

# Chapter 6

## The Sixties

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The Northeastern Province began 1960 with nine active chapters and twelve alumni chapters in six states: Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware. Student radicalism prevalent on many college campuses during the decade of the 60s resulted in a decline in influence of many sororities and fraternities. In the Northeastern Province there were no active chapters and only three alumni chapters chartered during this decade. The three alumni chapters were Harrisburg Alumni of PA (May 28, 1960), Germany Alumni of AE (June 3, 1964) and Burlington-Camden Alumni of NJ (April 12, 1969). The addition of the Germany Alumni gave the Northeastern Province international status.

### Northeastern Province Polemarchs in the Sixties

During this decade, the Grand Polemarchs of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity made three Northeastern Province Polemarch appointments. They were Jackson W. Campbell of Boston Alumni (1959-1960), Lancelot Tynes of Philadelphia Alumni (1966-1969) and Albert G. Oliver of New York Alumni (1969-1974).

### Chapters Chartered in the Sixties

May 28, 1960	Harrisburg Alumni
June 3, 1964	Germany Alumni
May 4, 1968	Poughkeepsie Alumni
April 12, 1969	Burlington - Camden Alumni

### Northeastern Province Councils in the Sixties

In 1961, after a decade of “Big” Northeastern Province Council Meetings, Wilmington Alumni, Dover Alumni and Beta Sigma Chapters joined forces to bring the Northeastern Province south to Delaware. The Province Council Meeting was held on March 31 – April 2, 1961 at the DuPont Hotel in Wilmington, Delaware.

On May 1-3, 1964, the first Province Council Meeting hosted entirely by active chapters was held at Cheyney State College in Cheyney, Pennsylvania. The host chapters were Epsilon, Gamma Omega and Delta Eta. Using their resources, the undergraduates took advantage of all available facilities at Cheyney State College, resulting in an outstanding Northeastern Province Council Meeting. In spite of their successes, this was the last Northeastern Province Council Meeting was hosted entirely by active chapters.

## **Chapter 6 - The Sixties**

### **Undergraduate Leadership Conferences**

The implementation of the theme “*Training for Leadership*” began in the form of a recommendation from Grand Polemarch C. Rodger Wilson that a national program in the undergraduate interest include a formalized school of leadership training. Plans were made and on August 24, 1961 the first Undergraduate Leadership Conference was held at the Van Orman Hotel in Bloomington, Indiana. Fifty-six undergraduates, representing fifty-one active chapters, were in attendance. The 1961 Undergraduate Leadership conference amazed all in Kappadom that young brothers would devote their time under grueling circumstances for the betterment of Kappa Alpha Psi.

In August 1962, sixty-five undergraduates and fourteen staff members assembled in the halls of the Elder Watson Diggs Memorial on the Indiana University campus for the second Undergraduate Leadership Conference. The brothers were divided into groups that worked on specific problems from 7:30 A.M. until 3 P.M. each day of the conference. Many neophytes learned the full meaning of the idealistic terms that had filled their heads during their initial stay in Kappa. Many old heads learned that the Fraternity has a yet untapped resource, which can in fact make it the greatest.

Approximately sixty college and community leaders of the Fraternity participated in the four-day Undergraduate Conference at Indiana University in August 1963. Twenty-seven states were represented and 48 chapters sent men to take part. By this time, the Undergraduate Leadership Conference staff had become experienced, diverse and talented. It was decided at the end of the Third Undergraduate Leadership Conference that the leadership program would be centered in the Province areas so that a larger number of participants could benefit from the experience.

### **Northeastern Province Polemarchs’ Conferences**

On Saturday, November 9, 1963, under the leadership of Northeastern Province Polemarch Jackson W. Campbell, the first Province Polemarchs’ Conference was held at the Sheraton Inn in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The purpose of this conference was to inform and teach members of Kappa Alpha Psi who were in positions of leadership how to conduct their offices for the best interest of the chapter, Province and Grand Chapter of the Fraternity.

Once again on October 31, 1964, the Northeastern Province conducted a Polemarchs’ Conference in Philadelphia’s Sheraton and for the next thirty-six years the Northeastern Province conducted a Polemarchs’ Conference in the fall of each year at various hotels throughout the Province. Many Polemarchs, Vice-Polemarchs, Keepers of Record, Keepers of Exchequer and others have benefited from attending the Polemarchs’ Conferences.

