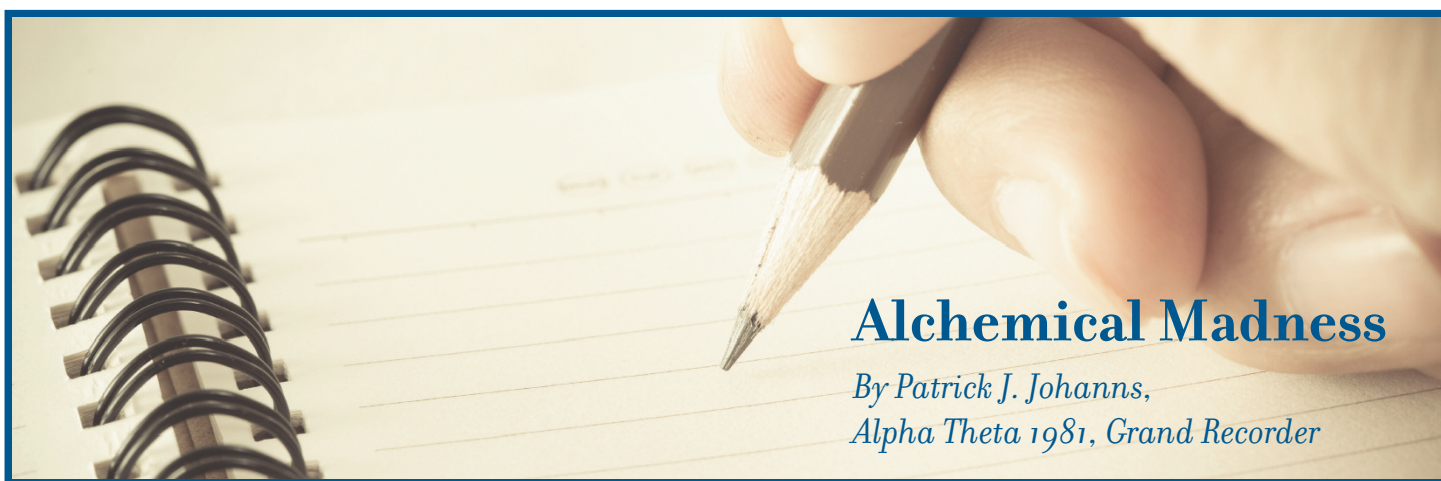


THE Chrome *and* BLUE *of* ALPHA CHI SIGMA



Volume 46 | Issue 7 {March 2015}



Alchemical Madness

*By Patrick J. Johanns,
Alpha Theta 1981, Grand Recorder*

Fun times and a friend in need – That is a rough summary of the First Object. Well, I need you for both. The Alchemical Madness Pick'em competition has been happening each year since 2007. There were Fraternity based March Madness Basketball Pick'em competitions in 2004 and 2005 but they did not stick around. In any event it is an opportunity to meet some Brothers, exchange "witty banter", and demonstrate why we will all keep our day jobs and not go into sports betting.

I feel it only fair to warn you that our very own D. Mitch Levings, Grand Historian, Order of Altotus, and thespian extraordinaire, will be showing off his prognostication skills and rapier wit. (Note: his wit is much sharper than is picking skills.) In addition to D. Mitch, you can generally find a few PRs and DC and assorted other characters. So tick that box for the First Object this month and follow this link for the Alchemical Madness Pick'em tournament. You can enter up to two brackets.

While I am trying to get you to do things online, be sure to visit our Facebook page. We are in the midst of redesigning our website (estimated completion date: August 1) and developing a social media strategy. I am trying to identify chapter Facebook pages so we can share the best activities that our chapters are doing. If you could let me know of your page I would appreciate it. Contact me at gr@alphachisigma.org.

We have exciting news about the Professional Fraternity Association's Leadership Academy. Find more information on page 3!

