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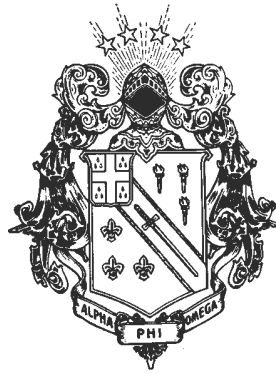
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TORCH & TREFOIL

THE QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF ALPHA PHI OMEGA
NATIONAL SERVICE FRATERNITY
Winter 1998



Omicron Sigma Chapter at St. Peter's College, Jersey City, New Jersey, held a Dance-a-thon on campus during National Service Week. Over \$700 in proceeds will go to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The Chapter gave each participant a T-shirt (in photo) to emphasize the importance of the project.

Service Week 1998 – a Success!

Our National Service Week emphasis this year was Combating Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. Proclamations were received from the Governors of Oklahoma, New Jersey and Virginia. Here is a summary of the projects received so far. Gamma Theta Chapter at the University of Colorado took children at Mount St. Vincent's Home for physically and/or sexually abused victims roller skating for an afternoon. Nu Theta Chapter at Rowan University in New Jersey raised \$4,800 selling purple ribbons, with proceeds going to "PASA - People Against Spousal Abuse" and "Robins Nest," a home for abused women. Beta Beta Chapter at Michigan State University held a Dance-a-thon to help a shelter for women in

East Lansing, Michigan.

Delta Beta Chapter at the University of Oklahoma planned for six weeks prior to National Service Week for projects that were scheduled for each day. Forty Brothers devoted 185 hours to make everything work. Omega Mu Chapter at Clarion University, Clarion, Pennsylvania, held three projects during the week, raising over \$1,500 for local agencies against violence and abuse.

Many more projects will be reported on in the Spring T&T. The Fraternity also received national attention when Brothers from Section 89 were seen on the NBC-TV *Today Show* on November 3, 1998, with a banner and poster proclaiming our National Service Week.

Cheryl Lynn Smith, Piscataway, NJ

Susan Itterly, Williamsburg, VA



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY WILFRED M. KRENEK, NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Four Years of Progress

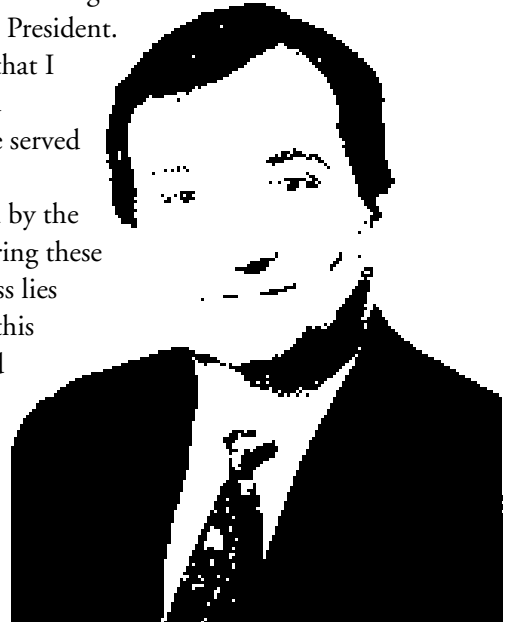
Over the past four years, I have had the great honor of serving you as the National President. This has indeed been an experience that I wish more Brothers could have. I am extremely proud and grateful to have served in this capacity.

The pride that I feel is enhanced by the progress our Fraternity has made during these four years. The credit for this progress lies with the people who have shared in this experience. The Sectional Chairs and Regional Directors have worked with our Chapters, strengthening membership and extending our Fraternity to new campuses. Our Program Directors and Committee Chairs have assisted in enhancing our programs from leadership to service, from membership/extension to international relations, from finance to alumni — providing programs and education to our Brothers Fraternitywide. Our volunteer leaders and alumni have shown support with their time, talent, and treasures through which our Fraternity has been made stronger.

And finally, you, our current members, are “where the rubber hits the road.” Leading by example, you provide service to your campuses and communities, making our Fraternity the envy of collegiate organizations.

The Fraternity today is stronger. Our membership numbers are better than ever, translating into more opportunities for Leadership, Friendship, and Service. Our leadership programs, including the LDW, SRW and CPW, having reached new heights in participation and continue to train our Fraternity's — not to mention society's — future leaders. The Alpha Phi Omega Endowment Trust has increased significantly as a result of Life Membership sales, gifts and prudent investments, nearing our long-term goal. Our National Headquarters has been endowed through generous gifts from our alumni to provide for future operation costs. The completion of its second floor provides for additional workspace and a showplace for Fraternity history. And we have seen our Fraternity begin expansion internationally into Canada and Australia.

Working together, we have accomplished so much. Yet there is more to do. As we approach a new century and the Fraternity's 75th anniversary, the future of Alpha Phi Omega shines brighter than ever before.



Wilfred

Letters to the Editor

Patrick Burke, Alpha Phi Omega National Executive Director and Torch & Trefoil Editor, welcomes your thoughts and comments.

