AND ROSE 'S COLLEGE DAYS OKLAHOMA CITY UNIVERSITY 1987-1991



KAPPA PHI IS SEVENTY-FIVE AND

ROSE 'S COLLEGE DAYS OKLAHOMA CITY UNIVERSITY

1987-1991

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Dedicated to those women of vision and faith who nurtured the growth of Kappa Phi; so that The Kappa Phi Club could become the national organization it is today. The authors gratefully acknowledge the authors of Candles Beams, the actives and alumnae of Alpha Upsilon Chapter for their help, and the librarian of Oklahoma City University for their photo research and help. We especially acknowledge the help of Kristen Brown, Shelly Owen, Shannon Gilland Lemmons, and Dianne Plaskett McKenzie, Angie Garner, Ann Stankewicz, and Debbie Fuhrmann. Also, the authors want to thank our families and friends for all their help, support, and encouragement.

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Walker Hall. Courtesy of Oklahoma City University Archives & Special Collections.

Walker Hall! There it was! The freshman women's dormitory looked a bit foreboding due to the cool and cloudy September day. Rose Seiler and her mom and dad--laden with piles of bedding--walked into the building and quickly looked for an elevator. They were in luck as they saw the elevator doors open. Soon they were headed to the third floor, room 305 near the end of the hall. Rose was beginning her college career at Oklahoma City University this very week! Nerves, excitement, and anticipation filled Rose as she walked into her dorm room. It was so small! How would she ever get all her belongings into these tiny spaces and also leave room for her roommate whom had yet to arrive. The roommates would share a room, which had a door that opened to the bathroom. On the other side of the bathroom was another door that opened to a three-person room. Rose frowned as she figured out that five girls would be sharing one bathroom!

With a deep breath and a smile on her face, Rose returned to her parent's car to retrieve yet another armful of bold colored parachute pants and coordinating large t-shirts. Rose had bought these items knowing that the popular style would help her fit in at college. Much to her surprise, some girls offered to help her carry everything upstairs. Rose cheerfully accepted their help and soon her parents' car was empty. The pink t-shirt clad girls welcomed Rose to OCU and told her that they were from a Christian group of women called Kappa Phi. Apparently, helping on movein day was one of their service projects. Rose was touched and she thanked the girls warmly. Tears were shed while saying goodbye to her parents. Promises to write and call from her phone in the dorm room were made and Rose turned and walked back into Walker Hall. Feeling a little sad, but also excited, Rose ran up the stairs and into her new room. She could not wait to settle in and meet her roommate. A college student at last!

Rose finished making her bed while listening to Milli Vanilli sing "Every Rose Has Its Thorns" on her cassette recorder. Of course everyone now knew that Milli Vanilli did not actually sing their songs, they simply lipsynched and had someone else do the work. But Rose loved the song anyway. Rose turned toward the door as a young woman with dark hair walked into the room and introduced herself as Kristen Brown. Kristen was from Tahlequah, Oklahoma. She was just as excited as Rose to finally be a student at OCU. Unlike Rose who had graduated from high school earlier that spring, Kristen had graduated the year before and had been living in France for the past year. She had been an au pair for a family who had traveled extensively throughout Europe. Kristen was excited to finally begin college. She planned to major in French and was taking a placement test the next day.

The new roommates continued unpacking throughout the evening. Rose had brought her collection of cassettes. She had also brought a beanbag chair. A warm quilt made by her grandmother and given to her just before she left for school now covered her bed. Rose loved this quilt and knew that it would remind her of home. Kristen brought many favorite books and some posters of France that she had collected over the past year. A flute came out of its case, as Kristen shared that she hoped to join the college orchestra. A well-worn travel typewriter also emerged from

Kristen's trunk. She had used the typewriter to keep a journal of her European travels. After awhile the dorm room began to take shape and both girls were pleased with the result.



Courtesy of Oklahoma City University Archives & Special Collections.

Talk turned to college majors and possible sorority membership as the roommates began to get acquainted. Rose was majoring in communication and hoped to be part of a television newscast. Kristen wanted to pursue her love of the French language and hoped to find a job, which would allow her to travel all over the world. Living in France had given her a taste of international living and she wanted to live abroad some day. The new friends were excited about their majors and assured each other that they had not come to OCU for their M-R-S. Degree. Careers and travel were a part of their plans before even thinking of marriage. However, they were eager to meet some guys even though the university had a male to female ratio of close to two females for every one male student! A sorority might help with that.

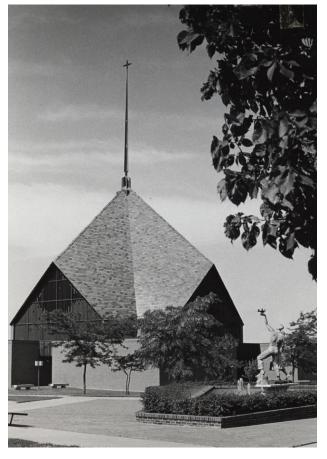
Sorority rush would begin during the next week and both girls were interested in finding a group, which would be a place to make good friends and have fun. They were nervous about rush because they knew they had

to make a good impression during the parties that each house would host. Would they find a group where they felt comfortable? Would they receive a bid to join the sorority they liked the best? Would they be able to afford the cost of dues if they were accepted?

During the next two days college orientation occupied most of the new students' waking hours. Time management, how things worked on campus, and a freshman mixer filled the two days. After orientation, Rose and Kristen attended Sorority Rush parties, began classes, and found their way around campus. They soon learned that basketball was BIG and the OCU Chiefs were always competitive in the NAIA. Apparently, everyone went to the games which would begin in late fall. Rose and Kristen could not wait to attend.

Sorority rush was about to conclude and both girls had their house preferences listed, but they were unsure if sorority membership was for

them. Service opportunities were part of each chapter's programming which attracted Kristen, but she was looking for something more. After orchestra practice the next day, a fellow member, Becky Powers, invited Kristen to the Kappa Phi Rose Tea. Coincidentally, Rose had also received an invitation to this tea before she arrived at OCU. Apparently, Kappa Phi was a national Christian women's organization with Methodist roots. which was very active on the OCU campus. The pair decided to check out Kappa Phi, which met in The Chapel.



The Chapel. Courtesy of Oklahoma City University Archives & Special Collections.

As the roommates, attired in flowered dresses and heels, arrived in a beautiful room decorated with pink roses, Mona Krivanek, the Alpha Upsilon Chapter president, greeted each guest at the door. Introductions and welcomes were given and everyone enjoyed Dorothy's pink punch and cookies while getting to know the sisters of Alpha Upsilon Chapter of Kappa Phi. Rose was interested to hear about the Christian organization and Kristen especially liked the diversity of programming which made up the Kappa Phi year. They learned that there were four areas of programming which included Study, Worship, Fellowship, and Service. The year's theme was "Dare to Question." It sounded like there would be both serious programs like Bible study and opportunities to examine your faith, but also fun activities including movie nights and Big and Little Sis Week. The group had its roots with the United Methodist Church, but girls of different Christian faith traditions were welcome to join. Service opportunities were many--including working with Habitat for Humanity and supporting a crisis pregnancy center. Mona shared how proud the OCU chapter was when Alpha Upsilon had won the Kappa Phi LeSourd Cup this past summer at the National Council of Chapters in Lindsborg, Kansas. The award recognized quality programming and improvement in the chapter. Rose and Kristen were impressed with the silver trophy with its arrangement of silk pink roses and baby's breath.

After the tea, the girls walked back to Walker Hall and talked excitedly about Kappa Phi. They liked what they had heard at the tea and were pretty sure that they wanted to pledge Kappa Phi. Interestingly, they had learned that there would be no bids in order to join or to worry about! Mona had explained that Kappa Phi invited all interested girls to pledge in order to learn more about the organization. After the six-week pledge period, the girls themselves would decide if they wished to formally join the group. This made Kappa Phi a little different from the Greek sororities on campus. Kristen talked about watching the Kappa Phis all evening. They looked like they were having so much fun. Rose remembered a girl named Shelly who had a distinctive laugh. Boy, she would like to get to know her! The very next day, Rose and Kristen sent notes to Becky Powers, the pledge mom, indicating their wish to pledge Kappa Phi. They were excited to learn about and experience Kappa Phi at OCU.

OCU classes were in full swing by the time the girls took the Degree of the Pine. Rose and Kristen took freshman level introductory classes in English, Math, and Biology. Rose was excited for her first Speech class and Kristen had tested out of French 1 and into French 2. She received one half credit for orchestra and Rose joined the campus choir where she would also receive a half credit. Both Rose and Kristen had been good students in high school, but they were still surprised at the amount of reading for which they were responsible. Evenings found the girls from Walker Hall studying at the library and then hanging out.

