

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA



The University Archives
and Records Center

A Guide to the
Delta Psi Fraternity
Delta Chapter Records, 1890 - 1985

7 Cubic ft.

UPS 41 DP

Prepared by Kaiyi Chen

2001

The University Archives and Records Center
3401 Market Street, Suite 210
Philadelphia, PA 19104-3358
215.898.7024
Fax: 215.573.2036
<http://www.archives.upenn.edu/>
Mark Frazier Lloyd, Director

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Access is granted in accordance with the [Protocols for the University Archives and Records Center](#).

Access as revised January 2005: Access to the historical records of Delta Psi fraternity, Delta Chapter, at the University of Pennsylvania, is governed by the following terms. Access to the collection shall be generally open to the scholarly public in the interest of encouraging historical scholarship. Access to certain records, however, is restricted to those who obtain written permission from the current President of the Delta Chapter, or, in his absence, from the President of the Delta Alumni Association or the national President. The University Archives shall maintain contact information for all three officers of the organization.

Those boxes and file folders open to the scholarly public are as follows:

Box 3 (except File Folder 12)

Box 4

Box 5 (except File Folders 1, 2, 3, and 4)

Box 6

Box 7

Those boxes and file folders restricted under the conditions described above are as follows:

Box 1

Box 2

File Folder 12 in Box 3

File Folders 1, 2, 3, and 4 in Box 5

PROVENANCE

These records were the gift of the Delta Alumni Association, Inc. in two parts. The University Archives and Records Center received the records of the Delta Chapter in 1976. The addition of the records for the Delta Alumni Association were received in June 1990.

AGENCY HISTORY

The Delta Psi fraternity was organized to: establish a bond of union between college students; improve its members through literary exercises; give life-long support of the brotherhood; and advance each member through protection and support. Candidates must be undergraduates or graduates of some college, law or medical school having the power to confer degrees. Initiation of student attending a school already having a chapter of Delta Psi is not permitted unless authorized, nor is membership in any other collegiate secret society.

The Delta Chapter was founded at Burlington College, Burlington, N.J. on November 28, 1849 by Warren Livingston. Lack of support from the administration eventually led the members to investigate the possibility of transferring the chapter to another institution. On December 27, 1854 the chapter was transferred to Philadelphia. The Delta Chapter House, known as St. Anthony Hall, opened in January 1889. The Delta Alumni Association was incorporated in Pennsylvania in 1912, and is concerned with the scholastic standing of the undergraduates and the maintenance of the St. Anthony Hall and the St. Anthony Club. The fraternity and Alumni Association remain very active today.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The records of the Delta Psi Fraternity include papers for the Delta Chapter and its parent organization the Delta Alumni Association.

For the Delta Chapter there are: bylaws, 1890-1966; Constitutions, 1891-1922; books of forms, 1884-1905; decisions, 1852-1911, membership information, 1861-1906, 1976; histories, 1888-1924; and a volume of poems by Robert Hunter McGrath, 1885-1886. The bulk of the Delta Chapter papers include minutes, 1861-1927 and financial papers, 1855-1909. The minute books provide the richest information on fraternity life and often include topics of debate that were held both formally and informally at the Chapter House in an effort to improve members through literary exercises. Topics ranged from national political events to campus events to philosophical issues to other varied interests such as the existence of supernatural beings. The financial records basically record payments of dues and fines charged by the fraternity.

Although the Delta Alumni Association was incorporated in 1912, there is nothing for these early years. The records begin with the bylaws, 1953-1955 and minutes, 1950-1985. There is information for the annual meetings from 1962 to 1973. The correspondence, 1960-1976 and the financial papers, 1925-1938, 1940-1976 primarily concern fundraising efforts by members of the association to support the fraternity and maintain the buildings. Miscellaneous papers such as insurance policies and publications fill out the remainder of the collection.

University Archives and Records Center
University of Pennsylvania

**Delta Psi Fraternity
Records, 1890-1985**

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INVENTORY

DELTA CHAPTER

Constitution/Bylaws

Box 1	FF 1	Bylaws, 1890
	FF 2	Constitution/Forms, 1891-1896
	FF 3	Constitution and Bylaws, 1922
	FF 4	Bylaws, [1966]
	FF 5	Book of Forms, 1884
	FF 6	Book of the Law, 1883-1897
	FF 7	Book of Forms, 1905
	FF 8	Decisions, 1852-1911
	FF 9	Decisions, 1861-1883
		Membership
	FF 10	Registry, 1861-1881
	FF 11	Committee Book, 1866-1877
	FF 12	Visitor's Book, 1885

DELTA CHAPTER (cont.)

Membership

Box 1 FF 13 Roll Book, 1893-1906
Oversize 7 Original Roll of Members, 1849-1887 (Photostat copy)

Histories

Box 1 FF 14 1888-1889
FF 15 1895-1898
FF 16 1898-1899
FF 17 1899-1903
FF 18 1924 [notes]
FF 19 Essays and Poems by Robert Hunter McGrath, 1885-1886

Minutes

Box 2 FF 1 Feb. 25, 1861-Nov. 20, 1866
FF 2 Sept. 29, 1870-May 11, 1875
FF 3 May 18, 1875-Oct. 12, 1877
FF 4 March 16, 1880-Nov. 2, 1886
FF 5 1884-1885, drafts
FF 6 Nov. 9, 1886-Nov. 27, 1894
FF 7 Nov. 28, 1894-May 4, 1897
FF 8 May 9, 1916-Feb. 14, 1927

DELTA CHAPTER (cont.)