MAIL TO: T&T Editor,
14901 E. 42nd St., Independence, MO 64055,
FAX: (816)373-5975, E-MAIL: APONED@aol.com

Dear Editor:

I just received the latest T&T and was thrilled to see a picture of my pledge class's namesake. I was disappointed, however, to read the error in the caption. For the record, the Dean Lewis N. Jones Pledge Class was Fall of 1978, not 1980.

*Beth Tom
Iota Phi '78*

Oops! Our apologies to the Dean Lewis N. Jones Pledge Class, Fall of 1978.

– Editor

Dear Editor:

I just wanted to comment on the article entitled Project Seed in the Fall '98 T&T.

Service certainly doesn't stop after graduation, or after anything, for that matter! As a Girl Scout of 10 years, I was thrilled to start a troop of my own after "settling down" in Cary, NC. Four years later, I am still getting back so much more than I give. I was also impressed to see my Theta Mu Chapter friends' picture in this T&T, and know that they are also keeping that scout connection alive!

My junior troop has its own projects for National Service Week. It's a great time for all of us to remember that time is the greatest gift you can share.

*Lee Anne Ryan
Theta Mu '89*

Dear Editor:

I wanted to thank you for the wonderful article on alumni service and Project SEED (Fall '98 T&T) Is there any way I can receive extra copies to pass along to our other SEED program sites? Please let me know. Thank you again.

*Terri Steigelman
Omega Mu '93*

We are happy to send you extra copies of the T&T. – Editor

Dear Editor:

Thanks for sending the Torch & Trefoil I requested. It was a pleasure to note the honoring of Joe Kuchta. I have been acquainted with this fine Brother for a number of years, though not recently. Do you know an e-mail address to where I could send my congratulations?

*David S. Mitchell
Kappa Omicron '69*

Brother Kuchta can be reached by email at: <kucamit.edu> – Editor

Dear Editor:

I was excited to read Bobby M. Hainline's article (Spring '98 T&T) on the existence of alumni associations around the country. Is there an alumni association in Dallas, Texas? How do I contact them?

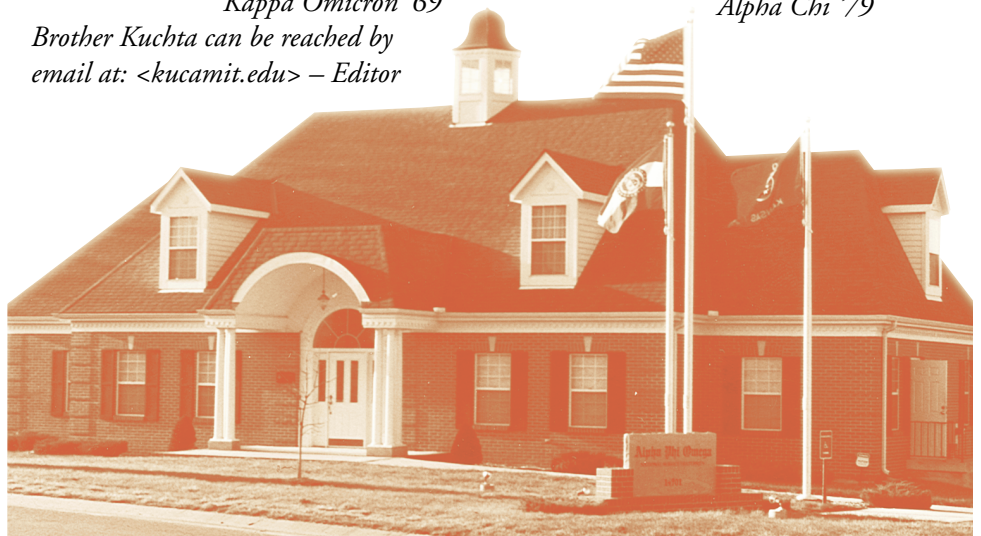
*Susan Graf
Zeta Omega Chapter*

Currently, there is no registered alumni association in Dallas. Information on how to start an alumni association is in the mail to you. – Editor

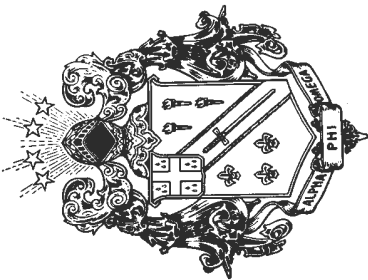
Dear Editor:

Just got the Fall '98 T&T. Thanks for sending it. I admit to being biased, since I'm an AX alum, but I'm delighted that Joe Kuchta was chosen as the honoree for this pledge class. I can't think of anyone more deserving of that recognition.

*Joe Kesselman
Alpha Chi '79*



CHAPTERS



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ALPHA ETA
University of Missouri at Kansas City
Kansas City, Missouri

Members of Alpha Eta recently conducted a service project for the 1998 National Service Week. The Chapter volunteered to work at Rose Brooks Women's Shelter in Kansas City, Missouri. Members sorted and sized clothes that would be available to women who come to the shelter under emergency circumstances. The Chapter also distributed purple ribbons in a local shopping mall during National Service Week.



...

