

Supreme Council Meeting  
Holiday Inn Express, Carmel, IN  
January 16 – 17, 2016

The Supreme Council met in the conference room of the Holiday Inn Express in Carmel, IN. GMA Mark Evaniak BΣ '80, GMC Kip Nalley AΣ '90, GCA Helen Webster AP '94, GPA Jon Wenzel Δ, and GR Patrick Johanns AΘ '81 were in attendance. Also present were: AGR Marena Humphress, NO staff member Kirsten Cleveland, BGDC Merryn Cole, PR Michael Clager, Chuck Carroll, John Becker, EMDC Howard McLean, Christy Gesell

The GMA called the meeting to order at 8:11 am. He welcomed the attendees and reviewed the schedule for the weekend.

GMA Evaniak

1. Conflict of Interest – No conflicts of interest were indicated by members of the SC or National Office staff.
2. Nominating Committee – The committee submitted candidates for Supreme Council. They will begin generating a list of candidates for PR.
3. Awards – Deadlines for most awards have been extended to March 1.
4. University of New Orleans – Visited by GMA. They appear to be ready to move ahead. The Council passed a proposition allowing them to submit a petition to be issued a Charter as a chapter of Alpha Chi Sigma.
5. Rev. Jean Kuebler – Mark Evaniak, John Becker, Marena Humphress and Allison Wisner met with the granddaughter of John Kuebler and her husband. John Becker gave a wonderful presentation on what John means to the Fraternity.
6. Spring ACS Meeting in San Diego – GMA will be attending to present sponsored award in Pure Chemistry
7. Conclave – The GMA met with the members of Alpha Omega. It promises to be a good Conclave and the GMA promises not to bring his rollerblades. Current information regarding the Conclave were shared with the attendees.
8. Educational Foundation – Money from the Amazon Smile program comes in donations to the Fraternity and the Foundation. The Fraternity is content with all of these donations going to the Foundation.

GPA

9. Solicitation – There were numerous positive comments on the material. The only negative comment was that the donation card did not fit in the envelope without folding. The size of the donations were larger but fewer people donated. Total professional donations were down.
10. Boston Luncheon – The lunch was poorly attended. The weather was considered a factor.
11. San Diego – San Diego Pier Café Tuesday, March 15 @ 11:30.
12. PR Chats – Monthly chats
13. Pro Chapters
  - a. Saint Louis is off probation and seems to be doing well.
  - b. LA Pro submitted their delinquent reports.
  - c. The GPA has been making an effort to talk to the Pro Chapter Presidents.

## GCA

14. Reports – There were a few communication problems but chapters and colonies are up to date with their paperwork.
15. Expansion
  - a. Delta Epsilon – Very energetic and looking forward to their installation.
  - b. Albion College – Energetic and excited to move to the next stage toward becoming a chapter. The GPA will visit the colony to report back on their readiness to petition.
  - c. UC Irvine – A few small issues. Likely to move on in the process in six months or so.
  - d. University of Tampa – They have had some support from the department but have had difficulty getting and keeping a Chapter Advisor. This is a concern. The students are interested in becoming a chapter. Having an academic contact the department might be helpful.
  - e. Kappa Colony – Progressing but not ready to move to the next stage.
  - f. Philadelphia University – Going well, likely to be ready to move to the next stage in the fall.
  - g. Northern Illinois University is ready to move to Colony status. They have successfully initiated two pledge classes. The SC passed proposition 4570 designating them as Northern Illinois University Colony of Zeta Chapter of the Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity.
  - h. Christopher Newport – Three pledge classes completed. They have initiated 2 faculty members. Gamma Iota is their parent chapter. The SC passed proposition 4571 recognizing them as the Christopher Newport University Colony of Gamma Iota Chapter of the Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity.
16. Chapters at Risk
  - a. Gamma Phi – The University of Buffalo has been having some problems for years. Personality problems within the chapter have resulted in a decrease in membership to around 5 active members. They are having problems getting a Chapter Advisor. Gamma Phi chapter was declared inactive per their request and dwindling number by SC proposition 4572.
  - b. Beta Tau – (University of Arizona) Initiated 18 and is no longer considered at risk.
17. DCs – There will be some turnover in DCs in the next biennium that we will need to plan for. Some possible replacements were discussed. Discussion of redistricting to match new/remaining DC's followed.

