



The Iotian

November 2013

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

▶ Letter from the #1

Brothers,

It is with great excitement that we jump into another semester at Alpha Iota. Our leadership team and the active body are looking forward to building upon our past success and strengthening the rich tradition of Chi Psi at Wisconsin.

Recruitment

As recruitment comes to a close, we are proud to announce that we have recruited a pledge class of 18 men. This crop of outstanding gentlemen brings our membership to 80 actives and pledges. I want to extend a special thank you to our alumni for their support, be it through the many recommendations they made, or through their contributions to keep the Lodge and our fraternal experience among the best on the campus. We are thrilled to bring these young men into the bonds and teach them the rich history of our fraternity.



Alpha Iota welcomes a new fall pledge class.

Our New Chef

For the first time in years, a full-time chef occupies our kitchen. With support from the Alumni Association, we have revamped our kitchen and are receiving daily food service through College Fresh. Our chef, Adam Rathman, has experience at L'Etoile Restaurant and has certainly pleased the palates of our live-in Brothers. The men of the Lodge are extremely happy with the quality of the food and our Brotherhood draws closer with every shared meal.

In the Community

Our active membership prides ourselves on our community involvement. In addition to our signature philanthropy event, the Purple and Gold Charity Dinner, Brothers participate in many community organizations. From volunteering with the YMCA, Badger Volunteers and the Madison Police Department, to interning in the State Capitol, getting involved in city government and participating on university committees, we take our role as contributors in the Madison and Wisconsin communities seriously. This year we hope to have another strong year of civic involvement, a goal that is central to our mission of producing well-rounded gentlemen.

I invite you to renew your connection with the Lodge. I encourage you to attend an alumni tailgate, join us at our activation banquet, come to the Purple and Gold Charity Dinner or simply drop by the Lodge. The active Brothers and I look forward to personally meeting you and hearing about your time in Chi Psi.

YITB,
Richard Batzler I'14
#1

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IOTA

Alpha Iota's Second Century Campaign

Endow the Lodge, Invest in Our Future.

The Board of Directors of the Iota Court Preservation Association (ICPA) is pleased to announce The *Second Century Campaign*, with the stated goal of "Retiring the debt, creating an endowment fund for long-term maintenance and building a significant scholarship program."

"It's a one, two, three process," stated ICPA Director and Campaign Chairman John Frymark, I'05. "One-retire the debt. Two-build a maintenance endowment. Three – with no debt load, rent revenues will grow the maintenance endowment and create a significant scholarship fund."

ICPA recently engaged Sinclair Townes & Company, a fundraising consulting firm out of Atlanta, to lead the campaign. The firm is no stranger to the Madison campus. Dr. Wes Wicker, a senior partner with the firm, is a veteran fundraising professional and he is also currently leading the successful capital campaign for the new Theta Chi house at the University of Wisconsin. Wicker is a national officer of his fraternity, and former Executive Director of its national foundation.

"I've been immensely impressed with the alumni of Alpha Iota," stated Wicker. "You have one of the most impressive facilities that I've seen in the country....and, I've been in more than 150 fraternity houses in my lifetime. Alpha Iota also has a unique opportunity – to eliminate the debt, endow the Lodge and build an endowment for the Brothers. Most fraternities are not in a financial position to do what you can do in this campaign."

Lodgers may make a five-year commitment, separate and different from the Annual Legacy Fund which provides resources for alumni activities and operating funds for ICPA.

A year-end mailing will provide more information on the Second Century Campaign. In the meantime, if you have any questions, or would like to discuss the campaign, feel free to contact Wes Wicker at 404-213-4446 or e-mail wwicker@sinclairtownes.com.

Thank You,
-The Alpha Iota Second Century Campaign Committee

Join us for Our Final Football Pregame Reception



Thank you to all who attended our fall football tailgates at the Lodge. It's hard to believe our last formal pregame reception is upon us! Join us November 9, two hours prior kick-off for the 2:30 p.m. game against BYU. As always, we welcome all alumni to stop by the Lodge prior to all home games, even if there is not a pregame reception scheduled. Please RSVP with the #1 in advance.

"I invite you to renew your connection with the Lodge...The active Brothers and I look forward to personally meeting you and hearing about your time at Chi Psi."

- Richard Batzler, I'14, #1

► Second Annual Purple and Gold Charity Dinner

At its most basic level, our fraternity serves as an institution to bring men together that share common values. These values, the Virtues of a Gentleman, are what we strive to emulate as Brothers of Chi Psi. However, it can be far too easy for young men to stray away from the pursuit of overall excellence by focusing too much on social or academic success. This past spring, Alpha Iota took great strides to implement a philanthropic event that exhibits our values and uses the vast resources and talents of our active body to give back to our community. We called it “The Purple and Gold Charity Dinner.”



