

A SUMMARY OF THE
EARLY HISTORY OF THE
BETA PHI CHAPTER OF PI
KAPPA PHI EAST
CAROLINA COLLEGE
HONORING OUR 14
FOUNDERS AND THE
EARLY YEARS OF OUR
BROTHERHOOD IN THE
1960'S

“ For some the lamp never flickers,
for them is eternal brotherhood “

A SUMMARY OF THE HISTORY OF BETA PHI CHAPTER (KAPPA PHI LOCAL CHAPTER) PI KAPPA PHI

FRATERNITY – EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

Summary compiled by Cam Frazier (Beta Phi 64) from information largely contained in documents written by Wayne Scott (Kappa 279), "The Early Days Of Pi Kappa Phi At ECU"; Dan Ray (Beta Phi 1), "Early History Of Kappa Phi Local, Beta Phi Colony Of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity"; Alan Fearing (Beta Phi 8), "Kappa Phi Local Fraternity/Beta Phi Colony Of Pi Kappa Fraternity 1961 – 1963"; Bill Marks (Beta Phi 79), "A Tidbit Of Beta Phi History"; Ellis Banks (Beta Phi 114), "Beta Phi History: 1970 To 2013 (Memories and Views Of Former Chapter Advisor Ellis Banks). These are thoughtful and reflective PDF documents and are available on the Beta Phi Web Site: WWW.PiKapps-ECU.com. When new facts and/or memories come to light, additional narratives can be submitted.

In January 1961, Wayne Scott (Kappa 279 and former Archon) was contacted by Durwood Owen, Executive Secretary of Pi Kappa Phi and asked if he would be willing to establish a colony at East Carolina College. Wayne was completing his undergraduate degree at UNC Chapel Hill. The Fraternity would provide a scholarship for graduate school if he agreed to help establish a colony at East Carolina. The Fraternity wanted to try providing a scholarship for someone to attend graduate school at a college/university where Pi Kappa Phi wished to start a new chapter.

At East Carolina, Wayne was joined by Jim Lloyd, a Traveling Counselor for the Fraternity. They began a series of meetings with Dean of Men, Jim Mallory and on February 4, 1961 he gave his approval to start a new chapter. Dean Mallory also helped Wayne and Jim identify some freshmen who had not yet pledged a fraternity. On February 8, Kappa Phi Local Fraternity was established. Wayne and Jim initiated five charter members at the Kenland Motel: Morrie Simpson, Paul Brewer, Dan Ray, Ed Fulford and Chester Boone. On February 15, the colony was officially founded within Pi Kappa Phi. According to Dan Ray, Morrie Simpson disaffiliated after a few weeks, and Ed Fulford and Paul Brewer transferred to Atlantic Christian College at the end of Spring Quarter, 1961.

Wayne, Dan and Chester began an active search for new members and emphasized the importance of finding quality candidates rather than seeking quantity in building the colony's membership. Initially the idea of brotherhood and the future hope of becoming a chapter of Pi Kappa Phi were the selling points to attract new members. For about a year Kappa Phi Colony did not have a chapter room and their meetings were held in Wright Auditorium. The first official meeting was held on February 20th in Wright Building and prior to the meeting, Phil Nance became a pledge. The second meeting was held on March 1st and Tommy Hicks was pledged. At that meeting, Pledge Class officers were elected: Chester Boone, Archon; Phil Nance, Treasurer; Dan Ray, Secretary and Tommy Hicks, Warden. Others

who pledged later and returned for Fall Quarter, 1961 were Bob Hood and Wiley Lewis. By December, 1961 new officers were Phil Nance, Archon; Dan Ray, Treasurer; Chester Boone, Secretary; Tommy Hicks, Warden; Wiley Lewis, Chaplain; and Bob Hood, Historian.

During the chapter's early growth, local realtor A.B. Stallworth (Beta Chapter) agreed to serve as our Chapter Advisor and first Chairman of the Alumni Committee. He graduated in 1921 from Presbyterian College with a degree in economics and mathematics and was valedictorian of his class. He and his wife Dot were frequent guests at our functions. Everyone who worked with A.B. recognized the profound influence he had on the early years of Kappa Phi Colony as well as Beta Phi Chapter. Joining him on the committee were Bill Taft (Tau Chapter) and Dr. Glen Reeder (Alpha Sigma), a faculty member at ECC. Dr. Reeder was also the Faculty Advisor to the Colony. During Fall Quarter 1961, Kappa Phi was successful in leasing our first Chapter Room – the second floor of what was then Beddingfield's Drug Store.

Wayne's role at East Carolina ended with his completion of graduate school in 1962. Wayne subsequently completed Air Force Officer Candidate School in San Antonio, Texas and had assignments in Japan and Langley Air Force Base in Hampton, Virginia.

During the Fall Quarter rush in 1961, the Second Colony pledge class added Mike Cayton, Tony Craft, Charlie Davis, Henry Land, Bruce McLamb, Joe Ratcliffe and Charlie Wohlnick, all of whom became brothers in Kappa Phi Colony except for Tony, and Joe, who left school early. Henry Land transferred to another school before becoming an initiate of Beta Phi Chapter. Mike Cayton left school to join the Marine Corps and was subsequently initiated over two decades later on February 13, 1982 – Beta Phi 370.

The first Rose Queen was Roma Cummings in 1961 and a dinner was held at the Greenville Country Club hosted by A.B. Stallworth to mark the event. Bob Hood first became pinned and then engaged to his wife Linda Crouse, who became our second Rose Queen in 1962. Wiley Lewis married his high school sweetheart, Donna Bell from Morehead City, who became our third Rose Queen in 1963. Wiley became the first member of Kappa Phi Colony to get married.

(For additional information see the attachment, "The Early Days of Pi Kappa Phi at ECU" written by Wayne Scott, 9/9/2012).

Winter Quarter 1961 rush produced the Third Colony pledge class which consisted of the following new pledges: Otis Bailey, Wayne Bailey, Alan Fearing, Sam McCain, Steve Ratcliffe and George Resseguie. Wayne and Steve became brothers in Kappa Phi but dropped out of school or transferred before being initiated into Beta Phi Chapter.

Spring Quarter rush of 1962 resulted in the Fourth Colony pledge class. New pledges who accepted bids were Dan Bowers, Allan Jones, Chuck Lancaster, Charlie Martin and Freo Webster. Allan became a brother in the Colony but left school prior to the Chartering Ceremony. His name actually appears on the Installation Banquet Program as one of 17 (not 14) brothers who were initiated in Beta Phi. Chuck Lancaster was never initiated into Beta Phi Chapter.

The Fifth Colony pledge class during Fall Quarter, 1962 added Miles Barefoot and David Knoch as pledges.

(Alan Fearing addresses these colony pledge class issues in detail in his written narrative of "Kappa Phi Local Fraternity/Beta Phi Colony of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity 1961 – 1963, history").

On September 17, 1962, the first fall meeting was held and the charting of Beta Phi was scheduled for February 16, 1963. At the December 5, 1962 meeting, the Greenville Presbyterian Church was announced as our Chartering Ritual site. Also at that meeting, the following officers were elected for the coming year: Bob Hood – Archon, George Resseguie - Treasurer, Freo Webster – Secretary, Phil Nance – Warden, Otis Bailey – Historian, and Alan Fearing – Chaplain. These officers would become the first official slate of officers in Beta Phi Chapter.

Durward Owen selected the South Dining Hall on campus for the Installation Banquet to be held on Saturday, February 16, 1963. The College Union would be the site for the "Installation Tea" on Sunday, February 17th and Alpha Phi Sorority offered to host the event. The National Council of Pi Kappa Phi met on Saturday and Sunday the weekend of the Chartering. Newly initiated Brothers attended Sunday services at the First Presbyterian Church.

The Beta Phi Chapter Charter Members were initiated by Mu Chapter from Duke University on Saturday, February 16, 1963. The Installation Banquet Program lists Dan Bowers, Allan Jones and Jimmy Johnson among those to be initiated, but that information was incorrect. They were never initiated. The Charter Members are as follows:

- Dan Ray
- Bob Hood
- Wiley Lewis
- Charlie Davis
- Bruce McLamb
- Charlie Wohlnick
- Otis Bailey
- Alan Fearing
- George Resseguie
- Charlie Martin
- Freo Webster
- Sam McCain
- Miles Barefoot
- David Knoch

The Installation Banquet took place the afternoon of the 16th and the Master of Ceremonies was Durward Owen (XI Chapter), Executive Secretary of Pi Kappa Phi. The Charter was presented to Archon Bob Hood by Pi Kappa Phi National President John Deimler (Alpha Upsilon Chapter), the Installing Officer. Also speaking was W. Bernard Jones (Alpha Chapter), Past National President of Pi

Kappa Phi. The presentation of the Charter was made in the presence of the National Council of Pi Kappa Phi. Also in attendance were Greenville Mayor Charles King, East Carolina College President Dr. Leo Jenkins, and Pi Kapp Assistant Executive Secretary Ted Scharfenstein, Jr. (Beta Beta Chapter). Other honored local alumni guests included A.B. Stallworth, Dr. Glen Reeder and William Taft.

(For additional information see the "Early History of Kappa Phi Local, Beta Phi Colony of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity" compiled by Dan Ray as well as Alan Fearing's narrative, "Kappa Phi Local Fraternity/Beta Phi Colony of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity 1961 – 1963").

