Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity

Professional in Chemistry

Office of the

GRAND MASTER OF CEREMONIES



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## 2012 Grand Master of Ceremonies Annual Report

December 31, 2012

This has been a very productive and rewarding start to the biennium and I am very excited to submit my first annual report to Alpha Chi Sigma as Grand Master of Ceremonies. It has been an especially wonderful experience working with our Brothers at the Gamma Omega and Delta Alpha Chapters in organizing their installations over the past several months. Through the hard work of several collegiate Brothers, these were very exciting and memorable occasions. Thank you.

Chronologically, there are several key activities that I wish to highlight:

- **Sourcebook.** Within the first few weeks of the biennium the sourcebook was revised incorporating changes from the revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws, the Wyvern Pin Program, and other aspects as a result of Grand Chapter legislation out of the Iowa City Conclave. A special thanks to Teresa Clark at the National Office for all of her assistance with the revision. For the 2013-2014 edition, several sections of the Sourcebook will be revised and reorganized. Specifically, several members of the Ritual Committee will provide articles for the Alchemical History section.
- *Ritual Committee.* The ritual committee for this biennium consists of Stephanie Bates, AP, Chair; Mitch Levings, BΔ; Dewayne Gerber, BΔ; Derek Marin, AZ; Calvin Bond, AP; Jessica Fraser, ΓO; Mike Raffay, I; Geoff Giarmo, AB; Daniel Znidersic, AE; Chuck Carroll, Z; Sandra Lukaszewski-Rose, AΘ; Jason Ellis, Δ; Oliver Penrose, ΓΘ; Tim Deschaines, M; and Gary Anderson, AH. The ritual committee will be evaluating several topics including sourcebook revisions, green chemistry, a resource book of good practices for setting up stations, safety checklists, and theatrical suggestions.
- **Duplicate Charters.** Following the loss of the Gamma lota Chapter Charter, the Supreme Council approved a standard template for duplicate charters, Supreme Council Proposition 4411. The template is based on the duplicate charter issued to the Beta Delta Chapter on June 25, 1975.
- Delta Alpha Installation. The installation of the Delta Alpha Chapter at the University of Rhode Island was on September 29, 2012. The Delta Alpha Brothers did an exemplary job putting together a wonderful weekend of events with the culmination being the installation ceremony overlooking the Atlantic Ocean at The Atlantic Beach Club at Middletown, Rhode Island. Numerous collegiate and professional Brothers were in attendance with collegiate Brothers travelling as far as Gamma lota Chapter to witness and celebrate a recent addition to our Order. Gary Anderson, AH, and Sherrie Settle, AK, represented the Order of Altotus. GPA Mark Evaniak, BΣ, presided with GCA Helen Webster, AP, and GMC Jonathan Wenzel, Δ, participating in the ceremony. Thank you Delta Alpha for a wonderful weekend.



- **Charter Preservation Project.** The Charter Preservation Project is meant to develop an image library and historical archive of all the charters issued by Alpha Chi Sigma. At present there is no formal record kept that lists the names and signatures on the charters issued by the Fraternity. In the event of the loss of a charter, this information could be permanently lost.
- Gamma Omega Installation. The installation of the Gamma Omega Chapter at Widener University was on October 27, 2012. The Gamma Omega Installation was held following the Atlantic Central District Conclave. The Gamma Omega Brothers did a fantastic job of organizing the events. The installation ceremony was held at the Wyndham Garden Philadelphia Airport Hotel with numerous collegiate and professional Brothers in attendance to celebrate and witness the installation of a new chapter to our Fraternity. Gary Anderson, AH, represented the Order of Altotus. GMA Randy Weinstein, AK, presided over the ceremony and GPA Mark Evaniak, BΣ, GCA Helen Webster, AP, and GMC Jonathan Wenzel, Δ, participating in the ceremony. Thank you Gamma Omega for a wonderful weekend.
- Changes to the Science Outreach Program. A detailed review of possible changes to the Science Outreach Program, or Wyvern Pin Program, was conducted as part of implementing Grand Chapter Motion 23 and Motion 24 of the 51<sup>st</sup> Biennial Conclave. The audience age restrictions and scouting requirements were removed from the program at the direction of the Grand Chapter. In addition, to encourage additional participation in the program, I am allowing outreach activities performed during pledging to count towards the first Wyvern Pin.
- **Token Casting Procedures.** During several visits by email and at the North Central District and Southeastern District Conclaves, Gary Anderson, AH, and I have been documenting how he has prepared the standardized silver and lead tokens presently used by the chapters. We are preparing a manual of procedure for use by future designees of the Grand Master of Ceremonies to replenish supplies as needed. In addition the masters, several molds, lead shot, and raw materials will be delivered to the National Office in time for the January Supreme Council Meeting for safe keeping.
- District Conclaves. For my first semester as Grand Master of Ceremonies, in order to see and listen to as many Brothers as possible in regards to ritualistic matters, I chose to attend district meetings instead of attending individual initiations. These conclaves were the North Central District Conclave on October 20, the Atlantic Central District Conclave on October 27, and the

Southeastern District Conclave on November 10. At each one of these meetings Brothers shared in closed sessions, or individually, their experiences and practices as pledges and during initiation. We definitely have some very remarkable collegiate Brothers doing a fantastic job bringing new Brothers into our order. There were not many issues to report from these conclaves outside of diligence for proper care of the regalia. I will make a point to attend individual initiations soon.

- **No major initiation incidents.** At the time of this report, outside of missing ritual copies, no major issues or incidents have been reported. Good job everyone!
- *Merchandising, Trademark, Property, Ritual.* At the request of Eric Haas,  $\Sigma$ , I have been discussing with several Brothers a standardized token to be available for use during the PIC. In addition several suggestions have come in for merchandising: t-shirts, bicycle jerseys, charm bracelets, collectible conclave coins, as well as other items. Some of these items may be considered for marketing following the January 2013 Supreme Council Meeting. In reviewing our currently registered trademarks, I discovered that THE HEXAGON is not registered and may be something for the entire Supreme Council to consider. National Office reported one instance of items using trademarks and wordmarks owned by Alpha Chi Sigma being sold for-profit by an entity without the consent of the Fraternity. Within 24 hours of my phone call with the business owner, the company discontinued offering Alpha Chi Sigma merchandise on the internet with the option of offering merchandise upon review of a royalty agreement. In addition, several items of Grand Chapter property have been returned including the regalia set for Gamma Rho Chapter and the charter for Nu chapter. The Nu chapter regalia are in safe keeping awaiting return to the National Office. Sadly, I have received a request for a brief ceremony to be used by our chapters to use in the observance of the death of a Brother. Finally, an edition of the Spangle as well as the official revisions for an alternative green chemistry for part six will be distributed in early 2013 with the sourcebooks.

It has been a very productive start to the biennium and I have high expectations over the next 18 months. It has been phenomenal working with our Brothers, the members of the ritual committee, and the other members of the Supreme Council. Barring any distraction I hope that a reorganized and revised sourcebook will be offered by hard copy and electronically, there will be additional merchandise, as well as other resources for use by our chapters at the conclusion of the biennium.

Respectfully Submitted, Yours in the Double Bond,

Ør. Jonathan E. Wenzel, Delta 1996 Grand Master of Ceremonies Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity