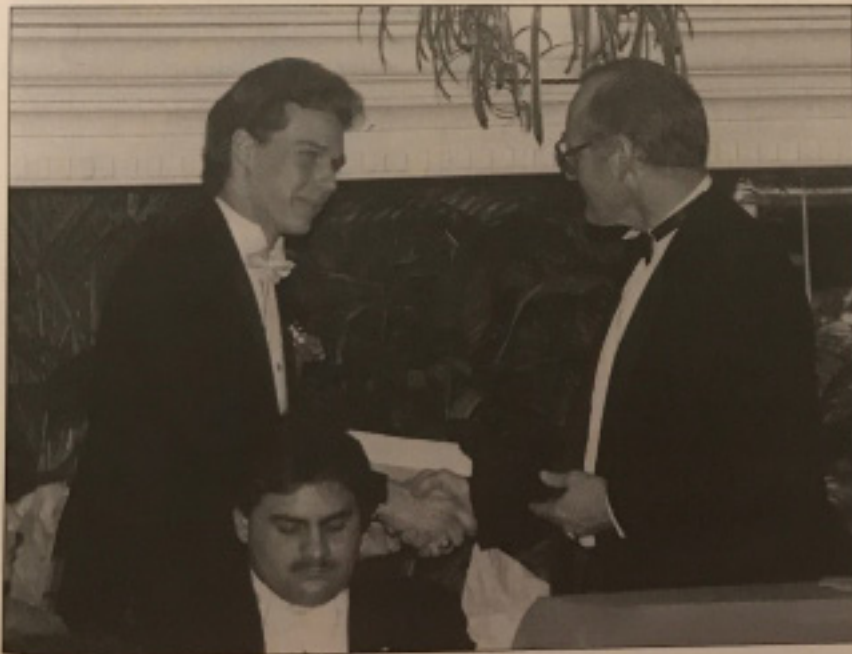


For the first time since 1977, Phi Kappa Tau returned to a resort hotel for its Forty-seventh National Convention in 1985. Former Grand Secretary R. K. Bowers represented Epsilon Chapter's graduate council for the forty-first time since he attended

his first national Phrenocon convention in 1915. It would be his last.

Senator Mitch McConnell spent a portion of his August Senate recess with the convention delegates in Scottsdale, making the principal address at the Awards Banquet, where he also received the Borradaile Award. Resident council delegates were delighted to spend informal moments with McConnell around the Registry Resort's pool.

President Short passed the gavel to John Cosgrove for the next biennium, and Walter "Sonny" Strange was elected vice president of the fraternity. Two outstanding domain directors, Dr. W. Joseph Joiner II (Georgetown, 1973) and Greg Hollen, were elected to six-year terms on the National Council.



*Executive Director John Meyerhoff presents the Delta Psi charter to Chapter President Jeffrey Soldo.*

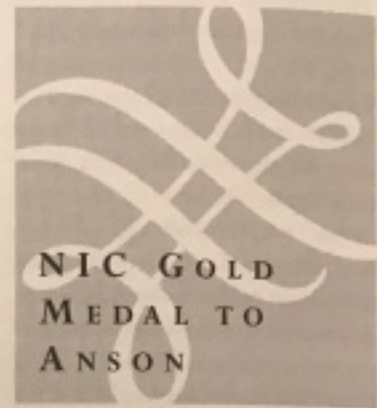
## TWO NEW HOUSES, THREE NEW CHAPTERS

Fall 1985 saw the dedication of a second new chapter house in Mississippi in as many years. Beta Epsilon Chapter moved into the house, whose design had been unveiled at the Gulfport convention in 1983. House Corporation President and Deep South Domain Director Steve Nelson (Southern Mississippi, 1973) cut the ribbon on the forty-eight-man chapter house on November 2, 1985. At the same time, Beta Chapter repurchased the historic home it had been forced to sell in 1978 after fifty-eight years. Astute local alumni had retained a first right of refusal when the house was sold, and fortunately, the chapter had regained enough strength to exercise its option when the new owner decided to sell.

The Delta Psi charter was presented at the black-tie installation ceremonies attended by 206 at Rider College on March 15, 1986. Rider chemistry professor Dr. Richard Beach (Muhlenberg, 1952) was instrumental in guiding the colony as advisor.

