



ALPHA RHO OF CHI PSI

RHO BOAT

FALL 2022 • SPRING 2023

*Honoring our Past While
Securing our Best Future*



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"The most transformative experience of my life"

By Bradley Kurzawa

Greetings fellow Brothers of Alpha Rho. My name is Bradley Kurzawa, the previous #1. Some time has passed since we last spoke. In that time, this Alpha has seen a tremendous amount of growth. Let's begin with the Spring 2022 semester.

My first semester being the #1 of Alpha Rho was a learning experience. Running a brotherhood composed of eighty college students is not an easy task. It requires patience, understanding, and discipline. I also had to adjust to this new, massive amount of responsibility that was placed upon my shoulders. Over the course of the semester, I learned what it took to be the #1. On many levels, we had a fantastic semester. The Spring 2022 pledge class consisted of sixteen fine young gentlemen -- every single one successfully crossing and becoming a brother. Fast forward a year later and a large portion of those brothers hold a position within the fraternity. Four of them even being on the E.C. Philanthropy was also a huge success. We raised just over \$43,000 for the Rutgers Dance Marathon, making us the highest raising social fraternity (by a landslide) and the second highest

raising group overall. The effort that the brotherhood put in as a collective to secure such a title was a testament to how deep these bonds run. We were all able to rally together to support a single cause -- it was amazing.

Although we saw success in many areas, we also came up short in a few. Towards the end of the semester, especially April, the general morale of the brotherhood seemed to be deteriorating. Me and my executive council -- and a lot of the chairs -- had very little experience with Alpha Rho due to COVID. We had essentially only spent one semester, Fall 2022, as brothers on-campus. We were unfamiliar with how the fraternity normally ran, what to prioritize, and how to effectively solve problems. By the time May hit, the future of Alpha Rho had once again gone into question as many brothers left campus disgruntled and unsatisfied with how the Spring semester ended. I took that as a challenge to improve in the Fall. And we did.

The Fall semester was something magical. It's hard to put it into words, but something just clicked. The E.C and I found our groove over the summer and in September, we got to work. We knew which

problems to focus on, how to solve them, and what we needed to do to keep the brotherhood happy. We had fantastic social events all throughout September and October with the highlight being a phenomenal homecoming with Phi Sigma Sigma. Brotherhood events were innovative and engaging. Philanthropy events were happening on a near weekly basis with high attendance from brothers. There was this energy that you could feel circulating around the fraternity. We felt unstoppable. I can confidently say that we have recovered from the Spring semester and the wounds that COVID left us. We are most definitely on an upward trajectory and with the new E.C I have no doubt we can reach new heights.

As for me, being #1 has been the most transformative experience of my life. I've learned a lot about myself, what it takes to lead, and most importantly -- what it means to be a Chi Psi. When I stepped through those wooden doors for my first rush event three years ago, I never would've imagined I'd have this type of experience here. And I don't regret it for a second. Chi Psi has done so many things for me and I will forever be thankful.

Homecoming Highlights 2022



Message from the current #1 – Vikram Vijan

Brothers, I hope this note finds you well!
My name is Vik Vijan and I am the newly elected #1 at Alpha Rho of Chi Psi. I am a 3rd year undergraduate studying Finance at the Rutgers Business School and pledged in the midst of the pandemic in the Spring 2021. Chi Psi has truly been the backbone of my college experience in every way possible and I could not be more excited to work with the brotherhood to work towards our individual and collective goals this year.

My involvement in Chi Psi has been a domino effect of new experiences that have encouraged me to further my involvement every single day. My journey began immediately following pledgship going into my sophomore year. Finally being on campus for the first time in Fall 2021 after what felt like years of zoom classes, virtual pledge meetings, etc. was thrilling. I recognized quickly that being a brother of Chi Psi was more than a group of guys; but more so a lifestyle and culture we all embody everyday no matter what we're up to inside and outside of the Lodge. Being the previous #33 was my first experience with Chi Psi leadership and was an essential step in this "domino effect."

