

# TORCH & TREFOIL

WINTER 2013

## Leading by Example

One brother shares the power of being a leader, being a friend and being of service with students as she travels the world in service to others.



### **INSIDE:**

- A look back at an inspiring article from the November 1946 *Torch & Trefoil*.

THE QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF





*"You can always amend a big plan, but you can never expand a little one. I don't believe in little plans. I believe in plans big enough to meet a situation which we can't possibly foresee now."*

*– Harry S. Truman, Former President of the United States*

The further I get on in life, the more I have come to admire President Truman. In fact, the more I read about him, the more influential he becomes in my life.

In Alpha Phi Omega, we all make plans. Chapters make plans for the coming year, sections and regions make plans for their conferences, and nationally there exists the National Strategic Plan. Our National Strategic Plan is a blueprint for the future of the Fraternity. It is not some group of unrelated items, but a collection of benchmarks and objectives designed to take us to some unforeseen future.



At the heart of that plan is our goal of reaching 500 chapters by 2025. That number is truly ambitious. We have never been close to having 500 active chapters at one time. Why haven't we? What holds us back? Imagine what having 500 chapters could mean for expanding the reach, impact and visibility of APO!

But our plan is just a start. What will it take to get there? How do we make progress? The Alpha Phi Omega Board of Directors is, in meaningful ways, starting to measure and assess the Fraternity's progress. The Board will begin to focus more on those important items, and less on the day-to-day items that consume so much of our time. We will use that plan to identify, obtain and direct the resources needed. In pursuit of that plan, we know that we need to find a new home for APO – a new physical headquarters that will be more than just a building or an office. We know that we also need to change the structure of the Board so that it can better focus on future plans and function in a way that best meets the needs of the Fraternity.

However, our most important resource, the one that we cannot have enough of, is you – the brothers of APO. You are instrumental to making our big plan a success. You are needed for your selfless contribution of your time, talent and treasure. You are needed to lend your expertise, knowledge and love of the Fraternity to help current chapters, to assist in the formation of new chapters and to help direct college students to APO. We need you, and all of your best efforts, to help us move from what we are to what we can be.

Our big plan is only one part of our future. You, the brothers of this fraternity, will make that plan a reality.

Fraternally,

Mark Stratton  
National President



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# TORCH & TREFOIL

WINTER 2013 • VOLUME 90 • NUMBER 1

## COVER STORY



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## FEATURES

**12 Our Fraternity...**  
Enjoy a step back in time to November 1946 as the Fraternity republishes one brother's inspiring speech calling the members of Alpha Phi Omega to live and serve by the words of the Fraternity Toast Song.

## DEPARTMENTS

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## Notes from the Field

East to west, north to south... The Alpha Phi Omega Chapter Consultant Team has traveled the country during the fall 2013 semester, working with more than 30 chapters or extension groups so far. The team has worked to improve recruitment efforts, build brotherhood, diversify service programs and improve reporting in the Chapter Officer Portal. The consultants are excited to see this hard work pay off through healthier chapters and new charters.

The consultants traveled to upstate New York to visit Epsilon Gamma Chapter at Alfred University. During the visit, the consultants worked with the chapter on effective recruitment techniques and how to build brotherhood. Since that visit, the consultant team has continued to stay in touch with the chapter on a regular basis via phone, email and videoconference to ensure they keep up with the goals set during the visit. This chapter is working hard, and we are excited to see them continue to grow and improve.

On the other side of the country, the consultants continued to assist the California State University

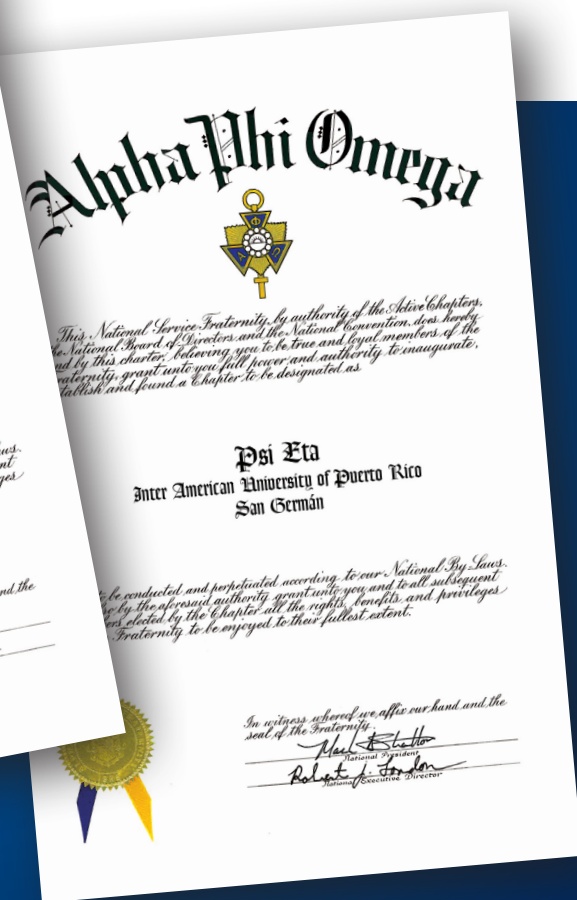
Stanislaus extension group as they worked to complete the chartering process. This group began working



with the chapter consultants last fall to develop their timeline for chartering and to better understand the extension process and requirements. During the spring semester, the consultants and students worked together remotely to ensure that their bylaws and other chartering documents were in good shape before going to the Charter Review Team. The hard work of this group paid off, and the chapter chartered as Alpha Eta Kappa Chapter on October 12, 2013. The chapter is doing great and is growing quickly. Congratulations, brothers!

These are only two examples of the hard work put in by the chapters and extension groups that received visits from the chapter consultants. It's been a wonderful semester on the road





## Welcome New Chapters!

**GAMMA DELTA**  
Baruch College, CUNY

**ALPHA ETA KAPPA**  
California State University Stanislaus

**PSI ETA**  
Inter American University of Puerto Rico San Germán

for the Chapter Consultant Team, and we look forward to seeing the efforts of the other chapters and extension groups pay off, resulting in more healthy chapters.

— Brother Laurie Burns, Mu '08

## 2014 APO LEADS Serve Dates Announced

Complete the final step in your APO LEADS journey – register for Serve! This weekend-long group training session will allow participants to learn and practically apply project management, meeting management and delegation skills. Serve is available during the summer and over Presidents Day weekend at various locations around the country.

Registration for the following Serve courses are now available on [www.apo.org](http://www.apo.org):

- February 14-16, 2014 – Phoenix, AZ
- February 14-16, 2014 – Atlanta, GA (presenter training available)
- February 14-16, 2014 – Philadelphia, PA
- June 20-22, 2014 – Detroit, MI (Western Suburbs)
- June 20-22, 2014 – Houston, TX
- July 18-20, 2014 – Hartford, CT

There is a \$55 (student) or \$75 (alumni) cost associated with the course that will offset food, supplies and lodging for the weekend.

## COUNTDOWN to Convention



As of December 15, 2013

**378**  
**DAYS LEFT**

until the 2014  
National Convention  
in Chicago, Illinois



## Past National President William S. Roth Passes Away at 84

It is with great sadness and respect that Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity recognizes the passing of Past National President William S. Roth.

Brother Roth was initiated by Rho Chapter at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1949. He was a dedicated leader and loyal brother of Alpha Phi Omega. His passion guided him through the ranks of the Fraternity's leadership. He was elected National President by the 1958



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National Convention. He served in this role until 1962.

During his time as National President, Brother Roth traveled widely, building morale, strengthening chapter programs and pushing the expansion of Alpha Phi Omega. Among Brother Roth's accomplishments was the extension of Alpha Phi Omega to Alaska with the chartering of Nu Omega Chapter at the University of Alaska Fairbanks in 1962. In his first term as National President, Joseph Scanlon was appointed National Executive Director.

Alpha Phi Omega is forever grateful for the service of Brother Roth and

his lasting impact on the Fraternity.

He is survived by his wife, Hazel Harvell Roth; two sons, Chuck Adcock and William Stanley Roth





Jr. (Holly Harrison Roth); seven grandchildren, Katie, Sarah, Mary and Aiden Adcock, and Tyler, Courtney and Haley Roth; and one great-grandchild.

Visit [www.apo.org/news/pastnationalpresidentwilliamsrothpassesawayat84](http://www.apo.org/news/pastnationalpresidentwilliamsrothpassesawayat84) to view a full obituary.

## Successful Region VI Conference Wraps

More than 450 brothers hit the road the weekend of November 8 to go to Champaign, Illinois, for the 2013 Region VI Conference. The conference was an amazing display of the Cardinal Principles. Great job, brothers!

Photo below (*left to right*): Jason Jarvis, Region VI Conference Chair, Dr. Phyllis Wise, chancellor of the University of Illinois and conference keynote speaker, Samantha Gardiner, Region 6 Banquet Chair, and Jason Strutz, Region VI Committee Advisor.



## APO DATELINE

### DECEMBER

- 12/19:** APO LEADS Online Basic Skills
- 12/21:** First Day of Winter .....
- 12/25:** Christmas Day .....
- 12/26:** Kwanzaa Begins .....
- 12/28-30:** Region IV Conference - Knoxville, Tennessee
- 12/31:** New Year's Eve



### JANUARY

- 01/01:** New Year's Day
- 01/01:** End of Kwanzaa
- 01/02-04:** Region I/II Conference - Springfield, Massachusetts
- 01/10-12:** Region VIII Conference - Norman, Oklahoma
- 01/17:** Region X Conference - Santa Cruz, California
- 01/20:** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 01/24-25:** Board of Director's Meeting - Dallas, Texas .....



### FEBRUARY

- 02/14:** Valentine's Day
- 02/14-16:** APO LEADS Serve (see article on page 5) .....
- 02/17:** Presidents' Day
- 02/28-03/01:** Section 85/86 Conference - Towson, Maryland .....




## American Red Cross

**philippine typhoon relief**  
donate today and help those affected  
by Typhoon Haiyan.

[crowdrise.com/AlphaPhiOmegaPhilReliefFund](http://crowdrise.com/AlphaPhiOmegaPhilReliefFund)





# Leading by Example

*Brother Sherry Leung, Alpha Beta Xi '11, shares the power of being a leader, being a friend and being of service with students worldwide.*

By Ruth Goodman

**T**he school day couldn't begin soon enough for service learning instructor Brother Sherry Leung, Alpha Beta Xi '11. The day had finally come when she and her English as a Second Language high school students in Hong Kong, would talk about community service and brainstorm ways to help members of their community. The students, however, did not share Brother Leung's enthusiasm.

"Many of them told me they were not interested in doing community service and thought it was a waste of time," she said. "They didn't think that one person could do anything to really make a positive change."

The more Leung thought about her students' reactions the more those reactions made sense. Most of the children were raised in households where money, food and clothing were scarce; just

*Continued on page 10*





of view  
point of  
ndship  
adly rel  
Service





*Left Photo: Brother Leung poses with the students she taught during her 10-week stay in Hong Kong. Right Photo: Brother Leung shares a proud hug with one of the girls from her class during the program's graduation ceremony. Bottom Photo: A view from the streets of the Wan Chai District in Hong Kong.*



trying to get by was a full-time job.

Leung immediately got to work designing an interactive service learning course to help her students see the value in helping others and to help them realize their ability to affect positive change. Her course focused on three components: leadership development opportunities, random acts of direct service for the school community, and time for self-reflection.

"Alpha Phi Omega has been one of the single most important and transformative opportunities in my life," said Leung, who joined Alpha Beta Xi Chapter at SUNY Geneseo as a freshman. "Not only has it made me a better servant leader but also more aware of the potential each individual has to make a positive change in the world. I wanted to show my students that they have this potential too."

During one of her classroom lessons, Leung challenged students to complete a random act of kindness by writing thank you cards to members of the school community who had made a positive difference in their lives.

to be best in a  
point of view.  
**Leadership** [  
ability to lead  
of a leader; gu  
people]



Taking this good deed one step further, Leung asked her students to deliver their cards in person.

“One of my classes got together during the school assembly to deliver their cards to the hard-working and supportive administrative staff,” said Leung. “The staff was shocked by this gesture, and some of them began to cry. As I looked around, I saw how astonished my students looked. Annie, a girl in the class, came up to me afterward and said, ‘Ms. L., I can see the magic now. I can do something to make someone’s life brighter.’”

After, and perhaps because of, her transformative 10-week teaching experience in Hong Kong, Leung decided to take a leave of absence from SUNY Geneseo this fall to student teach in New York City and Kumasi, Ghana, prior to graduating in May 2014.