In April 1986, a large number of Michigan State alumni turned out to witness the return of Alpha Alpha's charter. Alpha Alpha alumni enthusiastically supported the effort to rebuild their chapter, which had been closed since 1972.

After an absence of forty-seven years, Omega Chapter officially returned to the University of Wisconsin in Madison on November 15, 1986. Two transfer students, Daniel Schleck (Coe, 1983) and James Heinritz (Lawrence, 1983), helped lead the effort to reopen the chapter, which had been closed since the Great Depression. An original Omega charter member, Paul Elfers (Wisconsin, 1924), contributed \$5,000 to a housing fund at the time of the rechartering.



Jack Anson added another significant honor to his long résumé when he received the National Interfraternity Conference's Gold Medal, becoming the third Phi Tau to receive the award. Roland Maxwell was the first in 1959, and Ewing Boles (nominated by Anson) was the 1984 winner. It was a tribute to Jack's standing in the interfraternity community that he was nominated for the award by a member of another fraternity. In accepting the award at the NIC's annual meeting in St. Louis, he explained his lifetime of devotion to college fraternities, saying simply, "I believe in the American college fraternity and its ideals."

On March 28, 1987, after a long struggle as a colony, the Gamma Gamma charter was returned to St. John's University in Queens, New York.

The Northeast Missouri State colony earned the Delta Omega charter in ceremonies at Kirksville, Missouri, on May 2, 1987, and the following day at College Station, Texas, the Epsilon Alpha charter was granted to Phi Kappa Tau's Texas A&M colony.



*National President Harold Short, the 1940 Shideler winner, presents the award to Scott Gindlesberger in 1987.*



The Epsilon Alpha ceremony was the final one for both National President Short and Executive Director Meyerhoff. Short's term would end at the upcoming convention, and Meyerhoff had submitted his resignation in April to be effective June 30, 1987, so that he could relocate to the western New York area where he had spent part of his youth and college years.

The eight years of the Meyerhoff executive directorship had seen a significant turnaround in Phi Kappa Tau's

national organization. The national fraternity's income had grown by 300 percent; the number of functioning chapters and colonies had grown from seventy to ninety-five, and the fraternity's foundation completed the most successful capital campaign in the history of Greek-letter organizations; and the National Headquarters building was completely restored and redecorated.



When the search for a new executive director began, a former national president probably did not enter anyone's mind as a potential candidate. But the idea did occur to John Green. President of his family's Wauneta Falls Bank in tiny Wauneta, Nebraska, for several years, he was ready for a career change.



*National President John F. Cosgrove signs the Epsilon Gamma charter at Trenton State College.*

His Phi Tau credentials were impeccable. He had been a domain chief, served two terms on the National Council, and then served as national vice president and president. And he is probably the only Phi Tau to have spent his honeymoon at a fraternity convention (at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island in 1966).

Though Green accepted the offer of employment sometime in the summer of 1987 and assumed the executive director's role at the 1987 convention, it took him until November to finally begin in Oxford full-time.



At the 1987 convention at the King's Island amusement park near Cincinnati, the most significant piece of legislation approved by the delegates was the removal of recognition for little sister programs. While the structure of the various programs

around the country varied greatly, there was concern that in too many chapters the distinction between a fraternity member and a little sister was blurred when both paid dues, pledge fees, or other assessments that ran through the chapter's books. In order to preserve the single-sex status of the college fraternity, it seemed wise to abandon the problematic little sister programs entirely.

Minor revisions also were made to the Ritual.

Cleveland Mayor George V. Voinovich (Ohio, 1956), who had orchestrated Cleveland's renaissance from "mistake on the lake" to All-American City, received the Borradaile Award and was principal speaker at the convention awards banquet held at the College Football Hall of Fame. The awards banquet location was especially appropriate for two other award winners. A second Borradaile Award went to Alpha's William G. Mallory, now head football coach at Indiana University, and the Shideler Award was presented to Scott Gindlesberger (Mount Union, 1984), a magna cum laude Mount Union graduate and Division III All-American quarterback for the Mount Union Purple Raiders.