## GMC

18. Installation – The Beta Iota reactivation went well.
19. Risk Management – The GMC issued a statement to chapters clarifying events that could be associated with initiations. The chapters generally cooperated with these changes.
20. Ritual – There are ritual revisions that will be considered in this biennium in order to offer the best and safest Fraternal experience. The ritual committee will be looking into these issues.
21. Scholarship Committee – The committee will be brainstorming to determine how to encourage more nominations for Alpha Chi Sigma Scholar Award. They plan to report at Conclave.

22. Inventories – The ties produced this year look great and are in inventory. We are in good shape for our inventories of tokens. We will need to seek some suppliers from some other items.

#### GR

23. Pledging and Initiation – Once again the number of pledges and new members increased. In 2015, 1,632 (up from 1,580 people in 2014) were pledged and 1,405 (up from 1,233) were recorded as initiated.
24. Website – Overhauling the website was a major endeavor in 2015. It started smoothly but we have run into difficulties getting the content transferred and having all of the modules work as promised. We will be working with Blackbaud to resolve this.
25. Budget – We ran within budget but there were two major items to take note of.
- a. Pledge and Lifetime membership fees were about 10% higher than we projected.
  - b. Professional contributions were \$76,556 compared to a projected \$95,000. These differences offset each other.

#### New Business

26. Conclave Poster Session – Merryn volunteered to run this at Conclave.
27. Standard Pledge Exam – The DCs have created a standard exam for pledges. This is being passed on to the GMC for consideration.
28. Performance for Reviews for DCs – The DCs would like to have a more formal feedback process regarding the services they provide the Fraternity.
29. Recruitment – Clarification of pledge qualifications will be reviewed before Conclave. An ad hoc committee supervised by GCA will report by July 1<sup>st</sup> with their findings.

#### Brad Hulse (Morgan Stanley)

At 12:00, Brad Hulse with Morgan Stanley provided lunch and spoke about our investments and market forecasts. Morgan Stanley expects real growth in the US to be around 1.8% in 2016. Nothing is indicating a recession in 2016.

30. Current Drivers of Volatility
- a. China – China devalued their currency to stimulate their economy and promote exports. Morgan Stanley predicts China will continue to devalue their currency in the next couple years.
  - b. Low Price of Oil – The price of oil has gone much lower than expected. Supply has gone up much faster than demand. This may have an impact on the credit market.
  - c. Uncertainty – World uncertainty has lead to increased volatility in the markets.

#### GE Coppola

31. History of the Hexagon – Some of the history of the Hexagon over the last three years was discussed and the strategies for generating content reviewed.
32. New Content – Strategies for creating new content were explored.

- a. The SC member who is associated for each issue will take story ideas distilled by the GE from submitted reports and follow up with sources to get more ideas.
- b. Content for the issue emphasizing the double-bond relationships in the members: between friends, couples/partners, and between generations will be solicited online.
- c. The National Office will add GE Coppola to the distribution list for DC visit and annual reports to look for content ideas.

#### New Business

33. Website – Work in progress. Once the new website is up we will follow a strategy for generating regular new content. We will be seeing if Blackbaud is receptive to compensating for the difficulties experienced in getting the new site online. We will budget for a temp for a month in order to free up resources for the transfer of content to the new website. The new website will launch on March 1, 2016.

#### 34. Solicitation

- a. Color brochure in 2015 looked great. Modify in 2016 so card fits in envelope.
- b. Average donations were up.
- c. Try to emphasize more how we use the money in 2016. 2015 had an emphasis on "Why I donate".
- d. A social media campaign was prepared by Allison Wisher in 2015 but not carried out. We will try this in 2016.
- e. A social media campaign with a chapter focus was discussed.
- f. A sample of non-donors will be contacted to ascertain why they did not donate.
- g. The GPA will present to the SC a plan for solicitation in May.

35. Hall of Fame – The SC approved Frank A. Cotton, Beta Eta '78 (deceased) and John D Roberts, Beta Gamma '39 as the 2016 Hall of Fame Inductees.

#### 36. Conclave

- a. The current plans for Conclave were presented.
- b. Possible outside speakers were considered. David Stollman from CampusSpeak is one that will be explored in more detail.
- c. A forum focused on the responsibilities of being a parent chapter was discussed. The GCA will work on pulling together a panel of people who have been part of an expansion effort.
- d. The GMA plans for attendees to represent their district and display their talents in a lip-sync contest. No naughty words allowed.
- e. Attendees will be expected to follow the risk management policies of the Fraternity and Georgia Tech and any and all laws of the state of Georgia.

At 5:45 pm we have a dinner of Famous Dave's BBQ.

Sunday, January 17

At 8:00 am the Supreme Council met in closed session to discuss staff and risk management issues.

