

Beta Alpha Colony

During the years following the second World War, the population of Long Island grew at a phenomenal rate. It became apparent to University President Tristram W. Metcalfe of the Brooklyn based Long Island University, that a campus was needed in the eastern part of Long Island. In 1951 L.I.U. purchased the Hillwood Estate, a 178 acre wooded area and mansion located in the posh north shore area of Nassau County known as the "Gold Coast." The Hillwood Estate was the New York weekend residence of famed heiress and founder of the General Foods Corporation, Marjorie Merriwether Post, daughter of Charles William Post whose name the college bears. Mrs. Post formed General Foods when she bought Birdseye frozen foods and merged it with her father's Post Cereal Company.

The new college opened in 1955 with 121 day and 98 evening students. The successful opening was the culmination of a five year legal battle with local residents and the Zoning Board, who had been resisting attempts to establish a college campus in their exclusive area. The case was dubbed the "Battle of Oyster Bay" by the local press. The first students at Post found it easy to choose the school's nickname, the Pioneers, for indeed they often felt like pioneers. The luckier students had classes in the converted mansion, while the less fortunate students had classes in converted stables and root cellars.

Today, C.W.Post has over 14,000 students on a 350 acre campus of rolling grassy hills and stately Georgian architecture. Post is continuing to grow and has become an important center of culture and research to businesses, students, and the community at large.

Kappa Delta Rho made its appearance on the Post Campus in March of 1960, when the Beta Alpha Chapter was founded. It had been formed out of the local fraternity known as Kappa Phi, founded in February of 1956. From its original membership of fifteen, it grew throughout the 1960's with active memberships of

35 to 45 men. The brothers of those days were proud of their chapter and its accomplishments and succeeded in establishing KDR traditions at Post, as well as lifelong friendships.

By the 1970's however, attitudes toward fraternities had changed, and many groups suffered including KDR. At Post the entire fraternity system crumbled, the Inter-Fraternity Council disbanded, and all but two fraternities collapsed.

The Kappa Delta Rho spirit however, had not been totally lost. In the Fall of 1980, through the efforts of Brother Mark Marchesani, the Beta Alpha Colony was established. It has since become one of the most popular groups on campus, with a wide and varied social calendar. Beta Alpha is expanding rapidly yet the brothers remain close and positive in their goals.

The growth of Kappa Delta Rho has not been surprising nor will its continued expansion. Most of the other fraternities on campus have been nothing more than circles of friends or vehicles to other ends, rather than a brotherhood for life. The brothers of Beta Alpha feel very strongly about our brotherhood. Our local motto is "Kappa Delta Rho -- What True Brothers Are," and we strive to see that this is held true in all we do.

Other campus fraternities include:

Alpha Kappa Alpha	Membership 27, founded 1977
Alpha Phi Alpha	Membership 10, founded 1978
Delta Sigma Pi	Membership 15, founded 1965
Iota Phi Theta	Membership 12, founded 1980
Malik Sigma Psi	Membership 15, founded 1974
Tau Kappa Epsilon	Membership 39, founded 1960
Zet Beta Tau	Membership 40, founded 1963

The sororities on campus are:

Beta Pi	Membership 12, founded 1981
Gamma Psi Delta	Membership 18, founded 1968
Rho Sigma Tau	Membership 17, founded 1981
Sigma Kappa	Membership 18, founded 1977
Zeta Phi Beta	Membership 20, founded 1977

As a social group, Kappa Delta Rho has an average of five mixers per semester with sororities and other groups on campus. We also enjoy road trips

to visit other chapters of KDR. Though we have not yet had a formal, it is definitely in our future plans.

As stated earlier, we of Beta Alpha take our brotherhood seriously. We try very hard to impress this on our pledges. Our pledge period currently runs for four weeks with one overriding theme: trust. We feel that trust is the most important factor in true brotherhood. Throughout their four weeks, pledges are given a series of tests teaching trust and the ideals of Kappa Delta Rho. The culmination is a final night of testing which we have always received a positive reaction to from all those who have participated.

This, in brief, is what we stand for now and what we plan to do in the future. It is our hope that Kappa Delta Rho will continue to grow after we founders graduate, into the leading fraternity here at C.W.Post, setting high ideals as an inspiration to our campus community.

We therefore formally request Chapter status in the National Fraternity of Kappa Delta Rho. It is our belief that such a relationship would be mutually beneficial. It is our solemn pledge that Kappa Delta Rho shall never again be allowed to fail at C.W.Post College.