John Cosgrove was installed as the fraternity's president, and Walter "Sonny" Strange was elected vice president. New graduate members of the National Council were John D. Good (Ohio, 1947) and Stephen Brothers (California-Berkeley, 1966).

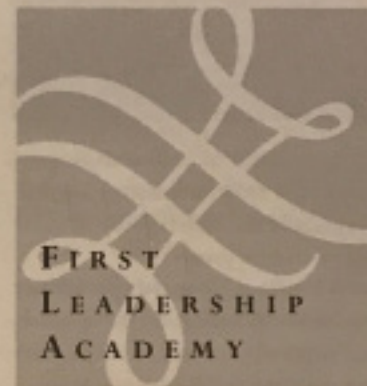


While John Green had signed several charters as national president, the Epsilon Beta charter was his first as executive director during installation ceremonies at the West Virginia Institute of Technology at Montgomery in November 1987.

Epsilon Gamma became Phi Kappa Tau's 123rd chapter during installation ceremonies at New Jersey's Trenton State College on January 30, 1988.

Gamma Phi Chapter was officially reopened at Northeastern University in Boston, when forty-seven members signed the new Gamma Phi charter on May 31, 1988.

One of John Cosgrove's great priorities was to reinstate the national leadership school that had been so successful during the years Cosgrove had been an undergraduate at the University of Florida. Twenty years after the first national IMPACT, the Leadership Academy was born.



National Council member Dr. W. Joseph Joiner served as dean of the first Leadership Academy at Miami University in August 1988. Each chapter was asked to send three delegates, and more than three hundred men participated in that first academy. With the financial support of the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation, the per-delegate cost was kept to a minimum, and top-notch speakers brought an air of professionalism that was never possible in the regional IMPACT programs.

The first academy was also the forum for the introduction of the fraternity's new risk-management policy. In an increasingly litigious society, things that used to be considered pranks or chalked up to "boys being boys" were becoming liability exposures. And no fraternity advocate

could justify the illegal use (and abuse) of alcohol or dangerous hazing stunts that were too often a part of fraternity life. No wonder fraternity chapters were becoming more and more difficult to adequately insure. For all of those reasons—and because it was the right thing to do—Phi Kappa Tau adopted strict policies regarding alcohol, hazing, and other potential risks. The most significant (and controversial) aspects of the new policy had to do with alcohol.

The new policy strictly prohibited the purchase of alcohol with chapter funds, the bulk purchase of alcohol (kegs), and the underage use of alcohol on chapter property.

The policy also strictly prohibited (and defined) hazing and sexual abuse and required a number of educational

programs. While the policy has been a constant challenge to enforce, it has gone a long way to keep insurance available and affordable for Phi Kappa Tau's chapters.

The Virginia Wesleyan colony was granted the Epsilon Delta charter on December 10, 1988, in Virginia Beach. After four years as a colony, the Beta Theta charter was returned to the Kansas colony, officially reopening Beta Theta, which had been a casualty of the early 1970s. Dr. Alan Pickering, the chapter's first president in 1948, participated in the ceremonies.

Two of the original Beta Mu charter members attended their chapter's rechartering at Kent State University on March 18, 1989. The chapter had been closed since 1969.

Alpha Theta Chapter at the College of William and Mary was rechartered on April 8, 1989, with original charter member M. Carl Andrews (William and Mary, 1926) in attendance.

The William Paterson colony, which had been working for four years to achieve chapter status, earned the Epsilon Epsilon charter on April 15, 1989.



*Phi Kappa Tau and Delta Gamma facilitators at an early TEAM Discovery weekend*



The Phi Kappa Tau Foundation hired Carl D. Vance (Miami, 1967) as its first full-time administrator in 1989. In 1986 Jack Anson opened a foundation office in the century-old home, which had served Alpha Chapter as its first chapter house in 1909, across Campus Avenue from the fraternity's National Headquarters. He traveled from his home in Indianapolis to man the office two days a week until Vance came on board.



By the time Walter “Sonny” Strange introduced his ambitious set of goals and objectives for his presidency during the final banquet of the fraternity’s 1989 convention in New Orleans, every delegate had a sense that he had helped shape the fraternity’s future.

