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### H92-1156. Fraternal Society (Omicron Kappa Epsilon). Records, 1844-[ongoing]. 5.25 linear feet. PARTIALLY RESTRICTED

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**H92-1156.** Fraternal Society (Omicron Kappa Epsilon).

Records, 1844-[ongoing]. 5.25 linear feet. **PARTIALLY RESTRICTED**

Abstract

Records of the Fraternal Society (Omicron Kappa Epsilon) and Fraternal Society Alumni Association contain literary and business meeting minutes, photographs of the Frater Frolics and other fraternity social functions, and historical essays on the founding of the Fraternal Society at Union College in Schenectady, New York, in 1834.

Accession No: H92-1156  
Provenance: Fraternal Society  
Donor: Fraternal Society  
Photographs: 91 images (90 in Box 4; 1 digital)  
Processed by: Jenifer A. Smith, June 1993  
Ena Brooks, November 1997

History

The Fraternal Society (Omicron Kappa Epsilon) was founded at Union College in Schenectady, New York, in 1834. Union's Fraternal Society disbanded in 1859 in order to form a new chapter of Alpha Delta Phi. In 1863, Dr. Philip Phelps, a Frater alumnus from Union College and then principal of Holland Academy, initiated members of the Academy's college classes into a revived Fraternal Society.

The Fraternal Society has established several annual events which have been very popular for the entire college community. One of the most popular of these events was the annual Frater Frolics, a variety show in which Fraternal Society members performed several humorous songs and skits.

After a period of declining membership in the early 1980s, the Fraternal Society was reorganized in 1987. This reorganization gave the Fraters a renewed sense of purpose. Since that time the organization has been growing and receiving significant alumni support.

Scope and Content

The Fraternal Society records document the growth and development of this undergraduate private literary/social society from 1844 to 1992.

Background Materials (1856-1926) include correspondence between members of the Fraternal Society and the librarian at Union College concerning papers documenting the early history of the Fraternal Society. Also included are photocopies from Fraternal Society directories at Union College which cover the history of the Union College chapter and list all members from 1834-1859 in both chronological and alphabetical order.

Constitutions (1863-1956) highlight the Fraternal Society's structure and purpose on the Hope College campus. The constitutions usually include additional information, such as membership lists, brief histories, and amendments.

Correspondence (1935-1993) includes letters from Frater alumni, letters with area merchants and organizations detailing fund-raisers and other fraternity functions, and various

communications with the Hope College administration.

Frolics (1947-1971) includes director's reports, flyers, and programs from this annual Fraternal Society show. Photographs of the Frater Frolics are located in Box 4.

Pledging (1966-1991) includes letters from pledges wishing to become a part of the Fraternal Society and several invitations which include membership lists and the semester's rushing schedule.

Topical File (1927-1992) includes a variety of information regarding the alumni association, regular Fraternal Society functions, newsletters, and speeches.

Minutes (1844-1973, 1987) provide details of the weekly activities in which fraternity members were involved and special topics of interest. The minutes also show how the functions of this fraternity and how they have evolved through over the last century. Minutes are restricted for 30 years after their origination.

The Stories series (1898) contains several short stories written by past members of the Fraternal Society.

Photographs (1946-1984) document many social and athletic functions of the Fraternal Society. Many of the photographs are undated. Additional Fraternal Society photographs are located in the Hope College Photograph Collection (H88-PH2620).

## Container List

### Box 1

#### Addresses

Chen, Derek, "The Fraternal Society," 2017

Grinzinger, Nick, "Ex-Augural Address," 11/19/2001

Malviya, Raj, "Learning Experiences," n.d.

Van Timmeren, Scott, "Serious Paper: Priorities and Sacrifice," 10/21/2001

#### Addresses (**RESTRICTED due to content**) (**See Restricted Files**)

All College Sing, 1954-1956

#### Alumni Association

*Alumni Bulletin*, May 1929

100th Anniversary, "Centennial Guest Book, 1834-1934," 1934

150th anniversary celebration committee, 1984

180th Anniversary celebration, 2014

185th Anniversary celebration, 2019

1949-1960

Alumni Lists, 1984

Correspondence, 1975-1991

Minutes, 1984-1994 (incomplete)

News Clippings, 1984

Reunion Programs (150th, 155th)

Trust Fund, 1941-1958

#### Background Materials

History (photocopies of early Fraternal Society Catalogs, 1856)

