

Report of the Grand Council to the Alpha Rho Chi Fraternity

February 24, 2023

The Grand Council of Alpha Rho Chi Fraternity is directed to submit a report to each regular Convention in accordance with the Alpha Rho Chi Bylaws, Article VII, Section 04. As the Convention did not reach the quorum needed to conduct business, the Grand Council is instead presenting this report to the membership. This report primarily covers the activity of Alpha Rho Chi, from the 74th National Convention held online in March 2022 through February 2023. The report is divided into 5 sections, as directed by the Alpha Rho Chi Bylaws (printed below for reference).

Section 04 The Grand Council shall make a report to each Regular Convention containing the following items:

- 01.** A statement of the condition of the Fraternity;
- 02.** The transactions, including all rules and regulations, adopted, of the Grand Council since the last Convention;
- 03.** Notable disciplinary actions taken against chapters, associations, or members;
- 04.** All recommendations for the good of the Fraternity that it may see fit to make;
- 05.** All petitions for new Chapters.

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01. Statement of the Condition of the Fraternity

Summary

Alpha Rho Chi continues to face challenges throughout the organization as we settle into the new normal of the post-COVID-19 world. Beginning in March 2020, the pandemic began to impact nearly every facet of fraternity operations, and while we all would like to say the Fraternity is past this challenge, the fact of the matter is that it has had a profound effect on our organization. In speaking with other organizations involved in Greek life, including our insurance provider and potential educational partner, we are not the only organization facing these issues; however, since Alpha Rho Chi is a smaller organization and 100% volunteer run, our struggles can feel greater in comparison to Fraternities who operate on a much larger scale.

While the day-to-day disruptions of the pandemic have been greatly reduced, the real effects are coming to light in our members, chapters, alumni associations, and fraternity leadership. The stability of many of our chapters and alumni associations were greatly affected and for some, it has been more difficult (if not impossible) to reestablish their footing and find the prosperity they once had. The Grand Council and National Appointees have been laser focused on assisting our member organizations as best we can to regain stability.

Since 2018, the collegiate membership of the fraternity has been declining. This is an overall trend across all of Greek life and one that has continued into the current year. Unsurprisingly, the pandemic has contributed to this decline (although it is not solely responsible). In the last year, the Fraternity has seen one chapter and three alumni associations fall dormant. While these numbers may not seem large, for a smaller organization such as Alpha Rho Chi, this is a loss of almost 10%. The Grand Council is monitoring an additional few chapters and alumni associations who may fall dormant in the not-too-distant future.

Finally, leading into the 75th National Convention, there were concerns about the viability of hosting an in-person event and the possibility that it would need to again move to an online format. Thankfully, the final registration count met the financial threshold and the Grand Council was able to commit to an in-person convention. Again similar to 2022, there was a growing concern that with so many chapters and alumni associations opting not to attend, the Fraternity was in danger of not assembling a quorum. As of this report, we're pleased to report that we reached the necessary threshold to conduct business just shy of a day prior. As the first in person convention since the 72nd National Convention (2019), the Grand Council hopes the experience will reinvigorate members and restore confidence for the upcoming 2024 Convention.

Even in the face of these challenges, our fraternity is financially stable and continues to conduct business at all levels. More information on these initiatives can be found in Section 02 of this report.

Throughout the course of our 108-year history, Alpha Rho Chi has had periods of both expansive growth and decline, both in membership and in chapters and alumni associations. It appears quite evident that the latter of this is currently upon us. Surviving the height of the pandemic years was one task, which we accomplished. Emerging from it as a stable national body is a challenge that we are just beginning to encounter. While this may seem scary or unnerving, it is an indisputable reality. Alpha Rho Chi is in the early stages of recovery, and the road will not be easy. Regardless, the Grand Council remains focused on assisting chapters and alumni associations in finding stability and prosperity, through education,

mentorship and hands-on training. Knowing we are forever changed by these world events, Alpha Rho Chi Fraternity will continue to utilize technology, our creativity, and our own collective knowledge to ensure success as best we know how.

Membership

Component Organizations

The fraternity is currently composed of 31 student chapters and 17 alumni associations. Over the past year, the Amenophis Alumni Association voluntarily dissolved, while the Sostratus Chapter, Mnesicles Alumni Association, and Satyros Alumni Association were suspended and declared dormant after falling short on their responsibilities (and repeated unanswered attempts to contact the members).

Collegiate Membership

As of February 22, 2023, the official membership of Alpha Rho Chi stands at 790 collegiate members, including members studying abroad, and 98 potential new members.

Aggregated collegiate membership statistics are shown in the table below. Including members and non-member affiliates at all chapters, our average chapter membership has stabilized since 2022, but remains lower than pre-pandemic levels. **Note:** *The Grand Council attributes part of this decline to the moratorium on initiating new members (March 2020 - 2021).*

Collegiate Membership Highlights						
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<i>Collegiate Members</i>	1010	967	821	723	747	770
<i>Potential New Members</i>	109	119	112	181	123	98
Total	1119	1086	993	904	870	888
<i>Average Chapter Size (members only)</i>	32	30	25	23	23	25
<i>Average Chapter Size (members + PNMs)</i>	35	34	27	27	26	28
<i>Chapters ≥20</i>	26	26	14	15	15	15
<i>Chapters < 20</i>	6	6	19	17	18	18
<i>Colonies</i>	0	2	1	1	0	0

The following table provides a census of the membership of our chapter, as reported in GreekTrack through February 22, 2023, compared with the same census from the 2022 reports:

Collegiate Membership Details						
	2022-2023			2021-2022		
	Collegiates	PNMs	Total	Collegiates	PNMs	Total
<i>Agamedes</i>	32	22	54	9	0	9
<i>Amenophis</i>	22	0	22	15	0	15
<i>Andronicus</i>	11	0	11	20	0	20
<i>Anthemios</i>	52	12	64	30	19	49
<i>Apollodorus</i>	28	10	38	16	7	23
<i>Callimachus</i>	21	0	21	8	9	17
<i>Cleisthenes</i>	32	0	32	22	12	34
<i>Cossutius</i>	5	5	10	9	0	9
<i>Daedalus</i>	5	0	5	8	0	8
<i>Demetrios</i>	38	0	38	45	0	45
<i>Dinocrates</i>	9	0	9	14	9	23
<i>Domitian</i>	24	0	24	18	13	31
<i>Hadrian</i>	13	0	13	25	0	25
<i>Hippodamus</i>	18	0	18	11	8	19
<i>Iktinos</i>	57	14	71	45	17	62
<i>Isidorus</i>	40	0	40	40	0	40
<i>Metagenes</i>	43	0	43	80	0	80
<i>Mnesicles</i>	7	3	10	11	3	14
<i>Nicon</i>	14	0	14	4	0	4
<i>Numisius</i>	9	0	9	6	0	6
<i>Olynthius</i>	18	0	18	22	0	22
<i>Philon</i>	24	15	39	20	0	20
<i>Polyidus</i>	52	0	52	44	11	55
<i>Pytheos</i>	7	0	7	15	0	15
<i>Rabirius</i>	19	0	19	25	0	25
<i>Senenmut</i>	20	0	20	11	0	11

<i>Seshait</i>	8	0	8	12	0	12
<i>Severus</i>	56	0	56	34	0	34
<i>Skopas</i>	55	2	57	57	0	57
<i>Theodorus</i>	12	0	12	16	0	16
<i>Vitruvius</i>	39	15	54	37	12	49
Total	790	98	888	747	123	870

Alumni Associations

There are 17 Alumni Associations affiliated with Alpha Rho Chi, 14 of which are considered in good standing as of February 22, 2023. Alumni Associations are supported by our Worthy Grand Associate Architect.

- Andronicus Alumni Association
- Anthemios Alumni Association
- Apollodorus Alumni Association
- Cleisthenes Alumni Association
- Daedalus Alumni Association
- Demetrios Alumni Association
- Domitian Alumni Association
- Hippodamus Alumni Association
- Iktinos Alumni Association
- Metagenes Alumni Association
- Olynthius Alumni Association
- *Rabirius Alumni Association**
- Senenmut Alumni Association
- *Seshait Alumni Association**
- Severus Alumni Association
- *Sostratus Alumni Association**
- Vitruvius Alumni Association

**Indicates Alumni Associations who are not currently in good standing.*

Associations who have fallen out of good standing this year will receive a notice in April 2023 identifying their outstanding requirements to be completed before the end of the fiscal year (June 30th). Any association with outstanding requirements as of July 1st will receive warnings and/or suspension notices.

Alumni Membership

With the transition to GreekTrack, we have adjusted how we track membership in hopes to provide more accurate numbers moving forward. The current alumni membership stands at 8,907, with an additional 10 Honorary members and 43 Faculty members. Of our total alumni membership, we have 92 active (dues paying) members and 319 lifetime members. Our membership records also list 1,227 members as deceased.

The following table provides a census of current alumni data as reported in GreekTrack through February 22, 2023. **Note:** *With the transition to GreekTrack, The Grand Council no longer distinguishes lost Alumni or Non-Graduate members.*

<i>Alumni by Chapter</i>					
	Total	Alumni	Honorary	Faculty	Deceased
<i>Agamedes</i>	64	64	0	0	0
<i>Amenophis</i>	67	67	0	0	0

<i>Andronicus</i>	552	551	0	1	83
<i>Anthemios</i>	977	964	12	1	429
<i>Apollodorus</i>	397	393	3	1	6
<i>Aristobulus</i>	17	17	0	0	0
<i>Callimachus</i>	122	122	0	0	0
<i>Cleisthenes</i>	202	201	1	0	3
<i>Cossutius</i>	92	92	0	0	0
<i>Daedalus</i>	329	327	2	0	4
<i>Daphnis</i>	141	139	2	0	4
<i>Demetrios</i>	416	415	1	0	123
<i>Dinocrates</i>	202	202	0	0	27
<i>Domitian</i>	162	162	0	0	0
<i>Hadrian</i>	168	168	0	0	0
<i>Hemiunu</i>	52	52	0	0	0
<i>Heracleides</i>	105	103	2	0	0
<i>Hippodamus</i>	66	65	0	1	0
<i>Iktinos</i>	652	650	0	2	211
<i>Imhotep</i>	51	49	2	0	0
<i>Isidorus</i>	230	230	0	0	0
<i>Kallikrates</i>	70	70	0	0	24
<i>Metagenes</i>	382	380	2	0	20
<i>Mnesicles</i>	339	339	0	0	99
<i>Nicon</i>	166	164	2	0	0
<i>Numisius</i>	54	54	0	0	1
<i>Olynthius</i>	90	88	1	1	1
<i>Paeonios</i>	28	28	0	0	79
<i>Philon</i>	123	123	0	0	0
<i>Polyidus</i>	127	126	1	0	0

<i>Polyklitos</i>	55	55	0	0	27
<i>Pytheos</i>	225	223	1	1	1
<i>Rabirius</i>	327	326	0	1	0
<i>Rhoecus</i>	167	165	2	0	1
<i>Satyros</i>	225	225	0	0	15
<i>Senenmut</i>	177	177	0	0	0
<i>Seshait</i>	193	188	5	0	0
<i>Severus</i>	207	207	0	0	0
<i>Skopas</i>	42	42	0	0	0
<i>Sostratus</i>	113	113	0	0	0
<i>Theodorus</i>	59	59	0	0	0
<i>Theron</i>	88	88	0	0	32
<i>Vitruvius</i>	456	453	2	1	29
<i>Xenocles</i>	179	177	2	0	12

Leadership

The Grand Council serves as the fraternity's Officers and also as the Board of Directors. They are:

- **Worthy Grand Architect:** A.J. Kessinger (Vitruvius)
- **Worthy Grand Associate Architect:** Bryan Perez (Pytheos)
- **Worthy Grand Estimator:** Sama Verdina (Domitian)
- **Worthy Grand Scribe:** Catherine H. Berry (Isidorus)
- **Worthy Grand Lecturer:** Claudia Miraldi (Anthemios)
- **Worthy Grand Inspector:** Maggie Mueller (Isidorus)
- **Grand Advisor:** Laura Schmidt (Anthemios)

Many hard-working, dedicated Alpha Rho Chi members serve the fraternity as appointees to the Grand Council. Our Regional Directors for 2021-2022 are:

- **Region 1 (Daedalus, Cossutius, Sostratus):** Zack Borell (Anthemios)
- **Region 2 (Andronicus, Callimachus, Numisius):** Caroline Bair (Anthemios)
- **Region 3 (Anthemios, Cleisthenes, Mnesicles):** Kylie Miller (Pytheos)
- **Region 4 (Dinocrates, Hadrian, Hippodamus):** Cesar Portillo (Clesithenes)
- **Region 5 (Amenophis, Philon, Pytheos):** Darius Greenleaf (Anthemios)
- **Region 6 (Domitian, Olynthius, Rabirius):** Samantha Ihle (Daedalus)
- **Region 7 (Polyidus, Seshait, Theodorus):** Natasha Locht (Apollodorus)
- **Region 8 (Demetrius, Iktinos, Isidorus):** Caroline McCollam (Rabirius)

- **Region 9 (Metagenes, Severus, Vitruvius):** Dan McDonnell (Demetrios)
- **Region 10 (Skopas, Senenmut):** Maggie Kleinman (Olynthius)
- **Region 11 (Agamedes, Apollodorus, Nikon):** Melissa Holder (Polyidus)

Serving in key positions to support our fraternity initiatives are:

- **Colony Director:** Abigail Crock (Isidorus)
- **Convention Director:** Emma Lynn (Hippodamus)
- **Expansion Director:** Nathan Lipson (Anthemios)
- **Historian:** Danielle Swanson (Anthemios)
- **Jump Start Mentors:** Paige Caviness (Sostratus), Abigail Crock (Isidorus), Darian Jones (Cleisthenes), and Nathan Strother (Metagenes).
- **Leadership Conference Coordinator:** Josh Naputi (Cleisthenes)
- **Vendor Coordinator:** Rick Fryer (Vitruvius)

02: Transactions, Including All Rules and Regulations Adopted, of the Grand Council since the Last Convention

Rules and Regulations Adopted

No new rules and regulations have been adopted since the 74th National Convention. Eight motions were received in advance, but the Convention did not hear any business items (due to an inability to meet quorum), so these motions were moved to the 75th National Convention and will be considered as unfinished business.

Programs & Services

National Conventions

Omaha 2024

The COVID-19 pandemic in the United States in March 2020 prompted the Grand Council to motion to postpone the 73rd National Convention, originally to be held in Omaha, NE. As of this report, the 76th National Convention is scheduled to be held at the Hilton Omaha in March 2024.

Over the course of the last few years, the needs of Convention have changed and the Grand Council has determined that minimum food and beverage requirements of full service hotels are unsustainable for an organization of Alpha Rho Chi's size. The Grand Council intends to re-engage Conference Direct, who helped negotiate the contract with the facility in Omaha, to investigate if we can bring our required food and beverage minimum lower without causing undue harm to the contract terms as a whole.

2022 Leadership Conference

Leadership Coordinator Josh Naputi and WGI Maggie Mueller, organized and led the in-person Leadership Conference on September 24, 2022 in Los Angeles, California. All chapter Worthy Architects and one Worthy Superintendents/Worthy Sergeant at Arms/Ritual Chairs per chapter were invited to participate. Seminars included: Leadership Link-Up; Risk Management; Ritual; and the Leadership Plunge by CampusSpeak. For 2022, the focus was on leadership growth for chapter officers as they rebuild and reestablish strong practices, as well as improved education and honed Ritual practices. All 32 active chapters were in attendance. 10+ chapters sent alternate representatives, and three chapters sent a single representative.

In an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, all conference participants were required to be fully vaccinated and attendees were roomed by chapter. It was a wonderful time interacting with our student leaders in a collaborative environment.

Ritual Training and Virtual Ritual

The Grand Council continued to conduct Ritual training throughout the past year, working hard to ensure every chapter received at least one visit since resuming in-person fraternal activities. Fall 2022 was the

first term that every chapter was allowed to conduct in-person ritual without pandemic-related limitations. At the start of the year, seven chapters needed Ritual Training; as of this report all but one chapter have completed their training (scheduled shortly after Convention). Many thanks to our team of Regional Directors, Jumpstart Mentors, and other volunteers, who trained each chapter, but also made return trips to 3 chapters for additional training. As of this report, only three chapters have not completed a Ritual in person, however all three have plans to do so by the end of the term.

To further instill confidence in chapter ritual planning abilities, a ritual logistics and planning seminar was held at the Fall Leadership Conference. WGL Claudia Miraldi led the seminar where attendees worked through various interactive planning sessions, with guidance from the Grand Council and Regional Directors. Sub-topics included: term-long rehearsal planning, day of initiation scheduling, and layout planning.

Finally, with the pandemic behind us, the Grand Council has retired the virtual Ritual. While it was a critical tool allowing the fraternity to survive the pandemic, it's clear that the membership is ready to return in person. We are all still united in our shared experiences.

Alumni Programming

Quarterly Alumni Association Calls

The Alumni Association Quarterly Alumni Calls continued this past year with topics focusing on the transition to GreekTrack and helping members and associations set up their profiles.