The first Chapter Room was located over Beddingfield's Pharmacy at the corner of Fifth Street and Evans Street. Per agreement with the new owner of the old C & V Restaurant, Lynn Stinson, the chapter agreed to remove the booths, tables, bars, etc. for use in the new Chapter Room. The old restaurant became the new Rathskellar. Many memorable parties were held there but one will always be remembered by those in attendance. Some black, creosote netting had been acquired to hang on the ceiling to enhance the "ambiance" of the room. On this particular night, the highly flammable netting caught on fire and produced a dense, black pungent smoke. Everyone was able to exit the building safely and the Greenville Fire Department extinguished the fire. Subsequently, Mr. Beddingfield decided we should vacate the premises.

The second Chapter Room, "The Niche", was located on the second floor over Ken's Furniture Store on Dickenson Avenue and about twice the size of the first Chapter Room. Deiner's Bakery was located next door to Ken's Furniture and directly under the "The Niche". Phil Lomax (Beta Phi 32), a commercial art major, created the signage for the "The Niche" as well as painting the names of the brothers in each pledge class on a side wall. Aside from having to pay for an outside fire escape and the occasional leakage from our bathrooms located above the back room of Deiner's Bakery, many good times were enjoyed by brothers, pledges and their dates. Great jukebox! Several pledge projects resulted in bar upgrades and a functioning traffic stop light from the Sanford area and subsequently confiscated by the Greenville Police Department.

The first fraternity house was located at 1301 E. Fifth Street in close proximity to the Student Union. A.B. Stallworth, Dr. Reeder and other local alumni assisted with the purchase and financing of a white two-story frame house. A small sun room with a private entrance on the side with an entrance into the living room was converted into a bed room for our housemother, Katherine Barnhill. ECC required all fraternities and sororities off campus to employ a house mother. Mrs. Barnhill was with us for more than 5 years leaving after ECU dropped the housemother requirement in 1968. Mrs. Barnhill died in 1970 – Ellis Banks (Beta Phi 114) and Robert Parker (Beta Phi 72) attended her funeral. There were two full bathrooms, one downstairs and one upstairs. Mrs. Barnhill never seemed to complain about having to share the downstairs bathroom with the rest of us. There were five bedrooms in the house. Four were located upstairs and one larger one, which slept six, was located downstairs. Three of the upstairs bedrooms could sleep four persons each and the fourth slept two for a combined total of twenty available sleeping spaces. Nineteen brothers and pledges of Beta Phi Chapter moved into the house at the beginning of Spring Quarter, 1963.

(For additional information, see Alan Fearing's narrative - "Kappa Phi Local Fraternity/Beta Phi Colony of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity 1961 - 1963").

Dr. Tom Sayetta (Beta Phi 85), Physics Department, was recruited by Everett Cameron (Beta Phi 29) to be our Faculty Advisor (1966 to 1970).

In 1969 Bill Marks (Beta Phi 79) and Archon, began working with A.B. Stallworth to complete a property appraisal project for a real estate class. A.B. and Bill went to 803 Hooker Road for the selected property. At the same time, the Chapter had come under increasing pressure from neighborhood complaints around our house on Fifth Street. Also, the Chapter house had experienced significant wear from use by the Brotherhood since 1963, so a move was on the horizon. A.B. and Bill both concluded that this would be an ideal location for our new Chapter house given the resources available to Beta Phi at that time.

(For additional information, see Bill Marks's "A Tidbit of Beta Phi History").

During Spring Quarter, 1970 Durward Owen and others from the National Office in Charlotte visited the Brotherhood at 1301 E. Fifth Street to view and discuss the purchase of the house at 803 Hooker Road. A.B. again assisted the Brotherhood with his real estate expertise and local contacts. The house was purchased and the move from Fifth Street was made in Fall Quarter, 1970. The house was traditional, ranch-style family dwelling with a basement and a pond in front. There was a detached block house in the rear suitable for additional living space. There was living space for approximately 20 brothers/pledges. The Brotherhood felt that this was the perfect location away from neighbors and close oversight from the University.

The stress of using the house as living quarters for twenty and use as our Chapter house began to reflect significant deterioration. In the mid-seventies the block house was demolished and at some point after that, the heating system in the basement caused a house fire. No one was injured and much of what was not burned suffered smoke and water damage. Insurance paid to have the house repaired and the Chapter once again was active on the ECU campus. In 1978, the Chapter experienced leadership and financial difficulties and was now in a dangerous situation for continued existence on campus.

That summer a group of alumni and Chapter leaders met with representatives from the National Office to work out a plan to once again become financially stable. Ellis Banks agreed to become the Chapter Advisor and began to encourage more alumni to become involved with the Chapter. Meetings were held in Greenville, Raleigh, Greensboro and Charlotte that resulted in greater participation of alumni at homecoming and Founder's Day events. In a few years an Alumni Association was formed and Bill Cambell (Beta Phi 20) was elected the First President. Annual meetings were held at Founder's Day. When more alumni began to participate, the Beta Phi Alumni Chapter was chartered on February 24, 1981 after 30 Beta Phi Alumni signed a petition to the National Office. Jon Burt (Beta Phi 102) was elected as the first President and Jim Britt (Beta Phi 101) was elected Secretary/Treasurer. The Alumni Chapter began a fundraising campaign that led to the removal of the old house and subsequent construction of the present house. By February 1988,

\$53,000 had been raised. The Alumni Chapter put in \$38,000 to assist Pi Kappa Phi Properties in financing the construction of the new Chapter House which was available to move in Fall Semester, 1988. The new house was dedicated in February, 1989 and was the first house built primarily for use as a fraternity house at ECU. The Dedication Plaque has a quote from Dan Ray (Beta Phi 1) – "For Some The Flame Never Flickers, And For Those Few, There Is Eternal Brotherhood".

During the mid-eighties, the house became too dilapidated for brothers to live in. The Chapter met on campus during the time the house was not suitable to occupy. The legal drinking age was changed from eighteen to twenty-one causing significant stress for all fraternities, sororities and universities in North Carolina. New rules and regulations from school administrations, national offices and insurance companies made it impossible any fraternity/sorority to function as it had in the past.

The new Chapter House was a great achievement constructed with alumni funds and funding from Pi Kappa Phi Properties. It was thought that the Chapter had negotiated a "rent to own" contract with Pi Kappa Phi Properties but only to find out years later that it was a typical rent agreement. The title to the house was retained by Pi Kappa Phi Properties. The house began to reflect the years of brotherhood living. The location away from campus and the attractiveness of apartment living became a negative issue for living on Hooker Road. Also the surrounding area was changing and unfortunately not for the better. It was always a challenge to keep the old and new houses occupied during the summer and so security during these vacant times was difficult.

Beta Phi's "Toga Party" fundraisers helped to keep the Chapter financially stable for a number of years. A deck and hot tub were installed in the back but still could not offset the lack of brothers unwilling to reside at the Chapter House. Although plans were developed for an addition to enhance the house, the Alumni did not feel that they could continue to work on improvements. During the late nineties the Beta Phi Housing Corporation negotiated with Pi Kappa Phi Properties to purchase the house. Alumni ownership could not resolve the ongoing issues of an aging property with mechanical problems in maintaining a desirable residence for the brothers. Founders Day was moved to Wilmington during spring/summer time frame to encourage more alumni involvement. It is a credit to the active Brothers and Alumni to have maintained the stability of the Chapter as long as they have. This is a difficult task even with dedicated Chapter Advisors and Alumni.

The current situation of regaining the Chapter's Charter with the close supervision of the University and the National Office is a chance for a new beginning. Beta Phi Alumni have demonstrated a high degree of dedication and leadership in the past 50 years. The next 50 years will be a challenging time for Beta Phi Chapter but with the continued commitment from our Alumni to ensure strong undergraduate leaders are in place, we can be sure that there will be a bright future!

(For addition information, see Ellis Bank's narrative – "Beta Phi History: 1970 to 2013 (Memories and Views of Former Chapter Advisor, Ellis Banks)". Additionally, Jim Britt (Beta Phi 101) provided information on the establishment of the Alumni Chapter.

Kappa Phi Local Fraternity/Beta Phi Colony Of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity 1961-1963

Introduction

In as accurate a manner as possible, this document will attempt to describe some of the early historical events that became the foundation of the legacy of Beta Phi Chapter of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity at East Carolina College and, subsequently, East Carolina University.

I have quoted from many documents, from recent emails from brothers, and from verbal conversations with brothers. If inaccuracies exist, they were not intentional. Should anyone discover any inaccuracies, I would very much appreciate their being brought to my attention so that a correction can be made.

In the Beginning . . .

With the idea that East Carolina College provided fertile grounds for the establishment of a new colony to ultimately become a chapter affiliated with Pi Kappa Phi National Fraternity, Durward W. Owen (Xi #372), then Executive Secretary of Pi Kappa Phi National Fraternity, made a telephone call to Wayne Nelson Scott (Kappa #279). Wayne was in the middle of taking final exams at the University of North Carolina in January, 1961. Durward asked Wayne what his plans were following his imminent graduation from UNC. According to Wayne, "He asked if I was going to graduate school and I said I wasn't. He then asked if I was interested in graduate school and again I said no. He then asked if I would be interested if Pi Kappa Phi would provide a scholarship for me to attend. I then asked which school he had in mind. When he said East Carolina I immediately accepted and asked when he wanted me to go to Greenville. Durward said 'next week' and I said 'I'll be there.'"

