

TROJAN PHI SIG



A Publication for Alumni by the Omega Deuteron Chapter of Phi Sigma Kappa at USC | 928 W. 28th St., Los Angeles, CA



Kurt Olsen '76, Mark Ukra '77, Dan Longo '78, and Mark Wille '77 enjoy a round of golf in Scotland.

WHAT IS BROTHERHOOD?

Here's An Example!

150th British Open (and Other Alumni Memories)

The 150th British Open at St. Andrews was their ultimate destination when Brothers **Dan Longo '78**, **Kurt Olsen '76**, **Mark Ukra '77**, and **Mark Wille '77** traveled to Scotland. Golfing buddies since USC, they managed to play a round or two every day. On this trip, one highlight was playing at the Wicks' Golf Club course, established in 1880.

These alumni also frequently play golf together a bit closer to home. It's always a "friendly" game: no betting unless it's on who buys the beer at the 19th hole.

Along with fellow 1970s Omega Deuteron alumni, they also gather for poker games or other outings now and then. When they do, it always seems like they "just saw each other yesterday." They always fall back into their old fraternity habits and reminisce about old times and what's happened since.

Outside of gatherings, these four also stay well-connected with a larger group of USC alumni through WhatsApp—many on a near-daily basis.

Now that's PSK alumni brotherhood!

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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Zack Cauz '25

Vice President
Conor Hines '26

Treasurer
Ryan Trudeau '25

Inductor
Tony Olivares '25

Secretary
Michael Tonelli '25

Sentinel
Charlie Simpson '26

From the Alumni Chairman

My name is **Matt Ingles '27**, and it's a pleasure to introduce myself as the chapter's newest alumni chairman. I'm a freshman studying politics, philosophy, and law, and I was initiated in the fall as a member of the Omega pledge class.

When I joined, I didn't expect to take a position like this so soon—but I'm glad I did. Getting to meet and connect with alumni and learn about their experiences, not only as brothers but also as people, is truly a special experience and one I don't take for granted.

We'll be sending out three newsletters this year; expect the next two in summer and fall. As the chapter continues to grow and expand, we've recognized the importance of improving the quality of the newsletter and our alumni events.

We're bringing back the alumni golf tournament, currently scheduled for **April 13!** We have a great course picked out, and I hope to see many of you there!

We'll also host the annual alumni dinner at the chapter house later this year, so stay tuned. If you have any input on the newsletter or our chapter, reach out. I look forward to continuing this relationship long after my time in this role (and in the chapter house) is done.

Damn Proud,
Matt Ingles '27
mattingles4@gmail.com



HELPING BROTHERS GROW

Tony Vassilian '23 Explains His Job as Resident Greek Advisor

When **Tony Vassilian '23** was still a pledge with Omega Deuteron, his dorm RA was an early source of inspiration. Now in graduate school at USC, Tony's excited to have a similar role as Phi Sigma Kappa's Resident Greek Advisor. "It has been a great opportunity to serve a place where I spent so much time during my formative years as I continue at Keck School of Medicine."

Tony tried recruitment as a junior, hoping to find a diverse group and inspired by his older brother's fraternity experience. Phi Sigma Kappa introduced him to people from many backgrounds and fields of study. "Having people with differing viewpoints, values, and interests furthered my development."

The brotherhood helped Tony come out of his introverted shell, and as he decided to pursue medicine (not a common track in USC Greek life), he strove to advise younger pre-med brothers, including organizing a chapter trip to Palm Springs.

Tony loves to reminisce on the spontaneous hangouts of playing outside, gathering in each other's rooms, or just hanging out before a party. "When it comes down to favorite memories, it was the days where I could escape the stresses of pursuing medicine with some of my best friends."

BEING A RESOURCE

Tony's goal as advisor is to be a mature and present figure in the chapter house to rely on. "As someone who worked with the USC football team as an athletic trainer, took advantage of research opportunities, and benefited from connecting with faculty, I believe I'm well-versed in navigating the school and understanding how best to catapult your future." His regular duties involve getting to know and advise brothers and the executive board, helping them work toward a common goal, and ensuring associate members adapt well to college and fraternity life.

It has also been a learning experience for Tony, who likes to be hands-on. "That is not the role of an advisor—I can voice an opinion, but at the end of the day it's up to the members to make and learn from decisions."



His room is always open while he is at the house, complete with a stocked fridge and an Xbox for brothers who want to hang out or ask for advice. A favorite moment came from an "Around the World" brotherhood event, where his room served as Italy.

"Helping people is a passion that inspires my medicine career, so both advising younger pre-meds or helping guys understand there's more to life than school just make me happy."

THE FUTURE

What sets fraternities apart from social clubs, in Tony's view, is how members connect on multiple levels. "People who join fraternities are in the formative years of their lives. It's vital to have a group who supports you in that journey."

As an undergraduate and now a young alumnus, Tony enjoys meeting alumni at tailgates and golf tournaments. He plans to continue supporting Omega Deuteron brothers in the years beyond his advisor role. Tony also enjoys being active outdoors, cooking to de-stress, and playing video games with brothers or friends back home.

"Phi Sigma Kappa is an organization that builds you into the man you want to be," Tony said. "By being an active member, you will meet friends for life, go through once-in-a-lifetime experiences, and build your own character. I'm damn proud to be a Phi Sig."

You can connect with Tony at anvassilian@aol.com or on Instagram at [@Anthony_Vassilian](https://www.instagram.com/Anthony_Vassilian).

The '24 Pillow Fight SAGA

After an initial schedule delay, brothers prepared to throw the row's best gathering on February 2, the infamous Pillow Fight.

