For He's An Alpha Sig.

ALPHA SIGMA PHI FRATERNITY



175TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

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Alpha Sigma Phi has always been a singing fraternity. Songs of the class societies of Yale were a point of pride for many Yale groups and Alpha Sigma Phi was no different. Shortly after her founding, the Fraternity set out to show her musical skills around the Yale campus and build an organization that could be passed down from successive sophomore classes and music was to be part of that inheritance. She published a pamphlet of initiation songs in 1846, just a few months after her founding.

As the Fraternity grew beyond Yale College in the 1850s and 1860s, she needed more than just a common name and esoteric ritual to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood and the shared Alpha Sig experience across chapters and miles. Long before even the earliest radios, vinyl records or Thomas Edison's phonograph, Alpha Sigma Phi men were creating, recording and performing songs. Some of the earliest records of the Alpha chapter meetings include literary performances, parodies, plays, poetry recitations and feats of vocal prowess and melodic creativity.

Alpha Sigma Phi's archives contain the definitive collection of Alpha Sigma Phi historic records, artifacts and writings. Perusing that proud collection, one might quickly notice what is believed to be the oldest written record of fraternity songs, a small bound booklet, its cover lost to time, but the Oak Wreath Seal and the title Initiation Songs 1860-1861 both quite clear. Published by Alpha Chapter just a few years before her suppression and rebirth as Delta Beta Xi, the publication lists many songs with lyrics created by Alpha Sigs with some original and many borrowed melodies which would have been familiar to the Yale men of that era.

One tune stands out from that songbook and period. "Wake Freshmen Wake" was originated in the 1860s and was used during the Delta Beta Xi years (1864-1875) as the brothers processed across the Yale campus inviting new members to join the fraternity and singing the song. "Wake Freshmen Wake" remains in our contemporary songbook, some 160 years after it might have been penned, in some part thanks to the Yale Glee Club which was still singing the song over 100 years after the Fraternity originated it. Many chapters use the song today to welcome new members to membership. The Fraternity's presence on the Yale campus ended in 1875, and with it went the knowledge of many of the oldest tunes and melodies; lost to time. Surviving from those years are collections of songs of Alpha chapter at Yale, Delta Chapter at Marietta, and Delta Beta Xi.

With the Second Founding of the Fraternity in 1907, there was an almost immediate need to sing "songs of loyalty and praise" and again the talents of Alpha Sig men took center stage. In 1909 the Fraternity published her first comprehensive songbook, Fraternity Songs, The Songs of $A\Sigma\Phi$ at the direction of the third Grand Chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi, meeting in April of that year at Eta Chapter at the University of Illinois. It featured a cardinal red woven cover and bright golden lettering on the outside and spanned nearly forty pages of Alpha Sig songs, all of them from the period prior to the Fraternity's recent rebirth. Second Founder, Wayne Montgomery Musgrave, Yale 1907, then serving as Grand Junior President, wrote the foreword and took charge of the publication. His foreword notes that only two songs could be attributed to an author and a few songs were just listed with "words and airs" only as "no publisher consulted could furnish the music from which an adaptation could be made." The improved organization and recordkeeping that came with the newly re-founded national fraternity would help future publications to more complete and better attributed.

The Grand Chapters of 1919, 1921 and 1923 appointed committees of brothers from all over the country to assemble an updated songbook that would feature new songs, not those from the period prior to the Second Founding. There was great difficulty reported in assembling the publication as many of the chapters (all within fifteen years of their founding) had developed songs and passed them down from year to year, but very few had written them down and even fewer had written out the arrangements with lyrics and music. With the delay in producing a songbook the convention delegates themselves used their shared audience to perform, learn and teach fraternity songs at the conventions. Attendees will find today's Grand Chapter meetings honor that tradition and continue to showcase the learning, teach and performing of Alpha Sigma Phi songs.

The long wait for a second songbook ended in 1925 and the second edition of the Alpha Sigma Phi songbook was offered in The Tomahawk during the late 1920s for seventy-five cents. Revisions and additions to the songbook took place at the order of the Grand Chapters and were published in 1952 and 1961. By 1961 the price had risen to one dollar for a 56-page book of songs.

The early 1950s also saw the beginning of involvement of Lowell F. Riley, Ohio Wesleyan '32 who had been a new member alongside Executive Secretary Ralph F. Burns, Ohio Wesleyan '32. Brother Riley arranged and introduced the updated songbook, now titled Let's Sing; Songs of Alpha Sigma Phi at the 1952 Grand Chapter to much fanfare – even convincing the Lehigh University chapter's glee club to unveil the arrangements to convention attendees with live performances. Brother Riley would bring Alpha Sigma Phi songs from the page to vinyl during the 1960s.

In June of 1966 Brother Riley and a 20-voice male chorus recorded 28 tracts for an album of Alpha Sigma Phi music. Issued that Fall, Songs of Alpha Sigma Phi affectionately known for its jacket design as the white album, containing 48 minutes of Alpha Sigma Phi music spanning more than 100 years. It was sold from the Fraternity Headquarters for more than thirty years and continues to be the only published recording of Alpha Sigma Phi songs and the vehicle from which many Alpha Sigs became familiar with the Fraternity's rich musical heritage.

A feature story on the history of each song in the songbook can be found here

ΑΣΦ 175

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Hail Sigma Phi

Freshman Song

Sophomore Song

Delta Chapter Song

Wake, Freshman, Wake

50

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WITHIN THE MYSTIC CIRCLE

WORDS BY MUSIC BY

C.B. Ketcham, Ohio Wesleyan 1913 L.M. Morrison, Ohio Wesleyan 1913









EVENING SHADOWS

WORDS & MUSIC BY

William Eben Schultz, Yale 1915





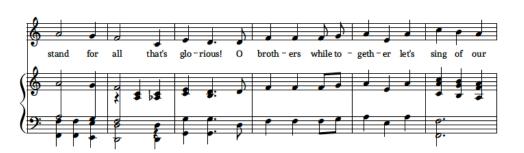
A20 175

OUR BROTHERHOOD

WORDS & MUSIC BY

George .R. Cowgill, Yale 1919



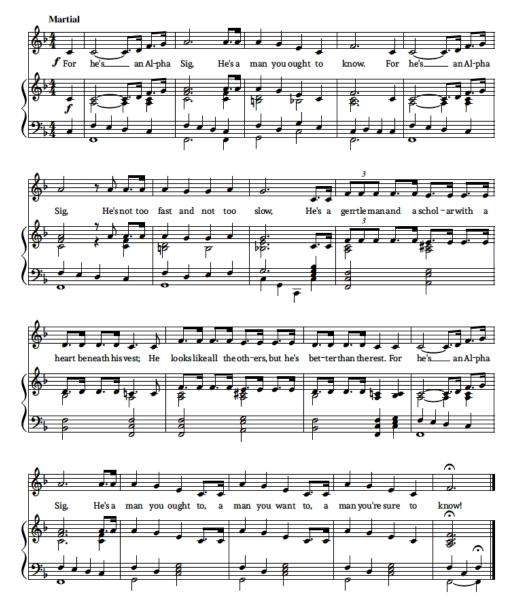




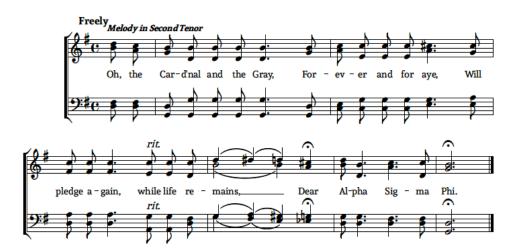
AΣΦ 175

Our Brotherhood, p. 2 for pha Sig - ma Phi, Our hearts with rol song she er shallsup - ply broth-ers the - der rit. Of Phi; ma 1. 2, Sig

FOR HE'S AN ALPHA SIG



CARDINAL AND GRAY





LOYALTY SONG

WORDS BY

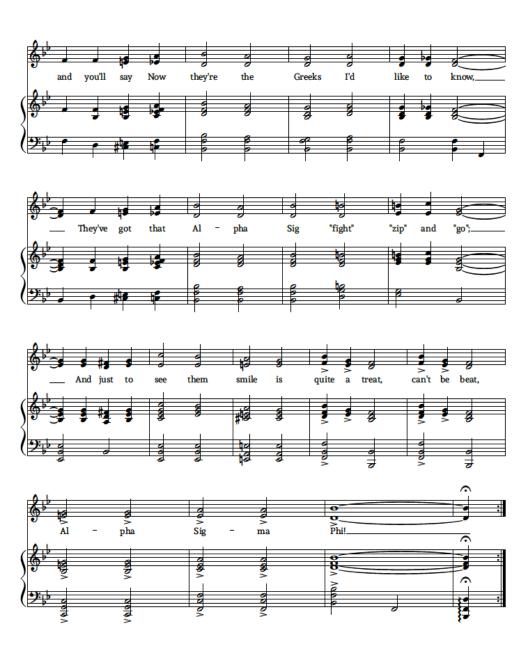
TUNE BY

Ralph Wienke, Missouri Valley 1950

Washington and Lee Swing







PRAISE TO THEE









THE TIE

WORDS BY

MUSIC BY

Wesley H. Hine, Stanford 1921

Myron C. Higby, Stanford 1913









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COME, LET'S GATHER

WORDS BY

MUSIC BY

C.B. Ketcham, Ohio Wesleyan 1913

L.M. Morrison, Ohio Wesleyan 1913



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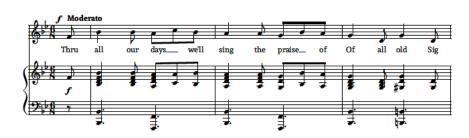
PRAISE ALPHA SIGMA PHI

WORDS BY

MUSIC BY

C.E. Perry, Penn 1921

E.R. Tourison, Jr., Penn 1919













DU-DA





Where has the earth a spot so freend when the girls on Chapel Street

Du-da, du-da Du-da, du-da

As here in Sigma Phi we see A-- Sigma Phi man chance to meet
O de du-da day O de du-da day

Where has dull care so little poweith upturned lip and downcast eye
Du-da, du-da
Du-da, du-da

And flies so fast the passing hou©n him they smile, for him they sigh O de du-da day O de du-da day



HURRAH!