“Part of the whole growing process both personally and as a leader comes from a willingness to continuously challenge yourself,”

said Leung. “By pushing myself into diverse experiences I’m able to learn more about the world and different cultures and also gain a more realistic understanding of the struggles adolescents might have.”

During her NYC experience, Leung addressed one of those struggles by fostering a culture within the high school where she was teaching that made attending college a viable option.

“For many of us, we knew we would enroll in college. Many of the students I worked with, however, were afraid to have big dreams,” said Leung. “They wanted to go to college but were either unfamiliar

with what they needed to do to get there or they didn’t have anyone to consult with about the process.”

To help facilitate information sharing, Leung developed a college-bound mentorship program that connected high schoolers with college students who could share the value of having an advanced degree and answer questions about higher education.

“Each day I faced challenges that required me to reflect on the lessons I’ve learned about Leadership, Friendship and Service so I could be

*“Alpha Phi Omega has been one of the single most important and transformative opportunities in my life.”*

the best possible role model. Teaching represents the perfect opportunity to give back to a community on a daily basis.”

Leung is currently in Kumasi, Ghana, completing her final student teaching experience. During her six weeks abroad, Leung has been collaborating with Ghanaian teachers and students to improve their school and community, all while expanding their outlook on what’s possible.

“The common link that ties my experiences together is my time as an APO brother,” she said. “I could not imagine myself taking these great leaps of faith or pushing myself so far

outside of my comfort zone if I hadn’t been provided with opportunities to grow and to be a confident servant leader.”

Not all of us will teach students in Hong Kong, New York City or Kumasi. But just like Brother Leung, we all can affect change and lead by example, no matter where we are.

“There are opportunities everywhere to lend our talents and skills to improve communities,” Leung said. “Sometimes, however, I think we lose sight of the big picture. We may think the service we’re doing isn’t meaningful because it doesn’t reach a wide enough audience or because we can’t see its impact immediately. And because of that it’s easy to get discouraged. Every little bit we do to serve those around us does matter and does leave a positive impact on those that we touch.”

“By making the decision to adopt service into our lifestyle, we truly uphold the oath we all took to give unselfishly of our time and energy to build a program of service for our fraternity, for our college, for the youth of all nations, for our community and for our nation.”

Log on to [plantinggrassroots.wordpress.com](http://plantinggrassroots.wordpress.com) to read Leung’s blog and see even more photos of her servant leadership experiences. ■



# TORCH AND TREFOIL

## The 1946 National Convention Will Bring Delegates From All Parts of Nation

TORCH AND TREFOIL

### "OUR FRATERNITY"

By Robert J. Payne  
Omicron Chapter

(This is an introductory program presented at the first meeting this fall in Omicron Chapter at the University of Iowa.)



realize our allegiance to Alpha Phi Omega and remain firm in its call when our help is needed. Here again, only by working together can we accomplish our purpose.

## Alpha Phi Omega Toast Song

♩ = 86

1. Here's to Al-pha Phi O-me-ga, Loy-al Bro-thers we, we,  
2. Bro-thers clasp the hands of Bro-thers, the cir-cle we,

True to self and to each other, firm in loy-al-ty  
Ev-er mind-ful to each o-ther, all hu-man-i-ty

Dai-ly work-ing, dai-grate-ful striv-ing, ev-in our more to be,  
Now we raise our grate-ful voi-ces, in our song to thee

Men of Al-pha Phi O-me-ga, our fra-ter-ni-ty,  
Men of Al-pha Phi O-me-ga, may we al-ways be.

By Robert J. Payne, Omicron '46

Originally published in the  
November 1946 issue  
of Torch & Trefoil magazine



# Fraternity”

*The year was 1946 and the Fraternity was preparing for its first National Convention since 1940 due to the start of World War II. Then National President H. Roe Bartle was preparing to step down as President after serving 15 years in this role during which time the Fraternity grew by more than 100 chapters. A young brother by the name of Robert J. Payne stood before Omicron Chapter at the University of Iowa with the hopes of rallying his brothers for the upcoming school year. What he didn't know at the time was that this rally cry would be shared with brothers nationwide through the November 1946 Torch & Trefoil and help build excitement for a successful 1946 National Convention in Kansas City, Missouri. Though much has changed since this story was originally published, this article is a treasured examination of the Fraternity's Toast Song and lyrics.*

