

Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity

Professional In Chemistry

Office of the
GRAND
MASTER OF CEREMONIES



Dr. Kip A. Nalley
9962 Lake Landing Rd
Montgomery Village, MD 20886
gmc@alphachisigma.org
(240) 205-5581

2015 Report of the Grand Master of Ceremonies

August 9, 2016

It was a productive year in 2015. As Grand Master of Ceremonies I have had the opportunity to work with the rest of the Supreme Council, the District Counselors, the National Office staff, and members throughout the Fraternity. I appreciate all of the help I have received and I look forward to serving the last 7 months of the biennium. Thank you to everyone who has worked with me to accomplish these goals. Here are the highlights of the year.

Installation and Reactivation Ceremonies:

During the last year we welcomed two chapters back to the Fraternity. Each of these chapters worked with me to schedule and plan their reactivation ceremonies.

Beta Mu reactivation ceremony

On April 25, 2015 a reactivation ceremony was held on the campus of Occidental College in Los Angeles, CA. Many members of the Beta Mu chapter were present as well as members from the colonizing Beta Gamma chapter. Grand Master Alchemist Mark Evaniak presided over the extraordinary session where awards were handed out and the charter was presented back to the chapter. Grand Collegiate Alchemist Helen Webster, Grand Master of Ceremonies Kip Nalley, and District Counselor Derek Marin spoke to the chapter. Also presenting were Beta Mu members past and present and the Beta Mu Chapter Advisor, Derek Ross. The installation was a success thanks to the work of the Beta Mu chapter and all of the presenters.

Beta Iota reactivation ceremony

On October 17, 2015 a reactivation ceremony was held at the Hampton Inn and Suites in Gainesville, FL. The newly reactivated Beta Iota chapter welcomed the Supreme Council as well as District Counselor Matt Schnippert, Professional Representative Tim Deschaines, and Expansion Committee Chair Jen Schnippert. Members from nearby chapters also made the trip including a contingent from the colonizing chapter and conclave host chapter, Alpha Omega. The event included presentations by the members of the Supreme Council as well as some remarks by current and past members of the chapter. The event culminated with GMA Evaniak presenting the original Beta Iota charter back to the chapter. Another successful event thanks to the hard work of the Beta Iota chapter.

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Policy Changes:

During the past year several policy changes were put into place or put into practice.

Fraternity Trademark protections

During the last year the policy that any item carrying a fraternity trademark made available to people outside of an individual chapter must be cleared by the GMC. The policy has been well received and the approval process is proving to be quick and efficient.

Pledge Exam policy

A policy paper was written to clarify how examinations of pledges relates to the Risk Management Policy. The paper identified potential violations to the RMP in the pledge process and suggested ways chapters can properly train pledges and remain in compliance with the RMP. With the help of the District Counselors the policy was explained to the collegiate chapters and both the District Counselors and the GMC answered questions about the policy. The end result appears to be greater compliance with the RMP and, hopefully, a better pledge experience. The policy will continue to be monitored in the future.

Ritual interpretation

A change was made to the staging directions for the initiation ritual to protect the fraternity from a potentially hazardous situation. The changes were explained to the District Counselors and the collegiate chapters. The District Counselors were charged to monitor the changes and continue to implement the changes. The changes will be reviewed during the next ritual revision.

Website and Social media:

During the past year I worked with the Grand Recorder and the National Office staff to oversee the building of the new AlphaChiSigma.org website. The build was completed during the year and the process of adding content, updating pages, and resolving issues is ongoing. The target to launch the new website will be announced shortly.

Hopefully the membership has noticed the increase in social media posting this past year. The Supreme Council pages and the National Fraternity page on Facebook have been getting decent levels of engagement. In addition we are working to increase our LinkedIn presence. As we get better at presenting content the utility of social media will continue to increase.

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Other Items:

During the past year I have worked with the National office staff to design a new Alpha Chi Sigma necktie to replace the depleted stock and designed a promotional tote bag as an incentive for the annual solicitation. Also we have started the process of examining alternative licensed items to be sold by the National Office.

Also, we have identified a source for depleted initiation tokens and will produce them in the next year to replenish our stocks. We will continue to look for suppliers for other items supplied to new chapters to maintain stocks as we continue to expand the fraternity.

The Flameless candle program is still going on and any chapter that wishes to be reimbursed for purchasing flameless candles can submit the request through the National Office.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kip A. Nalley".

Dr. Kip A. Nalley, Alpha Sigma 1990
Grand Master of Ceremonies
Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity