

THE  
Pi Kappa Alpha  
Fraternity  
RITUAL



# Table of Contents

	Foreword .....	iii
	Care of Ritual .....	iv
PART I.	Opening Ceremony .....	1
	1. Chapter meetings	
	2. Conventions	
	3. Supreme Council Meeting	
PART II.	Admission Ceremony .....	3
PART III.	Reception Ceremony .....	4
	1. Visiting S.M.C.s of Chapters	
	2. District Officers	
	3. National Officers	
PART IV.	Installation of Officers .....	6
	1. Chapter Officers	
	2. National Officers	
PART V	Pledging Ceremony .....	9
PART VI.	Initiatory Ceremony Preparations .....	13
	Section 1 .....	13
	Section 2 .....	15
	Preparatory Instructions .....	16
PART VII.	Initiatory Ceremony .....	20
	Section 1 .....	20
	Section 2 .....	31
PART VIII.	Installation Ceremony for New Chapters .....	43
PART IX.	Closing Ceremony .....	51
PART X.	Memorial Service .....	52

## *Foreword*

The Ritual of Pi Kappa Alpha is simple. Its principles form the basework of the idealism that has been built up during the life of the Fraternity. The general purpose of this Ritual is to furnish an orderly procedure in demonstrating the true meaning of Pi Kappa Alpha.

Great care and attention have been given to the details and specific instructions have been written to prevent confusion. It is recommended that each Chapter use constantly the appropriate ceremonies and that special effort should be made to exemplify the various ceremonies in a dignified manner.

In this revision of the Ritual, it has been the purpose of the Ritual Committee not to alter any of the traditions of the Fraternity nor to remove or to add any fundamental part of any ceremony. We have attempted to clarify the obscure, to simplify, to explain and to dignify.

The purpose of the Initiatory Ceremony is to put fundamental principles and high idealism into dramatic form and thereby to create in the mind of the initiate an emotional state that will become a life-long driving force in the emulation of that idealism.

For this reason, and out of reverence for tradition, it is proper that great time and effort be given so that the ceremonies may be effectively presented.

Those who have studied and worked with the Ritual have been refreshed by the privilege of working together in the spirit of  $\phi\kappa\alpha$ .

### **CARE OF THE RITUAL**

As required by the Constitution (Article XIII) and Laws of the Fraternity (Chapter VI), the Ritual must be guarded with the greatest care. It must be returned to the strong box promptly after each time it is used.

# *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

## PART I

### *Opening Ceremony*

This ceremony shall be used for each Chapter meeting, District or National Convention, or Supreme Council meeting.

The Officers and members of the Chapter (or Convention, or Supreme Council) being assembled, the S. M. C. (President) raps three times with the gavel. All rise and remain standing.

Before proceeding the S. M. C. (President) ascertains if all present are members.

S. M. C.: Brother Worthy Master (Vice President), what is Pi  
PRESIDENT: Kappa Alpha?

I. M. C.: Pi Kappa Alpha is a general, national, Greek letter,  
VICE PRES.: secret, social, college Fraternity.

S. M. C.:  
PRESIDENT: On what is it founded?

I. M. C.: It is founded on \_\_\_\_\_  
VICE PRES.:

S. M. C.:  
PRESIDENT: Of whom is it composed?

I.M.C.  
Vice Pres:

It is composed of college men banded together as brothers.

S. M. C.:  
PRESIDENT: What are its purposes?

I. M. C.: Its purposes are to foster the social values of good  
VICE PRES.: fellowship; to promote high scholarship and to inculcate high ideals of American manhood.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

S. M. C.: Let us pray.

PRESIDENT: Our Father, we ask Thy blessing on this meeting, the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, and its members. May all our acts redound to the prosperity of the Fraternity and to Thy glory. Amen.

This printed prayer may be given by the S. M. C. himself, or an original prayer may be given by the S. M. C. or some other brother.

S. M. C.: I now declare this meeting of Chapter  
PRESIDENT: (or Convention, or Supreme Council) open for the transaction of such business as may regularly come before it, requiring all here assembled to conduct themselves with order and propriety.

The S. M. C. (President) gives one rap with the gavel and all are seated.

The prescribed order of business is followed from this point.

# *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

## PART II.

### *Admission Ceremony*

After a Chapter meeting has been formally opened, a Brother may gain admission in the following manner: (Note that NO ONE SHALL BE ADMITTED TO THE CHAPTER ROOM WHILE THE INITIATORY CEREMONY IS IN PROGRESS.)

The Brother desiring admission shall give \_\_\_\_\_

The Conductor responds with a like number from within.

The Brother then gives \_\_\_\_\_

The Conductor again responds with a like number from within.

The Brother then gives \_\_\_\_\_

The Conductor responds with the same number and opens the door slightly.

The Brother then gives his name and Chapter (and rank, if an officer).

The Conductor closes the door, salutes the S. M. C., and says:

M. C.: Brother Worthy High Master, Brother \_\_\_\_\_  
of \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter wishes to be admitted.

S. M. C.: Admit him on the proper password.

The Conductor re-opens the door and says:

M. C.: The Worthy High Master directs that you be admitted on the proper password.

The Brother whispers the password to the Conductor and is admitted. He advances into the room and salutes the S. M. C. before taking his seat.

Note: In the case of a District President or other Officer, see Part III, "Reception Ceremony."

# *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

## PART III

### *Reception Ceremony*

This ceremony is used for the reception of National Officers, District Presidents on official visits, Special Representatives, or visiting Chapter Presidents.

Unless a visiting Officer or Special Representative shall have entered the Chapter Room before the Opening Ceremony, he shall approach the door of the Chapter Room and give any ordinary alarm. When answered by the Conductor, he will give his name and rank (and Chapter in the case of a Chapter President).

The Conductor will acknowledge the report, close the door, turn toward the S. M. C. and salute.

M. C. : Brother Worthy High Master, Brother \_\_\_\_\_  
(giving rank or office) is without and desires admission.

S. M. C. : Brother Conductor, you will retire and escort Brother  
\_\_\_\_\_ into the Chapter Room.

The Conductor retires and escorts the visiting Officer into the Chapter Room. (If the visiting Officer has been present since the opening of the meeting, the previous portion of this ceremony is obviously not necessary. In such a case, the Conductor at the end of "Reports of Officers" shall rise and present the Officer to the S. M. C.)

M. C. : Brother Worthy High Master, it gives me pleasure to present to you, and through you to \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter, Brother \_\_\_\_\_ (naming rank and office), who is making (an official visit) (a visit) to our Chapter.

The M. C. steps back one pace as the S. M. C. raps three times with the gavel and all rise and remain standing. The S. M. C. steps to the visiting Officer and gives him the grip.



## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

S. M. C.: Brother \_\_\_\_\_, in behalf of \_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter, I welcome you.

The S. M. C. escorts the visiting Officer to the chair and hands him the gavel.

S. M. C.: I present this gavel in token of your authority.

**VISITING OFFICER:** (Makes informal response and then gives one rap with the gavel to seat the Chapter. He should then return the gavel to the S. M. C.)

A seat should be provided for the visiting Officer on the right of the S. M. C.

The meeting will then proceed.

# *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

## **PART IV**

### *Installation of Officers*

This ceremony shall be used for the Installation of both Chapter Officers and National Officers.

It is recommended that Officers not be installed at the meeting at which they are elected. Installation may take place at the following meeting, by which time the appointive Officers should have been designated. In this way, all the Officers may be installed at the same time.

This ceremony contemplates that the retiring Officers, either Chapter or National, shall constitute the Installation Team. If a retiring Officer is absent or unable to serve, a substitute shall be appointed. An example would be that of an Officer elected or appointed to succeed himself. It is suggested that an alumnus be used in the case of any substitution.

On the installation night, all members must wear their robes. The new Officers of a Chapter shall wear the robes of their respective offices: new Officers whose positions do not provide a special robe shall wear plain robes without a collar. The retiring Officers shall wear plain robes and the collars of their respective offices.

The retiring Officers shall line up at the head of the Chapter room. The retiring S. M. C. (or President) directs the newly elected and appointed Officers to form a similar line facing the retiring Officers.

The S. M. C. (or President) then proceeds as follows:

S. M. C. Brothers, you have been elected and appointed to fill your designated offices for the ensuing term. It now becomes my pleasant duty to induct you into office.

The retiring Officers remove their collars and hold them before the new Officers.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

**S. M. C.:** Brothers, you will repeat after me the oath of office, each placing his hands upon the collar of his office.

I hereby signify my approval and acceptance / of the laws of the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity / as the laws by which my acts, / as an Officer, / are to be controlled; / and I promise zealously / to procure their enforcement, / faithfully to guard the interests of the Fraternity, / and diligently to perform the duties of my office, / so long as I shall hold the same. / So help me God. /

Each retiring Officer places the collar of office about the neck of his successor, and steps back into line. This concludes the ceremony for the installation of National Officers. The ceremony for the installation of chapter officers continues as follows:

**S. M. C.:** The duties of the Officers are many and varied. The welfare and success of the Chapter is dependent upon the prompt, careful and full performance of these functions and duties. I ask that each of you work earnestly for the advancement of the best interests of the Chapter, at all times laying aside personal feelings and prejudices, that the welfare of the Chapter may be continued; cooperate with each other, that your work may be a pleasure to you, and may inure to the everlasting glory and advancement of Pi Kappa Alpha.

I charge each of you immediately to give careful study to the sections of the Constitution and Laws detailing the duties of Officers.

**S. M. C.:** (Addressing the new S. M. C.) Brother \_\_\_\_\_, it gives me great pleasure to induct you into office as the new leader of \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter. May your success be reflected in the Chapter's gain in strength and influence. You are charged with the proper conduct of all Chapter affairs, and the conduct of your Officers as well. Their diligent attention to their duties will be your responsibility.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

Give close attention to the business affairs of the Chapter that it may strengthen our union. Weigh seriously each matter that comes before you, and at all times consult freely with your Officers and the members. Lastly follow implicitly the directions detailed in the Constitution, Laws and Calendar.

S. M. C.: (Addressing the Chapter) I now declare the Officers of \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter to be duly installed and qualified to enter upon the discharge of their duties for the ensuing term, or until their successors have been elected and installed.

I charge each and every member to do his utmost to cooperate with the Officers to the end that Pi Kappa Alpha may prosper in full measure. Alone, the Officers can do but little, however faithful their efforts; with your help their success is fully assured.

S. M. C.: (Addressing the new S. M. C.) I hand you this gavel as the emblem of your authority and direct that you enter upon the discharge of your duties.

As the gavel is handed to the S. M. C., each retiring Officer shakes hands with his successor and conducts him to his seat. The new S. M. C. gives one rap with the gavel and all are seated.

NEW S. M. C.: (May respond informally at this point.)

Note: The installation may be an order of business in a regular meeting, or it may be the only business of a special meeting. In either case the formal opening and closing ceremonies will be observed.

# *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

## PART V

### *Pledging Ceremony*

For the pledging ceremony, the pledge shall be conducted into the Meeting room blindfolded. The ceremony shall be conducted before the assembled Chapter.

The Officers participating in the ceremony shall be the S. M. C., the I. M. C., and the M. C. Throughout the ceremony they shall be addressed by these initials.

The pledge shall remain blindfolded until he is taken from the Meeting room after the ceremony.

The pledge ceremony should be conferred individually; however, it may be conferred upon a group of pledges, changing in the Ritual from the singular to the plural where necessary. To facilitate matters in pledging individually, several teams may be used simultaneously, with Chapter members appointed as substitutes to fill the role of Officers. In cases where teams are run simultaneously, a group of Chapter members shall be present with each team. No pledge ceremony shall be conducted without prior authorization of the S. M. C.

The pledge is conducted into the Meeting room by the M. C., and is led before the S. M. C., who addresses him as follows:

S. M. C.: Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, (addressing the pledge by name) you have accepted our invitation to become a pledge of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity. Before proceeding with this ceremony, it is necessary that you answer in strictest truth the following question: Do you or do you not believe in God?

If the candidate answers "I do" or the equivalent, the S. M. C. shall continue. If he answers "I do not" or the equivalent, the ceremony shall stop at once, and the candidate, still blindfolded, shall be led from the room.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

Pi Kappa Alpha is a National Fraternity, with Chapters located throughout the United States.

This order is a social one, with high purposes and noble aims. Its great purpose is to send out from college halls and from its Chapter houses, well rounded men--men of culture, high ideals and worthy aspirations. The Fraternity endeavors to develop solid character, and to promote among its members loyalty, love and devotion. It stands for service to others, unselfishness, loyalty to self, to Alma Mater, and to the national brotherhood, for honor, truth and fair dealing.

It is expected of you, the newest pledge, if you become a member, that you will give undivided loyalty to these ideals and make steadfast efforts to advance the best interests, influence and prestige of Pi Kappa Alpha.

Your pledgship period is a time of probation and training and should be used as an opportunity to absorb these precepts.

The M. C. now leads the pledge before the I. M. C., who reads to him the pledge-oath. The pledge affirms the oath.

M      Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, before the Chapter places upon you the emblem of sanction, it is necessary that you take the following oath, which I will read and ask you to affirm:

### OATH

The Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, through \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter, has extended to me an invitation that I, \_\_\_\_\_ (insert name or names) bind myself with it in the holy bonds of fraternal brotherhood.

I desire to accept this invitation and to become united in the bonds with the brothers of this Fraternity.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

I therefore most solemnly swear that I am not and never have been a member of any existing general, national, Greek letter, secret, social, college fraternity, and I now pledge myself upon my sacred word and oath, to become an earnest, faithful, loyal and active brother of the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, and no other, unless and until I am released by the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity from this oath, obeying all the laws and performing all my duties sincerely and faithfully.

I furthermore solemnly swear never to reveal any private information about the Fraternity, which may come to my knowledge, whether or not I am ever received into full membership.

All this I most solemnly swear in the presence of these members and of Almighty God.

Do you fully and implicitly affirm this Oath?

The pledge answers "I do."

I. M. C.: After your blindfold is removed at the conclusion of this ceremony, you will subscribe to the oath you have just affirmed.

(After the pledge is led from the room, following the ceremony, the blindfold is removed, and he signs the printed oath. The signed copy of the Oath must be filed in the archives of the Chapter.)

The pledge is then led before the S. M. C., who addresses the assembled members as follows:

S. M. C.: Brothers, you have heard Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ (reads name or names) affirm the pledge oath. Are you satisfied therewith, and are you willing at some future time to consider proceeding with such additional ceremonies as may be necessary to make him a Brother?

CHAPTER: (In unison) We are.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

S. M. C. (Addressing the Pledge) You have taken the Oath, and as a token of our faith and trust in you, and of our belief in your worth and loyalty, we have pledged you with this emblem (~~M. C. places pledge emblem on each pledge~~) which you will wear to show the world your allegiance to Pi Kappa Alpha. We congratulate you and await the day when we shall call you Brother.

The S. M. C. shakes hands with the pledge. The M. C. leads the pledge from the room, removes the blindfold, and tenders him the printed oath. The pledge signs. The signed oath is witnessed by the S. M. C. and the M. C. The pledge does not re-enter the Meeting room. The members shake hands with him and offer congratulations as they leave the Meeting room.



# *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

## PART VI

### *Initiatory Ceremony Preparations*

#### SECTION I

#### LIST OF PARAPHERNALIA ESSENTIAL FOR INITIATION

1. REGALIA OF CHAPTER OFFICERS: The collars to be worn by the Chapter Officers shall be as follows:

They are to be a V-shape and extend to the bottom of the vest; to be made of blue French merino, trimmed with silver lace and to have an additional trimming of bullion fringe. The collars shall bear the following emblems on the left breast:

S. M. C.—To have two mallets crossed on left breast.

I. M. C.—To have one mallet on left breast.

S. C. —To have two pens crossed on left breast.

Th. C. —To have a pen and key crossed on left breast.

M. C. —To have two wands crossed on left breast.

The gowns are to be made of black material, to reach to the shoe tops and to have skull and cross bones in white on them. In addition, the Officers' gowns shall have the following devices placed above the skull and cross bones:

S. M. C.—To have Π K A in large red letters.

I. M. C.—To have φ. φ. κ. α. in large red letters.

S. C. —To have a dagger in large red device.

Th. C. —To have a sword in large red device.

M. C. —To have a key in large red device.

Guard and Sentinel—May wear plain black robes if they wish.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

2. **REGALIA OF CHAPTER MEMBERS:** Chapter members may wear plain black robes if they so desire.
3. **CANDIDATES ROBE AND BLINDFOLD:** When the M. C. retires and takes the candidate to the Chapter room, he blindfolds him and places on him a front-opening white robe. This gown is to be of the same cut and material as the members' gown. If this type robe is not available, no robe shall be used.
4. **ALTAR TABLE:** A table of convenient size should be provided, with a suitable covering.
5. **KNEELING CUSHION:** A suitable kneeling cushion for the candidate shall be placed in front of the altar table.
6. **BIBLE:** An open Bible shall be placed in the center of the altar table.
7. **SKULL URNS AND ALCOHOL:** New sand should be used for each initiation group, and the urns should be test-lighted beforehand to determine the proper amount of alcohol to be used. Care should be exercised to avoid fire hazards or damage to the table or other materials.
8. **CANDELABRA:** There shall be a seven-candle candelabra placed on the table in front of the Th. C. It shall be of one-piece construction, and should be painted white or covered in white paper. New white candles of uniform size should be used, and should be test-burned before the actual ceremony. After administering the Obligation, the S. M. C. takes his position beside the candidate, and as he does so, the Th. C. moves the candelabra behind the Bible and between the urns.
9. **BADGES:** Each candidate shall be pinned with the badge of the Fraternity. If the candidate has not previously bought or been given a pin, then one should be loaned him by his big brother or some other member of the Chapter. The badges may be tagged and placed on a satin cushion, and placed on the altar table.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

10. **RITUAL:** A copy of the Ritual may be placed in front of the S. M. C., behind the Bible and candelabra. This may be used as reference in the earlier parts of the ceremony, but S. M. C. must memorize the Obligation and all the following parts through the end of Section I.
11. **SALT CUP:** An earthenware cup with no handles shall be carried by the candidate through the first part of Section I. It shall be nearly filled with salt.
12. **INCENSE:** Mild incense may be burned in the Chapter room during the initiation ceremony to give further effect.

### SECTION 2

13. **CODE:** A copy of the Code shall be available for display to the new initiates.
14. **S. C.'s TABLE:** A small table shall be placed to the side of the altar table, upon which will be placed the Chapter Membership Record book. A chair and fountain pen should be provided for the initiate when he signs the Membership Record book during the ceremony.
15. **BADGE:** In addition to a pin for each of the new initiates, one extra badge should be retained by the S. M. C. for his explanation and display of the various parts and makeup of the badge.
16. **COAT OF ARMS:** Before the candidates enter the room it must be seen that a suitable design of the Coat of Arms is placed so as to be conveniently used by the S. M. C. A pointer may be used by the S. M. C. himself, or the S. C. may be directed to point to the parts as the S. M. C. refers to them.

# *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

## *Preparatory Instructions*

1. **INITIATORY CEREMONY:** The Initiatory Ceremony is arranged in dramatic form and sequence. The success of the initiation is dependent upon the clear, forceful and prompt delivery of their parts by the several participants. Obviously the greater part of the text should be memorized.

The S. M. C., charged with the responsibility of conducting the initiation, should see to it that the various parts follow each other in close order, thus securing the effect of smoothness.

The Conductor should be a watchful attendant throughout the ceremony, assisting the candidate and the S. M. C. at every point where an awkward pause might ensue.

2. **PERMANENT INITIATION TEAM:** It is very desirable to have a permanent initiation team composed of members who have ritualistic ability. This plan will insure a successful initiation each time it is conferred. Such a team may be made up of alumni or active members. In case the initiation is conducted by a permanent team, the actual S. M. C. should present the badge and deliver the badge charge.
3. **HORSEPLAY:** The following law was adopted by the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity in Convention assembled, New Orleans, La., September 1-4, 1936, and Chapters are particularly required to give strict attention thereto, as follows:

"No Chapter nor member of the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity shall be permitted to haze, use physical violence against or in any way jeopardize the health, morals, scholastic standing, or well-being of any pledge or initiate, either within or without the Chapter house."

As required by Constitution, pledges should be prepared for their formal initiation by a quiet, serious period of at least forty-eight hours.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

4. **CEREMONIAL APPARATUS:** Prior to the initiation, the ceremonial apparatus must be in position and everything pertaining thereto (such as urn lamps, alcohol, salt in cup, candles, matches, etc.) in readiness for conferring the initiation, before the candidate enters the Chapter room.
5. **WAITING ROOM:** Each candidate must wait in a separate room.
6. **ATTENDANTS:** The S. M. C. shall appoint one or more Brothers to attend to the lowering of lights, placing chairs, etc.
7. **DUTIES OF CONDUCTOR:** In addition to his other duties the Conductor shall attend to putting the room in order for the initiation. He shall provide the Chapter members with copies of the song, if used, and responses. He shall also provide a handkerchief on which the candidate can wipe the salt from his hands. A glass of water shall be immediately available in case it is needed.
8. **POSITION OF OFFICERS:** The S. M. C. is placed behind the altar table at the head of the room, with the S. C. on his left and the Th. C. on his right. Unless definitely stated, the S. M. C. may sit or stand during the ceremonies, at his own discretion. The I. M. C. is seated at the opposite end of the room. The members are seated along the sides of the room, as far back as possible in order to leave the center floor space clear. The S. C. and the Th. C. attend to lighting and extinguishing the urn lamps. The Guard shall not admit any member to the Chapter room while the Initiation Ceremony is in progress.
9. **CARE OF INITIATORY PARAPHERNALIA:** Immediately after the close of the meeting all initiatory paraphernalia shall be carefully stored in the Chapter strong box.
10. **DIGNITY:** The initiation should be conducted in a dignified manner. At no point in the ceremony should levity be permitted. There shall be no smoking in the Chapter room during the initiatory ceremony.

