

# ARM & HAMMER

Alpha Tau Omega

Gamma Sigma

Spring 2023



Instagram: [atogammasigma](#)

Facebook: [atogammasigma](#)

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## Headlines

### Annual Alumni Golf Tournament - Saturday May 6th

On Saturday May 6th the Annual Alumni golf tournament will take place at Leicester Country Club. For those who registered by the deadline of April 26th there will be a 1:00 PM shotgun start. Following the conclusion of play there will be an Italian Dinner at 5:30. Finally there will be multiple raffles with prizes such as a bottle of Glenlivet as well as an ATO custom golf package.



## WPI Alumni Weekend - May 19-21

On the weekend of May 19th WPI will be hosting an Alumni Weekend. There will be reunions for classes ending in either 3 or 8, however there will be events for alumni of other classes as well.

For more information on the event visit:

[Alumni Weekend 2023 | Worcester Polytechnic Institute \(wpi.edu\)](https://www.wpi.edu/alumni-weekend-2023)



## Executive Board

President	Dante Amicarella	dante.amicarella@gmail.com	678-699-1732
Vice President	Giovanni Vecchiarino	giovecchiarino10@gmail.com	860-798-1365
Treasurer	Antone Mello	antonemello8@gmail.com	401-297-5410
Risk Manager	Jamie Rapal	jamierapal@gmail.com	408-838-6649
New Member Educator	Frank Ford	franklinford1717@gmail.com	609-977-2063
Rush Chairman	Ryan Dalton	Ryandalton10@hotmail.com	917-526-7312
Chaplain	Seton King	kingseton5@gmail.com	315-982-7071
Historian	Michael Bragg	mjb.33003@gmail.com	978-430-2058
Secretary	Matthew Neuffer	matthewneuffer@gmail.com	908-914-2894

## Chair Positions

House Manager	Andrew Kovacs	kovacsandrews@gmail.com	774-292-0320
Steward	Walter Rodriguez	walterrodz0214@gmail.com	787-226-1204
Comptroller	Jack Pszeniczny	jpszeniczny731@gmail.com	413-310-5048
Social Media	Carson Kershner	carsonkersh@gmail.com	203-974-2274
Social	Francesco Valagussa	francio0928@gmail.com	857-272-2580
D.E.I.	Alejandro Clermont-Delgado	aclermont@rocketmail.com	415-987-7961

# President Update

As we head into summer and the close of our academic year we look forward to continuing to make progress as one of the top chapters on campus. Our updated New Member Education program headed by Frank Ford was a successful one with a dozen new members initiated at the beginning of D-term.

Recently, our chapter has worked to increase positive relations with the hill and the neighborhood while still continuing to be a strong social fraternity on campus. We are consistently putting our best foot forward in community and school sponsored events. Our biggest event of the semester has been Winter Wonderland hosted by ATO in collaboration with SGA. On February 18th, 2023 the chapter organized and ran a campus wide event on the quad. The event was open to all students and offered food, games and music for anyone that wanted to join. The goal of the event was to have an event on campus where the student body could come together and have fun. It was a huge success and the entire brotherhood participated. We gave away free waffles, hot chocolate and grilled cheese. We also had an ice rink for students to skate on. This event was entirely funded by the school and allowed us to continue to build up relations with the hill.

Another event we did was a leaf cleanup of Bancroft Tower on February 19th, 2023. With the support of members from the GHHNA (neighborhood board) we were able to clean up Bancroft and make it once again a beautiful little place for families of our community. This, however, is just one of many neighborhood events we have done this spring. Others include a neighborhood Easter egg hunt and an Earth Day spring cleanup. Each of these events have strengthened our relations with the neighborhood. Our final big event of the year will be an ATO car wash for the Special Olympics Club here on campus. These events are further highlighted in the Vice President's report. We take pride in not only being a strong social fraternity, but also one that gives back to the neighborhood, WPI and the Worcester community. This pride, however, starts back at our home at 8 and 10 Regent street.

We have a very motivated group of actives and Alumni who are putting a lot of time and effort into making the house an exceptional place to live for years to come. Furthermore, the brotherhood has worked alongside very motivated alumni to help raise money via the Front Door Challenge. This money has allowed us to make much needed improvements to both houses which can be found in the house managers report below. We appreciate all the hard work the alumni continuously do to maintain the longevity of our chapter and hope to connect with you at the golf tournament on May 6th, 2023. Events like this are pivotal to the chapter to connect its past with its present and continue to keep stories of our legends alive for generations to come.

Love & Respect,  
Dante Amicarella



## Vice-President Update

This semester we are not only working on taking advantage of multiple community service opportunities but also strengthening our relations with our neighbors and the school. We have worked to find new ways to collect donations for our Polar Plunge where the proceeds go to our primary philanthropy, Special Olympics. We did some small activities around campus including, table sitting and partnering with Sororities to put together specialty events. In addition we continued with our halloween costume drive where we collect costumes from families around our neighborhood, WPI, and Worcester as a whole. They will be donated to underprivileged children in the community that can't afford halloween costumes. Around Easter we put on an easter egg hunt at Bancroft Tower for kids in the area which includes an egg hunt, meeting the Easter Bunny, and face painting. New to us this year we are facilitating a furniture drive with the school.

At the end of the term we put together a car wash to collect more donations for Special Olympics. We are unable to hold this event in front of our house due to obstructing traffic but we were able to work with the school to find a suitable venue.

Besides Philanthropy, we have elected and put into our bylaws a new chair position called DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) and organized a new Judicial-board committee for the year. We are currently working on furthering the basement project including bringing the fire suppression system up to code, deep cleaning, and setting up a lighting system. Moreover we did our house spring clean up along with a neighborhood cleanup on Earth Day to give back to our community.

We tried to plan a barbecue block party for the neighborhood to welcome the new president but no dates were sufficient for all parties. We plan to do this in the beginning weeks of the fall. For the time being we gave the neighbors and the president small baskets to show our appreciation and thanks.

Love and Respect,  
Giovanni Vecchiarino



## Treasurer Update

During the course of the semester the bank account has been in a good position. The main issue that arose during this semester was our rising utility costs which forced us to increase rent that was previously set at the beginning of the year. However with a minor adjustment to the contract we were able to reduce the cost of electricity in the house. Despite the increases in rent, brothers have continued to be on top of paying both national dues and rent. As a chapter we are continuing to return cans to fund small projects around the house.

A major change that will be coming in regard to finances is next year ATO national will no longer be using the omegafi system. This has created some minor issues as we head into the closing weeks of the year because all balances on omegafi need to be zeroed by the year's end. The balances left in the system are not from active brothers or alumni but from uninitiated members who had been added to the omegafi roster and left the chapter before being initiated. Most of this group had not paid the initial fees ATO national had sent to them and the house was forced to cover them. However we were able to work through it with our leadership consultant and are in a good financial state heading into the summer. As an executive board we will continue to operate under budget and use our finances wisely.

Love and Respect,  
Jack Pszeniczny (Interim)

## Risk Manager Update

With summer around the corner, we are proud of the improvements and accomplishments our chapter has achieved this year. With the new member class being freshly initiated, their addition to the chapter has added volumes to our risk management policy. The new members were all effectively trained to handle difficult situations regarding brothers and guests alike. They were taught how to handle situations regarding our newly implemented safe-word phrase, "Is Ms. Cat here?" As a chapter, we also had our first school-sanctioned social events in years, with each being more successful and more safe than the previous. Improvements were made to our coat-check system due to the heavy demand our guests presented at earlier events. I took the lead in implementing this new system that works flawlessly and now our guests can have a better experience at our house overall. Our improved relationship with the neighborhood continues to help us on our upward trajectory and overall status of the top fraternity on campus. Prompt and constant communication with the neighbors has proven to be a great mitigator against complaints and dissatisfaction. This allows our chapter to have successful social events without harming the livelihood of our neighbors. Overall, our chapter had a very successful year and our risk management only continues to improve as our chapter grows and becomes more successful on the hill.

