



Timeline of Fraternities and Sororities at Texas Tech

1923

- On February 10th, Texas Technological College was founded.

1924

- On June 27th, the Board of Directors voted not to allow Greek-lettered organizations on campus.

1925

- Texas Technological College opened its doors. The college consisted of six buildings, and 914 students enrolled.

1926

- Las Chaparritas was the first women's club on campus and functioned to unite girls of a common interest through association and engaging in social activities.
- Sans Souci – another women's social club – was founded.

1927

- The first master's degree was offered at Texas Technological College.

1928

- On November 21st, the College Club was founded.

1929

- The Centaur Club was founded and was the first Men's social club on the campus whose members were all college students.
- In October, The Silver Key Fraternity was organized.
- In October, the Wranglers fraternity was founded.

1930

- The "Matador Song" was adopted as the school song.
- Student organizations had risen to 54 in number – about 1 for every 37 students.
 - There were three categories of student organizations:
 - Devoted to academic pursuits, and/or achievements, and career development
 - Ex. Aggie Club, Pre-Med, and Engineering Club
 - Special interest organizations
 - Ex. Debate Club and the East Texas Club
 - Social Clubs
- Las Camaradas was organized.
- In the spring, Las Vivarachas club was organized.
- On March 2nd, DFD was founded at Texas Technological College. It was the only social organization on the campus with a name and meaning known only to its members.
- On March 3rd, The Inter-Club Council was founded, which ultimately divided into the Men's Inter-Club Council and the Women's Inter-Club Council.

1932

- The Kemas Fraternity was organized.

1935

- A "Division of Graduate Studies" was established at Texas Technological College.

1936

- The Masked Rider was introduced as a dare – then called the Ghost Rider.
- Saddle Tramps was formed.

1937

- Socii was organized.
- The graduate program became a separate school.
- Doctoral Programs were introduced at Texas Technological College.

1939

- On April 30th, Alpha Phi Omega arrived on the Tech campus, previously known as the Eagle Scout Club.

1947

- Following the Second World War, returning veterans helped to increase enrollment into Texas Technological College by 38%.

1948

- Alpha Phi Omega was influential in the decision to allow Greeks on campus because unlike many other student organizations, they maintained membership through the war.

1950

- National organizations and local alumni began discreetly, but persistently, expressing the want for Greek-lettered organizations at Texas Technological College.

1951

- On April 1st, The Lubbock City Panhellenic distributed a poll to the women's social clubs to determine the level on interest in Greek-lettered organizations on campus. Two weeks later the *Toreador* carried a story revealing "Coeds Receptive to Sorority Talks."
- On May 3rd, the president of W.I.C.C. officially wrote Tech President Dossie M. Wiggins identifying eight reasons why students felt the Greeks should replace the social clubs.
- In the fall, the administration had determined to take the matter of allowing Greek-lettered organizations on campus to the Board of Directors.

1952

- On June 21st, the Board of Directors vote to approve the admission of fraternities and sororities on campus at Texas Technological College.
- By the fall, national sororities and fraternities were in contact with local clubs.

1953

- In February, men's social clubs began a series of interview meetings with nine national fraternities.
- In the spring, Women's Inter-Club Council (W.I.C.C.) became College Panhellenic.
- In the spring, local women's clubs were absorbed by national sororities.
 - DFD became Delta Delta Delta
 - Ko Shari became Pi Beta Phi
 - Las Chaparritas became Kappa Kappa Gamma
 - Las Vivarachas became Zeta Tau Alpha
 - San Souci became Kappa Alpha Theta
- In the late spring, men's social club began transforming to fraternities.
 - Adelphi became Sigma Alpha Epsilon
 - Kemas became Phi Gamma Delta
 - Silver Keys became Phi Delta Theta
 - Centaurs became Phi Kappa Psi
 - The College Club became Kappa Sigma
 - Los Camaradas became Pi Kappa Alpha
 - Socii became Sigma Nu
 - The Wranglers became Alpha Tau Omega
- On August 8th, Board of Directors granted permission to the Greek-lettered organizations to secure off-campus facilities. However, residential quarters were strictly prohibited and thus the Lodge System was established.
 - The location and terms of the lease had to be approved by the president of the college.

- In September, the first Sorority rush was held (now called recruitment).
 - 240 rushees (now called potential new members) went through recruitment.
 - Because quota was 28, only 140 rushees received bids from the five chapters.
- On September 20th, Men's Inter-Club Council (M.I.C.C) became Interfraternity Council and held its first regular meeting.
- In October, Alpha Chi Omega colonized.
- In November, Delta Gamma colonized.