Associate members promoted the event prior at the UCLA/USC basketball game adorned in their bear onesies and pillows. Everything was looking great, *until it wasn't.*

Our banner that Social Chairman **Jackson McKinley '26** spent hours working on, had been stolen by a rival fraternity. We quickly prepared a new banner, but we should've seen this as a sign of things to come.

TPE set up a stage and screen making the courtyard look like something straight out of Coachella; it was unreal!

Brothers were delighted at the high early turnout, however, tragedy struck when the rain arrived ahead of schedule. TPE had no choice but to cancel before everything had truly begun.

It was on track to be a disaster—but the brothers of Phi Sig quickly pivoted, moving everyone inside. The crowd was bumping with an electric mix and excited to make the most of the evening. The lesson of the night was simple: Omega Deuteron knows how to rally.



Dozing in pillows after making the most of the evening.



Welcome, Fall 2023 NEW MEMBERS

Ben Apple '25 | Georgetown, Ky. | Intelligence and Cyber Operations
Ethan Chang '26 | San Francisco, Calif. | Public Relations
Will Cotts '27 | La Grange, Ill. | Environmental Engineering
Connor Donovan '25 | Jacksonville, Fla. | Economics, Math
Nikhil Harders '26 | Evanston, Ill. | International Relations, Global Business
Rhys Hoskins '27 | Toronto, Canada | Acting
Matt Ingles '27 | Scarsdale, N.Y. | Politics Philosophy and Law
Willy Jou '26 | Carmel Valley, Calif. | Business
Nico Lionelli '26 | St. Louis, Mo. | Economics
Ricky Loaiza '26 | Silver Spring, Md. | Business
Andrew Marolda '27 | San Jose, Calif. | Political Science
Jeet Patel '27 | Naperville, Ill. | Business
Ben Piñeda '26 | Claremont, Calif. | Business
David Rodin '27 | Morristown, N.J. | Arts Tech and the Business of Innovation
Brian Sathy '26 | Los Altos, Calif. | Economics
Matt Sharp '26 | Danville, Calif. | Business
Scott Shimoyama '26 | Palos Verdes, Calif. | Business
Tommy Strauss '27 | Seattle, Wash. | Human Biology
Andrew Villena '26 | San Diego, Calif. | Industrial Engineering
Arlo Willner '27 | New York, N.Y. | Communications
David McQuillen Young '27 | Toronto, Canada | Environmental Science



Excellence Emerges

Great Things Happening at Omega Deuteron

Our recent weekend brotherhood trip to Big Bear was electric! Whether it was eating burgers or hitting the slopes, the boys were fired up and excited to bond, especially with the new pledge class.

Brotherhood morale is at an all-time high. The house has fully bought into the new leadership, and many are showing great commitment by participating in committees and events. Chapter attendance is the best I have seen in my two years, and camaraderie has been incredible. We have a 12,000-square-foot property, and it feels like we are properly making use of it.

Our newest members, the Alpha Alpha pledge class, have shown much enthusiasm for our rituals and values, and we look forward to initiation in May.

Continued alumni support has been instrumental in shaping the success of our fraternity. We look forward to keeping you updated on our progress and sharing more successes in the future.

Damn Proud,
Zack Cauz '25
 Chapter President

[PHI SIG] OPEN

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Saturday, April 13

Roosevelt Golf Course – Griffith Park
2650 N Vermont Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90027

- 9-Hole Game
- Post-Golf Awards
- Networking for Alumni and Actives

Register at the link below!
More details online.

pskgolftournament.causevox.com

Questions? Contact **Bob Frinier '63**,
alumni events co-chairman, at
robert@frinier.net.



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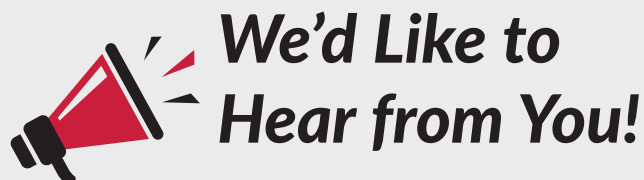
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We'd Like to Hear from You!

Celebrate Your Journey Beyond Campus!

In our newsletters, we want to share alumni achievements, milestones, and adventures beyond college. Your stories might even inspire current members on their life paths (or a fellow alumnus) to reach out and connect. (We'd also love to hear what YOU want to see in the next issue!)

Please send your updates to
updatemyrecord@penningtonco.com with
"PSK SOCAL Alumni Update" in the subject line. Your
news may be featured in a future issue of *Trojan Phi Sig*!

"What's Lawrence Have to Do with Us?"

A reasonable question you may be asking yourself: Why does Omega Deuteron, a Phi Sigma Kappa Chapter at USC, have a mailing address in Lawrence, Kansas, of all places?

Trojan Phi Sig, along with other chapter mailings, is published by Pennington &

Company, an alumni relations company that specializes in fraternity and sorority communications. Located in Lawrence, Pennington works with hundreds of Greek chapters and organizations nationwide, helping us craft the stylish newsletter you're reading right now!

BIG BEAR TRIP 2024

President's Day Weekend, the chapter held its bi-annual brotherhood trip. This semester's was to Big Bear, California, a scenic skiing town approximately 2 1/2 hours from USC surrounding a massive lake. With over 40 brothers and 15 associate members in attendance, many hit the slopes Friday night for some night skiing, while everyone else enjoyed beverages and burgers.

Throughout the weekend, skiing and snowboarding were the focus, with a couple brothers going "first

chair to last chair," meaning they were the first ones on and last ones off the mountain. The non-skiers and snowboarders explored the town, going on hikes and visiting the lake.

Saturday night also included watching the UFC card, playing poker, chilling in the hot tub, and going into town. Sunday morning, everyone packed up, cleaned the house, and returned to USC. Overall, it was a lively and joyful weekend of brotherhood bonding.