



Torch and Trefoil



Thirtieth Anniversary December 1955

TORCH and TREFOIL

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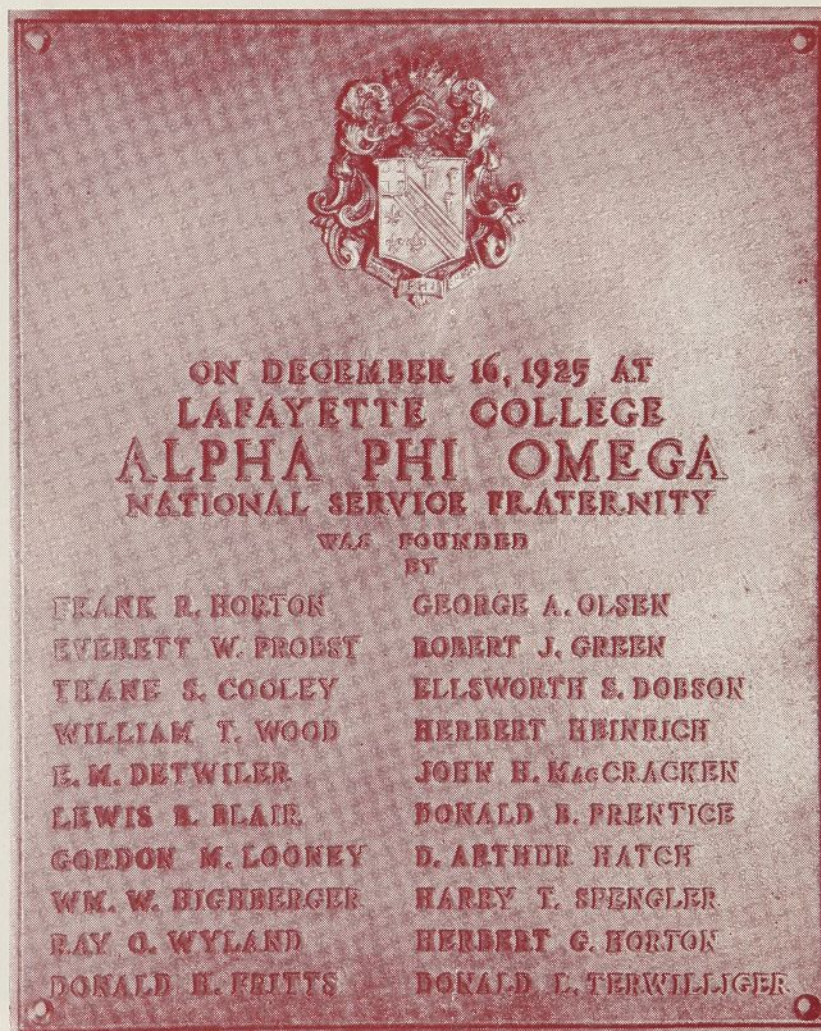
ON OUR COVER

A span of thirty years of leadership is shown in our cover picture. On the steps of Hogg Hall at Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania, are Frank R. Horton (left) and Ronald N. Rudderow.

Brother Frank is founder of Alpha Phi Omega, having instigated and organized this National Service Fraternity while a student at Lafayette College thirty years ago. He became first President of Alpha Chapter and first National President. Additional information about his early leadership is included in the article on opposite page.

Brother Ronald is current President of Alpha Chapter, giving leadership in carrying on the traditions and services in the Mother Chapter of our fraternity.

They extend greetings to all brothers on the occasion of our thirtieth anniversary.

PLAQUE AT LAFAYETTE COLLEGE
IN HONOR OF FOUNDERS

Displayed in a prominent place at Lafayette College, this plaque extends tribute to the fourteen students and six advisors who founded Alpha Phi Omega, December 16, 1925. It was presented to the college by our National Fraternity.

HIGHLIGHTS

of

THIRTY YEARS GROWTH OF ALPHA PHI OMEGA

1925 TO 1955

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THE FOUNDING

Alpha Phi Omega, National Service Fraternity, was founded December 16, 1925, at Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania. The students who signed the original petition for recognition were Frank R. Horton, Everett W. Probst, Thane S. Cooley, William T. Wood, Ephraim M. Detwiler, Lewis B. Blair, Gordon M. Looney, William W. Highberger, Donald L. Terwilliger, Donald H. Fritts, George A. Olsen, Robert J. Green, Ellsworth S. Dobson and Herbert Heinrich.