Kappa Phi pledge meetings kept them busy too. The twenty pledges learned the Aim and the Purpose of Kappa Phi at the first meeting. They were told that they must dress up for every pledge meeting and wear their pledge pins. Becky Powers was the officer in charge of new members and they called her the Pledge Mom. She was a friendly girl with an inviting smile who always made the pledges feel welcome. She taught them about the history of the club, the traditions and rituals, and helped them sing the Kappa Phi Hymn and Benediction.

Basketball season began in early November. The OCU campus was serious about its basketball! The Chiefs were a tough team to beat and the games were exciting to watch. Both the Women and Men's teams were NAIA champs the previous season and 1987 promised to be another great year. Fall homecoming highlighted both teams and was celebrated with a parade through campus. Led by the band and college cheerleaders, the parade included many floats made by campus organizations and residence halls. Kappa Phi entered a red wagon float that year which was decorated with blue and white crepe paper. The sisters were dressed as bowling pins and a "bowling ball" was directed toward the girls. A large sign stating "We'll Roll Over You!" completed the presentation. Kappa Phi won third place and the sisters were proud of their efforts. OCU did win the game and Rose cheered with everyone else. Rose and many other freshmen became OCU basketball fans that night.

On the Kappa Phi front, six weeks of dressing up for pledge meetings and learning everything they could about Kappa Phi culminated in a fun night entitled, "Find My Big!". This event took place on the Thursday evening one week before the Degree of the Light. The pledges were told to

follow a very long piece of yarn and at the end of it their Kappa Phi big sis would be waiting for them. Each pledge had a different color to follow and



Photo from CANDLE BEAM

the yarn snaked around every office of the Methodist Student Center.

It went downstairs to the kitchen and even into the bathrooms! There were also written clues to further complicate the process. Finally, the pledges found their bigs sitting expectantly at the end of their yarn in the chapel. Many were the squeals and hugs as the big and little sis found each other. Rose's big sis was a fun and genuine girl named Shelly Owens. She was the sister who Rose always thought of as having that distinctive laugh. Rose was pleased and was so happy when Shelly presented her with her first Kappa Phi t-shirt! Kristen's big sis was Angie Garner who was a quiet, sweet girl with a great love for tap dancing and Kappa Phi.

After finding their bigs, all pledges and actives were looking forward to the Degree of the Light! Rose was ready to commit to the organization and to the ideals for which it stood. She was so pleased to have found a good Christian group of friends. She had a feeling that this organization would always have a place for her during her years at OCU. Rose could not wait until she returned to Walker Hall. Homework would wait as a phone call home was on the list of things to do before bed. She just had to

share how wonderful Kappa Phi was with her mom! Rose also shared with her mom and dad how she had ordered the beautiful shield pin with an engraved (chased) border for \$17.50. She wondered if they would like to give her the Alpha Upsilon guard as a Christmas gift?

Final exams, projects, and papers filled the last weeks before Christmas vacation. Rose and her roommates prayed for strength to get through the end of the semester. Rose was surprised to find that Kappa Phi had an antidote for her end of semester stress. Yule Log, a Kappa Phi tradition, was a pre-Christmas gathering for all the sisters of Kappa Phi. Rose listened carefully as the story unfolded. Not only was this a pre-Christmas celebration, but a way to remember Kappa Phis who had gone out from Alpha Upsilon chapter. A partially burned log had been saved from last year's fire and was used to kindle a new fire. Sisters fondly remembered and prayed for those who had been present last year. Many were scattered far from Oklahoma City. The president, Mona Krivanek, then placed a new log on the fire. Sisters were asked to pray for the coming year. Small Yule logs with candles along with the traditional Kappa Phi opening and closing ritual were passed out. Each member was asked to take their candles home and on Christmas Eve were asked to write a letter to the Kappa Phi sister on the inside. The evening closed with the singing of Christmas carols and the Kappa Phi Benediction.

Rose had prayed for strength during Yule Log to get her through the last days of the semester. She also thanked God for her new found family of Kappa Phi sisters. This unique organization would help keep Rose on the right path as she continued with her college career. She could not imagine what new opportunities Kappa Phi would offer her.

Christmas break was strange, but good, at the same time. It was so nice to be home with her family. Clean sheets, good food, sleeping till 11, and talks with her mom and dad were a welcome relief from the hectic last days of the semester. However, Rose realized that she had changed since that August move-in day. She found it weird to have to tell her parents where she was going and when she would return. She had a new outlook on the world. As the New Year approached, she was surprised to find that she was looking forward to returning to OCU. She had friends now, especially her new Kappa Phi sisters. Success with her classes and

contentment with her choice of OCU filled her with peace and a sense of purpose.

Rose returned to Walker Hall on a sunny but cold Sunday in January 1988 ready to begin a new semester. She was anxious to see her suitemates, who had all incredibly joined Kappa Phi last fall. Catching up with the girls while unpacking and preparing for the beginning of classes was a crazy mix of music, laughter, and conversation. Dining halls were not open on the first evening back so the girls decided to walk down to Little Caesar's Pizza on 25th Street for crazy bread and sauce in addition to the extra large Supreme pizza that everyone shared. They did not mind the cold walk, but one and all wished that someone owned a car! Then they could go to Sonic and other real restaurants that were farther from campus.

Soon classes were underway and the students found that they were busier than ever. Classes, attending Thursday chapel, Kappa Phi meetings, and basketball games filled their winter calendars. It was an especially exciting season for the Lady Chiefs basketball team. Rose and her friends helped to cheer them on--all the way to the NAIA national championship!

A Thursday night Kappa Phi meeting was a welcome break from classes. One evening the girls experienced a candlelight service, which highlighted each line of the Lord's Prayer. The darkened chapel lent itself to quiet meditation of the familiar words. Our Father...what did that really mean? Hallowed be thy name...Rose had never taken the time to think about the prayer, which she had known since childhood. Different colored candles were lit at the beginning of each line of the prayer and then a reflection followed. The sisters were enthralled by the cross, formed by the candles, and expressed their thanks for the program at its conclusion.

Becky Powers, the program director, explained that this and other quality Kappa Phi programs were included in the new National Resource Notebook that had been presented at the National Council of Chapters last summer in Lindsborg, Kansas. Jill Diebel, then National Program Director and her program committee, had compiled the notebook, which had a multitude of program ideas for each program area, which could be simply picked up and used for Kappa Phi meetings. Chapters were encouraged to use it often



Campus Spring Sing. Courtesy of Oklahoma City University Archives & Special Collections.

As the snows began to melt, many organizations including Kappa Phi began to recruit members with good singing voices for the annual Campus Spring Sing. Blue Key sponsored the event. Each group was to present a medley of songs about a theme. A prize would be awarded to the winning group and their picture would hang in the President's office. Kappa Phi chose a weather theme. Wendy had a solo in the "Banana Boat Song" and everyone sang "I Can See Clearly Now the Rain is Gone." Rose and Kristen were part of the group. They sang and even did a little dance with shimmies for the event. Preparation had taken two weeks of practices to get everything just right. Even though they did not win, both girls felt that they had contributed to a campus tradition. Their freshman year was winding down and they were happy to feel a part of OCU.

Nationally Kappa Phi was growing. Alpha Upsilon sent congratulations and a gift of colored candles to use in the Lord's Prayer Service to Beta Beta Chapter at West Liberty State College in West

Virginia. The new chapter was installed on April 30, 1988. They hoped the new chapter would enjoy Kappa Phi as much as they did!

Soon it was time for the Senior Farewell. Rose watched with interest as the beautiful tradition, which honored seniors began. Candles were lit and someone spoke about being the Spirit of Kappa Phi. The Spirit of Kappa Phi told the graduating seniors that she had been with them through their college days. Now it was time for each sister to be presented with a pink rose and they were asked to drop four petals into the Alpha Upsilon Rose Bowl. One would be her wish for the chapter, the second wish was for Alpha Kora and the third wish was for the national Kappa Phi organization, the fourth wish was to be a personal wish and this one was to either be spoken or silent.

Rose listened to each girl as petals dropped into the beautiful bowl. One wished for continuing outreach on the OCU campus for girls who needed the sisterhood of Kappa Phi. Others spoke of wishing the National organization continued growth on many new campuses in the coming year. Final petals were dropped as each sister asked for prayers for jobs, marriages, graduate school or seminary. Some petals were dropped with a silent wish. Rose was touched by the beautiful ceremony. She knew that these sisters would soon take the Degree of the Rose, which was given to them by their sponsor and local alumnae. But this farewell was for the sisters of Alpha Upsilon. This was the night to smile and laugh and remember what these sisters had brought to the chapter. With hugs all around the evening ended with the Kappa Phi Benediction and then of course Dorothy's Punch and food! Rose was inspired to continue the work of Alpha Upsilon Chapter and excited to be on the pledge committee for the coming year. She was proud to be a Kappa Phi!

SOPHOMORE

Suitcases, boxes of toiletries, towels, sheets, books, and even a bean bag chair filled Rose's family room in her home in Lawton, Oklahoma as she once again packed for college. Sophomore year was upon her, and Rose could not wait to get back to school that fall of 1988. She was excited to see her friends and actually figure out what her major would be. Rose had taken the requisite freshman level introductory classes. This year she would take Psychology, Sociology, and Old and New Testament Studies. She had been praying about what her major should be. Her daily journal writings rambled about wanting to see the world, but also to make a difference in people's lives.

August 15,1988

Dear God.

I praise and thank you for the blessings you have given me. I appreciate the opportunity to attend OCU. My college days give me a chance to grow up and search for what you want me to do with my life. Should I marry and have children and be a stay at home mom? Should I become a TV reporter and work for a large network? Should I become a teacher or a businesswoman? I just don't know.

Last spring, I heard about the Legion of Light for Kappa Phi alumnae. This designation is for Kappa Phis who work in full time Christian ministry or the ministry of the laity. Kappa Phi cares about missions beyond the local church. I read in the Candle Beam about a Kappa Phi, Christine Braidwood, who was working with her husband in a school for the deaf in Haiti. Another Kappa Phi, Jane Benner, works at a homeless men's shelter in Dayton, Ohio

I keep thinking...could I do something like that? Could I commit myself to a Christian vocation? I do like to talk! I have helped out at Centenary United Methodist Church at home and have even given the children's sermon a few times. I like doing that. Am I called to.... ministry?

Oh Lord...help me to listen to your will.

Rose returned to OCU with all her possessions on a rainy day just one day before freshman move in day in August. Elevators that did not work, and the ever-present rain showers hampered the move in. At last everything was dumped on the floor of her new dorm room in Banning Hall and the goodbyes to her mom and dad were not as tearful as the year before! Rose had arrived early to help with freshman move in the following day. This year it would be her turn to wear a pink Kappa Phi shirt and help them move into Walker Hall! Wow! Where had the year gone? She smiled and began to unpack.

Classes began and Rose found herself busier than ever. In addition, Rose was now part of the Kappa Phi pledge committee. Their job was to assist the Pledge Mom, Beth Kesler, with recruitment efforts, and to be in charge of the Rose Tea. Pink paper roses, sherbet punch, invitations, tablecloths and cups.... the list went on and on. It was also up to the committee to make certain that prospective members were made to feel welcome. Flowered dresses and heels once again filled Watson Lounge in the United Methodist Student Center while Kappa Phis laughed, told stories, and answered questions about the organization. The chapter president, Kim Roddy, presented a slide presentation about Kappa Phi at OCU. The Tea was deemed a success when many girls decided to take the Degree of the Pine. The Kappa Phi year was off to a good start.



Photo from Alpha Upsilon

Late in September, Alpha Upsilon held a retreat for its members. The girls traveled from OCU to a member's cabin on beautiful Lake Texoma. Arriving around 10:00 p.m., everyone unpacked and gathered for sharing. The chaplain led the sisters in an activity, which would help them put their worries aside, at least for a while. They each listed their worries on paper and dropped them into a "Let Go, and Let God" bag. Evening prayers were shared and then several members took a chance and jumped into the "fountain of youth" Jacuzzi during free time before bed. Rose, Kristen and other sisters loved the warm water that was relaxing and practically lulled them to sleep. In spite of their sleepiness, Rose and Kristen sat up late talking and rocking on the front porch. Both shared their thoughts and questions about future careers. Kristen, too, had wondered about a call to the ministry. They promised to pray for each other and finally went to bed.

On Saturday morning, members headed for a nearby beach on the lake for a relaxing day of sun. They walked along the beach, built sand castles, and soaked up the cool sunny weather. Saturday evening, members took part in an Agape Feast. The Agape Feast or a Love Feast was an opportunity to experience God and the community of faith in the sharing of a meal. The girls ate a simple meal of bread, cheese, fruits and vegetables. During the meal scripture was read, songs sung, and prayers shared as the sisters participated in a meaningful time of worship. On Sunday after morning worship, members headed back to OCU and the routines of college life. Everyone was grateful for the break and the opportunity to fellowship, worship and have quiet time away from school.

As the semester progressed, Rose found that her favorite class was Comparative Religions with Dr. Donna Dykes. She made a point to talk with Dr. Dykes. She listened while Rose talked about her desire to serve others. Rose wondered if she had a call to to ministry. Dr. Dykes advised Rose to pray and look into a summer experience—perhaps working at a church camp. This would give her a chance to see what the life of service and ministry would be like. Rose promised to look into possible programs.

Kappa Phi pledging was in full swing. Since Rose was a member of the Pledge committee, she had been asked to attend many of the pledge meetings so she could assist Beth, the Pledge Mom. Actually, Rose had thought that she might like to be the Pledge Mom next year, so attending pledge meetings helped her see what the job would be like.

One Thursday evening, the pledges had gathered to study for the National Pledge test after the regular chapter meeting. Rose and a few other actives were quizzing the pledges about the symbols and aim of Kappa Phi. Rose's big sis, Shelley Owen walked into the lounge with a serious expression on her face. Looking directly at Rose, Shelly scolded, "Don't you know that actives CANNOT help pledges study for their tests? I'm going to have to report you to N-E-B!"

Now Rose wasn't exactly sure who NEB was. She had a vague idea that it was the governing board of Kappa Phi's national organization, but she really did not know much about it. Rose's face became as pink as her name and she stammered an apology claiming she had no idea it was against the rules. The pledges looked petrified and there was a guilt-filled silence. Shelly then began to laugh that quirky, famous laugh for which she was known. The girls took a breath and realized that she was playing a trick on them! Rose lunged at Shelly and gave her a hug. "Really?" said Rose, "I thought we were all in big trouble! Thanks a lot, Big! Next time give me a little warning, please."

The review session ended and everyone including Shelly suddenly decided to go to Sonic for hamburgers and fries. What a fun Kappa Phi evening!

Alpha Upsilon liked the new National theme, "Challenged to Serve." The chapter looked forward to focusing more on the service aspect of their faith. October also brought the annual Halloween party with students from the Skyline Urban Ministries program. The Kappa Phi girls loved this service project because the kids had such a great time and actually the Kappa Phis did too. Of course, there was always a chance that a special STE would end up working with a Kappa Phi who had her eye on him! STE was a Christian men's group with an aim and purpose similar to Kappa Phi. The two groups often combined for service projects. Rose liked Brian, a kind, and good-looking member of the group. He lived in Draper Hall and it seemed that she was always running into him somewhere around campus. He was studying Business and he intrigued Rose.

The sisters took part in judging of Halloween costumes, and held a lip-sync contest during which two children were paired with two Kappa Phis to perform a silly song without singing! There was also a mummy-wrapping contest in which the STEs were wrapped from head to toe with toilet paper to the delight of the kids and Kappa Phis alike. The party concluded with apple cider and doughnuts. Small bags of candy were presented and the children were escorted home. Every Kappa Phi and STE was exhausted from their endeavors. However, an ice cream run to Braum's found all gathered at tables reliving the afternoon. Rose did get to sit next to Brian and they both happened to order double chocolate chunk ice cream! Guess they did have something in common!

As November began, all OCU students found themselves overwhelmed with classes, review sessions, tests, and papers to write. Students could be found all over campus typing away on portable typewriters and making mountains of note cards for review. Calculus problems were painstakingly worked and reworked. Finals were fast approaching and the familiar end of the semester stress was evident on the faces of each student.

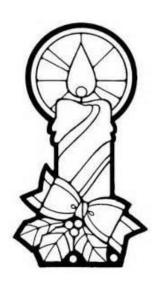
The last week of classes brought the now familiar Kappa Phi Yule Log tradition, which was held at the United Methodist Student Center. The sisters wore Christmas sweaters and jeans this year and gratefully gathered around the warm fireplace. Rose heard the story of the Yule Log once again and prayed for the sisters who had gone out from Alpha Upsilon chapter.

During the quiet reflection time at the conclusion of Yule Log, Rose took time to write in her journal.

Dear God,

Christmas is near and I am yearning for something more. As we approach your Son's birth, I continue to ask what is my purpose on this earth? What is it that you want me to do with my life? I attend church, go to Bible study, participate in many Kappa Phi functions, and pray often. I am just not sure if that is enough. Open my heart, dear Lord, and show me the way. How can I use my talents for your glory? All glory to you today and always.