Apply for a low-interest loan from the Mathews Memorial Fund

Following his death in 1970, the J. Howard Mathews Memorial Fund was established to honor founder “Matty” Mathews. The fund, held and administered by the Alpha Chi Sigma Educational Foundation, provides low-interest loans to collegiate members of Alpha Chi Sigma, who become eligible to participate in the program on the first anniversary of their initiation. Read about just a few of your Brothers who have benefited from a Mathews loan.

“The Matthews Loan was one of three loans I tapped into for my senior year of college expenses as well as monies earned from my last term as a co-op student. Since that loan went directly to me and not directly to the school, that loan helped me to afford taking a week off from work in the summer of 1992 to attend my first Conclave - it more than covered for the loss of a week’s pay, plus the cost of registration, travel and room & board. Thinking back upon it, the Mathews Loan was key to my continued fraternal involvement. If I hadn’t attended that Conclave, then I probably wouldn’t have gotten around to attending any future Conclaves and I know attending several Conclaves (and at my own expense each time for the first 18 years) consecutively caught the attention of several national leaders who decided to put me to work on various committees and nominate me (or propose to nominate me) for several rounds of PR elections and a few SC elections.” Michael Clager, Gamma Iota 1989 – Professional Representative

“I asked for a Mathew’s Loan my last year enrolled at Beta Sigma. At the time, it was useful to me to pay for GRE testing and application fees to graduate schools. Who knows? Without it being available to all Brothers, Gamma Iota may not have gotten its start when it did!” Mark N. Evaniak, Beta Sigma 1980 – Grand Master Alchemist

“The Mathews loan was suggested to me by my Chapter Advisor in my senior year of school. I applied for it with his help



and when I received the loan, it was very helpful in allowing me to have a semester where I didn’t need to work to pay for school. I think that was my best semester overall GPA wise and the least stressful semester I had. I paid for all of my school as I went to school and I attended full time. I worked a lot during my undergraduate degree and it was stressful to make sure I worked enough to pay the bills but also to have enough free time to do my homework and keep up on my studies. This was a very helpful loan to have, and to be able to pay it back over time was so helpful to ensure that others could use it if needed. I really appreciated it during that semester of school.” Margaret Smallbrock, Beta Phi 2003 – Beta Phi Chapter Advisor

“The Mathews Loan came in very handy while I was in graduate school. It helped to cover costs after the birth of my first daughter, which forced my family to move out of a “no-children” apartment complex. We were grateful to have a readily available loan source that offered a low interest rate and didn’t need to be repaid until after I finished school.” R. Scott Wilson, Alpha Zeta 1978 – Great Lakes District Counselor

[Apply for a loan or find more information.](#)

March issue of *Fraternal Law*

The *Fraternal Law* Newsletter provides a discussion of fraternity law and industry issues for Greek organizations.



2015 Professional Fraternity Association's Leadership Academy

Students! Interested in leadership training?

This May, The Professional Fraternity Association (PFA) will host its inaugural Leadership Academy at the Hilton Atlanta Airport. PFA represents over 100,000 undergraduate and graduate students on over 1,000 campuses across the nation, in professional fields such as agriculture, business, engineering, law, medicine, music, nursing, pharmacy, and more.



Alpha Chi Sigma wants as many collegiate members to attend as possible, so the Foundation is generously offering to reimburse \$100 per person to offset some of the registration fee! This will be limited to 30 people, up to 6 people per chapter, until May 1. After the deadline, any monies remaining are unlimited to chapters. Collegiate members will need to register themselves, and then contact the National Office for your reimbursement.

The 2015 Leadership Academy will be held May 29-31 at the rate of \$91/night. Reservations can be made with Hilton (1-800-445-8667 – Group Code: PFA or [online here](#)). Registration is \$149 per person, and includes two lunches, LPI Co-Curricula educational materials, student self workbook, facilitation leadership by PFA member groups, and the opportunity to meet and learn from your peers in other fraternal groups! Curricula is based on the Kouzes-Posner Leadership Challenge. Universities often have funds available for students to attend leadership programs so check with your university when you register.