# HARRISBURG ALUMNI

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania  
Chartered May 28, 1960

## History of Harrisburg Alumni

Harrisburg Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. was chartered on May 28, 1960. The charter members were Attorney William Atkins, Leroy Craig, Barton Fields, Homer Floyd, Robert Hanna, Rev. Clarence Henderson, Rev. H. Garnett Lee, Horatio Leftwich and William Thompson. The chapter was very active until 1967 when many of the members who were government employees were relocated; thus the chapter was inactive for three years.

In September 1970, with the assistance of Province Polemarch Albert G. Oliver, the chapter was reactivated. Members at the time were William Adkins, William Diggs, Michael Drake, Barton Fields, Homer Floyd, Donald Gibson, Ike Golden, Rev. Clarence Henderson, Steve Howard, Robert Jackson, Rev. H. Garnett Lee, Horatio Leftwich, William Nelson, Attorney Richard Scott and Herman Thomas.

In April 1971, Harrisburg Alumni answered the roll at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Northeastern Province Council Meeting that was held in Hartford, Connecticut. Delegates to this meeting were Polemarch Robert Jackson, Michael Drake, Ike Golden, Willie Nelson and Herman Thomas. Harrisburg Alumni has not missed a single roll call since. Some ten years later Harrisburg Alumni hosted the Province Council Meeting in 1981 and again in 1993.

Harrisburg Alumni has been privileged to have several members of the chapter hold offices on the Provincial and National levels: Attorney Richard Scott served as Polemarch of the Northeastern Province and as a member of the Grand Board of Directors; Attorney Reginal Guy served as Senior Vice Polemarch of the Northeastern Province; Brother Herman Thomas served as Northeastern Province Keeper of Records and as Polemarch of the Northeastern Province. At the 2005 Grand Conclave in Charlotte, NC. Brother Thomas was elected to the Office of Chairman of Grand Nominating Committee.



*Herman B. Thomas, Jr. - Chairman  
Grand Nominating Committee*

# HARRISBURG ALUMNI

Harrisburg Alumni has initiated over thirty new brothers into the chapter: Sam Cooper, John Coy, Rev. Roosevelt Green, Richard Gilchrist, Howard Hall, Hyland Hubbard, Ray Jannifer, Kenneth Johnson, Larry Jordan, Oliver LaGrone, Larry Lawson, Robert Lynch, Andrew Marshall, William Mathis, Jimmie McFarland, William McKeever, Melvin Melendez, Isom Mobley, Reizdan Moore, John Pearce, Carlton Randolph, Ramone Sagree, Charles Sears, Gerald Thomas, Lonnie Tolbert, Lonnie Walker, Brian White, Jerome Williams, and Irving Wright.

Throughout the years, the Harrisburg Alumni Chapter has been a viable force in the community. The chapter participates in civic programs such as National Guide Right, programs for the youth, canned food drives for the needy, voter registration campaigns, youth orientation activities such as skating parties, etc., YMCA membership drives, scholarship programs for college bound students, and city rallies for war on drugs. Additionally, the chapter continues to provide a variety of activities to meet the social needs of our local residents. These activities include semiformal dinner dance, bowling parties, boat rides at Baltimore's Inner Harbor, and annual Greek step shows, the proceeds of which benefit a charitable cause.

Harrisburg Alumni was awarded the Province Alumni Chapter in 1984, 1985, 1986 and 1987. Harrisburg Alumni is most proud that its last two chapter Polemarchs (Chris Hailey and Jeffrey Mack) were undergraduates at Lambda Alpha, which is supervised by the Harrisburg Alumni Chapter.

The Harrisburg Alumni Chapter of **Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.** will always strive for excellence as its members uphold the true virtue of this most noble clan – **ACHIEVEMENT!**



# GERMANY ALUMNI

**Chartered June 3, 1964**

## **Germany Alumni**

### **Forty Years of Honoring and Promoting Achievement**

Over the past forty years the Germany Alumni Chapter has made honoring and promoting achievement a goal of its long term action plan. The following vignettes capture the commitment to that goal.

The Germany Alumni Chapter, chartered on June 3, 1964 as the Germany Alumni Association, elevated the Northeastern Province to international Province prominence.

The Germany Alumni Association, the first outside the Continental United States, held its first Black and White Ball on May 29, 1965 at “Neuen Entracht” in Kaiserslautern, Germany. The Black and White Ball marked the conclusion of the first anniversary of the founding of the Association.

