

*A History of Eta Zeta Chapter of Sigma Nu
Fraternity*



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As edited by Harold Crowell HZ 17

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Editor's Preface: The following history of Eta Zeta was written by Jeff Hughes in 1996, and has been briefly edited with his permission by Harold Crowell. Since the document was transcribed using voice recognition software, there may be many errors, so please send me any corrections you may find.

The purpose of publishing the history now is also to allow for those who were present at the early events to edit the text and send in corrections - please do this while we are still alive, otherwise any errors become fact (which is a vexing problem for historians such as Charles C. Chadbourn, III, but one that his discipline has to live with). With your help, we may produce a sound document.

You may also want to submit any stories that you think would be interesting - the story of the theft of the cannon by two sets of our own members is a noteworthy example. I hope to include more recollections by early Commanders as they are forthcoming, as the somewhat undocumented but event filled year of Charles Dunlap's Commandership. Hint, Hint, Hint, Charles.

Dedicated to:
David Feltus Wylie, HZ 4
David Piper, HZ 673

Preface:

The purpose behind writing a history of Eta Zeta chapter of Sigma Nu fraternity is simple: to remember, to guide, and to transmit our ideals to younger members.

It has been said that if one doesn't remember where he's been, he can't possibly know where he's going. Over time, most organizations, whether they are government, religions, or fraternities lose sight of the purpose behind the founding of their institution. Their leaders are simple figureheads with a big title (resumé filler) with no substance or convictions. This apathetic body simply goes through the motions of their beliefs while rotting away to the core. In order to counteract this, history must be taught and remembered to preserve the purpose of the institution.

Guidance into the future comes from many different sources. One of these must be history. Learning from past mistakes, applying Love, Truth, and Honor, and focusing on Eta Zeta's purpose of building better men may make future decisions easier.

Transmitting our ideals and heritage to our younger Brothers and candidates is the lifeline of the Eta Zeta chapter. Just giving out the correct information and leaving the rest up to them isn't going to be sufficient. Sacrifices, commitment, and Brotherhood among us will create strong, solid leadership for tomorrow. If we fail to do these things, we are no longer really Sigma Nus.

Even though this document isn't a complete history (if such a thing exists), I hope that it will shed some light on the men and events that affected all of our commonly bonded Brothers asked, present and future.

Jeff Hughes

Chapter 1: The Beginning of an Idea

Eta Zeta's history begins with a man affectionately called the "Mr. Sigma Nu" of Louisiana: Brother C. A. Ives. Since the 1950s, Brother Ives of Phi chapter (L. S. U.) dreamed of establishing a Sigma Nu Chapter in North Louisiana. Phi, which had no near chapter neighbors since Beta Phi (Tulane) was closed in the 1930s, felt that additional Sigma Nu Chapters were needed in Louisiana in order to maintain Sigma Nu's prestige and strength and to ensure Phi's own strength.

Brother Ives labeled Louisiana Polytechnic Institute (LA Tech) as the best location for the establishment of a new chapter based on the solid reputation of Tech, its location, and the positive fraternal climate. Chartered in 1894, Louisiana Polytechnic Institute at this time was a state-controlled, coed college that offered degrees in arts and sciences, education, engineering, economics, agriculture and forestry, business administration and economics. Enrollment in the 1958–59 year was 2300 men and 1000 women and was increasing at a rate of 10% each year. In order to keep pace, the provision of new facilities and an expanded curriculum were high administrative priorities.

Tech also had a tradition of being strong in athletics, in particular football. Joe Aillet, director of athletics and head football coach, led the Tech football team to an 8-2 record and a share of the state's conference crown with Southwestern.

R. T. Ellzey, Jr. (Delta Epsilon, University of Oklahoma) said, "I believe that everyone would agree with me that this is a very favorable location for a new chapter. The attitude of the school officials towards fraternities is very favorable; they plan to allow a new fraternity every two years." The visits of field visitor Brother Killen Wood in October 1950 and a delegation of young alumni headed by Brother Robert Goodman of Phi also backed up Brother Ives' conclusions.

The Greek system at Tech at this time was comprised of the following fraternities and sororities:

Fraternity	No. of Members	Year of Founding
Kappa Alpha	86	1947
Phi Kappa Alpha	83	1940
Kappa Sigma	57	1941
Tau Kappa Epsilon	55	1947
Lambda Chi Alpha	34	1925
Lambda Tau	26	1957
Sorority		
Alpha Chi Omega	62	1944
Kappa Delta	61	1931
Phi Mu	53	1943
Sigma Kappa	48	1940
Theta Upsilon	25	1932
Casualties		
Theta Xi		1941-57
Delta Sigma Phi		1948-53

Sororities resided in the dorms with club rooms. All fraternity houses are primarily lodges in the occupancy range from 6 to 10. Pi Kappa Alpha had a \$60,000 structure which slept ten. Kappa Sigma owned a \$50,000 house which slept eight, and Tau Kappa Epsilon owned a \$25,000 house which slept six. Kappa Alpha, Lambda Chi Alpha, and Lambda Tau rented local houses.

In 1958, Louisiana Tech's administration and the Inter-Fraternity Council extended a formal invitation of colonization to Sigma Nu National Headquarters. Once the location was confirmed, a leader had to be found to lead the colonization process. This man was Dr. Charles C. Chadbourn, Jr., a Tech professor of English. Dr. Chadbourn and his family arrived on the Ruston scene in 1955. A scholar of 19th century American literature, he taught at the following universities: retired from the University of Arkansas Monticello: taught at Louisiana Tech 1955–69: Chairman of the Department of English and foreign languages and Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi 1964–65: North Georgia College, Syracuse, Colgate, and North Carolina State University. Prior to college-level teaching, he taught high school English, Latin, and journalism at Green Island and Ogdensburg New York, as well as Wilmington and Oxford, North Carolina. Dr. Chadbourn was educated at the following universities: University of the South Sewanee; Union College of New York (bachelor in English and French 1931); Columbia University (Masters in educational administration 1935); Syracuse University (Ph.D. in English and American literature). While attending Sewanee, Dr. Chadbourn Jr. was initiated into the Beta Omicron Chapter of the Legion of Honor and elected into Phi Beta Kappa. He possessed a wealth of experience and a high regard for the ideals of Sigma Nu.

Another man important to the colonization of the Eta Zeta chapter of Sigma Nu was the acting National Executive Secretary, Richard R. Fletcher. It was said of him that, "He is quite intelligent and has a seasoned familiarity with campus life and campus problems. He meets people easily and wins their respect by his earnestness and his grasp of policies, conditions, and needs. We are fortunate to have a man of his finesse to guide the chapters." He acted as the middleman between national headquarters and Brother Chadbourn Jr. Brother Fletcher later added two very important men to his staff that played an important part in establishing the Sigma Nu Chapter at Tech: Terry Ashton in 1959 and later Maurice "Mo" Littlefield.

Chapter 2: Lambda Tau

Lambda Tau fraternity, made up of 26 men, achieved full status as a local fraternity on the campus of Louisiana Tech on January 17, 1959. They were to play a significant role in the formation of Eta Zeta.

Lambda Tau wanted to colonize with one of the larger national fraternities as soon as possible. According to Brother Ives, these men were the first firm prospect for success at Louisiana Tech for a Sigma Nu colony. As of March 3, 1959, Brother Chadbourn Jr., the group's adviser, felt that once these men made a concerted campaign to bring up their scholarship average, there would be no problem colonizing with any group whatsoever.

As early as March 11, 1959 Sigma Phi Epsilon started showing interest in the Lambda Tau men for a chapter of their own. Brother Fletcher planned to fly in to meet the men on April 11, but Brother Chadbourn Jr. canceled his visit due to a change of heart by Lambda Tau. Brother W. D. Meachum from El Dorado, Arkansas, mentioned interest of a Sigma Nu Chapter and became worried that Sigma Phi Epsilon would take the opportunity away.

A letter dated April 13, 1959 to Brother Chadbourn, Jr., from Brother Fletcher stated, "Please do not distress your selves unduly over the interest expressed by Lambda Tau over affiliation into Sigma Phi Epsilon. Actually this may be a blessing in disguise. Members of the delegation from Arkansas which visited were not impressed with Lambda Tau's scholarship, or of the caliber of its membership, and doubted that a petition from Lambda Tau would receive the unanimous approval of the Division 11 chapters, as required by law. I believe the fraternity would infinitely prefer to pick a nucleus of outstanding men and to develop a colony group of quality to petition Sigma Nu, rather than take a chance on a group which might not be up to standard in some important respects."