For more information, [click here!](#)

Don't lose your tax-exempt status

Collegiate and Professional Chapters whose gross receipts are normally \$50,000 or less are required to annually file an electronic Form 990-N, or e-postcard, with the IRS.

The form is easy to complete. All you need is the following information about your organization:

- Employer identification number (EIN) – provided by the National Office
- Tax year
- Legal name and mailing address
- Any other names the organization uses
- Name and address of a principal officer (Chapter Advisor)
- Website address, if applicable
- Confirmation that the organization's annual gross receipts are normally \$50,000 or less



The e-postcard is due each year by May 15th. Don't put Alpha Chi Sigma or your chapter's tax-exempt status in jeopardy! Each chapter will receive an email with instructions and reminders from the National Office.

Meet the Supreme Council



Spotlight on Helen M.M. Webster

Alpha Rho, 1994 - Grand Collegiate Alchemist

My path to joining Alpha Chi Sigma was a rather circuitous one, but I am glad I was persuaded to make the journey.

Junior year, my friend Nanci and I opted to take swimming as an elective. In this class, we met another Chemistry major named Stephanie Lee. She asked if we were members of Alpha Chi Sigma. When we said no, she asked if we were going to pledge. We talked about it for most of the week. After one of the classes, Stephanie persuaded us to go sign up for the pizza party that would occur Thursday night (by persuaded, I mean marched us down the hill, and into the Alpha Chi Sigma lounge). When I showed up for the pizza party, I found that I already knew some of the Brothers, as well as finding my friend, Len Russo, among those interested in pledging. Even though Nanci ended up depledging, I quickly grew to love the organization, and was certain that it would hold a permanent place in my life. My collegiate Brothers are still some of my closest friends. I attended Maryland football games with them, and have been blessed to attend their weddings, as well as have them in mine. My best friend, who I've known since we were 5, Christie (Franklin) Foulke, pledged the semester after me. She ended up marrying one of my pledge Brothers, Russell Foulke. Stephanie Lee also married a Brother, Dr. Joon You. And I did as well – Michael Webster.

As a collegiate, I held many offices – Historian, Master of Ceremonies, and Master Alchemist. I also had the good fortune of having a very active Professional Chapter nearby, Washington Pro. This Professional Chapter gave me direct insight into one of the ways I could be active with Alpha Chi Sigma after graduation. Alpha Rho also used to initiate members from two local chapters – Alpha Pi and Beta Upsilon, so I had some early exposure to interacting with those outside my “home chapter” as well. My greatest interest, though, came in the form of the District Counselor position. I loved the idea of being a professional member and being able to interact with all of the collegiate members. At the time, that was my main goal in Alpha Chi Sigma: to be a District Counselor.

Once I graduated, I became active with Washington Pro, helped form Chesapeake Bay Pro, and attended events with Delaware Valley Pro. I also served as Alumni Secretary for Alpha Rho Chapter. I then helped with the reactivation of Nu Chapter at Penn State, the reactivation of Alpha Pi Chapter at George Washington University, and the installation of Gamma Omicron Chapter at Lehigh University. Most of my activities stayed within my District. This all changed though, due to Abbey (House) DeGraffenreid. She persuaded a group of collegiates and professionals to take a 15-passenger van to the 2000 Biennial Conclave in St. Louis, Missouri. Attending Conclave gave me a whole new perspective on how my involvement with Alpha Chi Sigma could grow and help others. Prior to this Conclave, I had run for Professional Representative (PR) twice and lost. At the end of Conclave, I found out that I would be serving the rest of Pete Yochim's term, as he had been elected to Supreme Council. This would also happen one other year before 2005, when I was elected outright. I served as a PR from 2005 until 2008, when my fraternal dream came true! I was appointed as the Atlantic Central District Counselor at the conclusion of the 2008 Biennial Conclave, when Dr. Randy Weinstein was elected to Supreme Council.

