



The Iotian

July 2014

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

Letter from the #1

Brothers,

Now that classes are finally over, summer is in the air at Alpha Iota. With another great semester under our belts, the leaders of Alpha Iota, along with the active body, look forward to further enhancing the success of the Lodge and continuing the tradition-rich experience of the Chi Psi Brotherhood at the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

Recruitment

We are proud to announce another successful spring recruitment with a pledge class of 17 young men. After our spring activation, the addition of these gentlemen brought our membership to 86 actives. I would like to take this opportunity to extend a special thank you to all our alumni for their continued support, whether that is through recommendations or through contributions made over the years to help enhance both the Lodge and our fraternal experience here on the wonderful UW-Madison campus.

Meal Plan

We recently completed our second semester with a full-time chef in the Lodge kitchen. Our chef, Adam Rathman, has experience at Harvest Restaurant on the Capital Square and has been doing a great job preparing meals along with delectable soups. The Brothers are extremely happy with our new meal arrangements and, thanks to the Alumni Association, have more to look forward to this upcoming fall when our new griddle and oven are installed.

In the Community

Our active body has done an incredible job this year making an impact all around the community, including our second annual Purple and Gold Charity Dinner, which you can read more about in this newsletter. Thank you to all the alumni and actives that helped make this event a huge success. Additionally, we have Brothers active in Badger Volunteers, Humorology, Special Olympics, Ronald McDonald House, Dane County Salvation Army and in the State Capital. Looking ahead to next semester, we strive to continue another year of strong involvement in the Madison community.

We would love for you to join us in celebration at our next activation banquet, attend an alumni tailgate, be a part of the annual golf outing, or simply swing by the Lodge and meet the actives. The Brothers here at Alpha Iota look forward to seeing you and hearing about all the great times you have had at the Chi Psi Lodge.

YITB,
Jeff Smith, I'15
#1

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Philanthropy Update: Purple and Gold Charity Dinner

Brothers,

As you may know, the second annual Purple and Gold Charity Dinner was held on April 12, 2014, at the Best Western Plus Inn on the Park. Attendees were treated to live jazz music, hors d'oeuvres, a delicious meal, a silent auction with over forty items to bid on, and two guest speakers representing Gio's Garden, the beneficiary of the evening.

Gio's Garden is a Madison-based non-profit organization that provides assistance and services to families of children with special needs. The Brothers of Alpha Iota were thrilled to partner with this great organization and experience its impact on local families firsthand. Throughout the spring semester, groups of Brothers volunteered at Gio's Garden, working one-on-one with the children and helping them reach individual goals. Building relationships with both the children and the staff made this event even more special.

The net proceeds of the dinner were donated to Gio's Garden, amounting to nearly \$17,000. The future of the Purple and Gold Charity Dinner is looking bright with this significant increase in funds from the \$5,000 that was raised the year before, and the goals are even higher for next year's event.

Ultimately, Alpha Iota is looking to grow this into the largest student-run philanthropy event in the state of Wisconsin. In order to do so, the Brothers plan to reach out to more local businesses and work to attract members of the Madison community. This approach will allow Alpha Iota to build relationships with numerous people and organizations that share the same values as Chi Psi.

Again, we would like to thank all active and alumni Brothers who have supported our philanthropy events. We are ecstatic about this year's outcome and are looking forward to continuing this success in the coming years.

YITB,
Danny Schmitz, I'15
Philanthropy Chairman



Thank you all who attended the 2nd annual Purple and Gold Dinner!

Annual Alpha Iota Golf Outing



Join us for an afternoon of friendly competition between Brothers. Alumni and undergraduates are invited to attend the annual Alpha Iota of Chi Psi Golf Outing.

Date:
Saturday, September 13
2:00 p.m. shotgun start

Location:
University Ridge Golf Course
9002 County Road PD
Madison, WI 53593

Alumni and actives bonding at last year's outing

Fees:
\$85 per player
Fees include green fees, golf cart, practice balls, personalized bag tag and box lunch. Fees have been reduced to \$58 for current UW students.

For more information or to reserve your spot, please contact Keith Butala at keithbutala@gmail.com.

2013 Year in Review from the Iota Court Preservation Association

Dear Alumni, Brothers, Friends and Family:

It is my pleasure to provide a brief update on the accomplishments of the alumni boards during 2013.

Alumni Donations:

On behalf of the ICPA, I'd like to offer a special thank you to the Brothers listed in the Honor Roll portion of this newsletter for their generosity in 2013. In 2012, we saw donations return to pre-recession levels. I'm pleased to announce that in 2013 our donation level increased again by 167% year over year. Thank you to all who contributed and I 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.

Our Second Century Campaign:

Seeing a photo of the Lodge, like the one our undergraduates provided in this newsletter, stirs up a plethora of fond memories for generations of Iotians who were lucky enough to spend a few years on Mendota's shore. To ensure the preservation of our Lodge, our corporation reorganized with John Fymark I'05 transitioning out of his role as ICPA Treasurer to chair Iota's "Second Century Campaign." We also welcomed Tom Shield I'10 as our new treasurer and are extremely excited about the early gains made in our campaign.