XI DELTA
Texas A & M University
College Station, Texas

This past fall more than 200 Pledges of Xi Delta participated in a cemetery cleanup project in Somerville, Texas. This was the fall semester Pledge project for the Chapter. After the daylong work project, the Pledges gathered for food and friendship activities to further solidify their progress to membership in our Fraternity.



DELTA DELTA

St. Louis University St. Louis, Missouri

Three Members of Delta Delta give human form to our Greek letters while other Members proudly observe. The Chapter is involved in many service projects, one of which is working with children at The Youth and Family Center of St. Louis. The Chapter also spends many hours at Taproots School in St. Louis, mentoring younger students in need of educational support and encouragement. In the spring the Chapter will host the Section 49 Conference.

XI

Iowa State University Ames, Iowa

Earlier this year over 6,000 pounds of food items were collected and distributed to three local food pantries in the Ames community due to the efforts of Xi Chapter. For a service project this big, the Chapter needed a large group of volunteers. Working through the Iowa State University Homecoming Committee, the Chapter recruited volunteers from 16 other university fraternities and sororities (as pictured here.) The results were astounding: 120 volunteers distributed 12,000 empty grocery bags to homes in the community, asking for donations. A few days later, 200 volunteers collected over 1,500 bags of donated goods. The food pantries serve over 600 families each year. Xi is proud to include the Ames fall food drive on the Chapter's annual calendar of service projects.



ZETA LAMBDA

University of Toledo Toledo, Ohio

Zeta Lambda is growing by leaps and bounds. The Fall Pledge Class boasts a total of 63 new and excited Pledges all looking forward to the benefits Alpha Phi Omega has to offer. The new Pledges are involved in many service projects, attending fellowship activities and learning the rich history of our Fraternity.



NU XI

Birmingham-Southern Birmingham, Alabama

Disaster relief was made a reality for two Chapters and one Petitioning Group as they came together to aid in the clean-up efforts of Edgewater, Alabama. Edgewater was one of several communities devastated by multiple tornadoes last spring. Nu Xi invited Gamma Chi, Samford University, and the Epsilon Tau Petitioning Group at the University of Alabama-Birmingham, to work together to clear areas of the community so that restoration could begin.

MU THETA

Luther College Decorah, Iowa

Members of Mu Theta are always busy with service projects. One project that requires their efforts several times during a semester is the Adopt-a-Highway program. Brothers clean a stretch of Highway 9 just outside of Decorah. In the photo, Brothers clad in orange-colored vests and holding regulation trash bags prepare for highway battle — except for the Brother on the right, who is not sure what the participation should actually entail!



ZETA DELTA

Miami University Oxford, Ohio

It is tough for all members of Zeta Delta to fit into a photo, as they are one of the largest Chapters (currently 200 members) in the Fraternity. Members in the photo are only a small representation of the total Chapter. Recent service projects have included a cooperative effort with Delta Alpha Chapter at the University of Cincinnati. The Chapters co-sponsored a community blood drive. This past semester Zeta Delta adopted the local YWCA as a new philanthropy. With so many members, the Chapter had multiple projects during this year's National Service Week, November 2-8, 1998.

ALPHA DELTA THETA

University of California – Riverside Riverside, California

In this photo, Alpha Delta Theta is reporting a service project that we usually don't receive a lot of information about. That is service to the Chapter. They entitled the photo "Continuing Leadership at ADT." As in all Chapters, a good functioning "e-com" is essential and provides leadership opportunities.



GAMMA

Cornell University Ithaca, New York

"Ready for the Secret Service" is the caption of this photo submitted by Gamma Chapter from the Section 88-89 Conference hosted by Alpha Beta Beta Chapter at St. Bonaventure University in St. Boneventure, New York, last spring. Attending Sectional and Regional Conferences is another way of sharing our principles of Leadership, Friendship and Service and building a stronger bond for our Fraternity.



CHAPTER *Anniversaries*

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Theta, University of Virginia
Kappa, Carnegie-Mellon University
Mu, Indiana University

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Alpha Eta, University of Missouri - Kansas City
Alpha Iota, Ohio State University
Alpha Kappa, University of Southern California
Alpha Mu, William Jewell College

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Beta Omicron, University of Missouri Rolla
Beta Rho, University of Arkansas
Beta Sigma, Texas Tech University
Beta Psi, Southeast Missouri State University
Gamma Beta, San Jose State University
Gamma Gamma, University of California - Berkeley
Gamma Alpha, University of Washington
Gamma Zeta, Georgia Institute of Technology

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Delta Delta, Saint Louis University

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Eta Epsilon, Millikin University
Eta Zeta, Montana State University
Eta Eta, Arizona State University
Eta Lambda, University of Wisconsin Eau Claire
Eta Psi, University of Detroit-Mercy
Eta Upsilon, Marshall University
Eta Xi, Central Washington University

Eta Chi, Hardin-Simmons University
Eta Iota, Millersville University of Pennsylvania
Theta Beta, Cleveland State University
Theta Delta, Waynesburg College
Theta Epsilon, Illinois State University
Theta Zeta, University of New Hampshire
Theta Eta, University of Health Sciences
Theta Iota, University of Arizona
Theta Theta, Centre College