Quarterly Seminar Series

Our last seminar series presentation was held during the summer discussing **Ways to Elevate your Work Habits**. Led by Marijke Ocean, a certified wayfinder coach and mindfulness meditation teacher, this interactive workshop explored practical but unique ways to relate to our work for a better sense of clarity and control and focused on practical work habits to reduce stress, overwhelm, inefficiency, and miscommunication. These seminars were made possible by the Buchard Grant through the Alpha Rho Chi Foundation. Due to the lack of alumni attendance at these events over many years, and the rising costs of speakers, the Grand Council has put these seminars on hold indefinitely.

Alumni Dues

As always, we'd like to extend a huge thank you to the 96 alumni who have already paid their 2023 dues (or started payment plans)! Your contributions not only help support alumni operations and programming, but support overall fraternal operations and our collegiate membership. With the alumni's financial support, we can continue to expand our programming opportunities, our alumni outreach and association support.

It's never too late to support the Fraternity. If you haven't done so already, please consider making your financial contribution today. Simply visit **alpharhochi.org**, log into (or claim) your account and click the link on your dashboard.

Expansion Program

While WGL Claudia Miraldi's efforts have been primarily in bringing current chapters up to speed, external interest in APX is still developing. Various inquiries were submitted over the past year, four of which led to multiple calls between the students and Expansion Director Nathan Lipson. Of these four inquiries, two were from east coast schools, one from the midwest, and one from the west; two of the inquiries were from schools with a dormant chapter. One school has submitted a letter of intent in Fall 2022, but no application has been received as of this report.

Publications

alpharhochi.org

alpharhochi.org remains the fraternity's primary repository of public-facing information, including resources for chapters, alumni associations, members and the general public. Members primarily use the website to access the database and make payments; download resources, such as the Archi Pledge, national governance and Grand Council meeting minutes; and read Grand Council Announcements. Accredited schools of architecture across the county access the website to learn more about the Alpha Rho Chi Bronze Medal and submit nominations, while various other groups access the website to learn more about the Fraternity and contact the Expansion team.

Immediately following the 74th National Convention, **alpharhochi.org** was officially transferred from the old hosting partner Anchorwave to GreekTrack. See the previous GC report to read more about the need for a sudden transition and existing plans that were fast-tracked to prevent security breaches or even a total crash.

Through the summer and into the Fall, WGS Catherine Berry reviewed pages and made updates as needed to ensure needed resources were available. Many documents that were previously hosted on the site have been transferred to Google Drive folders, linked on a centralized resource page, as well as behind the login wall for members only. While the website is not as robust as it once was, it is also no longer weighed down with outdated and unreferenced pages that were simply duplicated and left linked in an archive, instead of being replaced. Rest assured, all historically critical data from the previous website has been secured (including the entire archive of publications such as *The Archi* and *Alpha Rho Chi Letter*).

As we continue to discuss and explore options, WGS Catherine Berry and designated volunteers will continue to evaluate and expand the website.

The Archi and Alpha Rho Chi Letter

A Winter 2021 edition of *The Archi* was published digitally shortly before the 73rd National Convention.

As of this report, the Grand Council continues to discuss the long term future of Fraternity magazines and newsletters, as email and social media remain favored communication mediums. As mentioned in previous reports, doing so would alleviate multiple stressors, as articles could be posted as they become available and funds traditionally allocated to the cost of printing and postage could be redistributed to other fraternity programs.

The Archi Pledge

A digital update of the *Archi Pledge* was last published in August 2022, to include the founding of the Skopas Chapter and election of new Grand Council officers.

The Rise

The Rise was last issued in the Spring of 2021. No additional issues have been drafted, as priority remains in educating collegiate members on the basics of The Ritual.

Social Media

The Fraternity continues to publish news and updates through our social media accounts on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn. Members are encouraged to interact with the national fraternity through the following platforms:

- Facebook: **facebook.com/alpharhochi**
- Instagram: **@alpharhochi** or **instagram.com/alpharhochi**
- Twitter: **@alpharhochi** or **twitter.com/alpharhochi**
- LinkedIn: **linkedin.com/company/alpha-rho-chi-fraternity** and **linkedin.com/groups/785627**

As mentioned in previous reports, a concerted effort has been made to post updates to social media whenever key news is emailed to the membership, as not all members have valid email addresses on file.

Professional Business Services

In our 108-year history, our fraternity has often hired professionals or engaged vendors to provide expertise and services that are required to run a business. The Grand Council finds that our needs, our size, and the expectations of our members, require committed, ongoing services and improvements. In addition, as Alpha Rho Chi grows and scrutiny of Greek-letter organizations increases, it is increasingly important that we proactively comply with all local and national regulatory requirements. To that end, we have made significant progress in addressing the fraternity's needs.

Membership Management System: Memberplanet & GreekTrack

In July 2017, the Grand Council selected Memberplanet as the Fraternity's membership management system, to replace the previous membership database and the Chapter Reporting System. and in Fall 2018 onboarded all chapters and fully adopted Memberplanet for national management operations, using payment forms, managed emails, and event planning. However, in the time since Memberplanet was adopted, the Grand Council and National Appointees, as well as chapters and alumni association, struggled to learn the system, and adapt existing processes and procedures to fit the capability of the Memberplanet system. Despite numerous efforts to make it work, the Grand Council determined that a new database system needed to be secured, and moved to a month-to-month contract in Summer 2021.

WGS Catherine Berry and (at the time) WGE Brice Ohl first met with GreekTrack in September 2021 at the PFA convention. Multiple demonstrations, countless conversations, and client references later, the Grand Council signed a 3-year contract with GreekTrack on February 15, 2022.

Out of all the database providers the Grand Council explored, GreekTrack was the clear choice. It offers a wide variety of fraternity-specific tools to all of our members and organizations, out of the box, with features that include but are not limited to:

- User friendly interface, including a member dashboard showing your current status (and chapter or alumni association status for those in board positions).
- Integrated data collection, invoicing, and reporting at every stage of the membership process.
- Drag and drop email builder with the capacity for automated drip marketing campaigns, group segmentation by profile type, and tracking for each chapter and alumni association.
- File upload and sharing.
- Integrated fraternity membership records with APX Foundation giving records.
- Fundraising campaign tools for the APX Foundation, as well as each chapter and alumni association.

- Networking resources such as an alumni directory, job board and automated family tree.
- Mobile-friendly website hosting for the National Fraternity as well as each chapter and alumni association

While the “go live” date was pushed back to mid-August (from the original early July), all membership data was imported, cleaned, deduplicated and attributed before the start of most chapters’ school year. Most exciting, is that “lifetime” Alumni Membership data was recovered in the transition and is now reflected in the new system.

In September and October 2022, all chapters and alumni associations received instructions and specific training on how to set up and manage their accounts. While a handful of chapters and alumni associations have not fully completed the onboarding process, each have established their accounts, and have begun the process.

As of January 2023, Alpha Rho Chi terminated their contract with Memberplanet. Organizations who did not remove their local organization data or funds from Memberplanet before the deadline (despite multiple advance warnings) are currently working with Memberplanet support.

As of this report, the Grand Council is extremely pleased with the transition to GreekTrack and the service provided by their support team. The system has alleviated significant administrative burdens from the WGAA, WGE, WGS and WGI allowing them to focus more time on the members. Continued training is being scheduled by request to WGS Catherine Berry, and additional training will be scheduled through the end of the year to minimize the loss of knowledge as she transitions off the Grand Council.

Looking forward, GreekTrack has launched a new Communities Module, which would create an internal “social network” where members can host conversations across the Fraternity or privately with their chapter members, share files and like, share, and subscribe to posts across communities. Alpha Rho Chi has not yet purchased this module, but the Grand Council is considering the cost and effort involved to add it to our suite of services.

Business Functions and Document Management

As of January 2023, all Grand Council officers, National Appointees and APX Foundation officers have been transitioned to Google Workspace cloud-based suite of enterprise collaboration, communications, and archiving tools, where they access their official fraternity email, calendars, shared files and video conferencing. All email accounts previously managed through Rackspace Cloud Office were closed effective November 2022.

Alpha Rho Chi also maintains a subscription to Zoom to facilitate larger virtual meetings and events for members across the country.

Accounting Services

In 2017, the Worthy Grand Estimator engaged the services of Ellen S. Silverstein, CPA to review and reconcile our bank accounts and records in accordance with generally accepted accounting procedures (GAAP). This effort successfully brought our books up to date by GAAP standards. Each year since, our accounts were reviewed and reconciled monthly by a designated bookkeeper to ensure that our financial records remain accurate. Additionally, our end-of-year finances have been reviewed by our certified public accountant and found in good order.