A scene from last year's inaugural Purple and Gold Charity Dinner.

Looking Back at 2013

Last spring's charity dinner included a silent and live auction, live jazz music, a delicious meal, hors d'oeuvres and a guest speaker. The night was elegant, especially considering it was planned in six months. Guests could bid on over 30 silent auction items and six live auction items – ranging from a moped, to signed memorabilia and a week vacation in Arizona. However, the evening's festivities were outshined by the cause we were supporting.

The proceeds of the event, which totaled over \$5,000, went to the Dane County YMCA to support its Community Schools Initiative. The program benefits elementary school children growing up in disadvantaged neighborhoods around Dane County. As part of the initiative, every Wednesday, three to five Lodgers helped children practice reading, writing and math at Westside Elementary School in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin.

Plans for 2014

With the inaugural event behind us, Alpha Iota now looks toward the future of the Purple and Gold Charity Dinner. **Alpha Iota is looking to grow this into the largest student run philanthropy event in the state of Wisconsin.** The goal for 2014 is to raise \$15,000 to donate to this year's charity: **Gio's Garden**, a non-profit organization that provides assistance and services to families with special needs children. To learn more about Gio's Garden, visit giosgarden.org.

Call to Action

In order to continue growing this event, the active members of Alpha Iota are seeking to engage the alumni community. We want to show the Madison community what a difference we can make when

we come together. With this goal in mind, we are extending an invitation to all alumni to attend the dinner on **Saturday, April 12, 2014, from 6-9 p.m. at the Best Western Plus Inn on the Park.** Family and friends are encouraged to attend. We are also currently seeking business and personal donations to fund the event, as well as table sponsors and auction item donations. **Please contact Danny Schmitz, I'15, at dlschmitz@wisc.edu if you are interested in attending or supporting the event.**

Alpha Iota is not excellent in and of itself. What makes it excellent is the caliber of gentlemen it attracts. The Purple and Gold Charity Dinner is meant to further develop the Brotherhood into one that is fluent in social, academic and philanthropic endeavors. Together, there is no limit on the impact Alpha Iota can have on the community by sharing our values.

YITB,
Ben Ganther, I'14
Philanthropy Committee

Danny Schmitz, I'15
Philanthropy Chairman



The Iotian



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

► Iota Welcomes a New Member to the Alumni Board



Brother
Thomas
Shield

Thomas Shield, I'10, Treasurer

Tell us about your Chi Psi experience.

I started at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the fall of 2006. Soon after I moved into Witte Hall, I met Alex Hitch, I'10 and former #1 of Alpha Iota. Alex introduced me to the Lodge and I pledged in the spring of 2007.

During my time as an active, I served as junior and senior Recruitment Chair (2007-2008) and Treasurer (2009-2010).

Being a Brother in Alpha Iota made me a better student by improving my time management skills. Furthermore, I started life-long friendships with gentlemen I wouldn't have had the privilege to meet had I not joined into the bonds of Brotherhood. Additionally, the leadership roles I took on at Alpha Iota laid a solid foundation for my career and created a strong management base that I still rely on today.

What is your role currently in the Alpha Iota chapter?

I look forward to helping the Lodge in my new role as treasurer of the Iota Court Preservation Association (ICPA) and strengthening my friendships with other Alpha Iota Brothers.

What is your favorite thing to do in your free time?

I enjoy golf, biking and watching the Packers, Bucks and Brewers.

Please join us in welcoming Tom!

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 Julie Caan at Vollrath Associates at jcaan@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!

Upcoming Events

Third Annual Milwaukee-Area Chi Psi Cocktail Reception

Please join your Midwest Brothers for the Milwaukee-Area Chi Psi Cocktail Reception

Date:

Thursday, December 12 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Address:

Third Floor Lounge
Milwaukee Athletic Club
758 North Broadway
Milwaukee, WI 53202

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Pete Wilder I'04 at PWilder@gklaw.com or 414-287-9609. Brothers in the area will receive an invitation by mail, but all Brothers are encouraged to attend. Please RSVP by December 5.

Fall Activation Banquet

All Alumni are Cordially invited to join us for the Fall Activation Banquet.

Date:

Saturday, December 7th at 6 p.m.
at the Lodge.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Richard Batzler, I'14, at rjbatzler@gmail.com or 301-742-1520.

To join our email list to receive the latest news and updates, please provide your email address to Julie Caan at jcaan@vollrathpr.com