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*Masculinity, Race, and a Southern University:*

*An Exploration of the Role of Fraternities in College Life*

During my senior year in college, the history honors program required the writing of a focus paper on a subject that was of new interest to the student. This gave the students the muscles to flex their historical skills to an area that might not have been their concentration. At the time, I was very involved with Greek life as Vice President of the Inter-Fraternity Council and had many questions about the formation of fraternities. Therefore, I took the leap and started a detailed study of Greek life at the University of the South. In the conclusion of the paper, I focused on the integration of African Americans into White Social Fraternities at the national/regional level and at The University of the South: Sewanee.

In the writing of this paper, it quickly became obvious that the area of historical study of Greek life has been of less importance in the field of High Education. The task of historical writing has largely been left to those in the fraternities and often do not include the relationships that are developed between fraternities and how they influenced collegiate life. Therefore, I had to source materials across many schools to find the lost narrative of fraternal lives in our universities. The differences in the influence that Greek organizations had on the social life of students and the views on integration were very interesting. It shows that often fraternity chapters were more reflective of the general student body of the school than they were as a national organization. There were vast differences of thoughts about integration even in cases where it was the same fraternity across various schools. It was also great to be able to interview the first African Americans to attend Sewanee and record their experience of Greek life for the archives of the University.

After this paper, I started to think about how fraternal history in our colleges and universities is not being well protected nor is it a large part the literature for histories of university life. The collections of fraternal memory are often subject to being protected just by the fraternities that they come from. This is when I decided to start my collection of materials about fraternities and the University. I saw that there was a need to preserve these materials for future generations. I also saw my collection as a passion that has continued in advancing the place of the examination of fraternal life in history. I use my collection to write historical articles and educate fraternity members on the history. In my time since the collection began, I have been asked to give presentation on fraternal history at various chapters of my fraternity and consulted with the national fraternity on history. I have seen my collection as a source of not only information but has been a place of activism for the restoration of interest in fraternal history. This bibliography will not be an exhaustive list but will reflect a balance of materials

that is in my collection. In focus on this list will be those books that are older in nature mixed with some newer finds. The listing under each group will proceed from oldest to most recent.

#### Bibliography of Collection:

##### Catalogs and Membership Directories-

These developed from the start of the fraternity movement as simple books that would connect members of the fraternity across chapters. These book greatly became developed in the advent of the formation of the National Interfraternity Conference. In 1910, this organization was formed to settle the vast array of Greek organizations into a single body that would have standards and governance over all fraternities at colleges and universities. The result of this was the removal of people being able to be members of more than one fraternity and class societies turned into four year organizations like our modern Greeks are now. During this time, it was of key necessity to be able to claim your members and national fraternities began detailed public records in membership books. Also, current leadership and histories were produced for each edition that gives insight into how the fraternities saw their missions and focus change over the years.

1. Psi Upsilon, Catalogue of the Psi Upsilon Fraternity (New York City: John F. Trow, 1852).
2. Delta Kappa Epsilon, Delta Kappa Epsilon (No Publisher Information, 1874).
3. DKE Council, Delta Kappa Epsilon Catalogue (Philadelphia: John C Winston Company, 1910).
4. Psi Upsilon, The 12th General Catalogue of the Psi Upsilon Fraternity (No Publisher Information, 1917).
5. Council of DKE, General Catalogue of Delta Kappa Epsilon (No Publisher Information, 1918).
6. Winthrop Trust Association, Phi Chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon 1844-1924 (No Publisher Information, 1924).
7. Alpha Delta Phi, Catalogue of the Alpha Delta Phi 1832-1956 (Baltimore, MD: Waverly Press, 1956).

Other Delta Kappa Epsilon Catalogues from 1985, 1994, 2008, and 2013.

##### Fraternity History Books-

These were often the effort of members in their fraternities to honor a special anniversary for the fraternity. They vary in form from focusing on the national fraternity to focusing on just one chapter. They are also different in the numbers of people dedicated to putting them together that can produce different interpretations of the history.

8. Campbell, J. Duncan and Harry S. Gorgas, *The Centennial History of Phi Kappa Psi 1852-1952, Vol.I&II* (Binghamton, NY: Vail-Ballou Press, 1952).

9. Hart, Freeman Hansford, *The History of Phi Kappa Alpha*, 11<sup>th</sup> Edition (Little Rock, AK: Democrat Printing, 1956).
10. Mu Chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon, *One Hundred Years of the Mu of DKE* (No Publisher Information, 1959).
11. Upsilon Chapter of Kappa Sigma, *The Elks Parade: A Centennial History* (Richmond, VA: Dietz Press, 1983).
12. Delta Kappa Epsilon, *A Century and a Half of DKE* (Phoenix, AZ: Heritage Publishers, 1997).

#### Pledge Manuals-

With the standardization of fraternities in 1910, there was also a movement that a common body of knowledge should be uniform across chapters. This was the advent of what would be called the pledging process. Modeled on the neophytes of ancient Greek cults and Christian catechumenate method, the process of membership initiation into the fraternities developed into a whole season of formation by the end of World War II. During this period of member formation, the new member would come to know their pledge manuals from side to side as study of the fraternity became a requirement of joining the organization. Before this time, often fraternities initiated member first and then taught them the principle of the fraternity. These manuals developed into books that taught new member everything from history of the organization to social etiquette of the time.