The first Faculty Advisors of the Mother Chapter were President John H. MacCracken, Dean Donald B. Prentice, Professor D. Arthur Hatch and Professor Harry T. Spengler. The original Scouting Advisors were Herbert G. Horton and Dr. Ray O. Wyland.

The idea of establishing a college organization of former Scouts was conceived by Frank R. Horton. He spread the plan among friends and fellow students and began developing a group. He selected the name and motto. Preliminary meetings were held in the Sigma Alpha Epsilon house, the Krescents house and in various individuals' rooms. The first official meeting was held in Brainerd Hall (later renamed Hogg Hall) on the Lafayette campus.

After early preparations, a petition for official status was sent to the Lafayette College faculty. The new organization was approved by this body and subsequently was referred to and recognized by the Student Council. As founder of the fraternity, Brother Horton was elected as first President of Alpha Chapter and proceeded in the establishment of additional chapters, and served as first National President. He protected the name and insignia by obtaining a copyright through the United States Patent Office, and led in developing the first constitution and by-laws and ritual.

The designs of the Alpha Phi Omega pin and coat-of-arms were created by Everett W. Probst, who was elected first Vice President of Alpha Chapter and first National Vice President. The crest was later revised to its present meaning, but the pin emblem has remained the same as originally designed.

The AΦΩ handclasp was created by Thane S. Cooley, first National Treasurer of the organization. William T. Wood served as first National Secretary.

As early as 1927, a national publication of Alpha Phi Omega was edited by Brother Horton under the name of "The Lightbearer." The name was later changed to TORCH AND TREFOIL.

THE EXPANSION

Since our founding in 1925, Alpha Phi Omega has chartered 282 active chapters and twelve alumni chapters. The locations of chapters are shown on the map on pages six and seven of this issue.

In the early years, conventions were conducted by mail to decide fraternity matters. The third biennial convention, the first actual assembly of delegates, was held in St. Louis, Missouri, March 1 and 2, 1931. At this convention, Dr. H. Roe Bartle was elected National President. Through his vigorous leadership during sixteen years in the presidency, the fraternity grew to nationwide scope.

The fourth national convention was held in Chicago in 1932; the fifth in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1934; the sixth at Akron, Ohio, in 1936; the seventh at St. Louis, Missouri, in 1938; the eighth at Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1940; the ninth at Kansas City, Missouri, in 1946 and the tenth at Chicago, Illinois, in 1948.

The Silver Anniversary was commemorated at the eleventh national convention held in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1950. The twelfth national convention was held in Columbus, Ohio, in 1952, and the thirteenth national convention was held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1954.

Each of these meetings has been increasingly important in the progress of Alpha Phi Omega and has been highly constructive in formulating policies of administration and in planning more effective means of carrying on the program of service in the chapters.

At the 1946 convention, Dean Arno Nowotny was elected National President. He served ably and was unanimously re-elected in 1948, leading AΦΩ to greater achievements than ever before during four years as president.

At the 1950 convention, Professor Daniel Den Uyl was elected National President, and he was enthusiastically re-elected in 1952. His excellent leadership was appreciated by our entire fraternity.

At the 1954 convention, M. R. Disborough was elected as our fifth National President and he is giving strong leadership. He devotes a vast amount of time and travel in carrying on his work as president.

Alpha Phi Omega has grown rapidly and on a firm foundation. The service program of the fraternity has become well known to students, educators and Scout leaders throughout America, and has become increasingly important in campus life. The program is described on pages eight, nine and ten. It is constantly growing.



ENTHUSIASTIC MEMBERS BRING OUTSTANDING SUCCESS TO ALPHA PHI OMEGA



Shown here are part of the nearly five hundred members who attended the Thirteenth National Convention of Alpha Phi Omega in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, December 28 to 30, 1954. Sectional Conferences and National Conventions provide opportunity for exchanging ideas and know-how of chapter service and for acquaintanceship among brothers from all parts of the United States.