The First Colony Pledge Class

A photograph exists in the Pi Kappa Phi National Office in Charlotte with the following handwritten notes on the reverse:

"First Five Pledges Beta Phi Colony - February 8, 1961
Left to Right: Maurry [sic] Simpson, Paul Brewer, Dan Ray,
Ed Fulford, Wayne Scott, Chester Boone"

These were the first five pledges into Kappa Phi Local/Beta Phi Colony. According to Dan Ray, Morrell "Morrie" Simpson disaffiliated after a few short weeks. Ed Fulford and Paul Brewer also disaffiliated very soon thereafter and ultimately transferred to Atlantic Christian College in Wilson at the end of Spring Quarter, 1961.

Of these early meetings in 1961, Wayne Scott remembers the following timeline:

- Wayne and Jim Lloyd, a Traveling Counselor with Pi Kappa Phi, met several times with Dean of Men, Jim Mallory, and on February 4, 1961, Dean Mallory gave his approval to start a new chapter. Dean Mallory also assisted in locating young men who had not yet joined a fraternity.

- Four days later, on February 8, 1961, "Kappa Phi local fraternity was born when I initiated [as pledges] five charter members."
- On February 15, the colony was officially founded within Pi Kappa Phi as its newest colony.
- The first official meeting of Kappa Phi Local/Beta Phi Colony was held in Wright Building on February 20, 1961. Just prior to that meeting, there was "... a pledge ceremony at which Phil Nance became a pledge of Beta Phi Colony and
- At our second meeting, held on March 1, Tommy Hicks was pledged. At that meeting Pledge Class Officers were elected: Chester Boone, President; Phil Nance, Treasurer; Dan Ray, Secretary; and Tommy Hicks, Warden."

According to early Kappa Phi Local brotherhood meeting minutes, Wiley Lewis and Bob Hood formally became pledges on March 27, 1961.

On May 1, 1961, all pledges eligible to become brothers in Kappa Phi Local were given a final exam. The material they were required to know had been assigned by Wayne Scott. One week later, on May 8, the last pledge meeting was conducted.

On May 15, 1961, the first initiation of eligible pledges occurred, and the following young men became the first brothers of Kappa Phi Local:

Chester Boone
 Dan Ray
 Phil Nance
 Tommy Hicks
 Bobby Hood
 Wiley Lewis

Of that original group of five pledges in the February 5 picture with Wayne Scott, only Chester Boone and Dan Ray returned to ECC for Fall Quarter classes in 1961. Others who pledged later and who also returned for Fall Quarter were Phil Nance, Tommy Hicks, Bob Hood, and Wiley Lewis. Interestingly, had Chester Boone not transferred to the University of Richmond but instead stayed at ECC through Winter Quarter 1962-1963, he would have been initiated at the Chartering Ceremony and designated Beta Phi #1. His last name preceded Dan Ray's alphabetically, and that is how initiate numbers are assigned. Chester would be initiated as an alumnus almost two decades later on February 12, 1983 as Beta Phi #400.

Kappa Phi Local Fraternity Pin

No one remembers who designed the Kappa Phi Local fraternity pin. However, probably everyone who fulfilled the requirements of his pledge period owned one and wore it proudly. Made of gold, it was a standalone pin and did not have a small, fragile chain attached to any kind of chapter designation. Its simple but elegant design was in the shape of a diamond. Prominent gold borders surrounded the face, which consisted of the gold Greek letters Kappa and Phi being superimposed vertically on a background of light (Carolina?) blue. Wayne Scott refuses to admit to pushing for the use of one of his UNC school colors for this design, but the coincidence is oddly compelling.

The picture below shows one of our Kappa Phi Local pins at left in a locked display case on the first floor of the Pi Kappa Phi National Office in Charlotte. It is interesting that ours is the only Colony fraternity pin on display. Although how it was acquired by the National Office remains a mystery, a best guess would be that a brother in Kappa Phi Local may have donated it after he was initiated into Beta Phi Chapter and began wearing his new Pi Kappa Phi pin.



The First Pledge Trip

When they occurred, pledge trips would usually take place at the very end of a pledge period and would include all the pledges who were eligible to become brothers. These trips would normally begin on a Friday and end late Sunday afternoon or evening when the group arrived back on campus. Each pledge class member was assigned a different task to complete before the members returned from their trips. There were usually specific places (i.e., other Pi Kappa Phi chapters) that were assigned as intermediate destinations.

Objectives of the first pledge trip were assigned by Wayne Scott, and the trip through Virginia was made in a car owned by Wiley Lewis (more on that later). Bob Hood recalls going to Blacksburg, where he was required to be photographed dressed as an Indian and selling cigars on a downtown street corner. That photograph remains elusively missing to this day.

Wiley Lewis, in a December 14, 2012 email to me, remembers some of the events of the first pledge trip:

"Chester had to shave in a restaurant. We all ordered lunch and he ordered a bowl of hot water. When he started shaving, the owner threw us out. We had to obtain a military school hat. At Hargrave Military Academy [Chatham, VA], we asked a cadet for directions. It was at that time that we relieved him of his hat. I had to ride a horse and did so at an all-girls school. Don't remember the name. We had to obtain ladies undergarments from this school. We had to get permission from the house mother to call on the girls' dorm. Since I had been driving and was the only sober one, I was elected to call on the house mother. She was seated in a big room at a giant desk. The room was filled with giant paintings on the walls, and as I was talking with her, I noticed her looking around me. I looked back and there was Dan Ray in shorts, his hands folded behind his back looking up at the pictures. She said, 'Do you know him?' I said, 'I've never seen him before in my life.' I don't believe she bought it."

Dan Ray remembers being in Wiley's car for the required military hat grab at Hargrave. Wiley was driving slowly down a street in Chatham, VA with the top down. He slowed to a crawl so that Dan could ask directions of the unsuspecting cadet. Dan was sitting up on the top of the back seat behind Wiley and singing something like "Mimi, The Pi Kapp Widow." When the cadet leaned in closer to speak to Dan to give him the directions, Dan did a perfect hat snatch and yelled "Hit it!" Wiley simultaneously released the clutch and floored the accelerator, leaving two black 6" parallel ribbons of rubber on the pavement and a speechless, hatless cadet in his wake. Wakes were something Wiley knew about.

Wiley's Car

Wiley owned one of the fastest cars at ECC. It was a red 1961 Dodge Dart Phoenix convertible with a white top, identical to the one pictured below. Under the hood was an extraordinarily powerful 383 cu. in. 325 HP V-8 engine, boosted in its performance by two four barrel carbs, ram induction, and a Hurst three-on-the-floor manual transmission.





There was one road trip in Wiley's car that several of the early Kappa Phi's will recall. We had visited one or more of the Pi Kappa Phi chapters in the Triangle area and were on our way back to Greenville. Someone decided that at the next available opportunity, we should snag an unattended galvanized milk container as a really cool chapter room adornment. Those containers seemed to be left out along the road sides not infrequently, and, just guessing here, but they must have contained about 10 gallons when full.



As we rounded a curve on a rural stretch of US-70 East, a target of opportunity was sighted, and, with the top down in Wiley's car, hoisting it up and into the back seat was a simple task. One of us did that, and we were on our way again. What we couldn't have known was that that container had not been used for storing milk for quite some time. Instead, its purpose for existence had been relegated to that of a somewhat lesser importance by its previous owner. It had last been used as a repository for the remains of someone's fish after they had been cleaned. The container had probably sat out in the sun for several days, a good distance from anyone's house, allowing the contents to ripen nicely. The only problem was that we didn't know about this until we were doing about 65 mph down US-70 in rural Johnston County. Wiley's top being down allowed a down flow of air into the back seat area and into the topless milk can, which began emitting not only its physical contents (a blizzard of dried fish scales) but its other equally offensive contents – namely an malodorous aroma most non-fishermen would be hard pressed to describe. It's still not clear why that can was thought to be such a great chapter room ornament. Possibly as a rudimentary ice container for chilling a couple of six packs? But it was dutifully taken back to Greenville, cleaned, and made serviceable for something. Wiley remembers "... the fish scales flying out like crazy. I also remember two city policemen hitting their siren that day. I remember the relief I felt when I saw them smiling in my rear view mirror. They waved and said take it easy. That was in Smithfield."

I remember driving Wiley's car by myself one day in Pitt County when I was a freshman. At that time, I had rarely driven anything faster than my mother's 1956 dark green Plymouth 6-cylinder 4-door sedan with three on the column. After I pledged, I knew from riding with Wiley (my big brother) what the capabilities of this amazing car probably were, but I wanted to find out for myself. Locating a fairly long, straight stretch of road, I gunned it in first gear. Experiencing the rush produced by the sudden acceleration that followed was somewhat akin to a catapult launch from an aircraft carrier, which I would learn something about in a few years. As the odometer reached about 40, I hit the clutch, slammed Mr. Hurst into second, and floored the accelerator once again. When I reached 95 on the meter just a few seconds later, I got cold feet and backed off, as I had never seen 95 while driving ANY car, particularly one in second gear with still more to give.

The Second Colony Pledge Class

During Fall Quarter rush in 1961, bids were extended to and accepted by Mike Cayton (Raleigh, NC), Tony Craft (Hickory, NC), Charlie Davis (Seven Springs, NC), Henry Land (Winston-Salem, NC), Bruce McLamb (Raleigh, NC), Joe Ratcliffe (Raleigh, NC), and Charlie Wohlnick (Belleville, NJ). Tony Craft and Joe Ratcliffe did not become brothers in Kappa Phi Local. It is unclear whether they left school or depledged. Of the remaining five pledges, Henry Land became a Kappa Phi Local brother but transferred to another school before becoming an initiate in Beta Phi Chapter. Mike Cayton left school early to join the Marine Corps. Mike was subsequently initiated over two decades later on February 13, 1982 and became Beta Phi #370.

Bruce remembers that one of the reasons Mr. Beddingfield wanted us out of the chapter room we were renting from him was because of the apparent dislocation of ceiling tiles in his business below, which, he contended was the result of our dancing overhead. Some would say that there is probably a kernel of truth in that allegation.

Bruce owned an early '60's vintage white Triumph TR-4 convertible, an excellent little two-seater that saw much use around campus as well as on frequent fraternity trips to Atlantic Beach and elsewhere.

Bruce, Charlie, and Charlie recall that their pledge trip was made possible because of a 1959 VW bus driven by Charlie Davis. Charlie describes the paint scheme as a two-tone flamingo (base) and ivory (top) arrangement. Their trip took them first to the Triangle area where Mike Cayton was required to have a picture made of him kissing a coed on the front porch of a girl's dorm on East Campus at Duke. By the time they arrived at Duke, darkness had arrived also. Charlie Wohlnick was the camera operator and remembers several unused flash bulbs popping out of the camera until he finally realized that he was hitting the flash bulb release rather than the shutter release. Their route later that night took them southwest from Durham to the Pinehurst area, where Charlie Davis was required to have a picture made of him teeing off at some golf course. More night time photography was

necessary. Charlie Wohlneck notes that because he was the only "Yankee" in the pledge class, he was required to go to Columbia, SC and "surrender" to the Governor. Apparently, the Governor was out of town, so Charlie actually "surrendered" instead to the State Treasurer on a Saturday morning. Bruce remembers that after leaving Columbia, the group visited the College of Charleston before returning to Greenville.

Kappa Phi Local teamed with Alpha Phi Sorority in assembling a float for the 1962 ECC Homecoming parade. We were allowed to use a large tobacco warehouse on the north side of the Tar River for this project. Charlie Wohlneck remembers that he met his future wife (Charlyn Billings, an Alpha Phi from Durham) during that joint effort, but they didn't start dating until after Homecoming. Charlie goes on to say that he didn't get to wear his new fraternity pin for very long, because he pinned Charlyn about a month or so after he received it in February, 1963.

The Third Colony Pledge Class

Winter Quarter rush in 1961 saw Kappa Phi Local add another group of six pledges: Otis Bailey (Graham, NC), Wayne Bailey (Goldsboro, NC), Alan Fearing (Durham, NC), Sam McCain (Elkin, NC), Steve Ratcliffe (Smithfield, NC), and George Resseguie (Sanford, NC). Wayne Bailey and Steve Ratcliffe became brothers in Kappa Phi Local but either dropped out of school or transferred before being initiated into Beta Phi Chapter. Steve Ratcliffe was voted the Best Pledge of his pledge class.

The early 1962 pledge trip involved all six of these guys traveling around NC and VA, visiting numerous Pi Kappa Phi chapters as well as schools for young women only. I remember having to have my picture taken with my arm around some smiling, skeptical, but cooperative, coed at Sweetbriar and also on the tip of a diving board over a swimming pool in a shirt and tie. The trip was made possible because George Resseguie came to school with a 1957 Nash Rambler station wagon, similar to the one below, which would seat three in the front seat and three in the back seat. The back end was crammed full of luggage. Somehow, George's car acquired the name "The Red Disease." George remembers that we were at Nags Head during this pledge trip, and that is where Steve Ratcliffe "ruined his ankle." No further details appear to be available.



participated, even though he was never initiated into Beta Phi Chapter. In that same 1963 *Buccaneer*, his picture also appears next to that of Allan Jones on one of the two pages dedicated to Pi Kappa Phi.

Chuck's April 12, 1962 diary entry notes that pledge class officers were elected, and they were as follows: President – Chuck Lancaster, Secretary – Dan Bowers, Treasurer – Freo Webster, Chaplain – Allan Jones.

Charlie Martin's 1961 black Plymouth Valiant with a slant six engine, similar to the one below, was seen around campus when he returned for Fall Quarter classes in 1962. But if there was a pledge trip in that car, or any car, neither Freo nor Charlie remembers one.



Freo remembers his Help Week by relating what he and the other members of his pledge class were forced to endure. Each of them had to acquire a large, empty burlap bag from somewhere like an agricultural feed store, cut holes in the closed end for their arms and their heads and wear them as their sole article of clothing. The venue of where this dress code was enforced seems to have been only at the fraternity house. Wearing something without a Coffman's or a Steinbeck's label in the collar was enough of an affront at the time. However, things got even worse. As the week progressed, the very loose fit of this garment caused a painfully abrasive chafing to certain body parts, a further description of which is perhaps not necessary at this time.

Freo also recalls that he had always been quite fond of the number 10. Beta Phi initiation numbers have always been assigned alphabetically by last name. So, when it became clear that Charlie Martin's Beta Phi initiation number would most likely be #10 and Freo's would be #11, Freo lobbied assiduously behind the scenes to try having his number exchanged with that of Charlie Martin. Wasn't going to happen.

The Fifth Colony Pledge Class

Fall Quarter, 1962 saw bids accepted by junior Miles Barefoot and freshman David Knoch. This was the smallest pledge class of Kappa Phi Local, but it became the only one in which 100% of those who pledged became brothers in Kappa Phi Local **AND** Beta Phi Chapter.

Miles distinguished himself as a member of the ECC swimming team and remembers that because he and Dave were in the last Colony pledge class and because there were only the two of them, they weren't hassled too badly by the brothers.

The Fourth Colony Pledge Class

Spring Quarter of 1962 saw another successful rush, which culminated in five bids being issued to Dan Bowers (Norlina, NC), Allan Jones (Sunbury, NC), Chuck Lancaster (Windsor, NC), Charlie Martin (Cerro Gordo, NC), and Freo Webster (Graham, NC). Charlie (later known affectionately as the "Cerro Gordo Flash") and Freo were excellent athletes, both having participated in various sports in high school.

Chuck Lancaster created a pledgeship diary, a partial yellow-paged carbon copy of which was discovered among fraternity memorabilia half a century later by Bruce McLamb. This diary consists of pithy, daily entries that pertain solely to Chuck's experiences as a pledge in Kappa Phi Local Fraternity. Unfortunately, it ends in mid-sentence at the bottom of page 34. And no one, other than Chuck, knows who might have the remaining pages. Bruce has no recollection about how this document came to him or what happened to any remaining pages. Chuck does note in his diary that he has the original.

Among other things, Chuck's diary reveals that

- the pledging ceremony was held at the Methodist Student Center on the evening of Monday, April 9, 1962.
- the pledge period would last 12 weeks (with a test each week)
- the pledging fee was \$2.00
- monthly pledge class dues were \$6.00
- the fine for missing a pledge class meeting was \$5.00
- each pledge was required to "... Have change for \$.25 at all times and carry matches."

According to an article appearing in the February, 1963 issue of *The Star and Lamp*, Allan, Chuck, Charlie, and Freo were initiated into the Brotherhood of Kappa Phi Local in October, 1962.

Although Allan and Chuck both became brothers in Kappa Phi Local, it is believed that they left school or disaffiliated from Kappa Phi Local for some reason prior to the chartering ceremony in February, 1963. Allan's name actually appears on the Installation Banquet Program as one of 17 (not 14) brothers who were to be initiated into Beta Phi Chapter. It appears as though information thought to be correct at the time was sent to the printing company. Then, corrections to the names of those being initiated were either never submitted or were submitted after the printing deadline.

What happened to Dan Bowers is less clear. Since his name is also erroneously listed on the Installation Banquet Program, he most likely did become a brother in Kappa Phi Local. But his name was not included in the previously mentioned February, 1963 article in *The Star and Lamp*. A senior photo of Dan in the 1964 *Buccaneer* indicates that he did remain in school for at least part of that year. But for some reason, he must have dropped his affiliation as a brother of Kappa Phi Local.

As a freshman pledge in Kappa Phi Local, Charlie Martin remembers one night when he was riding in the right front seat of Chuck Lancaster's well-appointed two door white Chrysler. Sam McCoin, also a freshman, remembers being in the center front seat. The purpose of that trip was to drop Mike Cayton (in the back seat with two other pledges) somewhere on the south side of Ayden and to take Charlie Wohlneck out to Port Terminal and drop him there. As they were rounding a curve at an inappropriately high rate of speed, Chuck's diary notes that "I ran off the left-hand side of the road and into a field - just missing a couple of signs. Sam had put his foot on the floor to brace himself, but what he didn't know was that he was holding the accelerator on the floor. We raced through the field at 85 miles an hour and back up on the highway." Both Charlie and Sam have corroborated the above incident.

Many early Beta Phi's remember Chuck Lancaster as a pledge during his junior year (1961-1962). Oddly, in the 1963 *Buccaneer*, next to his senior year picture, he lists Pi Kappa Phi as one of the activities in which he

Over the summer of 1962, George was able to upgrade his ride. He returned to school with a 1960 Triumph TR-3A, painted in British racing green, similar to the one below.



Bob Hood remembers that he and George drove in George's TR-3A to and from Lansing, MI in August, 1962, where the two of them represented Kappa Phi Colony at the 29th Supreme Chapter meeting.

George asked in an email if anyone had had any contact with Chester Boone. George was interested, because "He was my Big Brother. He also ran over me, literally, when we were playing softball and my knee hasn't been the same since. I'm having replacement surgery in March [2013]." I responded that, to my knowledge, no one had had any recent contact with Chester but that Chester had been initiated on February 12, 1983 as an alumnus initiate and was designated Beta Phi #400.