The accompanying diagram shows the layout of the Chapter room as prepared for the Initiatory Ceremony, and the positions of the Officers. The altar table contains (1) a Bible, (2) skull urn lamps,

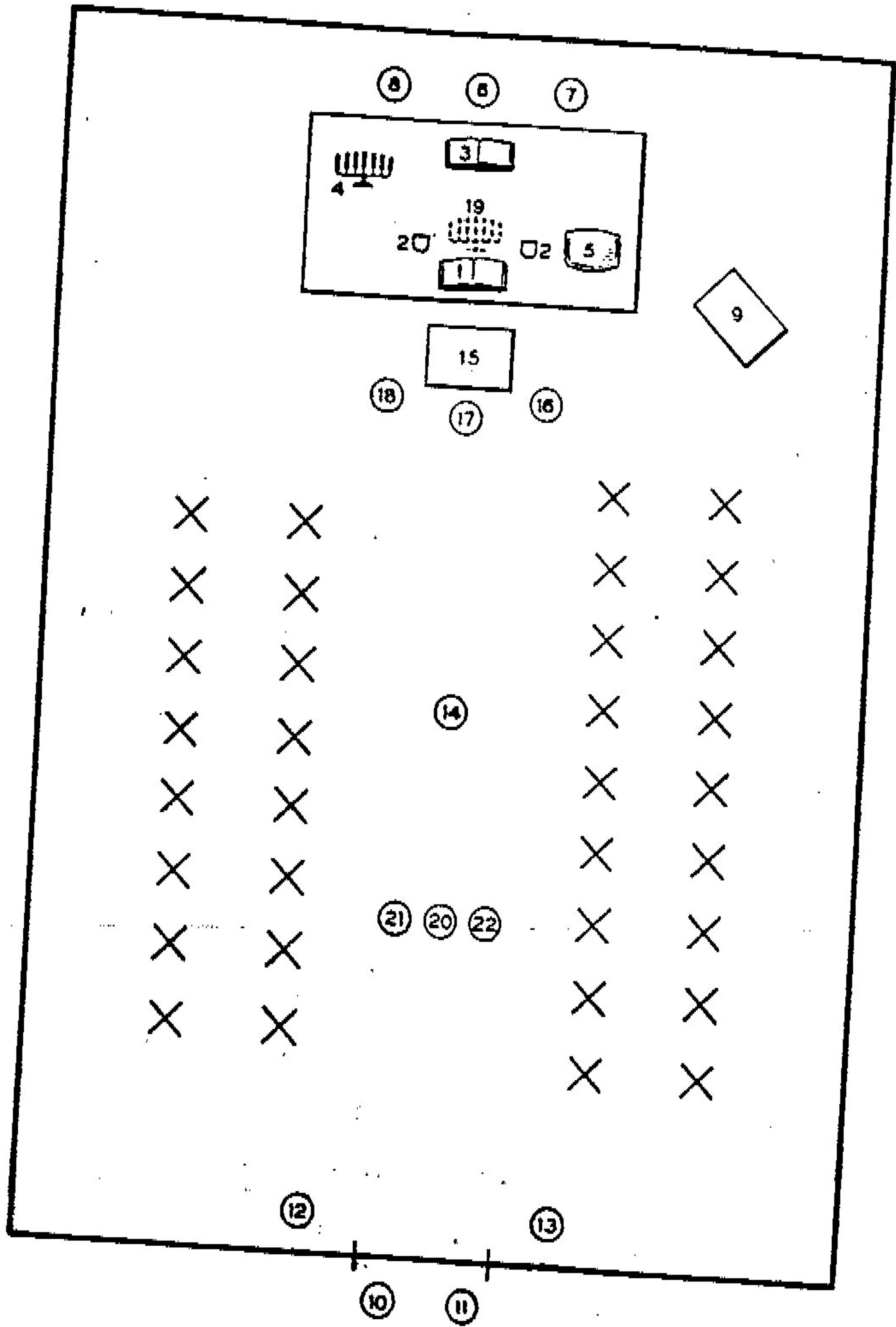
## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

(3) a copy of the Ritual, (4) the candelabra, and (5) a cushion on which the badges are placed. Behind the table are (6) the S. M. C., (7) the S. C., and (8) the Th. C. To the side, (9) is the S. C.'s table, on which is placed the Chapter Membership Record book, used in Section II. The members, indicated by X's, are seated along the walls, leaving the center aisle clear.

The M. C., position (10), escorts the candidate, position (11), to the door and knocks. The answer is given from within by the Guard at (12). The I. M. C. at (13), accompanied by the Guard, retires to the outside to examine the candidate. After being admitted to the Chapter room, the M. C. and the Guard escort the candidate, positions (21)-(22)-(20), toward the Sentinel at (14). When well within the room, the Guard steps back, closes the door and returns to his seat at (12). The Sentinel challenges the candidate at (14), then the M. C. escorts the candidate on toward the altar table. They take their positions before the kneeling cushion, (15), the M. C. at (16) standing to the right of the candidate who is at (17). Immediately preceding the Obligation, the members of the Chapter move themselves into a semi-circle behind the candidate and the M. C. They remain in this position until the end of Section I.

After the Obligation, the S. M. C. moves to (18) for the candle-lighting ceremony. As the S. M. C. moves around the end of the altar table, the Th. C. at (8) moves the candelabra from (4) to (19), directly in front of the kneeling candidate.



# *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

## PART VII

### *Initiatory Ceremony*

#### SECTION 1

This ceremony is held as a part of a regular meeting, but it is recommended that no business be transacted when an initiation is held. Minutes should be kept, and in all cases the meeting should be opened and closed with the official ceremony.

The ceremony should be carefully rehearsed and diligent attention given to the instructions found on Pages 13 through 19. No one is to be admitted to the chapter room during the Initiatory Ceremony.

S. M. C.: We are now about to initiate into the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (if more than one candidate). Brother Conductor, you will retire and prepare \_\_\_\_\_ for initiation into this Fraternity.

The M. C. salutes, takes the blindfold, retires and goes to the waiting room.

M. C. (Addressing the Candidate) You are now about to be initiated into the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity by \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter. I am to be your guide through the beautiful ceremony which is intended so to impress your mind with the lofty ideals of Pi Kappa Alpha that they will form a lasting pattern throughout your whole life.

You will now be blindfolded.

If a front-opening white robe is available, it shall be put on the candidate at this time. If not, no robe shall be worn by the candidate. The candidate is blindfolded and led to the Chapter door. As the candidate and the M. C. approach the door of the Chapter room, the



## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

Chapter members may, if they so desire, softly sing the chorus of "The Garnet and Gold"—Tune—"My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean" (Key of G).

Pi Kappa Alpha,  
All hail to the Garnet,  
All hail to the Gold!  
Pi Kappa Alpha,  
All hail to the Garnet and Gold!  
(Ad lib until alarm at the door.)

The M. C. leaves the candidate several feet from the door, then approaches and gives the Fraternity knock.

The Guard then partly opens the door.

M. C.: Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, the duly elected candidate, is waiting to receive his initiation into the new life.

The Guard closes the door, turns toward the S. M. C., and salutes, saying:

GUARD: Brother Worthy High Master, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ is waiting to receive his initiation into the new life.

S. M. C.: Brother Worthy Master, you will retire and examine the candidate.

The I. M. C. rises, salutes the S. M. C., and retires, accompanied by the Guard. The I. M. C. approaches the candidate from in front and addresses him.