Lambda Tau was visited by representatives of Delta Epsilon (University of Oklahoma), Gamma Upsilon (University of Arkansas), the El Dorado Alumni Club, and by alumni representatives of Phi (LSU). They reported as generally favoring the location of a chapter at Tech, but were not overly enthusiastic about the petitioners from Lambda Tau.

Brother Chadbourn Jr. finally concluded that Sigma Nu would be better off by colonizing; this basically killed Lambda Tau's chance at becoming a Sigma Nu colony.

On April 6, 1959 Lambda Tau became loyal to Sigma Phi Epsilon and began work towards colonization with this fraternity. Dr. Chadbourn said "I do not expect Sigma Nu to woo these particular boys, but do want my fraternity here at Tech, and my son (Charles C. Chadbourn, III) will enter here in June. I am nearly 50, and time is running out for me — our best bet is to hand pick our group and the time is ripe."

On March 13, 1960 Dean of students at Louisiana Tech, S. X. Lewis, advised Brother Chadbourn, Jr. to resign as adviser of Lambda Tau in order to proceed with Sigma Nu colonization.

Chapter 3: The Groundwork

In April of 1960, Brother Terry Ashton was sent by Sigma Nu National headquarters to Louisiana Tech in order to discuss colonization in a meeting with Tech President R. L. Ropp, Dean S. X. Lewis, and other representatives of the university's Committee On Student Organizations and to explain to them Sigma Nu's proposed colonization procedures. They in turn could explain the local Inter-Fraternity Council's rules. In a letter to Brother Chadbourn Jr., Brother Fletcher said that Sigma Nu has "no up-to-date standard procedures for colonization, since we have colonized so infrequently. We tried to develop each colonization effort on an individual basis using the approaches seemed to be best suited to the particular campus situation." Brother Ashton's mission was to gather information before suggesting specifics.

Brother Ashton's report back to Sigma Nu National wonderfully describes the situation and the people involved:

"Brother Chadbourn is an idealist. He will be a great man for the job of the faculty advisor and of great interest to the alumni. He has been the sponsor of another group at the school but he is more interested in the colonization of Sigma Nu. He says that he has several faculty members in mind that could become a part of the colony if we are invited to come.

They are a wonderful family. They spend their summers in Maine living in a tent. There are three children. The oldest boy is in student at Ruston and was a member of another fraternity but resigned his pledge because of some of the things that they were making the pledges do. He has read the Way of Honor and is very interested in Sigma Nu. He is also an idealist. The mother is from Georgia – I had dinner with them and it was served in a very cultured manner. There were all the fine things although they live in a house that is run down, with a hole in the front porch that one has to step over. There are many family relics in the house and quite a family tradition. They are very interesting and Dr. Chadbourn is particularly interesting. The son is a very good-looking, intelligent young man and knows four or five other students that would be interested in the idea of having a fraternity different from what they now presently see at the school. One of these is his closest friend and president of one of the school classes, Robert K. Vincent. This man is an independent because he doesn't think very much of what he is seeing in fraternities there. Dean S. X. Lewis is very interested in Sigma Nu – he quoted a few sentences from the Way of Honor. The others that were present at the meeting seemed very interested in our viewpoints about colonization. If we are accepted, I think that it will be on any terms that we might name. The president of the Inter-Fraternity Council was also present and he seemed quite elated at the idea that Sigma Nu would be interested in coming to the campus. I told them that if we were accepted that the first thing that I would like to do would be to come back down there and make a little survey in order that I acquaint myself with the environment and the students. I would have to get up on the 'tonkology' so to speak. The Tonk is the name of the student union building. There is some problem at the school now with many transfers and students that don't stay to graduate and this is one of the things that I wanted to look further into. They wanted us to be ready to start in September -- I told them that I couldn't promise anything because there was no telling how long it would take to find idealists in today's student body. They all agreed with me. My main point was that Sigma Nu was not interested in just having another chapter, but that we were interested in having another chapter of men with ideals that would contribute to the whole fraternity. The official invitation to colonize, with the support and endorsement of President R.L. Ropp, Dean of students S. X. Lewis and the Inter-Fraternity Council, followed promptly."

Terry Ashton met with a small group of hand-picked men in the Sigma Tau Delta (English Honorary Fraternity) room of the old English Building with the intent of establishing a colony of Sigma Nu. At the conclusion of the meeting, officers of the colony were elected and plans made for the fall.

Colony officers:

President	Charles Chadbourn, III
Secretary- Treasurer	Bob Caverlee
Chaplain	Bob Vincent
Rush Chairman	Robert Huber

Roster of the Sigma Nu Petitioning Colony:

Carl Blue	Shreveport	Education
Terry Brown	Shreveport	CE
Bob Caverlee	Monroe	English
Charles Chadbourn, III	Ruston	Pre-Med
Herbert Edelen	Shreveport	EE
Jerry Haworth	Shreveport	Pre-Med
Sammy Holt	Shreveport	EE
Robert Huber	New Orleans	Psychology
Gene Jones	Olla	Speech
Reves Lowery	Bernice	Forestry
Byron Pipes	Shreveport	Engineering
Jerry Ray	De Berry, TX	Engineering
Stanley Speed	Shreveport	Chemistry
Tommy Stepp	Pineville	Academic
Bob Vincent	Bunkie	Physics
Larry White	Carthage, TX	Speech
David Wilson	Camden, AR	Engineering
David Wylie	Ruston	Art

On June 2, 1960, the Executive Secretary of Sigma Nu, Brother Richard Fletcher, operating out of the national headquarters in Lexington, was beginning to take a very active interest in the establishment of a chapter of idealists at Louisiana Tech. He decided to make the furthering of the Louisiana Tech colony the first assignment of staff assistant Maurice “Mo” Littlefield, former Commander of Delta Nu Chapter of the University of Maine. So in August, Brother Littlefield drove his battered hunting car down to Louisiana for a conference with colony director Charles Chadbourn Jr. and colony President Charles Chadbourn III.

On September 13, 1960 the first meeting of the academic year began. Brother Littlefield and Brother Ellis Sandoz (Phi 507) had accepted the invitation from Brother Chadbourn Jr. to become co-director of the colony. This former commander of Phi chapter and professor of political science at Louisiana Tech graduated from Byrd high school in Shreveport, from LSU with a B.A. and M.A., and continued his studies at the University of North Carolina, Georgetown, and the University of Munich. The returning Sigma Nu columnists were few and

far between: Charles Chadbourn III, Robert Vincent, David Wilson, Byron Pipes and David Wiley. Ray Norre was soon recruited to their cause. Even though their numbers were small, they remained committed to forming a fraternity unexcelled in the United States.

Their Ideals: Love, Truth and Honor

- Their Goals:
1. The establishment of a chapter of Sigma Nu to promulgate these ideals
 2. The intention that each member live according to the Creed of Sigma Nu
 3. Initiation into the Legion of Honor

Their purpose: The creation of a better society.

“There existed a need for a fraternity based on ideals. In other words, a fraternity that could prove that a college fraternity can serve a useful and respected purpose in the molding of men of integrity. This would result in the improvement and bettering of our society.”

An article in the October 7 Tech Talk described Sigma Nu at Louisiana Tech campus: “The colony hoped to better clarify some of its basic principles and philosophies. Sigma Nu believes in the Jeffersonian theory that the least form of government is the best and ideally, the only law is the unwritten law. The fraternity is conservative and is not interested in size. It grows where there are men with ideals who prefer the challenge of an honor fraternity, and whose membership is one of complete selectivity. This organization prefers to depart from the normal and does not believe that cups and trophies are a measure of progress. It suggests that trophies would better serve their purpose if they were given to those who are lowest, since the lowest needs a reminder. Individualism is a virtue of Sigma Nu also. It attracts those who like the Brotherhood of a fraternity that offers a challenge – maintaining that its honor and ideals are unequalled in that it is only the superior individual that desires to try and live by them. Since an individual’s word is sufficient guarantee, Sigma Nu does not issue written bids.”

At the end of September 1960 a brief ceremony was held in the office of Dean S. X. Lewis to mark the official welcome the Sigma Nu colony at Louisiana Tech campus as a social fraternity. Reverend Wayne Grey (Southwestern at Memphis) presented “A Serpent, Rose, a Star” to the colony. Accepting the painting on behalf of the colony were Brother Chadbourn Jr. and Brother Sandoz.