While Sam McCain was a pledge, he remembers that Bob Hood was able to abduct him and another pledge one evening and take them out into rural Pitt County. Bob dropped them off with instructions to check in with him at his dorm room when they made it back to campus. Sam and the other pledge used extraordinary hitchhiking skills and actually arrived back at Bob's dorm room before Bob. They were sitting in Bob's room when Bob walked in. According to Sam, Bob was so angry that expletives were heard as he threw his keys across the room.

Sam also recalls that until Chuck Lancaster became a pledge, there was a decidedly unfair abduction advantage that tilted in favor of the brothers, several of whom (Wiley, Bob, Chester, Charlie Davis) owned cars. Chuck's white two-door Chrysler chrome barge, coupled with Chuck's eager willingness to engage in similar reciprocal abductions of brothers, somewhat evened the playing field in that arena.

Conversation with Mike Cayton (Beta Phi #370) 12/15/12

Mike was a member of the Fall Quarter, 1961 Kappa Phi Local pledge class, and, perhaps because of his father's occupation, Mike was elected Chaplain of his pledge class.

During that time, Mike's father was a pastor of a Baptist Church in Raleigh and also a member of the Arthritis Foundation in NC. In 1963, Mike's father asked the Colony brotherhood to organize a local Greenville fundraiser for the Arthritis Foundation. Mike remembers that it was a successful fundraiser.

The owner of what was then Greenville's new Rathskellar was a fellow named Lynn Stinson. He had come from Raleigh and knew Dan, Bruce, and Mike. At one point, Mike and Lynn entered into a pool bet: best two out of three games of straight pool. Mike lost. The unfortunate consequence of that loss was that Mike had to have his head completely shaved to the skin, which he did. In an attempt to marginalize the effect of this loss, he started wearing a hat. Mike remembers that one of us ran by him, perhaps at one of our parties, and snagged his hat, and "... when I caught him, I almost killed him!" Might have been somewhat of an exaggeration.

Mike also remembers being with a couple of other unfortunate Kappa Phi's when they were abducted by some of the rest of us, stripped naked, and dropped on some lonely Pitt County road at night.

Mike served in the Marine Corps in Viet Nam from 12/66 – 1/68

Emails from George Resseguie

Responding to my email request for memorable stories about the early days of Kappa Phi Local, George Resseguie sent several emails. Most of his recollections are noted below:

"Some stories that come to mind...not sure they are in the 1961-1963 time frame:

Mike Cayton, who I roomed with in 1962-1963, and I doing some kind of financial report (I was the treasurer) for our initiation as BP chapter. This was after a visit to Miss Dora's. For some reason, we did it by flashlight -- don't know why.

Bob Hood and I driving to Lansing, Michigan in 1962 to attend the PKP annual convention. Little did I know that in 9 years I would be moving to Michigan to work for Ford and would live there for 33 years (1971-2004). One of my daughters attended Michigan State. Every time I drove on MI Rt. 23 I thought of our ride up there with Bob in my TR-3.

I remember going to a Rose Ball event and staying in my tuxedo for about an hour. Then, I put on an NC State swimming tee shirt, some beads, my tuxedo jacket and went to party. My goodness those were good times.

Our first chapter party room over a drug store in town. At the first party I attended, I went outside during the party and you could see the floor moving up and down!

Singing onstage with some of the bands we hired. Did we sing with Clyde McPhatter?

I have a clear recollection of chatting with him [Otis Redding] while he was sitting in the passenger seat of a black Cadillac out in a farmer's field. At that time he had the "Otis Redding Revue" and played at many colleges throughout the south during the 60's (found this info on Google).

John Thompson bringing 3 chickens to 1301 E. 5th street, one of which was a crowing rooster. Apparently, he had never seen a chicken before.

Phil Lomax's artistic talent -- what a gift...and a loss. Phil was my little brother. On one occasion when we were living in the new dorm with suites, he was very troubled by jock itch. I recommended something called "Blis-Tax" as a treatment. I warned him that it really hurt when applied, but he doused himself with it and later then spent several hours howling and running outside to get some windy relief.

John Gaffney running through one of the wings of the girls' dorms. We would drop him off at one end and drive to the other and pick him up. He did this repeatedly.

Ray Lewis used a cardboard box to hold his clothes on quarter. Ray was a legend unto himself. I liked his sister Cookie -- she was really smart and a lot of fun. Ray loved Diane Weaver and I was told they continued their relationship long after ECU.

Chip Butler and I taking on everyone in bridge...and usually winning. Really can't believe Chip is gone.

John T., after a visit to the netherworld to drink moonshine, making a deposit in his bed. He swears he didn't do it, but he showed the treasure to me the morning after. To Richard Scott's disbelief, John also kept a pet squirrel in his room for some time. After some time, I think the squirrel gnawed some lead paint off one of the beds and died. JT was distraught.

Making "PJ" for everyone -- gallon jar, etc. The girls loved it and what could be better. Parties on the "River"; I was surprised anyone made it back to town.

Richard Scott out-grossing my date from NY at one of our parties. She challenged him, after several glasses of PJ, and he dominated her.

Remember when the cop pulled us over in some small town [during our pledge trip] and we all got out of the car. He hollered at us to "get back in the car", and we fled back into the car like we were on fire. I forget who was driving or why the cop pulled us over. I think we put a bunch of driftwood on the rambler and took it back to ECC. I was just happy to get rid of the burlap undies!

Taking Flip Elliott on a snipe hunt out on one of the golf courses -- we chased the "birds" down the fairway a couple of times and told him to hold his burlap bag about 2 inches above the ground so they would trip into the bag. We saw him scurrying around on the green trying to catch the birds. We left him out there and parked on a side road to watch him trudge back to town.

What was Steve's last name from our pledge class? He ruined his ankle down at Nags Head during our pledge trip in the red Rambler."

And in Conclusion . . .

Special thanks to everyone who helped me compile this document. You know who you were. Those first two years in Kappa Phi Local were truly special. And now, exactly 50 years to the day and date later, we all celebrate our brotherhood and shared experiences at our Founders Day Celebration.

Submitted by Alan Fearing, Beta Phi #8, on February 16, 2013

Photographs of cars were found on "Images of . . ." web pages following Google searches.

The First Fraternity House



Once the strength of Kappa Phi Local became apparent with an ever-increasing number of brothers and pledges, efforts began to find a suitable fraternity house in which many of us could live together. With the help of A.B. Stallworth, Dr. Reeder and other local alumni, we settled on purchasing a two-story white frame house that was for sale at 1301 E. 5th Street. Financing was arranged, room rents were agreed upon, and at the beginning of Spring Quarter on March 26, 1963, nineteen brothers and pledges of Beta Phi Chapter moved into the house.

Mike Cayton remembers that at some point, probably shortly after acquiring this house, it was decided that the interior had to be painted. Mike remembers someone saying, "Paint it white!" With apparently no other instructions, a group of us did just that. EVERYTHING – walls, ceilings, doors, windows, trim – received a fresh coat of white paint. Apparently, that was not what was intended.

The layout was not terribly unique. On entering the front door on the first floor, one could turn left and enter the living room. Off to the left of the living room was a small room that had a private outdoor entrance as well as an entrance from the living room. Since ECC required that all fraternities and sororities living off campus had to employ a house mother, who lived on the premises, that small room was converted into a bedroom for our house mother, Mrs. Katherine Barnhill.

Turning right after entering the front door led immediately to the dining room. The kitchen was on the back side of the house behind the dining room. There were two full bathrooms, one upstairs and one downstairs. Mrs. Barnhill didn't have her own private bathroom and never seemed to complain about having to share the downstairs bathroom with the rest of us.

The stairway up to the second floor was in the middle of the house and was accessible immediately upon entering the front door.

There were five bedrooms in the house. It was decided that three of the four upstairs bedrooms would be large enough to bunk four people each. The fourth bedroom was so small that only two people could live in it. The bedroom downstairs was a later addition by the previous owner and was large enough to sleep six of us. Closet space? Not much.

On the right side of the house, there was a carport with an entrance into the kitchen, and further behind the carport was a full garage.

Before we actually moved in, there were certain basic furniture requirements that simply had to be met, such as beds. Charlie Martin recalls that he drove a large truck to Jacksonville where a substantial number of discarded, rusting, military barracks style, metal-frame bunk beds and used mattresses had been located. The price was \$10 each. Charlie said that on the return trip to Greenville, he and one or two other brothers in the truck decided to stop for a burger. As they exited the highway onto the grill's parking lot, the top of the truck didn't clear an electric wire that was strung across the parking lot. Charlie doesn't remember any serious damage being done, and the remainder of the trip was uneventful.

We bought more beds than we needed and stored the extras in our garage behind the house. Bob Hood recalls that many of these beds had springs that were shot. For the worst of these, sheets of plywood were purchased and added for support between the springs and the 4" thick non-Beauty Rest mattresses. These beds provided new meaning to the concept of rudimentary. They were stackable, so we decided to place three sets of two in the first floor back bedroom, two sets of two in three of the upstairs bedrooms, and one set of two in the fourth upstairs bedroom.

Additional household furnishings began appearing as members returned from weekends at home with items donated by parents, such as pots & pans, silverware, lamps, etc. Larger items, such as the living room sofa and chairs, may have come from an assessment. There exists among our historical items a handwritten template of a letter obviously intended to be reproduced and sent out to parents of brothers and pledges. Its purpose was to request the donation of items of furniture from parents of brothers and pledges. It is addressed, "Dear Mr. and Mrs. _____" with the name(s) to be filled in on a copy reproduced from the template.