Tax Advisory and Compliance Services

In 2017, the WGE began a relationship on behalf of Alpha Rho Chi with Blue and Co, LLC, a CPA advisory firm. The focus of this relationship is to bring each chapter and alumni association in compliance with our nation's tax laws. This includes IRS recognition as 501-c-7 social clubs, filing annual taxes, and complying with other federal, state, local, and university tax and financial regulations that may apply to each chapter. The research portion of this endeavor was completed in Fall 2017 and it was determined that the majority of our chapters and alumni associations are not in good standing with the IRS. While we continue to work through this process progress has been slow due internal IRS processing which has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

As of this report, 22 chapters and alumni associations have been determined to be in good standing and have made their way through IRS processing to the point that they can be added to an online profile managed by the WGE on the IRS website. This profile allows the WGE to perform a member organization's annual filing online with no fee and limited information. The WGE is awaiting IRS processing and identifying all faulty information until all member organizations are properly recognized. Any correspondence to chapters and alumni associations regarding taxes should be forwarded to the WGE.

Furthermore, the annual filings for Alpha Rho Chi Fraternity were performed and filed by the WGE emeritus and the national organization remains in good standing with the IRS.

Other Services

Alpha Rho Chi additionally maintains the following business relationships:

- Fraternal Law, LLC, provides legal counsel to Alpha Rho Chi on an as-needed basis.
- Holly Monroe of Heirloom Artists Calligraphy Studio is the professional calligrapher who inscribes our membership certificates and charters. Holly has been providing calligraphy services for Alpha Rho Chi for over 25 years, and we are very pleased with her work.
- Award Concepts collects nominations for the Alpha Rho Chi Bronze Medal, and subsequently engraves and ships the medallions to the awardees. Award Concepts was contracted in 2021 and alleviates significant administrative responsibilities from the WGS.
- Proforma Strategic Promotions is our official printing and promotional marketing products vendor. Under the management of Demetrios alumna, Julie Haar, Proforma has been a sponsor for conventions in recent years.

Awards & Recognition

Alpha Rho Chi has a robust Awards program. Our multifaceted program is designed to recognize the achievements of our members and chapters, as well as students and professionals around the country.

Alpha Rho Chi Bronze Medal

In 2022, the Alpha Rho Chi Bronze Medal was awarded to 77 graduating students from accredited architecture schools in the United States and Canada. Recognizing the qualities of leadership, service, and the promise of professional merit, the medal program represents our goals and ideals, even at schools where the fraternity does not have a chapter. The cost of administering this award is paid by the Alpha Rho Chi Foundation.

The 2023 awards nomination period will open March 1 and run through October 31.

George “So” Whitten Award

Alpha Rho Chi chapters have a proven record of high scholarship, and the So Whitten award recognizes the chapter with the highest average GPA among its members. In 2023, no chapters submitted nominations and so the award was not bestowed.

Community Service Award

The Community Service Award recognizes the chapter that most gave back to the community, as determined by the Grand Council from the chapter submissions for this award. In 2023, no chapters submitted nominations and so the award was not bestowed.

Historian and Archives

The Historian continues to document and sort items that the Grand Council has gathered in previous years as well as negotiate with the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign to house the archives. A contract has been signed and shipment details are being negotiated. The Historian is currently working to return previously documented physical artifacts of value to their original owners or the appropriate chapter/alumni group.

If you, your chapter, or your alumni association have items that are significant to our fraternity's history, please contact Danielle Swanson at **historian@alpharhochi.org**.

Insurance

General Insurance Policy

Since 2010, the Grand Council has purchased general liability insurance for the fraternity at large, and Directors and Officers insurance for its officers. The Grand Council is in the process of renewing this insurance policy with our broker, Favor and Company for the coming year.

Fraternal Health and Safety Initiative

Alpha Rho Chi, in partnership with Favor and Company, remains committed to being a member organization in the Fraternity Health and Safety Initiative. At this time, Favor and Company are continuing to work on their FHSI Program: they have developed virtual presentations and are continuing to work on virtual options for training FHSI trainers in addition to in-person options. Alpha Rho Chi is in regular contact with Favor and Company and will restart FHSI once the new training and presentation program is launched.

Financial Transactions + Information

General Finances for FY 2022

A full financial report, including Budget vs Actuals Analysis for fiscal year 2022 and a current balance sheet is included as an appendix at the end of the report. A high-level overview of the budget and end of year balances outlined below.

The Grand Council approved a budget with the projected revenue of \$238,302 and projected expenses of \$269,750.

The budget was again approved at a deficit for several reasons, primarily being that the Grand Council felt the fraternity could withstand the financial burden of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic better than any individual chapter could, due to the fraternity's savings and retained incomes. Furthermore, the Grand Council assumed a very conservative number of dues paying members for fiscal year 2022 in response to uncertainty around our member universities' operations and the national economy as a whole. In short, the Grand Council did not want to place undue burden on those members that could not pay their dues.

The secondary reason the Grand Council approved operating at a deficit was due to recognition of the state of our chapters. During the virtual initiation process, it became clear that most chapters were composed of members who had never functioned as a part of an in-person chapter and lacked the experience for the many related duties. As such, the Grand Council felt it prudent to resume travel, including a campaign to deploy an appointee or officer to each chapter by the end of the 2021 fall semester.

At the end of the 2022 fiscal year, the actual losses totaled \$15,958.

For fiscal year 2023, the Grand Council approved a budget with a projected revenue of \$209,572 and projected expenses of \$304,930.

For a third year, the Grand Council approved a budget at a deficit for many of the same reasons as the previous years. First, the Grand Council still believed that the fraternity could withstand the financial burden of the still ongoing COVID-19 pandemic better than individual chapters could. Second, the Grand Council recognized that many chapters are still in need of help with in-person operations, particularly Ritual. Third, the Grand Council acknowledged that, due to LA Convention cancellation during the FY2022, Leadership Conference in Fall 2022 would be a larger expense than previous years. The FY2023 budget reflects the Grand Council goal of helping the individual chapters with the resources they need, with expenditures for travel to each chapter and a more robust Leadership Conference.

As of February 21, 2023, the fraternity has a net deficit of \$36,514. Please note that this value does not recognize some of our largest expenses, including the annual insurance policy, and a portion of the membership database fees as they have not been incurred yet, but will be within the fiscal year. While the Fraternity will likely end the year at a loss, we do not project to be at the level of loss originally projected.

Incomes

The following table summarizes the major revenue sources for fiscal year 2023 (shown here as 2022-2023) as of February 21, 2023, as well as the previous four fiscal years for historical perspective.

5 Year - Major Revenues					
Income	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Collegiate	\$ 108,479	\$ 90,287	\$ 45,236	\$ 74,064	\$ 37,639
Continuing Colonist Fees	\$ 4,815	\$ 6,305	\$ 3,925	\$ -	\$ -
Pledge Fees	\$ 26,905	\$ 18,915	\$ 9,238	\$ 19,643	\$ 16,716
Initiation Fees	\$ 33,090	\$ 11,280	\$ 11,970	\$ 32,040	\$ 19,571
Chapter Installation Fees	\$ -	\$ 4,210	\$ -	\$ 5,015	\$ -
Alumni Association Fees	\$ 2,408	\$ 3,600	\$ 4,200	\$ 2,800	\$ 2,521
Alumni Dues	\$ 23,347	\$ 16,880	\$ 19,975	\$ 10,706	\$ 6,533
LC Fees	\$ 6,802	\$ 7,012	\$ -	\$ 8,622	\$ 9,013
AA Summit / AD Fees	\$ 1,348	\$ 2,424	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Bronze Medal	\$ 1,982	\$ 489	\$ 13,003	\$ -	\$ -
JR Favor	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grant Leadership Fund	\$ 6,000	\$ 5,929	\$ 4,600	\$ 5,100	\$ 4,630

Our new member database, GreekTrack, has replaced Memberplanet as our primary tool for collecting funds. While some chapters must pay their dues via check (due to university requirements), a majority of the membership (both alumni and collegiate) pay online. GreekTrack allows the Grand Council to maintain substantially greater data accuracy than Memberplanet, which will lead to more accurate income projections in the future. Alumni dues can still be paid by personal check, made payable to Alpha Rho Chi, and mailed to 1217 86th Street, North Bergen, NJ 07047.

Expenses

The following is a table summarizing the major expenses for fiscal year 2023 (shown as 2022-2023) as of February 21, 2023, as well as the previous four fiscal years for historical perspective.

