History

In 1936, Circle K was instituted as a fraternity at Washington State University by the Kiwanis Club of Pullman, Washington. The idea started with Jay N. Emerson, who was later elected Kiwanis International President. His interest led to the building of the first Circle K club in 1947 at Carthage College, Illinois.

In 1949, two more clubs were organized, including one in Canada, making Circle K truly “International”. There were 147 CKI clubs in 1955, and, in October of that year, representatives from these clubs met in Philadelphia and voted to form an international organization under the sponsorship of Kiwanis. It was at this point that Circle K International was officially recognized as a sponsored organization of Kiwanis International. In 1956, a special department was created in the Kiwanis International Office to serve as the International Headquarters for CKI.

Starting with just 10 clubs, the Capital District of CKI was first chartered on October 1, 1960. Almost 47 years later, CDCKI has grown to over 1,000 members across more than thirty clubs.

Committees

- **Public Relations**
  - In charge of the overall publicity of the club
- **Social**
  - In charge of all social events within our club and clubs around Mason
- **Fundraising**
  - In charge of all fundraising activities of the club
- **K – Family Relations**
  - Maintaining good relations with other K-Fam clubs

**Chair/member applications are available online in our website: gmu.edu/org/gmucki**

Membership

- **Dues**: $25 (Funds the operation of the club)
- **Free t-shirt before February 5**
- **Membership card/pin**
- **Insurance at all service projects**
- **Access to CKI scholarships**
- **Opportunity to make contacts with members of Kiwanis**
- **Great leadership opportunities**
- **Many More!**

George Mason University Circle K International

Feel the need for Service, Leadership, and Fellowship? Want to be a part of a thriving organization? Come join the GMU Circle K International as we Double the Service and Double the FUN!
3 Tenets of Circle K International

1) **Service** (sur-vis n. an act of helpful activity): As a sponsored program of Kiwanis International (a community-service organization for professional men and women), CKI shares the focus of serving the children of the world. In support of this effort, the CKI service initiative is **Focusing on the Future: Children**. This initiative encourages members to address the issues facing children ages 6-13 and to find solutions through service for addressing these issues.

2) **Leadership** (lee-der-ship n. the ability to lead): Through the mission and vision of the organization, CKI is dedicated to the realization of human potential. The potential of CKI lies in its ability to positively influence members of society who are facing ultimate personal decisions and those who will one day create the vision of humanity for generations to come.

3) **Fellowship** (fel-oh-ship) n. the condition or relation of being a fellow: With each element and aspect of CKI, members experience fellowship and develop lifelong relationships with fellow collegians, advisors, Kiwanians and citizens in their communities. CKI member is developing social skills, meeting new people and strengthening relationships.

**Circle K International (CKI)** is the world's largest collegiate organization dedicated to service and leadership development with more than 500 clubs in over 15 different nations. It is not the size of the organization, however, which gives CKI its identity or provides it with its primary source of pride and satisfaction. Rather, it's the mission and the objects of the organization that set CKI apart from other student organizations.

CKI is a service organization through which college students can find a means of responsible student action in their communities and a more active involvement in the life of their campuses. As clubs learn about the needs of their campuses and communities, they develop hands-on activities to address these problems.

CKI provides a unique opportunity to make a difference now -- it is the total college experience.