

ΑΦΩ Section 89

Special Interest Articles:

- APO Reaches Out.
- Alumni Association: Why have one?
- Dreaming the Possibilities: An article by our National President.

Individual Highlights:

- Letter from Peri 2
- Alumni Assoc. 3
- Calendar 3
- National Pres. 4
- Chapter Updates 5-6

Jerry Schroeder: Fall '05 Pledge Class Namesake

A challenge for this fall's pledge class

I challenge this year's pledges... to serve the nation by sharing Alpha Phi Omega with more students on their campuses. Specifically, I urge each pledge to replace himself or herself by recruiting another student for next spring's pledge class.

I can think of

no greater service to the nation than to have more college students providing more service to their communities, to the homeless, to disadvantaged students -- and eventually becoming participating citizens who continue to exemplify our cardinal principles in their adult

lives.

The young men and young women of Alpha Phi Omega are, in the words of the 2004 Pledge Class Namesake, Togo West, 'wonderful people who can set positive examples.' What better gift to our nation than thousands more such wonderful people?"

~Jerry Schroeder

APO Reaches Out to Hurricane Victims

Alpha Phi Omega is an organization built upon the concept of helping others. Over the past few weeks, the need for help has skyrocketed and has left many of us asking, "How?" Here are a few ideas of how to aid the victims of the Hurricane.

1. Raise Funds For A Charity Helping With Relief Efforts.
2. Connect with local chapters of national charities (the Red Cross, Salvation Army, etc.) to see if there are particular efforts you can help with.
3. Later, there may be a need for food and/or other items you can collect so continue to check the charities' websites.
4. Support Local Volunteers Assisting With Relief Efforts. Connect with local chapters of national charities to see if there are local volunteers heading to/returning from the disaster area who you can support in various ways (care packages, welcome home celebrations, etc.); also see if there are ways to support volunteers' families.
5. Create A Large Card or Banner Thanking Relief Workers and/or to Let Victims Know We're Thinking of Them.
6. Donate Blood.
7. Have A Moment of Silence.

Use the, "Emergency Response Project," category on the service database to tell us about your project so we'll know what APO has done to aid in the relief efforts:
http://members.apo.org/service/service_reporting.php

Hello to all of you after a long, deserved summer vacation! There have been so many different thoughts running through my head due to developments in the world, locally, and in the Fraternity, that it has been very difficult to think of what to write for my back to school article. Therefore, I guess I will just touch on little pieces, and hope that it forms a semblance of a cohesive article.

Hurricane Katrina: I know that all of you have seen and heard stories of the devastated lands of the South. It's rather disturbing to see places some of us traveled during the 2002 convention in New Orleans either destroyed or heavily damaged. I would ask of each chapter to do a service project, if you haven't already, to either raise money or goods for the victims of Mother Nature. The National Office is requesting that you submit any projects for Hurricane Disaster Relief to: http://members.apo.org/service/service_reporting.php.

Open Membership: One of the biggest issues upcoming is the new Open Membership policy. Male-only chapters will cease to exist. This will be a hot-topic at the Region I/II conference, as there are 3 Male-Only chapters in our borders. A letter has already been sent out to chapters, informing everyone about this upcoming change.

New Board Structure: Another item of interest is the possibility of a new National Board Structure. The idea is to have less people sit on the Board. The current look has an undergraduate member, 2 Region Directors, 5 or 6 Program Directors, the National Vice-President, the National President, and 3 people from outside of the Fraternity. It's in planning stages at the moment, and is not changing without more research and discussion.

Membership: Rush is upon us. The fraternity is asking that we continue the Net+2 program that was established last year. This means that however big your membership is, you should try to get that many pledges, plus 2.

Paperwork: PLEASE get your paperwork in on time! Remember, 10 business days for pledge and activation paperwork, and November 15th for Charter Reaffirmations and Annual Active Membership Dues (AAMDs).

Same Page: The Same Page Program is still in effect. Booklets should be sent to your chapter, demonstrating how to fill out forms, which form is which, and how much money should be sent in with each form. If your chapter has not seen this booklet, please contact me ASAP.

Sectionals: MonAPoly will be held in the North country of NY the weekend of November 4-6, 2005 at St. Lawrence University. Information should be sent out to chapters in the beginning to mid-September. Please attend, there will be LOTS to discuss at the business meeting this fall.

Regionals: Mark your calendars! "Service on the High Seas" will be held in Albany from December 28-30, 2005. Information will be arriving soon to your chapter mailbox. The Region I/II Conference sounds like it will be an amazing time!

Baby Graham: Graham is the child of a family who I've met and am friends with. Graham has had a very tough first year of life battling many severe heart conditions. He has had to undergo numerous surgeries, and he has still pulled through despite these hardships. Graham is having another surgery today, and my heart just bleeds. My personal goal is to try to raise money for Graham and his family, so please stay tuned.