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Lambda Kappa, Loras College
Lambda Lambda, Shippensburg University
Lambda Mu, California State University
Los Angeles

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Mu Tau, West Va. University Institute of Technology
Mu Upsilon, Washington & Jefferson College
Mu Chi, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

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Xi Psi, Western Kentucky University
Omicron Alpha, Kutztown University
Omicron Delta, McMurry University
Omicron Zeta, California State University-
Hayward
Omicron Eta, Suffolk University
Omicron Iota, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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Upsilon Beta, Saint Francis College
Upsilon Mu, University of Puerto Rico
Mayaguez

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Upsilon Nu, University of North Carolina
at Wilmington
Upsilon Rho, Charleston Southern University
Phi Epsilon, Maine Maritime Academy
Upsilon Psi, University of Nevada-Reno
Phi Zeta, Fort Valley State College
Phi Theta, Arkansas Tech University
Phi Kappa, University of North
Carolina at Greensboro

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Alpha Beta Gamma, Knox College
Alpha Beta Zeta, Radford University
Alpha Beta Delta, Widener University

10

Alpha Gamma Alpha, Dickinson College
Alpha Gamma Gamma, CUNY-Hunter College

5

Alpha Delta Eta, University at Albany-SUNY
Alpha Delta Theta, University of California-
Riverside
Alpha Delta Iota, Virginia Commonwealth
University
Alpha Delta Kappa, California State University-
Fresno

Making the Most of the National Convention: It's a Matter of Principle

The National Convention is an exhilarating experience. With so many things to do and places to be, people to meet and sights to see, the Convention is a four-day marathon of fantastic opportunities.

Here's a hint to help you make the most of the experience: Think of the Convention as a matter of Principle — as in our three Cardinal Principles.

Leadership

Just going to the Convention is an act of Leadership. At the Convention, you will be a link between your Chapter and the rest of the Fraternity. Whatever you do and wherever you go during your time at the Convention, you will be learning from others about their Chapters and teaching others about yours. Together, we all will be representing Alpha Phi Omega.

While Voting Delegates are demonstrating their Leadership abilities as members of the Convention Reference Committees and the Legislative Assembly, Delegates not involved in those activities will be able to hone their Leadership skills by participating in a wide range of workshops and seminars on everything from learning how to lead a meeting to learning how to lead your partner in Swing Dance or the Waltz. On the next page

is a list of the Leadership Development programs planned for the National Convention.

Friendship

Imagine spending four days in a hotel with 2,000 of your closest relatives — oops, forget that.

Instead: Imagine spending four days in a hotel with 2,000 of the most fun, most dedicated, most talented college students in the country — you know, people just like you.

There will be business and banquets and Chapter roll calls and prizes and chance conversations with people you just met from places you didn't even know existed.

In other words, anytime two or more Delegates are together, there will be a Friendship opportunity. Events will include unique APO dance parties, a wild and crazy talent show and a special musical performance by the "Main Attraction."

Keeping the Friendship principle in mind will be especially important during discussions about Fraternity issues and Chapter differences. Since we are a large and inclusive Fraternity, our members tend to have diverse opinions about what is best for our future and us. That's fine — providing a forum for debating and collectively deciding such

issues is one of the reasons we have National Conventions in the first place. Our Conventions are milestones in Alpha Phi Omega's long and proud tradition of tolerance and goodwill. It is a tradition started by our founder, who envisioned the Fraternity as a means to help people learn to resolve their differences sensibly, honorably and justly. We'll extend and strengthen that tradition in Minneapolis.

Service

The National Convention is full of opportunities to be of Service to the Fraternity and to others.

A massive amount of work is required to keep the Convention going for four days. If you're interested in helping with any aspect of the Convention — from floor services during the Legislative Assembly to general safety and security — sign up on the volunteer's list when you get there.

In addition, there will be numerous Service projects during the Convention. Details about each will be available in the official program, but there's a partial list on the next page.

So make plans to attend the 1998 National Convention in Minneapolis. It's your Convention! Remember it's a matter of Principle! In Leadership, Friendship, and Service!

LEADERSHIP, FRIENDSHIP & SERVICE

National Convention Service Projects

POP for Charity

Midwesterners call it “pop” and others call it “soda.” Regardless of what you call it, we know that college campuses are full of aluminum cans. In an effort to help out the Ronald McDonald House (and to kick the spirit of the National Convention into high gear), the National Convention Service Committee is hereby announcing the kickoff of the aluminum can tab collection.

Aluminum Can Recycling Drive

We won't ask you to drag garbage bags filled with aluminum cans all the way to Minneapolis. But we will take advantage of the aluminum cans that are disposed of at the National Convention. So when you arrive in Minneapolis, start collecting your cans. Each region will have its own place to collect cans. At the end of the Convention, the region with the most aluminum cans will receive all of the refunds generated by our recycling efforts. The winning region can make a donation to the charity of the region's choice.

Give the Gift of Life

This year, you will have the opportunity to donate blood while you are on winter break. During the National Convention, there will be shuttles to transport donors from the Minneapolis Convention Center to the American Red Cross.