1954

- On January 1st, The Masked Rider became an official mascot.
- In the spring, IFC held their first rush period and took in 253 pledges (approximately 1 in every 5 undergraduate men pledged a fraternity).
- On May 17, Brown v. Board of Education ended legal segregation in public schools.
- On September 30th, due to poor scholastic performance (six out of ten men decreased their GPA by 0.43 on a 3.00 scale), IFC implemented a deferred rush system.
- In October, Alpha Phi and Sigma Kappa were colonized.

1955

- In September, Sigma Chi was colonized.
- In October, Gamma Phi Beta was colonized.

1957

- In February, Tau Delta Tau was colonized.
- In May, Tau Delta Tau officially became chartered as Delta Tau Delta.
- In June, an informal committee comprised of alumni approached Mrs. Lizzie Turner about the 25-acre plot of land she owned (known as the "Turner Tract").

1958

- In late spring, Phi Mu Colonized.
- In the fall, alumni filed articles of incorporation with the Texas Secretary of State to establish Texas Tech Interfraternity Housing Corporation – it was chartered for a term of 50 years.
- In November, a contract between Mrs. Lizzie Turner and the Texas Tech Interfraternity Housing Corporation was signed.
 - The Turner Tract (now Greek Circle) sold for \$75,000.
 - The twenty sororities and fraternities then at Tech each contributed \$3,750.

1959

- The first Carol of Lights took place.

1961

- Texas Tech entered into the Southwest Conference
- On March 1st, the "New Fraternity" became a registered student organization.
- On May 2nd, IFC voted to accept the petition to colonize Kappa Alpha Order.
- In July, the first African American students were admitted to Texas Tech.
- In September, Chi Omega was colonized.
- On September 2nd, the members of "New Fraternity" joined with Kappa Alpha Order and the Gamma Chi chapter of Kappa Alpha Order was installed.

1962

- On February, Chi Omega received their charter.

1965

- In September, Alpha Delta Pi was colonized.

1966

- In the fall, Alpha Delta Pi received their charter.

1967

- The first class of 72 students enrolled in the Texas Tech University School of Law.

1968

- In October, Beta Theta Pi was colonized.

1969

- The Interfraternity Housing Corporation issued deeds to the individual sororities and fraternities for their portion of the Turner Tract.
- On September 1st, Texas Technological College formally became Texas Tech University.
- In May, the Texas Tech University School of Medicine was founded.

1970

- In February, Sigma Phi Epsilon was colonized and Beta Theta Pi received its charter.
- By early spring, The Turner Tract had been transformed into Greek Circle (with streets, sewers, and the like) but lacked any sort of Greek facility.
- In April, Delta Sigma Theta was chartered making them the first historically African-American sorority on campus and became an associate member of Panhellenic.
- By the summer, Kappa Alpha Theta was the first to begin to build a lodge on Greek Circle followed by Alpha Chi Omega, Pi Beta Phi, and Sigma Kappa.
- In the fall, an interest group comprised of various male students was formed to review information requested from four historically African-American fraternities.
- In December, Alpha Kappa Alpha was colonized and became an associate member of Panhellenic and Sigma Phi Epsilon received its charter.

1971

- In the spring, 33 young men affiliated with Sigma Phi Epsilon.
- In the spring, Pi Lambda Phi colonized but did not receive acceptance into IFC.
- In April, the interest group formed in the fall of the previous year opted to affiliate with Alpha Phi Alpha.

1972

- On January 12th, Alpha Phi Alpha received its charter.
- In May, The Board of Regents withdrew their prohibition on residential fraternity and sorority lodges.
- Kappa Alpha Theta, Alpha Chi Omega, Pi Beta Phi, and Sigma Kappa were situated at Greek Circle for fall rush.

1973

- Panhellenic at Texas Tech was awarded the Best University Panhellenic in the Country for NPC.

1974

- Chi Omega purchased Phi Gamma Delta's lot on Greek Circle and began building.
- IFC opened for expansion and Lambda Chi Alpha was selected to colonize.

1975

- Gamma Phi Beta moved into its lodge on Greek Circle.
- In December, Kappa Kappa Gamma began construction of their lodge.

1996

- Texas Tech joined the Big 12 Conference.

1998

- The Honors College was established at Texas Tech.

2015

- In the fall, Alpha Xi Delta was colonized.