



The Iota Iota Messenger

SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA | EST. 1876

SPRING 2012
www.bamasig.org

\$2 Million Campaign Announced to Build New Chapter House on University Boulevard

More than \$1.26 Million Raised in Early Commitments from Dedicated Brothers



The front of the chapter house is beginning to take shape.



The brick façade is beginning to show on the left side of the chapter house.

In 1876, a principled group of college men made the fateful decision to establish the Iota Iota Chapter of Sigma Chi at the University of Alabama. Today, 136 years later, Sigma Chi remains one of the Capstone's leading and oldest fraternities. The continued success of our chapter and our alumni proves that Sigma Chi has made, and still makes, a major difference in the lives of all brothers who spent some of the best years of their lives at Iota Iota.

Today, we must focus our efforts on providing the same opportunities for future generations of Sigma Chi brothers at the University of Alabama. Thanks to recruiting the best and brightest men, we have remained competitive within the growing Greek community. However, if you have visited campus in the past few years, you have undoubtedly noticed that several fraternities have built brand new or significantly-expanded chapter houses. The time has come for Iota Iota to build a modern facility to accommodate the University of Alabama's rapid growth and increased interest in the Greek community.

As we stated in the previous *Iota Iota Messenger*, the University of Alabama's Board of Trustees approved our plans for the chapter house last July. Due to advantageous construction costs and the ability to open the new house in time for the 2012 football season, we broke ground and began construction on our new home returning Iota Iota to University Boulevard.

Now that we've begun construction, initial commitments from several dedicated alumni now total \$1.26 million. We aren't surprised that alumni from multiple generations have shown so much support, because we all know that Sigma Chis are life loyal. For this reason, we are excited to announce *The Legacy Campaign for Iota Iota: Securing Our Future*. To reach our goal of \$2 million, generous and significant support of every brother is needed.

In the coming weeks, you will receive additional information detailing the house project and the ways in which you can help. We all benefited from the legacy of alumni who came before us, and now it is our turn to extend that legacy. For all of you who enjoyed the brotherhood and friendships made at Iota Iota, and for all of us whose family and careers have benefited from our time as a Sigma Chi, we call on you to help us secure the legacy and the future of Iota Iota.

In hoc,
Campaign Co-Chairman
Hon. Quentin Brown '68
(205) 212-3900 / qb@brownmediations.com

Campaign Co-Chairman
Dag Rowe '69
(256) 533-0202 / drowe@wilmerlee.com

House Corporation President
Ralph Procter '81
(205) 832-4414 / procter1@gmail.com

Campaign Status At-a-Glance

As of May 8, 2012

\$2 Million Goal

\$1,264,788 Contributions

125 Contributors

1,320 Mailable Alumni

THE LEGACY CAMPAIGN FOR IOTA IOTA: SECURING OUR FUTURE

See more photos
of the chapter house
on page 5!

THANK YOU, LOYAL BROTHERS AND FRIENDS, FOR COMMITTING MORE THAN \$1.26 MILLION

We are deeply grateful to the following brothers for their commitments to *The Legacy Campaign for Iota Iota: Securing Our Future*. These alumni recognize the importance of ensuring the future of Sigma Chi and have demonstrated a sense of gratitude for their personal experience. Commitments are still needed from the rest of our alumni to achieve our goal of \$2 million for the building of our new home.

White Cross Circle (\$100,000 and above)

Iota Iota Chapter of Sigma Chi

Founders Circle (\$50,000 to \$99,999)

Quentin Q. Brown Jr. '69
James M. Seaver '69
David A. London '70
Ascik Family Gift
Mark Ascik '79
Steve Ascik '83
David Ascik '12
William F. Stiers '86

Jordan Standard Society (\$25,000 to \$49,999)

Walter R. Byars Jr. '48
John "JJ" Hines '49

Maxwell Family Gift
Robert Maxwell '49
Richard Maxwell '74
David Maxwell '76
Alex W. Newton '52
John Purdy '62
Steve Kane '65
Bucky C. Wood '66
John D. Blue '70
Neal Family Gift
Carolyn and Jack Neal '71
Jackson M. Neal '09
G. Madison Neal '12
Chorba Family Gift
Jody Chorba '73
Rusty Chorba '78
Eddie Lumpkin '74
Bob Loftin III '79
Cavett W. Fallis '85
In memory of
Newman Cross
John F. Chapman '99