Rose returned home for break on a sunny day in mid-December. She quickly jumped into Christmas preparations with her family. Cleaning, baking, shopping, and visiting family and friends filled her days. It seemed like she had changed so much since she had begun her college days. She was growing not only as a young woman, but also as a Christian on her faith journey. Home was an oasis from the stresses of college life, and vacation allowed her to catch her breath. On Christmas Eve, Rose lit her candle and prayed for Kappa Phi sisters far and near. She prayed that Alpha Upsilon would continue to reach out to women at OCU who were in search of Christian fellowship. While the candle was still burning, she wrote a letter to Kristen Brown, her freshman roommate and Kappa Phi sister. Kristen was a good friend and she shared Rose's yearnings to find out what God had planned for her. She wished Kristen the joy of the season and prayers for the coming semester.





Courtesy of Oklahoma City University Archives & Special Collections.

"Come in From the Snow," the traditional first Kappa Phi meeting of Spring Semester arrived with a real snowstorm! But in spite of the weather, the sisters returned in good humor to enjoy a meeting of sisterhood and planning. Members shared a favorite highlight of the Christmas break in small groups and then gathered for the business meeting.

The Silver Ball was at the top of the agenda for the chapter's spring semester. Alpha Upsilon of Kappa Phi had been installed on March 14,1964. The chapter was planning a 25th anniversary Silver Ball to take place on March 4 in the Watson Lounge on the campus of OCU. Committees were attending to details and everyone looked forward to the big event. The sisters learned that the fundraising committee had decided to sell silver Mylar balloons around campus to raise money. Orders would be taken and the balloons would be hand delivered for Valentine's Day. Everyone thought this was an awesome idea.

Other news came from the fall pledge class (now initiates) who had just taken the Degree of Light before Christmas. A Kiss the Pig contest was planned by this group to raise money for the American Cancer Society. Several jars to collect money were placed in the dining hall, each with the name of a campus person who had agreed to kiss a pig if their jar collected the most money. The lucky "winner" was the unpopular Dean of Students, Brett Dickerson. Imagine everyone's glee/chagrin when the pig bit his lip! In spite of the unfortunate ending of the contest, the sisters were proud of their new members who had come up with this innovative plan to raise money for a good cause.

Basketball was in full swing and the OCU Chiefs were having a great year! Most of the campus attended the games and the Kappa Phis were no exception. A date night party was held in February for the big game with Oklahoma Baptist University. Girls, with and without dates, attended as a large group and sat together on the bleachers. When the pep band played the fight song, all stood and sang, and made the letters O-C-U with their arms. They cheered and yelled for their team and were rewarded with a win! All piled into cars after the game and drove to Wendy's for a late night dinner. Many STE/Kappa Phi romances blossomed on this night and all had a good time.

Oh and our beloved Rose...she and Brian had a wonderful time on their first real date! Smiles all around from her sisters caused her to blush most of the evening! In spite of the blushing, Rose and Brian had a marvelous time.

The Silver Ball, celebrating Alpha Upsilon's 25th anniversary, took place on March 4,1989 in Watson Lounge on the OCU campus. Silver stars hung from the ceiling and covered the tables and walls. The girls wore beautiful dresses. Their dates were dressed in coats and ties. Many a picture was taken of Kappa Phi/STE couples with one-time-use KODAK FUN SAVER Panoramic 35 Cameras.

President Kim Roddy welcomed everyone and led the large group in the Philitia..."To friendship, to fellowship, to faith." This toast to Kappa Phi had been used for the first time on March 17,1917 before a banquet at Alpha Chapter. It was written by our founder, Mrs. Thompson, to commemorate "for eating and drinking together maketh friends." The

Kappa Phi Club adopted it as a tradition at National Council in 1922. It was a special toast of homecoming for all Kappa Phis and many of the sisters had never heard it before. The Kappa Phi Grace was sung and soon the buzz of quiet conversation filled the room. Dinner was an elegant affair with a celebratory cake for dessert.



Photo from Alpha Upsilon

During dessert, alumnae sisters were welcomed back and many of them spoke about the beginnings of the chapter and the excitement when Alpha Upsilon was installed on March 14, 1964. The alumnae were amazed at the success of the chapter and congratulations were shared all around. Also in attendance was National Treasurer, Debbie Fuhrmann, who extended greetings and congratulations from the National Executive Board of Kappa Phi. She reminded them of the need to send two active delegates and one sponsor delegate to the National Council of Chapters at Rockford College in Illinois. Kappa Phis from all over the country would meet. An amazing week was planned and it was still not too late to register.



Photo from Alpha Upsilon

With speeches concluded the dancing began. The sisters and their dates danced to lots of songs by Paula Abdul and others well into the night. All agreed that the event had been a huge success. Alpha Upsilon had celebrated its 25th anniversary in style. Members had gained a new appreciation of the heritage of their Kappa Phi chapter and many alumnae reconnected with each other and the chapter.

Spring finally began to make an appearance in March. The snow melted and bits of green grass and crocuses sprouted around campus. Rose loved to walk the Martin Nature Trails that were adjacent to the campus. Long walks in the spring sunshine calmed many students as they began to feel the stress of preparing for end of semester projects and finals.

Rose and Brian were dating now. They liked to take evening walks and talk about their day. They often talked about the future and what they wanted to do when they graduated. Neither had specific plans and both were waiting to see where God would lead them. It was hard to pray and wait, but they still had time in college to figure things out. As a United Methodist school, the atmosphere at OCU was very encouraging to

students who were discerning a call to ministry. Rose was praying for direction about her thoughts of serving in the foreign missions. Neither of them knew where they were headed either with careers or each other, but they were content to see where the Lord would lead them.

Easter was near and the Kappa Phis celebrated the traditional Meal in Upper Room on a Thursday evening before spring break. The now familiar tradition was comforting to Rose and many of the sisters as they gathered around the table to share the symbolic meal. Kristen Brown told Rose after the service that she realized that, "These sisters are with me on my journey. I was moved to tears as the scriptures came alive to me during the meal." Rose agreed and once again was thankful for Kappa Phi, which nurtured her walk with Christ. Kappa Phi challenged her and all the sisters to be the best Christians they could be.

The end of the semester with all its events was in full swing. Degree of the Light for spring pledges, election of officers for next year, and a planning meeting crowded the Kappa Phi calendar. The finale was the Senior Farewell for the graduating seniors. The thoughtful wishes expressed by the graduates touched those in attendance. Many expressed appreciation for the sisterhood shown to them when they were young freshman on campus. Tears flowed and there was not a dry eye in the chapel. The subsequent reception was filled with laughter and memories. The seniors shared "Dorothy's punch" one last time and made a point to toast Dorothy, their beloved sponsor. Dorothy hugged each one of "her girls" and the evening ended with the Kappa Phi Benediction.

Rose was sad the year was ending but also excited for her summer plans. As soon as finals were over Rose was headed to Canyon Camp in Hinton, Oklahoma for the summer to work as a camp counselor. Canyon Camp was sponsored by the United Methodist Church and offered Rose an opportunity to make some money and work in a Christian environment. She was excited for this new opportunity to put her faith into action.

Alpha Upsilon again celebrated the installation of a new Kappa Phi chapter, Beta Gamma, at Ohio Wesleyan University on April 15, 1989. A welcome card and chapter gift were sent. They looked forward to meeting girls from Beta Gamma and Beta Beta at National Council of Chapters in Rockford, Illinois.

CHAPTERS INSTALLED 1965-1991

1968	Alpha Chi	University of Akron, OH
1969	Alpha Psi	University of Mount Union, OH
1971	Alpha Omega	Ohio Northern University
1983	Beta Alpha	Eastern Michigan University
1988	Beta Beta	West Liberty University, WV
1989	Beta Gamma	Ohio Wesleyan University

Summer Camp

Rose had a wonderful summer at camp. She enjoyed the campers and leading them in prayer and Bible study, games and crafts, and of course the pool was always fun. The best part of the day was when the mail came. She relished receiving letters from her family and Brian. He kept her in stitches with his job working as a ride operator at Frontier City Amusement Park. But the best was when she received letters from her Kappa Phi sisters

One letter came from her Kappa Phi sister Shannon Gilland:

July 14, 1990

Dear Rose,

How are you? I am doing super duper.

I am working a summer internship at American Floral Service as part of the Meinder's Fellowship I received. I get to inventory all of the fixed assets at AFS. Sounds glorious but what it really means is that I get to climb under desks and tables and move around computers, all the while trying to look sophisticated in a dress. UGH! It pays pretty well for an intern AND I get to stay in Oklahoma City for the summer, where Dane is also working. He is shopping for auto parts in an un-air-conditioned warehouse. How is that for glamour? He is losing a ton of weight because he is walking and sweating all day. Maybe THAT is the job I need!!!!!!