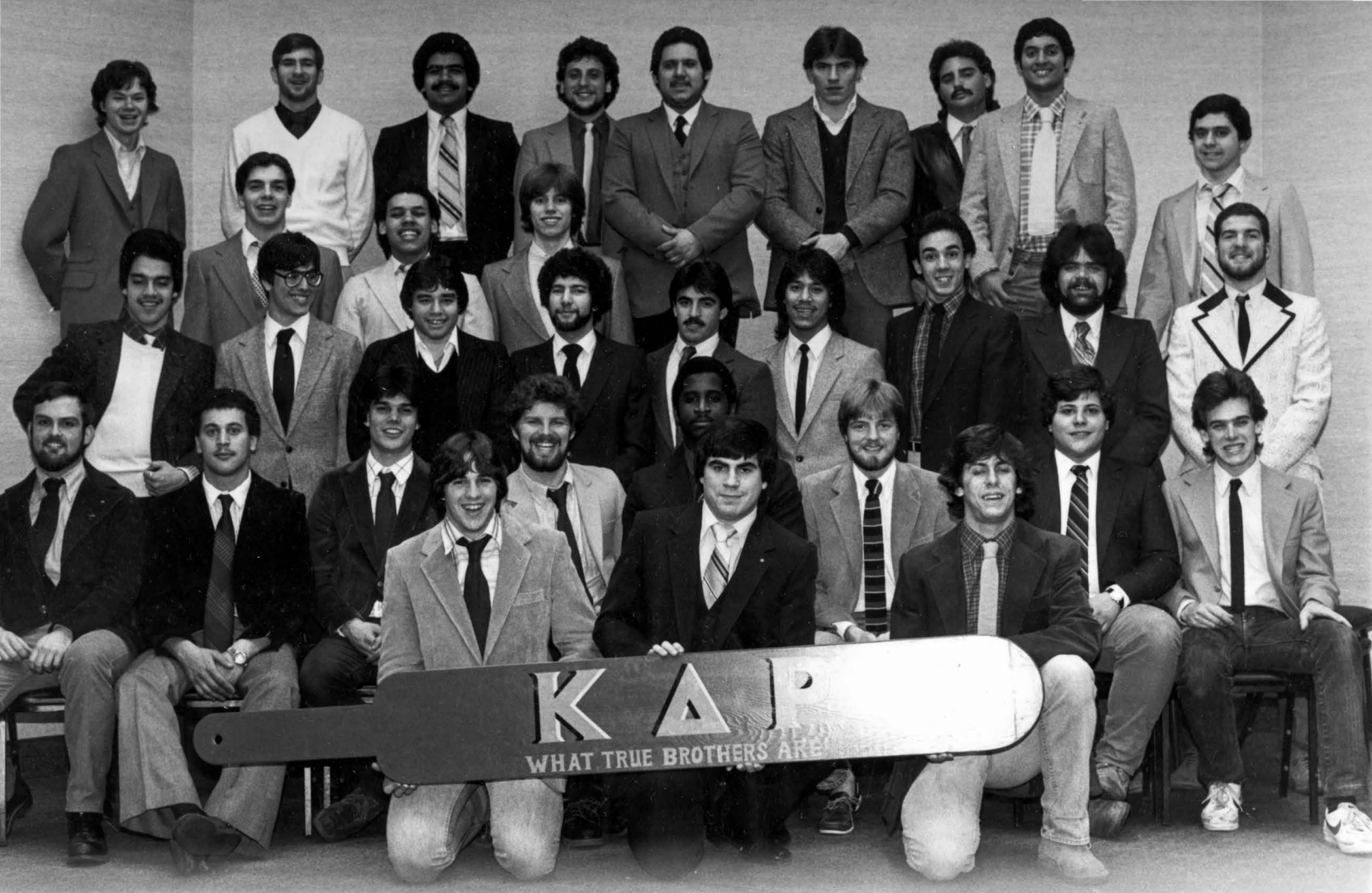
Respectfully,

The Executive Council
Beta Alpha Colony
Kappa Delta Rho Fraternity

James McDonnell
Charles E. Bonosky
John Winterhalter
Robert Haley
Michael Rosenberg
Scott K. Bergmann
Kevin Boman
Russell Counterman
Mark Marchesani

Consul
Senior Tribune
Junior Tribune
Praetor
Propraetor
Quaestor
Centurion
Pontifex
Principate

JMcD/skb



KDR BETA ALPHA COLONY - Spring '82

1st row: (l-r) Bob Haley, Jim McDonnell, Chip Bonosky

2nd row: Scott Bergmann, Steve Beldock, Ted Cheney, Kevin Boman,
Mike Hemmings, Jordan Wittmeier, Dante Liberatore, John
Pezzolla

3rd row: Rafael Suarez, Larry Reinharz, Guy Villano, Steve Smith,
Domenic Morrocu, Rodney Baltazar, Derek Seda, Jim Pedersen,
Bob Smith

4th row: John Winterhalter, Jeff Espreo, Bob McCune

5th row: Mike Belfatto, Mark Marchesani, Lou Vasquez, Mike Rosenberg,
Ed Arana, James Josef, Dave Bikofsky, Andy Gonzalez, Dan
Fowler

Not shown: Doug Nagel, Russell Counterman, Fran Fried, Todd Tinkham,
Bob Sanders