Dr. R. L. Ropp, Tech President, in welcoming Sigma Nu, stated that the whole administration was behind the fraternity system 100%. Also present at the ceremony were Brother James M. Nobles, Brother Bill Meacham, Brother Littlefield, several Tech students, and various members of the Tech faculty. The Inter-Fraternity Council invited the Sigma Nu Colony to participate fully in all the activities of the fraternity rush except the issuance of formal invitations to join Sigma Nu.

Chapter 4: The First Rush

With the returning of the “Faithful Five” and a \$200 rush expense check from National, the colonists set out to recruit men capable and worthy of accept their cause. Prior to rush, the colonists obtained rush recommendations from collegiate chapter commanders and division commanders of Arkansas, Mississippi, Texas, and Louisiana. These recommendations, coupled with the men in the colony and men the alumni knew personally made up their target group. Because of their small numbers, the colonists decided only to rush those men on this “blue-chip list.”

The Faithful Five chose Lincoln Courts as the location of their series of dinner parties. Punch and cookies were served followed by discussion and entertainment by our singing group. The Colony was presented an etched glass copy of the Creed by Brother Joe K. Mahoney, a member of the Sigma Nu for 55 years. Reverend G. Avery Lee, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Ruston, spoke on the attainment of ideals.

The \$200 check from National was used as follows:

Entertainment at Lincoln Court Dining Room	\$151.77
Lodging for Members of Phi Chapter	30.00
Expenses for Reception at the Student Center	19.18
Frame for Picture Presented by Sigma Nu	10.50
Sigma Nu White Roses for reception	4.00
Telephone bill to Commander of Phi Chapter	4.00
Total	\$197.45

Mo Littlefield was a major force in our first rush. “It was a pleasure to have Mo here and he worked hard, in fact too hard for his own good at times, and it would seem that he got results.”

Six Louisiana Tech fraternities announced a total of 172 pledges following the 1960 rushing season. In addition, Sigma Nu announced that it is beginning its activities with a membership of 21 colonists. Kappa Sigma had the largest number of pledges with 57, Pi Kappa Alpha followed with 33, Kappa Alpha was third with 29, Tau Kappa Epsilon had 23, Lambda Chi Alpha with 17, and Sigma Phi Epsilon’s (formerly Lambda Tau) total was 13. Of the 21 colonists, more than half said that they didn’t want to join a fraternity of the ordinary kind. The quality of the men chosen was stated by Brother Chadbourn Jr. through the following words of praise: “In no case have we taken a man that I should not be proud to have for my own son, and I can give no higher recommendation to these men.” Members of the Sigma Nu colony were as follows:

William Thomas Alsbrooks
Donald Bass
Donald P. Burch
Charles City Chadbourn, III
Charles Edward Dunlap
Jon A. Feerick
Rel Gray
Edmund E. Jones
Frederick Richard Kellogg
Paul Lyon
Van Cade Marsh

Raymond Johan Norre
James Merrill Pelton
Robert Byron Pipes
Dan Reno, II
Charles E. Rodgers
Aubury James Shepherd
Stafford Jean Vallery
Robert Keller Vincent
David Elliott Wilson
David Feltus Wylie

The new members of the colony had some very impressive credentials. Some of which were: 1959 Freshman Class President, the Omicron Delta Kappa outstanding freshman, an American exchange student, a member of the Baptist Honor Council, a hurdler on the varsity track team, a former all-state football player, a former Key club president and vice president, the recipient of the AF ROTC Sons of the American Revolution award and the Chicago Tribune Air Science 1. As one can surmise, the colonists were a very diverse group of men.

At the completion of the first rush period and the beginning of the probation period, (six months), the Colony was not able to increase its membership according to the Inter-Fraternity Council law. "I have no doubt that the Colony will become, in due time, one of the fine chapters of our fraternity" – from a letter from Brother Sandoz to Brother Fletcher dated October 10, 1960.

Chapter 5: The Road is Long

At this time Brother Chadbourn, III, feeling that he could better serve the colony as Reporter called for an election of a new set of officers and requested that he be allowed to assume the task of Reporter from which he could not only handle public relations work but could also supervise the publication and printing of the formal petition to the Brothers of Sigma Nu for a charter. The following was the result of the election:

David Wilson	President
Edmund Jones	Vice-President
Aubrey Shepherd	Secretary
Dan Renau	Treasurer
Bob Vincent	Chaplain
Charles Rogers	Sentinel
Charles Chadbourn, III	Reporter
Stafford Vallery	Recorder

Several obstacles arose along the road leading to a future Sigma Nu Chapter and knighthood: a house, a probation period, and maturity

As fall progressed, members of the colony wanted a place to call home. They finally decided to rent the office to the old cotton gin house at 503 W. Mississippi St. (present location – Town Oaks laundry mat). Doug Bass and Stafford Vallery cleaned and painted. “To proclaim to the world at large whose house it was”, Ray Norre and Van Marsh made a Sigma Nu sign for the front. The first house manager, James Pelton, and Byron Pipes made and painted screens. Charles Rogers, an electrical engineering major, improved the wiring situation. Venetian blinds were added by Fred Kellogg. Finally, Charles Dunlap and Byron Pipes did a little yard work. Although the place was not much larger than the dorm rooms any of the men slept in, it was home. Other fraternities on campus called it a little cracker box because of its size. The Kappa Sigs even offered their outhouse as a second-story addition. With two bedrooms, one bath, a living room, a kitchen and rent at \$40 per month, it must be remembered as the “acorn that grew into the great Oak” – Brother Chadbourn, III

The Inter-Fraternity Council’s six months probation also posed a huge obstacle for the new colony. Brother Littlefield and Brother Fletcher sensed at this time that “there will be a long dry spell between October 21, the day our probation officially began, and six months hence.” Brother Chadbourn stated that even though the Inter-Fraternity Council supported the colony, “Young people can be cruel, and the Inter-Fraternity Council here is no exception in that they do not let our men feel that they are anything but novices without a full knowledge of the esoteric. No doubt we will lose some men, yet the process is worthwhile, and we shall be able to separate the good men from the others. Local recognition must be achieved before there can be a Formal Petition.”

After their first rush, the colonists were restricted to certain activities because of the fact that Inter-Fraternity Council law demanded a six-month probation period. Therefore, the Colony was not allowed to enter a competing team in any sport so any games were strictly exhibition affairs. As the other fraternities were decorating their houses for homecoming, we had to think about next year.

To endure the probation period, the Colony became very creative. They initiated a plan that would become popular among the other Greeks on the campus – all members sitting together at athletic contest with their dates. Exhibition games took the place of competitive games. In October, the members played their first exhibition football game with members of Lambda Chi Alpha on the field in front of Robinson Hall and urged the Intramural Director to place them on the regular volleyball and basketball schedules on a noncompeting basis.

On November 11 the colony participated in the Student Union Campus Carnival with a dart throw booth. During the month of December, they gave a Christmas party for the children in a nearby handicapped educational institution and serenaded the girl's dormitories after the evening curfew. At the time of serenading, it was a general practice to dedicate certain songs to the sweethearts, close friends, and steadies of the colony members. So, even though they were forbidden to give any parties for themselves, they achieved a greater realization of fraternal Brotherhood.

In a letter from Brother Chadbourn Jr. to Brother Richard Fletcher dated December 8, Brother Chadbourn worried about the maturity factor in the chosen members of the colony. "In my last letter I hinted to you that I was not able to impress upon all of these young men the necessity of acting like men engaged upon a manly quest rather than like boys in a high school club. I was more than serious, and I regret that we did not have an opportunity to talk about these facts in more detail. He noted the tenor of Dean Lewis' remarks. They were exactly what I ask him to say. Our men have been remiss in paying their dues and have on several occasions disregarded my advice and that of Dean Lewis, that is, in their mass action. More than half of our men are strong and good Sigma Nu material, and I think that now is the time for me to know in so many words what is to be the disposition of those that we do not feel measure up. Will they be screened en mass or man by man? Who is to do this? I do not like the thought of such actions myself. In one specific case, I recommended to three men that they separate themselves from all fraternal activities until they brought their scholarship up at least to par. In a majority vote, the colonists 'voted me down' and went to the men and asked them to continue. The action I took had been recommended to me by the Dean, and it seemed to me appropriate, even if I had not been required to take my orders from the Dean. In another case, I had to have the Dean send a man to me in order to get an overdue fraternity obligation paid. That Dean is not slow to take further action in such matters, and I am caught between two loyalties – to the men and to the University. On the other hand, I should prefer Sigma Nu to any other fraternity to be the next here, and he agrees, judging from the fact that this is a second chance he has given us. Now my actions have been described as rancorous and deplorable and worse, but I shall continue in this strain until I build men of Sigma Nu character or until we are relegated to live as either a local or as nothing. I think I should have told you these things in person and wish we had more time, and they are in confidence now. I can take just so much from some of these men in the name of Sigma Nu, and then my sense of indignation inevitably rises, and the old self-respect reasserts itself."