I. M. C.: Worthy candidate, seeking admission into our sacred circle, answer me in strictest truth the following questions:

(1) Do you or do you not believe in God?

If he answers "I do not" or its equivalent, the ceremony shall stop at once and the candidate, still blindfolded, shall be led from the room.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

- (2) Are you now, or have you ever been, a member of any existing general, national, Greek letter, secret, social, college fraternity?

Should the candidate's answer be "Yes," he must be told that Section 8 of Article II of the Constitution prohibits dual membership and that he cannot enter the Fraternity. He shall be conducted out of the room at once and not unbandaged until then.

- (3) Do you enter this Fraternity of your own free will, with the sole purpose of conserving its best interests, and complying with its requirements?

The candidate replies.

- (4) Have you confidence in the members of our brotherhood, and have you courage to endure the various parts of this initiation unto the very end?

The candidate replies.

I. M. C.: Before entering the Chapter room it is necessary that you pledge me your word of honor never to reveal anything connected with this noble order of Pi Kappa Alpha which may come to your knowledge, and that you will take all the obligations and oaths required of you to complete this ceremony. Do you thus pledge before these witnesses and before God?

The candidate replies.

After the candidate pledges, the I. M. C. says:

I. M. C.: Let me caution you to attend carefully to every step in the initiatory ceremony now to be administered to you, with due gravity and obedience to all directions.

The I. M. C. then enters the Chapter room, leaving the door ajar, advances in front of the S. M. C., salutes, and says:

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

I. M. C.: Brother Worthy High Master, the candidate who has knocked at our door from without, is not nor has he ever been a member of any existing general, national, Greek letter, secret, social, college fraternity. He desires to enter our midst and taste of the sweets of our sacred brotherhood, with pure and sincere motives. He has taken the pledge before the witnesses to remain eternally silent as to all that transpires. I deem him worthy to enter our family circle, but ask the final vote of the brethren here assembled.

The I. M. C. remains standing.

S. M. C.: Brethren, are you finally willing to admit this candidate into close communion with us?

CHAPTER: (In unison) We are.

The candidate should hear this question and response.

S. M. C.: Brother Worthy Master, instruct our Brother, the Conductor, to conduct the candidate, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ into our presence, that we may further examine and instruct him in our mysteries.

The I. M. C. salutes and goes out.

I. M. C.: (To Conductor) The Worthy High Master directs that the candidate shall enter the Chapter room.

M. C.: (Places a small cup of salt in candidate's left hand.) Hold this cup carefully, for you will have great use for it when you enter this portal.

The I. M. C. then leads the way into the Chapter room, going at once to his seat. The Conductor, on the candidate's right, and the Guard, on the candidate's left, enter the Chapter room. When they are well within the room, the Guard steps back and closes the door. The Sentinel thrusts the palms of both hands against the candidate's

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

shoulders, bringing him to a sudden halt. This should be done firmly but not violently. His hands remain on the candidate's shoulders. At the same time he says to the Conductor in a severe tone:

SENTINEL: Brother Conductor, how dare you bring into these sacred precincts one who knows not the mysteries of our order?

M. C.: This is my friend, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, who has been duly qualified by our Worthy Master. He desires to form another link of our sacred and mysterious circle.

SENTINEL: (To Candidate) Give me a pledge of sincerity and fidelity, as you value your life.

M. C.: (To Candidate) Place your right hand over your heart.  
(Done) Offer the urn of salt to him who challenges you.  
(Done) Taste with him the salt it contains. (Done)

The candidate places his right hand over his heart, then extends the urn of salt (held in left hand) to the Sentinel, who takes a pinch of the salt and places it upon his own tongue. The candidate likewise takes a pinch of the salt and places it upon his tongue. The Sentinel, after tasting the salt, replaces his hands on the candidate's shoulders. The Conductor prompts the candidate if necessary. The Conductor then continues (softly):

M. C.: The salt is symbolic of the purification and preservation of the friendship which our Fraternity teaches.

SENTINEL: (Gives slight pressure to candidate's shoulders as he says): Pass on, friend, and good speed.

If time and space permit, the Chapter may add another challenge by a second Sentinel before the candidate is finally escorted to the altar table.

The Conductor escorts the candidate to a position directly in front of the S. M. C. The Sentinel and the Guard are seated.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

S. M. C.: Brother Conductor, who is this stranger?

M. C.: Brother Worthy High Master, this is my friend, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, who has been duly qualified by our Worthy Master, and has been pledged and passed by our Brother Sentinel along our arduous way. He desires to form another link of our sacred and mysterious circle, and is willing to pledge you sincerity and fidelity.

S. M. C.: Let him pledge without tardiness or delay.

M. C.: Place your right hand over your heart. (Done) Offer the urn of salt to him who challenges you. (Done) Taste with him the salt it contains.

The candidate repeats the offering and tasting of the salt.

M. C.: The salt is symbolic of the purification and preservation of the friendship which our Fraternity teaches.

S. M. C.: Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, are you still desirous of entering our sacred bonds and being one with us in our noble brotherhood?

CANDIDATE: (Prompted by M. C. if necessary) I am.

S. M. C.: Brothers mine, sharers with me in the sweet joys of this union, you have passed and pledged this candidate as he did enter this sacred confine, and have thereby shown your willingness to accord him a goodly welcome into our circle; are you then willing that we proceed with the initiation which will make this candidate worthy to receive the sacred name of "Brother" from our lips?

CHAPTER: (In unison) Yea, thrice yea.

S. M. C.: Worthy candidate, let me now admonish you to give careful and earnest attention to the instructions which you will receive.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

The M. C. faces the candidate toward the S. C.

S. C.: (Addressing the Candidate) Do you of your own free will desire to become a member of this Fraternity, from a conviction of its merits and prompted by no improper motives?

CANDIDATE: (Prompted by M. C.) I do.

S. C.: Repeat after me the following oath:

As I hope for mercy at last the Great Day, / I swear that I have given my answers / to all the questions asked me / during this ceremony / in the strictest truth. /

The Conductor faces the candidate toward the S. M. C.

S. M. C.: Sir, you have answered to our entire satisfaction the questions which you have been asked, and have pledged your word that your answers are all true.

Let us pray.

All kneel, except the Conductor and candidate.

Our Father, the source of every blessing, grant Thy benediction upon the work of this hour. Bless him who is about to link himself by ties of friendship and brotherhood to those who already fill our ranks. May this step redound to his and our happiness, and to Thy Glory, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

All rise, and remain standing.

S. M. C.: It now becomes my duty to administer to you the Obligation, upon the strict observance of which depend the entire security and prosperity of our noble order. From it you cannot vary by word, by look, by tone, or by act.

You will kneel and place your hands upon the open Bible before you and repeat the Obligation after me.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

The candidate kneels, still blindfolded. The M. C. assists him to place his hands. The S. M. C. raps three times. The Officers, except those at altar table, and members of the Chapter with bowed heads and arms folded, take their positions grouped behind the candidate and the M. C.

The S. M. C. directs the S. C. and the Th. C. to light the urn lamps. He then signals the Brothers in attendance on the ceremony to extinguish the lights.

The S. M. C. kneels behind the altar table and places his hands over the candidate's hands. He then signals the M. C. to remove the blindfold.

(The S. M. C. Must Memorize the Following to End of Section I)

### OBLIGATION (Must Be Memorized)

S. M. C.: I, \_\_\_\_\_ (candidate's full name), / in the presence of the Brothers here assembled, / do most solemnly pledge my word of honor, / never to reveal, / directly or indirectly, / by word, sign or deed, / any of the secrets, / or to disclose any of the proceedings of this, / the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity. / I furthermore pledge my word of honor / to receive into fellowship / any member in good and regular standing / in this Fraternity, / and to cultivate a true spirit of fellowship / toward the brethren. /

I likewise promise to offer to this Fraternity / the energies of a zealous member, / warmly supporting its Constitution, / and striving to further its interests. / I promise to vindicate its character / and uphold its reputation. /

And I take this Obligation of eternal secrecy / under the sense and acknowledgment / that should I consciously or unlawfully violate it, / I would be, and must count

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

myself. / worthy of the opprobrium, / scorn and contempt /  
of my fellow-men. /

So help me God.

S. M. C.: Brother, as evidence of your earnestness, you will kiss the Book on which your hands now rest. (Pause) It is the Sacred Word.

The candidate kisses the open Bible.

The S. M. C. takes his position beside the candidate, but remains standing, facing the altar. Seven candles have been placed on the altar between the urns. (See instructions.) The Brothers form a group around the candidate and the S. M. C.

(The S. M. C. Must Memorize the Following to End of Section I)

The S. M. C. repeats each name slowly and with emphasis as he lights the candles in the following manner:

S. M. C.: (Lights first candle) May the flame of Pi Kappa Alpha burn in this worthy heart to do you honor. (Pause) Julian Edward Wood.

BROTHERS: Julian Edward Wood.

S. M. C.: (Lights second candle) And may it glow through all eternity in the spirit of

---

(Pause) Robertson Howard.

BROTHERS: Robertson Howard.

S. M. C.: (Lights third candle) May its burning heat cleanse our impurities that we may better portray the ideals of fraternal brotherhood. (Pause) William Alexander.

BROTHERS: William Alexander.

S. M. C.: (Lights fourth candle) May this flame spread its radiance through the hearts of our Brothers and weld them into a bond of deep affection. (Pause) Littleton Waller Tazewell.



## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

**BROTHERS:** Littleton Waller Tazewell.

**S. M. C.:** (Lights fifth candle) May it increase in intensity until it is felt throughout the world. (Pause) Frederick Southgate Taylor.

**BROTHERS:** Frederick Southgate Taylor.

**S. M. C.:** (Lights sixth candle) And may it ever reflect the glory of "Congeniality based upon character." (Pause) James Benjamin Sclater, Jr.

**BROTHERS:** James Benjamin Sclater, Jr.

**S. M. C.:** (Lights seventh candle) And now may this new flame burn forever in faith and fidelity; may it add more light to the glowing fire of our ideals. (Pause) (Repeats the new initiate's name.)

**BROTHERS:** (Repeat new initiate's name.)

The S. M. C. turns to the candidate and addresses him:

**S. M. C.:** You will now rise. (Done)

You have just taken the oath of eternal secrecy and fidelity to our Fraternity, and have sworn to be eternally true to your oath. You have been received into our bonds, and believing that you now fully understand the nature and solemnity of the oath and the purpose of this initiation, and that you will never depart from its teachings by word or deed, it is my pleasure to seal your bonds by placing upon you the badge of our Fraternity.

The S. M. C. selects badge from cushion and places it over candidate's heart.

Wear this badge in a vertical position to remind you to live an upright life; wear it over your heart to remind you that our Brothers should always be in your affections; wear it at all times to remind you ever of the highest ideals of brotherhood.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

The S. M. C. then gives the candidate the grip.

S. M. C.: Brother, I give you the grip of the Fraternity, and welcome you into the sacred bonds of our beloved union. In so doing, allow me to congratulate you upon your entrance into our most noble and beautiful Fraternity, for by your acquisition of these sacred bonds, and by the compacts you have herein formed, you have gained many true and lasting friends.

You will now be conducted from the Chapter room and await additional instructions. Brothers, join me in extending a hearty and cordial welcome to our new Brother.

As soon as the S. M. C. says the last line the lights are to be turned on. There will be a brief congratulatory recess at this point, in which each member gives the grip to the new Brother. Then the Conductor will lead the initiate to a separate room where he will wait apart from other candidates and initiates.

**THE CANDLES SHOULD NOT BE EXTINGUISHED UNTIL THE INITIATE IS OUT OF THE ROOM.**

Each candidate shall be initiated alone through this point of the ceremony, then all the initiates shall be seated before the S. M. C. The remainder of the Initiatory Ceremony shall be conferred upon them collectively (Section 2). In the text, the plural should be changed to the singular where necessary, if there is only one candidate.

**Note:** Where large numbers are to be initiated, it is permissible for Section 2 to be conferred the following day, but not more than twenty-four hours shall pass between sections.

# *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

## SECTION 2

All members rise as the M. C. leads the initiates into the Chapter in the order in which they were initiated. The M. C. seats them with their backs facing the S. M. C. The proper number of chairs should be provided. The S. M. C. gives one rap with the gavel and the Chapter is seated.

2. (Addressing the Initiates) I may now call you Brothers, a name which signifies your right to share our love, to enjoy our pleasures, and to partake of our joys; a name which implies that as our character is strengthened, so will yours be made stronger, and as our good name is lowered, yours also will be degraded. Let it therefore, ever incite us to work and strive that the character and reputation, the standing in the classes, and the life outside the wicket\* door must, by each member, be shaped and upheld, so that Pi Kappa Alpha will gain glory and profit by your entrance into the bonds.

Our Brother, the Worthy Master will now address you.

M. C. salutes and stands in front of the initiates.

The Officers of the Chapter consist of the following:

President, addressed in Chapter meeting as the Worthy High Master. Outside of meetings he is known as S. M. C., Senior Magister Capitis.

Vice-President, addressed in Chapter meeting as Worthy Master. Outside of meetings he is known as I. M. C., Junior Magister Capitis.

Recording Secretary, addressed in Chapter meeting as Recording Scribe. Outside of meetings he is known as S. C., Scriba Capitis.

\*Note pronunciation of "wicket" so that it will not be mis-  
cked."

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

Treasurer, addressed in Chapter meeting as Financial Scribe. Outside of meetings he is known as Th. C., *Thesaurus Capitis*.

Corresponding Secretary, addressed in Chapter meeting as Correspondent. Outside of meetings he is known as M. S., *Magister Scriptor*.

Conductor, addressed in Chapter meeting as Conductor. Outside of meetings he is known as M. C., *Mercurii Capitis*.

Additional Officers are Historian, House Manager and such other officers as local conditions require.

In referring to the Officers of the Chapter, except during meetings, only the initials of the Latin titles are used.

Long and careful study of the customs, laws and traditions of Pi Kappa Alpha is necessary for you to fully understand the significance of the ideals which are woven into the history of our Fraternity and hallowed through the years by being exemplified in the characters of the countless Brothers who compose its membership.

Your initiation into Pi Kappa Alpha recapitulates in a comparative sense the important steps in the history of its own development.

You were challenged at the door and required avouchment before you could proceed, just as our Fraternity was required to prove itself in its early struggles to succeed.

Your Obligation is a promise of faith and loyalty on your part and is a continuation of the faith and loyalty of our Founders.

You have been taught the lessons of Friendship, Love and Truth. You have sealed your faith by tasting the salt, which is symbolic of the purification and preservation of the friendship which our Fraternity teaches.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

May your fidelity to the ideals of Pi Kappa Alpha be further confirmation of the tradition of the Fraternity, "Once a Pike, always a Pike."