Getting to meet hundreds of students, pitching the values of Chi Psi, and seeking out the future brothers of Chi Psi that will ensure the longevity and cohesion of our organization, gave me a sense of purpose. Being on the Executive Council and serving as a dependable brother and being tasked with problems to solve, events to plan, and decisions to make eventually encouraged me to take the step to represent and lead our brotherhood on a greater level as #1.

*"He who knows only his generation remains always a child." - Jon Moore, PΔ '09
The Chi Psi Story*

Brothers, I'd like to thank each and every one of you for your continued support as our Alpha thrives. I, along with the rest of the active Brotherhood appreciate it more than you all know. I'd like to give special thanks to our former #1 Bradley Kurzawa (P'23) for his mentorship and guidance through this transition of leadership and responsibility. I would like to share a quote from a piece written by Jon Moore in the Chi Psi story. "He who knows only his generation remains always a child." Someone who only understands and is familiar with their own generation is limited in their perspective and understanding of the world. They will not be able to learn from the wisdom and experiences of past generations and will therefore be limited in their growth and development, like a child. Please feel free to reach out and/or stop by at the Lodge as you may please.

YITB,
Vikram Vijan P'24
#1 of Alpha Rho of Chi Psi

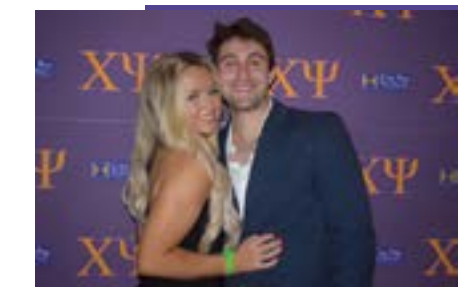
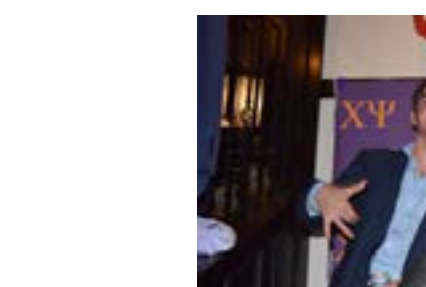
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FALL 2022 INITIATED CLASS



Standing (L-R) - JAMES LACORAZZA, EDDIE CONKLIN, DANNY WHEELER, LIAM MAHOM, DOM FALLONE
Kneeling (L-R) - KEVIN CALDINI, ALBIN KURIAKOSE, ANTHONY NITOPI, AVERY MUNOZ, ROB CHIRST



***“Let us joyful make
the night...”***



Message from the #5 - Tyler Lee

I am writing this after a semester of being the #5 at Alpha Rho and as a member of the first class after COVID-19. Having passed the torch to another brother, I had many conversations about the significance of the role and how it changed because of the pandemic. It is a twofold job. The Sergeant-at-Arms at Alpha Rho manages risk and enforces good formal meeting practices. He is also the steward and foremost scholar of fraternity lore. Knowing the rituals and traditions is a big part of the job. That said, I wish I had deepened my understanding of our fraternity's rituals and traditions more. I am from the perspective of someone who is still scratching the surface of a large body of knowledge but has learned enough to know its importance to the brotherhood.

Practically speaking, traditions glue the fraternity together. I learned early as Five that the uniformity with which brothers across the country know our history and execute our rituals ties us to each other. After initiating another class, each brother can speak the common language of our fraternity, which profoundly unites all of us. Something is exciting about sharing an experience with someone. It enables trust; it says, "you have endured as I have endured, and you've laughed as I have laughed." Now we have something like an inside joke, although more serious, with men of all ages, through which we can spark relationships. Our rituals make it easier for brothers in separate alphas and different parts of the organization's hierarchy to achieve our ultimate goal of making good men.