The Germany Alumni Association added another page to the history of Kappa by hosting the first official visit of a Grand Polemarch outside the United States. The highlight of the Grand Polemarch Holloway’s visit was the Thirteenth Annual Black and White Ball which was held at the 300-year old Castle at Schwetzingen. During his visit, the Grand Polemarch made a courtesy call on General George Blanchard, Commander-in-Chief, US Army Europe and Commander of the Seventh US Army. He was interviewed on AFV-TV and the telecast was aired throughout West Germany.

Founder Edward G. Irvin visited West Germany in August 1980 and spoke before the Germany Alumni Chapter’s Sixteenth Annual Black and White Ball. During his 13-day visit, the Founder toured a major German university, met the two Black generals in Europe, taped an interview for the Armed Forces Network television station, and rode a “Kappa Soul Train.”

During 1985-1987 Germany Alumni hosted several honored brothers, including the honorable Walter Fauntroy, the late and esteemed Judge George Crockett, and Congressman John Conyers.

On November 13, 1999 the Germany Alumni Chapter proudly hosted Dr. Tilghman L. Moore, Northeastern Province Polemarch. Dr. Moore was the first Northeastern Polemarch to visit the Western Europe Chapter. The highlight of the visit was when Dr. Moore pinned the Chapter’s neophytes and presented them with their membership certificates.

The same year, the Chapter hosted Brother Johnnie L. Cochran, famed O. J. Simpson defense trial lawyer. Brother Cochran visited several area high schools and conducted book signings at local PX book stores.

In 2004 Germany Alumni Chapter hosted Brother Bernard A. Harris, Jr., M.D. and NASA astronaut, a 1993 Achievement Award recipient and the first Black astronaut to walk

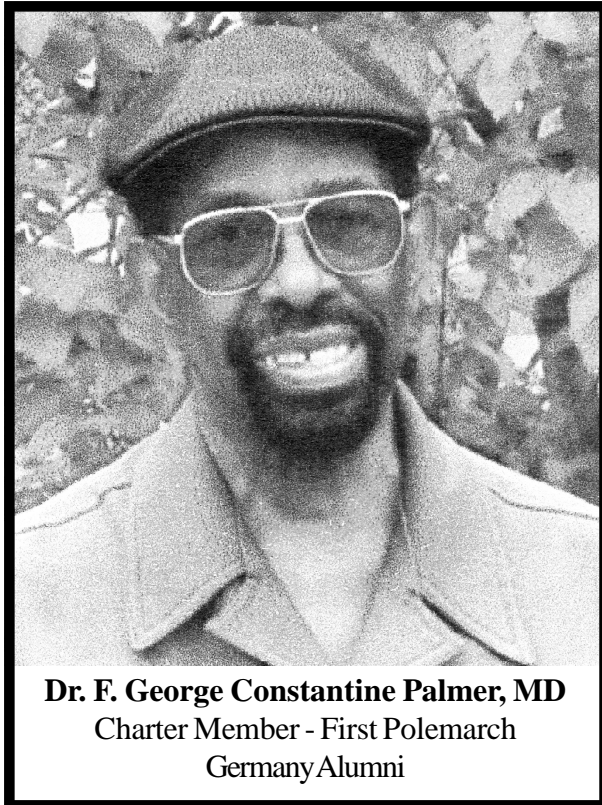
## GERMANY ALUMNI

in space. He was the keynote speaker at the Annual Scholarship Ball and he made a lasting impact on all who attended.

The year 2005 was a truly memorable one for the Chapter. The Grand Polemarch, Brother Samuel Hamilton, visited the Chapter April 28 – May 1. He was accompanied by Brother Lew Moore, Past Northeastern Province Polemarch, and Brother Richard Snow, Executive Director, **Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.** During the visit, in addition to area orientations, these honored guests also participated in an intake ceremony for new members with the Grand Polemarch presented the new members with their official membership certificates and signed copies of *The Story of Kappa Alpha Psi*. Our honored guests also attended the Chapter's Scholarship Ball that weekend. The Grand Polemarch was the keynote speaker at the ball and received outstanding reviews and applause from attendees for an excellent message on the merits of scholarship and education.

