

## President's Pen

Brothers! I thought a brief update of where the Fraternity is today and what we are doing would be helpful.

As Brother Ramos so completely stated in his message, communication is the most important thing that the National Council and the National Office can do. In the last year the reinvigoration of the Garnet and White and the new web portal have been major steps in our advancement of Fraternity communication. However, communication is a two way street. I encourage the Resident Brothers in the Chapters to set up their own web sites as well that can be linked to the National Web Site. I also encourage them to provide information about their activities to the Garnet and White Editor, Brother David Luckenbill, so that the rest of the brotherhood can learn about their activities. Additionally, I encourage our Graduate Brothers of all ages to send information into the Garnet and White as well as their Chapter web site, so that their Brothers can learn about what they have done since leaving school. However, the most important communication is from any Brother to the National Office or the National Council if you have any concerns or suggestions for an improvement of our Fraternity.

Brother Ramos discussed the One Page Business Plan developed in the past year. To be clear, there are two such plans, one for the Fraternity and one for the Educational Foundation. We are having a combined Fraternity/Foundation meeting on May 14, 2011. I look to my Brothers throughout the Fraternity to send any suggestion for the business plans to me at [President@alphachirho.org](mailto:President@alphachirho.org).

As I reported in a prior message, when I became President of the Fraternity I laid out some goals for the Fraternity. These were improving finances, improving communication, Chapter expansion, and review of the Ritual and its use within the Fraternity. As you may know, we have made strides on improving the finances by tying in with Omega Financial. There have been some bumps in the road, but Brother Carlson tells me we are seeing improvement. As discussed above and in Brother Ramos' message, we are working on improving communication. With the reinvigoration of the Garnet and White and the new web site, we now have the vehicles for this communication. It is up to all of us to use these vehicles.

The National Office is actively working on an expansion plan. As this progresses, we will report our progress.

Brother Mercaldo has been working with the Council on getting the Ritual to be a more important part of our Chapters' lives. Along with this we are establishing a History Committee to document some of the key historical events of the Fraternity and the Ritual. I encourage all Brothers to send in to the National Office any information that may fill in some of the gaps in our history. I especially encourage my older Brothers (over 60) to send in any information they may have before we lose it. This history search applies to our Chapters as well as the National Fraternity.

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't thank the staff of the National Office and the National Council for all their hard work and assistance. I especially want to thank our Vice President, Victor Ramos for all of his hard work for the Fraternity and his Penn State Chapter.

In the Bond,

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