



# Alpha Rho Chi

National Professional Fraternity for Architecture and the Allied Arts  
www.alpharhochi.org

From the Office of the  
Worthy Grand Architect

December 9, 2020

Dear Brothers,

What a year this has been. On behalf of the entire Grand Council, I thank you and applaud you for your patience, understanding and enduring fraternal spirit as we try to foster some sense of normalcy during this pandemic. Our primary concern remains the health and safety of all of our members.

The Grand Council has spent many, many hours in conversation planning for Spring 2021. While there is still much work to be done, I'm proud to share the following announcements with you today:

First, the Grand Council is pleased to announce that **the moratorium on Ritual activities is hereby amended to allow for virtual ceremonies**, as outlined below:

- The Grand Council has established guidelines for a virtual Pledging Ceremony, which will be made available to chapters starting in mid-January 2020.
- The Grand Council is developing a **virtual Initiation Ceremony, which will be made available to chapters by appointment starting in late March 2021**. More information, including chapter participation expectations and appointment scheduling instructions, will be made available in a forthcoming edition of *The Rise*.
- Rest assured that significant effort has been put in to ensure that these temporary virtual ceremonies maintain the spirit of the Ritual of Alpha Rho Chi and that no amendments have been made to the source text.

Second, the Grand Council will **maintain the reduced collegiate dues and continuing pledge/colonist fee installment schedule through Spring 2021**.

- Collegiate dues and continuing pledge/colonist fees remain **reduced to \$75/year collected in \$25 installments on October 1, December 15, and March 1**.
- Pledging fees for those pinned in Spring 2021 have been **reduced to \$37.50 in line with reduced collegiate dues**.
- **Initiation Fees will remain at \$90**, to cover the cost of a Membership Certificate and Standard Goldgloss Badge. Badge upgrades are available for additional cost.
- **Chapter Installation Fees will remain at \$300 + \$25 per person**, to cover the cost of a charter.

Third, the Grand Council will **maintain the moratorium on officer and appointee fraternity-related travel and in-person gatherings.**

- We continue to request that all members and non-member affiliates, such as pledges and colonists, also abstain from fraternity-related travel.
- Members are encouraged to meet virtually wherever possible as they continue to engage the community, hold conversations with prospective members, educate non-member affiliates, and support fellow members in their professional, philanthropic and brotherly pursuits.

Finally, the Grand Council is making plans to host the **73<sup>rd</sup> National Convention remotely.**

- While we had high hopes to convene in Birmingham, we expect that travel and large gatherings will continue to pose significant risk to our members in March 2021.
- More information will be made available in the new year regarding the 73<sup>rd</sup> National Convention schedule and logistics for conducting Fraternity business remotely.
- The 74<sup>th</sup> National Convention is scheduled for March 10-13, 2022 in Los Angeles.
- Save the date for the 75<sup>th</sup> National Convention, scheduled for March 23-26, 2023 in Birmingham.

Look for more information on virtual activities, including Ritual activities and the 73<sup>rd</sup> Convention, in the coming weeks as the plans come together. Be well, and best wishes to all for Happy Holidays and a better 2021!

Fidelitas, Amor et Artes,



Phil Buckberg  
Worthy Grand Architect