I know that we have only been dating for 11 months but I really think Dane is THE ONE! Please don't tell me that I am only 18 and don't know what real love is. If you do, I will start calling you "MOM". He is sooooo awesome!!!!! The only thing is, Dane is studying religion and going into the ministry. Since my dad is a preacher, I promised myself that I would NEVER date someone who was in the ministry. I hated all the moving. When I came to OCU I had big dreams of being an international businesswoman and

traveling the world. But if Dane is the one, I just don't see how that would be possible and be a preacher's wife. So, what do I do? Pick career or pick love? I think it may be easier to be an accountant locally (and not fly around the world) than to find someone else to be the right husband for me. What do you think? I know, I know, he has to ask first. Dane is just so caring and sweet. You know, he doesn't smile much with his mouth but oh my, his eyes smile all the time!!!!! I know I am gushing and you want to throw up but it is sooooo awesome to be in love. I sure hope that you find someone as wonderful as Dane.

Some of us sisters are getting ready to go to church camp as counselors. I am really looking forward to being down at the canyon for a week with the kids. However, I am not looking forward to the heat. I wish the cabins were air-conditioned!!!!!

I met the new campus minister last week. His name is Mark Barnett. He just got married and said his wife, Linda, might be interested in helping with Kappa Phi. That might be pretty neat to have both Dorothy and Linda help us. We are going to have a Bible Study at their house next Wednesday evening. He seems really fun – hopefully his wife is too!!!!!

Well, gotta go. See you in a couple of weeks.

Love ya, Shannon

Wow! Shannon was having a great summer. Rose wondered if Brian was "her one?" More importantly, she kept feeling that God was calling her to be more, to do more than TV journalism. Was God calling her to the ministry? Rose continued to pray and to listen for answers to her prayers.

Later she heard from her Big Sis, Shelley Owen:

June 22, 1991 Mira Flores, Lima, Peru

Hi, Rose!

Sorry it's taken me so long to write to you. I arrived safely in Lima on June 7. Going through customs was a trip. I was quite nervous, but the agent opened my huge brown suitcase first. It was the bag that I had packed a bunch of hangers in the top of. When he unzipped the bag, the hangers all came popping out. He put them back in, zipped the bag and said, "You're OK." It was very hard not to laugh. He smiled, so I guess he wasn't too upset. After I got my bags onto a cart, I noticed that other customs agents were asking every "Gringa" (a lady who doesn't look like she's from South America-You know? A pale-face like me, perhaps?) They saw what their name was. When someone asked me, I told them that I was Shelly Owen. Everyone got excited, "Shelly Owen! Shelly Owen!" they said. I was a bit confused by this since I had been asleep on the plane and it was 6:00 in the morning, but they showed me to the door and when it opened, Dr. Sanchez and Dr. Mautua were waiting for me. I must say that I was relieved to see them since I hadn't received a response to the letter I had written to Dr. Mautua.

The people that I've met here are wonderful. I am living in a house that the doctors run for women who are giving their babies up for adoption to families in Europe. There is so much red tape to international adoptions that the families have to live here for 6 months or longer in order for the adoptions to be finalized. One family from Denmark has been here since last September. Their little boy is with them and the birth mother has signed the paperwork, but they haven't been given clearance to leave by the Peruvian government, so they have to stay here in a hotel until the paperwork is approved. Last weekend, I went on a tour with them and Doctora Yanez, the

pediatrician who is married to Dr. Mautua, of the coast and the hospital where Daniel was born. It was the first time I had been the only translator present (Tracy, another intern from upstate New York, is usually with me when we visit the families), and I did a pretty good job. I have started to think and dream in Spanish, which is cool, except it's exhausting. I have a much clearer picture of what international students and immigrants go through when they move to a country that speaks a language other than the one they learned first. At the hospital, a mother who had given birth the day before ran behind us saying, "Please take my baby, too!" It was heartbreaking.

I will certainly have tales to tell and slides to show when I get back to Kappa Phi in the fall. I never could have imagined the impact that this assignment would have on my life. The disparity between rich and poor is so stark that it's hard to comprehend. The house we live in is in an upper middle class neighborhood called Mira Flores, which means, "Look at the flowers!" The doctors have a clinic in this neighborhood, a few miles from the house, and a clinic in a much poorer neighborhood called Ciudad de Dios (City of God). Do you remember when Julie Dowler did a program for us on Henri Nouwen's work in South America? Well, Ciudad de Dios is where Nouwen worked. We go on the bus from Mira Flores to Ciudad de Dios almost every afternoon, and it is guite a shock each time. We can actually smell the garbage in the streets when we get close to our stop. The clinic has concrete walls, as most of the homes here do, but there are no ceilings in most areas of the Ciudad de Dios clinic. The floors are bare concrete. The staff keeps it as clean as possible, but it's difficult to do. The women who come to this clinic have very little money and cannot pay the doctors more than a dollar or two, but are very grateful for the doctors' help.

Julie was a Kappa Phi who graduated from OCU a year before I got there, but she had worked with Drs. Mautua and Sanchez a few years ago, when she had this same internship. When I told my adviser that I was nervous about this trip, he gave me Julie's address and phone number, so I called her. She sent me a box of stuff including a book by Nouwen and a cassette tape of her memories of Lima and some music by Michael Card, which I am sure I will wear out before I leave. I've only been here for two weeks, and I have almost worn out the cards that she sent me by playing solitaire. I may have to get another deck when Luisa and I go the market on Saturday. Julie's letter had told me that it would take a couple of weeks for me to feel like I belonged here, and she was right. I had lots of trouble adjusting to the laid back lifestyle, the lack of planning that people do and the general slower pace of life than what I'm used to. I do think that people in Latin America find people more important than clocks, though, and I appreciate that very much.

That feeling that I was where I was supposed to be, happened last night for me. Dr. Rodriguez was going to a party for a pharmacy that was opening near his clinic in one of the Young Towns, which are in the mountains around Lima. These are communities that have popped up due to people coming to the capital to find work, but the work isn't here, and so they build makeshift houses wherever they can. This particular town is called "Esperanza" (which means Hope). The people were so thrilled that they had a place where they can get the medicine they need. There was a huge fiesta. We had fish and potatoes and other food that they probably saved for weeks to buy. The music was so loud and joyful and everyone greeted me with the traditional kiss on the cheek. Their happiness wasn't something temporary or superficial. It was a deep joy that came from a belief that things were going to get better for them. The prayers before we ate dinner were so beautiful, about trusting God and giving thanks for everything that they had, without asking God for any material needs, of which they have many. At the end of the party, they "Christened" the pharmacy like they would a boat, by breaking a bottle of wine over the door of the building. When the crowd dispersed, Dr. Rodriguez said that he needed to go to the clinic to see a couple of patients, so we jumped in his VW Beetle and drove the few blocks to his office.

While the doctor was in with his patients, I waited in the front room of the house that the clinic is in. I read a little bit in the book that I had brought with me, but then decided to step out onto the porch to look at the night sky. I had tried to do this last week in Lima, but the sky was orange from pollution and I couldn't see the moon, let alone any stars. In Esperanza, however, the night was quiet. There were no roads, so there were very few cars. I stood in the front yard for several minutes, just enjoying the silence, the breeze and the fresh air. I looked up and saw the stars for the first time in two weeks. I began to cry and to pray. I asked God why I had been sent to this place. I asked what I had to offer the people and how God intended to use me here. There were no lightning bolts or voice from the clouds, but I had the clear sense that God's answer to my prayer was, "You are here to be here."

I grabbed my journal and wrote the following, which I want to share with you, "That's how it is with God. God calls and we answer, "Here I am, Send me!" or in my case, "Here I am? Send me? You've got to be kidding!" And wherever we go, we discover that God has not only paved the way, but is there to walk it with us. It's cool...

So, I am here to be here. I have no idea what other things will happen while I'm in Peru, but I will try to be open to whatever God brings my way. I am so grateful for this opportunity and will continue to learn from every experience.

I can't wait to see you back on campus and hear about your summer. Have you visited your grandpa's farm? I am sure that you will also have stories to tell. Tell the cows, "Hi" for me since I probably won't see any here. My address is below, but mail isn't very reliable here. A guy comes by on a moped every week to ten days and brings us mail when there is enough for the house that he deems it time to deliver it. The good part is that I might get a bunch of letters at once. I sure am writing a lot of them!!

Shelly

Rose wondered if she could be open to whatever God brought her way? Was she at Canyon Camp so God could speak to her?

August 1, 1989

Dear Kristen,

It's the last camp of the summer. As I sit here by the side of the lake listening to the waves lap on the water I'm thinking about the past months and the months to come. Every week has brought a different age group of campers each with their own challenges and victories. I started out a little afraid of the task I was given to do as a counselor. My prayers were moment-by-moment sentences just asking God to get me through.

A couple weeks ago things changed. The senior high camp was filled with some kids who had no idea what part Christ had in their lives, but others who had a very deep, strong faith. It made me reflect on the people in my life who helped my faith grow. I started using quiet time to listen to God, not just call out to him, but also truly listen.

When I return to campus this fall I'm going to see my advisor about a future in missions or the ministry. I hear God calling me to be one of those people who help others grow in their faith. I'm excited about what Christ has in store for me.