In order to break up the long probation and to solidify the character of Sigma Nu, Brother Fletcher suggested to Brother Chadbourn Jr. on October 12, 1960 to plan "a formal ceremony to commit the group to Sigma Nu, probably in early December. Pledge pins could be presented and worn by them and thereafter. With local recognition there should be a round of official visits by nearby chapters, whose approval is essential. If this can be completed before school ends, as I hope, the summer could be used for preparation of the printed petition."

Chapter 6: Formal Pledging

On December 6, 1960, twenty two young men were formally accepted as a Sigma Nu colony of the national organization. With approximately 60 guests and members gathered at the Louisiana Tech Student Center, Brother Charles Chadbourn Jr. defined the purpose of the ceremony as recognizing the new Sigma Nu Colony and as a commitment from both sides: colony members and the national fraternity. After the invocation given by Brother Wayne Gray, an introduction of the program participants followed. Brother Fletcher presented a slide show on "Sigma Nu Heritage and Tradition." The charge to the Colony by Brother George Evans, Regional Regent, and was accepted by David Wilson, the Colony President. The ceremony came to a conclusion with the entire colony reciting the Pledge to Sigma Nu.



Brother Fletcher reminded the colonists: "As you wear your pledge pin, the three key words – Men, Fraternity, and Honor should come to mind. The pledge pin merely gives you an opportunity to qualify for membership. You will become a Sigma Nu, (not join Sigma Nu) if, and only if, you individually are able to present a record which bespeaks your qualifications for a select society of Men of Honor. You can readily determine those qualifications yourself. Men of Honor pay their bills promptly, for example. They operate in their lives on an honor basis. Their word is their bond. When they say they'll do something, they do it. They carry their share of responsibilities, rather than look to others as boys do. They make their academic obligations, too. So another milestone has been passed. Now you have an opportunity, during the remainder of the "waiting", to develop a stated chapter purpose. We're not interested in having just another chapter of Sigma Nu at Louisiana Tech. It must be a Sigma Nu Chapter, a leader by Sigma Nu standards rather than by provincial standards, a fraternity chapter, a group committed to the

fraternal ideal, and which uses every honorable means at its disposal to encourage and assist its members in achieving worthwhile goals.”

Chapter 7: The Quest for Knighthood

January 3, 1961 marked the first issue of the Triangle in the form of a newsletter. The Triangle derived its name from the three ideals: Love, Truth, and Honor. The staff was comprised of Frederick Kellogg, Editor; David Wiley, Art Director; and Charles Chadbourn, III, Reporter. The newsletter was to “become a journalistic organ for the Sigma Nu colony.”

In order for the Sigma Nu colony at Louisiana Tech to earn a charter, Sigma Nu law requires the endorsement of all other chapters in the division concerned. This posed a small problem for Sigma Nu National. The Tech colony is geographically located in almost a center ring of five divisions: 11, 12, 21, 22, and 22 South (for example: Zeta Psi at Lamar Tech, Division 22 South; Zeta Omicron at North Texas, Division 22; Gamma Upsilon at Arkansas, Division 21; Epsilon Sigma at Southwestern, Division 12; Epsilon Xi at Mississippi, Division 12; and Phi at LSU, Division 11). The ruling was that colony must have a unanimous approval of all nearby chapters. This included the chapters above plus the remaining division 11 chapters: Theta at Alabama, Iota at Howard, and Beta Theta at Auburn. As required by law, the colony must also send a written petition to all chapters of the Fraternity and win the approval of three fourths of these 130 groups of Sigma Nu. In other words, a colony must prove it self worthy not only to nearby chapters, but also to the majority of the Sigma Nu chapters all over the United States.

A bulletin was sent out to Sigma Nu national on January 23, 1961, directing all concerned chapters to establish liaison with the Louisiana Tech colony as soon as possible. A delegation from each chapter must be sent to visit the colony to appraise the development of the colony, its members, and its promise. Upon returning, these delegations gave full reports to their chapters. Their report plus the petition written by Charles Chadbourn, III decided the fate of the colony: approval or rejection.

To meet the financial demands of this time period, monthly dues were raised from five dollars per month to an astounding six dollars per month. A \$90 initiation fee would be assessed if their plan succeeded. Because of this increase in dues, three Brothers of the colony decided to withdraw.

On February 28, 1960, Brother Sandoz described the biggest problem facing the colony: the apathy of the Sigma Nu chapters in division 11 concerning their endorsement of the colony at Louisiana Tech before the end of the spring semester. A Louisiana Tech rule forbade any activities within a week of the beginning of final examinations. These began on May 25th, which meant that all ceremonies must end on the night of May 17. March 15 marked the return of Brother Littlefield to the Louisiana Tech campus. His job consisted of aiding the colony through their chartering process.

The day of April 21, 1960, will be forever remembered as the ending of the probation for the Sigma Nu colony. To commemorate this achievement, Miss Linda Lyles from Pan-Hellenic Council presented a gavel bearing the Sigma Nu crest to the chapter. Of course the chapter celebrated this event on April 22 with their very first social party - a hay ride and wiener roast.

The colony's first participation in Greek Week lasted from May 1 - 7.

May 1: The Sigma Nu Chapter stood under the porch roof of Pierce Hall and presented a bouquet of white roses to the colony's first sweetheart, Miss Peggy Kemp, while singing “Sigma Nu Girl.”

May 2: Ray Norre, Bob Vincent, and Byron Pipes represented the fraternity at an Interfraternity Council banquet.

May 3: The movie named “Operation Abolition” was shown.

May 4: Bob Vincent, David Wylie, and Byron pipes attended a party sponsored by the Inter-Fraternity Council and the Pan-Hellenic Council.

May 7: A special Greek Week ceremony and songfest of barbershop quartets gave the chapter some success. Robert Barrett, Jon Ferrick, Bob Vincent, and Byron Pipes captured second place in a swim relay. Jon Ferrick in the side stroke and Charles Dunlap in the breaststroke each placed in fourth place. Byron Pipes was third in the freestyle event. The barbershop quartet, composed of the “melodious voices” of James Pelton, David Wylie, Bob Vincent, and Van marsh, took second place.

The approval process consisted of the preliminary petition, the subsequent approval of nearby chapters, the second approval of the High Council of Sigma Nu, and the approval of three fourths of the collegiate chapters was completed.

Chapter 8 Installation of the Eta Zeta Chapter

On May 10, 1961, Wednesday, men from Zeta Psi chapter at Lamar Tech arrived in Ruston. The Zeta Psi men prepared for the performance of the formal pledging ritual the following day.

Thursday, May 11th, Brother Ives, Brother Littlefield, and Brother Ashton all arrived for the ceremonies. The Formal Pledging of Robert Barrett, Douglas Bass, Harold Crowell, John Ferrick, David Rankin, and Michael Waddey took place in the Chadbourns' house. Hub Hawthorn, Commander of Zeta Psi was in charge of the pledge ceremony.

"Zeta Psi, Lamar Tech, performed a most outstanding pledging ceremony. Zeta Psi was honored to have been chosen for the occasion, and their performance was indicative of the kind of men that make Sigma Nu great. They had the ritual memorized and their hearts were in everything they said." – Brother Littlefield.

Friday, May 12, 1961, will always be remembered as the beginning of the Eta Zeta chapter of Sigma Nu fraternity. Initiation was held at 5 p.m. in the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer of Ruston. The initiation ceremony was performed by the Phi chapter of LSU. Brother Littlefield said that "Phi arrived barely in time for the initiation, and the quality of their performance can hardly be credited anything above fair in comparison with the Zeta Psi group. Nevertheless, they did arrive and managed to perform the services." The thirteen Founders are:

Charles C. Chadbourn, III,	HZ 1
Robert Keller Vincent	HZ 2
David Elliott Wilson	HZ 3
David Feltus Wylie	HZ 4
William Thomas Alsbrooks	HZ 5
Charles Edward Dunlap	HZ 6
Van Cade Marsh	HZ 7
Raymond Johan Norre	HZ 8
Frederick Richard Kellogg	HZ 9
James Merrill Pelton	HZ 10
Robert Byron Pipes	HZ 11
Aubrey James Shepherd	HZ 12
Stafford Jean Vallery	HZ 13

Officers were:

Bryon Pipes	Commander
David Wylie	Lt. Commander
Charles Dunlap	Treasurer
Stafford Vallery	Recorder
Charles Chadbourn, III	Pledge Marshal
Fred Kellogg	Reporter
Bill Alsbrooks	Chaplain

After initiation, pledges and initiates met their families and dates at the fraternity house and escorted them to the Louisiana Tech Student Center Cafeteria. The banquet began with the invocation given by Roger Gray of Monroe. Brother Harry Nelson was master of ceremonies.