At 9:00 am the Supreme Council met in open session to discuss the Conclave and Fraternity budgets for 2016.

37. Conclave Budget – A Conclave budget with a net cost to the Fraternity of \$80,640 was approved.

- a. The registration fee, paid by all attendees except invited awardees, Order of Altotus members, and the National Office staff, at the 53rd Biennial Conclave will be as follows: \$90 (collegiate), \$150 (active professional), \$210 (inactive professional) until May 13, 2016; \$100 (collegiate), \$175 (active professional) and \$235 (inactive professional) from May 14 to June 13, 2016; and \$125 (collegiate), \$250 (active professional), and \$325 (inactive professional) after June 14, 2016. For members who are not elected delegates or invited guests, room and board charges will be \$410 double per person; \$460 single per person. Individual tickets to the Kuebler Banquet for non-registrants will be \$35.
- b. The SC considered Motion 37 from the 52<sup>nd</sup> Biennial Conclave. In response, the SC decided to invite a second member from each colony and chapter that had been either installed or reactivated during the 53<sup>rd</sup> biennium to the 53 Biennial Conclave. Room and board will be provided to these invitees. They are responsible for their own transportation and registration. SC Prop 4574 was passed approving this measure.

38. Fraternity Budget – Due to the higher than normal cost of Conclave, the Supreme Council approved a budget with a projected shortfall of \$24,000 to come from the reserve fund. The following assumptions were made in creating the budget.

- a. 1,600 new pledges with 95% of them going through initiation.
- b. \$95,000 will be received in professional contributions.
- c. A temporary worker will be hired for 4 weeks.
- d. A health insurance plan will be provided to National Office staff.
- e. Conclave will cost the Fraternity a net of \$80,640.
- f. We will have three installations in 2016.
- g. \$1,000 is set aside for possible legal costs.

39. Budget Approvals – The 2016 Conclave and Fraternity budgets were approved as presented.

There being no further business the Supreme Council adjourned at 11:41 am for a lunch catered from Firehouse Subs.

Respectfully submitted,



Patrick Johanns

Grand Recorder

## **SC Propositions**

### **Proposition 4570**

**1/16/2016**

Maker: Grand Collegiate Alchemist Helen Webster

The members of the fraternity at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL be recognized as the Northern Illinois University colony of Zeta Chapter of the Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity. They will be recognized as a colony until they either move to chapter status or are declared inactive. Justification: The group at Northern Illinois University has successfully initiated two pledge classes.

*For: 4 Against: 0 Result: Passed Unanimously*

### **Proposition 4571**

**1/16/2016**

Maker: Grand Collegiate Alchemist Helen Webster

The members of the fraternity at Christopher Newport University, Newport News, VA be recognized as the Christopher Newport University colony of Gamma Iota Chapter of the Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity. They will be recognized as a colony until they either move to chapter status or are declared inactive. Justification: The group has successfully initiated three pledge classes and two faculty members.

*For: 4 Against: 0 Result: Passed Unanimously*

### **Proposition 4572**

**1/16/2016**

Maker: Grand Collegiate Alchemist Helen Webster

The Gamma Phi chapter at the University of Buffalo is declared inactive per their request.

*For: 4 Against: 0 Result: Passed Unanimously*

### **Proposition 4573**

**1/17/2016**

Maker: Grand Collegiate Alchemist Helen Webster

The registration fee, paid by all attendees except invited awardees, Order of Altotus members, and the National Office staff, at the 53rd Biennial Conclave will be as follows: \$90(collegiate), \$150(active professional), \$210(inactive professional) until May 13, 2016; \$100(collegiate), \$175(active professional) and \$235(inactive professional) from May 14 to June 13, 2016; and \$125(collegiate), \$250(active professional), and \$325(inactive professional) after June 14, 2016. For members who are not elected delegates or invited guests, room and board charges will be \$410 double per person; \$460 single per person. Individual tickets to the Kuebler Banquet for non-registrants will be \$35.

*For: 4 Against: 0 Result: Passed Unanimously*

**Proposition 4574**

**1/17/2016**

Maker: Grand Master Alchemist Mark Evaniak

For the 53rd Biennial Conclave, room and board for one additional attendee for all colonies and for all chapters installed or reactivated during the 53rd biennium will be paid by the Grand Chapter.

*For: 4 Against: 0 Result: Passed Unanimously*

**Proposition 4575**

**1/17/2016**

Maker: Grand Master Alchemist Mark Evaniak

The 2016 Conclave and Fraternity budgets were approved as presented.

*For: 4 Against: 0 Result: Passed Unanimously*