5 Year - Major Expenses					
Expense	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
GC Summer Meeting	\$ 5,617	\$ 15,195	\$ 1,828	\$ 4,727	\$ 6,242
GC Winter Meeting	\$ 4,122	\$ 4,345	\$ -	\$ 432	\$ -
Convention Business Session	\$ 13,275	\$ 1,538	\$ 999	\$ 10,671	\$ 317
RD Retreat	\$ 7,031	\$ 10,403	\$ -	\$ 8,603	\$ 9,244
Publications	\$ 825	\$ 95	\$ -	\$ 1,540	\$ -
Administration & General	\$ 51,160	\$ 35,743	\$ 35,641	\$ 37,920	\$ 20,974
Membership Services	\$ 19,185	\$ 27,178	\$ 13,164	\$ 17,115	\$ 10,583
Internet Services	\$ 4,437	\$ 3,027	\$ 3,140	\$ 7,426	\$ -
Formation Weekend	\$ 5,484	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Colony Educator	\$ 398	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Chapter Installation	\$ 7	\$ 1,107	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Colony Team Meeting	\$ 2,658	\$ 1,803	\$ -	\$ 2,923	\$ 3,565
Ritual Workshops	\$ 4,911	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,143	\$ 4,340
Colony / Ritual Development	\$ 13,458	\$ 2,910	\$ 683	\$ 16,067	\$ 7,904
Chapter Development	\$ 11,171	\$ 9,706	\$ 358	\$ -	\$ 750
FHSI Workshops	\$ -	\$ 7,143	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Alumni Team Meetings	\$ 3,588	\$ 4,480	\$ 1,628	\$ 2,696	\$ -
Alumni Development	\$ 5,217	\$ 4,913	\$ 2,628	\$ 3,496	\$ 700
GC Travel	\$ 6,841	\$ 3,486	\$ -	\$ 1,518	\$ 1,635
Leadership Conference	\$ 33,505	\$ 42,732	\$ -	\$ 69,356	\$ 91,633
Alumni Summit / Alumni Days	\$ 3,907	\$ 18,389	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Balances

As of February 21, 2023, the ending balance of our accounts held by Bank of America total \$187,156:

- Checking account balance is \$148,638.00
- Convention account balance is \$21,761.00
- Savings account balance is \$100.17
- Certificate of Deposit balance is \$16,657.00

03: All Subjects of Disputes between the Chapters

At this time the Grand Council is not aware of any new or outstanding disputes between any of our chapters. The following is an outline of the specific issues with chapters that have taken the time and care of the Grand Council over the past year.

Chapter Investigations & Resolutions

As the Grand Council receives and responds to various issues, it is important to remember that the Regional Directors and Grand Council are here to assist and serve members in any situation that may arise. By reaching out and asking for help/advice as situations arise, all involved have the ability to be proactive in handling a possible situation as opposed to being reactive.

Region 9 Incident

On November 8, 2022, the Worthy Grand Inspector received notification from RD9 Dan McDonnell that an alleged Title IX incident took place at a Chapter of Alpha Rho Chi. While these were allegations, the Grand Council took them very seriously. Over the course of the next few months, the Grand Council worked with the Chapter to assist them in addressing and responding to these allegations, including a consultation with Favor and Co., our insurance provider, the law firm of Manley Burke via Fraternal Law, to ensure the situation was being handled correctly.

As a result of the legal consultation, it was noted that the chapter had grounds to suspend a member per their ByLaws for “violation of fraternal oath”. The chapter moved and voted to suspend said member at their February 6, 2023 chapter meeting. No additional action has taken place since.

Sostratus Chapter Status

In Fall 2022, the Worthy Grand Inspector was notified by RD1 Zack Borell that the Sostratus Chapter was struggling to complete day-to-day chapter operations, leadership was wavering, and overall member engagement was low. Following the Leadership Conference (end of September), communication with the chapter ceased — the chapter did not respond to any form of correspondence from their RD.

On December 14, 2022 a letter was issued to the Sostratus Chapter notifying them that a motion for suspension would be considered at the Grand Council December meeting. The chapter was invited to the meeting to state their case and informed that failure to respond or appear at the meeting would result in suspension, and subsequently dormancy. No one from the Sostratus Chapter contacted any member of the Grand Council or their Regional Director and no one appeared at the December 19, 2022 Grand Council meeting, resulting in the chapter's suspension. Despite further attempts, the Grand Council and local alumni have not been able to get in touch with the chapter to date. Efforts continue to be made to reach out to the Chapter with the goal of closing out by the end of the Spring 2023 term.

Seshait Chapter Probation

As stated in the Grand Council Report to the 72nd National Convention, an investigation was completed regarding chapter operations at the Seshait Chapter. The Chapter was put on probation and had a series of probationary actions to be completed. One of these items was to have a member of the Grand Council or an appointee be present at their next two initiations. Due to the ongoing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, the last initiation visit is expected to occur in Spring 2023. Therefore, this requirement of their probation is still outstanding and, as such the Seshait Chapter, remains on probation.

The Chapter has completed all other tasks of their probationary actions and is considered in good standing by the Grand Council of Alpha Rho Chi. During this probation, the Chapter is permitted to continue full operations and may seat a delegate at the convention.

Chapter Initiatives

In order to assist the chapters struggling to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and its associated challenges, the Grand Council developed a “Jump Start” Program, based on the minimum requirements expected of chapters-in-formation. The goal of this plan is to offer chapters nearing suspension or dormancy a fair and equitable way to stabilize their operations and lay a strong foundation for their future. Eligibility for this plan is considered on a case-by-case basis.

Jump Start Program

Each plan is broken into two (2) phases. Phase I: Stabilization is a term-long series of goals which focuses largely on recruitment, pledge education, and initiation as well as financial and leadership succession planning. If Phase I is successful, Phase II: Regrowth begins. Phase II is also a semester long and hones in on event planning, governance, and review of day-to-day chapter operations. Each requirement within each phase includes incremental deadlines, intended to move the chapter forward in a methodical and timely manner. Chapters involved in the program get two semester attempts to complete each of the various phases.

In addition to working with their Regional Director, each chapter is assigned a “Jump Start Mentor” to oversee the chapter’s plan progress, negotiate deadlines, review proposals, and provide personalized assistance.

This academic term, four chapters are participating in the program. The Agamedes, Nikon, and Senenmut Chapters have successfully completed Phase I during the Fall term and are actively working on Phase II. The Daedalus Chapter is currently engaged in Phase I. Both the Nikon and Senenmut Chapters took two semesters to complete Phase I, while Agamedes completed it in one semester. The Daedalus Chapter is working through their second attempt at Phase I. Should the Agamedes, Nikon, and Senenmut Chapters complete all of the requirements of Phase II (as well as any carryover tasks from Phase I), they will graduate from the program at the end of the Spring semester.

As a result of their participation in the Jump Start program, the Agamedes Chapter has grown by 225% (from 16 members to potentially 52 members following their Spring ‘23 initiation), the Nikon Chapter by 250% (from 4 to 14 members thus far), and the Senenmut Chapter by 100% (from 10 to 20 members thus far). Daedalus has maintained the same number of members throughout their participation.

Chapter Health

As mentioned in the opening of this report, the status of our collegiate membership and number of recognized active chapters is in question. As enthusiastic as the current collegiate members are, and determined as they are to expand their membership at their respective universities, the WGI and her team have seen many chapters struggle in their abilities to recruit. Despite promotion on social media, presentations in classrooms, hanging fliers, etc., potential new members are not coming out to join organizations like they have in the past (for one reason or another). The team has also seen a concerning lack of university and department support for certain chapters, adding another layer of difficulty.

These factors combined have led to the attrition of our collegiate membership. As chapter members move through their collegiate membership journey, fewer members are able and willing to keep their local organization in a functioning state. In the age of post COVID-19 regrowth, with low chapter membership and questionable university support, it is likely Alpha Rho Chi will see a significant decline in the number of active chapters. In the past year and a half, two chapters have fallen dormant. There are at least six chapters in the “danger zone” with low membership, wavering engagement, difficulties with the

university, and member burnout. As more members graduate, the number of chapters in danger could increase.

As upsetting as it is to lose even a single chapter, we must work together collectively in support of any chapter member who is faced with completing the painful work of dissolving their chapter. It is almost never not for a lack of trying that chapters go under, and it is never easy for any person or group to make the decision to shut things down. The Grand Council's mantra remains "once a brother, always a brother" as we navigate this downsizing journey.

04: Recommendations for the Good of the Fraternity

The Grand Council has a lot of great recommendations for the fraternity. While our recent focus has been on stabilizing our organizations, we are committed to implementing these recommendations in the coming years.

Training Services

The Worthy Grand Architect attended the 2022 Professional Fraternity Association Annual Conference in Kalamazoo, Michigan. It was there that he met with Plaid, LLC, a company that provides educational and developmental support to organizations such as Alpha Rho Chi. While conversations were had with them in the past, nothing materialized. The Grand Council has been in discussions to contract with Plaid to provide educational development beginning with our collegiate members. These initial programs would be focused around Risk Management and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Further details are provided below.

Risk Management

The Grand Council, with help from the National Appointees, has continued to focus on making our students' Alpha Rho Chi experience as safe as possible. These past few years have been particularly challenging because of the attitude surrounding Greek letter organizations all over the country. In short: even though Alpha Rho Chi is not a social fraternity, if there is an incident, we will be treated as one.