Brother Chadbourn Jr. introduced the honored guests, parents, and new members. Dean S.X. Lewis followed with a very touching welcome to the new chapter. This was followed by the presentation of gifts from the commander of Phi, staff assistant Brother Ashton, and Brother George Wilson (Zeta Omicron 1). Brother Ives received a plaque presented in honor of the Dean's loyalty, devotion, and many years of service as to Sigma Nu. After a very lengthy standing applause for Brother Ives, Brother Ashton and Brother Littlefield presented the chapter with an official recorder's book. Other gifts given to the chapter included a ballot box from George Wilson, a desk pen from Alpha Chi Omega, and a folding table from Kappa Delta. The most important presentation came from Brother Richard L. Sturgis, Jr., Grand Chaplain of Sigma Nu, when he bestowed Eta Zeta's charter.

Brother Ives, without whom we would have never come into being, delivered the following talk (in outline form):

"Louisiana is grateful for the attention it is receiving from the national fraternity of Sigma Nu. This new chapter at Louisiana Tech will engage new territory and will bring into the fraternity men of the sturdy American stock that has made America great. These hill parishes of North Louisiana have been a sort of enclave where pure Americanism has been maintained. They are industrious, God fearing, churchgoing and least spoiled by false ideals or modern times. I expect them to make a contribution to our fraternity.

I wish to emphasize three points: why I believe in college fraternities, why I think they are more important now than formerly, and the challenge to the very existence of all college fraternities.

I believe in college fraternities because I believe in youth. As an educator I have been in close association with youth all my life. Their fresh young spirits are bubbling over with impulses, ideals and energies which under guidance can produce a noble society. They have faith, hope, ideals and creative imagination. Those are rich endowments, leaving only wisdom and guidance for the proper use of these talents. What youth needs to make the best use of his potential is to have a built-in factor to give direction like a compass and a factor that performs the office similar to that of a gyroscope. Here the fraternity can render a distinct service. What men learn in their academic pursuits are mainly facts and the principles of the several sciences. In the chapter they are learning life and life's finest principles. Youth needs companionship of an intimate kind: this the chapter provides. Constant repetition of the tenets and ritual filled idealism brings forth a responsive chord in the fellows.

The very young are the greatest resource of idealism, which can be a blessing or a curse according to how it is guided. Devoted alumni are appointed as advisers to the chapter while a High Council and a national office staff serve the general fraternity.

Fraternities are needed now more than ever because of the great number of students on campus, and because modern life handicaps the parents in oversight and counseling their children. Where institutions formerly consisted of hundreds of members they now have thousands and ten thousands of students. Fraternities will not directly serve them all, but their influence should have a campus wide effect. There was a time when all activities were domestic, children were in constant contact with parents. In the evening the family would sit around a blazing fire discussing the events of the day and mother and father would admonish or praise were needed. That is all gone. Children and parents go their separate ways in the morning and will not see each other except during the evening meal. Central heating, the radio, and television send them to different rhythms. Or perhaps the children are at the movies, in a car racing on the

street or highway or are taking in a nightspot. These are poor substitutes for the liberal education and living that the old home environment supplied. The fraternity should be conducted in such a manner as to make up for the lack of what the all-time home supplied. Is this a baseless dream? We think not.

The very existence of college fraternities is being challenged on many campuses. College administrators are abridging the inalienable right to choose your own intimate friends. This is a violation of individual rights. It is contrary to the principles of freedom and democracy. It is a totalitarian principle. It is un-American and is perhaps being copied from the field of professional politics in which one is all things to all men and one brings good to no one.

The governing authority has no more right to abridge the privileges of the student than it does those of the faculty, which true in many areas. Academic freedom protects the faculty but the student's rights are sometimes abridged. It is no violation of the personal freedom for an individual to select his own intimates, but it would be an intolerable violation of this freedom for someone else to do. To do so is a total misuse of power if it is done by compulsion. When a chapter chooses a man he becomes a Brother and his family by extension becomes his relatives. If this relationship is destroyed, there will be no Brotherhood. The final results leave a fraternity without an excuse to exist.

Those who believe in the inherent value of a college fraternity can only be alarmed at this prospect. Every violation of the integrity of fraternities should be resisted to the utmost."

The ceremony ended with the benediction given by Brother Gray. The banquet totaled about 84 people.



Chapter 9: Securing the Future

New officers were elected at the first meeting of the new chapter.

Commander	Byron Pipes
Lt. Commander	David Wiley
Recorder	Stafford Vallery
Treasurer	Charles Dunlap
Selection Chairman	Van Marsh
Pledge Marshal	Charles C. Chadbourn, III
Reporter	Fred Kellogg
Alumni Contact	Bob Vincent
House Manager	James Pelton
Chaplin	Bill Alsbrooks
Sentinel	David Wilson



Just before the Brothers broke for summer, the chapter moved into a new house located at 600 Thornton Street. At \$90 per month, the House contained a chapter room, reception room, three bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom and back porch. The telephone number was ALpine 5-1869.

Men of the chapter earned an overall average of 2.938 for the spring semester on a four-point scale. The score was higher than any other fraternity or sorority.

Brother Chadbourn Jr. was our adviser for nearly a year. He saw our chapter through the all-important petitioning period before initiation. Shortly after the Spring Semester began, Dr. Chadbourn turned his position over to Brother Ellis Sandoz.

On July 22, 1961, The El Dorado Alumni Club, under the direction of Brother William P. Cook, gave the Eta Zeta Chapter a rush party at the Townhouse Motel. During the afternoon many of those present enjoyed swimming in the cool waters of the motel pool. After the swim, everyone was indeed ready for the delicious steak dinner so graciously provided by the alumni. After the meal, alumnus James H. Nobles and Commander Byron Pipes spoke a few words to the assembly. After dinner many of the members and guests adjourned to enjoy miniature golf and bowling.

September 15–19, 1961, began the rush season. The schedule included a convocation for all male students in Howard Auditorium. Open houses were held at all seven Tech fraternities. Each rushee was required by Inter-Fraternity Council regulations to attend, at least once, the open house of each fraternity and have his IFC card stamped. After this, all who desired to go through formal rush paid a fee and received invitations to three “series 1” parties. Rushees registered and picked up date cards for the first serious fraternity parties. Following this were the “series two” parties, also invitational affairs. A series of five parties spread out over a period from Friday, September 15 to September 19 allowed Rushees little free time. Midnight on September 19 ended Rush and began silence. Between 3 and 5 p.m. Wednesday, September 20, bids were picked up by the Rushees. Pledging followed at 5 p.m. at the respective fraternities.

Just what type of man was Eta Zeta looking for? “Above all he must be a man who holds his honor dearer than his life. But that is not all that we desire in a prospective pledge. We want men who have shown the ability to excel in some field of endeavor such as drama, music, athletics, forensics, business, community service, religious work, or scholarship. In addition we desire men who have the ability and determination to adapt to college life and its strenuous scholastic and social challenges. They need to have their financial affairs on a sound basis to be able to do what is required in order to be responsible. Sigma Nu is not looking for playboys, it is looking for men who have come to Tech to grow in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.”

