



The Iotian

May 2015

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

Letter from the #1

Brothers,

After a nice and very necessary spring break, Madison has finally provided us with some spring weather. The Badgers finished off an incredible run in Frank Kaminsky's last season, providing excitement and a much needed distraction from the stress of school. Besides basketball, the Second Century Campaign has been a major topic of conversation at Alpha Iota. All of the actives are looking forward to seeing how the campaign will affect the future of the Lodge and, needless to say, have been on their "A-game" to make sure our historic home is kept in prime condition for many generations to come.

Recruitment

This spring semester, we are proud to announce that we have recruited 10 new gentlemen to join the ranks of Chi Psi. After they spend time learning what it truly means to be a Brother of Chi Psi through our updated pledge education program, "The Pursuit," they will bring our total active membership to 86 by the end of the semester. We are very excited to be one of the growing fraternities on campus, and we are proud to grow in a way that respects our rich traditions and stays true to what the Lodge means to all of us, and to all of you.



The Brothers enjoyed winter on Lake Mendota's shores, including making time for ice hockey

Living In

With an average amount of live-ins this fall, we entered the spring semester with a renewed focus on growing our ranks. With a bit of Brotherly effort and a little push, I am pleased to report that the Lodge will host nearly 40 live-ins this fall. I am incredibly excited to see the Lodge at such a large number. For those who have chosen the opportunity to spend a few years on Mendota's shores, I am confident they will not only grow closer in the bonds of Brotherhood, but also in their own personal and professional pursuits as has been the Chi Psi tradition.

In the Community

On March 21st we held our 3rd Annual Purple and Gold dinner. I am proud to say that it was a tremendous success, as we raised over \$12,000 for our partner organization, Gio's Garden. Our relationship with Gio's Garden has deepened consistently since we first began our partnership with the organization in 2013. Working with Gio's Garden and volunteering on a regular basis is an incalculable experience, one that allows us not only to benefit a local organization, but also personally watch it grow from our own philanthropic efforts. We look forward to partnering with Gio's Garden for many years to come, and I am

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2014 Year in Review from the Iota Court Preservation Association

Dear Brothers, Friends and Family:

It is my pleasure to provide a brief update on the accomplishments of the alumni boards during 2014.

Alumni Donations and Our Second Century Campaign

On behalf of the ICPA, I'd like to offer a special thank you to the Brothers listed in the donor portion of this newsletter for their contributions in 2014. Thanks to continued generosity through the Legacy Program and the introduction of our Second Century Campaign, we continued our momentum in annual giving. Donation levels increased over 30% from 2013, and we look forward to continuing this trend in the upcoming years through consistent and increased Legacy Program contributions and ongoing multi-year pledges made to our capital campaign. 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. I'd also encourage those who can contribute their time and effort to get involved in the Second Century Campaign in any way that best suits their personal capacity.

Alumni Recognition and Events

Thank you to Pete Wilder, I'05, and Keith Butala, I'07, for volunteering their time to organize the Milwaukee Area Cocktail Reception and Iota golf outing, respectively. We had over 30 Lodgers at our golf event in September and over 70 at the December reception in Milwaukee. In December we were not only treated to a terrific evening, but also to the presentation of Chi Psi's Distinguished Service Award to Brother Fred Mohs, I'59. Fred's contributions to our Alpha cannot be understated, and are more than deserving of Chi Psi's premier recognition. I'd encourage those in the Midwest to try to attend either the Milwaukee reception this winter, our annual golf outing which will once again be held in Madison this summer, or the National Convention which will be hosted at the University of Minnesota this July. Details for



Brother Fred Mohs, I'59, received Chi Psi's Distinguished Service Award at the December Milwaukee Area Cocktail Reception

all events will be included in upcoming mailings from the ICPA.

Undergraduate Accomplishments

Exceptional performance has become an ongoing expectation from our undergraduates in recent years, and 2014 was no exception. Our current active membership totals over 80 and is remaining consistently at that number year over year. As a result, the Lodge remains packed with nearly 40 live-ins expected this fall. Despite tremendous competition from student housing improvements in Madison, our undergraduate Brothers continue to be drawn to the unique experience of living in the Lodge that so many of us remember so fondly. This spring, they hosted a first class philanthropy event raising over \$12,000 for Gio's Garden at the 3rd Annual Purple and Gold Dinner. They were named a finalist for the Thayer Trophy at our national convention last summer for the second consecutive year and I expect that trend will continue in Minneapolis this July. The entire board continues to be impressed with the quality of young men they recruit and elect as leaders each year, and encourage you to visit the Lodge and meet them on your next visit to Madison.

YITB,
Nick Najjar, I'05
Communications Chairman, Iota Court Preservation Association, Inc.
nicholas.d.najjar@gmail.com
(608) 658-2789

excited for the great things we can achieve as we work together.