The Risk Management Policy has not been updated since November 2015. The WGA is working with the fraternity insurance provider, Favor & Company, to review and provide guidance on any updates that they deem necessary. A Social Media Policy is also in development and will be launched in conjunction with the updated Risk Management Policy.

In addition to these policies, the WGA has been in discussion with Plaid about their Highwire course. Highwire is a 45-minute, online short course offering a refresher to Risk Management around alcohol/drugs, hazing, healthy relationships/consent, mental health and being a "safe student". The course was originally labeled Campus Reconnect, for students returning to campus after COVID-19. The reception was so positive that they rebranded it as Highwire. The Highwire program includes a pre-program climate assessment, to provide insight into experiences of students related to substance use, intervention, risk and wellbeing. If Alpha Rho Chi purchases this program, Plaid's Learning Management System can be customized to include the Alpha Rho Chi Risk Management Policy for review and student signoff (as proof of acknowledgement), which has been highly recommended by Favor & Company.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiative

In June 2020, the Grand Council released a statement on racial injustice. As part of that statement, and as we move forward, Alpha Rho Chi re-affirms its commitment to pursue leadership in architecture and the allied arts. This includes our commitment, as a board, to ongoing examination and adjustment of our work and our positions of privilege as we listen to, learn from, and amplify the knowledge of our membership and the greater community. In 2021, the Professional Fraternity Association, of which Alpha Rho Chi is a Founding Member, launched their Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Initiative. The mission of this initiative is to "support professional fraternity and sorority member organizations to preserve high standards on campus and in professional practice. These high standards include fostering an environment that cultivates and supports diversity awareness, equality, and inclusion for all."

While PFA's DEI Program is still in final development, the Grand Council has looked at other avenues to distribute this information. Plaid LLC (mentioned earlier) also offers the Cultural Competency program for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. It is broken up into 3 modules of 40 minutes each: Self-Awareness and Identity, Historical Events, and Social Structures and Inclusive Practices. The program also includes access to the companion discussion guide that can be used by students, advisors, Grand Council, etc. to support learning in the area of diversity, equity and inclusion by helping participants apply concepts to their personal life and campus experience. This is a student focused module to help students better understand themselves and create inclusive and welcoming environments. This program would also be available through Plaid's LMS.

APX and Gender Identification

For many years, the Grand Council has been made aware of concerns from schools, former members, and other parties about the male bias inherent in calling ourselves a "fraternity" and using the terms "brothers" and "brotherhood" to identify ourselves and our organization. Much has been written in previous reports on the subject.

The Grand Council is aware that the changes that have been made do not fully address the larger concerns about Alpha Rho Chi's use of terminology that some feel is gender-specific. We have not yet identified words that convey equality, inclusivity, and familial bonds that represent our organization and define us as more than a club. Apart from the changes we are proposing or making, the Grand Council is not mounting a formal reaction or policy change to address these concerns. However, as the conversation develops, we will continue considering the options, and determine what, if any, action to take.

The Past and Future of Convention

Note: *This suggestion has been carried over from 2022, as it remains front-of-mind for the Grand Council in advance of the 75th Convention in Nashville.*

After an optimistic year where many in-person activities and several fraternity events came back online, the Grand Council, along with several appointees and volunteers, charged forward planning the 2022 Convention in Los Angeles. However, as the event date approached, it became clear that it was in the best interest of the fraternity to cancel the in-person Convention. We feel we owe the membership a more detailed explanation of what happened and how we plan to move forward.

The 2020 Omaha in-person Convention was canceled due to "force majeure," a contractual term essentially meaning circumstances beyond anyone's control, while the 2021 Birmingham Convention was moved online over 6 months in advance. At those times, the world was still securely within the lockdown phase of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Grand Council was able to cancel those contracts without penalty, and later signed new contracts with those venues for the 2024 and 2023 conventions, respectively.

Conversely, the 2022 Los Angeles Convention was canceled due to significantly low registration. Though we are still negotiating the amount, penalties are owed to the venue. The Grand Council did not incur those penalties lightly: they were found to be the significantly lesser amount in comparison to the potential loss that the Fraternity would have incurred by proceeding with hosting the Convention in LA.

Upon further examination, we found root causes for low registration to be driven by the following factors:

- The uncertainty brought on by the Omicron variant, which was at its peak when Convention registration opened in mid-January 2022

- The 2019 decision to shift the Convention two weeks earlier than “normal”. The Convention dates were chosen to honor the Andronicus Centennial, but coincided with far fewer chapters’ spring breaks (and instead fell on many mid-term reviews)
- The high cost of the registration fee, which was calculated as described below

When the Los Angeles hotel contract was signed in early 2019, we had a reasonable expectation to see upwards of 200 attendees. This estimate was based on previous attendance trends, which had been relatively stable since 2014. However, when calculating the registration fee (in late 2021), the Convention team estimated a 25% reduction of attendance due to lingering COVID-19 uncertainty. This meant that fixed costs such as hotel food and beverage minimums, banquet entertainment and welcome reception costs would need to be spread out over fewer people. The Grand Council has, for many years, determined that these fixed costs items are not considered to be “reasonable and necessary expenses of a Regular Convention” and therefore, per the Article VI, Section 01 of the National By-Laws, these must be covered by the Convention registration fees.

The costs were further exacerbated by our choice of hosting the Convention in a Tier 1 city, where all contractors and vendors are largely greater in cost than in a smaller locale. Ancillary costs to attend Convention, not covered by the Convention fee, such as airfare, gas prices, parking and other transportation costs were all greater due to inflation. All these factors combined, it was estimated that this Convention could have easily cost an average attendee upwards of \$1,000.

Following this logic, the Grand Council has recognized that it is no longer sustainable for us to continue to plan Conventions the way we had in the years leading up to the 2020 COVID-19 shutdowns. Our concerns can be summarized as the following:

- Member reluctance to travel due to fears from the pandemic
- Member reluctance to travel due to reduced airline schedules and general uncertainty from the airline industry
- The unpredictability of domestic and world events
- An increase in the food and beverage minimums required by hotel contracts to hold the style of event we have become accustomed to
- An inability to reasonably predict attendance & costs
- An observed ambivalence toward the Convention and other fraternal events
- A sharp decline in the number of collegiate members who have attended an in-person Convention and understand the value of the event.

Therefore, in the future, members can expect to see significant changes to Convention addressing these issues. Under consideration, and in no particular order, the Grand Council is considering:

- Canceling or renegotiating the currently signed Convention contracts in Birmingham and Omaha
- Introducing a cap to the number of Convention attendees
- Reducing our dependence on hotel and conference center venues for our business sessions and banquet
- Reducing programming & complexity beyond the business sessions
- Cutting back on Convention extras & giveaways that are not covered by sponsorships
- Opening Convention registration significantly earlier
- Offering an installment plan for Convention registration fees
- Going completely virtual for business meetings, and holding a separate in-person event for awards, tours and other activities
- Adjusting the time of year Convention is held
- Hosting Convention at a series of rotating locations each year and/or hosting it at the same location every year

In short, we remain at a place where any and all ideas are welcome regarding the future of Convention. We invite all members to voice your thoughts and concerns to Grand Advisor Laura Schmidt at [**ga@alpharhochi.org**](mailto:ga@alpharhochi.org).

Continuing the Conversation around Alumni Involvement

In the 2022 Grand Council Report, the WGAA discussed defining “active” alumni members and the challenges our associations and our fraternity as a whole face due to the lack of alumni participation, lack of alumni stepping up in local and national leadership roles, and lack of alumni supporting the fraternity through their annual dues. We called on our membership to think about the important role each alumni member plays, to weigh the benefits and burdens of the current structure to our alumni associations and engaged members, and consider ways to keep collegiate members active post-graduation. Unfortunately, not much has changed since that report was issued, and these challenges we face only feel harder to overcome.

Snapshot of Alumni at Large

Many collegiate members post-graduation move to a different city to start their careers, and for some young alumni, establishing a career involves multiple inter-city moves. A common challenge shared among associations, and our fraternity as a whole, is being able to connect, communicate, and engage with alumni on the move. Pulled from the 5,643 out of 8,907 total alumni who self-reported location data, the following statistics offer a snapshot of our alumni distribution.