How did they rush? According to Charles C. Chadbourn, III, at the open house men attempted to meet and become friends with as many of the Rushees as possible. Entertainment was provided at the series one parties by a Sigma Nu Quartet plus One: Wiley, Vincent, Marsh, Pelton, plus Waddey. With Big Mike on the guitar, the group performed a variety of numbers such as “Sloop John B.”, “Squaws along the Yukon”, “The Wayward Wind”, and “When the Saints Go Marching In”. On the serious side, Brother Vincent gave a brief talk on the History of Sigma Nu. The real ‘meat’ of the sessions came when Reverend Wayne Gray, a Presbyterian minister from Monroe who has been with the Tech group all the way, spoke on the true significance of Sigma Nu at the Friday night parties. On Saturday afternoon our Special Division Commander Dave Comegys, an Episcopalian minister from Shreveport, presented his inspiring speech on ideals. For the series two parties, the Quartet plus One sang again briefly. Mike Waddey and David Wilson did a tremendous job “broadcasting” an imaginary pregame talk for the Louisiana Bulldogs – Baltimore Colts football game, which fortunately was canceled due to snow. Also, Brother Chadbourn III showed a series of slides from the national fraternity of the heritage and traditions of Sigma Nu. The main speaker for the evenings was our esteemed

adviser, Brother Ellis Sandoz. Brother Sandoz presented a vivid talk about Sigma Nu on the Tech campus. He told where it had been and where it is going. On this note Eta Zeta Chapter closed its official rush. A total of 148 men are pledged on the campus. It wasn't easy competing against already existing fraternities who were experienced in the rush process. We had something different to offer, for a few men who would put grades before fraternity; would accept our ethical idealism; who wouldn't haze; who would agree to have a good time without drinking at fraternity functions. Nineteen invitations were offered and all but two accepted.

Most of the rushing was done outside of the formal rush parties. This included compiling a blue chip list and visiting the men prior to rush. Eta Zeta also sought to recruit a diverse group of men.

After its first formal rush as a Sigma Nu Chapter, Eta Zeta welcomed 17 new pledges to the Eta Zeta Chapter, 11 of who would eventually become actives.

Eugene Blake	Rusty Moore
Chandler Clifton	Kenny Oliver
Otis Courville	Jim Parks
William Daughtridge	Steve Parker
Jean Edmundson	Ronnie Perritt
Larry Gibson	Manco Snapp
Perrin Jones	Charlie Sandifer
Don Mears	Jerry Thornhill
John Mears	

Eta Zeta's pledge program was developed to accomplish Eta Zeta's Chapter Goal: To build better men. Jim Parks described the pledge program adopted by the chapter at this time. "At the first pledge meeting after rush is over and informal pledging is held, the new pledge is given a lecture on chapter policies and practices, late meetings are conducted (formally using parliamentary procedure) and what is expected of them in a general outline of the pledge program. The older pledges usually conduct the meetings by appointment from the Marshal and they assume various offices temporarily. This orientation program also includes a restatement of the principles of Sigma Nu on which they were rushed. The education of the pledge is carried out in weekly lessons covering the following areas: Chapter history and national history, founders, Ideals of Sigma Nu, chapter and national organization, the Greek alphabet, guest speakers, and discussion programs. These areas are by no means everything which the novice is taught, or only those things covered in formal lesson type units at the pledge meetings. Our pledges are required to visit at least eight initiates per week. At these times the active is responsible for teaching the pledge about him and about the other actives. In this way each pledge is seen by every active several times in their rooms and the pledges feel more at ease with individual actives after one of these visits. Also required is attendance at major athletic contests of the chapter. There is only honor to enforce these requirements. Our chapter does not have a "fine" system. The unity necessary to accomplish the goals of the fraternity is acquired by working in planning together some project for the pledges by the pledges and then accomplishing this task or project. The chapter has given the pledge class the responsibility of cleaning the chapter room once a week, since both groups use the same room on different nights. A pledge project originated by the pledges themselves is encouraged with only advice from the actives. If the project is an ambitious one there was active help available, but pledge only

projects are the best way to make the pledge class function as a unit. Utilization of every pledge in such a project is essential to achieving unity. Pledges are made to feel responsible by gradually letting them assume responsibility for conducting the meetings. At first the Pledge Marshal is a leader, later he is an adviser, and still later before initiation he is mostly an observer. When the pledges are new they must be shown the way and given considerable advice. At about mid-semester they are given some responsibility and on the whole conduct meetings alone. At this time they begin giving seminars. The seminar is a report on some facet of Sigma Nu, be it the "Rock", VMI, or the Ideal of Honor. They last from eight to ten minutes and express the pledge's idea on the subject as well as what he has been able to find in the pledge manual, The Story of Sigma Nu, "Delta", or any other source. Later the Marshal assumes the role of liaison between the chapter and the pledges. For those who stray from the straight and narrow, a Disciplinary Board, a much feared body of our chapter, talks with the pledge using ritual robes and candlelight. This board is composed of the Marshal (who presides), the Commander, the Lt. Commander, the Sentinel, and the Big Brother. It is very effective in helping pledges reorient themselves to the chapter ideals.

One important thing which every pledge is required to do is to make a replica of the badge, or a reasonable facsimile thereof, and have every member of the active chapter sign it. This accomplishes everything that the paddle tries to do and leaves out the hazing and harmful effects. The pledge is usually questioned about some point of Sigma Nu before his star is signed. After the best star is selected, the others are returned to the novice as a reminder of his pledge period. This brings the pledge to almost a full circle. Before he is considered for initiation he has one further requirement to fulfill. This is to meet the examination board. The examination board is a final oral test of the pledge as a man and as a Sigma Nu. It is the opportunity for any Brother who still has any uncertainty about a novice to speak openly to the pledge about it. The board consists of the active chapter, convenes an informal meeting, and is presided over by the Marshal. The tone of the board should be one of inquiry and not prosecution or persecution. This could be a very damaging experience for a novice if its purpose is anything other than to help the pledge to become a better man. However, some anxiety serves to make the novice examine himself and evaluate himself more closely and critically. The board tries to examine the inner man, his true self, not to demand excuses from the pledge. Overall our program is based and grounded in the ideals of Sigma Nu -- Love, Truth, and Honor. These ideals and their applications are stressed time and time again to the pledge. Their basis in reality, practical idealism, is stressed and emphasized in the belief that this is Sigma Nu."

Chapter 10: The Social Scene

Louisiana Tech President, R. L. Ropp crowned the State Fair Queen at a rally Saturday afternoon, October 21, 1961, as part of the day long festivities leading up the annual GSC gridiron battle between Louisiana Tech and Northwest State College. A pep rally was planned for Thursday night in Tech Stadium. Thursday was red and blue day at Tech and students are requested to wear red and blue items on that day. Saturday, October 21st, was a holiday for Tech students. That day at noon the Student Senates of both colleges and guests attended a luncheon at the Crystal ballroom of the Washington Youree Hotel. The State Fair Queens and their courts and cheerleaders attended. A parade began in downtown Shreveport at 2:30 p.m.. After the parade, the two colleges conducted pep rallies on the Courthouse Square – Tech on the Texas Street side and NSC on the Milam Street side. Dr. R. L. Ropp's crowning of Miss Fisher at this event was the first time that it was done as part of the state fair activities. Pre-game ceremonies at the Fairgrounds Stadium Saturday night began at 7:30 p.m. The Court and Queen were introduced in a colorful ceremony which was followed by a fireworks display. The Tech and NSC bands and drill teams participated. Sigma Nu fraternity members, pledges and their dates for the game attended a party after the game at the new YMCA Lodge near Shreveport. Chaperones were Reverend Bill Stokes, Miss Caroline Davis, and W. H. Pipes. The couples listened to informal music, danced and enjoyed sandwiches and cokes around the fireplace of the Lodge

Louisiana Tech Carnival was sponsored by the Tech Student Union. Fourteen organizations entered attractions that covered everything from a cakewalk to the opportunity to beat up an old car body with a sledgehammer. The following attractions are entered: Sigma Nu dart throw, Pi Kappa Alpha minstrel, Tau Kappa Epsilon car smash, Sigma Kappa cotton candy stand, Kappa Alpha House of Horrors, Campus Activity Board hot dog stand, Sigma Phi Epsilon's hit'em and dip'em booth, Kappa Sigma basketball throw, Blue Jackets wheel of fortune, Kappa Deltas pizza house, Phi Mu's peep show and the Alpha Chi Omega's cakewalk.

The first annual Sigma Nu Smudge Party took place at the fraternity house in November of 1961. All sorority pledges were invited to this interesting event. If the women showed up, they were greeted and given a card to fill out. On this card was a blank space for their name, address, and six boxes for eligibility status: married, engaged, dropped, steady, or eligible. One big box also appeared on this card for a lipstick in print. After introductions, punch and cookies were served by our first White Rose and hostess, Peggy Kemp. The Sigma Nu Quartet Plus One entertained each group with "I Understand Just How You Feel" and other light music. Finally, Kathy McBride, a Kappa Delta pledge, was chosen Miss Sigma Nu Smudge 1961 – 62.