Miscellaneous, n.d., 1913

Catalogue of the Fraternal Society O.K.E, 1847, 1856, 1865-1866

Constitution, 1863-1892 (also History, Amendments, Membership), (F.S. Archives No. 104)  
Constitution, 1898 (F.S. Archives No. 105)  
Constitution and Bylaws, 1953, 1956  
Constitution, Bylaws, Amendments, Memberships, n. d. (F.S. Archives No. 113)  
Correspondence, n.d., 1935-1993  
*Damascus Blade, The*, 1869 (F.S. Archives No. 46)  
Ex-augural Addresses, 1953-1982  
Flag Agreements, 1977-1979  
Form of Initiation Used By the Fraternal Society--President addresses the Candidates, February 10, 1847  
*Fraternal Footsteps* (newsletter), 1954-1978, 1985, 1989, 1991-1992, 2001, 2017  
Frolics-Directors Reports, 1957, 1963, 1965, n.d.  
Frolics Flyers, 1967, 1968  
Frolics Programs, 1947-1971  
Greek Residence Agreement, 1989  
History, 2014  
History (at Union College) 1873-1926  
History of the F.S. while at Union College, 1870 (F.S. Archives 103)  
Homecoming Guest List, 2017  
Inaugural Addresses, n.d., 1953-1960, 1984-1985  
Interfraternal Council, 1948, 1962-1963, 1967  
Invitations, 1936-1937, 1947, 1966, n.d.  
Joint Meeting (with other Hope Societies), 1950s  
Meeting Notes, 1927  
Mission Statement, 2001  
News Clippings, 1948-1988, 2006, 2017  
Order for Literary Meetings, n.d.  
Pledging  
    Correspondence, 1966-1989  
    Rushing Invitations, 1966, 1971, 1982-1983, 1987-1991  
President's Notebook, 1955-1956, 1969 (incomplete)  
Programs, 1906-1984  
Report from the Ad-Hoc Committee, December 15, 1987  
Scrapbook, 1968-1969  
Serious Papers  
    "The Standard Oil Company," by Harry M. Hakken, 1941  
    "Fifth Column - U.S.A.," by Seymour Padnos  
    Untitled, by Mark Meyer, September 20, 1974  
Songs  
Spring Informal, 1947-1964 (incomplete)  
Stationery  
Swan Song, 1952  
Topical file-Summer Outings, 1993-1994 (plastic tags)  
Washington Day Stag/Mid-Winter Stag, 1915, 1916, 1923-1924, 1927-1928, 1956, 1960

Box 2

Minutes, 1844-1929 (13 folders) **(RESTRICTED)**

Box 3

Minutes, 1930-1987, 2000-2001 (9 folders) **(RESTRICTED)**

Addressees **(RESTRICTED due to content)**

Untitled, unknown author, n.d.

Untitled, unknown author, n.d.

Box 4

Manuscripts

“The Official Archives of the Fraternal Society of Hope College,” (3 folders)

“The Clarksville Boys or a Search for Mona Cave,” undated (writers include Garret Houdelink, Henry Schipper, A.T. Broek, Dinkels, M. Jas, Stormzand) F.S. Archives No. 108

“The Mystery of Macatawa,” Vol. I, 1898 (writers include John Kuizenga, John Beardslee, Jr., J.J. De Pree, H. Sluyten) F.S. Archives No. 106

“The Mystery of Macatawa,” Vol. II, 1898 (writers include John Kuizenga, John Beardslee, Jr., J.J. De Pree, H. Sluyten) F.S. Archives No. 107

“The Tramp,” by George Jones, 1898 (F.S. Archives No.109)

Photographs

150th Reunion Celebration, 1984

Billboard (2 images)

Group (2 images)

Ice Sculpture (1 image)

Christmas Party for Jefferson School, December 13, 1965 (9 images)

Composites, 1963, 1967-1968, 1970, 1972, 1977-1978, 1980, 1982-1984/5, 2016/2017 (12 images)

Frater House, n.d. (1 image)

Frolics, 1946 (1 image), 1950 (1 image), n.d. (40 images)

Homecoming Parade Floats, n.d. (3 images)

Man in Drag (Dave Baas), n.d. (2 images)

Miscellaneous, n.d. (2 images)

Parties, n.d. (5 images)

Reunion, n.d. (2 images)

Sports, n.d. (4 images)

Scrapbook, 1962-1966

Box 5

Videotape, "Fraternal 160th Anniversary," 1994 (also DVD)

Oversized

Thanksgiving Party for CASA prank fundraising poster for President Dennis Voskuil's  
bike, 2017