The Finding Aid of the Zeta Kappa Collection 0054

Jessica Geiser and Jamie Henricks
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Pepperdine University. Special Collections and University Archives.
July 2012
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URL: https://library.pepperdine.edu/collections/boone-special-collections-university-archives.htm
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: Pepperdine University. Special Collections and University Archives.
Title: Zeta Kappa Collection
Identifier/Call Number: 0054
Physical Description: 27.41 Linear Feet (14 boxes, 1 oversize scrapbook, 1 oversize photo plaque)
Date (inclusive): 1938-1996
Abstract: The collection contains materials related to Zeta Kappa, a local sorority on the Pepperdine campus in existence from 1938 to 1996. Materials in the collection include scrapbooks documenting sorority activities and members; annual member lists and accomplishments of the chapter; photographs and slides of sorority events; and memorabilia related to events and activities of the sorority. Also included are materials from the Zeta Kappa Alumnae Association, including newsletters, photographs, histories, correspondence, and event invitations.

Pepperdine University. Special Collections and University Archives.
Language of Material: Materials are in English.
Conditions Governing Access
Advance notice required for access.
Conditions Governing Use
Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder.
Preferred Citation
[Box/folder# or item name], Zeta Kappa collection, Collection no. 0054, Special Collections and University Archives, University Libraries, Pepperdine University.
Immediate Source of Acquisition
The collection was given to the University Archives sometime after members of the Zeta Kappa sorority became members of the national sorority Kappa Kappa Gamma, in 1996.
Historical note
Zeta Kappa was a local sorority founded at Pepperdine University, which lasted for 58 years and provided Pepperdine women with both social activities and charitable service opportunities.
The sorority was founded in October, 1938, as a social club of the women's dormitory, Marilyn Hall. It began as an affiliated chapter of the Ko-Jo-Kai social club at Abilene Christian University, and chose the name Zio Kem as well as a gypsy theme for all their events. In the 1940s, Pepperdine administrators decided to allow social clubs to take on Greek names, so in June of 1943, Zio Kem changed its name to Zeta Kappa, and became a local sorority. The sorority continued until 1969, when the chapter was temporarily disbanded due to disinterest, but was reestablished in 1978 and continued to flourish until 1996. In the spring of 1996, the Greek system at Pepperdine underwent a major change, as national fraternities and sororities were allowed on campus for the first time. All local Pepperdine chapters were colonized by larger national groups, including Zeta Kappa, whose members chose to establish the Eta Beta chapter of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority, which is still in existence on campus today.
The Zeta Kappa Alumnae Association was founded in 1949, as a way for former members of the sorority to stay connected, and raise scholarships for active Zeta members. While the sorority no longer exists, the alumnae association is still active and continues to hold events for its members.
Scope and Content
The collection consists of materials produced by the Zeta Kappa sorority at Pepperdine University, as well as its Alumnae Association. Materials include scrapbooks with photographs and clippings related to the sorority; yearbooks from former sorority members, clippings and photographs of annual Alumnae Association activities; a history of the Alumnae Association at Pepperdine; newsletters, correspondence and photographs related to Zeta Kappa alumnae; sorority member lists with annual accomplishments; sorority records including articles, invitations, and a pledge book; photographs and slides of sorority events; and memorabilia including patches, articles of clothing, buttons, metal letters, cups, and banners. Materials in the collection span from 1938 to 1996.
Arrangement
Materials in the collection are arranged into series by topic, as well as chronologically within individual series when possible. The collection is arranged into five series:
Processing Information note
The collection was arranged and described by Jessica Geiser and Jamie Henricks in July, 2012.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Articles
Scrapbooks
Universities and colleges -- California -- Malibu -- History
Women -- Societies and clubs
Correspondence
Color slides
Clippings
Audiocassettes
Photograph albums
Photographs
Malibu (Calif.) -- History -- 20th century
Memorabilia
Scholarships -- California
Greek letter societies
Photography -- Negatives
Newsletters
Pepperdine College
Pepperdine University
Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority. Eta Beta Chapter (Pepperdine University)
Zeta Kappa Sorority (Pepperdine University)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Series 1: Scrapbooks 1948-1996</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scope and Content</strong></td>
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<td>The series contains scrapbooks compiled by Zeta Kappa members, depicting sorority members, events, and alumnae. Materials in the scrapbooks include photographs, invitations, notes and memorabilia. Also included in the series are Pepperdine College yearbooks from 1940 and 1941 previously owned by Zeta Kappa sisters.</td>
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| box 1  |
|       |
| **1951 - 1984** |
| **Scope and Content** |

| box 2  |
|       |
| **1982 - 1989** |
| **Scope and Content** |

| box 3  |
|       |
| **1988 - 1992** |
| **Scope and Content** |

| box 4  |
|       |
| **1992 - 1996** |
| **Scope and Content** |
Holidays, Weddings & Yearbooks
Scope and Content
The box contains the following scrapbooks: ZK Holidays & Weddings; Weddings. Also included are Pepperdine Yearbooks from 1940 and 1941.

Oversized Scrapbooks

1945 - 1946
1947 - 1948
1958-1959
1959-1960
1960 - 1961
1966 - 1967
1992, 1994

Alumnae Association Chronological Files 1965-1976
Letter from Helen Pepperdine regarding Zeta Kappa Alumnae Association Cookbook 1979
Zeta Alumna Abbie [Blume?] Funeral 1991
Alumnae Association History Binder 1992
Alumnae Association Newsletters 1979; 1993
Pepperdine College, 1945 to 1950, as remembered by Zeta Kappa alumna Barbara Long Booth

Sorority Member Lists and Accomplishments 1938-1993
Zeta Kappa 50th Anniversary Article 1988
Scrapbook Pages 1990
Colonization Weekend Invitation 1996
Pledge Book
Zeta Kappa Initiation Song and History
### Series 4: Photographs and Slides

**Scope and Content**

The series contains various photographs and slides, including photographs of the Los Angeles Pepperdine College campus taken by a sorority sister in 1938 and 1939, and photographs of Initiation Night activities and pledging rituals taken in 1948. Also included in the series are a large number of negatives and two carousels of slides documenting Zeta Kappa activities and members.

#### Photographs taken by Zio Kem member Del Kilborn Kuring of Pepperdine College

- **Campus and Students 1938-1939**
- **Initiation Night 1948**
- **Negatives**
- **Tonight Show undated**
- **Slide Carousels**

### Series 5: Memorabilia

**Scope and Content**

The series contains memorabilia related to Zeta Kappa, as well as Pepperdine University in general. Materials include a package of cigars similar to those pictured in photographs of initiation activities, a Zio Kem patch, metal Zeta Kappa letters used in the 1940s, a pledge sweater from 1946, and Zeta Kappa branded items including napkins, a candleholder, mugs, a cup, a water bottle, banners, and a picture frame. Also included are Pepperdine buttons and tassels from various years.

#### Cigars like those used during Initiations

- **Zio Kem Patch late 1930s**
- **Zeta Kappa Metal Letters 1940s**
- **Zeta Kappa Memorabilia**
- **Zeta Kappa Pledge Sweater 1946**
- **Pepperdine Memorabilia**
- **Zeta Kappa Mug, Cup, and Water Bottle**
- **Zeta Kappa Banners**
- **Zeta Kappa Picture Frame**
- **Group Photo Plaque 1992-1993**