WORDS & MUSIC BY

Kenneth W. Anderson, Middlebury 1925









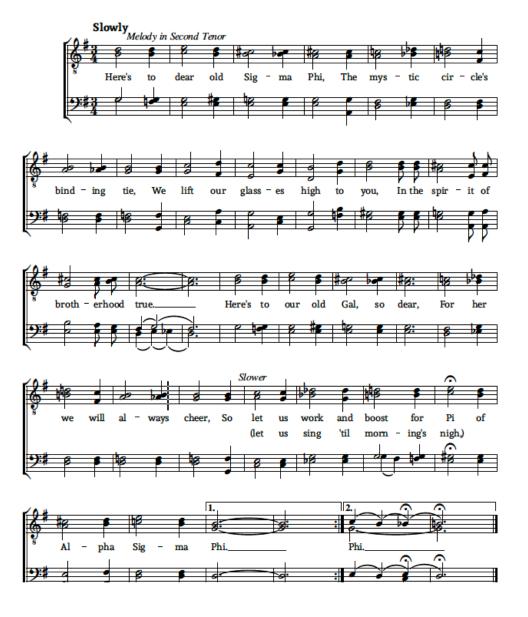




A TOAST



FOND RECOLLECTIONS



TO THE GLORY OF

WORDS BY

Larry Taylor, Stanford 1944 & Norm Hamilton, Stanford 1950

ALPHA SIGMA PHI











THE TABLE'S SET

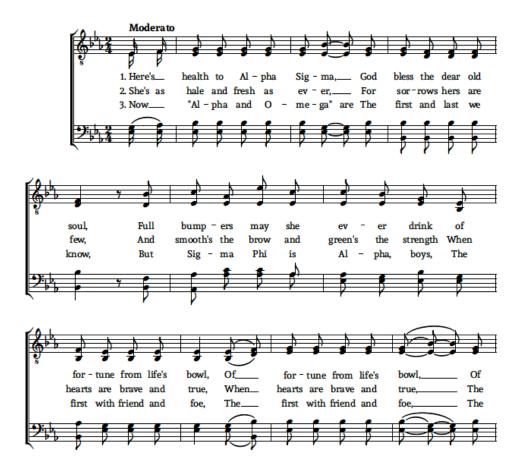


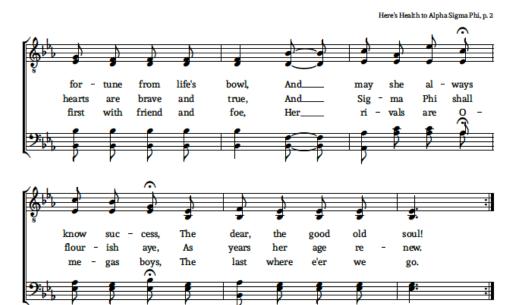




HERE'S HEALTH TO ALPHA SIGMA PHI

From the Yale Collection

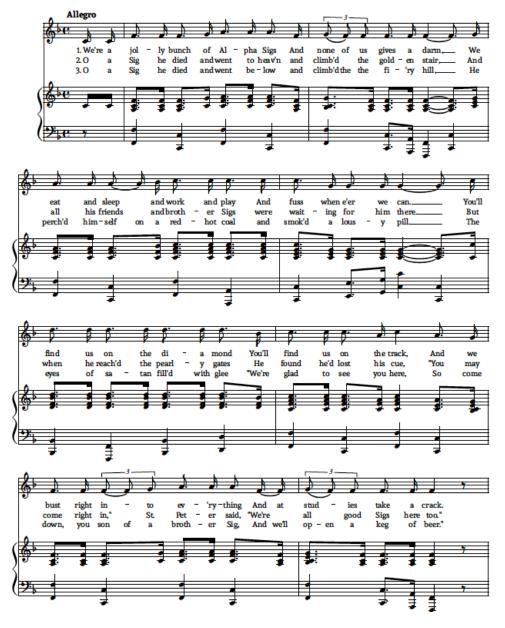




4.
Long live our Alma Mater, may
Her elms wave long and hale!
God bless the pretty girls that sigh
For Alpha's sons of Yale!
We'll cherish e'er the frail,
The proud coquette assail!
The fair and good we'll take to wife
And furnish boys for Yale.

5.
United then a glorious band.
We stand in Sigma Phi;
A mystic bond our hearts entwine
In adamantine tie
In adamantine tie
In adamantine tie
We'll never cease to love and bless
Our Alpha Sigma Phi.