13. Alpha Tau Omega, *Reno's Manual: The Manual of the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (Menasha, WI: George Banta Publishing Company, 1929).
14. Sigma Chi Corporation, *The Norman Shield: Manual of the Sigma Chi Fraternity*, 22<sup>nd</sup> Edition (Evanston, IL: Sigma Chi Corporation, 1963).
15. Phi Gamma Delta, *The Purple Pilgrim: A Manual for the Educaiton of the Pledges of the Fraternity of Phi Gamma Delta* (Washington, DC: Sauls Lithographic Company, 1970).
16. Phi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, *Garnet and Gold: Reference Manual of the Phi Kappa Alpha Fraternity*, 24<sup>th</sup> Edition (No Publisher Information, 1987).
17. Theta Chi, *The Manual of Theta Chi Fraternity*, 17<sup>th</sup> Edition (Indianapolis, IN: Theta Chi Fraternity, 1998).
18. Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America, *These for Brotherhood*, 13<sup>th</sup> Edition (Evensville, IN: Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Foundation, 2012).

#### Songbooks-

These are collections of songs that are composed by members of the fraternity. At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, there was a great expansion of song writing in fraternity organizations. This was the result of fraternities becoming the main source of student entertainment. It would not have been odd for fraternities to use these songs at parties or to compose musicals for the whole school. They could also be seen in light of rebellion as lyrics speak against the control of

professors over the lives of students in laughable manners. Many of these songs had lyrics that were placed over existing popular musical numbers of the time. They are a great reflection of how fraternities functioned as places of social life for students.

19. Theta Chapter DKE, *Songs of Theta of DKE* (Augusta, Maine: Press of Kennebec Journal, 1899).
20. Council of DKE, *One Hundred Songs of Delta Kappa Epsilon* (New York City: Evening Post Printing House, 1900).
21. Council of DKE, *Songs of DKE* (New York City: G. Schirmer Press, 1917).
22. Beta Theta Pi, *Songs of Beta Theta Pi*, 15<sup>th</sup> Edition (No Publisher Information, 1922).
23. Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America, *Sinfonia Songs: Centennial Edition 1898-1998*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (Evansville, IN: PMA Sinfonia Foundation, 1999).

#### Miscellaneous Items-

These are items that are still within the collection but are not formally included in the other topics. This part of the collections holds mainly certificates, pictures, brochures and other such materials. These items will be listed with description and best guess of the date of the item.

24. Harper's Weekly, The DKE Society at Harvard (January 9, 1892) This is a newspaper article with pictures of what DKE looked like as a chapter at Harvard. It gives insight into fraternities before the standardization of fraternities in 1910. It has pictures of task given to new members that include protesting a play, leading a marching band, and marching down the street with a goat.
25. Delta Kappa Epsilon, Printing Block (.5inch by .5inch) Used for stamping in yearbooks and stationary at Vanderbilt University.
26. Fraternity Salesman Items, A lithographic of Fraternity Pins, a Pendant Example and Heart Pendant (Very Small) These items would be carried by a fraternity goods salesman. A lithographic picture of fraternity pins. The pendant example was a sample of the seal of the fraternity that would be placed on a pendant for a sweetheart that a salesperson would show a student. I also owe the heart pendant that was the final product.
27. Theta Nu Epsilon, Membership Certificates (Two Different Ones) One certificate is from the early age of TNE for the first year it became a four year fraternity (1910) and I also have a certificate from the 1950s that shows a drastic differences in art form for them.
28. Theta Nu Epsilon, Banquet Book (7inches by 4 inches) A small program book for the Alpha Zeta Chapter on Feb. 7, 1918. Gives a view of fraternity parties at the time.
29. Phi Gamma Delta, The Phi Gamma Delta, Vol. 50 No.6 (Cedar Rapids, Iowa: Torch Press, 1928). This is a magazine of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. These were popular between WWI and WWII as a form of communication between brothers. They would catalogue the affairs of the fraternity.
30. Alpha Tau Omega Virginia Beta Chapter, Alpha Tau Omega 1939 (Lexington, VA: ATO Virginia Beta Chapter, 1939). This was a brochure that would have been sent to men

admitted to Washington and Lee University. The idea is that each fraternity would place their best foot forward to recruit new men.

31. University of Mississippi, *The 1979 IFC Rush Book* (1979). This is a rush book with schedule included of the rushing process at the University of Mississippi in 1979.

#### Needed Additions to the Collection:

Instead of listing 5 books that need to be bought, I would rather like to focus on four key areas of growth that I need for my collection. The price of books in my collection do not hold great value in the antique market and the use of funds from this program can be used to buy many books in the categories I wish to grow in. I find my collection limited currently largely to books about my own fraternity, Delta Kappa Epsilon. This is because I have been asked to speak more about it and have further research ongoing. My hope is to expand my focus in branching out to the whole fraternity movement. That is why I think this would be a better method of explaining how I would use these funds to advance the collection.

1. History Books- This area of my collection needs more voices from various fraternities. By gaining these, I will be able to make more comparisons of the views within fraternities about their relationship with society.
2. Pledge Manuals- These are great resources of what fraternities view as fundamental in how they form their brothers. It teaches values and social structures that influence student life.
3. Baird's Manual of American College Fraternities- These were manuals published from 1879 to 1991. They detail all the fraternities active in the country. These books were primary means of understanding the differences between fraternities and membership numbers at colleges and universities.
4. Academic Works- Many of the academic books that I have consulted over the years for projects have been library loans. It would be nice to start to form my own collection of academic works in the field of Greek life and Higher Education.