



The Iotian

April 2016

Alpha Iota of Chi Psi at the University of Wisconsin, Madison

Letter from the #1

Brothers,

I write to you from the upper flight deck of our beautiful Lodge; as Madison begins to warm in the final six weeks of the semester, we are eager to get the pier in the water to take advantage of the increasingly pleasant weather. The last several months have been eventful ones for Alpha Iota, with this year's recruitment of two strong pledge classes, high live-in numbers, and the hosting of Chi Psi's Midwest Rowe Regional Conference.

Recruitment

Interest in Greek life at the University of Wisconsin has grown in recent semesters, so it follows that our pledge classes have been gradually increasing in size as well. This past fall we welcomed 20 fine gentlemen into the bonds of Chi Psi and our spring recruitment netted 15 new members who we hope to activate in a few weeks' time. While we recruit based solely on the merits of one's character, we pride ourselves on how diverse and well-rounded our Brotherhood has become, with Brothers studying a wide range of subjects and hailing from cities in all regions of the country. While our Fraternity slowly increases in size and number, we remain cognizant of the importance of retaining the tight-knit nature of our Brotherhood.

Living In

We have 27 Brothers living in the Lodge this semester and anticipate sustaining live-in numbers in the mid 30's for the foreseeable future. As I explained the value of living in to potential new members during the recruitment period, I found myself realizing the extent to which living in the Lodge has enriched my college experience and brought me closer to the Brothers with whom I have lived. I look forward to the capital campaign bestowing upon the Lodge an environment in which this tradition may thrive for decades to come.



Undergraduate brothers enjoying an evening of poker at the Lodge



This Issue

Letter from the #1
Second Century Campaign

2015 Year in Review from the Iota Court Preservation Association
2015 Legacy and Capital Contributors
2016 Alpha Iota Events

Alpha Iota's Second Century Campaign Endow the Lodge, Invest in Our Future.

Campaign Concluding—Recognition Wall to Hang in Lodge

The Second Century Campaign for Alpha Iota, "Endow the Lodge, Invest in Our Future" – will conclude at Homecoming, 2016. We invite all Lodgers to attend this momentous celebration.

A donor recognition wall will be hung in the Lodge, recognizing lifetime contributors to the Iota Court Preservation Foundation, the 501(c)(3) that was established in 1987 to receive and manage funds for the long term renovation and restoration of our historic Lodge at 150 Iota Ct.

During the course of the campaign, we were fortunate to have Bill Walker Sr. and Bill Walker Jr. providing leadership and motivation. Their dedication to the Lodge has remained steadfast and their contributions are many. We offer a very special thanks to them for their efforts.

The latest campaign, our fourth in as many decades, raised just over \$1 million from just 74 Lodgers. On the positive side, once the funds are all collected, we will have funds from one-time gifts and multi-year pledges to retire the renovations loans from much-needed improvements made more than a decade ago. On the downside, only 7.6% of all living Lodgers supported the campaign. We currently count 973 living Lodgers from Alpha Iota. The results beg the question: Is it fair that such a small minority of our alumni are responsible for the long term care of our beloved Lodge?

The Lodge is was built in 1912. It is now more than a century old, and it has housed and nurtured generations of young men who have lived at Iota Court. Life long friendships were made under its roof. Memorable events occurred there, from formal pledge ceremonies to social events, summers on the pier, and dinner conversations that still echo through the hallways. It has always been there for us – a constant part of our past in an ever-changing world.

We can never go back to those days when we were young college students and active members of Alpha Iota, but we can pay it forward for the next generation. We want them to enjoy the same experiences as we did in the Lodge. Alumni who came before us provided that same support for the Lodge that we so much enjoyed

When we unveil the Recognition Wall on November 12, 2016, I hope we will be able to add YOUR NAME to the list of those who came before us, and those who will follow, with your support of the Lodge. If you haven't done so already, please consider a multi-year donation to the Second Century Campaign and finally, I look forward to seeing you in November.

YITB,
John Frymark '05

In the Greek World

Roughly every five years, Alpha Iota hosts the Midwest Rowe Regional Conference, an opportunity for leaders and interested members from Alphas in the Midwest region to share best practices, re-engage with the Central Office's vision for our Alphas, and engage in professional development. We were honored to host the 2016 conference here in Madison and open the doors of the Lodge to about 35 Brothers from other Alphas for the weekend.

I very much enjoyed meeting those of you who came out for our alumni tailgates this past fall and hope to see you in Madison again soon. My Brothers and I very much appreciate and highly value your continued support for the Lodge, without which our "cultivation of an elevated and refined friendship" would not be possible.

YITB,
Isaac Mehlhaff, F18, #1



Fred Mohs '57 serving as keynote speaker at the Chi Psi Midwest Regional Conference in Madison

2015 Year in Review from the Iota Court Preservation Association

Brothers, Friends, and Family,

It's my privilege to provide a brief recap of the accomplishments of Alpha Iota and its alumni board for 2015.

Our Alpha continues to build on the strong momentum gained socially and financially in recent years. We've enjoyed vibrant groups of alumni in Madison for a number of events throughout the year, most notably at our receptions for football games at the Lodge and last summer's annual Iota golf outing at University Ridge. It's always a pleasure to see friendships rekindled and have generations of Iotians together to exchange stories about their time on Lake Mendota, and of course take the opportunity to meet and build connections with our undergraduate Brothers. If you have not made a trip to Madison recently I strongly encourage you to put one on your calendar in 2016. This summer our fraternity will be celebrating its 175th Anniversary at our National Convention in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia, another fantastic opportunity to celebrate our brotherhood. If you're interested I'd strongly encourage you to seek more details at <http://www.chipsi.org/?page=175Convention>.

Our undergraduate Brotherhood continues to build on their already tremendous reputation. The Lodge is dually recognized both as a premier fraternity on the UW campus and one of the most outstanding Alphas of Chi Psi, being nominated for the Thayer Trophy three consecutive years. Our undergraduates constantly raise the bar in recruitment, philanthropy, risk management, and campus involvement. On a campus where the student housing landscape has vastly changed



Alpha Iota alumni from 1960-63 and their spouses meeting for their 26th annual ski trip. Photo taken in Vail, CO. Thank you very much to John M. Forester '63 for providing.

recently, our Lodge remains full and well maintained year after year. As an alumnus you can rest assured that your Lodge is in very good hands.

We continue to gain momentum in our Second Century Capital Campaign boasting over one \$1,000,000 in commitments and over \$300,000 in cash already collected in the last two years. In addition to this

tremendous progress specific to the campaign, our legacy giving program continues to build momentum as well. Donations in 2015 increased by over 50% from our previous record year in 2014. We truly are blessed with an involved and generous alumni population who value the impact that Alpha Iota had on their formative years and are ensuring that benefit and experience lives on. I'd like to personally thank all those who have made contributions both financially and of their time to support our corporation, undergraduate brotherhood, and our capital campaign in 2015. We have another robust social calendar in 2016 and I'd strongly encourage you to take advantage of it and reconnect with Alpha Iota this year, especially if the routine of life has not allowed you to do so for some time.

YITB,
Nick Najjar, '05
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The Iotian



Alpha Iota of Chi Psi at the University of Wisconsin, Madison

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Thank You to Legacy & Capital Contributors 2015!

Thank you to all our Alumni who donated to the Alpha Iota Legacy Program and Second Century Campaign in 2015, for your generosity and ongoing commitment to the Lodge. We continue to encourage all our alumni Brothers to consider an annual gift to the ICPA to help support the Lodge. As a reminder, the ICPA is a recognized 501(c)(3) charitable organization and gifts are tax-deductible. A donation envelope is included in every newsletter.

Michael Allen	William Hentzen	James Murray	Jeff Stoebner
William Ambrose	Charles Hicks	Nicholas Najjar	Merrill Taft
William Atkin	Gerald Hicks	Steven Nannini	Thomas Thomas
Michael Barina	Thomas Himes	Andrew Olafsson	Michael Traut
Mark Beirl	Alex Hitch	San Orr	Brian Van Cleave
Thomas Beyer	Christopher Hobart	August Pabst	Camp Van Dyke
Jarrold Biebel	James Hoelter	James Perry	The Walker Family
John Bogenschultz	Richard Hopkins	Will Pritchard	Willard Walker
John Carpenter	David Horak	William Rayne	James Webster
Lawrence Clancy	Richard Horak	William Reckmeyer	Micahel Weisman
J.S. Cole	James Hughes	Howard Roughen	Frank Wendt
John Dickinson	Walker Johnson	Richard Ruffo	John Werra
Andrew Eschweiler	Michael Kassner	William Rummler	Gary Werra
Wade Fetzer	Jack Kelly	Grant Schilling	Micah Wickersheim
John Forester	Peter Kies	Thomas Shield	John Wilber
Thomas Gould	Frederick Kruger	David Smith	Thomas Wilson
Edward Hasbrook	Douglas Macneil	William Smythe	Robert Witte
S.R. Heath	Warren Marton	William Sprague	
Albert Hentzen	Thomas Mohs	William Stillman	

2016 Alpha Iota Events

Spring Activation Banquet

April 23rd 2016, 5 PM

Location: The Lodge, 150 Iota Ct, Madison, WI 53703
RSVP by Friday April 15th with the #5 Sam Zastrow
at sam.zastrow@gmail.com

Football Receptions

Every Wisconsin Football Home Game

Location: The Lodge, 150 Iota Ct, Madison, WI 53703
RSVP and time details
to be communicated summer 2016

Homecoming & Second Century Recognition Ceremony

November 12th 2016, Time TBD

Location: The Lodge, 150 Iota Ct, Madison, WI 53703
RSVP and time details
to be communicated summer 2016

**Alumni groups interested in purchasing a group block of tickets for the homecoming football game please contact Nick Najjar at nicholas.d.najjar@gmail.com or 608-658-2789 as soon as possible. We have Brothers who hold season tickets that are helping secure seating blocks, if there are other ticketholders who are interested in doing the same please contact Nick Najjar.*

Additional events for the winter will be communicated in this fall's edition of the Iotian.

Tee off with your fellow Brothers at the annual Alpha Iota Golf Outing!

August 20th 2016, 1 PM

Location: University Ridge Golf Course,
9002 County Rd PD, Verona, WI 53593

RSVP by August 1st with Nick Najjar at nicholas.d.najjar@gmail.com
or 608-658-2789

Cost: \$85 for Alumni, \$58 for Undergraduates

We hope
you can
join us!

To join our email list to receive the latest news and updates, please provide your email address to Holly Champagne at holly@strigenz.com