The Sigma Nu Christmas Party in December highlighted the end of the year of 1961. David Wiley, Fred Kellogg, and David Rankin decorated the Banquet Rooms of the Louisiana Tech Student Center with soft blue lights. With the music provided by the Shamrocks of El Dorado, the group danced "the twist, the bounce, and the hully gully." During intermission, the dates of the Sigma Nus were given terrycloth pullovers with the Sigma Nu emblem embossed on the pocket in black and gold. Chaperones for the event were Dr. and Mrs. Sandoz and Mrs. W. Y. Thompson. Special guests included Mr. and Mrs. Ropp.

Miss Mary Jane King, a sophomore in home economics from Tallulah, Louisiana, was chosen as the White Rose of Sigma Nu for the winter of 1961 in the spring of 1962. Miss King

was a Phi Mu, a member of the State Fair Court, President of her dorm and on the AWS activity Board.

January 9, 1962 – Brothers and guests of Sigma Nu attended a full-length showing of the movie, “Little Abner”. David Comegys of Shreveport brought the protector and film for the special showing. Pledges of the chapter sold popcorn to make money for a special project of the pledge class. Following the movie, an informal dance was held in the dance studio in Keeny Hall.

April 24 – 29, 1962 Greek Week – due to the inclement weather and conflicting schedules, only two planned events of Greek Week occurred. Under a sunny Sunday afternoon sky, a Greek Week picnic was held on the banks of the Tech Farm Lake with approximately 300 persons attending. The seven campus fraternities entered participants in a eight activity events which were presided over by Edward Luck, adviser to IFC. Winning the Greek Week Trophy was Sigma Nu fraternity with 210 points. The award was based on the accumulation of the total points awarded in the contests.

May 5, 1962 was the first White Rose Formal. Music was by Jerry Hawkins and the Jayhawks at the Women’s Old Gym under a lowered moss ceiling with a large white backdrop, which followed the White Rose theme.



May 11, 1963 – the men of Eta Zeta held their annual White Rose Formal. The formal was held to honor our sweetheart, Miss Jean O’Banion from Pineville, who was elected by the chapter at the Christmas Formal. The decorations were ably planned by Brother David Wiley. They followed a Greek theme with the use of columns, urns, a fountain, white roses, and ivy. At intermission, Master of Ceremonies, Brother Mike Riley introduced Commander Charles Dunlap who in turn welcomed everyone to the formal and presented Miss Jean O’Banion.

Brother Robert Barrett, past Sigma Nu Snowman, presented Brother Jon Ferrick with the 1963 Snowman Award. Favors were passed out at the men to their dates; these were blankets with Sigma Nu, the crest, and the party name. Chaperones for the evening were Mr. and Mrs.

W. W. Chew, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse McDonald, Mrs. Gandy, Mr. and Mrs. Pyburn, Dean Lewis, Dean and Mrs. Foster, Mr. and Mrs. Dyson, and Mrs. Talley.



The only thing cooler than Vincent was Vincent smoking his pipe.

Bob and the first White Rose, Mary Jane King

October 11, 1963 (Friday night), Sigma Nus and their dates assembled in front of the fraternity house in order to start the 1963 Homecoming festivities by working on the homecoming display. The theme this year was "De Feet Em Tech", and for props, a 13 foot high Tech Bulldog was built and was pulling a cord which released a guillotine on the feet of a Southwestern Bulldog. Brother Stafford Vallery added much interest at the display by rigging up a motor to make the guillotine go up and down. Brother Harvey Luttrell came up with the idea for the slogan and Brother John Christian supervised the building of the display. Unfortunately our dates had to leave at 12:00, leading us a little shorthanded; however, many of the Sigma Nus continued working until the display was finished, which was about 5 a.m. Saturday morning. All of us were very tired, but we were nevertheless very happy. At 9:30 the guillotine was running smoothly. At 9:35, the motor broke down. At 9:40 we had it running again. At 9:41 the judges appeared on the scene. At 9:47 the judges left. At 9:47:50 the motor broke again. We won first place on the homecoming display contest.



Chapter 11: Sports

In sports, Sigma Nu football made the highlight film on the ESPN when Brothers Aubrey Shepherd and Dave Rankin ran into each other and were taken to the hospital for stitches within the first minutes of our official first game. “All Americans” were Doug Bass, Byron Pipes, Charles Dunlap, Mike Waddey, Robert Barrett, Don Mears, John Mears, and Manco Snapp. After the football season, the pledges challenged the actives at the first annual Knights/Novices football game. When the actives defeated the novices 6 – 0, the victors were treated at a steak dinner.

In Ping-pong, Bill Alsbrooks and Poncho Gonzales won first in the fraternity division.

Basketball, coached by Bill Alsbrooks, ended with a 3-3 record for the best showing by a Sigma Nu team. Sigma Nu took its share in the intramural basketball honors at Louisiana Tech. The Knights, lead by unanimous All Intramural selection, John Turner, carried away second-place postings in the Fraternity League. They advanced to the semi finals of the overall campus program. The Knight Five consisted of Bob Cheney, Sonny Daughtridge, Bill Manning, John Turner, David Wilson, and Tommy Atkins, who came in strong at the end of the season.

Chapter 12: The End of the Beginning, 1964

Three events occurred before the resignations of Brothers Sandoz and Chadbourn Jr.: they were the re-establishment of the Beta Phi chapter at Tulane University, the founding of the Eta Zeta House Corporation, and the construction of the Sigma Nu cannon.

On January 5, 1962, Phi chapter of LSU conducted formal pledging for the reestablishment of Beta Phi chapter at Tulane University. The initiation ceremony was led by Brother Mike Porter (DePauw University (of the law school at Tulane)), his Lieutenant Commander, and one member each from Phi, Zeta Phi, and Eta Zeta. Brother Charles Chadbourn III represented Eta Zeta Chapter in the ceremony. Brother Byron Pipes presented a ritual robe to the reinstated chapter.

On March 10, 1962, Larry Gibson, Chandler Clifton, Jerry Thornhill, Sonny Daughtrige, Jim Parks, Ronnie Perritt, Rusty Moore, John Mears, Don Mears, and Manco Snapp were all initiated into the Eta Zeta Chapter of the Sigma Nu fraternity at the Baptist Student Union. After the ritual, the entire fraternity drove to Monroe for a banquet held in the Stag Room of the Paragon Club. Alumni present included Mo Littlefield, the Reverend Wayne Gray, and Brother Sandoz. The following awards were presented: Best Pledge, Larry Gibson; Scholarship Key, Fred Kellogg (active) and Jerry Thornhill (pledge); and the Charles C. Chadbourn III Achievement Award, Charles Chadbourn III. Each year an Eta Zeta man will be chosen by the chapter as the most outstanding Eta Zeta of the year and will be presented the Chadbourn Achievement Award. The banquet was held in Monroe with eight alumni attending. Mo Littlefield spoke on the topic of fraternities and the history of Eta Zeta Chapter. Big Brothers treated their Little Brothers to a steak dinner. The chapter gave a wonderful and thoughtful tribute to Dr. Chadbourn Jr. and Dr. Ellis Sandoz. Mo Littlefield said, "The chapter displayed all of the vitality and enthusiasm of a real fraternity. This fine group of men are certainly an outstanding example of a top ranked chapter. Eta Zeta is second to none when it comes to pride in organization, individual and collective respect for their fellow man, and upholding the true Honor Ideal. I know of no chapter that portrays more satisfaction in believing, living, and perpetuating the Sigma Nu philosophy. They are certainly outstanding in my book."

The chapter then began trying to acquire property for a future house. They began organizing a house Corporation. Alumni banquets have been held in Shreveport and El Dorado to interest alumni in this project.

In a letter dated December 6, 1962 from Brother Norre to Brother Fletcher: "We are now looking for a lot in the \$15000-\$20000 range. Legal work for our house Corporation is now being finished. Members of the House Corporation are Jesse McDonnell as president, Dr. Charles A. Chadbourn as secretary, H. C. Pyburn as treasurer, David Colvin, William Crowe, Robert U. Goodman, and Walter Cooner. The first step is the incorporation of a House Corporation to serve the chapter. There is little point in dealing with members of the collegiate chapter in matters of property and finance. Officers change too rapidly, and the program must be long-range. This is the major reason for the House Corporation."

After reading a Look magazine, Brother Vallery decided to embark upon a cannon building adventure. Brother Vallery began the project in the spring of 1962 and a year later the job was completed. Before he started his task, he presented the idea to the fraternity. The Brothers accepted the idea and offered to share the expenses. After plans were completed, Brother Vallery began the task of gathering materials. The trunnion mounts were made using two inch thick oak beams. The frame of the cannon was put together with Weldwood glue and lag bolts.