In the Greek World

Recently Alpha Iota was awarded the right to hold the 177th Annual Convention in 2018! We are all very excited here in Madison and I hope many of you are as well. The convention is a great opportunity for alumni to visit the Lodge and reconnect with Brothers both old and new. While we hope you are already planning for the

convention, it would be great to see you at the Lodge even sooner. We will again host our Activation Banquet and alumni tailgates next semester, but what excuse do you really need to visit the Lodge? The Brothers always enjoy seeing you and love hearing about the great times that have been had at the Chi Psi Lodge.

YITB,
Zachary LaVallee, I'16
#1

► Philanthropy Update

Brothers,

As you may know, the number of actives at Alpha Iota has increased rapidly over the past few years. With the growing number of Brothers, Alpha Iota has expanded our responsibilities for individual positions, allowing for greater Alpha and philanthropic involvement.

We continued our blossoming relationship with Gio's Garden, a non-profit organization dedicated to nurturing and strengthening families with special needs children, for a second straight year. Throughout the year, a handful of the active Brothers volunteer every Saturday morning at Gio's Garden. Due to the participation of many eager and philanthropic-minded Brothers, it is often difficult to get a time slot to volunteer!

The 3rd Annual Purple and Gold Dinner

Led by Brother Logan Conlon, I '17 (Philanthropy Chairman), the support of Danny Schmitz, I '15, and the philanthropy committee, the 3rd annual Purple and Gold Dinner was held on Saturday, March 21st at the Best Western. Event attendees, including our families, friends and alumni, were entertained by distinguished speakers and live music performed by a student string quartet. While enjoying a delicious dinner, guests also had the opportunity to bid on an array of one-of-a-kind auction items, including signed sports memorabilia and artwork, as well



Active Brothers enjoying the 3rd Annual Purple and Gold Dinner on March 21st

as smaller gift baskets donated by local businesses. The night was elegant, especially considering it was planned and executed in only six months. However, the evening's festivities were outshined by the cause it supported and two inspirational speakers.

Alpha Iota's Purple and Gold Charity Dinner is unique because it is not just a one-time event. The active body

came together to make it a truly integrative experience. The philosophy behind The Purple and Gold Dinner was that Alpha Iota had the resources to make an impact, and we did.

Paving the Way for Continued Success

The proceeds of the event totaled over \$12,000, all of which were donated to Gio's Garden. It is rewarding to know our proceeds benefit families and support a great cause. Although the total amount raised fell short of the ultimate goal, it set up the framework for continued success in the future. The relationship between Gio's Garden and Chi Psi will continue to grow through the volunteering efforts of philanthropic-minded Brothers.

Thank you for all the support.

YITB,
The Gentlemen of Chi Psi Fraternity



The Iotian



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

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To join our email list to receive the latest news and updates, please provide your email address to Jessica Vollrath at jvollrath@vollrathpr.com

Tee off with your fellow Brothers at the annual Alpha Iota Golf Outing! A postcard with dates and more details will be arriving in your mailbox soon!



Alpha Iota's Second Century Campaign Corner

Status:

We are pleased to announce that Alpha Iota's Second Century Campaign publicly launched at the beginning of 2015! Since then, we have begun monthly calls with class chairs and kicked off detailed communication, starting with a town-hall style tele-forum on April 16th. Class chairs have their materials and will be reaching out to classmates to discuss the campaign as we are actively looking for participation and pledges.

To stay up-to-date, visit www.wisconsinlodge.org and click "Alumni" to find the "Prezi," which contains all campaign updates and contact information. We are still looking for class chairs for certain years as well as alumni volunteers to host regional gatherings. If you are interested in learning more or volunteering your time or resources to this important effort, please contact John Frymark, I'05, our Executive Director, at 312-231-8754 or Wes Wicker, our Campaign Consultant, at 404-213-4446 for more details.

Thank you to all for your support!

Campaign Goal: \$2,000,000

Commitments: \$912,525

Pledges: \$452,525

Cash Collected: \$167,958

2014 Donors – Iota Court Preservation Association

Thank you to all our alumni who donated to the Alpha Iota Legacy Program and Second Century Campaign in 2014. We appreciate your generosity and ongoing commitment to the Lodge.

John Ahern
Bruce Bakke
Michael Barina
Chuck Barnum
Thomas Beyer
Jarrod Biebel
Jonathan Birenbaum
John Carpenter
J.S. Cole
Gordon Connor
John Dickenson
Richard Dutrisac
Drew Eschweiler
Michael Fernandez

Wade Fetzer
Robert Forbes
John Frymark
Thomas Gould
SR Heath
Clarence Held
Gerald Hicks
Frederick Holzknacht
Richard Hopkins
Richard Horak
Walker Johnson
Donald Kaiser
Michael Kassner
George Kay

Paul Lubber
Bernhard Mautz
Thomas Mohs
Thomas Mount
James Murray
Nick Najjar
Andrew Olafsson
San Orr
Jeremy Owen
August Pabst
Andre Perry
James Ramsey
William Reckmeyer
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Nick Schultz
Terry Schultz
Thomas Shield
David Smith
William Sprague
Thomas Thomas
Brian VanCleave
Charles Walbrandt
Willard Walker
James Webster
Thomas Wilson