Golf Outing:

Our annual golf outing was truly revitalized last summer when over 25 brothers gathered at the University Ridge Golf Course in mid-July. Brothers travelled from as far as Nashville and Atlanta to attend the event. Special thanks are due to Keith Butala I'08 for his grassroots efforts in bolstering attendance last year and for championing the event again this year. We look forward to another successful outing this September.

Undergraduate Accomplishments:

Lastly, I would like to draw your attention to the undergraduates' accomplishments. The Lodge remains full with over 30 live in Brothers and after many years of effort, full time meal service is now available. They've continued to raise the recruitment bar, boasting double digit numbers in their last three pledge classes. In 2013, the undergraduates organized their first Purple and Gold Charity dinner, which raised over \$5,000. Not content to simply repeat this success in 2014, they established a relationship with Gio's Garden, where they volunteered weekly, and in one year more than doubled the attendance and tripled the amount raised at the second dinner last April. Our Brothers have built the premier Greek philanthropic event on the UW campus, and an outstanding legacy to leave for classes to come. Their efforts were recognized nationally last summer when Iota was named a finalist for the Thayer Trophy and we hope to see their accomplishments recognized again at this summer's National Convention in August.

As both an alumnus and board member, I'm enormously proud of their achievements and continued success. If you find yourself in Madison, please walk down and



Active body at the Lodge in Spring 2014

spend a few minutes meeting our undergraduate Brothers. You'll realize very quickly that your Lodge is in extremely good hands.

YITB,
Nick Najjar, I'05
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The Iotian



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

ICPA to Launch Second Century Campaign

In celebration of the centennial anniversary of the Lodge, the alumni and Brothers of Alpha Iota are launching the Second Century Campaign aimed at raising funds to invest in the future of the undergraduate Brotherhood who will enjoy the benefits of our unique and historic Lodge.

As part of this campaign, the ICPA directors have acquired the help of Wesley Wicker, a senior fundraising officer with Sinclair Townes & Company, to conduct a \$2 million campaign to retire the Lodge's re-financed loan, establish a long-term maintenance endowment fund and launch a scholarship endowment fund for the undergraduates.

Lodge Renovations

When the Lodge was extensively refurbished in 1999, the ICPA borrowed more than \$2 million to cover the initial expenses. Today the loan balance is approximately \$800,000. Our goal is to eliminate that debt so that future rent revenues can be used to accelerate fund deposits into a long-term maintenance fund for the Lodge.

Funds for the Future

Building a long-term maintenance fund will enable future generations of Brothers to enjoy one of the most impressive Lodges in Chi Psi history and one of the most recognized facilities in the Greek world. Invested for future use, these funds will reduce the need to raise support from Lodgers, past and present, or dramatically increase dues for the undergraduates.

In addition to the maintenance fund, the capital campaign seeks to establish a scholarship endowment fund to benefit current Brothers. The cost of higher education is continuing to rise and tuition at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is no exception. With that being said, scholarships are becoming increasingly important to assist with students' expenses. Implementing a need-based scholarship would offer assistance to Brothers who truly embody the Chi Psi Brotherhood through exceptional leadership within the Lodge and on campus.

Raising Support

Over the next two years, we are looking to raise \$1.5 million to cap off the \$2 million campaign. Kicking off the campaign, Wes has already begun contacting alumni and Brothers across the country. To date, \$515,750 has been pledged and contributed to the campaign. All contributions to the ICPA are fully tax deductible. Pledges and contributions can be mailed to Tom Shield, I'10, our ICPA treasurer, at PO Box 1582, Madison, WI 53701. In addition, Brother Shield can also receive and transact gifts of stock and other securities.

We encourage all Brothers, past and present, to consider making a donation toward the betterment of our beloved Lodge and the Chi Psi Brotherhood.

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

Honor Roll

Gentlemen's Club Contributors Wisconsin Association of Chi Psi

San Orr
Brian VanCleave
John Frymark
Willard Walker
San Orr
Thomas Gould
William Reckmeyer

Iota Court Club

August Pabst
James Hoelter
Jarrod Biebel
Bradley Horak

Founder's Club

Tom Thomas
Charles Barnum
Jeffery Young
Gerald Hicks

Purple and Gold Club

Bernhard Hautz
Merrill Taft

Michael Kassner
Scott Miller
Nicholas Brazeau
J. Steven Cole
Lorence Wheeler
James Murray
Nicholas Brazeau

Alumni Club

Thomas Mohs
Andrew Olafsson
Gerald O'Connell
William Sprague
S R Heath
Ronald Harris
Robert Forbes
J. Steven Cole
John Forester
S R Heath
David Smith
Robert Dunne
Michael Fernandez
John Knox
V. Tate

Legacy Club

Corey Dike

Request for Articles and Photos!

Do you have important information or an interesting story regarding our alumni you'd like to share in an upcoming issue of The Iotian? If so, please email your article suggestion to Amanda Schlesner at Vollrath Associates at ASchlesner@vollrathpr.com. Articles can include relevant alumni news, obituaries and other information our Iotians would enjoy reading. Photo submissions from recent events are always welcome too!

To join our email list to receive the latest news and updates, please provide your email address to Amanda Schlesner at ASchlesner@vollrathpr.com