



NATIONAL SERVICE FRATERNITY

FACT SHEET

Who We Are

Alpha Phi Omega is today the single most representative undergraduate intercollegiate organization in the United States of America. Structured as a national, co-educational, collegiate-based service fraternity, the organization has grown from its origins in 1925 at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania to currently over 350 active chapters across the nation. Focused on our cardinal principles of Leadership, Friendship and Service, the members of our organization are presented the opportunity to grow as individuals while providing service; to youth in our communities, to our campuses, to the fraternity, and to our nation.

Our Structure

The basis of Alpha Phi Omega is our chapters. Individually chartered on campuses across the nation, the chapters put our cardinal principles into action through program and service opportunities for the students on their campus. Membership within a chapter is open to all students who remain in good standing with their college or university. Chapters individually establish the requirements to gain membership within the organization on their campus in strict compliance to the standards established by the national fraternity and the regulations established by their college or university. Those individuals seeking membership often serve a period of pledge membership while learning of the organization and its foundations before being initiated as brothers of the organization.

To allow for interaction among chapters, the fraternity has established sections throughout the nation who meet annually to exchange ideas and seek solutions to common problems. Sections are then grouped into one of eleven regions who are each represented on the National Board of Directors. Other members of the National Board of Directors include the National President, National Vice-President and six Program Directors all of whom are elected at the biennial National Convention. The National Board serves as the governing body of the Fraternity between National Conventions.

Our Service Program

Individually, chapters of the fraternity establish their own service program, seeking to balance the activities they conduct within the Fraternity's four "fields" of service. Projects may be structured as one time events, annual events or continuing activities. Often chapters work in conjunction with other campus based or community based organizations in planning and conducting projects. Through working together on service activities our members are afforded the opportunity to develop their leadership skills while also forming friendship ties.

Our Scouting Heritage

Initially, Alpha Phi Omega was established through the vision of a World War I veteran, Frank Reed Horton. As a result of his war experiences, he was determined to establish an organization based on the principle of service to others without expecting a personal reward. He became involved with the Boy Scouts of America and through that involvement found that the principles outlined within the Scout Oath and Law provided a foundation for such an organization. As time has passed, relationships with scouting have evolved. Members of the Fraternity no longer need to have been former scouts, and as Alpha Phi Omega has been co-educational since 1976, many chapters have reached out to Girl Scout Councils and numerous other youth service organizations in their area, seeking opportunities for service.

Though the programs presented by the various youth service organizations that we work with may differ greatly, the basic philosophy of each organization to provide service to youth remains constant. Alpha Phi Omega, on all levels, desires to support the activities of these varied organizations to fulfill one of our key service program aspects, "service to the youth of all Nations". The relationship of Alpha Phi Omega with the Boy Scouts of America is a longstanding one, continued through both our participation in national BSA events and through activities with local troops. We are working to create relationships with other youth service organizations to broaden the opportunities for service that are available to our chapters.

Leadership, Friendship and Service...

Purpose

The purpose of this Fraternity shall be to assemble college students in a National Service Fraternity in the fellowship of principles derived from the Scout Oath and Law of the Boy Scouts of America;
to develop Leadership,
to promote Friendship
and to provide Service to humanity;
and to further the freedom that is our national, educational and intellectual heritage.

Vision

To be recognized as the premier service-based leadership development organization.

Mission

Prepare campus and community leaders through service.

Values

Develop leadership, promote friendship, and provide service.

Objectives

Share Grow Improve Invest



National Service Fraternity

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