Since there was no air conditioning at all, moving air in and out proved to be a necessity during certain months. Already built in when we acquired the house was a large, very effective second story attic fan, which, at night, was able to suck quite sizable volumes of usually cooler outside air through open windows and then out the attic vent in the roof. Bob Hood remembers that he "froze his ____ off" as a result of other, less considerate upstairs brothers, who wanted the fan and windows open on in the middle of January.

The downstairs back bedroom did not benefit from the use of the upstairs attic fan. After we moved in, we found out rather quickly that the hot eastern North Carolina days and the very warm, muggy nights of May through September were not always conducive to getting a good night's sleep. George Resseguie sought to remedy this situation by bringing to the house a fan. This was, of course, no ordinary fan. Its blade cage diameter of about four feet was attached to a five foot high, three inch diameter shaft, mounted on a three foot diameter floor pedestal. It had industrial strength capabilities. Someone named it "Hector." One night, Freo Webster arrived back at the house after attending some event requiring a coat and tie. He disrobed, slid into his rack, and went to sleep. Part of his disrobing routine involved removing a very nice Coffman's Mens Wear rep tie and hanging it on this fan. Later that night, another of the back room residents (Ben Brown?) arrived. Without feeling the necessity to turn on any lights, he climbed into bed. Just before calling it a night, he flipped the switch that energized Hector's capabilities, which were considerable. Hector, now on his way to warp speed, took no prisoners and shredded that attractive Coffman's rep as if it were a couple of pieces of toilet paper. Freo was, shall we say, less than amused. The rest of us woke up, briefly considered Freo's loss, and assessed the humor involved as real and worthy of unrestrained laughter. That event would be recounted to others on numerous later occasions.

Gertie B.

In those early years, the fraternity house at 1301 E. 5th Street was typically full of occupants. Some brothers, who didn't live in the house, chose to live in one of the ECC men's dorms or in off campus housing. One attractive off

campus lodging alternative for a number of Kappa Phi's (and later Beta Phi's) was a home located on the opposing corner at 1205 E. 5th Street. This home belonged to Mrs. Gertie B. Merritt.

Mrs. Merritt was a diminutive elderly widow, whose husband had been a Baptist preacher and had died a few years earlier. When out of earshot, we always referred to her affectionately as "Gertie B."

My impression was that Gertie B. really didn't need the money she brought in each month from renting out rooms to students. But rent them out, she did. Her house had a number of upstairs bedrooms for rent as well as an unfinished (that's being kind) basement bedroom downstairs, also for rent.

Wayne Scott remembers affectionately in an email:

"I was the first Pi Kapp to room at Gertie's. At some point, Phil Nance and Tommy Hicks joined me there. I believe they came after Coach Clarence Stasavich moved out. I was there from February '61 until March '62 when I got married.

I came home one afternoon and Gertie was in the yard working and wearing one of my best and favorite sweaters.

Also, she would sometimes let Tommy, Phil and me come in the living room to watch TV. She would make them take off their shoes but I did not have to. I was obviously "the favorite" renter.

One other Gertie tale---She told us that everything her daughter touched turned to gold but everything her son touched turned to s_____."

I can still hear her somewhat shrill voice, feigning indignation but not without passion, as it echoed upstairs and downstairs, ascending in pitch and volume with each word:

"WoodroW? woodroW? You keep that noise down upstairs!

You hear me, Woodrow?" Then, one of the other brothers in another room might mimic her in a high falsetto and yell around the corner for Woodrow to please "keep it down." Muted laughter could frequently be heard following some of these exchanges.

Since she lived by herself, there was probably a comfort factor she came to count on from having people she grew to know and trust live in her home. In addition to Wayne Scott, early Kappa Phi tenants were Phil Nance, Tommy Hicks, and Dan Bowers. The list would change in later years to include Bob Woodrow, Everett Cameron, others I can't remember, and me.

Mrs. Merritt was a feisty but kind person, who had an infectious, cackling laugh when she was amused by us. Those of us who roomed there were better persons for the experience.

Favorite Eating Places

Among the favorite eating establishments many of us frequented in and around the Greenville area during this period were the following:

In Greenville

- Sumrell's Tastee Greaze, er, Freeze – E. 5th Street Extension – Fairly quick in and out place for lunch or dinner with a central juke box boasting a huge selection of the latest 45's and individual juke box selection

devices on the walls for each booth. Fare consisted of hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, hamburger steak & onions, fried chicken, cooked vegetable sides, processed dairy desserts, and sweet tea.

- Cliff's Oyster Bar – Old US 264 East – The best oysters – raw, steamed, or fried – in the area. Started out being \$1.00 for a dozen, including hushpuppies, slaw, Cliff's special heated cocktail sauce, and sweet tea. By 1963, the price had ballooned to \$1.25.
- The Carolina Grill – Dickinson Avenue – Specialties included country style steak, hamburger steak, two veggies, rolls, margarine, and sweet tea.
- The Riggs House – Dickinson Avenue – Where you might find a good late night fight or a cup of hot coffee, a hamburger, some fries, or sweet tea. They remained open 24/7.
- Darwin Waters Esso – U.S. 13 North across the Tar River – Open quite late with the mechanic on duty being able to seamlessly multi-task (before that term ever existed) by laying aside his grease gun or tire iron to prepare whatever short order offerings (hot dogs, hamburgers) that were on his very limited menu without ever a thought about the need to wash his hands.
- Bud Venter's – Also across the Tar River – Only open for lunch, but the servings were a choice of one meat and all-you-could-eat sides of many excellent cooked-to-death vegetables, sweet tea, and (their specialty) sweet potato biscuits.
- Old Towne Inn – 5th Street downtown – More traditional menu with a small dining area. Deserts (probably pies and cakes from Deiner's Bakery) were quite good as was the sweet tea.
- Happy's Pool Hall – Cotanche Street next to the horse stables in downtown Greenville – Greasy but quite tasty Bar-B-Que, Brunswick stew, hushpuppies, slaw, fried chicken, and country-style steak were favorites along with sweet (is there an echo here?) tea.
- The Rathskellar – Formerly the C&V Restaurant and recently acquired by Lynn Stinson, a former Raleigh native and friend of Dan Ray and Bruce McLamb. It offered typical bar fare. And yes, if you were 18 back then, you could toss a few back, legally. Probably no sweet tea.
- Hardee's – The *very first Hardee's ever built* was on 14th Street. Their char-broiled delicacies were 15 cents each. That included the wafer thin bun and an even thinner cross section of a dill pickle. If you wanted a slice of processed American cheese added, you were into it for an extra nickel.
- Dora's Tower Grill – Not exclusively known for its elegant cuisine, but remembered here all the same. An ad placed in the back of the 1964 *Buccaneer* notes that, "You are a stranger here but once" at **DORA'S TOWER GRILL**. A long time-favorite of the college set, **DORA'S** offers a complete menu ranging from short-orders to full meals [Oh?]. Stop often and enjoy meeting your fellow students at **DORA'S**. Many of us did that, and more.

Towards Farmville

- The Candlewick Inn – Out in Pitt County west of Greenville – A dressy place which lent itself to special sit down occasions. Several fraternity dinners were held there.

In Chocowinity

- Saleeby's Restaurant – At the corner of Old US 264 East and US 17 – Family style restaurant specializing in plate lunches, salads, vegetable sides, homemade cornbread and desserts and, yes, sweet tea.

could be heard at chapter room parties, in the fraternity house, or wherever more than one of us was in his company.

Early in the colony's history, A.B. agreed to serve as the first Chairman of the Alumni Committee. Joining him on that committee were Bill Taft and Dr. Glen Reeder.

He was able to provide crucial early guidance in terms of acquiring and maintaining our first fraternity house at 1301 E. 5th Street. He also provided advice regarding various issues that many of us, as undergraduates, couldn't even begin to contemplate when we began our affiliation with the fraternity.

Without A.B.'s help, it would have been far more difficult for us to locate and lease our two early chapter rooms. A.B. had lived in Greenville and worked in the real estate business for quite some time. He knew the people who had to be satisfied, from a business standpoint, that we would become responsible lessees of their properties.

By being a member of the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church in Greenville, A.B. was well known to church officials, which facilitated his request for us to stage the initiation in that church.

His signature Vaudeville-style straw hat, infectious laugh, and cigar seemed always to accompany him wherever we would encounter him. A large color photo/portrait of A.B. is among the items being kept in our archives.

Dr. Glen Paris Reeder (Alpha Sigma #194)

Dr. Reeder provided early, sound leadership to Kappa Phi Local as our Faculty Advisor. Having attained his BS and MS in Physical Education at the University of Tennessee, he then attended the University of Iowa, where he earned his PhD in the same field.

While at ECC, Dr. Reeder was a professor in the Department of Physical Education. He worked closely with A.B. Stallworth and Dean of Men, Jim Mallory. His guidance and encouragement in those early years were very much appreciated.

Dr. Reeder and his fiancée, Ernestine Nichols (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Home Economics) were married in June, 1963.

Rose Queens

Wayne Scott and Dan Ray recall that the first Rose Queen was a freshman Alpha Xi Delta from Mooresville named Roma Cummins. That would have been in late Spring Quarter or early Fall Quarter, 1961.

According to Chuck Lancaster's diary, Bob Hood "... was the first boy in the fraternity to be pinned." That occurred in Wilmington during the Azalea Festival on Friday evening, April 6, 1962. Then, on the evening of Wednesday, April 11, 1962, brothers and pledges "... went up to the chapter room to practice some songs that we were going to use to serenade Linda (Bob Hood's girlfriend). We went over to Slay [Dorm] at 10:30 P.M. to serenade Linda after which pictures were taken. I didn't think that we did as well there as we had done in the chapter room." Linda Crouse, who also would become Bob's fiancée and wife, was crowned Rose Queen at a "Social" in May, 1962 and still retains the trophy presented to her with the dates "1962-1963" engraved on it.