As a point of information, traditions are beliefs or behaviors passed down, with cultural significance tied to the past. In contrast, rituals are a series of actions repeated, each time similarly. Rituals help us bring our traditions to life. We can reaffirm for ourselves what it means to, for example, be generous to each other or courageous under challenging times by enacting a specific ritual that signals those values. In today's distracting world, it is helpful to conduct these rituals to meditate on our values and steep ourselves in them. When times are difficult, going through the motions of a ritual can soften our edges. In that process, we can refocus our attention on our values and continue being good people.

Finally, I repeat what the #5 manual teaches: rituals signal the significance of our actions. By attending formal meetings in suits and reciting fraternity literature, each of us knows to settle into a state of sincerity and openness in preparation for difficult conversations. It is easy to take things in fraternity life for granted. One of the more difficult parts of my job has been getting brothers to believe in our traditions long enough and hard enough not to joke about it.

Rituals will always be helpful reminders of the bigger picture of our involvement in this fraternity.

My assessment of COVID-19 in the greek life space is that students wanted to return to school and have reckless fun. Brothers have always wanted to have fun at Rutgers. Still, the zeal and recklessness with which many students approached the first few semesters back were unparalleled. We stayed isolated for so long. Some of us lost family members and close friends. It is hard to blame anyone for wanting to have a good time. And so, it was easy to forget about the broader purposes of being in a fraternity like Chi Psi. Teaching our traditions was made more difficult by that overwhelming prioritization of fun over other aspects of Greek life. Getting people to want to go to formal meetings, formal dinners, and initiation took a lot of work.

This phenomenon has made rituals all the more critical, and we should work hard to relearn them. At the same time, it is important to qualify that statement with the fact that forcing our brothers to enact rituals without tact failed for me and will probably never be a successful way to maintain our traditions after COVID-19. It was a slow march, convincing my brothers of the importance of rituals. Meeting by meeting, encounter by encounter, I used humor and brevity to motivate and inspire my brothers to rekindle their interest in our tradition. The most impactful thing I did was to live out Chi Psi's virtues as best I could. That way, my brothers believed in me when they saw me and were receptive to what I had to say. I needed myself and other leaders to embody what

"Traditions glue the fraternity together"

it means to be Chi Psi during critical, visible moments so that the rest of the brothers could believe in us, and then believe in our traditions. The need for strong leadership was one of my core messages to the newest Five, Brother Yosef Resvi, Rho '25.

Looking forward, I am hopeful that we will have that sense of reverence to tradition that I believe we had before COVID-19, while also making room for a "new normal" within the fraternity. Members of the new EC are great role models for our more recent brothers. They are gentlemen in all the ways that matter and have a lot of energy and new ideas. I spent my time thinking about maintaining traditions, but they have a unique opportunity to transform outdated practices to make more sense for future generations of Chi Psis. I never took our fraternity to be autocratic in how we did things, and that makes me genuinely excited to see how Alpha Rho innovates in the face of the challenges ahead.

Tyler Lee



Alumni Happenings – Brendan M Dolan Dart Tournament

The 31st
Annual
Brendan
M. Dolan

Alpha Rho of Chi Psi Alumni Dart Tournament got off to a bang with a record 47 teams. The evening started with a few announcements.

Next year will be the last tournament for the current organizing committee. We need some new blood to step up and take over to keep the event going. We will work with the new team over the next 2 years to get them up to speed. If you are interested, please let me know!!

The tournament started as usual with 2 seeding games for each team. The team of Watson / Ramos started out strong with a 49 and followed it up with a 69 to grab the top seed at 118 points. In the second game, Watson threw a 34 and Ramos added 35. The team of Bullock / Knowles made a run at the number one seed but fell just short with a pair of 56's for a total of 112 for the second seed. In the 2 games, Knowles threw a 31 and 30. For the third seed, Grogan / Shanosky shot a 52 and 44 for a total of 96. For the fourth seed, teams Kaczka / Byrne and Hoppy / Reugger both had 95 points, but Kaczka / Byrne earned the fourth seed based on their high game of 51 to 45 for Hoppy / Reugger. Other highlights of seeding games included a game of 52 for Bowers / Kokosinski, with Kokosinsky throwing a 30. The Hammer / Peurschner team also threw a 51. Individually Downey had a game of 33 and Perdoni had a 31.

The active teams also did well with Wheeler / Smith getting the 25 seed, Kurzawa / Orrico the 29 seed, Caldini / Mahon the 34 seed, the Pelitta brothers the 36 seed, Puri / Karczevski the 37 seed and Mehta / Vangiliappan the 42 seed. The team of Rosiak / Yu only threw the first seeding game then disappeared.

On to the single elimination tourney!! In the one seed bracket all of the higher seeds progressed through the 1st round. Watson / Ramos also carded a 56. In the second round 24 seed Abogabel / Messina beat 9 seed Downey / Van Orden 37-32, while 17 seed Rola / Capone beat 16 seed Kunel-Jure / Vassallo 47-44. In that game Vassallo threw a 31 and Capone threw a 30. In the third round, one seed Watson / Ramos each threw 32 to beat 17 seed Rola / Capone 64-29, and 8 seed Hammer / Puerschner beat 24 seed Abogabel / Messina 50-18.

In the two seed bracket, there were 2 upsets in the first round as the 42 seed of Mehta / Vangiliappan (actives) beat the 23 seed Ottaunick brothers 30-18, and the 39 seed Belverio / Flett needed 5 in the 9th to beat 26 seed Pickholtz / Schumann 27-26. 15 seed Sayde / S.Szemple carded a 53 and 10 seed McCarthy / Werley needed a 6 in the 9th inning to beat 42 seed Mehta / Vangiliappan 28-27. In the second round, all of the higher seeds prevailed and in the 3rd round, 2 seed Bullock / Knowles beat 15 seed Sayde / S.Szemple 59-53, with Sayde throwing a 33, and 7 seed Bowers / Kokosinski beat 10 seed McCarthy / Werley 45-36.

In the third seed bracket there was only one upset in the first round as 38 seed Arias / Lemantia beat 27 seed team Allen 35-20. In the second round all the higher seeds won with 14 seed Garwood / Tarnowski carding a 52. In the third round, 14 seed Garwood / Tarnowski beat 3 seed Grogan / Shanosky 58-51 with Garwood throwing a 34, and 6 seed Duncan / R.Szemple beat 11 seed Chichester / Clune 28-25.

In the four seed bracket, all of the higher seeds won in the first round. In the second round the only upset was 20 seed Allaman / Bonner over 13 seed Warren / Greenfield 36-21. In the third round, 20 seed Allaman / Bonner continued their run with a defeat of 4 seed Kaczka / Byrne 35-27, and 5 seed Hoppy / Reugger beat 12 seed Perdoni / Rubenstein 49-48 despite a 30 by Perdoni.

Next came the Quarterfinals. One seed Watson / Ramos threw 33 and 31 to beat 8 seed Hammer / Puerschner 64-26. Two seed Bullock / Knowles threw 35 and 30 to beat 7 seed Bowers / Kokosinski 65-43, with Kokosinski throwing a 30. 14 seed Garwood / Tarnowski threw 32 and 30 to beat 6 seed Duncan / R.Szemple 62-46. And finally, 20 seed Allaman / Bonner reached the end of their road when they lost to 5 seed Hoppy / Reugger 44-38.

In the semifinals 1 seed Watson / Ramos kept rolling as they each threw 31 to beat 5 seed Hoppy / Reugger 62-41, and 2 seed Bullock / Knowles beat 14 seed Garwood / Tarnowski 53-42 with Bullock throwing a 30. This set up a rare occurrence of the number 1 seed vs the number 2 seed in the finals.

In the first game of the best 2 out of 3 finals, Bullock / Knowles jumped out to a 5 point lead after 6 innings and were still up 4 after 8 innings, but then Watson / Ramos scored 11 in the ninth to

take the first game 58-55 with both Watson and Bullock throwing 31. In the second game Watson Ramos had only a 2 point lead after 5 innings, but then they pulled away to win another championship 63-54 with Watson throwing 31 and Ramos 32.

