

# OMICRON-PSI E-NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 3

July 2003

## OMICRON-PSI HONOR KEY

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Omicron-Psi would like to introduce the New Honor Key. It includes all the symbols that Omicron-Psi members are expected to dedicate your lives to.

The Book symbolizes our continue pursuit for learning. We realize that life is an open book and though we are able to turn the page, we never close the book, thus closing our minds. Life has so many things to teach us.

The cap and gown symbolize our present page in our book. We are seeking higher educational pursuits and always in our lives and

encourage others to do the same.

The heart and hands represents individual service. It is



not our heart that we hold in our hands but the hearts of others. Service is the cornerstone of Omicron-Psi.

Through education we have been given so much and we believe that service to others is part of our lives. We want to make a difference to others individually, to our community we live in and to the world that surrounds us.

The crown symbolizes Honor. This is Omicron-Psi's Point of Distinction. We live our lives honorably. That means with honesty and integrity. Our lives should be exemplary in every way and should be the example to others who are searching for something better in their lives. Be the example, not part of the problem.

### Student of the Year Award

Omicron-Psi is pleased to introduce the Student of the Year Award. This plaque will be given to one student from each Chapter per academic school year. Omicron-Psi Chapter Advisors will be able to choose one student who exemplifies the Omicron-Psi life and recommend them for Student of the Year for their chapter. This plaque

will be presented to the Student of the Year at their induction ceremony.

Students may nominate a student for this award and submit their name to the Chapter Advisor.

All Students of the Year names will be published in our newsletter and recognized by the National Office with a letter of con-

gratulations.



### Special points of interest:

- Omicron-Psi has a new Web Site.
- Omicron-Psi has created a new member certificate.
- Membership dues now include honor cords.
- All newsletter will be quarterly with news updates on the web site.

## WHAT MAKES A PERSON GREAT BY MICHAEL J. HOAG

One way to answer the question “what makes a person great?” is to first define what I mean by great. There could be many criteria used to define the word great as applied to describing a person. These criteria are not static. Some definitions of what makes a person great change with each generation. Today, a person might be described as great if they can hit over seventy home runs, appear in music videos, or if they earn a very high salary. It is easy to attribute greatness to material success or physical prowess. However, this would not be my definition of what makes a person great.

In my definition, the words giving, sharing and caring would be included. I would use the phrases “tried their best”, or “gave their best”. My definition would include those who give with no thought of themselves, with no material rewards guiding their actions. A person is great who gives of themselves, who genuinely cares for others and who shares whatever it is that they have to offer. This, quite simply put is my definition of greatness.

Greatness does not discriminate. A person can be great no matter what gender, race, nationality, ethnicity or sexual persuasion. There is no age limit; there is no social economic requirement, nor level of intellectual achievement to prevent a person from achieving greatness. Greatness does not have to be measured in how well known someone is, or by some notable achievement. Someone can achieve greatness without the world taking note.

There have been many great people

throughout history. There have been explorers, inventors, statesmen, clergy, doctors and nurses who could be described as great, and whom many have called great. But, what exactly it is that makes these people great may be open to debate. Is it a special, notable achievement that made a person great? Or is it something more, something intangible that really makes a person great?

*“.. They are aware of this, and there is a need in these people to live their lives in such a way that they benefit humankind...”*

I could make a list of great people, a list that might include the likes of Abraham Lincoln, Mother Theresa, Martin Luther King and Charles Lindberg. A list of this nature could go on and on. Every nation and culture, every race and faith have people who can easily be called great. They would be defined as great for what they gave, for what they contributed and for what they shared. One thing that these people would have in common is that they are selfless.

I could continue to list the names, familiar names of people whom have been called great. However, there are many, many more people who I would call great whose names I don't know, nor whose names will never be recorded in history. There are those who live their

lives without ever being called great, but who are indeed great. Who are some of these nameless people whom I would define as great? My list would start with mothers and fathers, and then it would include teachers. Others that I would include would be nurses and doctors, police officers and firefighters, and men and women in our armed services. I don't mean the famous ones, the ones whose names get in the paper, or on the news, or recorded in the history books. I mean the average, ordinary, every day heroes who surround us.

I see great people every day. I see the single mothers struggling to raise their children. I see the fathers working hard to imbue good values into their children. I see the teachers who work year after year with hundreds and thousands of children to guide them and instruct them. I see the clergy who comfort those who are suffering and in need of compassion. I see our law enforcement officers, our firefighters, and our service men and women who go out each day serving their communities and our country.

