ASSOCIATION OF TROJAN LEAGUES
INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The Association of Trojan Leagues (the “Association” or ATL) is the umbrella organization under which the seven Trojan Leagues operate. The Association and the respective Trojan Leagues are organized for the purpose of furthering the best interests of the University of Southern California by sharing its history, traditions, and accomplishments. In addition, the Association and Leagues work together with the Alumni Association in achieving its goals and priorities of engaging alumnae, cultivating a culture of philanthropy, and being a voice for alumnae. At all times, the Association and the Leagues operate in conformity with the governance policies of the University.

The specific purpose of ATL shall be to maintain the standards and foster the growth of the Trojan Leagues. The Association supports, encourages, and nurtures the individual Leagues. It provides a means of communication between the Leagues to coordinate their programs and to share information about successes and difficulties. The Association does not compete with the Leagues. It is not a fundraising organization. It does run the Trojan Tribute Scholarship program by receiving donations and distributing the funds in the form of Scholarships to students. While ATL offers guidelines for operation, the individual Trojan Leagues carry out their own programs and reflect the community of which they are a part.

The Association may form new Trojan Leagues with the approval of the University of Southern California Administration and Alumni Association, and in accordance with the standards set up by the Board of Directors of the Association. The current emphasis is to strengthen the existing Leagues.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Association is composed of the seven Trojan Leagues and their members. The seven Leagues are Trojan League of Los Angeles, Trojan League of Orange County, Trojan League Associates of San Diego County, Trojan League Associates of the Valleys, Trojan League of South Bay, Trojan League Associates of the Foothills, and Trojan League Associates of the Desert. Each Trojan League elects representatives to the Board of Directors of ATL.
Membership in a Trojan League is extended by invitation to women who have attended USC for at least two consecutive years, are at least 30 years of age or have been out of the university at least 10 years, reside in an area represented by a Trojan League, and have demonstrated leadership in their community and interest in the university. In addition, the Trojan League Associates of San Diego County, Trojan League Associates of the Valleys, Trojan League Associates of the Desert, and Trojan League Associates of the Foothills provide a category of membership for women who are friends of the university and/or parents of a USC student. A Trojan League must have a minimum of forty (40) members and a maximum number, if any, to be determined by its own Board and stated in its Bylaws.

The leadership of ATL is shared with every League represented. The Officers serve a two-year term, and the Leagues rotate the Presidency of ATL. Each League is unique in its membership diversity, benefits, and scholarship recipients, but each shares a common interest to promote the University of Southern California.

BACKGROUND TO THE ASSOCIATION

The Trojan League of Los Angeles was chartered in 1957 to bring together representative prominent alumnae who were willing and able to serve USC as a public relations link between the University and their own communities. There was a great need for an alumnae group whose members were leaders in civic, educational, and philanthropic affairs, and who exemplified the outstanding caliber of Trojan Alumnae, as the founding president wrote on the occasion of the 25th anniversary:

(From the beginning) we had in mind a totally different and unique concept of an alumnae group. We were highly selective in choosing Trojan women who had become civic leaders in their own communities.

We knew that if we had the choice women, we would have an exceptional group to help perpetuate the Trojan ideals and traditions and to keep the general public aware of the outstanding contributions, accomplishments, and goals of this great private University. To this purpose of disseminating information and encouraging the general public to contribute to Trojan causes, we have been dedicated.

Based on the same premise and concept, the Trojan League of Orange County was chartered in 1961.

THE ASSOCIATION: THE BEGINNINGS AND TODAY

The warm relationship and cooperation of the Trojan League of Los Angeles and Trojan League of Orange
County provided the perfect scenario for the formation of the Association of Trojan Leagues. In 1961, after the formation of the Trojan League of Orange County, the traditional Benefit was held jointly at USC. Thereafter, the Boards of the two Leagues met together annually in January to hear the final Benefit report and share with one another each group’s experience in other areas. The President of the Trojan League of Los Angeles was invited once a year to the General Meeting in Orange County, and a similar invitation was issued to the President of the Trojan League of Orange County to attend a meeting in Los Angeles. Chapter liaisons also served on the Boards to promote the flow of communications between the two groups.

A formalized alliance of the two Leagues began in 1965-66 in the Future Planning Committee of the Trojan League of Los Angeles under the chairmanship of Mrs. Donald W. Starling (Helen Allis). Members were Mmes. Grant B. Cooper (Phyllis Norton) and Galentine Reynolds (Leta Galentine). As the concept was developed, representatives from the Trojan League of Orange County, Mmes. Jack C. Bomke (Charlotte Quinn), Jack Lovell (Mary Kay Damson), and Darrell Nordwall (Rosita Hopps) were invited and became members of the initial Steering Committee. A working plan and Bylaws were drawn up.

On January 18, 1967, at a joint meeting of the Board of Directors of Los Angeles and Orange County, Bylaws for the Association of Trojan Leagues were approved. The membership of the Trojan League of Orange County approved the Bylaws at its regular meeting on February 27, 1967, and the Trojan League of Los Angeles ratified them at a regular meeting on March 2, 1967. The Leagues also adopted a resolution authorizing the Executive Committees of the Boards of Los Angeles and Orange County to take the necessary steps to create the Association of Trojan Leagues, the initial membership to comprise the Trojan Leagues of Los Angeles and Orange County.