OUR NATIONAL PRESIDENTS

FIVE BROTHERS HAVE SERVED AS NATIONAL PRESIDENTS
OF ALPHA PHI OMEGA



FRANK R. HORTON

*Ingersoll-Rand Company
Phillipsburg, New Jersey*

**National President
1925 to 1931**



H. ROE BARTLE

*Scout Executive Emeritus
Mayor of Kansas City, Mo.*

**National President
1931 to 1946**



ARNO NOWOTNY

*Dean of Student Life
University of Texas*

**National President
1946 to 1950**



DANIEL DEN UYL

*Professor of Forestry
Purdue University*

**National President
1950 to 1954**



M. R. DISBOROUGH

*Scout Executive
Louisville, Kentucky*

**National President
1954 to Present**

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National Ser

Thirtieth Anniversary Map of Ch



Computers Installed from 1925 to 1955



OUR SERVICE PROGRAM

The true measure of a successful Alpha Phi Omega Chapter is the service rendered to its campus and community. As a Service Fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega is unique among campus groups in that we specialize in service. Over the past thirty years, our fraternity has developed a strong and outstanding program in which chapters direct their energies and talents for the benefit of their fellowmen.

The purpose of Alpha Phi Omega as set forth in our National Constitution is "to assemble college men in the fellowship of the Scout Oath and Law, to develop friendship and to promote service to humanity." This objective, which is the guide of members of Alpha Phi Omega, includes four major fields of activity.

THE FOUR FIELDS

In pictures on two following pages, the program of Alpha Phi Omega is illustrated. These examples were selected from news reports from chapters appearing in previous issues of our magazine. Of course, it is impossible to mention all of the many excellent projects conducted by AΦΩ chapters, but these exemplify the activities of chapters throughout the nation.

Service to the Student Body and Faculty. In this phase of our program, chapters carry on projects beneficial to the entire campus. On page nine, the top picture indicates a typical project. This is just one of the many services which are conducted each year in colleges and universities from coast to coast. This work has been highly praised by students and faculty as a vital part of campus life.

Service to Youth and Community. Members of Alpha Phi Omega, all former Scouts, are ready and willing to pass along to others some of the benefits gained in earlier years. Many projects are directed in service to the Scout Councils in which the chapters are located and to other youth groups and to the community at large. The lower picture on page nine shows one of the projects in this field.

Service to the Nation. Going beyond campus and community efforts, our chapters enter into projects of nationwide importance and also endeavor to promote international good will. The top picture on page ten is an example of nationwide service for the welfare of others. Members realize their responsibilities as citizens and desire to foster a spirit of unselfishness.

Service to the Members. Individual benefits to members of Alpha Phi Omega come from the leadership opportunities, responsibilities in chapter operation, fellowship, and from lifelong friendships among alumni. An example is pictured at the bottom of page ten.

A wide range of services has been developed by the chapters. Reports have brought news of more than 400 different kinds of projects conducted. This excellent record points out that Alpha Phi Omega has grown rapidly and strongly not only in numbers but also in accomplishments.

A WORD OF APPRECIATION

The growth and achievements of Alpha Phi Omega stand as a tribute to all members who have served in the past and those who are now participating in our fraternity. The unstinted efforts of our brothers have developed an outstanding organization. Chapter officers, advisors, active members, pledges and alumni have given generously of their time and energies in building our service program.

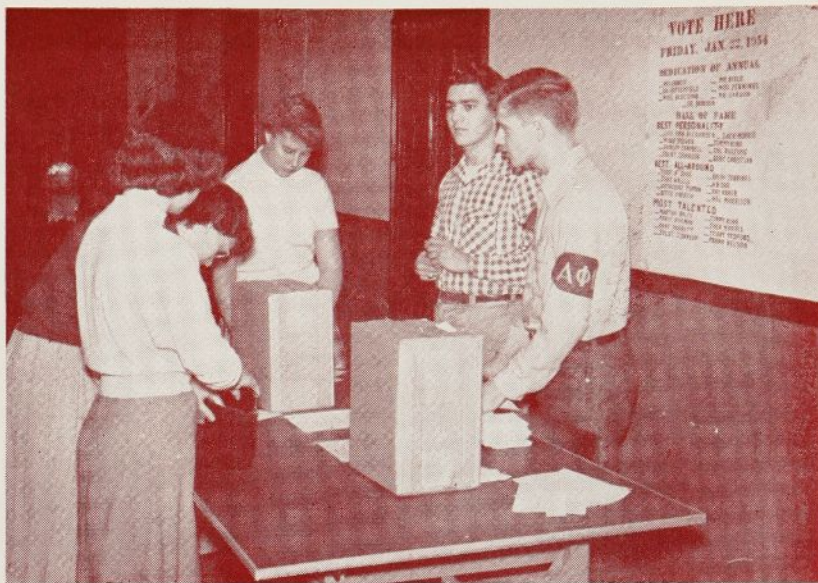
The cooperation and efforts of college and university officials and Scout leaders have been a strong factor in the advancement of Alpha Phi Omega. Through aid in suggesting and planning projects and by service as Faculty and Scouting Advisors, these men have given a tremendous boost to the work of students in each chapter.

