

A Brief History of
the
Kappa Psi
Pharmaceutical
Fraternity

Founded 1879

Issued by the Grand Council of Kappa Psi

September 1st, 1926

Kappa Psi

(Pharmaceutical)



KAPPA PSI Pharmaceutical Fraternity was founded at the Medical College of Virginia on October 25, 1879.* The organization was the first Greek letter society established in the colleges of pharmacy in the United States. It is a strictly pharmaceutical fraternity which limits its chapters to colleges of pharmacy holding membership in the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. There are two classes of chapters, viz.: collegiate and graduate. The chapters of both classes have equal rights and privileges. The governing body, called "Alpha Chapter or The Grand Council," is first on the chapter roll.

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*The founders of the fraternity at Virginia were members of the academic society of "Kappa Psi" which had been founded at the Russell Military Academy in New Haven, Conn., May 30th, 1879, by F. Harvey Smith. This organization was founded on the basis of an older academic society of the same name in which Mr. F. Harvey Smith's father held membership. The academic society expanded into the following institutions: 1879, Russell, Russell Military Academy (New Haven), 48 members; 1879, Cheshire, Cheshire Military Academy (Cheshire, Conn.), 36; 1886, Hillhouse, Hillhouse High School (New Haven), 32; 1886, Yale, Yale College, 14. The entrance of graduates of the academic society into colleges of pharmacy in the fall of 1879 marked the beginning of Greek Letter Pharmaceutical Societies.

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Graduate Chapters exist at Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Birmingham, Chicago, Boston, Albany, Providence, San Francisco, Cleveland, North Carolina, Nashville, Memphis, Richmond, South Carolina, Brooklyn, Portland, Florida, Kentucky, West Virginia, Mississippi, Omaha, Milwaukee, New Jersey, Buffalo, North Dakota, Los Angeles and Seattle.

Total Chapters: 70 (Collegiate Chapters, 42; Graduate Chapters, 28). *Total Membership:* 9,360.

The following chapters possess houses: *Eta*, *Xi*, *Tau*, *Chi*, *Beta-Beta*, *Beta-Gamma*, *Beta-Delta*, *Beta-Zeta*, *Beta-Kappa*, *Beta-Nu*, *Beta-Xi*, *Beta-Omicron*, *Beta-Pi*, *Beta-Sigma*, *Beta-Psi*, *Gamma-Delta*, *Gamma-Epsilon*, *Gamma-Iota*; total value, \$350,000.

The following chapters of *Kappa Psi* were formed from local organizations: *Eta* from Delta Gamma Phi; *Upsilon* from Pi Mu; *Phi* and *Chi* from the Alpha and Beta chapters of Phi Gamma Sigma; *Omega* from Spatula Club; *Beta-Epsilon* from Psi Beta; *Beta-Kappa* from the Beta chapter of Beta Phi Sigma; *Beta-Omicron* from Beta Psi; *Beta-Pi* from Sigma Gamma; the *Phi Beta Delta* fraternity was merged with *Eta* in 1917.

The fraternity is divided into five provinces. It publishes its Constitution and By-Laws; *The Agora*, an esoteric publication which contains the directory and which was published annually from 1903 to 1910 and since then every three years; *The Mask*, a periodical, issued every month during the college years from 1903 to 1910, and since then issued as a quarterly; and a song book.

The fraternity is governed by "Alpha Chapter" or the Grand Council which has met in annual conventions from 1879 to 1908, and since then biennially. During the interim between sessions, the administration of the fraternity affairs is in the hands of the Grand Officers. The provinces meet in biennial conventions on the alternate years to the national conventions.

The fraternity colors are scarlet and cadet gray. The flower is the red carnation. The badge is a diamond displaying a mask raised from the face of the black enamel center. The Greek letters "Kappa" and "Psi" appear one above and one below the mask. The eyes of the mask and the border of the badge may be jeweled.