*Update Note: Alpha Phi Omega acknowledges the importance of brotherhood among all people. In 1976, the Fraternity overwhelmingly voted to include women among its brothers as full members. The words in the Toast Song are interpreted by the Fraternity to include all members of Alpha Phi Omega. For the purposes of this article, the Fraternity adapted pronouns from the original to be more reflective of the diversity of APO. Additionally, the second verse of the Toast Song is absent from this article since it was not adopted until the 1964 National Convention.*

## **“Here's to Alpha Phi Omega, Loyal Brothers, We ...”**


But wait ... our Toast Song says “loyal brothers.” That's the keynote of a real fraternity relationship all right. But I wonder how often we overlook the real meaning and worth of that relationship. Ours is a real privilege to be affiliated with an organization where our fellow members are real brothers in thought and action.

*Continued on page 14*









known: we don't accomplish anything by pulling in opposite directions, but only by pulling together.

### ***“Firm in loyalty ...”***

That's another important need in our program. Not only loyalty to each other, but loyalty to the great aims and ideals upon which our organization has spread to the far campuses of the United States. We have more than a particular campus binding us, we have more than economic or social or racial bonds. The bond of service to which we are all dedicated transcends and crosses all these other bonds. Sure we're all busy. Classes from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. for some of us. Some of us are straddled with other activities. It's fine to know that our Alpha Phi Omega [brothers] are leaders in widely varying activities throughout the campus. Others of us have jobs which are necessary to give us the opportunity of a college education, and, indeed, of Alpha Phi Omega itself ... But there will be times when we must realize our allegiance to Alpha Phi Omega and remain firm in loyalty to its call when our help is needed. Here again, only by cooperation – working together – can we accomplish the kind of service we can be proud of, the kind of service that has remained the backbone of Alpha Phi Omega since 1925.

### ***“Daily working, daily striving ...”***

That's right – DAILY! That doesn't mean we have to give a certain amount of our time every day to performing APO projects, but it means we must live constantly that our character and personality may mark us as a fit follower of Alpha Phi Omega. Our every concern must reflect our keen awareness of human values and needs. It must reflect our alertness to every opportunity for service – personal or group service.

### ***“Ever more to be men of Alpha Phi Omega ...”***

Ever more to be! That's it. There is the challenge for us as we start out on a new year's activities. We are all prepared to face the problems before us with renewed vigor and fresh insight and to lick the obstacles before us, with that same cooperative spirit we've been talking about. It isn't enough to say these things. We've got to burn them in our minds and live by them. Let each man ask himself, “Will my every thought and deed this year be worthy of the name ‘Alpha Phi Omega’?”

### ***“... Our Fraternity.”***

It is our fraternity, all right. What a great heritage we have, if we can only make ourselves aware of it and live up to it. The challenge for this year is truly great. The future of our chapter rests with you, fellows, and with me. Let's not kid ourselves ... we can't let [Pat] do it ... come to the meetings and go to the paper drives and help at the hospital ... no, we can't be sure anything [Pat] does will ever get done. We can only be sure that what we do will be done. Maybe during the year we can widen our horizons a bit and meet with some of the other fellows in the state who are bound up to the same great ideals of service. December will bring a chance for some of us to meet nationally other fellow Alpha Phi Omega [brothers]. Yet, it is indeed “OUR FRATERNITY,” so again; let each of us ask ourselves, “Will Alpha Phi Omega be a better organization because I am a member?” If you can't say “Yes,” without reservation, you need to re-examine your motives and purposes for belonging to Alpha Phi Omega.

Let us think in silence for a moment about the big job we have to do and try to organize our thinking in hopes that we might carry forward Alpha Phi Omega to a really significant year. ■





# APO



## Instagram



### REGION III

@apo\_theta\_chi  
Theta Chi Chapter



Yesterday morning, 6 bros and 4 pledges harvested 10 lbs of kale and 5 lbs of herbs to be used in a community cooking demonstration by the soup kitchen Miriam's Kitchen #greenthumb



### REGION I

@apo\_adm  
Alpha Delta Mu Chapter



Don't haze me bro! AΔM is at Ramapo's anti-hazing program tonight.  
#hazingisstupid #donthazemebro  
@MGspeaksUP



### REGION II

@apogamma  
Gamma Chapter



Stuff the bus!