Convention Coat Drive

Bring your extra winter coats to the National Convention. During the course of the Convention, students who find themselves unprepared for the cold will be able to borrow coats to keep warm while in Minneapolis. After the Convention, all of the coats will be donated to a charity.

Tentative Workshops

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Parliamentary Procedures | 15. Service Roundtable | 29. Conflict/Resolution - Chapter |
| 2. Making The Most of A National Convention | 16. Fundraising Roundtable | 30. How To Run A Meeting |
| 3. LeAP | 17. Fellowship Roundtable | 31. Friendship Development |
| 4. CPW | 18. Extension | 32. Time Management |
| 5. LDW | 19. New Member Q & A Roundtable | 33. Diversity |
| 6. Psychogeometrics | 20. Internal Communication | 34. Photography (How To) |
| 7. Disability Awareness | 21. External Communication | 35. Speech Apprehension |
| 8. Member Recruitment and Retention | 22. Public Relations | 36. How And Why To Form An Alumni Association |
| 9. Alternative Medicine (Informative) | 23. Growing Pains | 37. Planning A Conference |
| 10. Breast Cancer (Informative) | 24. Motivation/How To Motivate Others | 38. Icebreakers |
| 11. Red Cross (Why People Don't Give Blood) | 25. Money Management (Personal And Chapter) | 39. Service Chutes And Ladders |
| 12. Various Dance Workshops | 26. Computers (Internet) | 40. APO International |
| 13. Massage | 27. Networking (How To) | 41. Risk Management |
| 14. Self Defense | 28. Resume Workshop (Building and/or Writing) | 42. Emergency Relief |
| | | 43. APO Jeopardy |

Alpha Phi Omega 1998 NATIONAL CONVENTION SYNOPSIS Minneapolis, MN

Sunday, December 27

- 8:00 a.m. Registration Opens
- 1:00 p.m. Orientation Workshop for all Voting Delegates, Reference Committee Chairs/Advisors
- 3:00 p.m. Meeting for Reference Committee Chairs/Advisors
- 6:00 p.m. Opening Session & Roll Call
- 9:00 p.m. Reference Committees Meet & Organize

Monday, December 28

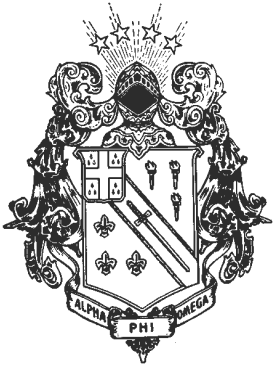
- 7:30 a.m. Registration Continues
- 10:00 a.m. Reference Committees Meet
- 10:00 a.m. Workshops/Seminars Begin
- 12:00 p.m. Sectional Chair/Chapter Advisor Luncheon
- 5:00 p.m. Alumni Reception
- 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Banquet and Dance - “Main Attraction”

Tuesday, December 29

- 8:30 a.m. Workshops/Seminars Continue
- 9:30 a.m. Legislative Session Begins
- 7:00 p.m. Fun and Fellowship Events
- 11:30 p.m. Regional Meetings - Candidate Visitations

Wednesday, December 30

- . . . Legislative Session Continues
- . . . Workshops/Seminars Continue
- 3:30 p.m. Regional Meetings - Elections
- 5:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Awards Banquet and Dance



ALUMNI

How to Start an Alumni Association

by Alison Gerlach

Minnesota Metro Alpha Phi Omega Alumni Association

I never thought that choosing a name could be so hard. We proposed this name and that name for what seemed like hours on end. This name was too long. That name didn't have the right meaning. The initials for this one spelled something rude. Round and round we went, and finally we had it: a name for our alumni association.

This might sound melodramatic, but I kid you not. If you decide to start an alumni association, you will find that just as much thought and energy can go into choosing a name as goes into planning events, holding meetings, and creating bylaws.

There are many bases that need to be covered on the way to getting a group up and running. First and foremost, there has to be interest. A core group of people needs to sit down and start the discussion, and things will follow from there.

The first thing to decide is the nature of the alumni association. Do you want to create a chapter-based association or are you going for a more geographical approach? Do you want to focus on service, fellowship or simply keeping alumni "in the loop"? Some alumni associations serve to support chapters or increase awareness of Alpha Phi Omega in a given area. You may envision your group combining many of these goals. Having a clear

picture of your objectives can help you decide the type of events and the sort of expectations you hold for the members. If the goals and purpose are not clear, you will have a harder time getting off the ground.

Once the general purpose has been established, you can start looking for others who might want to help build the organization. Be sure to notify the appropriate APO volunteer staff members, including the National Alumni/Internal Volunteer Development Director and relevant Regional and Sectional staff. These volunteers can be great resources both for potential members and for general advice and support. Lists of Life Members are available from the National Office to aid your search.