Building the gun employed almost every type of tool available in the mechanical engineering shop. He had to have wheels. They came off a wagon owned by an employee of a local store at a cost of \$10. The axle is made out of house steel. It took Brother Vallery five tries before a barrel was made to perfection. He did quite a bit of research on the barrel and finally decided to use aluminum. A wooden pattern was used for a form for the foundry. A two inch piece of steel pipe was used for the bore, bringing the total weight of the barrel to 68 pounds. Aluminum car pistons are used as the source for the metal. With frame and the barrel completed, the cannon was assembled. Only one problem remained. The completed cannon weighted approximately 300 pounds and some means of transport was needed. While in El Dorado, Brother Vallery made a trailer to transport the gun. The total cost of the gun to \$60. This gun became a legend at 1963 and 1964 football games. The Brothers had to write letters to the opposing team's administrators in order to fire it at the opposing team's fields. Southern Mississippi would not let them fire the gun due to the fact that the Tech Bulldogs never lost when it was fired.



Several funny stories went along with the cannon. Here is one: "The cannon was chained out in front of the house. The actives lived in constant fear of another fraternity would steal the cannon. Perrin Jones, Sonny Daughtridge and Bob Vincent decided to steal the cannon and blame it on Lambda Chi. They hid the cannon at Sonny and Bob's house. John Austin and Bill Alsbrooks stole the cannon from Bob and Sonny's house without telling anyone else and hid it at John's uncle's furniture store. When it finally came time for Sonny and Bob to come clean, the cannon was gone. After many days, Alsbrooks and John returned the cannon."

Around May 8, 1964, Dr. Ellis Sandoz was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship at the University of Munich for the academic year of 1964-65 by the U.S. State Department. The award was a full grant including transportation costs, maintenance and university expenses for 10 months. Dr. Sandoz planned to go to Germany in September. The basic purpose of the Fulbright program was to increase the mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries by the exchange of students, teachers, lecturers, and research scholars.

In the same year as the Charles A. Chadbourn left Louisiana Tech to accept the position of head of the Division of Humanities at Delta State University.

Some Important Dates:

In 1958, Louisiana Tech's administration and the Inter-Fraternity Council extended a formal invitation of colonization to Sigma Nu National Headquarters

March 13, 1960, Dr. Chadbourn, Jr. resigned as advisor to Lambda Tau to lead the Sigma Nu Colony

1960 Colony:

Colony officers: Green indicates that they did not continue on to full active status

President	Charles Chadbourn, III
Secretary- Treasurer	Bob Caverlee
Chaplain	Bob Vincent
Rush Chairman	Robert Huber

Roster of the Sigma Nu Petitioning Colony:

Carl Blue	Shreveport	Education
Terry Brown	Shreveport	CE
Bob Caverlee	Monroe	English
Charles Chadbourn, III	Ruston	Pre-Med
Herbert Edelen	Shreveport	EE
Jerry Haworth	Shreveport	Pre-Med
Sammy Holt	Shreveport	EE
Robert Huber	New Orleans	Psychology
Gene Jones	Olla	Speech
Reves Lowery	Bernice	Forestry
Byron Pipes	Shreveport	Engineering
Jerry Ray	De Berry, TX	Engineering
Stanley Speed	Shreveport	Chemistry
Tommy Stepp	Pineville	Academic
Bob Vincent	Bunkie	Physics
Larry White	Carthage, TX	Speech
David Wilson	Camden, AR	Engineering
David Wylie	Ruston	Art

1960 Members at end of first Rush:

William Thomas Alsbrooks	Raymond Johan Norre
Donald Bass	James Merrill Pelton
Donald P. Burch	Robert Byron Pipes
Charles City Chadbourn, III	Dan Reno, II
Charles Edward Dunlap	Charles E. Rodgers
Jon A. Feerick	Aubury James Shepherd
Rel Gray	Stafford Jean Vallery
Edmund E. Jones	Robert Keller Vincent

Frederick Richard Kellogg
Paul Lyon
Van Cade Marsh

David Elliott Wilson
David Feltus Wylie

1960 Colony Officers (special election at request of Charles Chadbourn, III)

David Wilson	President
Edmund Jones	Vice-President
Aubrey Shepherd	Secretary
Dan Renau	Treasurer
Bob Vincent	Chaplain
Charles Rogers	Sentinel
Charles Chadbourn, III	Reporter
Stafford Vallery	Recorder

December 6, 1960: Formal acceptance of the colony by Sigma Nu national

April 21, 1960: End of probation period for the colony, participation in campus events

Fall, 1960, First Chapter House: As fall progressed, members of the colony wanted a place to call home. They finally decided to rent the office to the old cotton gin house at 503 W. Mississippi St. (present location: Town Oaks laundry mat).

December 6, 1960 Formal acceptance of colony by National, pledge pins to colony

January 3, 1961, First Issue of the Triangle, Eta Zeta's newsletter

1961 New pledges added to colony:

Robert Barrett
Douglas Bass
Harold Crowell
Jon Feerick
David Rankin
Mike Waddey

May 11, 1961, Zeta Psi conducted pledging ceremonies for:

Robert Barrett
Douglas Bass
Harold Crowell
Jon Feerick
David Rankin
Mike Waddey

May 12, 1961 Initiation by Phi chapter of Eta Zeta's first group of actives

The 13 founders are:

Charles C. Chadbourn, III,	HZ 1
Robert Keller Vincent	HZ 2
David Elliott Wilson	HZ 3
David Feltus Wylie	HZ 4
William Thomas Alsbrooks	HZ 5
Charles Edward Dunlap	HZ 6
Van Cade Marsh	HZ 7
Raymond Johan Norre	HZ 8
Frederick Richard Kellogg	HZ 9
James Merrill Pelton	HZ 10
Robert Byron Pipes	HZ 11
Aubrey James Shepherd	HZ 12
Stafford Jean Vallery	HZ 13

1961 First meeting of New Chapter, election of officers

Commander	Byron Pipes
Lt. Commander	David Wiley
Recorder	Stafford Vallery
Treasurer	Charles Dunlap
Selection Chairman	Van Marsh
Pledge Marshal	Charles C. Chadbourn, III
Reporter	Fred Kellogg
Alumni Contact	Bob Vincent
House Manager	James Pelton
Chaplin	Bill Alsbrooks
Sentinel	David Wilson

Fall, 1961: Second House (rented) Just before the Brothers broke for summer, they moved into a new house located at 600 Thorton Street. At \$90 per month, the House contained a chapter room, reception room, three bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom and back porch. The telephone number was ALpine 5-1869.

September, 1961: First Formal Rush

Eugene Blake	Rusty Moore
Chandler Clifton	Kenny Oliver
Otis Courville	Jim Parks
William Daughtridge	Steve Parker
Jean Edmundson	Ronnie Perritt
Larry Gibson	Manco Snapp
Perrin Jones	Charlie Sandifer

Don Mears
John Mears

Jerry Thornhill

Chapter 13: Memories

The following were funny stories passed down from the early days of Eta Zeta Chapter:

“Horseplay between the pledges and the actives was continuous. Alsbrooks was one of the few actives that the pledges had not kidnapped and thrown off the bridge at the park. There was a pledge meeting at the house. It was formal and the pledges wore suits and ties. Several of the actives decided to let the pledges know at the conclusion of the meeting that Alsbrooks was hiding in the backyard waiting for them to leave. They had filled several trash cans full of water and positioned them on the roof. Water hoses were strategically located in the backyard. You can figure out the rest.”

The Model A story: “One night Sonny had a few beers and decided to take out his long stored up irritation with Lambda Chi. Their car was painted red, white, and blue. Sonny painted it a terrible shade of pink. The problem came when he bought the ugliest color in town at Ruston hardware store on credit. It didn’t take the Ruston police long to find Sonny.”

Another Sonny story: “The athletes all ate at the back of the cafeteria. The football team usually ate right behind us. One particular muscle hunk was very obnoxious to everyone, especially to Sonny. He had a girlfriend that anyone would be proud of. She hung all over him and he was very cocky about it. One evening this fellow was exceptionally loud, boastful and irritating. He was bragging about his girlfriend and his exploits with her. Sonny had had enough. He collected our whole table’s leftovers onto one plate, made his way over to the adjacent table and strategically placed the assembled leftovers between the football player’s eyes. Sonny was last seen leaping down the dining room steps with this very soiled muscleman after him.”