I'll see you soon. Thanks for your keeping in touch this summer. Can't wait to see the Kappa Phi sisters.

In Christ's Love, Rose

JUNIOR

Rose returned to OCU on a bright August morning with plans to see her advisor before her classes began. Her communications classes had been interesting and up until now Rose had been content with this major. However, she had made an appointment with Dr. Emler to discuss a change in her major. While at Canyon Camp this summer, Rose decided to pursue a course of study, which would prepare her for divinity school. She felt God was calling her to a life of service in the church and she wanted to get started right away. She would change her major to Religious Studies. She could not wait to talk to her good friend Kristen Brown since Rose knew that she too now planned to attend seminary after college.

After unpacking and settling into Walker Hall once again, Rose walked across campus to attend the Kappa Phi Cabinet meeting for the coming year's events. As Pledge Coordinator, Rose was a member of the Cabinet and looked forward to planning a new year in Kappa Phi.

Mona Krivanek and Dorothy Graham reported on National Council. Both agreed the \$200 fee was money well spent to learn about the new theme, "Anchored in Faith." They listened to "Dr. Hugs" share about the importance of hugs, and learned about new ways to study the Bible. The delegates elected a new National Executive Board, approved a newly revised RITUAL BOOK, and accepted the recommendation to add "Christian Beliefs and the Kappa Phi Woman" to the PLEDGE HANDBOOK. Unfortunately, no one represented the two new chapters, but they did meet over a hundred women from all over the United States.

The surprise of the meeting was to learn that Alpha Upsilon Chapter had been awarded the Thompson Trophy for continued quality programming, strong membership, and overall outstanding operation at the council banquet! Wow, everyone was surprised and pleased! They remembered how hard they had worked last year. Communication with National officers and including the four program areas had been chapter goals. Mona, also, shared that next Council would celebrate Kappa Phi's Diamond Anniversary. Imagine--75 years! Rose wondered if she dared to dream of going?

Alpha Upsilon decided to take the national theme, "Anchored in Faith," one step further by instituting a local theme, "Sailing for Christ." The sisters hosted "lounge parties", "cruises" (formal biweekly meetings), "days at sea" (informal meetings on alternate weeks), and "ports of call" (service) included cleaning a section of highway for the local Adopt a Highway program and hosting activities for the children of an area church.

Rose was now Pledge Mom and she thoroughly enjoyed working with the new members. Incredibly, 35 girls had taken the Degree of the Pine and from the looks of things; most of them would be taking the Degree of the Light. Rose worked hard to fulfill the national requirements for the pledge program. She taught them about the Aim and the Purpose of the organization. They sang the "Kappa Phi Hymn" and talked about its meaning. They learned the pin pledge and listened to the story entitled "The Weaver of Hull House" which was Mrs. Thompson's inspiration for beginning Kappa Phi. Rose was proud as her pledges became comfortable with the rest of the group. The pledges could not wait to receive a big sis and then take the Degree of the Light.

Rose found that she enjoyed working with these young women and loved sharing her faith with them. She started a prayer partner program that paired a pledge and an active to pray together once a week during the first semester. It was a way for actives and pledges to get to know each other and pray at the same time. Feedback from both groups was positive and Rose was already planning a second semester series, which would include a short Bible study for each week. New partners would be picked in January.

Rose reflected about this experience in her Biblical Storytelling class. She was glad that Kappa Phi had given her the opportunity to bring people together to pray in a different way. She liked hearing the discussions and enjoyed sharing with all the partners. With seminary still in mind, Rose began to think about running for chaplain of Kappa Phi for the following year. She wanted to share her faith and connect others to Christ through Kappa Phi. Wow! She had never thought about being chaplain.

On a snowy November evening Kappa Phi sisters were gathering for their usual Thursday meeting. However, history intervened! As Rose and others entered the UMSF, they noticed that everyone was gathered around a TV in the lobby. Amazingly, they saw pictures of masses of ordinary people with hammers and chisels knocking out pieces of the Berlin Wall. The Wall had stood for 28 years! Berlin had been politically divided since the end of World War II. But the wall had physically divided the city at the height of the Cold War between the western democracies and the Soviet Union (Russia) in 1961. The sisters could not believe what they were

seeing. Rose remembered learning about the Berlin Wall in high school history. Families and friends had not seen each other in 28 years! A generation had grown up while the wall separated the city. People who had gone to work in West Berlin so many years ago were suddenly able to see their loved ones.

On this day, as the world watched, the wall came down, and friends, families, and the entire nation of Germany would soon be reunited. Tears of joy were shed by many including Rose and her Kappa Phi sisters. Prayers of thanksgiving concluded the meeting.

December dawned bright and cold as the chapter prepared for Degree of the Light. Rose was a proud Pledge Mom as 30 girls promised to uphold the ideals of Kappa Phi. Rose reflected on the pin pledge as the entire chapter joined in:

I hereby pledge myself to be true to Kappa Phi and to the ideals for which it stands and if in the eyes of my sisters I ever prove disloyal or inactive, I will for the sake of Kappa Phi, yield up my pin and my membership.

Each new active received her pin from her big sis. Numerous pictures were taken of the entire chapter but the new sisters were the stars of the evening. The entire chapter went to Braum's for ice cream to celebrate.

A week later the chapter celebrated the Yule Log tradition in Watson Lounge. The chapter once again watched the old log kindle the new. The chapter had decided to bring canned goods to the event that would be donated to the World Hunger program of the United Methodist Church. Favorite Christmas carols were sung and the sisters wrote in journals about their hopes and dreams for the coming year. Rose prayed in thanksgiving for the past semester's blessing. She asked The Lord to be with her as she continued on the path toward enrolling in seminary upon graduation from OCU.

Spring semester sped by in a flurry of Kappa Phi activities and classes. Rose particularly enjoyed her Feminist Theology class taught by Dr. Donna Dykes and found Dr. Bill Martin's class in Biblical Analysis to be life changing. She knew she was following her call.

Actives and alumnae braved icy weather in March to gather at Camp Christian near Tulsa, Oklahoma to attend Alpha Kora Conference. The main meeting room was decorated with a US map that showed where Alpha Kora Kappa Phis had been or will be "lights in the darkness" during the past and coming year. By Saturday afternoon, banners based on the new theme, "Lights in the Darkness," were made by those attending and hung around the room. The banners were taken back home with the chapters so they could be used during the next year.



Photo from Alpha Upsilon

One highlight of the weekend was Games Night. Members from each team sat at different tables to play Uno, Cootie, Hi-Ho-Cherry-O, and the all time favorite, Bug Off. It was amazing to see sisters crawling on the floor, or jumping over a chair to swat a bug!

Hallie Forcinio, National President, reported on the National State of Kappa Phi and announced that next year's 75th National Council would be at Hope College in Holland, Michigan. Again it would only cost \$200. Rose vowed to start saving right then, so she could be there.

Cindy Baldwin retired as Alpha Kora Coordinator and was honored for her eight years of outstanding work. Barb Stadler was installed as the new Kora Coordinator. Alpha Upsilon was proud when their own Mona Krivanek was installed as Kora Program Director and Kristen Brown was installed as Kora President.

More "lights" were shared with the Lord's Prayer Service on Sunday morning. Despite the weather, everyone attending enjoyed the food, fun, worship, and sisterhood.

Meal in Upper Room was on the calendar and Rose and Kristen had volunteered to help with the set up of the room. The banquet room was to be set simply with white table linens and candles. A place of honor was set with a large picture of Jesus. A menorah and a loaf of baked bread were set in front of the picture. Dorothy made lamb fricassee and the girls brought olives, dates, cheese, and grapes. Rose remembered that the hardest part of the meal was to keep from talking. This was not exactly an easy thing for Kappa Phi girls! However, once the meal began and the members around the table shared the scriptures, all pondered the words of Jesus. The scriptures came alive for her, and she felt as if she was really there listening to Jesus' words. Wow! Kappa Phi had this unique liturgy and Rose had no idea it would be so meaningful.

Easter came and went and soon the end of semester activities with its exams, papers, projects, and stress was coming up fast. One thing on Rose's to do list was to set up visits to a couple seminaries over the summer. She and her parents wanted to visit Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois and the Perkins School of Theology in Kansas City, Missouri. Many questions were rambling through Rose's head as she signed up for campus tours and visits with faculty.

SENIOR

Alpha Upsilon was thrilled to start their year with receiving a Letter of Commendation for their outstanding job of incorporating the national theme, "Anchored in Faith," into their programming. NEB mentioned the

"clever nautical artwork they used throughout their program book, making it especially attractive and inspiring."