The TORCH AND TREFOIL expresses appreciation and best wishes to all members on the thirtieth birthday anniversary of our fraternity.

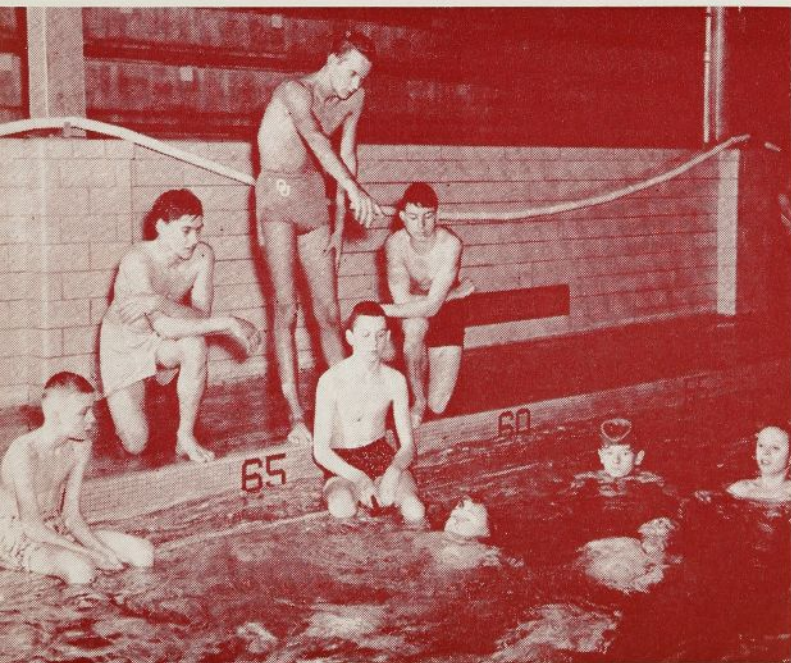
SERVICE TO STUDENT BODY AND FACULTY

Being a campus organization, our biggest field of service is on the campus. Shown here is a student election in progress at East Tennessee State College with members of Lambda Alpha Chapter at work. Manning the polls and counting the ballots numerous APO chapters have been given responsibility for student elections on their campuses.

Other prominent campus projects include the book exchange, lost-and-found service, hospital visitation, aid in freshman registration and orientation, information and guide service, survey of fire hazards, publishing student directory, aiding handicapped students, campus clean-up and beautification, safety campaign, assistance at assemblies and special functions, erecting Christmas trees, assistance at Homecoming, coat-check service, share-the-ride service, aiding foreign students, assisting Religious Emphasis Week, and numerous other projects.



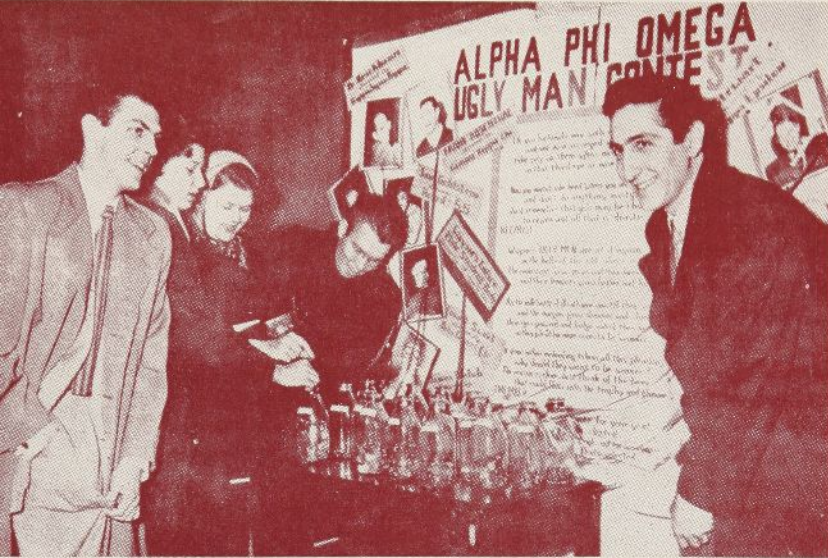
SERVICE TO YOUTH AND COMMUNITY



This field of service is of real value to Scouting and other groups. Pictured here is one example—swimming instruction for Scouts in the college pool conducted by Delta Gamma Chapter at Ohio University. This service is very helpful to Scouts in passing swimming and life-saving tests for advancement.