I do hope you all have an excellent semester! Study hard and go wild during rush!

Peri Nelson

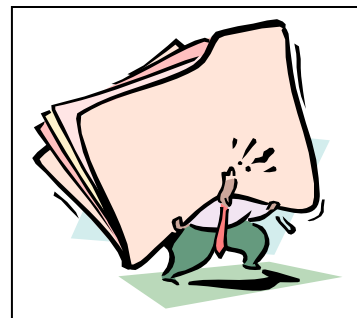
Alumni Associations- Why Have One?

Through the history of Section 89, there has been an assortment of alumni associations. Through the next few newsletters we will talk about what kinds of alumni associations are out there and how to form them. To begin with, on a basic level there are now 3 different types: Some have been chapter based while others have been location based and now just recently we have created a new type of alumni association- the electronic version! The purpose behind these associations is it is a way for those who have graduated and

moved into a new phase of life to stay involved with APO in a different fashion. For some, getting involved as a staff person is a way to stay active, but for others there may not be that interest- or time.... So instead they join an alumni association!

Chapter based alumni associations allow people from the same chapter to keep in touch. For chapters- these groups can be great resources. Consider next time you have a CPPC, asking the alumni to provide food or to run a section so that all brothers can participate

equally. Remember those in the alumni association were in your spot once as active members of the chapter- they understand that the chapter is yours to do with as you see fit at this time, but they also may have an explanation of why things are done a certain way- so remember to ask them! If your chapter doesn't currently have an association- and would like more information about the process- there is information on the national web site or you can contact Blondie at: blondie@apo89.org



Workload too heavy? Ask alumni to help!

Don't Miss Out!

September 17 - President's Meeting

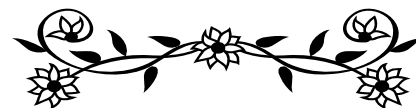
November 6-12- National Service Week - Theme "Building Safer Homes"

November 4-6 - Section 88/89 Conference at St. Lawrence University (Kappa Phi Chapter)

November 15 - AAMD and Charter Reaffirmation Due

November 15 - NSW Reporting Due

December 28-30 - Region I/II Conference Albany, NY (Alpha Delta Eta Chapter)



In memoriam
Heather Rae Rivera
Epsilon Gamma Chapter

Dreaming the Possibilities: An Excerpt from a Three Part Series by Our National President

"I ask that you take the opportunity to dream of the possibilities for your chapter and its members."

Rosamund Stone Zander and Benjamin Zander, in their book "The Art of Possibility" say this, "In the measurement world, you set a goal and strive for it. In the universe of possibility, you set the context and let life unfold." It is your challenge this year to unfold, imagine, and pursue the possibilities for Alpha Phi Omega on your campus....

During the past national convention you heard words like strategic, vision, mission, change, culture. Many used these words to help describe what was needed for Alpha Phi Omega to succeed. Those words were used over and over again and for the past seven months your national

leadership has been creating a framework so we can put these words into action. Now it is your chapter's opportunity to develop its framework...

The possibilities are endless and there are glorious opportunities for Alpha Phi Omega and community service by chapters throughout the country. You will see glorious possibilities and opportunities on your campuses as you connect with the Fraternity's long-term objectives of SHARE, GROW, IMPROVE, and INVEST. Explore changes that will ultimately give Alpha Phi Omega a stronger position on your campus and with your community's volunteer service agencies.

The Zanders say "the

frames our minds create, define - and confine - what we perceive to be possible". I want to encourage each of you not to allow your minds to confine you and your chapter's thinking as we travel down this road of exploring possibilities. I ask that you take the opportunity to dream of the possibilities for your chapter and its members....

And I ask that you take this opportunity to help our Fraternity realize the possibilities for your chapter and its members. As a Chinese Proverb says "Let not the opportunity pass, for it may not return."

In Service & Brotherhood,
Fred

Two Mu Lambda Brothers Victims of the Hurricane



Mu Lambda brothers in New Orleans. Pooja, top center, and Romeo, bottom row in black

Two years ago, New Orleans played host to many APO brothers for our National Convention. I, along with 12 other Mu Lambda's, spent one of the

best weeks of my life there. The city was beautiful and everyone was so nice. However, no one's hospitality topped that of our hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Galang, the parents of Mu Lambda alumni Romeo Galang. They allowed us all to sleep in their house and spoiled us with a buffet of the finest New Orleans cuisine. Their hospitality was boundless. Now, that home that provided us with so much is no more. Another Mu Lambda alumnus, Pooja Dhume, was affected as well. She was my Grand-big and was

always there for me. Now it's my turn to be there for her. I know all of you are looking for some way to help. All I'm asking of you is to send a card from your chapter wishing them well. APO was such a large part of both Pooja and Romeo's lives. Please send all cards (or donations if you wish) to:

Sara Missell
26 Riga St.
Rochester, NY 14615

Thank you for all of your generosity!