During the convention’s business sessions, several projects initiated by President John Cosgrove were completed. A completely revised constitution and statutes prepared by past President Harold Short’s constitution review committee was adopted after considerable discussion and debate. The chapter standards first approved in 1977 were expanded to include three tiers: minimum, median, and superior. New scholarship standards, requiring chapters to exceed the all-men’s average on their campus by .10 grade points, also were adopted.

Long-time Hawkeye Domain Director Tom Hazelton (Coe, 1975) and Wendell Smith (Michigan State, 1953) were elected to six-year terms on the National Council, and Jack Anson was elected national vice president by acclamation. After a prolonged and spirited ovation, a teary-eyed Anson told the delegates that this was

the greatest honor he had received since his invitation to join Phi Kappa Tau at Alpha Upsilon Chapter in 1947.

Unfortunately, Jack Anson did not live long enough to become national president. He died of a heart attack on September 15, 1990, after a successful recovery from prostate-cancer surgery. Anson had been providing tremendous leadership in the area of alumni relations, and his death left a leadership void in the national fraternity that would not easily be filled.

Anson would have succeeded President Strange at the 1991 convention in Long Beach, California. Without a clear successor, Strange expressed his desire to serve two more years as president. The convention consented and also asked John Cosgrove, the immediate past president, to continue in that role on the National Council. W. Joseph Joiner was elected vice president to succeed Walter Strange at the 1993 convention. Elected to six-year terms on the National Council in Long Beach were former Chapter Consultant Richard P. Harrison, Jr. (Ohio, 1979) and National Chaplain Rodney E. Wilmoth (Nebraska Wesleyan, 1957).

The fraternity’s financial advisor, Donald E. Snyder, Sr. (Cornell, 1949), chaired a committee that recommended the establishment of a five-dollar annual fee to be paid by each of the fraternity’s undergraduate



*National President Walter G. Strange, Jr., outlines his presidential objectives at the 1989 convention in New Orleans.*

members for a housing-loan fund. The plan was heartily endorsed by the convention.

Attending the 1991 convention for the first time as voting delegates were brothers from two new chapters in the State College of New York system at Buffalo and Oswego. Epsilon Zeta and Epsilon Eta chapters were both chartered in the fall of 1989. The New York chapters were joined by delegates from the new Epsilon Theta Chapter, which was chartered at San Francisco State in May 1990.

LITTLE AND  
JENKINS  
RETURN TO  
OXFORD

Two former members of the fraternity staff returned to Oxford in 1991.

Former chapter consultant Craig Little (Ohio State, 1980), who had been fraternity advisor at the University of Oklahoma since 1986, returned to the fraternity staff in a newly created assistant executive director position. He assumed responsibility for convention and Leadership Academy planning and also developed a cooperative venture with the women of Delta Gamma called TEAM (together everyone accomplishes more) Discovery.

Organized on a regional basis, these weekend-long workshops in rustic settings are focused on team building, leadership development, and goal setting.

Former fraternity Executive Director William D. Jenkins succeeded Carl Vance as executive vice president of the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation, with responsibility for grant management as well as fund-raising.

On September 20, 1992, National Vice President W. Joseph Joiner died following a lingering illness, almost exactly two years after Jack Anson had died holding the same office. Joiner was only thirty-eight years old. The National Council appointed Rodney Wilmoth as Joiner's replacement, and C. Brent DeVore (Ohio, 1961), president of Otterbein College, was asked to fill Dr. Wilmoth's unexpired term to assure that the National Council would be at full strength at the 1993 national convention at the Innisbrook Resort in Florida. But one more tragedy was to beset the National Council. Walter "Sonny" Strange was

too ill to attend the 1993 convention, and he died a short time after the convention on October 3.

Past President John F. Cosgrove substituted for Strange at the Epsilon Iota chartering at Barry University, near Cosgrove's Miami, Florida, home in April 1993. Strange had been able to attend the long-awaited Maryland rechartering in May.

At the final banquet of the 1993 convention, the new national president, Rodney Wilmoth, a United Methodist minister, spoke eloquently about his objective of drawing together the leadership so devastated by the untimely deaths that had interrupted the clear vision that Anson, Joiner and Strange had brought to the fraternity.

