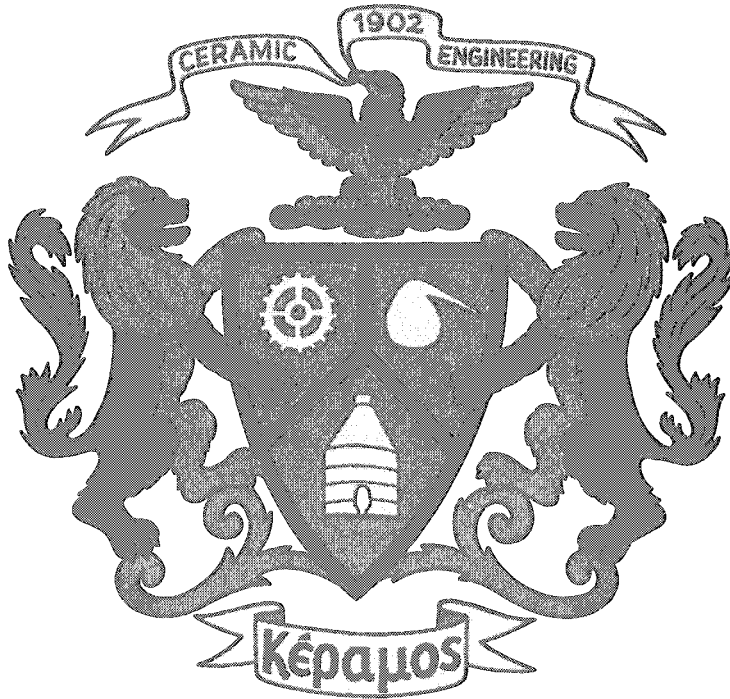


# **KERAMOS**

## **A Biographical History**



**William Wurth Kriegel**

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## A SPECIAL FOREWORD

William Wurth Kriegel, the author of this biographical 75-year history of Keramos, died at his home in Seattle, Washington on May 31, 1980.

Wurth gave much of himself during the last seven years of his life to this history of Keramos. He literally died with a pen in his hand, having written a seven-page letter to National President, Thomas S. Shevlin, on May 29 and additional manuscript on May 30.

Through periods of both poor and good health Wurth continued to gather information, make notations, draft manuscript, and send it out for review and comment. While much of the history had been written at the time of Wurth's passing, a number of sections were incomplete or not yet drafted.

Having worked with Wurth for a number of years as his main reviewer, I have, with the help of our General Secretary, Edward E. Mueller, and National President, Shevlin, completed most of the unfinished sections. Hopefully, only Wurth would recognize our shortcomings.

This history is rightly dedicated to the memory of Arthur Frederick Greaves-Walker. To many of us the publication of this 75-year history will also be a lasting memorial to Wurth Kriegel whose loyalty and devotion to the Keramos Fraternity and the ceramic engineering profession will not soon be forgotten.

Merton L. Van Dreser  
Herald and Past President

Pleasanton, California, 1982



## PREFACE

It seems regrettable that the founders of our Fraternity, originally named Beta Pi Kappa, did not organize a year earlier. Our "Jubilee Year" would then have coincided with our Nation's "Bicentennial Year." Typical of founders they had no such long-range thoughts to accommodate the neat arrangements of would-be historians. Nevertheless, the Bicentennial may be considered as a motivating force by having created a historical attitude promoting such an endeavor. Much of the work was done in that year.

Ralph Waldo Emerson is credited with having said, "There is properly no history only biography." The selection of the title, *Keramos – A Biographical History*, seems appropriate in keeping with his dictum. Any organization owes not only its inception but its continued existence to the dedicated individuals who have given of themselves for the nutriment of the group. Foremost among those individuals stands Arthur Frederick Greaves-Walker to whose memory this volume is dedicated.

In our documentation of this history we are indeed fortunate for two unrelated but significant occurrences. During the late 1940's most of the stored records of the Ceramic Engineering Department, North Carolina State College, were destroyed by flood; however, those pertaining to the consolidation of Beta Pi Kappa and Keramos escaped destruction. Secondly, as the result of prompting by Past National President Merton L. Van Dreser, Dr. Arthur L. Friedberg, then Head of the Ceramic Engineering Department, University of Illinois, discovered and photocopied the long stored and unremembered minutes of the *original* Keramos covering the period of 1914-1934; i.e., from its beginning to two years after the consolidation.