Financial

Box 3	FF 1	Ledger, Apr. 1, 1855-Dec. 1, 1860
	FF 2	Cashbook, Apr. 1, 1855-June 30, 1865
	FF 3	Ledger, Dec. 5, 1860-Jan. 1, 1867
	FF 4	Ledger, Jan. 2, 1868-Oct. 2, 1869
	FF 5	Cashbook, Jan. 3, 1868-Dec. 18, 1869
	FF 6	Ledger, Oct. 5, 1869-Dec. 1, 1869
	FF 7	Ledger, Dec. 2, 1869-May 1, 1874
	FF 8	Ledger, June 1, 1874-June 5, 1878
	FF 9	Ledger, June 4, 1878-Jan. 8, 1884
	FF 10	Ledger, Jan. 8, 1884-Dec. 31, 1889
	FF 11	Ledger, July 26, 1906-Nov. 27, 1909

Miscellaneous

FF 12	Cipher for Code, 1858
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DELTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Constitution and Bylaws

Box 4	FF 1	Bylaws, 1953
	FF 2	Bylaws, 1955
	FF 3	Committees/Membership, 1962-1969

Minutes

FF 4	1950
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DELTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (cont.)

Minutes

Box 4	FF 5	1951
	FF 6	1952
	FF 7	1953
	FF 8	1954
	FF 9	1955
	FF 10	1956
	FF 11	1957-1959
	FF 12	1960-1961
	FF 13	1962-1963
	FF 14	1964
	FF 15	1965
	FF 16	1966
	FF 17	1967
	FF 18	1968
	FF 19	1969
	FF 20	1970
	FF 21	1971
	FF 22	1972

DELTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (cont.)

Minutes

Box 4	FF 23	1973
	FF 24	1974-1975
	FF 25	1976
	FF 26	1977
	FF 27	1978
	FF 28	1979
	FF 29	1980
	FF 30	1981
	FF 31	1982
	FF 32	1983-1985

Box 5	FF 1	Fraternity Planning Committee II, 1970
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Meetings

FF 2	Annual Meeting (Grand Chapter), 1968
FF 3	Annual Meeting(Grand Chapter), 1969
FF 4	Meeting Notices, 1962-1963, 1966

Buildings

FF 5	Agreements with the University, 1964-1989
FF 6	Saint Anthony Hall, Fire prevention, 1968-1969
FF 7	Saint Anthony Hall, Fire prevention, 1970-1972

DELTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (cont.)

Buildings

Box 5 FF 8 Inspection, 1970

 FF 9 Insurance, 1976

Correspondence

FF 10 1960-1961

FF 11 1962

FF 12 1964-1965

FF 13 1966

FF 14 1968

FF 15 1969

FF 16 1970-1972

FF 17 1973-1974

FF 18 1976-1987

FF 19 Agreements, 1960-1964

Financial

FF 20 Tax papers, 1940-1945, 1970-1978

FF 21 Statement/Reports, 1964-1965

FF 22 Grady Wood Fund, 1964-1965

FF 23 Finance Committee papers, 1968-1969

FF 24 Statements, 1968-1970

DELTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (cont.)

Financial

Box 5	FF 25	Rushing Fund, 1968
	FF 26	Life Insurance Program, 1968
	FF 27	Contributions, 1968
	FF 28	Scholastic Award, 1968-1969
	FF 29	Warren Livingston Award, 1968-1969
	FF 30	Rushing Fund, 1969
	FF 31	Contributions, 1969
	FF 32	Tax papers, 1969-1978
	FF 33	Statements/Reports, 1970
	FF 34	Statements/Reports, 1972
	FF 35	Trusts, 1970-1971
Box 6	FF 1	Contributions, 1972-1973
	FF 2	Contributions, 1973
	FF 3	Contributions, 1974
	FF 4	Contributions, 1975
	FF 5	Contributions, 1976
Oversize 7		Ledger, 1924-1934
		Ledger, 1934-1939

DELTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (cont.)

Financial
Gifts

Box 6	FF 6	Day, William L., 1974
	FF 7	Dechert, Robert, 1976
	FF 8	Downs, Ellason, 1979-1984
	FF 9	French, G. Ross, 1970-1971
	FF 10	Guthrie, Emily, 1976-1977
	FF 11	Harris, John Andrew, III, 1972
	FF 12	Lloyd, Malcolm, Jr., 1974
	FF 13	Price, Eli Kirk, III, 1976-1977
	FF 14	Robb, Henry B., Jr.
	FF 15	Starr, Floyd, 1973
	FF 16	Townsend, Richard L., 1966-1972
	FF 17	1977-1978
	FF 18	Pension, Gas---
	FF 19	Taxes

Miscellaneous

	FF 20	History of the Fraternity of Delta Psi by Van. H. Cartmell, Vol. 2, 1902-1934 (copy 1)
	FF 21	History of the Fraternity of Delta Psi by Van. H. Cartmell, Vol. 2, 1902-1934 (copy 2)

DELTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (cont.)

Miscellaneous

Box 6	FF 22	Catalogue of Members of Delta Psi, 1936 (printed)
	FF 23	Homecoming, 1975-1976
	FF 24	In Memorium, George Tucker Bispham
	FF 25	Obituaries, 1967-1968
	FF 26	Phi Chapter, membership, 1976
	FF 27	Saint Anthony Club House Insurance Policies, 1946-1948
	FF 28	Saint Anthony Club House Insurance Policies, 1949-1960
	FF 29	Saint Anthony Club of Boston, Articles of Association, 1894
	FF 30	Sigma Chapter, 1868-1904, Directory
	FF 31	Songs, 1894, 1897
	FF 32	Terrace Plans, 1961
	FF 33	Undergraduate Chapter, 1967-1968

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