

## **"Putting Fingerprints on the Future"**

*Academy of Leadership 2001 – January 19-21*

The Academy of Leadership will take place from January 19-21, 2001 at the Hickory Ridge Conference Center in Lisle, IL. This year we are able to invite the Grand Chapter Advisor from each chapter to join the chapter Presidents for the weekend. In this our ninth year, the Academy remains a cornerstone of our leadership programming.

This year's Academy will offer an intense learning experience to all involved. Facilitators and participants will be encouraged to leave their everyday schedules and environments "at the door" in order to focus their attention on the weekend and the future of the Alpha Sigma Phi. The environment will need to support the philosophy that everyone is in this together, regardless of current stage of life. Alumni will need to recognize that they have much to learn from the youth of today. Undergraduates will need to recognize that they have much to learn from the wisdom and experience of the alumni. The bonds created between the alumni and undergraduates through this interaction will result in sustained communication and commitment.

The academy will offer a unified curriculum to all participants. All sessions will offer hands on experiential activities and ample discussion time to address individual concerns. Large groups sessions will be complemented by smaller group meetings called Society Meetings. Societies will be created to assist each participant in developing his desired leadership skills, identifying new ideas, and developing concrete plans for the fraternity, his chapter, and himself.

The curriculum of the academy will focus on key commitment areas, which will equip participants to address major issues facing the fraternity and individual chapters. The informal gatherings, brotherhood activities, and personal discussions will be just as relevant and important as the structured experiences in creating a vision for the future. A structured idea sharing has been incorporated into the weekend in order to provide the participants who desire it, a chance to share and gain ideas related to particular issues such as risk management, recruitment, brotherhood building, etc.

### **Insurance Premiums are Right Around the Corner**

Each year we have our liability insurance premiums that are due, at the insurance agents office, no later than February 1, 2001. You can expect to receive the invoice for your chapter by the end of November.

Your chapter's premium is based upon the number of men you have, your ability to take advantage of our incentives, and record of risk management violations. This year's base line per member cost (prior to incentives and surcharges) is anticipated to be between \$90 - \$95 per man.

## Alpha's Day Is Almost Here

On Friday, December 8, 2000, 27 men will be initiated into Alpha Chapter. The first such initiation in over 50 years!

These men have worked to re-establish our chapter at Yale since late 1999. They will be initiated on Friday, December 8 and their chartering banquet will be on Saturday, December 9, 2000. The men are also planning on a Black Lantern Processional as well. Our brothers from Epsilon Eta, Salisbury State University, will be on hand to assist with the initiation ceremony and deliver the baby blanket.

Due to several constraints, the Yale men have been limited on the number of invitations they will be able to extend. If you or members of your chapter are interested in going to New Haven for the occasion, please contact the Yale colony or their Leadership Consultant, Matt Mattson, before finalizing plans. While they would like to include everyone on their list, space limitations are a reality.

## *Keep Track of Your Chapter's Accomplishments*

As this school year is well under way, it is important for you to keep track of your activities and accomplishments to receive the proper recognition next summer.

Two main awards will be presented at this summer's National Leadership Conference in Cincinnati, OH. They are the **Gary Anderson Award** and the **Frank F. Hargear Award**. The Anderson Award recognizes the chapter with best all around, pledge education program. The Hargear Award is presented to an individual that best represents our ideals and values on a continual basis.

In addition to these awards, we will also be presenting citations to chapters in the following areas: service, philanthropy, brotherhood development, campus involvement, alumni relations, recruitment, parent relations, scholastic achievement, leadership development, and Tomahawk/Brotherhood Bulletin submissions.

Applications for all awards and citations are due June 1, 2001.

## *January Brings Changes to the Headquarters Team*

When our offices re-open after the winter break, our Headquarters team will look somewhat different. We are ecstatic to announce that Brothers Matt Mattson and Josh Orendi have each been promoted to the role of Director of Expansion. To replace these dedicated men, two new Chapter Leadership Consultants will be joining us. Kip Roberts from Murray State and Ethan Kraus from Maryland.