Overall, it was a great tournament with a record number of teams, record participation by the actives and a scarily consistent number one seed that translated into the championship!! Thanks to all who helped and participated. We need to keep this going!! See you next year for the 32nd annual.

YITB,
Kevin



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SPRING 2023 INITIATED CLASS!

1 Filipe Fietero: top of the pledge class, above all of his pledge brothers. Hard worker and liked by anyone who meets him.

2 Emmett Ryan: the first of the Ryan twins and arguably the lady's man of the pledge class, he is always willing to help out in anyway he can.

3 Brendan Ryan: finishing right behind his twin brother Bredo, as we like to call him, always came willing to learn and participate, but also having some fun.

4 Aidan O'Brien: Aidan has a knack for getting himself into trouble, but has become a great contributor to his pledge class' social endeavors on campus.

5 Richard Riley: Richie is, in his own terms, a wave. Just like any surfer dude, he has debatably the best hair in his pledge class.

6 Donato Marucci: the Don, Donato does some of the best impressions in the brotherhood.

7 Carter Robik: Carter is one of the most caring individuals you will ever meet, always down for a deep conversation or a quick "talk it out" with his brothers. You will also never see him without a set of pearls around his neck, talk about style!



8 Dollir Churyuanov: Dollir not only always came prepared for anything (possibly memorizing the Chi Psi story) but is the best singer in his pledge class, wooing multiple sororities with his voice.

9 Teagen Wittmaack: Teagen, possibly our favorite of the Wittmaack brothers, is arguably the best dancer in his pledge class. He's also great at making banners, an artist like his brother.

10 Alex Mancinelli: Alex is one of the fastest brothers in his pledge class, running around College Ave daily, especially in search of American Spirits.

11 Kevin Ruple: Kevin isn't just your average finance bro - he is able to let loose and really came out of his comfort zone during pledging to grow.

12 Aiden Maher: Aiden has the most proper walk you have ever seen, hands down.

13 JD Kelly: James Daniel Kelly is just like our old JD, a bit of an oddball that you can't help but appreciate.

14 Devesh Deodat: Man was straight as an arrow. Never let the whims of his pledge brothers distract him.

15 Saahith Kusupudi: Saahith is good for it, always giving good vibes to his brothers and everyone around him.

16 Tomas Mesples: one of our rugby playing and international brothers, Tomas was always good for a laugh and a lesson in Spanish.

17 Nicholas Koziatsek: the biggest tweak of the pledge class, always worried about something. What Nick lacked in confidence, he made up for in the bonds he made with his pledge brothers and his craftsmanship on their badge.

18 Anthony Triolo: Ant was always focused in meetings, making sure his pledge brothers were ready for anything thrown their way.

19 Chris Ng: If you ever need to find Chris Ng, he is undoubtedly in the Lab. Chris boasts a very hard double major and isn't afraid to tell you about it.

ROWE CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

I am proud to report by all accounts and all participants, the Rowe Convention was a huge success! We had brothers from Cornell, Stevens, Lehigh, and Union College, as well as alumni from various Alphas who joined us to make the event unforgettable.

The day began with a lively bagel breakfast, followed by a seminar by Rich Kauffeld, who shed light on modern problems and their solutions. We then took a short lunch break at Hansel and Griddle before splitting into groups for round table discussions with alumni and brothers.

During the round tables, three Alpha Rho brothers, Alex Yu, Chris Orrico, and JD Macolms, gave impressive presentations on their interests. JD's presentation on bull riding was both hilarious and meaningful, while Brother Yu and Brother Orrico gave a bold presentation on how to play chess. Next, we divided into groups again to learn about smoking cigars from Jesus Diaz (the current regional ASA), the finance world from an expert in the field, and a resume workshop with John Logan.