I thoroughly enjoyed serving as District Counselor, and all of my interactions with both the collegiate members and professionals in my district taught me many things. One of the major lessons I learned was that no one Brother's path is the same; we all have different interests, and come to different conclusions different ways. As an organization, we need to look at not only how we support our Brothers, but how our Brothers would like to support Alpha Chi Sigma. You never know what someone may be good at, or what ideas are out there. It's always good to listen and ask.

I ended up serving as DC for four years. I was then elected to the Supreme Council in 2012 as the Grand Collegiate Alchemist. I was able to take what I had learned through my years of service in Alpha Chi Sigma, and apply it in a whole new way. Every day is a learning experience, and a way in which I can draw joy from my service to our organization.

Continued on page 5

Spotlight on Helen M.M. Webster

Alpha Rho, 1994 - Grand Collegiate Alchemist

I enjoy working with our collegiate members and seeing how they grow.

My point is to encourage all Brothers to find their niche in Alpha Chi Sigma, and utilize it to its fullest. I am often asked why I stayed active after graduation. In a nutshell, it comes back to communication: I love talking to each and every Brother, and finding a way to make them feel useful and valued. We may not always agree, but every opinion will be respected and considered. I would not have the view of the world that I do without Alpha Chi Sigma.

My professional career is geared toward communication as well. After undergrad, I went to work for a biotechnology company in Gaithersburg, MD called Kirkegaard and Perry Laboratories (KPL), in their R&D department. I loved the bench work, and working for a small company gave me the opportunity to learn many things. It was in doing this that I discovered that I could combine some of my favorite things into a career: science, helping others, and communication. All scientists have questions, and

many would prefer to ask another scientist about them, rather than a non-scientist. Enter Technical Services. As a scientist, I help researchers who use our products to develop new assays, troubleshoot issues, and find new products for their research. My communication skills help those who may not be sure what they're looking for, as well as provide vital insight to our internal departments, as to what products are needed in the market. I get to spend my days talking about science and helping others fulfill their research dreams and goals.

In addition to my professional activities, I have an active personal life as well. I teach recreational gymnastics for the City of Gaithersburg. I have been married to my husband Michael for ten years (as of April 16th!). Our 6-year old daughter, Caitlin Evelyn, keeps us on our toes and brightens our lives every day. In my spare time, I love to swim, be outdoors, and socialize with Brothers all over the country. I love meeting new people, and would love to hear from all of you. Contact a Brother today; see how it brightens your day!

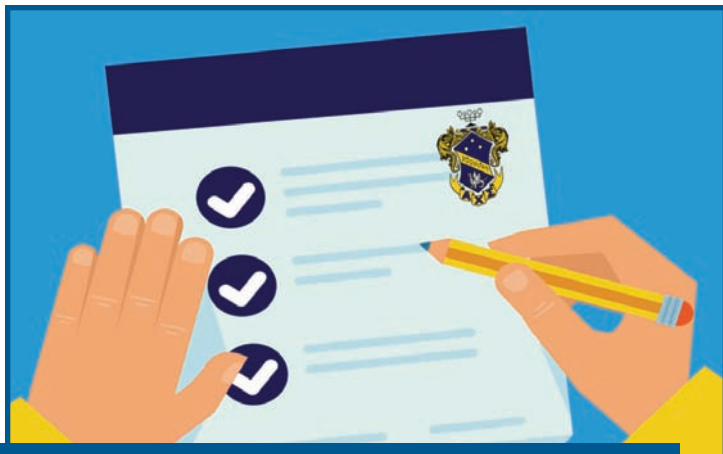
Environmental Protection Rules

Source: [Advanced Chemical Safety](#)

- Be aware of possible environmental threats
- Recycle all materials acceptable to the company recycle program
- Only use chemicals for which you have received proper training
- Dispose of chemicals and chemical containers in the proper manner
- Report spills and releases promptly
- Follow all policies with respect to environmental protection
- Close all chemical containers securely when not in use
- Report all possible environmental problems to your supervisor promptly

Helpful tips on submitting a Conclave bid

by Anna Volkert, Alpha Theta, 2008 - Conclave 2012 Host Chapter Committee Chair



Submit your Conclave bid by April 30.

1. To start - focus on location and costs of the banquet, initiation, meals (including alternative dining option), and lodging. Be aware and report any hidden costs (room rental fees, AV equipment, decorations).
2. We had the issue that the cafeteria wasn't going to be open for all of the meals so we included bids of an alternative option (including silverware and delivery fees).
3. For the major events it helps to think about as many details ahead of time as possible and include them in the bid. For example room rental fees and decoration costs for the banquet or how are you going to purchase items for the snacks.
4. In our bid we also included a support letter from the chapter, alumni, and the chemistry department showing that we had the support and help that we needed to actually run Conclave (this was especially helpful since we ran conclave with ~20 active brothers and relied on alumni support as well).
5. If possible, take advantage of connections that you have already established. For example, having our chemistry department rent the rooms and banquet location cut down on our costs significantly.
6. Take the extra time to include every detail that you have worked out into the bid. Having pictures, maps, and/or tables will make the bid look nicer but also make it easier to understand.

Grand Professional Alchemist Dr. Jonathan E. Wenzel to speak at the Annual Krug Lecture

The annual Krug Lecture is excited to announce that Jonathan Wenzel, the Grand Professional Alchemist of Alpha Chi Sigma, will be this year's lecturer. The event will be hosted by the Zeta chapter – University of Illinois on Sunday, April 26. The chapter is enthusiastic about his visit to campus and his speech about his research in extracts from agricultural by-products and evaluating conditions of supercritical fluid extraction.



The Krug Lecture was established by Louis G. Krug, a member of the Zeta chapter, with the purpose of bringing faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students together to share the knowledge of chemistry. Each year, the Zeta chapter invites a professor within the discipline to celebrate and recognize their achievements, as well as educate and enlighten the attendees of their current research. Previous speakers include Nobel Prize winners Paul Flory, Melvin Calvin, Herbert C. Brown, E.J. Corey, Rudy Marcus, Tom Cech, and Dick Schrock.

Louis G. Krug initiated with the Zeta Chapter on January 16, 1915, and was highly invested in Alpha Chi Sigma as a member before he passed away in 1972. Through his life, he worked for the William Wrigley Company of Chicago and the Rawhide Manufacturing Company. Brother Krug set up a substantial bequest to the Zeta Chapter in order to host a lecture annually in his honor.

What's Happening Around the Fraternity

Spring Banquet – Mu Chapter

The Mu Chapter of Alpha Chi Sigma is holding their Spring Banquet on April 11, 2015 at the University of New Hampshire's Huddleston Hall. This event will bring current collegiate Brothers from the Northeast District together with alumni and Boston Professional Brothers. The banquet will be held from 6-9pm, with bar service and a light meal served at 8pm. The cost of admission is \$25/person and formal dress is encouraged. Additionally, Mu will be holding a Professional Induction Ceremony, and any seniors or graduate students are encouraged to participate!

Please RSVP to [Meghan Van Hoose](#) or [Brittany Hutchinson](#), if you are planning on attending or going through the Professional Induction Ceremony.



Save the Date!

Alpha Chi Sigma is excited to announce the reactivation ceremony for the Beta Mu Chapter will be held on April 25, 2015 at 5:30pm on the campus of Occidental College in Los Angeles, CA. More details will follow in April's edition of the Chrome and Blue, including the exact location, cost, lodging recommendations, and more!

Alpha Upsilon

Alpha Upsilon is coaching a Science Olympiad team at one of their local high schools this semester. They are practicing with the team 2 to 3 times a month.

