

## **Meet our New President of the Educational Foundation!**

Brother Gary DelPiano  
(Sigma Phi, 1977, Southern Connecticut University)

Good Day to All Alpha Chi Rho Brothers!

I am pleased to introduce myself to you as the newly elected President of the Alpha Chi Rho Educational Foundation. My name is Gary DelPiano. I live in Connecticut with my wife Beth. I have two children who really are adults now, even though they will always be kids to me. My son, Daniel, is 28 and is a Business Education teacher in Milford, Ct. My Daughter, Christine, is 24 and has just completed her MA in Elementary Education, and like many is looking for a job. Beth and I will be married 35 years in July. Besides being my friend Beth has taken care of the kids and worked at several jobs but now she teaches in the Connecticut Technical High School System. We love to travel in our RV in the summer; we will be heading out in a few weeks for a month-long trip, and we are looking forward to longer trips when she retires.



I have been a member of Alpha Chi Rho since 1974; graduating from Southern Connecticut State University in 1977. During my college days, I was president of my chapter, an Undergraduate Councillor to the National Fraternity, as well as a Graduate Councillor. I always felt a close bond to the National Fraternity, that being instilled in me by past Executive Director, Wes Dangler and his wife Jackie, and because of close friendships with Scott Carlson and Jim Spencer. Beth always was involved in my chapter but became a true supporter of the Brotherhood when she and I went to the Chicago Convention sometime in the late 1970's, early 1980's on the train with all of the other Undergraduate Brothers. It was quite a trip!

After my years on the Fraternity Board I started my career as an educator, first teaching 8<sup>th</sup> grade at St. Barnabas Elementary School, in Woodlawn, Bronx. It was a twist of fate that I got this job, which I stayed at for 3 years. I applied to a teacher agency in New York City. Little did I know that an Alpha Chi Rho Brother owned and ran it and when he found out that I was also a "Crow" he did all he could to assure I had the best job he had in his portfolio. What luck! I was off on a career in Education. I still look back at those years at St. Barnabas as some of the most fun years I had in teaching. I could have done much worse.

I also taught at Cardinal Spellman High School, in the Bronx. After one year there I moved on to the State of Connecticut Department of Education, when I joined the Vocational-Technical High Schools as a Social Studies teacher. Now known as the Technical High School System I taught, coached sports, ran the Student Council, and became a General Education Department Head during my 26 years in the system.

Because of this career choice I did not have the time, and some years even the money for dues for the Fraternity, but I always felt in my heart a bond with Alpha Chi Rho and knew that I would someday return to help our Undergraduate Brothers through volunteer work with the Foundation and the Fraternity. Alpha Chi Rho had helped me, so it was only natural that I return the favor that was given to me.

So this is that time. I retired from the State of Connecticut in 2009 and one of the first things I told Beth I was going to do was to become involved with the Fraternity again. I had already started sending donations in and now because I could make the Annual Membership meeting of the Foundation, I went. It was good to see many of the Brothers I had been with at some past conventions and somehow I was elected as a Trustee. This past year I was elected President of the Foundation. I hope to see some of you at our next Annual Membership meeting. We will be sure to notify you in advance so that you can mark your schedule. Please come and let yourself be heard or maybe even coerced into helping out.

Already, I have been too long winded, but if you have made it this far I want you to know that you are always an Alpha Chi Rho. This is an exciting time for the Fraternity and Foundation. You will be seeing some changes and they will all be for the good. And you can help by staying in touch with the National Fraternity, possibly getting involved, and giving us feedback on new things you may see on the website or in the mail. No matter what you do, it is always appreciated and keeps you connected to your Fraternity.

In The Bond,

Gary DelPiano