On March 25, 1967, the Board of Governors of the General Alumni Association approved the chartering of the Association of Trojan Leagues. The Association was founded to establish standards applicable to the Leagues and to provide a framework for the formation of additional Trojan Leagues. It would help the Leagues maintain the standards, adhere to goals, communicate, and interact.

On March 28, 1967, at a joint meeting of the Executive Committees of the Trojan Leagues of Los Angeles and Orange County, at the home of Miss Julia Dockweiler, then President of Trojan League of Los Angeles, who called the meeting to order, the Trojan Leagues of Los Angeles and Orange County formally accepted their charters and agreed to be bound by the Bylaws and the rules of the Association.
As agreed, three representatives of the two founding groups were officially appointed by Mrs. Jack Thompson (Helen Flammer) and Miss Dockweiler, the Presidents of the Leagues who served as the Nominating Committee, with the approval of their respective Board of Directors.

The first ATL Officers were:

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<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Mrs. Donald Starling (Helen Allis)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Admissions Vice President</td>
<td>Mrs. Darrell Nordwall (Rosita Hopps)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Standards Vice President</td>
<td>Mrs. William Stinehart (Martha Tanner)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recording Secretary</td>
<td>Mrs. Jack C. Bomke (Charlotte Quinn)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corresponding Secretary</td>
<td>Mrs. Emmett Jones (Helen Northmore)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Mrs. Jack Lovell (Mary Kay Damson)</td>
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The first Charter Day Luncheon in honor of the Past Presidents of the Leagues took place September 28, 1967, in Marks Residence Hall at the University, and the charters were formally presented to Mrs. Ames Crawford and Mrs. Norman Bing, Presidents of the Trojan Leagues of Los Angeles and Orange County, respectively. The speaker was Dr. Laurence J. Peter, Associate Professor of Education. Special guests included Mrs. Grant B. Cooper, President of the General Alumni Association; Francis T. McGinley, Executive Director of the General Alumni Association; Dr. Albert S. Raubenheimer, Vice President Academic Affairs; Dean Joan M. Schaefer, Dean of Women; and Mrs. Shari Thorell, Director of Special Programs.

The accomplishments of both Leagues led to the realization that Trojan Leagues in other communities would be equally successful. In ensuing years, five Trojan Leagues were founded and added to ATL: Trojan League Associates of San Diego County (1969), Trojan League Associates of the Valleys (1972), Trojan League of South Bay (1974), Trojan League Associates of the Foothills (1985), and Trojan League Associates of the Desert (1987). Charter Day Luncheons were held with the formation of each new League. Trojan League of Greater Chicago and Trojan League of Fresno also were granted charters. Unable to sustain a viable membership, however, the two Leagues disbanded in the early 2000s.

Today, the Association Board of Directors consists of the Presidents and elected representatives from all seven Leagues, and the Executive Committee. The Board meets three times a year to carry on the business of the Association. Election of officers takes place biennially.

The Association oversees the Leagues and their activities. Through the years, the Leagues have organized several programs, such USC Parents’ Coffees, Senior Breakfast Recruiting events, SCions activities, and SCend Offs. Today’s programs include Counselors Coffees or Luncheons, Benefits, Product Sales, Scholarship
programs, Neighborhood Admitted Students Receptions, and participation in the annual USC Day of Service and other Alumni Association programs. In addition, the Association and Leagues communicate news about USC, and they showcase speakers from the University’s faculty or administration.

Each Trojan League is self-governing, providing its Bylaws conform to the Bylaws and standards of the Association. Each Trojan League establishes its own dues and hospitality fees, schedules of meetings, programming, social events, fundraising methods, service projects, and more.

Members of each League are invited to the Annual Meeting and the Annual Gathering, occurring in the spring in alternating years. At each annual meeting since 1997, the Association presents its Outstanding Service Award to a USC professor, faculty member, or dean who best meets the award’s criteria of exceptional service to students and alumni, diligent research, and acclaimed academic accomplishments.

Many years ago, the General Alumni Association (now known as the USC Alumni Association) established a Memorial Scholarship Fund. The purpose was to create a general scholarship fund to assist outstanding USC students as well as provide an opportunity to honor a member of the extended Trojan Family. In 1992, at the request of the Association, the fund was changed, and the Trojan Tribute Scholarship Fund was created, with ATL managing the fund. In 1998, the Association and the Board of Governors together enhanced the Trojan Tribute fund by establishing named scholarships honoring the women who have served as President of the Board of Governors and who have been members of Trojan Leagues. Currently, there are eight such Trojan Tribute Scholarships, named for Phyllis Cooper, Lorna Reed, Linda Maudlin, L’Cena Rice, Ann Hill, Michele Engemann, Carol Fox, and Lisa Barkett. A Memorial Book is maintained and displayed to acknowledge these gifts.

The Association and all seven Trojan Leagues take pride in their rich tradition of Trojan spirit and support, and they are poised to participate strategically in the USC Alumni Association for many years to come.

*Updated July 2013*