

# The Chrome and Blue

## of Alpha Chi Sigma

### The leader your chapter needs

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

**T**hirty-two years ago, I was a pledge. My, how the world has changed! This came to mind as the daughter of one of my Brothers way back in those days is now a pledge at my initiating chapter. I'm looking forward to attending her initiation.

Some of the things that were done back then would be considered hazing now. I am not going to enumerate them now as I can see someone saying, "That sounds cool! We should do that."

For the most part though, my pledgeship was a very positive experience where I got to know the Brothers and what the Fraternity stands for. My membership meant enough to me that 32 years later I am still very active, even though my career path has led me away from the laboratory.

My Brothers became my best friends as we took classes, hosted chemistry merit badge



programs and went through highs and lows together. I saw how a great master alchemist in the chapter could build a vision of an activity that he or she thought the chapter should be doing. And that vision motivated us to make it happen. Those leaders took the time to know the strengths and talents of the Brothers and directed them toward a need.

I also was inspired by Ronald Pflaum, Alpha Theta 1953. His

door always was open to students and especially Brothers. He showed me what it meant to be active in the Fraternity for your whole life.

Do you think your pledgeship and chapter activities will inspire you enough to be active in the Fraternity decades later? If not, what can you do to change that? Remember there is no "one day" without "day one." Become the leader your chapter needs.

**"Not much happens without a dream. And for something great to happen, there must be a great dream. Behind every great achievement is a dreamer of great dreams. Much more than a dreamer is required to bring it to reality; but the dream must be there first."**

**Robert K.  
Greenleaf, author  
of *The Servant As  
Leader***

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#### Alpha Chi Sigma By the Numbers:

More than 66,000 members  
49 collegiate chapters  
4 collegiate colonies  
9 professional chapters  
8 professional groups

# Alpha Kappa Chapter invites you to the 52nd Biennial Conclave

Alpha Kappa Chapter was founded on May 27, 1922, at the University of Virginia. The chapter house is located at 1713 Jefferson Park Ave., and as of spring 2013, the chapter is 21 members strong. Alpha Kappa Chapter is involved in many outreach opportunities, including teaching merit badges, assisting at elementary school fairs and most notably the annual CHEMFEST, where children from local schools participate in an interactive day of fun, chemistry-rich activities and "magic shows."

The University of Virginia (UVA) was founded in 1819 by former President Thomas Jefferson. Locally, the UVA campus is referred to as the "Grounds." The UVA

campus is the only university campus in the United States that is designated as a world heritage site by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The grounds of the university are full of rich, beautiful architecture that make living in the city of Charlottesville all the more enjoyable. Of the many impressive pieces of architecture designed by Jefferson, the Rotunda was created as the heart of his community of scholars. The original buildings make up what Jefferson intended to be an "Academic Village."

Among the many successful alumni of the university, the most famous is the renowned poet Edgar Allan Poe, who



did not actually graduate from the university. Other notable UVA alumni include Tina Fey, the popular actress who starred for many years on "Saturday Night Live" and "30 Rock," and Richard Byrd, a prominent Polar explorer. John Backus, founder of the first widely used high-level programming language FORTRAN, is also a graduate of the University of Virginia.

Alpha Kappa Chapter is very excited to welcome Brothers from across the country to our beautiful university.

Watch for more information about Conclave on the [website](#), [Facebook](#) and in future issues of [The Chrome and Blue](#).

## In the last issue

Check out the [September issue](#) to read about:

- Alcohol Awareness Training – [schedule your chapter's training today!](#)
- Accepting award nominations
- National Chemistry Week
- Ritual and regalia reminders



# Follow this checklist to report pledges and initiates

- ☐ [Order Sourcebooks and pledge pins](#) for the current pledge class.
- ☐ Report pledges to the National Office (including faculty and professional candidates and pledges who previously de-pledged) using the [pledge report form](#).
- ☐ Review the pledge confirmation report sent from the National Office.
- ☐ Confirm that all pledges' names are spelled correctly.
- ☐ Collect the \$40 pledge fee and the \$145 lifetime member fee **before** the initiation ceremony. Or ask pledges to pay the entire \$185 fee online. **Do not initiate pledges who do not pay the entire \$185 fee or the \$40 pledge fee and the first \$80 installment of the lifetime member fee.** These fees must be paid at least two weeks before initiation. But the sooner the National Office receives these fees, the quicker we can send the badges to your chapter.
- ☐ Within one week of initiation, send the confirmation report by e-mail or postal mail. Indicate which pledges initiated and which did not. Member certificates and cards for pledges who initiated will be sent to your chapter as soon as this report is submitted. Refunds of lifetime member fees for pledges who did not initiate also will be sent.