The annual Rose Tea was upon them. As always the sisters turned to beloved sponsor, Dorothy Graham, for the traditional pink sherbet punch. It was simply called "Dorothy's Punch". Dorothy was an administrative assistant to the Dean in the Chapel office on campus. A tall and regal looking woman with lovely gray hair, she taught the Kappa Phis to stand up straight and present themselves as women of quality. According to the seniors, everything had to be "just so" for any formal Kappa Phi event like the Rose Tea, rituals and degrees. Rose loved it when Dorothy referred to the Kappa Phis as "all her kids". Everyone wanted to make Dorothy proud.



Glenda Skinner-Noble, Shannon Gilland Lemans, Dorothy Grahm, Kristen Brown, Trina Pyeat Nondorf Photo from Kristen Brown

The chapter planned to use the 1990-91 theme, "Lights in the Darkness," to share their faith with others through study and service. One of their favorite programs of the year was in October. Each active and pledge was given the "spotlight" where she could share her individuality. Members brought things such as jewelry, Bibles, balloons from a boyfriend, stuffed animals from their childhood years, and many other items that held special meaning. As a result, members felt they had grown closer by learning something special or unique about every girl. Sisterhood was strengthened and all enjoyed the event.

Fall semester quickly passed with the usual flurry of Kappa Phi events. First Degree of the Pine, then getting to know the pledges, service

and worship meetings and Degree of the Light all passed by in a blur! The sisters especially enjoyed producing a Talent Show at Fairview nursing home. Everyone laughed as group after group of sisters entertained the residents with song and dance. The evening ended with the sisters passing out hand made favors and then all joining in a sing a-long of old hymns. "Amazing Grace," "How Great Thou Art," "The Old Rugged Cross," were just a few of the favorite hymns that resounded from the group of young and old. The residents later said that the sing a-long was their favorite part of the evening.

Yule Log and finals were the following week. Somehow fall semester was drawing to a close. Rose looked forward to spending time with her family and getting some sleep!

Classes resumed for Spring Semester and Rose could not believe that she would graduate from OCU in just a few months. The Kappa Phis gathered for their first chapter meeting of the new year on January 17, 1991. An eerie replay of walking into the Methodist Student Center and finding a large group of students in front of a TV played out that evening. The words Operation Desert Storm in large print were splashed across the TV screen and the new 24 hours news network CNN was broadcasting from the front lines of the battle waging in Kuwait. The girls learned that President George Bush had deployed U.S. forces into Saudi Arabia. The largest military alliance since World War II including 34 countries had invaded Kuwait in response to Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait.

The members sat glued to the TV and some began to cry. Being away from home was sometimes hard, and now the country was at war. Rose and the other seniors tried to comfort the younger students and everyone prayed and hugged one another. Sponsors, Linda and Dorothy filled the parent gap to calm them all. At the end of the meeting Dorothy prayed in the closing circle. Everyone was scared and it was a comfort to hear Dorothy pray in her "King James" way. She used many thees and thous from the scriptures and they liked that. The chapter prayed for peace and went home to call their parents just to hear their voices.

Graduation! Rose could think of little else as her final semester at OCU unfolded with its usual chaotic observance of classes, homework, exams, and Kappa Phi events. As she sat in the darkened chapel and

listened to the Degree of the Light, Rose could not believe that she would soon leave OCU and her active Kappa Phi days behind. She realized that she would not be around to get to know these new Kappa Phi sisters. Thus, she was both happy and sad as she hugged each one following the Degree.

Graduating seniors were all smiles and a few tears as the chapter gathered just one week later for Senior Farewell. Rose, Kristen, Shelley, and others approached the Rose Bowl and dropped petals as they expressed what Kappa Phi had meant to them and their wishes for the future of the organization both at OCU and Kappa Phi National.

Rose expressed gratefulness to the chapter for nurturing her walk with Christ. She knew that Kappa Phi had played a significant part in her decision to attend Garrett School of Theology in the coming fall. She prayed that Kappa Phi would continue to grow and serve the college women who would come after her.

Rose knew this coming summer would be amazing as she prepared to go to Chicago in the fall to attend seminary, worked at her home church, and got ready for a road trip to Michigan for the National Council of Chapters and Kappa Phi's 75th Anniversary.



Letters from

Photo from Alpha Upsilon

Council



Elizabeth Thornburg, Alberta Meadowcorft, Kay King Novella Bredbenner--Sisters for Life. Photo from Novella Bredbenner

Sunday, Aug. 4, 1991

Dear Mom,

Today we arrived at Hope College in Holland, Michigan. You would not believe all the people who are here from all over the country--over 140. Kappa Phi is celebrating being 75. Wow!

The best part is I met an alum, Mary Goodenow, who is so friendly. I also met Kathy Sanders, the National Program Director. They're roommates and such fun. I could not believe that they are still active in Kappa Phi--they're in their 30s! Kappa Phi must keep you young, because there are lots of ladies who have been coming to Council for many years. Novella, has attended over 20!

Our welcome bags featured lots of fun things. My favorite is the toothbrush with Kappa Phi National Council imprinted on it!

The opening ceremony featured a candle being lit for each of the 71 active and alumnae chapters that have ever been chartered. The new theme "Like the Christ We Serve" was introduced.

Love, Rose



Map for active and alumnae chapters and Diamond Anniversary – Wishes for the time capsule to be opened at 100th council. Photo by Novella Bredbenner

Monday, Aug. 5, 1991

Dear Mom,

Today was a busy day. The first ever LeSourd Program that honored the third national sponsor, Lucille LeSourd, and her emphasis on quality programming was presented. Wayne Bolton, chairman of the Religion Department at Hope College, spoke about "A Fragrant Offering to God." His inspirational message was about some challenges and rewards of Christian service in our time. Using the example of the Good Samaritan, he reminded us that to serve Christ is about doing ordinary things and that our service is guided by Christ.

There was a business meeting, a committee meeting (I am on the National Service Project Committee), and actives and alumnae meetings. Also, we had our Council picture taken, choir and band practice, and korai meetings.

Sarah Kraft, a Phi alum, who is a diaconal minister in Christian Education, led us in a Bible study. We loved participating with such a large group for The Meal in the Upper Room. I got to be a server. The evening closed on a high note-we had our 75th birthday party. There were party hats, balloons, and t-shirts featuring the 75th logo. Of course, there was ice cream and cake. It was amazing to see all these women enjoying their Kappa Phi friendships. I hope I can stay active in Kappa Phi for a very long time.

Love, Rose



Marilyn Evans and Cheri Ault Way serve punch at the 75th Birthday Party. Photo by Novella Bredbenner.



With Josh Kelly watching, Dorothy Hedrick blows out the candles while Mary Goodenow and Debbie Fuhrman are ready to serve. Photo by Novella Bredbenner.

Tuesday, August 6, 1991

Dear Mom,

Today was another wonderful day here in Holland, Michigan. The day started with the Rev. Chuck Cooley (our sixth National Sponsor's husband) leading us in Bible study. He sure is fun and was a campus minister for many years at Ohio University, Western Michigan University, and The Ohio State University. He loves to tell jokes and last night after the party was over he and Louise even inhaled helium and talked with high-pitched voices.

Then we got to learn about Kappa Phi History from two ladies who have lived it: Novella Bredbenner and Alberta Meadowcroft. Novella is from Iowa and has been taking pictures at Kappa Phi councils since 1941--the 25th! She had many slides and stories to share. Alberta is from Pennsylvania and wrote many of the songs in our Kappa Phi Songbook and what we call the "green history book" which is about Kappa Phi from 1916-1955. She had us singing. She explained how she came to compose a song based on the theme of the year it was written. Alberta

played and we sang. Never have I heard the songs with such enthusiasm! I hope I can talk with each of these amazing women personally.

In an afternoon workshop we learned about using our spiritual gifts to discover our service style. After dinner, in Dimnant Chapel, there was a Memorial Service, an Organ Recital, and then we went outside for the Legion of Light Ceremony. This was a beautiful, candle lit ceremony to celebrate 84 women who are retired or current missionaries, ministers, and lay workers. Kristen Brown and I were honored to each light a candle for one of the many Alpha Upsilons. Since I am going to be going to Garrett and Kristen is headed to Duke Theological, we hope to be so honored in the future. Maybe I will make it to another Council and light my own candle. I am so blessed that God has led me to Kappa Phi and to experience this.

Love, Rose

Wednesday, August 7, 1991

Dear Mom,

The Rev. Jan Green, Alpha Zeta alum and ordained American Baptist minister serving in Pennsylvania, led today's Bible study. The business meetings in the morning and evening were interesting--an expanded PLEDGE HANDBOOK was approved, dues for Life Membership were raised to \$110 (want to go halfsies with me?), it was decided to have an appointed National Officer of Pledging to help the chapter pledge coordinators, and the Nominating Committee gave its report and introduced the candidates.

In the afternoon, we finally had some FREE TIME! I went to the beach to see Lake Michigan and soak up some sun. I went with Marti Landis, the National Secretary, who is an Alpha Kappa and lives in Pennsylvania. Others toured Holland, or the Dutch Village attraction, or just relaxed. I, also, spent some time looking at the historical displays and visiting the Kappa Phi Bookstore and shopped for what chapters had brought to sell.

Finally it was time for fun night! There were lots of skits-by actives, by Beta Kora, by the "Widowers and Orphans," otherwise known as the husbands and

children of Council-going Kappa Phis. Even the National Executive Board got into the act. They presented a Kappa Phi "Council Quiz."



Photo by Novella Bredbenner

The best was the Vanna White impersonator--Hallie Forcinio, National President, dressed in a fabulous blue dress and sitting in a wheelchair--she had a hairline fracture in her left foot caused by falling off a curb in the dark while unloading her car upon arrival. Three alums--Ann Stankiwicz (Alpha Lambda), Mary Goodenow (Alpha Gamma), and Kathy Sanders (Epsilon) did this funny skit based on Johnny Carson's Carnac the Magnificent.



Photo from Kathy Sanders

Holding an envelope to her forehead Carnak/Karnak, dressed in robes and with towels wrapped around their heads as turbans, saw the answer: "Pine tree, candle and pink rose." Prompted by Kathy, the audience repeated the answer. Then the envelope was opened to reveal the question: "What are the weapons in the Kappa Phi version of Clue." We all laughed at their jokes about the funny things that had happened at Council. The highlight was the Councillettes, women who have attended five councils, who wore Dutch-styled hats and sang "Tiptoe Through the Tulips." Afterwards, Novella continued to share slides from 1975-1991. Many enjoyed seeing how the alums looked when they were younger.

Only one more full day to go!

Love, Rose

Thursday, August 8, 1991

Dear Mom,

Another busy day and our last full day. Today Jane Benner was our Bible study leader. She is an Alpha Psi alum living in Dayton, Ohio and working as the director of The Booth House, a Salvation Army shelter for homeless men. Then there was the last business meeting. Elections for the National Executive Board were held and we heard reports from various committees. My committee was the National Service Project. We recommended that chapters become involved in projects promoting literacy for children and adults. It was adopted!

Then we had to choose one more workshop about different service options: How Do I Make Change Happen?, Habitat for Humanity, Migrant Workers, or Literacy: Ready to Read. I chose the first one. Jane Benner, our morning Bible study leader, was our presenter. Hearing her share about her ministry, again affirmed my calling into the ministry and my future.

After a lunchtime officer workshop, we spent the afternoon preparing for the evening. It began with the installation of the National Officers in Dimnant Chapel. Each woman who had served as past grand or national officer was recognized and given a sash with her office to wear. There were lots of group pictures taken.



Former National Sponsors: Dorothy Hedrick (1963-1971), Louise Cooley (1971 – 1975), Martha Dodson (1975 – 1983) Barbara Van Westrinen (1983 – 1991). Photo by Novella Bredbenner

The banquet was special and a not-to-be-missed event. The Council Choir and the Council Band entertained us. After a wonderful meal, Certificates of Merit were given to the Athens Area Alumnae and the Gamma Alumnae. The District of Columbia Alumnae were awarded The Alumnae Tray for generous financial contributions and support of Kappa Phi. This was only the third time this award had been given since its inception in 1980. Alpha Psi, Alpha Kappa, and Alpha Gamma received Certificates of Merit. The Thompson Trophy, which Alpha Upsilon won at last Council, was given to Phi Chapter for continued excellence in recruitment, consistent support of Kora and National activities, and commitment to service. The LeSourd Cup was presented to Epsilon Chapter for growth in all areas and development of an innovative pledge program.

Debbie Fuhrmann, chairwoman of the 75th Anniversary Committee, showed everyone the time capsule. Inside the time capsule are members' thoughts and dreams for Kappa Phi. Some left artifacts like Phi's Kappa Phi shield t-shirt and Alpha Omega's program book. Someone left an embroidered Kappa Phi handkerchief. Debbie put in the first computer program she ran on Kappa Phi's first computer, an Apple II, known as Rosie. The words and music to the winning song of the 75th Anniversary Song Contest are in there. Andi Prior (Zeta) the composer & lyricist sang the song for us on Fun Night.



Hallie Forcinio applauds as Debbie Fuhrmann display the Time Capsule. Photo by Novella Bredbenner

Also, included is the Time Capsule Dedication. The Dedication ends with this thought:

We, therefore, can rest in the Lord, in the assurance that there is nothing past, present, future--nothing that can separate us from the love of God for us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

May we end the first 75 years in such faith, may we enter the next 75 with this kind of assurance.

"There is a glory to be gained, There are great deeds to be done. There are goals still unattained. Waiting some courageous one. What was finished yesterday, Merely paves tomorrow's way."

For remember: "Our daughters will weave here tomorrow."

The time capsule is to be opened at the National Council celebrating the 100th anniversary of Kappa Phi. I sure hope I can be there!

Barbara VanWestrienen was honored as the eighth retiring national sponsor. A "This Is Your Life" segment showed appreciation to her as voices from the past told her story. A beautiful quilt with blocks from each chapter was presented, and a donation was made in her name to the National Development Fund to help sponsors attend Kora and National events. As the evening drew to a close, the sponsor's robe was ceremoniously place on the shoulders of Marilyn Evans, our new and ninth National Sponsor.



National Sponsor - Marilyn Evans (1991-1999)

There was much hugging and more group pictures. All the Alpha Upsilons agreed with everyone else how lucky we were to attend this Council. What a special week it has been for all of us!

Tomorrow we will have the closing ceremony after breakfast. It is titled "Here I Am, Lord." Mom, you know what a special song that is to my call and me.

Tonight, I am reflecting once more on today's scripture of Ephesians 2:10 (LBV): "It is God himself who has made us what we are and given us new lives from Christ Jesus: and long ages ago he planned that we should spend these lives in helping others." Wow, God! What a future for me in ministry to others and what a witness Kappa Phi has been to me and other women through seventy-five years of change. I am thinking about all the women God has trained for service in the church and the world, and how Kappa Phi will continue to do that in the future. What could be better than that?

Love, Rose

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Mary Seiler Goodenow grew up in Sandusky, Ohio with a family of seven brothers and sisters! She attended college at Bowling Green State University from 1969 until 1973. In the Spring of 1970 Mary became an active member of Kappa Phi at Alpha Gamma Chapter at BGSU and eventually became president of the chapter her junior year. After her graduation and subsequent marriage to Dan Goodenow, Mary moved back to Bowling Green and became

Sponsor of Alpha Gamma in 1978. She has served as chapter sponsor during at least 3 different time periods over the years and is now an honorary sponsor. Mary is a charter member of the Northwest Ohio alums and continues to be a member. National involvement includes serving on the National Executive Board as Gamma Kora Coordinator and chairing the National Leadership Committee. She is a member of the Legion of Light in recognition of her 35 years of service to Catholic education at St. Aloysius School in Bowling Green. Mary continues as an active member in the parish of St. Aloysius Catholic Church.

Mary would like to thank her husband Dan for being a true 'Kappa Phella' with his love and support of Mary's involvement in Kappa Phi over these many years. Mary and Dan continue to live in Bowling Green with their dog. They have two grown daughters. Their older daughter, Debbie Goodenow Messman, is an alumna of Alpha Omega Chapter of Kappa Phi at Ohio Northern University. Their younger daughter is Beth Goodenow Corrigan who has provided creative and technical support to her Kappa Phi mother over many years.

Kathy Guy Sanders grew up in Columbus, Ohio with a family of four brothers. She attended The Ohio State University from 1971-1975. She became an active member of Kappa Phi at Epsilon Chapter in the spring of 1972. In her active chapter she served as treasurer and vice president where she discovered her gift for programming. After graduation, Kathy moved to the Athens, Ohio area where she was an elementary teacher, attended Ohio University for her MEd. in 1979, and met her husband Ron. While in Athens, she was a member of the Athens Alums, the Gamma Kora program director, and then became the Phi Chapter associate sponsor. She married Ron in 1982 and has lived in the Cleveland and Chicago areas, before returning to Columbus, Ohio in 1989. Kathy has served on the Zeta Kora board, was National Program Director from 1989-1993, and Epsilon Chapter sponsor, and chaired the National Leadership Committee. Currently she is a member of the Columbus Alumnae. She has used her Kappa Phi training in all of the churches to which she has belonged and continues to sing in the choir at Scioto Ridge United Methodist Church.

Kathy would like to thank her Kappa Phellow, Ron, for all his love and support of her Kappa Phi work and everything she does. Ron and Kathy live on the northwest side of Columbus with their cat. They have a grown son, Nathan, and a daughter, Julie, who is a student at Ohio University. All have enjoyed her Kappa Phi adventures and helped her achieve her Kappa Phi dreams.