The writer is greatly indebted to the late Dr. Arthur F. Greaves-Walker for his many discourses on the background, attitudes, objectives and achievements of the Fraternity during those years of our close association and to his invaluable *History of Keramos 1902-1952*. Grateful acknowledgment is made to Dr. James I. Mueller, Past National President and the Fraternity's first General Secretary, for his many valuable suggestions and frequent assistance. Extraordinary thanks are owed and tendered to Past President Van Dreser whose quiet but demanding leadership brought this work to fruition. Also, we are indebted to those "old timers" who have shared their recollections. Of real importance are the contributions of the active student members for the preparation of their respective chapter histories, for which we are grateful. Appreciative acknowledgment is due and extended to the archivists, alumni secretaries and other officials of the universities having Keramos chapters. Special thanks are expressed to the American Ceramic Society for permission to reproduce numerous photographs which add greatly to this record and for searching their files for needed materials. Finally, were it not for the unique contribution of

services and facilities of Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation's Center for Technology, publication of this record would not have been accomplished. Grateful acknowledgment of these contributions is made.

In conclusion, the hope is expressed that this history will provide a perspective and will afford some degree of guidance for the Fraternity's future. If this hope is even partially fulfilled, the effort will have proven worthwhile.

W. W. Krieger

Seattle, Washington, 1980

## **A Resolution of the Grand Chapter of Keramos**

**APRIL 21, 1954**

The Keramos fraternity feels a strong sense of loss in the passing of Arthur Frederick Greaves-Walker. As the founder and guiding spirit of Keramos, he made it a powerful stimulus in the encouragement of hundreds of young ceramic engineers toward their professional goals. His own engineering accomplishments stand as examples to be emulated by all who come after him.

He commanded our respect and gained our affectionate esteem. In the councils of Keramos, his wisdom and his contagious enthusiasm will be sorely missed.

We resolve as a Fraternity not only to perpetuate his memory by establishing suitable memorials, but also to develop with our best efforts his ideals for the progress of the ceramic engineering profession.

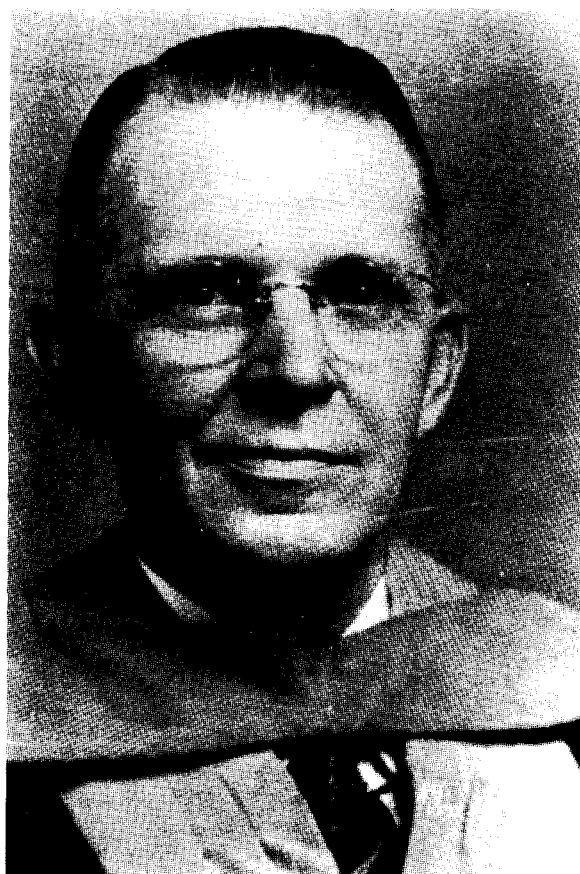
We extend to Mrs. Greaves-Walker our deep and abiding sympathy.