- Approximately 50% of our Alumni live in six states
 - 25% split between California (875 - 15.5%) and Illinois (547 - 9.7%)
 - 25% distributed between Florida (497 - 8.8%), Texas (427 - 7.6%), Ohio (438 - 6.2%), and Michigan (262 - 4.6%)
- The other 50% are spread out across 44 states, the District of Columbia, and internationally including Puerto Rico (8), Ontario, Canada (2), Virgin Islands (2) and Guam (1).
- The Top 10 cities with the most Alumni are:
 1. Houston, Texas* - 98
 2. Chicago, Illinois - 89
 3. Los Angeles, California* - 85
 4. San Francisco, California* - 64
 5. Columbus, Ohio - 55
 6. Minneapolis, Minnesota - 47
 7. Miami, Florida - 45
 8. Seattle, Washington - 43
 9. Ann Arbor, Michigan* - 39
 10. Cincinnati, Ohio* - 39

**Denotes cities with an active Alumni Association (5)*
- There are currently 17 active Alumni Associations in 12 different states: California, Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, Washington
- While nearly 69% of alumni live in a state with an active Alumni Association, less than 7.5% live in the same city as an active Alumni Association. Three of those cities have more than 50 alumni on record, and seven of the cities have less than five alumni.

Decline of Alumni Dues Payers

Alumni dues play a vital role in the Fraternity budget and can be the catalyst for many positive changes. As a non-profit organization, the majority of our operational and programming costs come directly from collegiate dues, alumni dues, and alumni association fees. We are seeing a decline in collegiate members and active alumni associations, leaving alumni dues to bridge the gap. There are currently 8,600 alumni (excluding lifetime members). These members have the potential to cover all operational costs, greatly reduce collegiate dues, fund extraordinary speakers and workshops, and support national, chapter, and association events.

Today, Alumni Dues participation is barely scratching the surface, with approximately 1% of the alumni paying dues. Low percentage of dues paying alumni is nothing new, but proportionally we have been decreasing over the last 10 years (percentages are approximate based on total number of alumni reported at convention):

2023 - 96* (1.1%)
2022 - 96 (1.3%)
2021 - 121 (1.7%)
2020 - COVID
2019 - 109 (1.6%)
2018 - 103 (1.5%)
2017 - 189 (3.1%)
2016 - 207 (3.5%)
2015 - 276 (4.8%)
2014 - 294
2013 - 203
2012 - 267
2011 - 273

**Current number of dues payers at the time this report was written*

Alumni Directors

The Alumni Director role was designed many years ago to assist the WGAA with alumni communications, alumni programming, and alumni support. However, this year, the WGAA, in consultation with the Grand Council, opted not to appoint Alumni Directors.

Since 2018, Alpha Rho Chi has seen a significant decline in alumni attendance to our events, meet-ups, virtual seminars, and virtual workshops ... Some of these events had 0-5 total attendees and many of those attendees were the WGAA or Alumni Director team. As alumni dues income has decreased, the WGAA budget has decreased. Finally, the transition to GreekTrack eliminated much of the manual data collection conducted by the Alumni Directors in advance of Convention, and to manage tax filing. Rest assured, the Alumni do not remain unsupported: the WGAA has taken over Quarterly AA calls and is working on alumni event planning with the GA, the WGE manages finances, and the WGS manages communications.

Health of Alumni Associations

Alumni Associations are one of many ways for members to stay connected post-graduation, gathering at various functions throughout the year, and supporting the collegiate members of their associated chapter. Many of these associations also share news about their chapter, alumni, and fraternity with their members, celebrate member milestones, volunteer in the community, coordinate scholarships, etc. Others simply maintain basic operations to participate in the National Convention and otherwise wait in the wings to be called upon by their chapter for assistance.

To be considered active, Alumni Associations must meet the following minimum requirements annually:

1. Maintain active incorporation with their state;
2. Craft a budget and optionally collect dues from members to fund operational and social activities;
3. Pay the annual association fee to subsidize the national costs of supporting an association;
4. Elect officers from their active dues-paying membership to oversee the association;
5. Seat a delegate at convention to represent their association.

Many thriving associations have found balance between the operational and social aspects and have support from a community of alumni members. These requirements are easily met, and most of their time and efforts remain on programming. For some, the minimum operational requirements weigh heavily on a few with little to no support from others. Their time and efforts are consumed by the base needs of

keeping their Alumni Association running, and are unable to support further outreach efforts. Just as the Grand Council remains committed to supporting chapters through the difficult decision to fall dormant, we also encourage the members to support those alumni leaders who can no longer sustain an association and dissolve.

The Future for Alumni

As the saying goes, all we can only go up from here! The Grand Council believes now is the time to consider major changes to our alumni engagement and association structure, especially in reducing (or eliminating) operational burdens of running Alumni Associations. Looking forward, we hope to instead find opportunities to support the social and networking aspects of the alumni experience, keeping members connected as they move (or stay put), especially as more industries support remote or hybrid work. Combined with meaningful financial contributions, we call upon all alumni to consider expanding your Alpha Rho Chi community.

05: Petitions for New Chapters

There are no petitions for new chapters at this time.

We, the undersigned officers of Alpha Rho Chi Fraternity, do hereby attest and affirm this report, and faithfully submit it to the Alpha Rho Chi Fraternity for its sincere consideration:



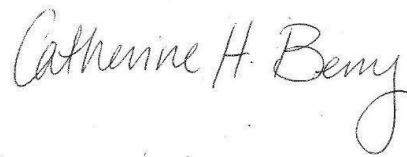
A.J. Kessinger
Worthy Grand Architect



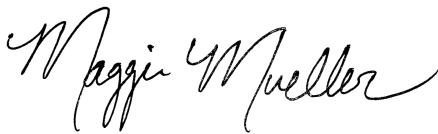
Bryan Perez
Worthy Grand Associate Architect



Sama Verdina
Worthy Grand Estimator



Catherine H. Berry
Worthy Grand Scribe



Maggie Mueller
Worthy Grand Inspector



Claudia J. Miraldi
Worthy Grand Lecturer



Laura E. Schmidt
Grand Advisor



Alpha Rho Chi Fraternity

Balance Sheet

As of February 22, 2023

		TOTAL
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts		
BOA Checking #2 (5130)	21,760.89	
BofA - CD	16,651.93	
Business Advantage Chk (6054)	134,568.55	
Business Savings (2803)	100.17	
Total Bank Accounts	\$173,081.54	
Other Current Assets		
Prepaid Expenses	0.00	
Undeposited Funds	0.00	
Total Other Current Assets	\$0.00	
Total Current Assets	\$173,081.54	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$173,081.54	
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Total Liabilities		
Equity		
Opening Balance Equity	0.00	
Retained Earnings	213,590.42	
Net Income	-40,508.88	
Total Equity	\$173,081.54	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$173,081.54	

Alpha Rho Chi Fraternity

Budget vs. Actuals: FYE22 Budget - FY22 P&L

July 2021 - June 2022

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Income				
4040 - Income Standard	696.00		696.00	
4041 - Collegiate Dues	74,064.28	105,000.00	-30,935.72	70.54 %
4043 - Pledge Fees	19,642.50	15,000.00	4,642.50	130.95 %
4044 - Initiation Fees	32,040.00	30,000.00	2,040.00	106.80 %
4045 - Chapter Installation Fees	5,015.00		5,015.00	
4046 - Alumni Association Fees	2,800.00	4,000.00	-1,200.00	70.00 %
4047 - Alumni Dues	10,706.12	20,000.00	-9,293.88	53.53 %
4049 - Seminar Fees	50.00		50.00	
Total 4040 - Income Standard	145,013.90	174,000.00	-28,986.10	83.34 %
4060 - Income Miscellaneous				
4061 - LC Fees	8,622.00	9,900.00	-1,278.00	87.09 %
4066 - Bronze Metal		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
4067 - JR Favor		1,500.00	-1,500.00	
4068 - Retained Income	227.96		227.96	
Total 4060 - Income Miscellaneous	8,849.96	12,400.00	-3,550.04	71.37 %
4080 - Income Merchandise				
4081 - Jewelry	106.00	400.00	-294.00	26.50 %
Total 4080 - Income Merchandise	106.00	400.00	-294.00	26.50 %
4100 - Convention				
4101 - Registration Fees	22,404.30	45,000.00	-22,595.70	49.79 %
4102 - Sponsorship / Advertising / APXF		500.00	-500.00	
Total 4100 - Convention	22,404.30	45,500.00	-23,095.70	49.24 %
4200 - Income Investment				
4260 - Interest On CD's / Savings Account		2.00	-2.00	
Total 4200 - Income Investment		2.00	-2.00	
4300 - Grants				
4301 - Burchard Grant	2,200.00		2,200.00	
4302 - Grant Leadership Fund	5,100.00	6,000.00	-900.00	85.00 %
Total 4300 - Grants	7,300.00	6,000.00	1,300.00	121.67 %
Uncategorized Income	2,405.40		2,405.40	
Total Income	\$186,079.56	\$238,302.00	\$ -52,222.44	78.09 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$186,079.56	\$238,302.00	\$ -52,222.44	78.09 %
Expenses				
5000 - Grand Council Meetings (Summer)				
5001 - Travel (air, parking, taxi, etc.)	1,610.76	3,000.00	-1,389.24	53.69 %
5002 - Lodging	2,341.51	2,000.00	341.51	117.08 %
5003 - Meals	775.05	500.00	275.05	155.01 %
5004 - Other (supplies, etc.)		250.00	-250.00	
Total 5000 - Grand Council Meetings (Summer)	4,727.32	5,750.00	-1,022.68	82.21 %
5100 - Board of Directors Meeting (Winter)				