If you need more information or have questions about your chapter's status, contact the [National Office](#). We're here to help!

## Chemistry for ghouls

As Halloween approaches, check out these websites for some fun chemistry-related ideas.

Remember to exercise appropriate safety practices when trying any of these activities.

### Fake wounds

Fake wounds are a necessary fashion addition to every Halloween macabre ensemble.



### Fake blood

Fake wounds would not be complete without fake blood.

### Slime

This is a fun one for kids of all ages.

### Fake glass

Fake glass really makes a scary crime scene come to life. Don't forget the crime scene tape!



# Vote for the next class of professional representatives

Professional Brothers, your opportunity to elect fellow Brothers to represent you in the Grand Chapter as Professional Representatives (PR) has begun.

To have the privilege of voting, you must become an active professional by making a contribution to the Fraternity in the 2013 calendar year. A

ballot was included in your solicitation letter, but you may cast your vote online if you make your contribution online.

You can find [bios and state-ments from the candidates](#) for the 2014-2015 class on the national website.

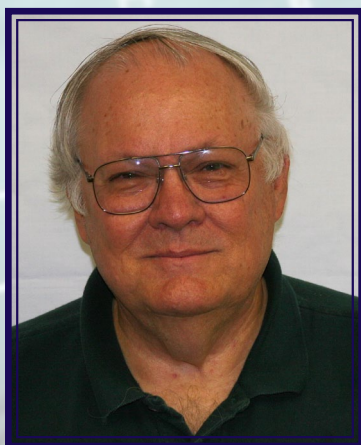
The candidates include (listed in random order):

- Michael R. Clager, Gamma Iota 1989
- Oliver Penrose, Gamma Theta 2003,
- Timothy O. Deschaines Mu 2002
- Laura Walkup, Beta Psi 2005
- Joshua M. Stenger, Epsilon 2002
- Cassandra Watson, Alpha 2000
- Kathryn Cavanaugh, Alpha Theta 2003

You may vote for up to five of these individuals to serve as professional representatives for the term Jan. 1, 2014, through Dec. 31, 2015 (one to serve the term of Jan. 1, 2014, to Dec. 31, 2014). The deadline to vote is Nov. 30, 2013.

## Why I give...

Do you wonder what motivates professional Brothers to make their annual contributions? Read what these two Brothers have to say. And watch for more quotes in future issues of *The Chrome and Blue*.



"I feel that if you get something worthwhile out of anything, you should pay something back either in the form of money or volunteer effort or both."

**Gary D. Anderson, Alpha Eta 1962**



"I continue to donate to AXΣ so that future students and professionals will have the same opportunities of brotherhood that I did. Also, so that AXΣ chapters will be able to continue community support and involvement."

**Alexis Jensen, Alpha Beta 2010**

# Annual 5 percent checks

Each year, 5 percent of active chapters' alumni donations are returned to their chapters. These chapters received a check this year:

- Alpha
- Beta
- Gamma
- Delta
- Epsilon
- Zeta
- Iota
- Mu
- Pi
- Rho
- Sigma
- Tau
- Alpha Beta
- Alpha Epsilon
- Alpha Theta
- Alpha Kappa
- Alpha Rho
- Alpha Sigma
- Alpha Omega
- Beta Gamma
- Beta Delta
- Beta Eta

- Beta Nu
- Beta Pi
- Beta Rho
- Beta Sigma
- Beta Tau
- Beta Phi
- Beta Psi
- Gamma Beta
- Gamma Zeta
- Gamma Theta
- Gamma Iota
- Gamma Nu
- Gamma Omicron

If your chapter has not received this check yet, it should arrive within the next week.

Please deposit your check before Oct. 31, 2013, or it will be voided.

Because this money was given as a contribution to a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, it can only be used for charitable, educational or professional purposes

that support our tax exempt purposes.

You must keep adequate records that prove that these funds and any chapter dues collected from your members were not used for any other purpose.

If you collect money from your members for social purposes, these funds should be collected separately from chapter dues.

These funds should be accounted for separately and kept in a separate bank account if possible. Social funds can be spent on 501(c)(3) activities, but 501(c)(3) funds cannot be spent on social activities.

Of course, the Fraternity's Risk Management Policy prohibits the expenditure of



any chapter funds on alcoholic beverages.

Please contact the [National Office](#) if you have any questions.

# National Office is moving



Last month, the Supreme Council approved the purchase of a new National Office site.

Following a complete renovation of the new site, the National Office will move to its new location later this fall.

The new office offers a smaller, more efficient space that will enable us to serve you better. The National Office staff will continue to provide

the outstanding customer service you've come to expect.

The current National Office building is for sale.

Future issues of *The Chrome and Blue* will feature details about the new office as well as the move date, when it has been finalized.

If you have any questions, contact [Grand Recorder Patrick Johanns](#).

# You Might Be Hazing...

*By Patrick J. Johanns, Grand Recorder (channeling Jeff Foxworthy)*

At the national level, we sometimes get asked to clarify exactly what is hazing. Often we are presented with a variety of “hypothetical” situations with variations probing at the boundaries of the definition of hazing. To save some time, I’ll provide you with a quasi-checklist for hazing.

- If you have to ask, you might be hazing.
- If your rationale is that it happened to you, you might be hazing.
- If Vaseline is involved, you might be hazing.
- If you have a safe word, you might be hazing.
- If duct tape and 40-ounce beer cans are involved, you might be hazing.
- If people wake up with Sharpie tattoos, you might be hazing.
- If it causes a bruise, you might be hazing.
- If pledges actively avoid you, you might be hazing.
- If it causes embarrassment, you might be hazing.
- If you don’t want your district counselor to know about the activity, you might be hazing.
- If profanity was involved, you might be hazing.
- If the phrase “assume the position” is used, you might be hazing.
- If you wouldn’t do it to your mother, you might be hazing.
- If it involves a blindfold and a car trip, you might be hazing.
- If pledges are falling asleep during the activity, you might be hazing.
- If you are laughing at instead of with your pledges, you might be hazing.
- If the word “kidnap” is mentioned, you might be hazing.
- If the phrase “find your way home” is used, you might be hazing.
- If you make someone drink too much of anything, you might be hazing.
- If you make someone eat too much of anything, you might be hazing.
- If a YouTube video of the activity would go viral, you might be hazing.
- If groveling is involved, you might be hazing.
- If alcohol is involved, you might be hazing.
- If it changes the pledges’ physical appearance, you might be hazing.
- If you would not want it to happen to you, you might be hazing.



- If the mixture of foods you serve would not appear together in a restaurant, you might be hazing.
- If it involves a blindfold and is not initiation, you might be hazing.
- If pictures can’t be posted on Facebook, you might be hazing.
- If it happened in a National Lampoon movie, you might be hazing.
- If underwear or less clothing is the attire, you might be hazing.
- If the idea came from a drinking session, you might be hazing.
- If your excuse is, “We’re helping the pledges bond,” you might be hazing.
- If you have to ask, you might be hazing.

All joking aside, the words “might be” should probably be replaced with “are” in these examples.

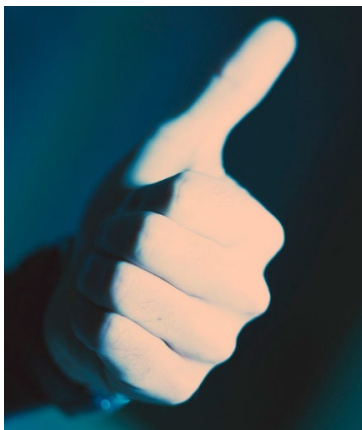
Stop Hazing defines hazing as any activity expected of someone joining a group (or to maintain full status in a group) that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person’s willingness to participate.

If you have enough doubt to ask about a particular activity, it should be your first clue that it is probably hazing.

If you have more questions about hazing, contact your [district counselor](#).



## Thumbs up!



As of Oct. 1, the following chapters submitted initiation paperwork and/or payments on time for fall 2013. Thank you and keep up the good work!

- Gamma
- Epsilon
- Rho
- Tau
- Beta Sigma
- Beta Psi
- U of Tampa Pre-Colony
- Gamma Theta
- Gamma Iota
- Gamma Tau
- Georgia Southern Colony

## Thumbs down!



As of Oct. 1, no chapters have initiation paperwork and/or payments pending from previous semesters!

Each Thursday afternoon, the current versions of the active logs and delinquency list are posted on the national website. Be sure to [check the website](#) each week and let us know if our records are not up to date.