The Norman Shield Society (\$15,000 to \$24,999)

In memory of T. Massey
Bedsole '39
Mrs. Martha Bedsole
Lt. Col. Bill W. Hoffman '51
W. Wheeler Smith '68
In memory of
Leslie & Caroline Smith
Tom M. Underwood '73
Mark S. McColl '81
Oscar M. Dalton III '83
Dr. Neil White III '85
Chris A. Jones '01

Blue & Old Gold Society (\$10,000 to \$14,999)

Anonymous
Gelwix Family Gift
A. Paul Owen Jr. '52
Gray Whigham Jr. '52
Dr. Hurley Knott '63
In memory of
Coleman Frye,
Richard Mason, and
Pat Lindsey
D. Richard Parr Jr. '67
Charles J. Kittrell '67
Douglas P. Lyle '68
Mike F. Cortright '69
S. Dagnal Rowe '69
Cobb Rogers '70
Charley L. Perry '71
Bert P. Taylor '71
In memory of
Wes Lavender '70

All donors contributing a minimum of \$2,500 to the campaign, over a five-year period, will be recognized on a plaque prominently displayed in the new chapter house, and donors pledging \$1,000 or more will be recognized in campaign publications. If an error has been made in recording your gift, or your name has been mistakenly omitted or listed improperly, we sincerely apologize. Please send corrections to **Jason Goggins '03** at jmgoggins@gmail.com.

Ramon S. Arias '72
Donald L. Johnson '73
Wright Waters '73
Gary B. Clark '79
Warren Hawkins '79
Ralph Procter '81
Chuck Welden '82
Robert Howland '89
Kirkland Family Gift
Drew Kirkland '01
John Kirkland '01

Capstone Sigs Club (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Harry Pennington '41
John Pradat '48
Billy Philips '50
Jerry M. Taylor '66
Roger C. Williams '66
Tommy Beason '68
Roy V. Elliott Jr. '68
David Hatch '68
William R. Lewis '68
In honor of
William Lewis Jr.,
South Alabama '99
Max T. Patton '68
Reb Beck '69
Robert T. Hunter Jr. '69
Michael E. Sparkman '70
Walter L. Evans II '71
James D. Whitmire '71
Marl Cummings III '75
Stewart McLaurin '81
Tony M. Robbins '81
In Memory of
Carney H. Dobbs '49
Mike Stockard '90
Ward Simmons '91
Warner Moore III '93
E. Scott Darling '97
Jason M. Goggins '03
W. Bryant Patrick '06

Derby Club (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

In memory of Judge Richard E.
McPhearson '52
J. Lee McPhearson
Virginia L. McPhearson
Grace M. O'Grady
Rev. Ray W. Pradat '51
Victor Woodman '51
Larry Sims '63
Rick F. Smith '68
Dr. S. Robert Hernandez '69
Tom Danson '69
R. Kurry Wyatt, DMD '69
Bruce W. Pylant '71

Fletcher B. Thornton '71
Brian Perry '75
J. Eric Price '81
Tom C. Wells '83
In memory of
Paul G. Fowler '82
In honor of
Daniel B. Fugazzi '86
Marty Hamner '85
In memory of
Don Collins '85
M. List Underwood III '99
Dennis Rowlen '02

Brotherhood Club (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

In memory of William Cunningham '42
Elizabeth Cunningham Pearce
In memory of Ira De Ment
Ruth De Ment
Walter R. Byars Jr. '48
Alex W. Newton '52
George O. Sparks '48
David L. Clokey '49
James B. Anderson '50
W. Gene Hunter '51
Don Newton '56
Ray Walker '66
Joel D. Latham '68
Stan Cash '69
Phillip Corazzari '69
Ed Graham III '69
Robert A. Lacey '69
Lee F. Meier '69
In memory of
Wes Lavender '70
John Wilmer '69
Glen Hamrick '70
Jack Lowther '71
Steven Shockley '71
The Buffalo 13 Society
Richard Pearce '73
C. Stokes Ritchie '73
H. Chris Gewin '75
Loring S. Jones III '75
Phillip Esdale '84
Eric Knouse '88
James G. Carroll '89
In honor of
Andrew Carroll,
Michigan State '58
David Jenkins '90
Cody D. Robinson '98
Class of 2007
Michael P. Duggan '07
Chad M. Porter '07
Foster T. Hyde '08
Stan B. Ingram III '10

CAMPAIGN BOARD

Honorary Chairmen
Walter Byars '48
Alex Newton '52

Campaign Co-Chairmen
Quentin Brown '69
Dag Rowe '69

Members

Wheeler Smith '68
Jim Seaver '69
David London '70
Jack Neal '71
Charley Perry '71
Robert Loftin III '79
Oscar Dalton '83
Bill Stiers '85
Rob Howland '89
Warner Moore '93
Scott Darling '97
John Chapman '99
Jason Goggins '03

Building Committee
Max Patton '68
Ralph Procter '81
List Underwood '99

BE A PART OF SIGMA CHI'S FUTURE AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE CAMPAIGN

Impact of Iota Iota as Told By Eddie Lumpkin '74

After arriving at the University of Alabama in 1971, I knew the experiences I wanted to have, but I was just not sure how to accomplish them. When I joined Sigma Chi fraternity, it was one of the greatest endeavors of my life. The four years I spent at Alabama and in the fraternity set my life's course.

I did not know when I was a freshman that my pledge class and the active brotherhood would allow me to experience friendships that would last my entire life. Every day, my professional life seems to be touched by someone I knew during my college years. Sigma Chi gave me a sense of belonging to something bigger and more important. My company employs 250 associates and I am always proud to hire a Sigma Chi because there is a difference.

Sigma Chi taught me to work with others in a system where everyone benefits. We had the greatest people, and college was a time for all of us to grow up without the benefit of our parents. Through great Sigma Chi Derbys, formals, ballgames,

intramural sports, and chapter meetings, we all learned something about life. Sigma Chi brought together good people with a common bond.

"I would like to challenge Sigma Chis from not only my era, but from all eras, to make a contribution. The amount does not mater, but being part of the future does."

When many of you attended the University of Alabama, brothers before us had given of their resources so that Sigma Chi maintained its legacy. I cannot believe it has been 40 years and now we have the same opportunity to give back. When **Quentin Brown '69** and **Jack Neal '71** challenged me to contribute to the capital campaign for a new house on University Boulevard, I thought it would be a way to pay it forward so others could have the same Sigma Chi experience. I would like to

(Continued on page 4)

DAVID LONDON '70 SHARES MEMORIES OF SIGMA CHI, EXPLAINS WHY HE CONTRIBUTES TO THE FUTURE OF IOTA IOTA

I felt there was something about Sigma Chi that was different and more positive." With this sentiment, Consul **David London '70** joined Iota Iota and never looked back. "I only have a sister, so Sigma Chi meant an opportunity to experience having brothers."

Some of David's favorite memories include meeting his wife, Jenny, at the Sigma Chi house and various pranks he played on sororities with the brothers. "I remember how proud I was to receive the pledge pin and how the pledge experience culminated in having the white cross of Sigma Chi badge placed on my chest. I was very proud." David graduated with a degree in marketing.

"I felt it was very important that we preserve and continue the legacy and positions of excellence that Sigma Chi has long held at the University of Alabama."

Throughout his career, David has held various leadership positions and he imparts some advice. "I think that all of us instinctively know in our hearts what is the right thing to do, so listen to your heart when making tough decisions. Admit mistakes, make them right, and make decisions that further the goals of the team instead of yourself." David surrounds himself with people who are self-motivated and who are full of honesty and integrity and have goals to succeed.

David is serving on the campaign board for the capital campaign, chose to contribute, and encourages others to do so. "I felt it was very important that we preserve and continue the legacy and positions of excellence that Sigma Chi has long held at the University of Alabama. I want every member to have a positive and life-changing experience. Only by Sigma Chi having a first class facility can that happen. I would urge all of our brothers to make a serious financial commitment to this campaign."

(Continued on page 4)

EDDIE LUMPKIN '74

(Continued from page 3)

challenge Sigma Chi from not only my era, but from all eras, to make a contribution. The amount does not matter, but being part of the future does.

As a Birmingham native, I have been able to expand my development, storage, and transportation business with offices in Birmingham, Atlanta, and Las Vegas. You can contact me at elumpkin@metroministorage.com.

DAVID LONDON '70

(Continued from page 3)

David retired in 2006 after a 35-year career in residential real estate. He has been an avid sailor for more than 25 years, he enjoys volunteering with various non-profit organizations, and is active in his church. David and his wife, Jenny, have two daughters and four granddaughters whom they try to see often. You can contact David at davidlondon@bellsouth.net.

Recommend a Man for Recruitment

If you would like to recommend someone to join Sigma Chi, please contact the following recruitment chairmen.

Recruitment Chairmen
Hudson Riedel '14

(256) 762-0119

hpriedel@crimson.ua.edu

Brett Pettigrew '14

(214) 205-5337

bmpettigrew@crimson.ua.edu

Lawton Esdale '14

(205) 368-8333

lgesdale@crimson.ua.edu

www.bamasig.org



Justin Reeves '12, David Ascik '12, Walter Byars '48, Travis Bedsole (son of Iota Iota Significant Sig T. Massey Bedsole '39), and Phil Claiborne '12 stand with the drawings of the new chapter house.

Iota Iota Hosts 59th Derby Days and Plans Rush Events for Summer

As Iota Iota wraps up another great semester, we have begun preparing for the summer. This year has been highlighted by the initiation of 35 outstanding young men last fall and the celebration of our chapter's 135th anniversary.

59TH DERBY DAYS

We began preparing last semester for the 59th running of Derby Days, which took place in April. This year we chose to donate to the Ashley Harrison Scholarship Fund. Ashley Harrison was a Phi Mu at the University of Alabama who lost her life in last April's tornado, and she was a close friend to many of our older brothers in the chapter. The past few months, Derby Days Chairman **Alex Dinges '13** worked directly with Ashley's mother to make this Derby Days a very successful event, with over 2,000 sorority sisters participating and thousands raised for the Ashley Harrison Scholarship. "Otis Day and the Knights" played the last band party at the "old" Sigma Chi house.

THANK YOU, ALUMNI

It truly is a great time to be a Sigma Chi at the University of Alabama. We are only a few months away from the long-awaited opening of the new chapter house and our return to University Boulevard in the fall. Our House Corporation and alumni have done an incredible job of not only making this happen so quickly, but also envisioning

what will be one of the best fraternity houses on campus. We are truly thankful for all the donors and alumni who have helped make this long held dream a reality.

MEMBERS PREPARE FOR RUSH

We realize the significance and the responsibility of the position we hold as the first brothers in the new house. We have already begun the rush process for the fall 2012 pledge class as Recruitment Chairman **Hudson Riedel '14**, hpriedel@crimson.ua.edu, has been hard at work to ensure the new house's first pledge class will be full of exceptional and bright young men. We are currently planning multiple rush events for this summer. Please call or e-mail me or Hudson to recommend any men for rush.

It is an honor to be a part of Iota Iota Chapter at such an integral part of our chapter's vibrant history. We are constantly maintaining the rich traditions our alumni have built Iota Iota Chapter upon. We look forward to seeing many of you at the chapter house throughout the football season, and we extend a warm welcome to any brother who wishes to stop by and visit.

In Hoc,

Anthony J. Osbourne '13

Consul

(502) 759-3773

ajosbourne@crimson.ua.edu

ALUMNI UPDATE

CHAPTER ETERNAL

William Cunningham '42 entered Chapter Eternal on August 1, 2011. He was preceded in death by his wife, Elizabeth. William is survived by his daughter, son, and six grandchildren. Following graduation, he served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He received a purple heart on his first assignment.

ALUMNI NEWS

Edward T. Peter '53 is retired but enjoys teaching physiology at the community college. He resides in Red Bluff, Calif. E-mail: cacope@aol.com

Hon. W. L. Hammond Jr. '57 and his wife, Carolyn, reside in Mobile, Ala. He wants all to see his new, personally autographed naval flight jacket signed by President George H. W. Bush. E-mail: cgh401@aol.com

C. Richard Parr Jr. '67 joined Prosperity Bank as the Beaumont area president. He and his wife, Pride, reside in Beaumont, Texas, and have two children, Pride and Leigh. Richard attends several football games

a year and enjoys hearing about the activities at the chapter house. "Look forward to seeing the new house." E-mail: rparr@gt.rr.com

C. Michael Simpson '68 is president of CMSCO International and resides in Arlington, Va. E-mail: cmichaelsimpson@yahoo.com

Bill E. Norton '81 retired from the Air Force as a Colonel after 28 years. He started a new career as a financial advisor for Wells Fargo. He and his wife, Ena, reside in Anniston, Ala. E-mail: norton5x@cableone.net

Mark B. Sturgis '90 resides in Greenville, S.C., and works for WCCP, 104.9 FM, which is a flagship station of Clemson University Athletics. He co-hosts the Don Scott Show on weekdays from 9 a.m. to noon and hosts the Weekend's College Football Kickoff Show on Thursday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. You can listen to him online at www.wccp.com. E-mail: mark@sturgissports.com

Charles W. Smith III '05 is an attorney. He and his wife, Natalee, live in McCalla, Ala. E-mail: csmith@hsmbb.com

New Chapter House



The three windows of the new chapter room (shown above) will be above the fellowship hall, which faces the central courtyard.



View of the back of the house from the courtyard. Notice the center space reserved for the Edgar Earl Garrison memorial window, which is currently undergoing professional restoration.

Congratulations, Significant Sig Walter Ryland Byars Jr. '48

Walter was nominated, selected by the Fraternity Significant Sig awards selection committee, and honored as a 2012 Significant Sig. He serves as the chairman of Steiner, Crum & Byars and is the former president of the Alabama State Bar. Walter is the 14th Significant Sig honored from Iota Iota.

Chapter Officers

Consul
Anthony Osbourne '13

Louisville, Ky.
(502) 759-3773

ajosbourne@crimson.ua.edu

Recruitment Chairmen
Hudson Riedel '14

Florence, Ala.
(256) 762-0119

hpriedel@crimson.ua.edu

Pro Consul
Matt McKee '13
Dallas, Texas

Brett Pettigrew '14
Dallas, Texas
(214) 205-5337
bmpettigrew@crimson.ua.edu

Annotator
Tyler Shugarts '13
Cullman, Ala.

Lawton Esdale '14
Birmingham, Ala.
(205) 368-8333

lgesdale@crimson.ua.edu

Quaestor
Alec Maniatis '13
Peachtree City, Ga.

House Manager
Ryan Benk '14
Atlanta, Ga.

Magister
Alex Dinges '12
Killen, Ala.

Philanthropy Chairman
Matt Ford '14
Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Social Chariman
Parker Israel '13
Birmingham, Ala.

The Iota Iota Messenger

Iota Iota Chapter
of Sigma Chi

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ATTENTION: *This newsletter is intended for alumni and parents. If your son is still attending The University of Alabama, he will receive a copy at the chapter house. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address. Thank you.*



Alumni and their families tour the new chapter house.

A-Day Alumni Event a Great Success

The turnout for the A-Day Alumni Barbecue was a great success. Everyone enjoyed catching up with alumni and meeting the undergraduates. Several alumni chose to go on tours of the new house on University Boulevard. These tours were given by architect Brandon Smith of Hendon + Huckestein, and construction superintendent Mark Allison.

SAVE THE DATE



House Dedication • September 8, 2012

JOIN US WHEN WE OFFICIALLY MAKE
OUR NEW HOUSE OUR NEW HOME.

This is the day of the Bama vs. Western Kentucky game.

*Please watch for more details in
the coming months as the event is finalized.*