Alpha Beta

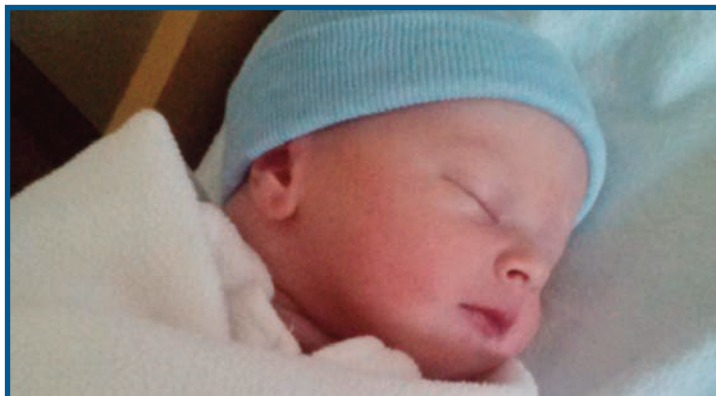
Alpha Beta is starting to coach a Science Olympiad team at one of their local high schools in March.

Assistant Grand Recorder welcomes baby boy

Congratulations to Assistant Grand Recorder Marena Humphress and her husband, Cameron!

Tate Edison Humphress was born Monday, March 2, 2015. He weighed 6 pounds, 7 ounces and was 21 inches long!

Marena will return to the National Office in May.



Graduation Medallions



Graduation medallions are a special memento for graduating seniors. Don't forget to order graduation medallions for Brothers graduating from your chapter this spring.

The medallions typically are worn over a commencement gown during the ceremony to signify membership in Alpha Chi Sigma. Please check with your chapter advisor about your university's rules on graduation regalia. Even if your school does not allow graduation medallions, they still make an excellent memento.

Medallions are \$12 each, including shipping and handling. Order medallions by using the [jewelry order form](#).

Would you like your picture on our new website?

Alpha Chi Sigma is working on updating our website and hope to launch the new website in August. Part of the new design will be including more photos, and we need your help! If you have good photos of activities, Brothers, outreach, etc. please forward them to the National Office. Feel free to send a link to a DropBox or Google Drive, if you have one, versus attaching individual pictures to an email.



I'm an officer of Alpha Chi Sigma – now what?

Ever wonder what you are supposed to be doing as an officer of Alpha Chi Sigma? There are many resources to help answer this question – [the Supreme Council](#), the [National Office](#), and now there are updated Manuals of Procedures! Please take a minute to review the [Manuals of Procedures](#) and contact the [National Office](#) with any questions.

Western Coating Symposium

Call for Academic Poster Presentations

The Western Coatings Symposium (WCS) is seeking academic poster presentations to be considered for the 32nd Biennial WCS. Sponsored by the Arizona, Golden Gate, Pacific Northwest and Los Angeles Societies for Coatings Technology, the 32nd WCS will be held at the Paris Hotel, Las Vegas, NV, on October 25-28, 2015.

*****WCS Academic Poster Presentations Requirements*****

The WCS Academic Poster Session is designed to encourage university students to submit posters promoting new ideas and technologies based on preliminary or completed coatings or related materials research. All students presenting an accepted poster will receive \$200.00 and are eligible for the three Academic Poster Session monetary awards. In addition to the three monetary awards, there are four speaker slots reserved for four students to present their findings to the attendees of the WCS Symposium. Each accepted academic poster will be provided with a display board to highlight the research project. Students will be required to be present in the exhibit hall during WCS exhibit hours for the purpose of discussing their projects with WCS attendees. Only one poster can be submitted by a given student with a maximum of two students per poster. A University can elect to set up an accepted academic poster without a student, but the University will not receive the \$200 accepted poster prize or be eligible for the three academic poster competition awards.