The convention drew to a close with a dramatic announcement. Ewing Boles had died at age ninety-seven in November 1992. It was no secret that Boles had made significant provision for the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation in his will. But until that evening, only the trustees of the foundation knew that he had left \$3.7 million in trust

*Delegates to the Inaugural Leadership Academy at Miami University*

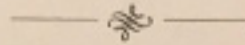


for the benefit of the foundation. Incredibly, he alone had seen to it that the financial future of the fraternity he loved so much was assured.

The words to the "Brotherhood Song," the traditional capstone to Phi Kappa Tau conventions, had special meaning that night.

After those tragic losses, the following biennium brought some significant births. Five new chapters were chartered beginning with Epsilon Kappa at Rutgers just six weeks after the 1993 convention. In the southeast, charters were signed at Longwood College in Virginia and Pembroke State in North Carolina in April 1994 and at Clemson in South Carolina in April 1995. A colony at Pace University in New York became Phi Kappa Tau's newest chapter, Epsilon Xi, in May 1995.

## *The Brotherhood Song*



WE ARE BROTHERS NOW AND EVER

UNTIL THE DAY WE DIE.

AND WHEN THAT TIME COMES ROLLIN' 'ROUND

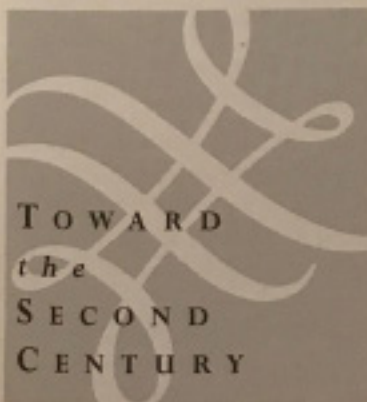
AND WE BID OUR LAST GOOD-BYE

THERE IS ONE THING SURE AND CERTAIN

LET US BOW OUR HEADS IN AWE

WE'LL MEET AGAIN IN HEAVEN, SURE

IN THE NAME OF PHI KAPPA TAU.



The 1995 convention in Washington, DC, looked toward a new millennium and Phi Kappa Tau's second century with the visionary report of the blue ribbon "Phi Tau 2000 Com-

mittee," headed by Otterbein College President C. Brent DeVore, a member of the National Council. C. William Crane (Georgia, 1980) and Joseph J. McCann, Jr. (Spring Hill, 1974) were elected to terms on the National Council that will end in 2001.

A poignant cap to the first ninety years of Phi Kappa Tau came just as the manuscript for this new history was being completed early in 1996. Astronaut Leroy Chiao (California-Berkeley, 1979), on his second space shuttle mission, secretly carried with him a small token of an earthly connection—

the jeweled National President's badge which Stephen Brothers will wear and pass down to Vice President Greg Hollen. Even Founder Taylor Borradaile, who always claimed Phi Kappa Tau was "working out just the way I planned it," would have to admit that as Phi Kappa Tau entered its tenth decade, it had come a long way from that chilly afternoon in Old Main.



## 1997 - 2016

New Year's Day, 1996, kicked-off the final decade of our Fraternity's first 100 years. Four national presidents emerged and while they all have uniquely distinctive styles, all brought a wealth of enthusiasm and a profound belief in the importance of the experience of fraternity. Expansion took hold as ten chapters were chartered and seven reorganized.

In August, 1999, the Fraternity and Foundation moved to a central office to house both entities under one roof that also allowed for the organization to expand and grow. One year later Bill Jenkins was elected president of the NIC.

Several faces returned to Oxford during the decade. John Green was named Foundation executive director. Jenkins assumed the duties as Centennial coordinator and Steve Hartman, Muskingum '89, a former leadership consultant, joined the staff as chief operating officer.

With the first 100 years drawing to a close, all focus was directed toward events celebrating our Centennial. Construction began on the Centennial Garden adjacent to the Executive Offices building and the Centennial Celebration and Convention at Miami University in July 2006 saw unprecedented numbers of alumni and guests return to "where it all began."

Taken from Phi Tau website

For more recent information about Phi Kappa Tau, visit <https://www.phikappatau.org/news/>



