It's now time to start getting the word out! Mailings, phone calls,

E-mails, whatever method you chose - let people know what you're doing. If you're planning to form a geographically based association, you may want to contact your list of potential members and invite them to a general inter-



Members of the Minnesota Metro APO Alumni Association join together for a formal photo session. These alumni get together throughout the year to share in our principles of Leadership, Friendship and Service. They will be participating at the National Convention in Minneapolis assisting in Alumni activities and conducting a workshop on, what else could it be, "How to start an alumni association."

est meeting. For those going the chapter-based route, you can get in touch with your home chapter and see if you could plan something around one of the chapter's events.

An initial "kick-off" meeting, if you will, is a good way to get the ball really rolling. Items discussed could include possible events, election of officers, the establishment of meeting



The International Supporter Program

The International Supporter Program, which began a year ago, is a voluntary support program for those interested Members and Alumni of recognized Alpha Phi Omega national organizations. This is not a membership program, but allows those who contribute fifty (\$50) dollars US annually to receive annual Fraternity communications and to purchase APO merchandise (except ritual and Active Membership materials). This Fraternal courtesy program is directed toward our Brothers and Sisters of other national Alpha Phi Omega organizations. Pictured to the left at the National Office in Independence, Missouri, with Patrick Burke, National Executive Director, is Emmanuel “Mel” Pana, a Brother of the Philippines, and a resident of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. “Mel” is the very first to be part of the International Supporter Program.

Alumni Association continued...

times and places, and other appropriate administrative business. You can also bring attendees up to date on current news of the National Fraternity.

Just like an undergraduate chapter, your alumni association has to have officers and, depending on its scope and size may also have committees. At a bare minimum, the group should elect a president, secretary, and treasurer. Alumni associations also may have directors of fellowship, service, and membership or others as needed. The board of directors should meet on an agreed-upon basis to take care of the routine business of the association.

The initial leaders have the exciting challenge of seeing the organization through its first year. It is important that they evaluate the activities of the group — Was there good turnout? Did people enjoy themselves? Was the goal accomplished? Should the event be done again?

Finance is another important administrative point to consider. Many groups choose to assess annual dues to

cover costs such as supplies, mailings, bank fees, food, and limited events. Each member individually on an event-by-event basis can pay for more expensive events. Dues not only help cover the overhead costs of the association, but their payment is often made a component of official membership. If you decide to file Articles of Incorporation to be formally recognized as an organization within the state where the association is domiciled, you may also want to consider filing for tax exempt status as a not-for-profit organization. Having this status makes contributions to the organization tax deductible.

The bylaws are another important document you should consider. Bylaws outline the rules of engagement — Who is eligible for membership and what are the rights of the members? Who are the officers, what are their responsibilities, and in what manner will they be elected? What are the dues and the financial structure of the group? Committees are outlined, as are

terms of office. The bylaws provide a foundation for the governing of the association.

Associations interact on many levels with the undergraduate brothers in APO and work to further the principles of Alpha Phi Omega. Every year, each alumni association pays a \$15 fee to the National Office to be officially recognized and to have access to resources of the Fraternity.

Although this article is by no means, a comprehensive outline of what is involved in starting an alumni association, I have tried to touch on tasks or issues that almost every group might encounter. If you are thinking about trying to start an alumni association, be sure to order a copy of the National Office's publication on *How to Start an Alumni Association*. Also, request a list of the current alumni associations. They may be able to address some of your questions or concerns. Last but not least, good luck on this great adventure of forming your own alumni association!

More Than Paperclips

by John Wetherington, National Finance and Operations Chair

Each time I visit our National Headquarters I smile as I pass by the shelves where we store several boxes of paperclips. In a year where we had many financial and operational records set, you may wonder how paperclips fit into this article. Read on and find the answer.

Our fiscal year ends August 31 and we budget and manage the organization to match this schedule, which coincides with the academic year. The accompanying financial information comes from the annual report prepared by our independent auditors, Grant Thornton, a national accounting firm. We have a few comments to highlight key results.

We are pleased to report that we successfully funded our normal operations and many new initiatives while improving our financial strength. We supported record numbers of Active Members and a near record number of Pledges and Initiates, subsidized a record number of attendees at Chapter Program and Sectional Resource workshops, increased extension efforts, provided youth service grants and academic scholarships, built a headquarters operating fund and more. During the year we achieved record fund-raising results, exceeded \$1 million in assets, upgraded our technology, provided for long-term expansion by finishing the upstairs space in our National Office and upgraded the skills of our staff. The success comes from the work of Chapters nationwide to bring in and maintain Members, the contributions of hundreds of Alumni donors and the work of countless volunteers.

There are a few numerical results we would like to highlight. First, despite record fund raising, member-

ship fees continue as the key component of our ability to pay the bills. If you ignore major donations of \$10,000+, which are for specifically designated purposes, student membership fees provide about 70% of our operating budget. Growth in Chapters and Actives is essential to continuing and growing our programs. Operating revenues fell short of budget by \$9,000, approximately half of which came from missing the budgeted membership goals, which called for a modest gain in new members. Additionally, we had shortfalls in royalty income and investment income. The shortfalls were partially offset by above-budgeted merchandise sales and the annual giving campaign.