Love & Respect,  
Jamie Rapal

## New Member Educator Update

This year we looked to emphasize what ATO strives to do, create loving and respectful leaders of tomorrow. This idea started the first day of spring semester when our new members started the pledge process. We took this idea and discussed what they believed it meant to be an ATO. We developed conversations about what being a leader really meant and it always came back to loving and respecting others around them. The new members carried this idea with them through the process and were able to grow into strong individual leaders that I can already see making an impact on our chapter. Although we had a small class of only a dozen new members this year it is clear that this new class is small but mighty. They look to find new challenges in academics, in their personal lives and within the chapter in order to continue to grow as individuals. I hope our new program will continue to shape the leaders of this chapter for generations to come. Thank you for always supporting the underclassmen as they grow throughout their college career.

Love & Respect,

Frank Ford

## Rush Chair Update

This past B term we wrapped up our fall rush with 12 new members who were initiated at the start of D term. Looking towards the upcoming 2023 rush we are expanding our horizons on campus through a variety of sports, clubs, and on campus events in order to gain more exposure and add a new diverse group of potential new members. We are also looking to continue the past years rush events and look to add new ones that are engaging and will entice people to come up and talk with the brothers. During the spring semester there have been accepted student days held by the school giving us a chance to present ATO early on to incoming freshmen. This has been a great opportunity to talk with the new incoming class and their families giving them early insight on who we are here at ATO and what we represent. I am looking forward to having the opportunity to recruit the next class of ATOs and shape them into future leaders of our chapter.

Love & Respect,

Ryan Dalton

## Chaplin Update

We always pride ourselves on being the closest brotherhood on campus. We love to spend quality time together whether we are studying together or competing in friendly competition. We do an array of things together including soccer, basketball, football, kickball, baseball, skiing/snowboarding, going to sports games, and many more. I have new ideas and events to keep the brotherhood tight and engaged with each other. As the weather improves it allows us to get outside more and more to participate in some of our favorite sports on the athletic fields. As a soccer heavy fraternity it is common for brothers to pool together for a multitude of pick up soccer games. Overall every brother leans on each other not only for fun, but support from academics to mental health. I can say

with confidence that every brother is comfortable going up to any other brother to talk about whatever is on their mind or get something off their chest. That is the brotherhood we pride ourselves on.

Love and Respect,  
Seton King



## House Manager Update

Projects completed or in the process of being completed by the brotherhood and alumni under the direction of House Manager Andrew Kovacs:

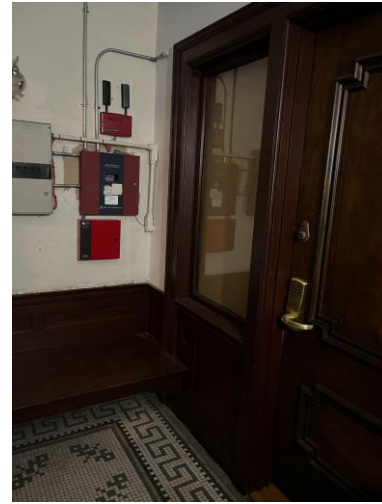
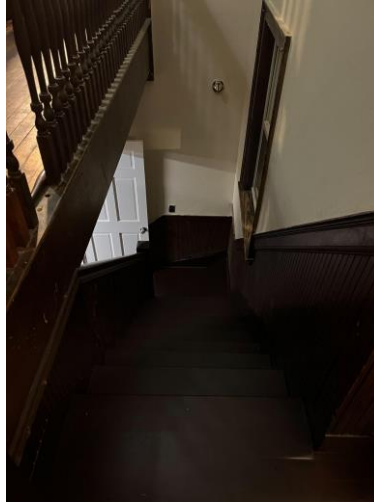
- Organized, painted, and refurbished part of Mrs. Cat's Kitchen
- Organized Main 2 closet and added a locking cabinet for the house's more expensive tools and for tools in the future
- General fixing of drywalls, ceilings, and replacement of ceiling tiles
- Re-programmed door codes to ensure non-brothers were prohibited from entering
- Facilitated contractors to come in and fix freezer, grease trap, and electrical issues
- Managed a successful Spring cleanup and acquired needed tools for the house
- Managed the reworking and cleaning up of the Side Yard and New member project.
- Assembled new chairs for Angel Hall
- Fixed the Ceiling in Mainbrace
- Cleaned and reorganized chapter room
- Alumni Large Projects
  - New chairs for Angel Hall
  - Back Stairs repaired
  - In Between doorways and bench repaired and finished
  - Ongoing fixing of pocket doors
  - Ongoing plan to redo walls, ceilings, and electrical or Eclub and Poop Deck

We plan to continue making improvements to preserve ATO for years to come. Any and all help (physical, financial, intellectual, etc.) is greatly encouraged and appreciated!

If you have further ideas for house renovations feel free to reach out

Love and Respect,  
Andrew Kovacs





## DEI Chair Update

There was an incident last semester where the new members of other fraternities made some distasteful remarks to a woman who was presenting to them. This led to the school implementing new measures to enforce diversity equity and inclusion (DEI). At ATO we always strive to do better so we embraced this challenge head on. So, a new position was created and we held our first ever DEI Chair elections at the start of C term. My job is to make sure that as a fraternity we embrace the idea of diversity to allow us all to grow and learn together for the betterment of the chapter. We recently had our first DEI event at the house, where all the brothers participated in a “privilege walk”. It was an activity that allowed us to have an honest and constructive conversation about privilege. We were able to acknowledge how fortunate we all were to be here and not to take this opportunity for granted. We also just had a Carnival event at the house where we celebrated Brazilian culture and heritage. One of our brothers gave a brief presentation about what being Brazilian meant to him. Mrs. Cat also cooked some delicious Brazilian food and we danced to traditional Brazilian music. It was a great time that allowed the brothers to become closer while learning about a new culture. I look forward to the future where I will work to expand the reach of this position to also have an effect on campus and make bigger strides toward DEI.

Love & Respect,  
Alejandro Clermont-Delgado

This is a list of our seniors and their majors. These seniors are hungry to get out into the real world and we encourage you to reach out if you know of opportunities.

## Seniors

Will Bazakas-Chamberlain	williambazakaschamberlain@gmail.com	617-872-0784	Computer Science
Franco Bazzini	francobazzini1014@gmail.com	939-644-3688	BS Business Analytics / MS Management
Nicholas Biliouris	nicholasbiliouris@gmail.com	774-437-3483	Robotics Engineering
Colin Canniff	cmcanniff@wpi.edu	781-715-7320	Mechanical Engineering (Minor: Business)
Brent Ditzler	ditzlerb19@gmail.com	717-552-3161	Chemical Engineering
Demetre Doherty	dldoherty09@gmail.com	339-927-8640	Actuarial Mathematics
Mathew Dzwil	mattdzwil@gmail.com	978-835-9504	Data Science
Roe Hendrick	roehendrick@gmail.com	603-521-4385	Mechanical Engineering (Concentration: Mechanical Design)
Michael Nason	michaelnason6@gmail.com	207-807-7005	Mechanical Engineering (Concentration: Biomechanics)
Luke Reid	lreid006@gmail.com	339-832-5759	Mechanical Engineering (Minor: Robotics)
Andrew Roberts	wynn.roberts01@gmail.com	585-953-6025	Mechanical Engineering (Minor: Spanish)
Walter Rodriguez	walterrodz0214@gmail.com	787-226-1204	Mechanical Engineering
Luke Savoie	luke.r.savoie@gmail.com	508-369-7095	Data Science
Alexander Strickland	strickland7712@gmail.com	413-230-5815	Robotics Engineering/Computer Science
Joshua Unger	josh.unger01@gmail.com	201-675-2947	BS Computer Science / MS Management
Francesco Valagussa	francio0928@gmail.com	857-272-2580	Mechanical Engineering (Concentration: Mechanical Design)

## Masters Candidates

Michael Biando	mikebiando18@gmail.com	770-557-5483	BS Chemical Engineering/ MS Fire Protection Engineering
Evan Hallberg	evanhallberg19@gmail.com	401-447-6377	BS Biomedical Engineering/Mechanical Engineering/ MS Mechanical Engineering
Erik Herrera	eriksvenherrera@gmail.com	760-310-8634	BS/MS Mechanical Engineering
John Laukaitis	johnlaukaitis14@gmail.com	802-373-3614	BS/MS Chemical Engineering
Christopher Martenson	christophermartenson1@gmail.com	203-505-1931	BS/MS Mechanical Engineering

# Historical Spotlight

