

# KAPPA PSI



a  
Professional  
Fraternity

## Greetings!

Your presence here indicates your interest in fraternities and in fraternity living. Since you have chosen to become a prospective practitioner of the time-honored profession of Pharmacy, it is important that you further develop your person as well as your knowledge. Becoming a fraternity member is one of the best ways of accomplishing this. Kappa Psi has prepared this booklet of information on the fraternity system and has included some material on its own background. With the help of this information, we sincerely hope that you may be better able to choose the fraternity into which you best fit. Weigh the advantages and opportunities offered you by each fraternity and then, on a more sound basis, make your choice.

Presented to:

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Compliments of

..... Chapter

of

KAPPA PSI PHARMACEUTICAL FRATERNITY

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(date)

## What Is a College Fraternity?

A college fraternity is an intimate association of individuals having similar interests, ideals and objectives. These persons are bound together by voluntary bonds which create a united brotherhood—usually for life. As brothers, they learn to live together, work together and assume the responsibilities of a free society. A true fraternity will develop a person scholastically, socially and politically by creating an atmosphere stimulating to intellectual achievement, and by giving him a concentrated experience in human association.

## What Is a Professional Fraternity?

The professional fraternity is unique in that it makes available all of the benefits of fraternal affiliation and offers, in addition, the opportunity for attainment of greater professional competency and achievement within one's chosen field. The professional fraternity limits its membership to those studying for a particular profession such as pharmacy, law, dentistry, medicine, music, etc. The professional fraternity requires a certain level of scholastic achievement of each prospective member and then provides an environment conducive to continued scholarly pursuit. Members of a professional fraternity will usually find a closer relationship with faculty members, alumni members and with practitioners of the profession. The social functions and contacts, and the opportunity to develop those qualities of leadership so necessary to the growth and development of a young man, are readily available in Kappa Psi as in any other fraternal organization. Some of the strongest professional chapters found in Kappa Psi across the United States are those that also offer a wide range of social and extra-curricular activities. Professional fraternities of recognized standing are members of the Professional Interfraternity Conference. Kappa Psi was the first pharmaceutical fraternity to affiliate with this conference.

## **What Is Meant By Rushing and Pledging A Fraternity?**

In order to obtain new members each fraternity periodically extends an invitation to eligible students to visit with its members. This is known as "Rushing." On most campuses, an Interfraternity Council or similar organization, sets up rules for rushing and determines the "rush periods." The purpose of "rushing" is to allow the rushees and the Brothers to get to know more about each other.

Following this "rush period", if the rushees and the brothers prove to have common interests and objectives, an invitation may be extended to the rushee to become a prospective member. Upon acceptance of the invitation, the prospective member is now called a "pledge."

The "pledge period" is a probationary one during which the pledges are instructed in the history and aims and ideals of his chosen fraternity. During this period they begin to experience the true meaning of fellowship both with their fellow pledges as well as with their prospective Brothers. Also during this period, the Brothers may require them to perform certain chores the proper fulfillment of which will demonstrate his perseverance and maturity. These assigned chores should be intelligent and prudent in nature, and must not constitute "hazing."

During the pledge period the pledges have the opportunity to evaluate themselves and the Brothers-to-be and to have any doubts or questions cleared up before they take the oath of membership. The pledgship is a trial period, and during this time the pledge is required to submit to the authority of his more experienced Brothers. One of the chief purposes of the pledge period is to teach all prospective Brothers the necessity for respecting and obeying the regulations and laws of organized groups which are established for the good of their members.

## **What About Hazing????**

Hazing implies the imposition of disagreeable tasks on the pledge for the purpose of humbling and humiliating him. There was a time when many fraternities mistakenly resorted to this practice. The extent of the practice depended to a large degree on the traditions of the particular campus as well as on the fraternity itself. The Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity has outlawed any act which might be classified as hazing for these acts have no place in an organization of professional persons and mature individuals. A pledge period is intended to develop and strengthen a pledge's character, and not build a relationship of subservient discipline.

Kappa Psi pledges do not relinquish any of their moral or religious ideals, social or legal rights, political beliefs, or their family or personal relationships. Prospective members must learn as much as possible about the Fraternity and take an active part in all ventures of the Fraternity in which pledges are permitted to participate. It is well to remember that the approach to membership should be one in which the pledge is prepared to work hard for the betterment of the Fraternity and pharmacy rather than the expectation of personal gain.

## **How Much Will It Cost????**

The cost of fraternity membership varies from one campus to another and even from one chapter to another. Kappa Psi has a standard national initiation fee which includes the initiation charge and a subscription to its quarterly publication, THE MASK. In some chapters a lapel pin or badge is included. In addition there is a nominal, national monthly per capita assessment payable to the Central Office only during the school term. Some chapters may also require a house tax or social fees. As a prospective pledge it is wise to inquire just what will be the total cost of membership in a given fraternity.

## What Does Membership In Kappa Psi Mean?

Each chapter of Kappa Psi Fraternity is essentially an autonomous unit. While it is governed by its own By-Laws, these must conform rather closely to the National Constitution. Chapters participate actively in the national government of the fraternity through delegates who attend the biennial meetings or Grand Council Conventions. This develops a close bond between the members of the more than 60 Collegiate & 30 Graduate chapters of Kappa Psi throughout the United States. To offer further opportunity for the exchange of ideas and the practice of good fellowship, the country is divided into ten regions, called Provinces, which meet in the interim between Conventions of The Grand Council.

A person becomes a member of Kappa Psi for LIFE, not just the duration of his college years. Upon graduation, many members of Kappa Psi maintain an active relationship with the fraternity through membership in one of the Graduate Chapters. Through Graduate Chapter membership they serve their fraternity and the profession in numerous ways.

The national organization encourages and recognizes high scholarship by making annual awards of two types. One is the Grand Council Gold Key for outstanding achievement (awarded to the Kappa Psi man graduating first in his class) and the Scholarship Honors Certificate awarded to men in Kappa Psi who achieve a "B" average or better in their fourth or fifth year.

## Kappa Psi The Oldest and Largest National Pharmaceutical Fraternity

Now that we have answered a few of your questions about the fraternity system and no doubt raised other questions which the members will be glad to answer for you, perhaps you would like to know a bit about the history of our fraternity.

Kappa Psi Fraternity was founded on May 30, 1879 at the Russell Military Academy in New Haven, Connecticut. Initially it was a literary Greek Letter Society which evolved into a medical-pharmaceutical fraternity and continued as such until 1924. At that time, by mutual agreement, the members of both professions decided to separate into two distinct groups. The medical group became Theta Kappa Psi, the pharmaceutical group retained the name Kappa Psi.

Today, Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity has over 45,000 members, 64 Collegiate Chapters at colleges and universities throughout the United States and 41 Graduate Chapters in the various cities and states. Many men prominent in pharmaceutical circles, both locally and nationally, are members of Kappa Psi. Thousands of Kappa Psi members are actively serving in all areas of their chosen profession: in teaching and research, in colleges and in industry, in the U. S. Public Health Service, the Armed Forces and government agencies, as well as in hospital and community pharmacy. You will find Kappa Psi Brothers in every state and in almost every important city in the country as well as foreign countries.

Not only was Kappa Psi the first national pharmaceutical fraternity, it is the world's largest pharmaceutical fraternity.



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