Alpha Rho Chi Fraternity

Budget vs. Actuals: FYE22 Budget - FY22 P&L

July 2021 - June 2022

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
5101 - Travel (air, parking, taxi, etc.)	256.96	3,000.00	-2,743.04	8.57 %
5102 - Lodging		2,000.00	-2,000.00	
5103 - Meals	175.00	500.00	-325.00	35.00 %
5104 - Other		250.00	-250.00	
Total 5100 - Board of Directors Meeting (Winter)	431.96	5,750.00	-5,318.04	7.51 %
5120 - Convention Business Session				
5122 - Audio Visual		6,000.00	-6,000.00	
5123 - Convention Facilities Rental	4,623.65		4,623.65	
5124 - Supplies and Misc		500.00	-500.00	
5125 - GC Travel	302.35	3,000.00	-2,697.65	10.08 %
5126 - Volunteer Stipend		3,000.00	-3,000.00	
5127 - Convention Planning Meeting	5,745.33		5,745.33	
Total 5120 - Convention Business Session	10,671.33	12,500.00	-1,828.67	85.37 %
5150 - RD Retreat Meeting				
5151 - Travel (air, parking, taxi, etc.)	4,422.31	5,500.00	-1,077.69	80.41 %
5152 - Lodging	2,745.61	3,000.00	-254.39	91.52 %
5153 - Meals	1,435.01	1,200.00	235.01	119.58 %
5154 - Other (supplies, etc.)		250.00	-250.00	
Total 5150 - RD Retreat Meeting	8,602.93	9,950.00	-1,347.07	86.46 %
5200 - Publications				
5203 - Other Publications and Postage	1,539.68	750.00	789.68	205.29 %
Total 5200 - Publications	1,539.68	750.00	789.68	205.29 %
5300 - Administration & General				
5301- Office Printing		150.00	-150.00	
5302 - Postage & Shipping	91.34	150.00	-58.66	60.89 %
5303 - Dues & Fees	338.77	250.00	88.77	135.51 %
5305 - Office Supplies and Marketing Materials		250.00	-250.00	
5308 - Software	4,953.41	3,750.00	1,203.41	132.09 %
5311 - Accounting	2,550.00	1,800.00	750.00	141.67 %
5312 - Legal		500.00	-500.00	
5313 - Insurance	16,357.20	18,000.00	-1,642.80	90.87 %
5315 - P.O. Box		250.00	-250.00	
5316 - Database & Master Directory	13,629.01	12,000.00	1,629.01	113.58 %
5317 - Taxes		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
5324 - Photographer		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
Total 5300 - Administration & General	37,919.73	39,100.00	-1,180.27	96.98 %
5400 - Membership Services				
5401 - National Historian	56.58	150.00	-93.42	37.72 %
5405 - Bronze Medal	3,414.00	1,000.00	2,414.00	341.40 %
5407 - Awards		500.00	-500.00	
5409 - Jewelry (badges)	9,129.26	20,000.00	-10,870.74	45.65 %
5410 - Jewelry (upgrades)		200.00	-200.00	

Alpha Rho Chi Fraternity

Budget vs. Actuals: FYE22 Budget - FY22 P&L

July 2021 - June 2022

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
5411 - Certificates Calligraphy	4,515.54	10,000.00	-5,484.46	45.16 %
5413 - Charter		250.00	-250.00	
5414 - Charter Framing Reimbursement		250.00	-250.00	
Total 5400 - Membership Services	17,115.38	32,350.00	-15,234.62	52.91 %
5440 - Internet Service				
5442 - Webpage Development	7,425.98	3,000.00	4,425.98	247.53 %
Total 5440 - Internet Service	7,425.98	3,000.00	4,425.98	247.53 %
5500 - Colony / Ritual Development				
5501 - Expansion Travel		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
5502 - Expansion - Outreach/Correspondence		150.00	-150.00	
5506 - Colony Team Meeting				
5506a - CT - Travel (air, parking, taxi, etc.)	1,769.05	1,600.00	169.05	110.57 %
5506b - CT - Lodging	872.60	600.00	272.60	145.43 %
5506c - CT - Meals	281.79	500.00	-218.21	56.36 %
Total 5506 - Colony Team Meeting	2,923.44	2,700.00	223.44	108.28 %
5507 - Ritual and Ritual Workshops				
5507a - Ritual Travel (air, parking, taxi, etc.)	4,053.64	6,400.00	-2,346.36	63.34 %
5507b - Ritual Lodging	4,009.06	5,700.00	-1,690.94	70.33 %
5507c - Ritual (Meals)	5,072.64	2,750.00	2,322.64	184.46 %
5507d - Ritual (Other)	8.00		8.00	
Total 5507 - Ritual and Ritual Workshops	13,143.34	14,850.00	-1,706.66	88.51 %
Total 5500 - Colony / Ritual Development	16,066.78	18,700.00	-2,633.22	85.92 %
5550 - Chapter Development				
5551 - Travel (air, parking, taxi, etc.)		6,400.00	-6,400.00	
5552 - Lodging		5,700.00	-5,700.00	
5553 - Meals		3,000.00	-3,000.00	
5554 - Other (supplies, etc.)		750.00	-750.00	
Total 5550 - Chapter Development		15,850.00	-15,850.00	
5560 - FHSI Workshops				
5564 - FHSI Other (Supplies, Etc.)		1,250.00	-1,250.00	
Total 5560 - FHSI Workshops		1,250.00	-1,250.00	
5600 - Alumni Development				
5601 - Alumni Directors Meeting				
5601a - AD Travel (air, parking, taxi, etc.)	1,208.21	2,400.00	-1,191.79	50.34 %
5601b - AD Lodging	1,148.20	1,000.00	148.20	114.82 %
5601c - AD Meals	339.90	600.00	-260.10	56.65 %
5601d - AD Other (supplies, etc.)		100.00	-100.00	
Total 5601 - Alumni Directors Meeting	2,696.31	4,100.00	-1,403.69	65.76 %
5602 - Alumni Outreach / Retention		2,000.00	-2,000.00	
5604 - Programming	800.00	500.00	300.00	160.00 %
5605 - Travel to AA events		1,000.00	-1,000.00	

Alpha Rho Chi Fraternity

Budget vs. Actuals: FYE22 Budget - FY22 P&L

July 2021 - June 2022

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Total 5600 - Alumni Development	3,496.31	7,600.00	-4,103.69	46.00 %
5620 - GC Travel				
5623 - Chapter Events		1,500.00	-1,500.00	
5625 - PFA Conference	1,518.32	1,000.00	518.32	151.83 %
5626 - Other		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
Total 5620 - GC Travel	1,518.32	3,500.00	-1,981.68	43.38 %
5700 - Leadership Conference				
5701 - Travel (air, parking, taxi, etc.)	29,747.12	28,000.00	1,747.12	106.24 %
5702 - Lodging	10,255.96	14,000.00	-3,744.04	73.26 %
5703 - Meals	9,642.39	5,000.00	4,642.39	192.85 %
5704 - Rental Car/Van	342.13		342.13	
5705 - Professional Program	5,100.00	6,000.00	-900.00	85.00 %
5707 - Refunds	7,650.00	9,900.00	-2,250.00	77.27 %
5708 - Transportation (for event)		500.00	-500.00	
5709 - Event Space	5,058.00	2,000.00	3,058.00	252.90 %
5710 - Other (supplies, etc.)	1,560.44	500.00	1,060.44	312.09 %
Total 5700 - Leadership Conference	69,356.04	65,900.00	3,456.04	105.24 %
5950 - Convention				
5951 - Banquet & Catering		45,000.00	-45,000.00	
5953 - Speaker / Workshops		1,300.00	-1,300.00	
5955 - Convention Supplies & Misc.		1,500.00	-1,500.00	
5957 - Refund	23,175.00		23,175.00	
Total 5950 - Convention	23,175.00	47,800.00	-24,625.00	48.48 %
Total Expenses	\$202,046.76	\$269,750.00	\$ -67,703.24	74.90 %
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -15,967.20	\$ -31,448.00	\$15,480.80	50.77 %
Other Income				
Interest Earned	9.65		9.65	
Total Other Income	\$9.65	\$0.00	\$9.65	0.00%
NET OTHER INCOME	\$9.65	\$0.00	\$9.65	0.00%
NET INCOME	\$ -15,957.55	\$ -31,448.00	\$15,490.45	50.74 %