



ALPHA RHO
University of Washington

Alpha Rho Chapter

University of Washington
4547—17th Ave., N.E.
Seattle, Washington

Alpha Rho Chapter had its beginning in the year of 1919, among a group of Washington students who had become acquainted while in the Army. Desiring to continue the friendships formed, while in training, these men, on returning to the University, secured rooms at the same boarding house, and maintained an unofficial organization, selecting their associates whenever vacancies occurred.

After several months the group attracted the attention of the Interfraternity Council, and was asked to organize into a fraternity. As a result, Pi Mu Phi, local fraternity, was founded, February 7, 1921, by fifteen students of the University of Washington.

The chapter became incorporated under the laws of the State of Washington. In 1923, at which time the present chapter house was purchased, Pi Mu Phi consistently stood high in college activities, thus building up an excellent reputation for itself among the other fraternities on the campus.

A petition to Theta Chi from Pi Mu Phi was submitted in October, 1924. It was later accepted and on February 27th and 28th, 1925, Alpha Rho Chapter of Theta Chi was installed. Members of the installation committee were: Tracey Coombs, Mu, Chairman; Harold Bowman, Psi; Dr. Stevenson Smith, Nu; Neil Locke, Mu; R. W. Bucklin, Alpha Omicron; C. E. Taylor, Sigma; D. W. Buchanan, Phi; R. T. Guillespie, Alpha Omicron; F. P. Borderud, Phi; M. W. Drea, Alpha; H. N. Turrel, Jr., Beta; R. M. Jackson, Mu, and B. A. McIlhany, Nu.

The first officers of the new chapter were: President, Theodore Roscoe; Vice-President, Harold Quillian; Secretary, Joseph Hoyt; Treasurer, Russell Hanson; Chaplain, Gilbert Swart; Librarian, Gerald Hile; Historian, Lloyd Wallgren, and Guards, Albert Daniels and

Robert Latta. Harold Quillian was elected first active delegate to the National Convention, and Hary Nuelson was elected alumni delegate.

Alpha Rho was well represented in campus activities during the Winter quarter that it was installed. Among the honors held might be mentioned the chairmanship of two class boating parties held in the early Spring, several representatives on the "Daily" staff, two headline acts in the Junior Girl's Vodvil and the manager and feature entertainer of the Glee Club. In addition members of the chapter held membership in Sigma Xi, Oval Club, Sigma Delta Chi, Alpha Delta Sigma, Sigma Upsilon and Tau Beta Pi.

The first Founder's Day Banquet was held on April 10, 1925. The members were addressed by Stevenson Smith, Nu, of the Department of Psychology, and Dean James E. Gould, Alpha Rho, Dean of Men at the University of Washington.

At the end of the athletic season, of the 1925-26 school year, a member of Alpha Rho received the Piggot Cup, awarded to the man who has been the greatest inspiration to the crew during the past year. Another received a "W" in track, and still another his freshmen numerals in baseball.

Traveling Secretary B. A. McIlhany's first inspection visit to Alpha Rho happened just in time for the pledge-homecoming banquet of 1925-26 which was held in honor of the pledges and visiting alumni November 7th.

During the Fall quarter of 1925-26 members of the chapter were pledged to Phi Lambda Upsilon, Kappa Psi, Oval Club and Hammer and Coffin. Other activities held by the chapter that year are as follows: Vice-President of the Ad Club, B. A. Council, B. A. Mentors, Fraternity Editor of the Tyee, Glee Club, Yell Staff, Forest Club, and various committees.

On January 9, 1926, the members brought their "dads" to the chapter house for the first annual "Dad's Dinner." It was a decided success, and since that time has been a tradition at Alpha Rho Chapter. The biggest social event of the year was the Winter Formal, held in the Chinese Room on the roof of the L. C. Smith Building, the highest building in Seattle.

During the Summer of 1926 the chapter finance system was reorganized, and improvements were made on the chapter house. During the same period the alumni became organized, and were incorporated as the Alpha Rho Alumni Association, a holding company for the chapter's property. The Association's first act was to purchase two lots to be used as a building site for a proposed new chapter house.

Statistics

Number of initiated members to September, 1927: 89.

Average size of chapter: 35.

Name and frequency of chapter publication: Gavel, quarterly.

Both members and pledges may room in the chapter house.

Chapter operates a dining room.

Chapter owns its home, value \$23,000.

University of Washington

The University of Washington, located in Seattle, was founded in 1861. It is a co-educational and State supported institution. During the school year of 1926-27 the attendance totaled 6890 of which number 3890 were men and 3000 were women. Thirty-five national social fraternities have chapters at Washington, of which number Theta Chi was the thirtieth to be installed. The campus occupies a beautiful site on the banks of Lake Washington, but a short distance from the civic center of the city of Seattle.