So, for me, what makes a person great is something inside a person, something that makes them aware that they are a part of something greater than themselves, that they are a part of a whole. They are aware of this, and there is a need in these people to live their lives in such a way that they benefit humankind, whether it is through helping hundreds, or just helping one person. These people may never be recognized as being great, but they all fit my definition.

### ***Michael J. Hoag***

*Michael attended Suny Potsdam in New York.*

*His college and community activities include:*

*President of the Non-Traditional Student Organization*

*Member of the Board of PACES*

*Member of the Navy Club & American Legion*

*Member of the Psychology Club*



### **Scholarship Tips**

When filling out a scholarship application please include the name and address of your College or University. Do not however place your name or College/University on the actual essay. Scholarships are solely based on the essay and complete anonymity is required.

## Welcome New Chapters

We are privileged to introduce to you our newest Omicron-Psi Chapters

Hofstra University, 147 University College Hall, Hempstead, NY 11549, Ellen DaVdio

Mississippi University for Women, 417 Serenade Drive, Columbus, MS 39701, Linda Halbert

University Center, University of Montana, 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, MT 59812, Brad Engebretson

Columbus State University, 4225 University Avenue, Columbus, Georgia, 31907, Tracie Price

Clarion University of Pennsylvania, NTSU, 124 Becht Hall, Clarion, PA 16214, Stacie Wolbert

Southern Wesleyan University, 907 Wesleyan Drive, Central, SC 29630, Yvonne Duckett

Please feel free to welcome the new chapters. We are always here to help with any questions for problems. We know that the new web site has many tools that one can use for your college, but learning new things take a little bit of time. We have designed this web site to be user friendly so log on and click away.

### The Message Box

Now you can send a message to your students by logging in on [www.omicronpsi.com](http://www.omicronpsi.com) and clicking on edit. Scroll down to find a message box. Anything that you type here will show up under your University/College info for your student to see. Here you can put dates for deadlines and induction ceremonies. If you are handling applications on campus only, let your students know who they can contact and where they can pick up an application.

Remember only advisors can approve members applications both online and on campus. Online just log in and approve. By clicking on the name of the applicant you will see all their application information. Just copy for your records.

You can always call for any help at 605-329-2496 or email us at [omicron@hdc.net](mailto:omicron@hdc.net).



Stop and Smell the Flowers

## WHAT IS INCLUDED WITH OMICRON-PSI MEMBERSHIP

We have always been proud of the fact that in spite of rising prices all around us we were able to keep our original membership price the same. The original membership dues were \$25 which included the pin and certificate. Many students ordered the honor cords separately for \$14.90, which included shipping.

We are happy to now include the honor cords with the membership pin and membership certificate for a

new membership dues amount of \$35. It makes less work for us and less cost to you.



We had already updated our Honor Cords to a gold metallic rope with a deep blue cord to make the set correspond with our blue/gold colors.

A silver metallic is also available for the two year colleges. If you should already be a member and not have your honor cords you will still be able to purchase them on line for the original price including a small handling charge. We are able to take charge cards online through a safe and secure site.

## NATIONAL OMICRON-PSI HONOR SOCIETY

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### *WE ARE NOT JUST ANOTHER HONOR SOCIETY*

Omicron-Psi members are dedicated to becoming active participants in community activities. We recognize the need to reach out and make the difference in our homes and neighborhoods. As members we continually press on towards a higher purpose. That purpose is one that lies outside of ourselves and reaches into the depths of others. Too many in our society have taken a non-involvement nap yet awoken just long enough to complain about the environment in which they are a part of. We assess the needs of our environment and take an active position in helping others. It is important to become part of the solution, to remain inactive is to remain part of the problem.

Always keep in mind that Omicron-Psi stands for honor, honesty, integrity and service. As an Omicron-Psi Chapter you are dedicating yourself to continually encourage your chapter members to live by Omicron-Psi standards of conduct in every aspect of their lives.

Be dedicated to become the example for future generations.

We are on the Web.  
[www.omicronpsi.com](http://www.omicronpsi.com)

## *God Bless America*



Omicron-Psi symbolizes honor and service. We want to take this opportunity to let our service men and women know that we stand behind you and appreciate your service for our country and for the people you are liberating in Iraq. You are all truly heroes and fulfill all Omicron-Psi requirements for service honors. Our prayers are with you for your safety and speedy return home. May God truly bless you and your families.