

## Share the Past: Use the collection!

By using the archives collection, chapter collegians and alumnae will come to appreciate the value of these unique records and should be willing to support the archives' needs in the future. Some uses for chapter archives include the following.

### Chapter Education

Chapter archives contain a wealth of useful material. Minutes tell of chapter concerns and decisions reached in earlier years. They can be a source of invaluable information and perspective when recurring problems arise or when chapter histories are written. The minutes could also be a source for fascinating Fraternity education presentations for chapter meetings.

### Chapter Events (*recruitment, reunions, etc.*)

Many chapters enjoy using their scrapbooks during recruitment and when entertaining during homecoming or reunion celebrations, as well as for new member education programs. In addition, member education or alumnae events tie in your own chapter's history with Fraternity history sources.

### Chapter Histories

Is your chapter celebrating an anniversary or are you creating a page on your website that documents the history of your chapter? Chapter history reports and articles published in the *Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine* are invaluable when writing a chapter's history or developing a chapter history segment for new member education. An alumna of the chapter might make an excellent subject for an oral history project. Use the archives for developing a story about your chapter for the chapter website. Scanned copies of printed pieces, flyers, dance cards, and invitations can be compelling images on websites. Check with your university's archives or special collections, which can be another great resource for history about your chapter.

### Exhibits (*real or virtual*)

Photographs are wonderful additions to presentations prepared for recruitment or anniversary celebrations, chapter newsletters, and published histories. Photographs are also an excellent source for decorative displays in chapter houses and suites. **Original photographs should not be placed on permanent display.** Light exposure will cause them to fade, and the damaging activity continues even after the photograph has been removed from exposure to the light. Scanning the originals, printing the duplicates, and mounting them on foamcore will provide images that are easily and safely displayed.

Remember that some photographs in your archives—such as those taken by a commercial photographer or by local newspaper—may be under copyright protection. Please check before using on your website or in a publication.