

A View from the Road

Ryan Barck, Leadership Consultant

This semester has been a busy one for me thus far. It has had its ups and downs, but it has also made me realize how great Alpha Chi Rho really is. I started my year visiting the very bright young men at Philadelphia University. They are moving right along and transitioning out the founding fathers of the Chapter. It is an exciting time to be around that campus as there is expansion with influence from our Brothers and the Greek community as a whole. The next stop in my journey was to the other end of Philadelphia for a visit with the men of the Epsilon Phi Chapter at Temple University. They are a chapter who had some struggles in the fall term, but have elected a new e-board, and a zero tolerance policy in regards to involvement, dues, and actions on becoming a Brother. I think this new approach is what the chapter needed to move over the hump, and become a great chapter of Alpha Chi Rho.



My next travels took me to the University of Pennsylvania, where I was very proud to see the progress of Alpha Chi Rho's longest running chapter. They were just finishing a very successful recruitment, and the spring looked very promising for this chapter. On Saturday, January 21st, I was fortunate enough to avoid the weather, and attended the Group A Conclave which was hosted by the Lambda Chi Phi chapter at Drexel University. I was very excited to see the ideas and progress that many of the chapters made through this experience, and how chapters were able to collaborate and develop great strategies to bring back to their chapters.

After Conclave I made the venture up to New York State to make a visit to Syracuse University where the men have been struggling with recruitment for a few semesters now. It was a successful visit as the chapter now has a plan in place to recruit the best quality members it can. After my visit to Syracuse, I then made the long trek south to visit the Phi Beta Chi Chapter at Radford University in Virginia. Radford is a great Chapter that is small, but has lots of potential. Phi Beta Chi is on a campus where Greek life is transitioning to meet higher standards established by the University. They took a class of motivated members with good GPA's this spring, and I think they are turning the corner to becoming a very successful chapter.

After my visit to Radford University, I then headed across the State of Virginia to Longwood University where we have a great group of men who are trying to revive the Phi Theta Chi chapter. The men are motivated, have great GPA's, and they are also very involved on the campus. After a successful trip to Virginia I then made my way back to New York State to Pace University, but this visit was cut short as I became a tragedy of life on the road when I contracted Pink Eye. So after being out of commission for a long

weekend, I then went back on the road to visit the chapters at Clarkson University and SUNY Geneseo. Clarkson is a chapter that in the past has had trouble keeping focused on the mutual goals created by their graduates. I feel their leadership is improving and headed in the proper direction. Our men at SUNY Geneseo are some of the brightest I have encountered at any chapter of Alpha Chi Rho, and I firmly believe that they have the potential to be a contender for the Curly Cup this summer.

As I go into the final months of my tenure as leadership consultant, I am glad to see the future of Alpha Chi Rho is more solidified than ever. I think that the Fraternity is growing stronger not just in size, but also because I see many of the problems that chapters had in the past finally correcting themselves. One thing I am also very happy to report is that alumni relations are on the increase for chapters almost across the board. Finally I wanted to take this time also to thank the Fraternity of Alpha Chi Rho, its alumni, and the undergraduates I have worked with over the last two years. I wish you luck in the future and will never forget the relationships I have developed with you. As the final day of my tenure nears, it has been an honor to serve the Fraternity In the Bond of Brotherhood.