With the huge increase in donor funds designated for specific purposes, we are now susceptible to market swings and we have to report paper gains and losses from market swings. As August was near the bottom of the stock market declines, we have a writedown at this point in time. This has little real impact for present operations. Ignoring this, and focusing on current operations, we overspent our expense budget by about \$17,000. About half of this was by design. A donor gave us funds booked as revenue at the end of the last fiscal year which we spent this year to upgrade our computer equipment and software. Beyond this, we generally matched expense overruns with expense savings. The most notable expense variances occurred in printing, which we clearly understated in our budget; and building and equipment maintenance accounts, where we were adversely impacted by an unusually bad file server crash, and

some storm-related damage by the crashing of trees at our headquarters.

While there is more to our financial situation than the number of boxes of paperclips on the shelf, there are many lessons I think we've learned related to these twisted pieces of metal. When I first became involved at the National level, several Board Members joked about the need to "count paperclips." There were two messages here. First, several years ago the Fraternity faced very lean times and we faced financial difficulties. Today the budget is many times this amount, and over the past year we grew our year-end cash reserves to exceed two months of operating expenditures. This is not a big buffer but a big improvement. The other message was that our leadership spent a lot of time in the minutia of "counting paperclips" rather than on how to prepare for lean times in the future.

Finally, paperclips have another meaning to me. A few years ago, a National President was trying to figure out where an accounting surplus went and why we couldn't spend it. After an explanation by the then Finance Director, the President walked away confused and muttering "It's all in paperclips." A growing organization (that's us), needs to finance inventory and other resources to continue growth. Today we've graduated from paperclips and typewriter ribbons to computers and software. While we should try to make the confusing debits and credits and other accounting stuff understandable, we must remember that financial statements are only a snapshot of our recent results and, more importantly, reflect our ability to continue programs in the future.

So What *Does* the Vice President *Do*, Anyway?

by Jack A. McKenzie, National Vice President

Often during my four years as National Vice President I was asked:

“So what does the Vice President do, anyway?”

It is generally understood that the Vice President fills in for the President on occasion. Otherwise, in APO, as in many other organizations, the Vice President is the officer with the least obvious and the least specific duties.

So, now that my time as Vice President is history, let me tell you what I think I did.

In APO, the Vice President’s job can be divided into four categories: Presidential Support, Spirit and Standards, Committees and Projects, and General Leadership.

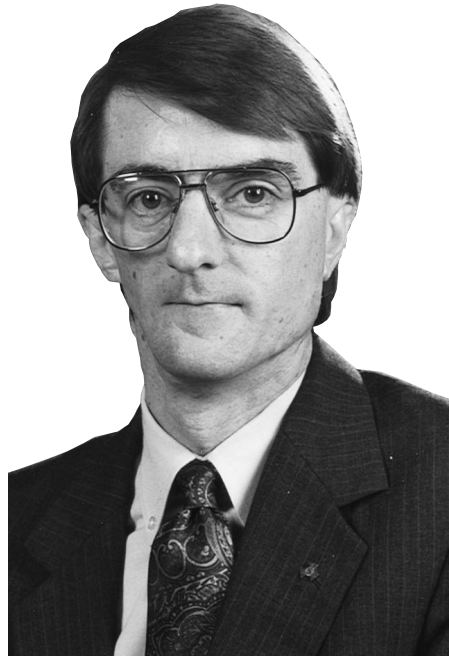
Presidential Support

As already mentioned, the VP is called upon from time to time to fill in for the President. There’s more to this responsibility, however, than simply being available to substitute for the President at a meeting or ceremony.

Rather, the Vice President has to be prepared to be President. Thus, a key part of the Vice President’s job is to develop a working knowledge of the Fraternity’s business and operation. This involves a lot of reading, a lot of listening, and a lot of consultations with the National President, the National Executive Director and others.

Spirit and Standards

The Vice President is the



Fraternity’s “Spirit and Standards” officer. This means both working to educate chapters and members about the Fraternity’s policies and standards and overseeing investigations into allegations of misconduct by Chapters or individual Members.

In most cases of alleged misconduct, the Vice President works with the appropriate Regional Director to discover the facts of the situation and to determine what the Fraternity’s response should be. If the circumstances warrant, the Vice President may recommend action by the National Board of Directors.

Dealing with such matters can be time-consuming, tedious and stressful, but fortunately Alpha Phi Omega has relatively few instances of this nature. Nonetheless, the “Spirit and

Standards” role is one of the most important and most demanding aspects of the Vice President’s job.

Committees and Projects

The Vice President is called upon to chair a number of committees, including the National Awards Committee and the National Fall Pledge Class Naming Committee.

The Vice President also is often assigned special projects. For example, during my first term, I chaired a group that studied the structure of the National Board and recommended changes to it.

Plus, for several years now, the Vice President has led the Fraternity’s long-range planning process.

General Leadership

Finally, the Vice President shares with all other Board members certain fundamental responsibilities of Leadership: to protect Alpha Phi Omega, to participate fully as a member of its corporate board of directors, to support the Fraternity’s fund-raising efforts by making annual financial contributions, and to be a mature and positive role model for other volunteers in the Fraternity and for our student Members.