Awards for the WCS Academic Poster Competition Session are:

1st Prize = \$1,200.00

2nd Prize = \$ 600.00

3rd Prize = \$ 300.00

To participate, submit a 100-200 word Academic Poster Abstract by April 17, 2015, including title of paper, University name, author name(s), and contact information. Students will be notified of acceptance by May 22, 2015. Following acceptance, submissions must be completed by August 31, 2015.

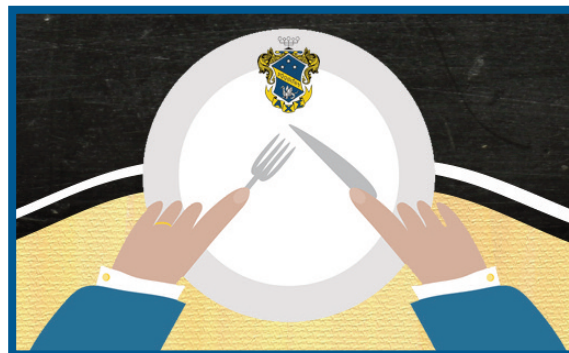
<https://www.westerncoatings.org/content/wcs-calls-for-academic-posters>

Join Alpha Chi Sigma Brothers at the ACS Meeting

Brothers attending the 248th American Chemical Society National Meeting and Exposition in Denver are cordially invited to the traditional Alpha Chi Sigma luncheon on Tuesday, March 23 starting at 11 am.

The luncheon is an opportunity to meet and dine with Brothers from around the nation.

Please join us at Bubba Gump Shrimp at 1437 California Street, Denver, CO 80202. The price is \$25 per person, payable at the luncheon. Collegiate members are invited to attend for free as guests of the Fraternity. Guests of Brothers also are welcome.



Register for the luncheon by contacting Grand Professional Alchemist Jonathan Wenzel at 573-999-1753 or gpa@alphachisigma.org.

CALENDAR

MARCH

- 1 Founder Harold E. Eggers was born in 1882.
- 2 Founder Bart Eldred McCormick was born in 1882.
- 11 Meet with Alpha Chi Sigma Brothers at Pittcon. RSVP to [Tim Deschaines](#).
- 14 Initiation at Gamma Chi Chapter and UC-Irvine Colony of Beta Gamma.
- 20-21 East Central District Conclave hosted by [Beta Chi Chapter](#).
- 21 Initiations at Delta Beta and U of New Orleans Colony of Delta Beta.
- 24 Alpha Chi Sigma luncheon at the 248th American Chemical Society National Meeting and Exposition in Denver. RSVP to Grand Professional Alchemist [Jonathan Wenzel](#).
- 28 Initiations at Beta Pi Chapter.
- 31 Professional chapter reports due to the [National Office](#).

APRIL

- 1 Deadline to submit items for the summer issue of [The HEXAGON](#).
- 11 Mu Chapter 2nd Annual Alumni Banquet and Professional Induction for seniors. Contact [Megan Van Hoose](#) for more information.
- 26 Grand Professional Alchemist Jonathan E. Wenzel to speak at the Annual Krug Lecture - hosted by [Zeta Chapter](#)
- 30 Deadline to submit your chapter's bid to host the 53rd Biennial Conclave.

MAY

- 15 Deadline to submit your chapter's 990-N e-postcard to the IRS.
- 29-31 Professional Fraternity Association's [Leadership Academy](#).

JUNE

- 15 Collegiate chapters' Audit, Member Register, Star Chapter Report, CRR1 and Alcohol Awareness Training sign-in sheet due to the [National Office](#).

Congratulations to all Spring Initiates!

ALPHA CHI SIGMA FRATERNITY

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The Chrome and Blue is a newsletter published monthly during the academic year primarily for collegiate chapter officers and District Counselors. It also provides information useful to the rest of the Grand Chapter and to any interested Brothers.
It serves to communicate news, reminders and updates in a timely manner.

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