SONS OF ALPHA SIGMA PHI







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A TOAST TO ALPHA SIGMA PHI

WORDS BY

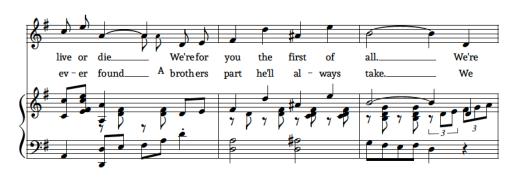
MUSIC BY

Elwood N. Hart, Ohio State 1914

Ralph D. Roehm, Ohio State 1917

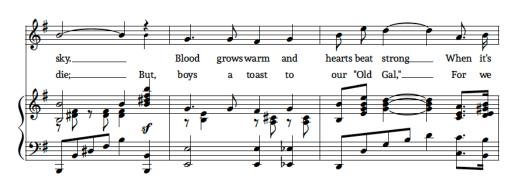


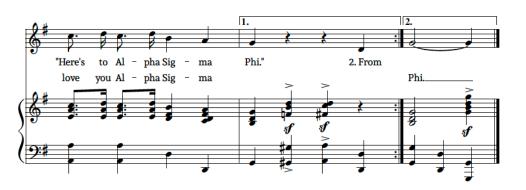




A Toast to Alpha Sigma Phi, p. 2









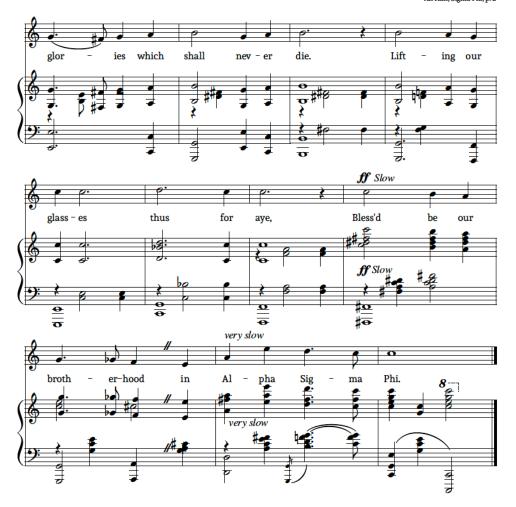
ALL HAIL, SIGMA PHI

WORDS & MUSIC BY

George .R. Cowgill, Yale 1919



All Hail, Sigma Phi, p. 2



SWEETHEART SONG













ALPHA SIG SWEETHEART

WORDS & MUSIC BY

David Strckler, Ohio Wesleyan 1930 & George Tod, Ohio Wesleyan 1930







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THE SWEETEST GIRL

WORDS BY

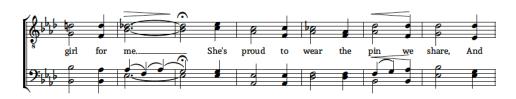
MUSIC BY

Clinton Brown, Purdue 1940

Robert H. Matthew, Purdue 1947













IN SIGDOM'S NAME

WORDS BY

MUSIC BY

Wm. F. Connelly, Penn 1915 Ellwod V. Frayne, Penn 1917





In Sigdom's Name, p. 2



In Sigdom's Name, p. 3



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HAIL SIGMA PHI

WORDS BY M

MUSIC BY

H.D. Altsius, Yale 1911

G.A. Relman, Yale 1911



Hail Sigma Phi, p. 2 Life high might y cry, loy - al Sigs Yale, ye of Come, fire light's gleam ing, 'mid Al-pha's sac-red walls, Life might high loy - al Sigs Yale, y cry, ye light's Come, fire gleam ing, 'mid Al-pha's sac-red walls, Sig Phi! Let ech - oes loud re - ply, Hail, ma We'll Phi! shoot till rocks shall ring, Sig Hail, ma \bigcirc ma Let ech - oes loud re - ply, Hail, Sig Phi! We'll shoot till rocks shall ring, Hail, Sig ma Phi! <u>_</u>

ASO 175

DELTA CHAPTER SONG

TUNE

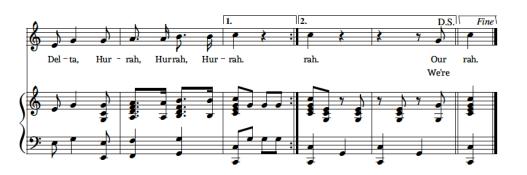
Wait For The Wagon R. Bishop Buckley













FRESHMAN SONG

WORDS & MUSIC BY

G.W. Hartshorn, Penn 1925





WAKE, FRESHMAN, WAKE





SOPHOMORE SONG

WORDS BY MUSIC BY

Ward N. Madison, Yale 1923 George R. Cowgill, Yale 1919