Chapters may locally substitute "Pi Kap" or "Pika" if they wish.

The I. M. C. salutes the Worthy High Master and takes his seat.

S. M. C.: (Addressing the Initiates) You will please rise. The Conductor will now communicate to you the password, exemplify the grips, and instruct you in the several signs, the means of recognition and the method of gaining admission to a Chapter meeting.

The M. C. rises, salutes the S. M. C., and faces the initiates.

As the M. C. begins speaking, he gives the grip to each of the initiates, assuring himself that it is understood.

M. C.: This is the grip of the Fraternity. Let me caution you that special care should be observed in giving and receiving the grip in order that it may not be discovered by others. The simplicity of the grip aids in preventing discovery, but the manner in which it is given requires the cover grip by the left hand. The grip must never be given to a Brother before an outsider unless the hand be covered by the left hand. Try always to give the grip standing close to the Brother.

M. C.: The current password is ..... (Whispers password to each initiate.) The password is never spoken above a whisper.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

To gain admission to a Chapter Meeting after it has started, you will approach the door and give \_\_\_\_\_ which will be answered similarly from within. You will give \_\_\_\_\_ which will be answered the same from within. You will then give \_\_\_\_\_ which will also be answered alike from within. When the door is opened you will give your name. The Conductor will report to the Worthy High Master who will direct him to admit you on the proper password. You will then give the Conductor the password in a whisper, enter the Chapter room, salute the Worthy High Master, and take your seat.

This is the saluation sign. (Illustrates as he explains.)



*The arms are crossed in the form of an "X" in front of the body, with the forearms some distance from the body and the right forearm on the outside. The fists are clenched.*

This sign is to be given upon being admitted to a Chapter meeting and when addressing the Worthy High Master.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

This is the sign of fidelity which you used when offering the urn of salt to your challenger. (Illustrates)

This is the voting sign. (Illustrates)

*Raise the right hand above the shoulder open palm toward the chair for the affirmative vote; back of hand toward the chair for a negative vote.*

For the purpose of recognizing one whom you do not know to be a Brother, you will say:

---

To which he will reply:

---

The M. C. repeats the two key phrases.

The M. C. salutes and resumes his seat.

S. M. C.: The Recording Scribe will now instruct you in the Colors, Flower and Code.

The S. C. rises, salutes the S. M. C., and explains the Colors, Flower, and Code of the Fraternity.

S. C.: The Colors of Pi Kappa Alpha are Garnet and Old Gold, originally adopted by the Founders. Garnet is symbolic of courage and sacrifice; Old Gold is symbolic of worth.

The Flower of the Fraternity is the Lily-of-the-Valley.

This is the Secret Code. (The S. C. shows the code to the initiates, but there is no necessity of going through the alphabet.)

This is the password which was communicated to you. (S. C. writes out the password in code on paper or black

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

board. If he chooses, he may prepare it prior to the initiation.) The secret work of the Fraternity is written in this code (DESTROYS PASSWORD.)

You will now sign the Membership Record, using your full name.

The membership record is on a table at the side of the room ready for the initiates to sign in order of their initiation. The S. C. supervises the signing. The M. C. escorts the initiate to the table in turn and returns him to his seat.

The S. M. C.'s instructions following may be read from a scroll. If the scroll is used, this section may be typed and pasted upon a long strip of paper which can be rolled from right to left as the S. M. C. reads.

S. M. C.: The final part of the instructions relating to the secret work of the Fraternity consists of explanations of the symbolism of the Coat of Arms and the badge.

The Coat of Arms consists of a gold triangular shield, known as the first cycle, with a riveted edge and a garnet center. On this shield appear in gold the Greek letters PI KAPPA ALPHA and underneath the Greek letters a gold dagger with the point downward. A gold ribbon appears on the left and right sides of the shield, respectively, upon which is inscribed in the four folds thereof the small Greek letters in garnet, Phi Phi Kappa Alpha. The shield is surmounted or rests upon a gold key and sword, crossed behind the shield, and connected at the bottom with a gold chain which passes below the point of the shield. The hilt of the sword is clasped with a gold hand. The key crosses from the lower left-hand corner to the upper right-hand corner, with the flange upward. The sword crosses from the lower right-hand corner to the upper left-hand corner, with the point upward, and is of the Army service saber type. Beneath the shield appear two sprays of lily-of-the-



## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

valley, in green and white, which cross each other and are tied by a ribbon. The shield itself is surmounted by an Esquire Helmet in gold, on which appear three feathers in their natural color, white. In the background appear rays, as though coming from the sun.

Our Coat of Arms shows that our Fraternity signifies to us and what each member should mean to Pi Kappa Alpha. The figures on the Coat of Arms are symbolic of the virtues which are taught in our Ritual. The Crest, with three white ostrich plumes, is one of the most honorable augmentations which may appear on a Coat of Arms. It reminds us of one of the cardinal virtues of the Fraternity man: Honor. The helmet shows that victory is assured if we but adhere to the precepts taught by our Fraternity. The color of the shield, red, is symbolic of the courage which we must exemplify, and of the zeal which we must espouse our Fraternity's cause.

The Dagger is symbolic of faith and of the protection which Pi Kappa Alpha gives us and which we must give to it. The metal of the dagger and of the letters PI KAPPA ALPHA, gold, illustrates the value of these principles.

The riveted border symbolizes our faith in Pi Kappa Alpha and demands that we be doubly zealous in following the teachings revealed by the characters on the shield.

It is highly appropriate that the emblem of learning, the key, be represented in our Coat of Arms. In addition, it symbolizes Truth.

The sabre, wielded by the hand, symbolizes power and authority. The joining of this device to the key with a chain shows that we may employ the advantages gained by education to our benefit and the benefit of those less fortunate.

The Fraternity flower, the lily-of-the-valley, is a modest bloom. Its hardiness and beauty signify that by heeding

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

the lessons taught in the Ritual, our lives may become more tranquil, pure, and purposeful.

The glorious light of Truth emanating from the shield represents the radiance of Fraternity achievement which envelops each one of us. All who would bask in this inspiring influence are bound in honor to foster the best interests of Pi Kappa Alpha.

Here you see the Greek capitals, **PI KAPPA ALPHA**, in a crossed dagger and key. They, the name by which we are known, are the initial letters of the Greek words

which, when translated into English, mean

The Dagger is further symbolic of Faith in the sense that we should always prove faithful to the ends and objects of our beloved order. The Key is further symbolic of Truth in the sense that we should always prove true to our oath, and lock in the inmost recesses of our hearts the proceedings of our Fraternity.

Here you see the four small Greek letters "Phi Phi Kappa Alpha." They are the initial Greek letters of the words

Translated into English they mean

Dramatic pause, then repeat:

This is the foundation upon which our Fraternity is raised. It constitutes the Secret Motto of Pi Kappa Alpha.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

In order that we may be more especially distinguished from the rest of the community, we have adopted this badge. (Holds badge before initiates.) The design, as you see, is a Shield surmounted by a Diamond. Our character should always be as pure and unsullied as the peerless Diamond, while above all action, the Shield of Truth should be held triumphant.

Upon this Shield we have placed the Greek letters "Phi Phi Kappa Alpha," in order that as long as we wear the badge of our Fraternity, our motto may be before our eyes; that we may also be reminded that we are bound together by

and that we are obligated by the most sacred considerations to violate none of these three principles.

Upon the Diamond we have placed the Greek capitals Pi Kappa Alpha, the name by which we are known.

(End of Scroll, if used.)

