

The Iota Iota Messenger



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

FALL 2017



University of Alabama President Dr. Bell and Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Grady recognize Iota Iota for summer achievements and for winning the Peterson Significant Chapter Award.

IOTA IOTA NAMED PETERSON SIGNIFICANT CHAPTER RECEIVES OUTSTANDING HOUSE CORPORATION AWARD

Brothers, family, and friends of Iota Iota, the summer was full of excitement for our chapter. Members were able to enjoy quality time with their families and valuable summer work opportunities. A few well-deserved honors came our way, but at the same time, devastating reminders of our mortality and the precious nature of human life.

PETERSON SIGNIFICANT CHAPTER

Iota Iota was named a Peterson Significant Chapter this summer for having attained superb chapter performance, scholarship, and philanthropic effort. Only a few chapters in North America are named Peterson Chapters, and our award this year was the first for Iota Iota since 2011.

GOLD OUTSTANDING HOUSE CORPORATION

Our House Corporation Board was also recognized, having earned the Gold Outstanding House Corporation designation at Grand Chapter 2017 in Providence, Rhode Island, in June. This is a great honor to our alumni who oversee the fantastic property occupied by the active chapter on the University of Alabama campus.

UNDERGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE TO INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

I would like to extend a big “well done” to Consul **Jordan Levy '17**, who was elected at Grand Chapter as an undergraduate representative to the Sigma Chi International Executive Committee. I cannot adequately put into words what a huge accomplishment this is for Brother Levy. He has earned our chapter a remarkable deal of honor and respect. Our executive committee is comprised of a small body of brothers who are empowered to vote upon and establish International Fraternity policies and directions for a two-

year term. Two active members are elected yearly to represent the opinions and sentiments of the undergraduate chapters. This is a wonderful distinction, but a big responsibility, and Jordan was chosen for the position by his peers. I hope all of you join me in my heart-felt congratulations to Jordan.

FAREWELL, BROTHERS

With the good comes the bad. Iota Iota received the heartbreaking news in June that undergraduate **Chris Dufour** was killed in a tragic pedestrian traffic accident while interning this summer in Little Rock, Arkansas. The news came as quite a shock to the active chapter, who honored their late brother by sending a large contingency to Chris' funeral services in his hometown, right outside of Nashville, Tennessee. A month later, **Charles “Charlie” Bottcher '82** passed away suddenly while working in his home. Charlie was a regular at UA home games, well-respected in his professional and personal communities, and a beloved Sigma Chi brother to all who knew him.

With fall comes new opportunity and hope for the men of Iota Iota. The undergraduate members continue to set an example of excellence within Sigma Chi International and on campus. The time will come when members can enjoy our magnificent chapter house for football games and other memorable events. Let's look forward to sharing those bonds in the forthcoming year.

In Hoc Signo Vinces,
Will Yeldell '86
President, House Corporation
wyeldell@me.com

2017

Balfour Leadership Training Workshop

From August 3-5, **Ashton Hill '76**, the House Corporation secretary, attended the Balfour Leadership Training Workshop, Sigma Chi's annual summer conference where the leadership from undergraduate chapters across North America convene to learn and practice skills that will be implemented in their home chapters during the upcoming year.



Ashton Hill '76

"I was inspired by the quality and character of the young men who had traveled so far to learn and grow, and I was proud of Iota Iota's undergraduate leaders who attended on our chapter's behalf," Ashton stated. "Equally inspiring was the commitment of alumni from across the country who gladly invested their time, energy, and experience into maintaining our fraternity's excellence. One could not help but be moved to see so many men assembled in a single place solely for the purpose of pursuing and sharing the values of the White Cross. Our fraternity and chapter are in excellent hands. You can and should be proud of them."

During Balfour, the Board of Grand Trustees presents an annual two-day House Corporation Officers Training Seminar devoted to the concerns of house corporation officers. Ashton attended these sessions and shared, "I was amazed at the quantity and quality of the resources introduced to the house corporation officers at this year's Balfour Leadership Training Workshop. Sigma Chi's international experience has produced practical solutions to every challenge a chapter house might encounter with tangible benefits like insurance coverage, risk management checklists, and short-term loans. Perhaps the greatest evidence of the fraternity's acknowledgment of the value of—and its commitment to—providing quality houses for all chapters was that our chapter house officers group was the only one with whom all five Grand Officers met at one time."

GRAND CHAPTER 2017

The weekend of June 23, the Sigma Chi General Fraternity celebrated the 61st biannual Grand Chapter meeting in Providence, Rhode Island. Grand Chapter is a time for brothers from across North America to come together, elect new Grand Officers, and celebrate the bonds which bind us.

General Fraternity Executive Committee

The General Fraternity's executive committee acts as the ultimate governing body of the General Fraternity; it directs the fraternity's budget and expenditures, acts upon recommendations and reports from various boards and committees, and assigns duties to the International Headquarters staff along with the executive director.

Congratulations, Jordan!

Annually, two undergraduate delegates are elected out of more than 15,000 undergraduates in our order to serve a one-year term on the executive committee. This year, Iota Iota Consul **Jordan Levy '18** was elected as one of the two delegates. Jordan promised to make transparent to the undergraduates any General Fraternity decisions, especially those decisions concerning suicide, drug, and alcohol use. This is a huge honor



for our chapter and marks a major shift in Iota Iota's General Fraternity presence. Jordan looks forward to representing Iota Iota with honor.

The Board of Grand Trustees gives yearly honors to Sigma Chi house corporations that demonstrate superior business practices in 15 defined areas. For the first time ever, the Iota Iota House Corporation received this honor, known as the Gold Award. Out of 244 house corporations, 32 have received the award, and only three of those are SEC schools (Alabama, Arkansas and Missouri). We are privileged to have been granted membership to this elite group.

Welcome, New Grand Praetor for the North

The Sigma Chi General Fraternity elected a new Grand Praetor for the North Alabama Province this summer, after **Michael Ciatto, Dickinson College '08** stepped down from the position following his move from Atlanta, Georgia, to Austin, Texas. Iota Iota alumni are indebted to the leadership of Brother Ciatto, who helped bring the chapter to a new level of success none of us imagined could be accomplished so quickly.

At Grand Chapter in June, **Robert NeSmith, Birmingham-Southern College '11** was elected as our new Grand Praetor. We welcome Brother NeSmith to the Province and look forward to working with him.

A native of Oneonta, Alabama, Rob became a Sigma Chi member through Chi Chi Chapter. During his undergraduate years, he served as consul, house manager, social chairman, and was elected as undergraduate representative to

the International Executive Committee—the same honor and position Iota Iota Consul **Jordan Levy '17** holds. Rob was also an International Balfour Award finalist during his senior year in 2011.

Upon graduating, Rob worked on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., as the legislative aide/press assistant for Congresswoman Terri Sewell. He served as her press secretary from 2011-13 before returning to his home state to begin law school at the University of Alabama. Before completing his Juris Doctor in 2016, Rob was editor-in-chief of the *Law and Psychology Review*. Today, he is the in-house counsel for Steel City Pops in Birmingham.

Rob served as chapter advisor for Pi Chapter from 2013-17, was a member of the Quaestor Faculty for Balfour Leadership Training Workshop, and a member of the D.C. alumni chapter. Rob has deep ties to Iota Iota, with his fa-

Consul
Jordan Levy '17

Pro Consul
Crockett Hayes '18

Annotator
Liam Mihelich '18

Quaestor
Mark Peters '18

Magister
Ian Johnson '18

Risk Manager
John Cooper '19

Recruitment Chairman
Adam Higginbotham '19

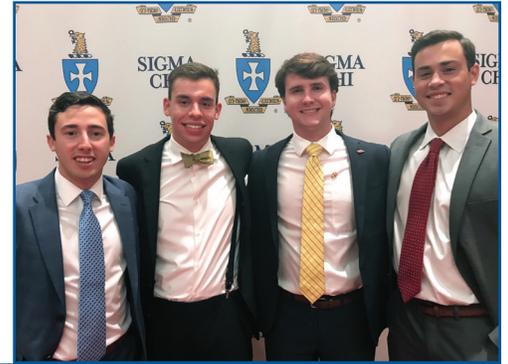
Social Chairman
Thomas Marrallo '19

House Manager
Gunn Pradat '18

Derby Days Chairman
Carter Dodd '18

Representative-at-Large
Sam Gurrera '19

Left: Brothers accept Iota Iota's Peterson Significant Chapter award from 70th Grand Consul Tommy Geddings Jr., University of South Carolina '85. Right: Thomas Marrallo '19 meets consuls from other chapters at Grand Chapter in June.



Largest Initiation Class in Chapter History

Undergraduates Prepare for Busy Fall

Greetings, brothers! I am pleased to share that the Iota Iota Chapter of Sigma Chi was fortunate enough to enjoy another prosperous summer.

Grand Chapter 2017

At Grand Chapter 2017 in June, our House Corporation Board was designated Outstanding House Corporation. Several undergraduate brothers were recognized as Significant Sigs and I was elected to serve as undergraduate representative to the executive committee. On a provincial level, we received awards for Significant Alumni Relations and Derby Days. **Bob Loftin '79**, **Adam Higginbotham '19**, and **Crockett Hayes '18** also received individual honors.

Peterson Significant Chapter Award Recipient

At the Balfour Leadership Training Workshop, Iota Iota received its first Peterson Significant Chapter award since 2011. Bob Loftin '79 and **Jack Sammons '77** were recognized as distinguished visitors, and facilitators noted our active chapter's numerous accomplishments over the past year.

68 New Brothers

The active chapter extends our gratitude to Recruitment Chairman Adam Higginbotham '19, whose efforts led to 68 accepted bids for the fall initiation class. This is a historical feat for us; the fall 2017 class is the largest in Iota Iota history and the largest ever for all chapters at the University of Alabama. The men joining our brothers this semester are overachievers in the classroom and elsewhere on campus, and we look forward to having them partake in our Preparation for Brotherhood program. To celebrate our incoming brothers, we are hosting a celebration on November 11 and invite our proud alumni to join us! For more information, please view the Save the Date feature of this newsletter.

Remembering Christopher Dufour

On a somber note, I regret to report undergraduate brother **Christopher Dufour** entered Chapter Eternal over the summer. Nearly 60 brothers, active and alumni, attended the funeral. Chris served as an inspiration to Iota Iota and embodied the highest Sigma Chi values. The active chapter has committed itself to working hard this school year and displaying our fraternity pride at every opportunity in honor of Chris' love for Iota Iota.

May our brothers reach new heights in the upcoming year.



In hoc,
Will Yeldell '86
President, House Corporation
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In hoc,
Jordan Levy '17
Consul
(949) 584-7619
jzlevy@crimson.ua.edu

h Alabama Province

ther, **Dalton NeSmith '76**, and his late and dearly beloved uncle, **Charles Bottcher '83**, belonging to the chapter. Rob is related to **Dr. H. "Les" Fowler '77** and all three of his brothers, **Cal NeSmith, Birmingham-Southern College '07**, **Neal NeSmith, Birmingham-Southern College '09**, and **Andrew NeSmith, Birmingham-Southern College '16**, are Sigma Chis.

I hope you all join me in welcoming Rob into our strong Iota Iota family and commit to giving him any support he needs to be successful in his role in our chapter. You can connect with Rob at nesmith.rob@gmail.com.

Save the Date

INITIATION

Saturday, November 11

Join us Saturday as we celebrate our largest initiation class in history. Let's give our 68 new brothers a grand Sigma Chi welcome from undergraduates and alumni alike.



Iota Iota Corporation
P.O. Box 3184
Tuscaloosa, AL 35403

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WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

William Aguillard / Baton Rouge, La.
Peyton Ahnell / Bethesda, Md.
Ryan Albrecht / Geneva, Ill.
Nathan Beda / Memphis, Tenn.
Ryan Bornhofen / Barrington, Ill.
Adam Brickens / New Palestine, Ind.
Kyle Briggs / Brentwood, Tenn.
Reid Carlock / Memphis, Tenn.
Lance Chaisson / Baton Rouge, La.
Riley Chandler / Guntersville, Ala.
Craig Comstock / Houston, Texas
Will Crumley / New Orleans, La.
Parker Crump / Paducah, Ky.
Charly Cummins / Westport, Conn.
Nick DeVenuto / Louisville, Ky.
Charlie Dial / Baton Rouge, Ala.
Brandon Dinsmore / Atlanta, Ga.
Jamie Edwards / Hoover, Ala.
Keyton Elmore / Birmingham, Ala.
Drew Faber / Las Vegas, Nev.
Charlie Flatt / Nashville, Tenn.
Griffin Gabbert / Barrington, Ill.
Alex Garcia / Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Richard Gilpin / Keller, Texas
Kennon Golden / Atlanta, Ga.
Parker Goodwin / Barrington, Ill.
Matthew Greef / Wilton, Conn.
Monte Greene / Atlanta, Ga.
Mick Gullede / Atlanta, Ga.
Hayden Haynes / Hoover, Ala.
Sean Hazelton / Salem, N.H.
Edward Helms / Greensboro, N.C.
Tim Hicks / Warner Robins, Ga.
Parker Hopson / Mason, Ohio
Sam Houston / Milton, Ga.
Bennett Kelley / Birmingham, Ala.
Tyler Klein / Atlanta, Ga.
Ryan Landsberg / Dallas, Texas
Tripp Ledet / New Orleans, La.
David Lozzio / Barrington, Ill.
Jimmy Mac / Fairfield, Conn.
Hayden McWilliams / Fenwick Island, Del.
Matthew Messer / Birmingham, Ala.
Harold Miller / Baton Rouge, La.
Ryan Moedl / Albuquerque, N.M.
Thomas Mulkeen / Atlanta, Ga.
Alex Murphy / Atlanta, Ga.
Nick Nelson / Geneva, Ill.
Jay Nielson / Louisville, Ky.
Joe Omer / Saint Louis, Mo
Ryan Pamplin / Louisville, Ky.
Chapman Peeples / Ringgold, Ga.
Tyler Poe / Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Mason Porter / Dallas, Texas
Caleb Powers / Mobile, Ala.
Cole Reitnauer / Bentonville, Ga.

Visit Us Online at www.bamasig.org

Recruitment Recommendations

Iota Iota is always looking for new members to join our fraternity. We count on our alumni to make recommendations for those who they think would uphold our Sigma Chi ideals. If you know of a potential new member, please mail this form to Sigma Chi, P.O. Box 1880, Tuscaloosa, AL 35403.

Prospect's Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Parent(s): _____

High school attended: _____

Does prospect have a ΣX relative? _____

Reference submitted by: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Jackson Reeves / Dothan, Ala.
Lance Rodriguez / Baton Rouge, La.
Andrew Rogers / Tuscaloosa, Ala.
John Rollow / Birmingham, Ala.
Andrew Rossi / Tampa, Fla.
Matt Rothenberger / Naperville, Ill.
Blake Schafer / Fresno, Calif.

Parker Shikle / Memphis, Tenn.
John Shultz / Irvine, Calif.
Michael Smart / New Orleans, La.
Damien Stephens / Birmingham, Ala.
Brett Thomas / Statesboro, Ga.
Babe Walker / Dallas, Texas