The Germany Alumni Chapter continues its commitment to honoring and promoting achievement in every field of human endeavor, in service to the community, our country and the Fraternity as we approach a promising future.

### FIRST POLEMARCH OF GERMANY ALUMNI CHAPTER



#### **F. George Constantine Palmer**

was born May 19, 1932 in Kingston, Jamaica to John Palmer and Hepzibath Palmer, both of whom preceded him in death. To this union two children were born, John (eldest) and George Palmer.

Dr. Palmer received his early education in Kingston, Jamaica at Kingston College (KC). He was educated during the time of segregation, however, this did not deter his pursuit of success and higher learning. After graduating Kingston College with honors, he received a full scholarship to Dillard University in New Orleans where he majored in Pre-medicine. He graduated from Dillard University Magna Cum Laude in May 1953. After briefly studying at the New York University, he relocated to Heidelberg, Germany where he enrolled in the Heidelberg University School of Medicine. He graduated medical school with honors in 1957 and completed residency training in General Surgery in 1962.

Dr. Palmer was a staff physician at the Heidelberg University Hospital for many years and later the Krankenhaus Hetzelstift, from where he recently retired. He received numerous recognition and service awards during his tenure on staff at both hospitals.

## GERMANY ALUMNI

Dr. Palmer met the love of his life, Wanda Paula Johnson who preceded him in death. They were married in Basal, Switzerland. To this union, one child was born, F George Palmer II. Dr. and Mrs. Palmer traveled the world together. As dedicated members of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, they were both chartering members the organizations in Germany. After Mrs. Palmer's death in 1992, Dr. Palmer continued his work in the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and remained faithful until his health failed.

The Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity was the heart of Dr. Palmer. He was initiated in the Beta Gamma Chapter at Dillard University in 1949 at age 16. A visionary, Dr. Palmer was chartering member of the Germany Alumni Chapter of his beloved Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. The chapter was chartered on June 3, 1964, and Dr. Palmer served as its first Polemarch, a post he would hold for the next 14 consecutive years. Under his leadership, the Chapter hosted its first Black & White Ball in 1965. The "Kappa Soul Train" was also an idea that came to fruition under Dr. Palmer's leadership and remained popular for many years. A tireless servant of the Fraternity and tenacious fund-raiser, he was instrumental in bringing several esteemed Kappa men to Germany including the honorable Walter Fuantrouy, Congressman John Conyers, famed attorney Johnnie L. Cochran, astronaut Dr. Bemard Harris, Jr, and Founder Edward G. Irvin. Dr. Palmer is a Life Member of Kappa Alpha Psi (56 years) and has received numerous service and recognition awards from the Grand Chapter.



# **POUGHKEEPSIE ALUMNI**

**Poughkeepsie, New York  
Chartered May 4, 1968**

## **History of Poughkeepsie Alumni Chapter**

Poughkeepsie Alumni Chapter was chartered in May 1968, at the Northeastern Province Meeting in New York City. Twelve able, dedicated and community conscious KAPPA MEN saw a need and endeavored to get involved. Early in the chapter's existence a significant amount of energy was put into providing support for the youth of the community. This support came in the form of a yearly Career Day Program and Scholarship presentations. In addition, high school students were bused to a local college to gain insight into college life, matriculation requirements, financial aid opportunities, etc. In 1980, the Poughkeepsie Alumni Chapter had the pleasure of hosting the 50th Northeastern Province Meeting. Poughkeepsie Alumni continues to focus on community involvement. Annually, at Thanksgiving and Christmas, turkeys are distributed to 26 families. Also on an annual basis, the Chapter donates all food and supplies as well as its time, to feed 150-250 homeless individuals at the Beulah Baptist Church in the City of Poughkeepsie. In addition, the Chapter has sponsored a Drug Awareness Program that is done in conjunction with New York State Troopers, New York Correction Officers and area School Administrators. Poughkeepsie Alumni, which celebrated its 25th Anniversary in May 1993, is the proud recipient of the Small Chapter Reclamation Award (1992-1993) and the Guide Right Program of the Year Award (1993-1994). Under the leadership of thirteen Polemarchs since the chapter's inception, there has been total dedication to the principle and beliefs of Kappa Alpha Psi.

