Norristown (PA) Alumni

January 25, 1986

Charter members

John H. Culbreath, Eric C. Payne, Webb D. Hallman, Charles L. Sawyer, Stanley L. Johnson, Jr., Arthur L. Scott, Robert E. Murray, Ed.D., Eugene H. Turpin, W. Ted Smith, Ph.D., Sherman E. Williams, Clayton L. Reid.



It is the 1960's or the early 1970's. Brother Arthur Scott of West Conshohocken, Pennsylvania arranged several meetings in his recreation room for the purpose of organizing a suburban alumni chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi. Brother Scott continued these efforts for sometime but for some reason these endeavors failed. Although the struggles failed to achieve a suburban chapter, these were actually the first efforts of attaining an Alumni Chapter in the suburbs. The activities of establishing an Alumni Chapter in the Suburbs of Philadelphia laid dormant but not forgotten. Several Brothers of our "Noble Clan," who resided in the outlying counties of Philadelphia (Bucks, Chester Delaware and Montgomery) were showing interest in an Alumni Chapter. Occasionally they would get together and share social and professional activities. More than fifty Brothers had been identified who lived in the Montgomery County , King of Prussia and Valley Forge areas. It became certain that there were many others who had not kept in touch with the local alumni chapter or in touch personally.

In the fall of 1983, several Brothers who lived and/or worked in the Suburban Communities of Philadelphia met occasionally for that "Ole Kappa Spirit" and comradery. Several of them met for dinner in October 1983. There were many Brothers who were not associated with any active chapters. They expressed interest in keeping the Kappa objectives and goals of Achievement, and Brotherhood alive.

During 1986, Brother W. Ted Smith served as the representative in the organization of the Suburban Kappa's. There were approximately 35-40 Brothers who had been associated with an

Alumni Chapter in the Southeastern Region of our State. Additionally, there was the possibility of reclaiming others. The potential of new membership through pledging was tremendous.

On November 27, 1985, a letter was written by Bro. Smith to the Northeastern Province Polemarch, Brother Richard Scott. The following names were submitted to the Grand Chapter as a requirement to organize a Norristown Chapter: John H. Culbreath, Eric C. Payne, Webb D. Hallman, Charles L. Sawyer, Stanley L. Johnson, Jr., Arthur L. Scott, Robert E. Murray, Ed.D., Eugene H. Turpin, W. Ted Smith, Ph.D., Sherman E. Williams, Clayton L. Reid.

On December 20, 1985, a letter was written to Brother Ted Smith from A. F. Moultrie, Executive Secretary of Kappa Alpha Psi. This letter was the Official notice that the petition requesting the establishment of an alumni chapter named "Norristown (PA) Alumni Chapter," was approved by the Grand Board of Directors on December 14, 1985.

On Thursday evening, January 9, 1986, the Members of the Norristown (PA) Alumni Chapter (elect), voted by secret ballot officers to serve for this program year. The first officers of the proposed new chapter were as follows:

- 1. Polemarch: Walter Theodore Smith, Ph.D.
- 2. Vice Polemarch: Robert E. Murray, Ed.D.
- 3. Keeper of Records: Sherman E. Williams
- 4. Keeper of Exchequer: Eugene H. Turpin

The new Kappa Alpha Psi, Norristown Alumni Chapter "BANNER" was designed and donated by Brother Sherman Williams, on Thursday, January 9, 1986. One of the first actions taken was on Friday, January 10, 1986. The pending new chapter authorized the payment of \$267 for the purchase of the charter and paraphernalia. January 25, 1986, was the Official date of Chartering and Installation for the Norristown, Pennsylvania Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi. This is the only Chapter to be founded 75 years to the month of this Noble Clan. The Chartering and Installation Ceremonies were held at the first chapter meeting on February 13, 1986. The Northeastern Polemarch, Brother Richard A. Scott, Esq. of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania Alumni, presided over the meeting.