In the above, the M. C. should stand beside an enlarged replica of the Coat of Arms, and as the S. M. C. reads from the scroll describing the various parts, the M. C. should point them out to the initiate.

S. M. C.: We have initiated you by this ceremony into the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, and not alone into a single Chapter thereof. The united Brotherhood of loving fellows from all over our glorious land, greet you through me, and cordially, graciously welcome you into our Brotherhood, and pray that you may be ever worthy of our esteem and love.

Here let me counsel you to shape your conduct with the requirements of the Constitution, in which you will be instructed later, always obeying the laws which bind us together, and respecting the Officers of the Fraternity whom we have placed over us to guide us.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

You should always work in harmony with Pi Kappa Alpha's interests, and, keeping its welfare always before your eyes, strive by every proper means to advance its prosperity.

You should lay aside all prejudices and ill-feeling from you, henceforth forevermore, and, cherishing the objects of our beloved Fraternity, endeavor to foster those noble qualities of the heart which it is intended to develop.

The Ceremony of Initiation will conclude with the Charge, which will be delivered by Brother .....  
(Name of Alumnus.)

The S. M. C. should request an able alumnus to deliver the Charge. It must be memorized, with the alumnus holding the Ritual open in front of him, but quoting from memory. The alumnus salutes the S. M. C. before beginning.

### CHARGE

ALUMNUS: Upon

we have established this Fraternity, designed to develop the better qualities of the heart and to open its avenues to friendship and kind feelings.

Man's nature is a social one, and its highest, as well as purest, enjoyments are gleaned from his association with his fellow men.

shines a star, whose genial ray has all the brightness in time of joy to enhance our happiness, and all the sympathetic tenderness in time of adversity to mitigate our grief.

is the crystallization of all the finer feelings and beautiful sentiments of the heart, beaming a dearer consolation in sorrow and a sweeter sympathy in happiness.



## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

The regular closing ceremony (See Part IX) is conducted immediately after which the Brothers silently form a single line circle around the room for a Circle of Friendship.

For the Circle of Friendship, the Brothers will form a single circle around the room. Each alternate Brother crosses his arms, right over left. The others extend their arms to right and left and all clasp hands, so that each is clasping the respective hands of the Brothers on either side. The S. M. C. then whispers the current password to the Brother on his right, who in turn does the same, sending it around the Circle. When the password returns to the S. M. C., he gives the Fraternity grip to the man on his left and the grip is passed through the entire Circle in rapid successive order, the alternate men with crossed arms having to pass the grip via their left hands. The entire proceeding is executed in silence, except for the whispering of the password.

The members then quietly leave the Chapter room.

# *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

## X

### *Memorial Service*

This service may be used at National or District Conventions or by individual Chapters. It should be conducted by the National Chaplain, though it may be conducted by any member.

#### HYMN:

#### CROSSING THE BAR

Sunset and evening star,  
And one clear call for me!  
And may there be no moaning of the bar  
When I put out to sea.

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,  
Too full for sound and foam,  
When that which drew from out the boundless deep  
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,  
And after that the dark!  
And may there be no sadness of farewell  
When I embark!

For, though from out our bourne of time and place  
The flood may bear me far,  
I hope to see my Pilot face to face  
When I have crossed the bar.

Brethren, we are gathered together to remember those of our ranks who have passed away since last we met.

Behold, they being dead, yet speak to us!

I heard a voice from heaven, saying, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.

If Thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss, O Lord, who may abide it?

Listen to the 84th Psalm.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

### PSALM 84

1. O how amiable are thy dwellings: thou Lord of hosts!
2. My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
3. Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
4. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be always praising thee.
5. Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee: in whose heart are thy ways.
6. Who going through the vale of misery use it for a well: and the pools are filled with water.
7. They will go from strength to strength: and unto the God of gods appeareth every one of them in Zion.
8. O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer: hearken, O God of Jacob.
9. Behold, O God our defender: and look upon the face of thine anointed.
10. For one day in thy courts: is better than a thousand.
11. I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God: than to dwell in the tents of ungodliness.
12. For the Lord God is a light and defense: The Lord will give grace and worship, and no good thing shall be withheld from them that live a godly life.
13. O Lord God of hosts: blessed is the man that putteth his trust in thee.



## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

Listen to what St. Paul tells us in I Thessalonians. 4th chapter, verses 13 to 18:

13. But I would not have you be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.
14. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.
15. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.
16. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:
17. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.
18. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

Let us give thanks:

CHAPLAIN: For the remembrance of our brothers departed this life,

ALL: We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

CHAPLAIN: For their faithfulness to the principles of our fraternity,

ALL: We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

CHAPLAIN: For the good example they have given to us, their successors,

ALL: We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

CHAPLAIN: For the influence of their memory upon our own lives,

ALL: We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

CHAPLAIN: For the hope of life beyond this world, where we may be reunited with them,

ALL: We thank Thee, Heavenly Father.

*Pi Kappa Alpha Music*

---

Let us pray:

CHAPLAIN: That we may worthily follow in the footsteps of our brethren gone before

ALL: We beseech Thee to hear us, Good Lord.

CHAPLAIN: That we may so live here, that we may live with Thee the world to come,

ALL: We beseech Thee to hear us, Good Lord

CHAPLAIN: That we may so die that death will have no sting and the grave no victory.

ALL: We beseech Thee to hear us, Good Lord.

Here shall be read the names of those who have passed away since the last service.

HYMN

BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS

Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Jesus' love  
The fellowship of Christian minds  
Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne  
We pour united prayers:  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
Our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes,  
Our mutual burdens bear;  
And often for each other flows  
The sympathizing tear.

When we at death must part,  
Not like the world's, our pain,  
But one in Christ, and one in heart,  
We part to meet again.

From sorrow, toil, and pain,  
And sin, we shall be free;  
And perfect love and friendship reign  
Throughout eternity.

## *Pi Kappa Alpha Ritual*

---

Let us pray:

O Lord Jesus Christ, who by Thy death didst take away the sting of death; grant unto us Thy servants so to follow in faith where Thou hast led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in Thee, and awake after Thy likeness: through Thy mercy, who livest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

O Almighty God, who hast knit together Thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of Thy Son Christ our Lord; grant us grace so to follow Thy blessed Saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys which Thou hast prepared for those who unfeignedly love Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, with whom do live the spirits of those who depart hence in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful, after they are delivered from the burden of the flesh, are in joy and felicity; we give Thee hearty thanks for the good examples of all those Thy servants, who, having finished their course in faith, do now rest from their labors. And we beseech Thee, that we, with all those who are departed in the true faith of Thy Holy Name, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in Thy eternal and everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Almighty God, who art found of those who seek Thee in loneliness, and whose portion is sufficient for the sorrowful soul; upon these Thy servants, bereaved and afflicted, pour out, we pray Thee, Thy blessing. Thou only canst keep their feet from falling, and their eyes from tears. Let not Thy grace of patience fail them, nor Thy love forsake them; but do Thou encourage and sustain their hearts, that in the country of Peace and Rest they may, when the end cometh, find an everlasting home. We ask it for His sake who hath gone thither to prepare a place for us, Thy son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Almighty God, Great Judge of all men; so fit and prepare us for the great account which we must one day give, that when the time of our appointed change shall come, we may look up to Thee with joy and comfort, and may at last be received unto that place of rest and peace, where all tears shall be wiped from our eyes, and all our troubles and sorrows shall have an end; through the merits and for the sake of our blessed Savior and Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant; make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.