In other words, the Vice President’s job is another opportunity “to be a leader, to be a friend, and to be of service” — an opportunity I am grateful to have had. Thank you.

A PAGE IN HISTORY

For over 70 years
Alpha Phi Omega
has been going
strong. Here are just
a few of the many
reasons why.

65 Years Ago

1935 Edition of the "LightBearer"

The Fifth Biennial Convention of Alpha Phi Omega was held at the Hotel President in Kansas City, Missouri, December 28-29, 1934. Alpha Eta Chapter of the University of Kansas City served as host to the Convention. The attendance, totaling two hundred and thirty, included delegates from 20 Chapters and 14 Interest Groups. Supreme Grand Master H. Roe Bartle presided at the Convention.

50 Years Ago

Torch & Trefoil January 1948

In the Spring of 1947 a special award was created. The "Distinguished Service Key" was created for presentation by any chapter wishing to honor a member who has given outstanding service. The key bears the three Greek letters of Alpha Phi Omega showing through black enamel.

25 Years Ago

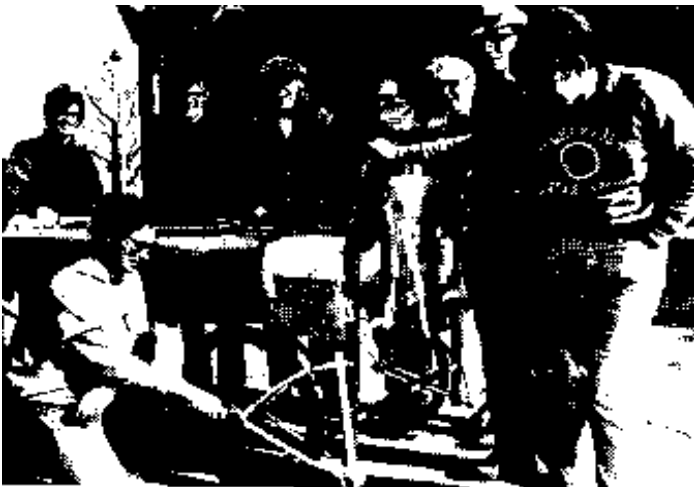
Torch & Trefoil Winter 1973

Alpha Phi Omega alumni are forming Alumni Associations. What is an alumni association? It is a locally oriented, voluntary organization of Brothers who have left the campus but wish to remain active in the Fraternity.



Torch & Trefoil October 1945...

On September 6, this group of Navy men at Tulane University gave blood at Charity Hospital in New Orleans. The blood donor service of Gamma Upsilon Chapter was started during the war, with donations given to the Red Cross plasma bank. As war needs ended, the Chapter offered its service to Charity Hospital.



Torch & Trefoil Winter 1972...

Zeta Gamma, Valparaiso University, reactivated the hospital bed on wheels which they had pushed for 600 miles last March to raise money for the construction of Mercy Methodist Hospital in Hobart, Indiana. In the photo Brothers are preparing to join in the Hobart 4th of July parade to raise more money for the hospital.

WHO, what, WHEN & Where?

ALPHA PHI OMEGA'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1998

DECEMBER 27-30

NATIONAL CONVENTION
Minneapolis, MN

1999

FEBRUARY 5-7

Board of Directors Meeting
Kansas City, MO

FEBRUARY 19-21

Section 23 & 27 Conference
Host: Iota Tau Chapter
St Olaf College
Northfield, MN

Section 72 Conference
Host: Delta Iota Chapter
Mercer University
Macon, GA

FEBRUARY 20-21

Section 70 Conference
Nashville, TN

FEBRUARY 27

Section 4 Conference
Host: Zeta Chapter
Stanford University
Palo Alto, CA

Section 77 Conference
Host: Gamma Lambda Chapter
Clemson University
Clemson, SC

FEBRUARY 26-28

Section 21 Conference
Host: Omicron Chapter
University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA

Section 40 Conference
Host: Nu Nu Chapter
Eastern New Mexico University
Portales, NM

Section 61 Conference
Host: Mu Tau Chapter
West Virginia University Institute
of Technology
Montgomery, WV

Section 80 Conference
Host: Upsilon Nu Chapter
University of North Carolina
Wilmington, NC

MARCH

Section 97 Conference
Host: Kappa Beta Chapter
Polytechnic University
New York City, NY

MARCH

Section 98 Conference
Puerto Rico

MARCH 5-7

Section 68 Conference
Host: Lambda Alpha Chapter
East Tennessee State University
Johnson City, TN

MARCH 12-14

Section 54 Conference
Host: Lambda Phi Chapter
Eastern Michigan University
Ypsilanti, MI

MARCH 19-21

Section 52 Conference
Host: Zeta Gamma Chapter
Valparaiso University
Valparaiso, IN

Section 72 Conference
Mercer University
Macon, LA

MARCH 26-28

Section 43/44 Conference
Host: Delta Pi Chapter
Trinity University
San Antonio, TX

Section 62/64 Conference
Host: Omega Mu Chapter
Clarion University of PA
Clarion, PA

Section 81 Conference
Host: Alpha Alpha Omicron
Chapter
Longwood College
Farmville, VA

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