

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. What is *The Crusade*?**

*The Crusade* is Kappa Alpha Order's total membership development program designed to provide our undergraduates with educational opportunities throughout their college experience. Based on the customs of the Order, the program emphasizes academic excellence, values and ethics, community service, team building, and leadership that are beneficial to the active participant during his undergraduate years, but also throughout life.

A member of Kappa Alpha Order begins *The Crusade* immediately after he is inducted into a Crusade chapter. He begins with the first phase, Voyage for Brotherhood and moves sequentially through the remaining three phases, Honor Bound, Quest for Leadership and The Journey Beyond which usually correspond to the members' freshman, sophomore, junior and senior years respectively.

### **2. How can my chapter become a Crusade Chapter?**

The first step is to contact the Director of Educational Programming at the National Administrative Office. Academics, Council of Honor, involvement on campus, community service and philanthropic involvement, and an overall interest from the chapter are identified areas to make *The Crusade* a perfect fit for your chapter. Once the chapter has shown that they meet the necessary criteria, a national staff representative will visit the chapter and present to the chapter information regarding program. After the chapter agrees to pursue the program they will then vote to become an official Crusade chapter, which requires 80% of the membership to pass.

### **3. How is the Crusade program administered?**

The chief administrator of the program at the local level is the Crusade Commander who oversees the program. The program is self-regulated by the chapter in which they determine how they will execute the expectations of the program. On a national level, the Director of Educational Programming serves as the Crusade liaison and assists chapters with the program. The Associate Directors for Chapter Services also meet with each Crusade Chapter during their operational visits each semester to challenge and motivate them.

### **4. What happens if my chapter does not follow the Crusade program?**

Each chapter has made a commitment to complete the program. Our chapters actually take pride in the following phrase, "Once a Crusade

chapter, Always a Crusade chapter!” Our intent is that the program will provide many resources to strengthen the chapter and continue to give our undergraduates the best fraternal experience.

### **5. What happens if a member will not participate in a phase?**

Encouragement and an explanation of the benefits should be presented to this member. Every Kappa Alpha member has taken solemn oaths and obligations of membership. If the member still does not participate, then the Crusade Commander will decide an action best suited for the chapter. The Crusade is not mandatory; chapters participate of their own free will. Consequently, *The Crusade* is changing the landscape of KA through self-imposed responsibilities and standards rather than mandates and rules.

### **6. Why isn't every chapter a Crusade chapter?**

The Crusade program was not designed as a chapter development program to revitalize chapter operations. In fact, the program was developed for efficient operating chapters to continue maintaining a high level of operations while using the principles of the Crusade program.

Chapters that are operating at a low level need to focus on basic chapter operations. It would be too overwhelming and difficult for them to take on additional programming expectations. Since 1999, we have implemented over 40 chapters to the program. Our mission is to continue to expand to interested chapters that can implement and maintain the program.

### **7. How much does the Crusade program cost?**

The Crusade program costs nothing for your chapter. A majority of the program is funded by the Kappa Alpha Order Educational Foundation. Many materials are supplied to your chapter at not cost.

### **8. How do we implement the program?**

Training for the Crusade Commander is a big part of the implementation. Every Crusade Commander attends the RoundTable conference every summer. The newly appointed Crusade Commander will attend to help begin the implementation of the program in the fall semester. A national staff member will coordinate a visit in the fall to help set up the structure and organization for the chapter

### **9. How do we place members into a phase?**

The decision is ultimately decided by the Crusade Commander to place members in the appropriate phase. Members awaiting initiation are in Phase

I and typically Phases II – IV corresponds with the member's year in school. In the situation that a sophomore or junior completes Phase I, it is best left up to that individual for which phase he chooses next.

#### **10. What are the benefits of becoming a Crusade chapter?**

One of the most important benefits in becoming a Crusade chapter is an increased knowledge of our organization. Whenever one learns more about an organization, one tends to care more about it. The same principle is speaks loudly into the hearts and minds of all Kappa Alpha's as the perpetuation of knowledge is passed from generation to generation. A better understanding of our history, laws, customs of the Order, leadership development, and career development are all important aspects offered within Crusade program. Membership development is the key to the further education for our undergraduates to continue our mission and ritual of Kappa Alpha Order. The Crusade program is a total membership development program and it can help individuals and chapters as a whole excel and aspire to greatness.

Another benefit is Brotherhood. The Crusade program instills more brotherhood functions as the chapter and individual phases work together to meet expectations in the program.