Mu Lambda Has Busy Spring Semester

by Colin Brown

The Spring Semester was one of the busiest on record for APO Service Projects. The Mu Lambda Chapter completed over 1670 hours of service in a number of projects. Some of the highlights from the past semester:

Three service projects during rush

Mu Lambda continued its close work with the Boy Scouts, helping at the Klondike Derby and helping with the annual Scouting for Food project.

Brothers worked on a regular basis with a number of local

agencies, including Alternatives for Battered Women, Sojourner House, Ronald McDonald House, and Foodlink.

The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life had a team from Mu Lambda ; the chapter raised \$1685, led by Laura Teicher (AB) with \$440.

Ugly Man on Campus raised nearly \$700. Off-Broadway On Campus won again, and the money went toward Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS

Mu Lambda also spent a lot

of time having fun in the Spring Semester. Some highlights:

The annual Formal Dance, this year at the Rochester Science Museum

An anti-Valentine's Day party for a dozen or so brothers without special V-Day plans, with dinner (Italian) and a movie (Invasion of the Body Snatchers).

Road Rally, a Rochester Amerks hockey game, and a number of invasions of local restaurants, both planned and impromptu.



Mu Lambda at the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life

What's Happening Over In Brockport

By Amy Masterman

Iota Omega would like to thank everyone who was able to come to our Sectional Conference in April! We had an amazing turn out with over 250 brothers joining together for a fantastic weekend of Brotherhood.

With the events of Sectionals now over, we have still been keeping very busy over here at SUNY Brockport. At the end of the Spring semester, Iota Omega was presented with several awards by the campus at the Annual Student

Leadership Awards Ceremony. The chapter was awarded with the "Most Community Service Events". Amy Masterman and Dana Dixon were awarded "Who's Who Among Colleges and Universities". Jennifer Fowler, Amy Masterman and Dana Dixon were accepted into the Nationals Greek honors society, Order of Omega. Iota Omega also took all awards in academics with Ryan Brand receiving the award for highest male Greek GPA, Katy Pezzimenti with the highest female Greek GPA

and the chapter with the overall highest Greek GPA.

Our chapter has many events planned for the upcoming months including Habitat for Humanity, Load and Ladle Soup Kitchen, College bowl and many more. As a part of our recruitment, we will be collecting money for hurricane relief and encourage all chapters to help those in need in any way they can. We hope to see members of local chapters at Sectionals in St. Lawrence and throughout the semester!

"Iota Omega also took all awards in academics."

Gamma Got Served!

Two members from Cornell University's Gamma chapter, Kriselle Santos and Rebecca Lee, attended an exciting SERVE session this summer at the beautiful University of California, Los Angeles campus!

In addition to learning valuable leadership and project management skills and building upon lessons learned at LAUNCH, they had the unique opportunity to connect with brothers from all over California. "We got to see that, in general, APO on the West Coast is a lot different demographically and organizationally," says Lee, "but at the same time, we discovered that no matter where we are

located, we share many of the same ideals."

Santos and Lee walked away from SERVE with many great ideas from both the interactive presentations given by the alumni volunteers as well as advice from fellow brothers. One integral component of SERVE was working in a small group and planning a simulated chapter project, which included such steps as formulating a vision, setting goals, and mapping out all details.

Santos notes "although the experience was tiring mentally and physically, we had a chance to network with many brothers across the nation, as well as form new friendships

that will hopefully tie brothers nationally." Both participants wish to participate in future LEADS courses, as well as encourage brothers to partake in these unique experiences that Alpha Phi Omega offers.

By Jessica Park



Want to Host an APO Leads?

Sign up today at:

<http://www.leadership.apo.org>

Ramblings of a Mad Woman

Sara Missell, Editor... in Chief... in fact, the only editor...

So I thought I would take this opportunity (and a little extra space) to share my two cents about a certain organization that I like to call APO.

As we all know, we are founded upon three principles: Leadership, Friendship, and Service. In this segment, I would like to address the first.

I believe that good leadership is like good coffee... tied up in a sack and thrown over the back of a donkey by Juan Valdez. Or maybe because it should be strong, addicting, and just a little bit sweet.

Without good leadership, organizations fall apart. We must become the support

system for our fraternity, starting right here in our section.

I am so proud of who our section is and what we've become. I have watched individuals grow from pledges to brothers to alumni and beyond and I have yet to be disappointed in what I've seen.

And whereas I am always one to not trust others with responsibility, I have learned that my brothers will always be there.

Theodore Roosevelt once said, "*The best executive is the one who has sense enough to pick good men to do what he wants done, and self-restraint to keep from meddling with them while*

they do it."