This will be the first time in recent history that our organization has had two full time staff resources dedicated to Expansion. During the 1996 and 1998 Grand Chapters, the message was sent loud and clear from our undergraduates that you wanted us to grow...and we are committed to doing that. Both from a standpoint of opening new groups as well as growing the average size of our existing chapters. Matt and Josh have already set some aggressive goals and they will need your help to achieve them. Groups already on their list are re-colonizations at Rutgers University and Penn State.

# Risk Management News & Notes

It is important to point out that it is impossible to completely eliminate risk from your activities. However, there are some things that you can do to help your chapter manage and possibly reduce the risks that it takes.

- Create the position of Risk Management Director/Chair within your chapter. This person should be knowledgeable of the risk management policies, and will audit chapter activities to ensure they are not in violation.
- Measure your chapter events and activities against the ritual. Evaluate the purpose, time, location, and duties of the event. Don't be afraid to make changes, if necessary.
- Troubleshoot. Brainstorm things that could go wrong, and take action to prevent or minimize the chance of those things happening.
- Share your plans with your Grand Chapter Advisor, Greek Advisor, and headquarters staff to solicit their suggestions.
- Treat brothers, new members, guests, and other Greeks and students with equal respect.
- Do not be afraid to hold others accountable for wrongful behavior. Not only is it your obligation to do so, but it very well may positively change that brother's life.
- Try to see your programs, events, and treatment of others through the eyes of a parent, university president, or newspaper reporter. Realize that it is often not enough to satisfy your own ethics — it is necessary to avoid all appearances of unethical behavior.
- THINK! You took an oath that binds you to live by a higher standard. Reflect on what that means. Remember that your actions reflect on every other member of Alpha Sigma Phi.

Being personally responsible, thinking before you act, holding one another accountable, and showing respect for others are all ways to uphold the obligations of the Fraternity and portray Alpha Sigma Phi in a positive light. Think about what you are doing. Understand where the public draws their perceptions of Greek Life.

Does that homecoming t-shirt that you wear across campus depict alcohol miss-use? What does the outside of your chapter house look like during and after a social event? These are things the public sees and remembers. **It is the collective actions of all fraternities that create and perpetuate these images of Greek life.** It is your responsibility to do something about it, and not cause these perceptions to be perpetuated further.

## Upcoming Dates

### November

15	Academy fee due
15	Risk Management Educational Certification due

### December

1	Report of Elections
1	Registrations for Academy (Don't forget about your GCA!)
6	Happy Founder's Day!!
22	Winter Break - HQ closed until January 2.

### January

19-21	Academy of Leadership
31	Insurance Premiums are due

## Use of our Marks

As you may know, our letters, insignia, crest, etc. are registered marks of Alpha Sigma Phi Inc. All reproductions of these marks need to be approved by headquarters.

This includes dance favors, t-shirts, web pages, etc. For merchandise, we have contracted with Spirit Recognition for them to produce favors and t-shirts that are consistent with the image we would like to portray. They can be contacted at 800-321-7747.

If you have any questions, please contact your Chapter Leadership Consultant.

## Share Your Success Stories!

Every chapter has had success this year to brag about and now is your opportunity to share!

Let us know about what is going on with your chapter so it can be shared with all our other groups. Perhaps it's recruitment or academics. Maybe it's a great mixer with a sorority or a fantastic service event.

Send your news to your Chapter Leadership Consultant or to Tom Hinkley at headquarters.



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*Don't forget to turn in the  
Biographical Data Forms for your  
pledges! We need to get your rosters  
accurate and this is the first step!*

*Also, remember to keep current on  
your fees and dues to avoid problems  
down the road. This information  
should be discussed early in the  
recruitment process so no one is  
surprised later.*

### **Let us Hear About Your Recruitment Success!!**

Now that classes are well under way, many of you have had some great success with recruitment, and we want to brag about you! Forward your success story to us for us to use with other chapters. Perhaps it was the number of new members you took in, or a particular event that worked well for you.

Whatever the case, we would like to hear about your success. Please contact your Leadership Consultant or Tom Hinkley ([tom@alphasigmaphi.org](mailto:tom@alphasigmaphi.org)) at headquarters with the good news!