*Harry J. Beckemeyer, Grand President  
Paul G. Herold, Past Grand President  
John H. Koenig, Grand Vice President  
James I. Mueller, Grand Secretary  
Samuel R. Scholes, Grand Treasurer  
W. Wurth Kriegel, Grand Herald*





To the Memory of  
**ARTHUR FREDERICK GREAVES-WALKER**





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction	
The College Fraternity System .....	1
The Keramos Story .....	3
References .....	3
Early History	
Before the Beginning .....	4
Beta Pi Kappa .....	4
The Original Keramos .....	6
Reactivation of Beta Pi Kappa .....	13
The Era of Two Nationals .....	17
The End of An Era .....	21
References .....	22
Faculty Influence	
Beta Pi Kappa, 1902-32 .....	23
The Original Keramos, 1914-32 .....	23
The Post-Merger Period, 1932-62 .....	23
Modern Keramos, 1962-77 .....	24
References .....	25
Professional Recognition	
Registration of Engineers .....	26
The American Ceramic Society (ACS) .....	26
Engineers' Council for Professional Development (ECPD) .....	28
National Council of State Boards of Engineering Examiners (NCSBEE) .....	30
American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers (AIMME) .....	31
Institute of Ceramic Engineers (ICE) .....	31
The Wind-Down of Keramos' Involvement .....	35
Justifiable Pride of Accomplishment .....	37
References .....	38
Growth and Decline of Ceramic Engineering Education	
Growth Stages .....	40
New Educational Boundaries .....	43
Materials Science and Engineering .....	44
Status of Ceramic Engineering .....	44
References .....	46
Growth of Keramos	
Available Methods .....	47
Growth by Chartering Chapters .....	50
Summary .....	54
References .....	57

Other Problem Areas	
Introduction	58
Mission of Keramos	58
Eligibility	59
Organizational Authority	61
Incorporation	62
Communications	66
Ritual	68
Finances	69
Keramos-NICE Relationship	70
References	72
Publications	
Chapter Publications	73
Newsletters	73
Procedural Manuals	74
Rosters and Directories	75
Promotional Book	76
Histories	78
Recognition	
The Individual	80
The Chapter	84
References	85
Chapter Histories (Index Appears on this Page)	86
Appendix I	
Outstanding Chapter Awards	183
Appendix II	
Greaves-Walker Roll of Honor Recipients	184
Appendix III	
National Officers	185
Biographical Sketches	190
Andrews, Andrew I.	Fessler, Albra H.
Beals, Robert J.	Frazier, J. Earl
Beckemeyer, Harry J.	Friedberg, Arthur L.
Bennett, Dwight G.	Greaves-Walker,
Binns, Charles F.	Arthur F.
Birch, Raymond E.	Greaves-Walker,
Bole, George A.	A. McKinley
Buckner, Orello S.	Griffin, Carl H.
Coulter, Leonard B.	Hackler, William C.
Danielson, Ralph R.	Hall, Donald B.
Day, Delbert E.	Hench, Larry L.
Dodd, Charles M.	Herold, Paul G.
Fabianic, William L.	Holmes, Major E.

Hursh, Ralph K.	Purdy, Ross C.
Kastenbein, Ernest L.	Rindone, Guy E.
King, R. Maynard	Robinson, Gilbert C.
Koenig, John H.	Ruh, Edwin
Kriegel, W. Wurth	Russell, Ralston, Jr.
Markert, Fred S.	Scholes, Samuel R.
McGee, Thomas D.	Sherwood, Robert F.
Miller, Allan D.	Shevlin, Thomas S.
Minton, LeRoy H.	Smothers, William J.
Mitchell, Lane	Stafford, William L.
Moody, Willis E.	Steinhoff, Frederick L.
Moore, Robert E.	Stolte, Norman H.
Mueller, Edward E.	Stull, Ray T.
Mueller, James I.	Thiemecke, Harry W.
Nelson, Idris A.	Treichel, Chester C.
Nelson, James A.	Tuttle, Milton A.
Ogan, Mark	Van Dreser, Merton L.
Orton, Edward, Jr.	Watts, Arthur S.
Ott, W. Richard	Whittemore, John W.
Parmelee, Cullen E.	Williams, Arthur E.
Parmelee, Cullen W.	Williams, Francis J.
Planje, Theodore J.	Wolfram, Harold G.