I ask, as hard as it may be sometimes, to have faith in your brothers and the leadership that they possess. A wise man once said something about trees and roots and supporting each other and blah blah blah. From what I actually listened to, he had a good point.

So I challenge you this semester to step up to the plate of leadership, keep your eye on the big picture, and use the support of those around you to have a homerun of a leadership-ful semester!

SERVICE RIGHT NOW!

by Jordan Neuringer
jordan@apo89.org

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back... it's a new school year, and great things are brewing... I am the new Section 89 Service Coordination, and I have great hopes for this year! In addition to National Service Week, and our usual Section 89 projects, this year there's going to be an interchapter service exchange, where chapters will be given the ability to invite other chapters to their more-unique service projects. But, more about all of these things later in this article...

HURRICANE KATRINA

By now you've Hurricane Katrina has affected all of us. Whether we have family from the area, know someone, or have met one of the displaced students now attending school in Western New York, we all know someone who was affected by the storm. Many chapters have been doing service to benefit Katrina victims: selling hurricane relief bracelets, living in shanty towns, collecting food, and more. I'd like to encourage all chapters to do SOMETHING with the proceeds benefiting one of the charities helping Katrina victims. If you need ideas, there are some on the National web page (www.apo.org), and I have a few myself for any chapter that asks. We'd like to hear about your Katrina-specific projects. Please send specifics (and pictures) to: service@apo89.org with the word "Katrina" in the subject line. Your projects will be compiled and printed in a future issue of this newsletter, and submitted to the National Office for potential inclusion in Torch & Trefoil.

SECTION SERVICE PROJECTS

Our Fall Section 89 Service Project will be co-hosted by Epsilon Sigma chapter at Buffalo and by Chi Pi chapter at Fredonia. Our Spring Section 89 Service Project will be hosted by Epsilon Nu chapter at Oswego. As soon as more details are available, they will be sent on to the chapters. I would like to see delegations from ALL of our Section 89 chapters participating in these Section projects... make a little time, the trips will be worth it!

NATIONAL SERVICE WEEK

It's time to start planning for National Service Week. This year, NSW is November 6-12, 2005, and the theme is "Making Safer Homes". Now, ideally, the project should take place during National Service Week, but the Fraternity understands school calendars, and encourages chapters to do their projects as close to that week as possible. Many projects fall under the "Making Safer Homes" theme: there are many ideas on the National Office webpage (www.apo.org), and I have some myself for any chapter having trouble. Many of these ideas may even be related to Hurricane Katrina relief. The important thing is that each chapter plan and accomplish SOMETHING. Even more important is that you report it: Reports are due by November 15, 2005, and can be submitted at http://members.apo.org/service/service_reporting.php for online submission. Last year we had 100% reporting (from all Section 89 chapters) for NSW... This year, I expect no less. So, plan something and do it... (and drop me a line at service@apo89.org to invite the section, and let us know what you're planning!)

SECTION SERVICE EXCHANGE

Although any service project can be great, wouldn't it be better if we could invite Brothers from other chapters to participate? It's always great to do service with more volunteers! In this spirit, I present to you the concept of a Section 89 Service Exchange. Later this semester, I intend to have a web form up and running so chapters will be able to submit their larger service opportunities, and have them posted in calendar form for the whole section to see. This way, if one chapter has a "free day", they might roadtrip to another chapter, and help them out with a project. Also, if a chapter picked out a project, and finds out that they "bit off a little more than they can chew", they can ask the Section for help with manpower. In the meantime, I encourage all Service VPs and Service Chairs to send me an email to service@apo89.org with the word "Calendar" in the subject with the *Who, What, Where, and Whens* of their larger scheduled projects for immediate distribution to the chapters via email. It's a great feeling to do service... it's an even better feeling to share it!

WEAR YOUR SERVICE PIN

No matter what anyone says, and no matter what descriptions anyone adds, we are above-all a Service Fraternity. Our major symbol of this is our Service Pin. I strongly encourage everyone to wear their Service Pins, not only for meetings and formal occasions, but at service projects, during rush, going to class, and anywhere you may be. It shows your fellow students that you are "actively participating in our program of **service**". Remember, the "S" stands for Service... It is a service to the Fraternity just to wear the pin. It also can be the start of many conversations... maybe even with someone who you might someday call "Brother"!

With that, I stand down from my soapbox, welcome you all back to this new school year, and encourage you to do something *great* this semester... for yourselves, for your chapters, for your campus and community, and for the world!

Do you have any friends going to school at

**Lemoyne College (Syracuse area),
Medaille College (Buffalo area),
or SUNY Cortland?**

Would they be interested in being involved with Alpha Phi Omega?

If so, contact Christine Sugrue, Membership Coordinator, at membership@apo89.org.

Section 89 Alpha Phi Omega
7300 Cedarpost Road, Apt B15
Liverpool, NY 13088

