

## **Interview of Joshua Brodsky, National Treasurer**

by David Luckenbill, ΩΦ '05, Editor

In this edition of the e-Garnet & White, I will be sharing an interview with the National Treasurer, Brother Josh Brodsky. Brother Brodsky graciously accepted the interview request after an event in a local hotel where we had to endure horrible, horrible karaoke renditions by wedding guests. Needless to say, he was a good sport about this and was happy to provide some insight into his background and hopes for the Fraternity moving forward.

Brother Brodsky grew up on Long Island, New York and he graduated from the State University of New York at Albany (Mu Chi Phi) in 1993. Growing up on Long Island helped mold him into the person he is today. "We lived in a close knit neighborhood all the parents were the same 'Do your homework. Get outside. See you at dinner.' So that's what we did, When we moved out to the Island (my) Josh's father finished his Masters Degree and was home more and able to spend more time with us." His father was also a school administrator. Being active in his neighborhood activities, sports specifically, helped him on varying levels.

His professional background is full of varying experiences and he currently works for and started two companies. The first is called Urban Evolutions, which designs and performs renovation work in New York City, New York. The second is Pinnacle Advisors, which provides collegiate advice for students and marketing strategies for universities and colleges. What inspired Brother Brodsky to take on these roles and ventures? "I got fired on a sales trip. I went home and interviewed with other companies in the industry. My son, Mitchell, was one year old. I was travelling two to three hundred thousand miles in the past for work." At the time, by taking on these two ventures, Brother Brodsky was able to spend more time with his son as he grows up. "It was similar to what my father did with me, and I took advantage of my knowledge base."

Brother Brodsky feels his management and strategic planning skills help with his current position as National Treasurer. He said, "Being able to look at the big picture and develop a plan. To help someone see what they want to be able to build is important." Josh stated, "Our Fraternity responsibility is to help educate college aged men into productive members of society. We are helping them build long term visions of what they want to become."

Mu Chi Phi was originally a local Fraternity on Albany's campus. When Brother Brodsky became president, the school mandated all Fraternities have insurance. "We sent letters out to various national organizations. The conversations with Brothers Chris Mulvihill and Tony Snyder gave me the impression we would fit and benefit from joining Alpha Chi Rho." Mu Chi Phi treated Brothers and potential members equally and were from similar backgrounds. "We were from working families and bonded well; we were a close group. We fought but we knew what we wanted to achieve and everyone had a role to play and knew what the consequences were for failure," said Brother Brodsky.

“Alpha Chi Rho National Consultant was my first job. You don’t ever get out!” exclaimed Josh. One of the more memorable activities Brother Brodsky performed as a Consultant was working with Brother Jeff Kline on Centennial. Past President, Father Charles Brinkman asked Josh to chair the Regional Governance Committee as well. He has also worked on evolving Leadership Scholarship Institute (LSI) with Brothers and served as National Graduate Councilor from 1998 to 2002. Brother Brodsky has also performed keynote speaking engagements for LSI at Gettysburg and the latest Disney Convention in Orlando.

In regards to expectations of himself, Council and the Fraternity, Brother Brodsky expects to help CEO, Brother Scott Carlson, put Alpha Chi Rho on sound financial footing. “Of the Council, I expect them to develop an obtainable vision to be able to put into motion. This plan would put the organization into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Help us expand an active Chapter Roll and Graduate Brother involvement,” Josh said. He expects the Fraternity to continue to grow, develop and become a leader amongst Fraternities. Brother Brodsky summarized with, “We all should be developing young men into leaders.”

In closing, he also stated that it is important for Council to be perceived as approachable by Graduate and Resident Brothers alike. Active and clear communication between all is paramount to reach our mutually desired results. “I would like to see all Chapters be proficient at the Ritual,” Brother Brodsky continued, “That will help with Brothers having problems, including finances. We would be the best Fraternity out there if we used our Ritual to guide our actions.”

In closing I would like to thank Brother Brodsky for taking time out of his busy schedule for the interview.