## **CHARTER MEMBERS (alphabetically)**

**William K. Banks — Johnson C. Smith (Alpha Epsilon) 1955**

**James B. Clarke — Springfield College (Camp Atwater) 1955**

**Clarence Gittens — Columbia University (Omicron) 1941**

**Emmett B. Jeter — Delaware State (Beta Sigma) 1952**

**Luke Lucas — Clafin College (Gamma Nu) 1953**

**Algernon Lyons — Indiana University (Alpha) 1954**

**John William Mason — North Carolina A&T (Alpha Nu) 1954**

**John H. Pleasants III — Hampton Institute (Beta Chi) 1955**

**Columbus L. Stanley — South Carolina (Alpha Lambda) 1958**

**Ernest L. Walker, PhD — Indiana Inst. of Tech. (Delta Phi) 1966**

**John M. Watkins — Allen University (Beta Rho) 1965**



## POUGHKEEPSIE ALUMNI



Chapter Chartered brothers at Kappa Alpha Psi Province meeting at the New York Hilton May 3-5, 1968 (foreground table)



Kappa Mu brothers from West Point Military Academy attending Poughkeepsie Alumni 1999 Fall Dance

# **POUGHKEEPSIE ALUMNI**

## **Past and Present Polemarchs**

**1968-1969 Clarence Gittens**

**1969-1970 Algernon Lyons**

**1970-1972 James Vereen**

**1972-1974 Ernest Walker**

**1974-1976 Leonard Davis Jr.**

**1976-1979 Cleveland Garvin**

**1979-1981 Donald Woodside**

**1981-1984 Paul Clark**

**1984-1986 J. Richard Smith**

**1986-1990 Chapter Inactive**

**1990-1992 Gregory Fields**

**1992-1995 Cleveland Garvin**

**1995-1997 Edward Jackson**

**1997-1999 John C. Barnes**

**1999-2001 Michael O. Taylor**

**2001-2002 David Scott**



# BURLINGTON - CAMDEN ALUMNI

Burlington - Camden, New Jersey  
Chartered April 12, 1969

## History of Burlington-Camden Alumni

On a beautiful Sunday afternoon in July 1968, more than twenty Kappa men and their families assembled at Cooper River Park for a picnic. After consuming ample food and beverage, the Kappa men in attendance huddled under a nearby tree to discuss further plans to establish a local chapter.

Shortly following the picnic gathering a petition was requested and received from National Headquarters in Philadelphia. On Sunday afternoon, November 10, 1968, a meeting was held at Burlington County Community Action Program Headquarters, 9 West Union Street, Burlington, New Jersey. At this meeting, the petition for the charter was signed, officers were elected and a name for the new chapter chosen.

The new chapter was to be known as the "Burlington-Camden Alumni Chapter of **Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.**" Its establishment would provide an opportunity for inactive members and members affiliated only at the Grand Chapter level to become active locally and foster community involvement in Burlington and Camden Counties. To advise and counsel the new chapter, the Philadelphia Alumni Chapter appointed a committee to provide assistance on administrative and fiscal matters.

The Burlington-Camden Alumni Chapter of **Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.** received its charter Saturday, April 12, 1969. Brother Lancelot Tynes, the Grand Chapter's representative and Northeastern Province Polemarch, presented the charter. A formal banquet followed the chartering ceremony at the Rickshaw Inn, Cherry Hill, New Jersey. Over one hundred brothers and guests were in attendance.

The twenty Kappa Brothers who signed the petition to obtain the charter are founders of the Burlington-Camden Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. The officers were Dr. William F. Duck, Polemarch, Walker B. Strickland, Vice Polemarch, Edward T. Thomas, Keeper of Records, Willie Irvin, Keeper of Exchequer, Joseph Keene, Strategus, Ralph Johnson, Lt. Strategus, C. Horace Gibson III, Historian and Rev. Charles C. Blake, Chaplain. The members of the Board of Directors were C. Horace Gibson IV and Dr. William Young.

## Charter Members of Burlington-Camden Alumni Chapter

Dr. Byron K. Armstrong	C. Horace Gibson, III	Nathaniel Scott
Rev. Charles C. Blake	C. Horace Gibson, IV	Dr. Ernest C. Simmons
George P. Dawson	William Hamer	Walter B. Stricklin
Judge Theodore Z. Davis	C. Elbridge Holloway	Edward T. Tomas, Sr.
William F. Duck	Ralph Johnson	Dr. Arnold W. Webster
Willie Ervin	Joseph Keene	Dr. William Young
Preston H. Gunning	William Lewis	