

Through the eyes of the Greeks

by Antonio Monroe
Staff Writer and Photographer

Greek life has played a very important part of college campuses since their arrival in 1906.

Known to all as the Divine Nine, this impressive group consists of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. and last but not least Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc. However, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc. and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. are both inactive organizations at this time.

Of all the differences between the fraternities and sororities, the one thing they all share is the belief for uplifting the community through community service.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Delta Gamma chapter was the first Greek organization on the campus of Fayetteville State University.

"Some of the things we do to help better the campus and the community is our coin drives, food drives and clothes drives," says junior, Quinton "Q" Graham who is the chapter editor of Omega Psi Phi.

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. Omega Beta chapter President, senior, Kelly C. Smith, says "Our organization provides programs that help build student's leadership and public image. We try to get students involved."

Latasha Jones of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. stated that her organization bases their programs off a "Five point system: economic development, educational development, international awareness, physical and mental health and political awareness involvement."

President of the Epsilon Zeta chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. senior, Joshua Brown, stated that his organization implements programs that allow students to meet the chancellor and his cabinet and question major issues on campus.

"You would be surprised at the amount of college students around the country who do not know their chancellor or his cabinet." Mr. Brown goes on to say "We also do charity events for the surrounding community such as the back pack donations that took place over at the Bronco Square."

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. Epsilon Beta chapter President junior, Travois Banks, mentioned that his organization contributes to the campus in a positive way by "organizing campus clean-up activities, promoting good etiquette skills and leadership. We also do annual donations."

President James Coleman of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. Pi chapter stated that his organization puts on extracurricular activities that teaches life lessons and gives students the material needed to be successful in college.

While these programs are very helpful, the thing that really gets the student body up and excited is when each organization does their distinctive "hop" at a party or event. No pep rally is complete without a demonstration of cane twirling

from the Kappa's, "aping out" from the Alphas, or the distinctive flashing of the AKA's mirrors. Each organization has their own unique style. Along with these styles come stereotypes.

"Stereotypes are for people who like to talk," said Mr. Coleman.

"You always have that one person in the group that ruins it for the bunch," said Mr. Graham.

Another sensitive topic among the Greeks, is the relocation of the Greek plots.

"As a member of any Greek organization you do not want to see something that you put so much time, love and passion into being moved. However, through the eyes of the student body President, I see it as something that is elevating the campus as a whole. So I guess I feel more joyful than upset," said student body president and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. member, Jermaine Pittman.

"If it is to better the school then I am for it, I mean it is school property," said Mr. Coleman.

All of the Greek organizations wish that anyone who is interested in joining to first make sure your GPA is at least a 2.7. Make sure you are in good standings with the campus. And please do your research on all of the organizations before making a decision.

Be sure to catch a glimpse of FSU's Greek Organizations at the Homecoming step show, Saturday Oct. 15 in the Capel Arena at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$11 for students and \$16 for general admission. Tickets at the door will be sold for \$21.



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