## Order Sourcebooks today

To order Sourcebooks and pledge pins for your chapter's upcoming fall initiation, complete the pledge materials order form on [the national website](#). Then submit it to [reports@alphachisigma.org](mailto:reports@alphachisigma.org). Allow seven business days to receive the materials.

And don't forget to check out the new [electronic version](#)!

### Alpha Chi Sigma Sourcebook

A Repository of Fraternity Knowledge  
for Reference and Education



Academic Year 2013-2014 Edition

# Meet the Central Coast District

By Nicholas Garcia, Central Coast District Counselor

Arranged in a tidy line along the Piedmont in Virginia and North Carolina sit the chapters of Alpha Chi Sigma's newest district, Central Coast.

We are comprised of four collegiate chapters and one professional chapter, and we have a healthy mix of young chapters as well as some with a more established history.



On the northern side of the district are **Beta Chi** at Hampden-Sydney College and **Gamma Chi** at Longwood University. Hampden-Sydney, the only chapter in the district with a house, is a traditionally male school that has a small but innovative chemis-

try department. This chapter finished its tenure as Gamma Chi's parent chapter in 2011 but still cooperates with the Brothers who live a stone's throw away at Longwood.

The chapter's master alchemist is [David Campbell](#).

Gamma Chi is a young but vibrant chapter involved in promoting the Three Objects



in the community and on campus. Brothers at this chapter judge at a local elementary school science fair and are looking forward to a number of events on campus celebrating National Chemistry Week, including a 6.2 km "Mole Day Run" to raise money for supplies for the local school district.

The chapter's master alchemist is [Leanna Tacik](#).

Our southern contingent consists of **Gamma Xi** at North Carolina State University, **Rho** at the University of North Carolina and **Research Triangle Park** professional chapter centered in Raleigh.

NC State is home to the state's engineering program, so Gamma Xi Chapter draws many pledges entering engineering fields. The Brothers here are looking forward to demonstrations for this year's National Chemistry Week in Raleigh.



The chapter's master alchemist is [Bridgette Dale](#).

Rho celebrated its centennial last year and is planning a "Chemistry of Blood" drive in collaboration with UNC's Red Cross Club.



The chapter's master alchemist is [Joshua Sheetz](#).

RTP Pro is organizing a National Chemistry Week demo at the Durham Museum of Life and Science, as well as its annual welcome barbecue for the collegiate chapters.

The chapter's president is [Wendy Robinette](#).

The Central Coast District Conclave will take place in the spring, and hopefully some interested Brothers will visit and help drum up interest for the 52nd Biennial Conclave next summer!

We are excited to build a name for ourselves as a district, and we look forward to a productive, fun and fraternal conclusion to this biennium.

Contact [CCDC Nicholas Garcia](#).



# Calendar

## October

- 5 Great Lakes District Conclave hosted by Gamma Nu Chapter. Contact Master Alchemist [Jenna Silverman](#).
- 12 [North Central District Conclave](#) hosted by the Indianapolis Professional Chapter.
- 15 Founder Joseph H. Mathews was born in 1881.
- 19 Delta Beta Chapter installation at Alcorn State University. RSVP to [Sonia Eley](#) at (601) 877-6441 by Friday, Sept. 27. To reserve a hotel room, call (601) 636-1811 by Tuesday, Oct. 1.
- 20-26 ACS National Chemistry Week – Energy: Now and Forever.
- 26 Atlantic Central District Conclave hosted by Gamma Omicron Chapter. Contact [Rijul Kochar](#).
- 26 Northeastern District Conclave hosted by Delta Alpha Chapter. Contact Master Alchemist [Caitlin Ross](#).
- 28 Founder James C. Silverthorn was born in 1880.
- 29 Founder Frank J. Petura was born in 1881.

## November

- 8-10 Southeastern District Conclave in Pine Mountain, Ga. Contact District Counselor [Matt Schnippert](#).
- 9 Initiations at Gamma and Gamma Iota Chapters.
- 15 Initiation at Epsilon Chapter.

- 16 Initiations at Beta Sigma, Beta Psi and Gamma Theta Chapters and Georgia Southern Colony.
- 22 Initiations at Alpha Omega Chapter and University of Tampa Pre-Colony.
- 25-29 National Office closed.
- 30 Deadline to vote for new professional representatives.

## December

- 7 Initiations at Mu, Tau and Gamma Tau Chapters.



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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.