### REGION IV

@apo\_adl  
Alpha Delta Lambda Chapter



Memory & Wellness Center @apostaff we work with elderly people who have some form of dementia and we dance, do karaoke, or play story telling games with them!



### REGION V

@apoalphaiota  
Alpha Iota Chapter



So many good steals and deals at @apoalphaiota Clothing Swap!!!  
#FundRAGING

Follow us on **Instagram**

Instagram.com/APOStaff

#instaAPO





## REGION VI

@apopieta  
Pi Eta Chapter



A great way to start the morning,  
AIDS Run/Walk! #service #apo  
#volunteers



## REGION VII

@texasapo  
Alpha Rho Chapter



Doing what we do best #texaspride #ut  
#texas #torchlightparade #longhorn  
#apoalpharho #lonestarstate



## REGION VIII

@apodeltabeta  
Delta Beta Chapter



Our members are loving talking to the  
class of 2017 about APO! Be sure to  
stop by our booth at the involvement  
fair to talk to us and learn how to begin  
your journey with APO.



## REGION IX

@apo\_gammapsi  
Gamma Psi Chapter



These guys packed 10,480 carrots....  
Talk about dedication at second harvest  
heartland! Good work guys #apo  
#alphaphiomega #service #fraternity  
#coed #leadership #friendship #carrots  
#secondharvestheartland



## REGION X

@apo\_unlv  
Alpha Zeta Upsilon Chapter



Great turnout yesterday at the Las Vegas  
Rescue Mission! #weloveservice #APO  
#alphaphiomega #unlv #apounlv



## REGION XI

Gamma Alpha Chapter



Gamma Alpha chapter (and several  
prospective members!) help Food Lifeline  
sort over 13,000 lbs of carrots to be  
distributed to food banks and shelters  
throughout western WA. #aposervice



# Leadership. Friendship. Service.

Alpha Phi Omega was founded on these Cardinal Principles and they still hold true today. Maintaining each of these values is essential to who we are. In preparing campus and community leaders these values are a necessity to improving the world in which we live.

Investments of your leadership, vision and loyal support, has supported APO's continued growth. The Fraternity continues to add more students, on more campuses, who in turn provide more service for their communities. Last year we had almost 27,000 students on campuses across the United States and there is every indication that our chapters will have another record breaking year in recruiting new members. We are

having an impact, we just need our impact to keep increasing every year by growing our servant leaders and investing in each member.

As we look forward to 2014, we have the opportunity to provide our student leaders and the volunteers that work so hard to support our chapters with even more tools and resources. Investing in new technologies will allow even more training and development to

occur online, reduce the paperwork for chapter officers, and increase efficiencies in chapter operations. These improvements could not have occurred without the support of APO members.

As you can see, this is an exciting time for Alpha Phi Omega. We can only imagine what the future will bring if we continue on the path we are on today as we continue to focus on the importance of leadership, friendship and service.

Continued support will allow the Fraternity to increase the tools we can offer chapters and volunteers, increasing the access to leadership development for both our students and alumni volunteers, and to add to the number of students providing service to their communities. Please continue the legacy that you began as a student by considering a gift to Alpha Phi Omega. To become a Torchbearer, please consider a gift of \$75. This gift can

be set up to pay only \$6.25/month. Please go to [www.apo.org/give](http://www.apo.org/give).

Thank you in advance for your continued generosity! ■





**Yes! I will support APO's Torchbearer Fund!**

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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\$250+ Gold Torchbearer • \$150+ Silver Torchbearer • \$75+ Torchbearer

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ National #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# Continuing the Legacy of Alpha Phi Omega

**"I enjoy giving back to APO because this organization has made a huge impact on my life and has given so much to me. Between conferences, the APO LEADS program, and interactions between other brothers I don't know where I would be today without everything I have learned. Giving back to the Fraternity is just a small way of paying back for everything they have given me and to support the future brothers of this organization."**

**— Joey Bracco,**  
*Theta Epsilon Chapter '09,  
Illinois State University*



**Thank you to the brothers who continuously support Alpha Phi Omega and our mission of developing leaders through service.**



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## Final Thought

“The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well.”

— *Ralph Waldo Emerson*