On Sunday, September 2, 1962 Wiley Lewis married his high school sweetheart, Donna Bell, who was from Morehead City. Donna became our third Rose Queen. Thus, Wiley became the first member of Kappa Phi Local to get married.

Serenading

We called it serenading. Others who heard it might generously have termed it warbling. It was a tradition that began shortly after Bob Hood pinned Linda Crouse in April, 1962 and continued for a number of years thereafter. A group of brothers and pledges would assemble out in front of a girl's dorm in coats and ties and sing several appropriate Pi Kappa Phi songs we had learned for just such an occasion. Free Webster – he was no Glenn Campbell – remembers that his assignment was to hand deliver to the young woman being honored a dozen red roses, one of the symbols of the Fraternity and a gift from us. This was done, he relates, in order to keep his participation as a member of the group of singers at a minimum due to his inability to carry a tune even, as the saying goes, in a bucket. We were not the Norman Luboff Choir, but we sang from our hearts.

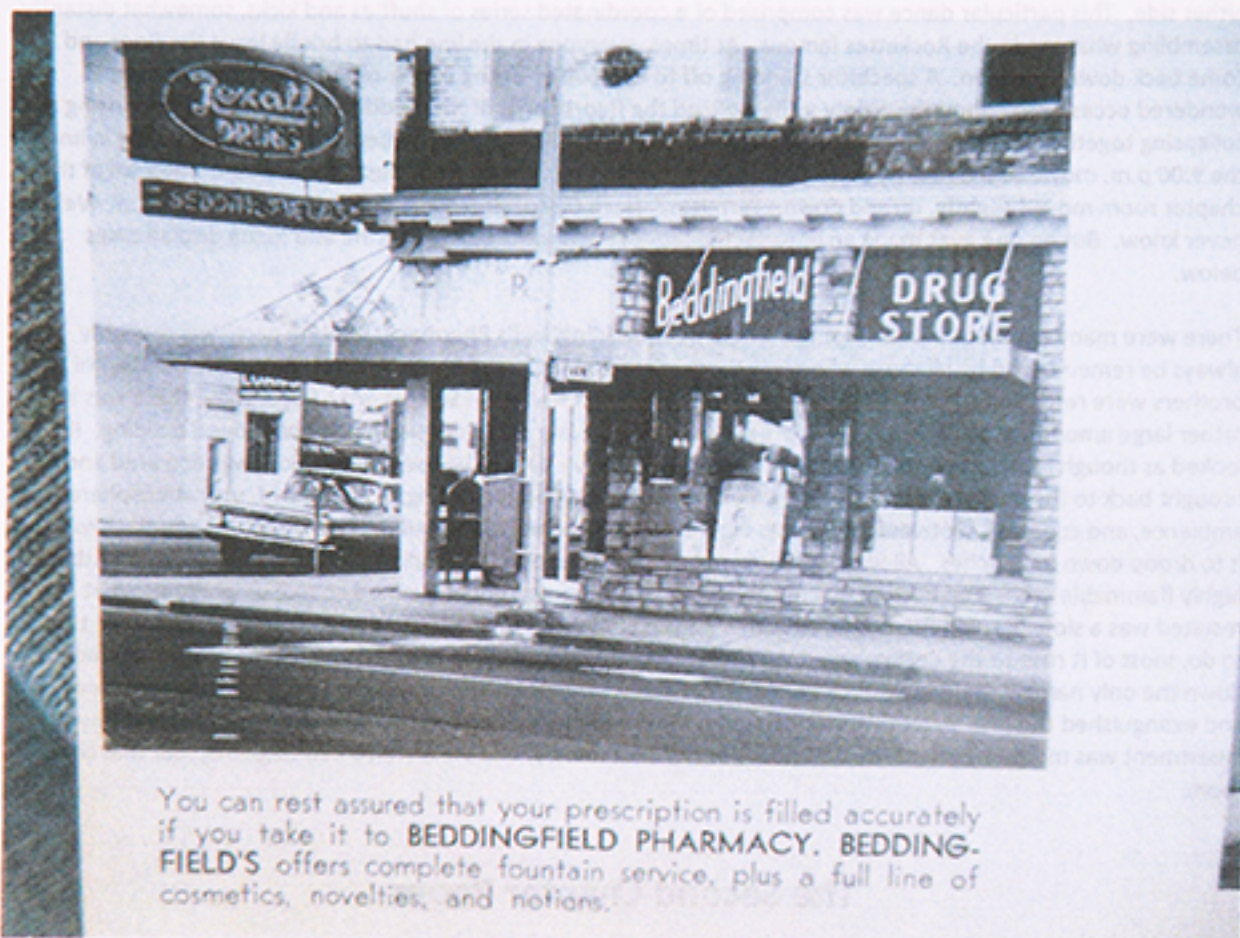
Abductions

Because no state lines were ever crossed when several of the early brothers and pledges in Kappa Phi Local were unceremoniously taken from their dorm rooms at night and dropped off in rural Pitt County (frequently sans outer garments), it cannot be said that kidnappings actually occurred.

But try telling that to Bob Hood. Bob became the first Colony brother to pin his girlfriend and future wife, Linda Crouse. Chuck Lancaster's diary notes that at 11:30 p.m. on Wednesday night, April 11, 1962, "As tradition would have it, after leaving Slay we had to take Bob to the river (Port Terminal) and throw him in. I suggested taking my car since it had a good heater, had only two doors, and had plastic seat covers. We stripped Bob down to his shorts and in he went. I had a blanket in my car that was wrapped around him and after he got into my car I drove back to the dorm as fast as possible so he could take a shower and avoid the chance of catching his death of cold. I thought the whole affair was as crazy as hell, but far be it from me to question some of the things the fraternity does." Thus began a tradition that endured for many years.

Dan Ray recounts that a similar experience happened to him. A group of pledges, who were no shrinking violets, abducted him, restrained him, unclothed him (except for skivvies), and dropped him off somewhere south of Ayden. He then had to hitchhike to Greenville and remembers that once he made it back into the city limits, he had to conceal himself in the shadows from anyone who might report him for indecent exposure. As he was skulking around the darker streets, he happened to see Bob Hood in his car and was successful in flagging him down for a ride back to 1301 E. 5th Street.

The First Chapter Room



You can rest assured that your prescription is filled accurately if you take it to **BEDDINGFIELD PHARMACY**. **BEDDINGFIELD'S** offers complete fountain service, plus a full line of cosmetics, novelties, and notions.

In 1961, on the southeast corner of Fifth and Evans Streets, a pharmacist, whose last name was Beddingfield, owned a drug store. His business occupied only the first story of his two-story building. With some encouragement from A.B. Stallworth and the active involvement of Wayne Scott, Mr. Beddingfield agreed to lease to us the second story of his building, which was vacant and was not being contemplated as an expansion option by Mr. Beddingfield.

Many long hours were spent rehabilitating those spaces, since they had virtually been abandoned for a number of years. They showed the effects of age and neglect. Lighting was minimal, but that wasn't necessarily a bad thing.

Dan Ray and I remember renting a juke box (or three) as a source of music during our weekend socials when local bands were not employed. What we seem to remember is that our relationship with the company that furnished the juke box grew to be somewhat contentious. We are not certain of the reason. It could have been something as regrettable as their not wanting to replace the 45's of Doris Day, Vaughan Monroe, Rosemary Clooney, et al, with those of Chubby, Elvis, Mary Wells, Bo Diddley, & Little Richard.

Many excellent evening photos were taken (with flashbulbs!) at our first chapter room. They documented some memorable parties that were held in that facility, but, unfortunately, most of them no longer exist.

Local combos performed at many of our socials so that we could all shag, jitterbug, slow dance, etc. One of the dances that became popular during the era of the Twist was the Continental. That dance required something similar to a chorus line made up of brothers, pledges, and their dates with arms around the waist of the person on either side. This particular dance was comprised of a coordinated series of shuffles and kicks, somewhat distantly resembling what made the Rockettes famous. At times, everyone in the line had to briefly leave the floor and come back down in unison. A spectator standing off to the side or sitting in one of the booths might have wondered occasionally about his safety as he noticed the floorboards of Mr. Beddingfield's second floor rising and collapsing together about four inches, much like a trampoline. Dan Ray remembers that people standing in line for the 9:00 p.m. movie at the nearby State Theater watched in amazement from the outside as the windows of the chapter room moved slightly, up and down. Termites? Slack City of Greenville building code in the '20's? We'll never know. But no one ever made an unexpected late evening visit to the Listerine and Ipana display cases below.

There were many excellent parties that were held over Beddingfield's Pharmacy, but one party will probably always be remembered by all those who were there. Dan Ray remembers that several resourceful Kappa Phi Local brothers were returning to campus from some sort of seafood festival in Swansboro. Apparently, there was a rather large amount of black, creosote-impregnated netting, lying off to the side of an abandoned building. It looked as though it had been idle for some time and was likely never to be used again. So it was acquired and brought back to the chapter room with the idea that, once hung on the ceiling, it would add, um, atmosphere, ambience, and coolness. Between the points where it was attached to the ceiling, there was enough slack to allow it to droop down in bunches. All was well for some months until one fateful night, when a small portion of that highly flammable creosoted netting was introduced to some, as yet, undetermined source of ignition. What resulted was a slow burning fire that produced a dense, black, eye-stinging, and pungent smoke. As smoke tends to do, most of it rose to the ceiling, and it very soon became impossible to see. Everyone was able to clamber down the only narrow stairway exit to the 5th Street sidewalk below. The Greenville Fire Department responded and extinguished the fire. After this near calamity, Mr. Beddingfield decided the preservation of his first floor investment was more important than his need for our rent money, and we were forced to give up our first chapter room.