Some other typical services of chapters to youth and community include a Christmas party for orphans, aid in conducting a Scout camporee, an Explorer visitation day on campus, assistance at Scout circus, promoting CARE, toy drive for children at Christmas, Red Cross blood donor drive, assisting church conferences, securing and donating Thanksgiving baskets for needy, aiding cerebral palsy center, conducting a work project for Scout camp, serving on Boards of Review, giving camperships to deserving Scouts, conducting a Cub kite flying contest, and many other services.

SERVICE TO THE NATION AS CITIZENS



Pictured here is the Ugly Man contest in progress at Wayne University as conducted by Zeta Pi Chapter. One of the most popular events of Alpha Phi Omega, this is a money-raising project from which chapters donate the proceeds to such agencies as the March of Dimes, Save the Children Federation, American Cancer Society, Community Chest, Campus Chest and others. Money from this source has widely diversified use. (Some of them can be classified under campus service.)

Other services to the nation include sales of Christmas Seals and Easter Seals, emphasis that all members of voting age should exercise their franchise at every election, service as alumni through church work, civic clubs, lodge activities, United Fund, boys clubs and other agencies, leadership in the Boy Scouts of America, and many other kinds of service.

SERVICE TO MEMBERS OF THE FRATERNITY

Alpha Phi Omega provides opportunities for leadership through election to offices and committee posts in each chapter and opportunities for association with Scout-trained men. Our fraternity also provides valuable experience gained from service work and the close friendships which come from working together on projects. Fellowship through chapter meetings, banquets, outings, and parties is also included in our program.

The picture at right shows awards being given to two pledges of Delta Tau Chapter at the University of New Mexico by the pledgemaster and vice president. Both had given outstanding service and were therefore honored by the chapter. Conferences and conventions and interchapter meetings are also a service to the individual members giving opportunity for fellowship with students from other campuses and the experiences which come from helping plan and participate in these meetings.



Publications of Alpha Phi Omega



In thirty years of progress, five major publications have been developed for chapter use. The handy little pamphlet, "Questions and Answers About Alpha Phi Omega," gives concise information to prospective new members. The Pledge Manual is studied by pledges in preparation for becoming active members. The Manual of Administration is the handbook for chapter officers, advisors and committee chairmen. The National Bulletin is the newsletter distributed to chapter leaders. The TORCH AND TREFOIL, published eight times a year, is the magazine of Alpha Phi Omega for active members, advisors, honorary members and life members, and is the principal medium of exchange of ideas about chapter service projects.



Alpha Phi Omega

National Service Fraternity

National President

M. R. DISBOROUGH
431 WEST LIBERTY STREET
LOUISVILLE 2, KENTUCKY

December 1, 1955

Dear Brothers:

Hearty congratulations to you and the more than 48,000 other members who have had a part in building Alpha Phi Omega during the thirty years' history of our beloved fraternity. The combined efforts of chapter officers, active members, advisors, pledges and alumni, along with our national leaders, have achieved outstanding success.

The glorious record of Alpha Phi Omega is related in the pages of this anniversary issue of TORCH AND TREFOIL. Everyone who is affiliated should be thrilled about the accomplishments and the progress of our brotherhood.

As has been true since our founding in 1925, our service program today stands as the most important achievement of our organization, a program which has become a vital part of the campus life of the United States and has spread to the Philippines. I hope the time will come when the spirit and program of Alpha Phi Omega will be found on college campuses in every nation around the globe.

The future holds a great challenge for us. Our past work and experiences provide a foundation for continued expansion of our program of Leadership, Friendship and Service.

Let's begin our thirty-first year with vision as to the needs of others and with determination to build our fraternity to new heights. I sincerely wish for you, personally, the finest enjoyment and success in your continued activities in Alpha Phi Omega.

Fraternally yours,

M. R. Disborough

National President