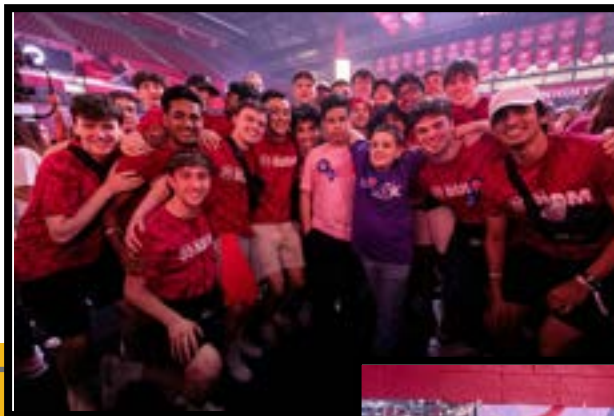
After all the groups had a chance to attend each section, Alpha Rho brothers selflessly helped the central office set up the dining room for the banquet.

The evening festivities were just as enjoyable, as we got to mingle with brothers from other regions while drinking and singing our favorite Chi Psi songs. The Central Office staff even mentioned that Alpha Rho had outdone themselves, and some of them said that this was the best Rowe conference they had attended this year after going to other regions in the prior weeks.

I speak for all the actives when I say we hope to see you at the next event!

Best regards,
Dominick Rosiak

ALPHO RHO OF CHI PSI CONTINUES TO
SET NEW RECORDS FOR RAISING MONEY
AT RU DANCE MARATHON AND FOR
ADDITIONAL CHARITIES!



*"We cannot thank you enough
for your support."*

ALPHA RHO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Board Update - We need your participation and your dues!

With the return of the world to a more normal state, and the completion of the bulk of the Lodge Renovation behind us, the Alpha Rho Alumni Association Board is in the middle of an alumni recruitment effort to inject new life into the Board and its activities. This is a 2-pronged effort, with the first step targeting resources to address some long term project activities, and the second step cultivating new members to the Board.

So far, we have engaged 16 alumni volunteers to lead or participate in the following efforts. Some of these activities have already started with others still in the planning stages.

- A robust Speaker Series Program (open forum discussions with actives about an industry, specific jobs, or skills like networking)
- RhoBoat design and editing
- An Alumni – Active Mentoring Program
- Historical Record retention and digital storage / display guidelines
- Alumni – Active Social Activities

We will need additional volunteers to participate as Speakers for the Speaker Series, and Mentors for Actives.

Keep an eye on the Alpha Rho Alumni Facebook or LinkedIn pages for updates on these two programs.

We still need more alumni volunteers for additional activities including:

- **Lodge equipment Preventative Maintenance program**
 - **Study Room Furniture Management**
 - **Alumni Website**
(alpharhoalumniassociation.org)
Both a Website Manager as well as a team to develop content and layout
 - **Events coordinators – Banquets, Homecoming, Dart Tournament, Senior Reception, etc.**
-

Most importantly, we are also looking to repopulate the Alumni Board as several of the members have been serving for over 10 years. We will bring new members around slowly and will still be there for ongoing support. We currently have an enthusiastic and active group of undergraduates who appreciate the experience and knowledge that Alumni provide. I encourage you to get involved and pay forward the experience that you had at the Lodge!!

ALPHA RHO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DUES

The Alpha Rho Alumni Association is currently collecting dues for the 2023 fiscal year. Dues are set at \$100 per year (\$50 for the last three graduating classes).

Thank you very much to those of you who have already made this payment and if you have not, please consider doing so at this time. These funds are used mainly in support of the active Brotherhood.

Payment can be made in any of the following manners:

- 1) Venmo to
@AlphaRho-AlumniAssociation
- 2) Credit card at Home | Alpha Rho Alumni Association (square.site)
- 3) Check made out to Alpha Rho Alumni Association mailed to:
Bill Norris
301 North Prospect St.
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865-1344

Thank you as always for your consideration and your ongoing support! YITB

Kevin Haynes P'81 - APAA President
Bill Norris P'81 - APAA Treasurer