The Second Chapter Room

Our second chapter room was also located in a second story setting, directly over what was then Ken's Furniture Company on Dickenson Avenue. The footprint of the space over Ken's was perhaps twice as large as the space we had occupied over Beddingfield's Pharmacy. The sign over the stairway door was in place a year or two later and read, "The Niche." It was professional in its appearance and was created by Phil Lomax (Beta Phi #32), a commercial art major.

Eventually, the Greenville Fire Marshall decided that we needed a serviceable, exterior, and approved fire escape from the second floor down to the parking lot on the east side of the building. There may have been an old, inoperative fire escape in place that had to be rehabilitated, or we may have had to have a new one built. Details are sketchy. Nonetheless, that was a big bucks item, which required compliance if we wanted to continue using "The Niche" as our Chapter room. Can anyone spell "assessment?"

George Resseguie recalls one adventure there when "Childress and I were in the alley behind the old chapter room and for some reason I had climbed up to the window on the second floor (I don't remember how I got up there). For some reason, I then just jumped down! Childress was smarter than I was and watched from below."



Sunday, February 17

Sunday morning services at the First Presbyterian Church were attended by many Pi Kappa Phi National officers, Pi Kapp alumni in the Greenville area, and the new brothers and pledges of Beta Phi Chapter. We sat as a group in the pews and were recognized and congratulated by Reverend Gammon during remarks to his congregation.

Later that afternoon, an Informal Tea was held from 2:00 - 4:00 in the ECC College Union. The sisters of Alpha Phi Sorority graciously (and thankfully) stepped up to the plate and agreed to host this event for us where 75 guests were served. Lucky for us. Social Graces 101 had only recently been added to our organizational to do list.

Amon Butler ("A.B.") Stallworth (Beta #46)

A.B., as everyone then knew him, became Kappa Phi Colony's first Chapter Advisor, and he remained in that capacity for a number of years. He graduated in 1921 from Presbyterian College in Clinton, SC, received an A.B. degree in economics and mathematics, and was valedictorian of his class. From a quote in the February 6, 1963 *Chapter Letter* (not yet named *The Greek Garble*): "He received his letter in baseball, and was manager of the football team. He was a member of the annual staff and the college newspaper staff. Beta Chapter, being the second chapter to receive its charter, was the only fraternity on campus when Mr. Stallworth became a member. He laughed, and said in a jovial manner, 'It was the best fraternity on campus.' "

A.B. subsequently moved to Greenville, NC to establish a successful real estate business. At numerous fraternity outings, he was frequently accompanied by his lovely, gracious, and understanding wife, Dot. His infectious laugh

With the brothers of Mu Chapter at Duke University assisting in that ceremony, the following founding brothers of Kappa Phi Local/Beta Phi Colony became the fourteen Charter Members of Beta Phi Chapter of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity:

1. Daniel Cole Ray – Junior from Raleigh, NC
2. Robert Monroe Hood – Junior from Sanford, NC
3. Wiley Howard Lewis – Junior from Beaufort, NC
4. Charles Michael Davis – Junior from Seven Springs, NC
5. Bruce Carol McLamb – Sophomore from Raleigh, NC
6. Charles Theodore Wohlneck – Sophomore from Bellville, NJ
7. Otis Talmadge Bailey – Junior from Graham, NC
8. Alan Beveridge Fearing – Sophomore from Durham, NC
9. George Irving Resseguie – Sophomore from Sanford, NC
10. Charlie Maurice Martin – Sophomore from Cerro Gordo, NC
11. Charles Freo Webster – Sophomore from Graham, NC
12. Samuel Lawrence McCain – Sophomore from Elkin, NC
13. Miles Franklin Barefoot – Junior from Greensboro, NC
14. David Henry Knoch – Sophomore from Arlington, VA

The names of these young men appear on the Charter granted to Beta Phi Chapter by the National Office of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity.

Saturday, February 16

During the day, Districts III and IV of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity held a conclave at ECC. All visiting brothers from other chapters were invited to stay for our Chartering Banquet.

On Saturday night, February 16, 1963, a Chartering Banquet was held at 7:00 p.m. in the ECC South Dining Hall at which John W. Deimler (Alpha Upsilon #19), National President of Pi Kappa Phi, was the Installing Officer.

The photograph on the next page shows National President Deimler presenting the Charter of Beta Phi Chapter to Archon Bob Hood. To the left of John W. Deimler is Executive Secretary Durward W. Owen, and to the right of Bob Hood is ECC President Leo Jenkins. W. Bernard Jones, Past National President of Pi Kappa Phi, was also an additional featured speaker.

There was no pledge trip, and the brothers lucked out in that none was abducted and then dropped off in the middle of the night without the benefit of apparel. That could be due to the fact that it usually took three of four pledges to subdue a brother.

Miles also remembers that "The really funny stuff started once we moved into the 5th Street house and had the infamous back room downstairs. I remember Knoch, Hicks, Freo among the 6 of us who shared that room, no air conditioning, lots of tobacco smoke, noise, but much laughter. The alligator, using the ladder to lock the upstairs bathroom and then listening to the upstairs residents speculate on how the door was getting locked! Our neighbors, and Mrs. Barnhill, were surely saints for putting up with us and deserve their place in heaven (hope for their sake it is quiet there)."

Dave doesn't remember requesting the nickname "Baby Dave." Rather, he believes that perhaps someone started calling him that and it stuck, either because he looked so young and no one thought he was of college age, OR he was the youngest of the Founding Brothers in Beta Phi.

The Mystery Colony Pledge

One Kappa Phi Local pledge about whom there appears to be an ongoing mystery is Jimmy Johnson. Details about this young man have, over time, become sketchy, at best.

The February 16, 1963 Installation Banquet Program lists Jimmy (along with Dan Bowers and Allan Jones) among those who were to become initiates of Beta Phi Chapter that night. But they clearly were not initiated, then or ever, to anyone's knowledge.

Phil Nance remembers a fellow Asheboro high school classmate named Jimmy Johnson, who also attended ECC. In fact, there is a junior picture of a Jimmy Johnson from Asheboro in the 1963 *Buccaneer*. But neither Phil nor any of the colony brothers polled recently remembers anyone named Jimmy Johnson being in his pledge class.

Election of Colony Officers

On November 14, 1961, the policy of electing officers during the first brotherhood meetings in May and December was adopted.

On December 4, 1961, the first semi-annual election of officers took place, and the following officers were elected:

Archon – Phil Nance
Treasurer – Dan Ray
Secretary – Chester Boone
Warden – Tommy Hicks
Historian – Bob Hood
Chaplain – Wiley Lewis

An entry in Chuck Lancaster's diary mentions that on Wednesday, May 9, 1962, the following Colony brothers were elected to the following offices for a term of six months:

Archon – Bob Hood
Treasurer – Charlie Wohlneck
Secretary – Bruce McLamb
Warden – Tommy Hicks

Historian – Steve Ratcliffe

Chaplain – Mike Cayton

And an item in the Winter Quarter, 1962-1963 Colony Newsletter noted the December 3, 1962 semi-annual election of officers:

Archon – Bobby Hood (second consecutive term)

Treasurer – George Ressegule

Secretary – Freo Webster

Warden – Dan Ray

Historian – Otis Bailey

Chaplain – Alan Fearing

These officers would be carried over and become the first official slate of officers in in Beta Phi Chapter.

When Beta Phi became a Chapter, Article III, Section 1 of the Beta Phi By-Laws (dated February 16, 1963), changed one of the dates for the election of officers. Instead of the election of officers taking place during the first brotherhood meeting in May, that date was changed to the last brotherhood meeting in April. The December date remained unchanged.

Initiation of the First 14 Beta Phi's

A four day period from Thursday, February 14, 1963 to Sunday, February 17, 1963 was required for the initiation, installation, and chartering process of Beta Phi Chapter.

Thursday, February 14

Otis Bailey wrote in the May, 1963 issue of *The Star and Lamp*: "Thursday night the first phase of initiation began with a written test administered by Durward Owen and Ted Scharfenstein." These exams were completed satisfactorily. A cleverly-worded trick question, asked of Dan Ray by Ted Scharfenstein, elicited one of probably very few incorrect answers. The following account of that event was retold in an August 22, 2012 email from Ted to me: "I was there and remember asking questions to the 14 potential initiates. I remember asking Dan Ray who was Simon Fogarty. When he answered, one of the Founders, I replied no, the Founder was Simon Fogarty Jr., Simon Fogarty was the Father of a Founder. It was all downhill with questions after that."

Friday, February 15

Otis Bailey continues, "Friday afternoon the men to be initiated met at the First Presbyterian Church of Greenville, North Carolina, to be orally quizzed by National President John W. Deimler and National Treasurer Frank H. Hawthorne."

Later Friday evening, all local alumni and other guests, brothers from Mu and Alpha Chapters, and the fourteen prospective initiates enjoyed an excellent dinner at the Greenville Country Club.

Following dinner came the individual initiation of each of the fourteen members of Kappa Phi Local/Beta Phi Colony into the Beta Phi Chapter of Pi Kappa Phi.

From a January 14, 1963 letter addressed to Durward Owen, it is learned that Reverend Richard R. Gammon states the following: "I am happy to agree to the use of the facilities of the First Presbyterian Church by the Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity." The use of the church's facilities provided a secure setting in which the ritual could be performed.