

The Iota Iota Messenger

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

FALL 2019



Iota Iota Brothers Will Stiers Jr. '22, Ben Hellums '22, Alex Murphy '21, Jim Yeldell Jr. '59, Bob Loftin '79, Will Yeldell '86, Doug Giffin '86, George Vieth '86, and Bill Stiers '86 at the Order of Constantine Induction Ceremony.



Ben Hellums '22, Alex Murphy '21, 71st Grand Consul Steve Schuyler, University of Arizona '79, and Will Stiers Jr. '22 attend Grand Chapter in Salt Lake City.



Will Yeldell '86, Bob Loftin '79, and Bill Stiers '86 attending the Sweetheart Banquet at the Huntsman Cancer Institute in Salt Lake City.

ALUMNI AND ACTIVES BRING HONOR TO SIGMA CHI

*Robert Loftin '79 Elected Grand Trustee,
Chapter Initiates 56 New Members*

This summer was a time of reorganization, repair, promotion, preparation, and recognition. With the chapter house vacant over the summer, the house corporation began needed repair and refurbishment work, including repairs to the air handling equipment, lavatories, exterior gutters, kitchen equipment, and the addition of needed living room furniture and fixtures. To the delight of active members, these additions included new TVs.

82ND GRAND CHAPTER RECAP

June also saw Iota Iota attending the 82nd Grand Chapter of Sigma Chi in Salt Lake City, Utah. At Grand Chapter, Chapter Advisor **Robert Loftin '79** was elected to the office of Grand Trustee, an influential position within Sigma Chi as they oversee the housing obligations of Sigma Chi. Bob will be responsible for the south region and plans to retain his role as chapter advisor.

Additionally, Bob received the Seven Lights Award, and I was humbled beyond words to be formally inducted into The Order of Constantine.

WELCOMING 56 NEW BROTHERS

Thanks to all brothers and friends who provided the chapter with names of potential candidates for the fall 2019 new member class. Iota Iota was happy to welcome 56 outstanding young men to our brotherhood during initiation on Saturday, October 5.

The chapter house will be open for all home football games, and we welcome brothers who are on campus for gamedays to come visit.

In hoc,

Will Yeldell '86

Iota Iota House Corporation President
wyeldell@yahoo.com

FRIENDSHIP, JUSTICE, AND LEARNING

Chancellor Fess St. John '78 Proudly Serves the University of Alabama



Fess St. John '78, a lifelong resident of Cullman, Alabama, is a proud alumnus of the University of Alabama and Sigma Chi. For more than 30 years, he served as a partner at St. John and St. John, LLC, one of Alabama's oldest and most established law firms, founded in 1892. Fess

also served as a member of the board of trustees of the UA System for more than 16 years, including three terms as president pro-tem. The UA System comprises three campuses: The University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa), The University of Alabama at Birmingham, and The University of Alabama in Huntsville, as well as the UAB Health System.

In his time on the board, Fess chaired numerous standing committees of the governing board, including athletics, legal affairs, and the executive committee. He is also a member of the Crimson Tide Foundation Board, the UAB Health System Board, and the UAB Athletic Foundation.

In July 2018, Fess was asked by the board to serve as interim chancellor of the UA System. Then, in April of this year, the board elected him to the permanent chancellor position. "I'm honored to be in this position and humbled by the responsibility," Fess said. "I have a great deal of respect for the role and am fortunate to work with outstanding people."

As chancellor, Fess oversees the three universities and UAB, playing a key role in recruiting senior campus leadership and in setting policy for the system.

"Our job is to lead these like-minded people to benefit the future of both the UA System and the state of Alabama," he explained. "We view the system as an important part of the state for the benefit of all citizens. All three universities are doing well and growing; each has its own strengths."

Fess's wife, Gaynor, has been a partner at St. John and St. John for more than 25 years. His sons, Finis and Jack, are attorneys, and he is the proud grandfather of Mary Juliet and Jack Jr.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Bo Alterman '23 <i>Bloomfield Hills, Mich.</i>	Jack Denning '23 <i>Western, Ill.</i>	Brayden Lewis '23 <i>Grant, Ala.</i>	Ethan Reusser '22 <i>Wichita, Kan.</i>
Brody Arrington '23 <i>Vestavia, Ala.</i>	Jack Dial '23 <i>Baton Rouge, La.</i>	Jacob Limbocker '23 <i>Baton Rouge, La.</i>	Hunter Robinson '23 <i>Forest, Va.</i>
Sam Barnett '23 <i>Memphis, Tenn.</i>	Collin Easton '23 <i>Ladera Ranch, Calif.</i>	Jack Mackinnon '23 <i>Falls Church, Va.</i>	Matthew Savage '23 <i>Cumming, Ga.</i>
Jacob Bell '23 <i>Dothan, Ala.</i>	Otto Fernandez '23 <i>Miami, Fla.</i>	Andrew Maersk-Moller '23 <i>Boulder, Colo.</i>	Andrew Sinclair '23 <i>McKinney, Texas</i>
Thomas Bender '22 <i>Mobile, Ala.</i>	Max Fisher '23 <i>Sarasota, Fla.</i>	Griffin McGowan '23 <i>Ladera Ranch, Calif.</i>	Beau Staton '23 <i>Orlando, Fla.</i>
Connor Best '23 <i>Apex, N.C.</i>	Jameson Fulford '23 <i>Prattville, Ala.</i>	Kai McLeod '23 <i>Sarasota, Fla.</i>	Harrison Stogner '23 <i>Atlanta, Ga.</i>
Zach Brouillette '23 <i>Birmingham, Ala.</i>	Crosby Guercio '23 <i>Dallas, Texas</i>	Christian Nanna '23 <i>Charlotte, N.C.</i>	Nicolas Taylor '22 <i>Madison, Ala.</i>
Evan Brown '23 <i>Omaha, Neb.</i>	Ian Hall '23 <i>Mountain Brook, Ala.</i>	Nick Neumann '23 <i>Louisville, Ky.</i>	Thomas Teague '23 <i>Houston, Texas</i>
Matt Caprio '23 <i>Montville, N.J.</i>	Griffin Holloway '23 <i>Louisville, Ky.</i>	JT Osborne '23 <i>Statesboro, Ga.</i>	Cory Tenney '22 <i>Norfolk, Va.</i>
Charlie Carse '23 <i>St. Louis, Mo.</i>	Colton Ikeler '23 <i>Houston, Texas</i>	Matt Pancoast '23 <i>Raleigh, N.C.</i>	John Charles Trotter '23 <i>Knoxville, Tenn.</i>
Cole Cazenave '23 <i>Baton Rouge, La.</i>	Nick Jaillet '23 <i>Roswell, Ga.</i>	Crosby Pappas '23 <i>Mountain Brook, Ala.</i>	Matt Turner '23 <i>Tenafly, N.J.</i>
Bennett Clark '23 <i>Louisville, Ky.</i>	Chase Johnston '23 <i>Laguna Niguel, Calif.</i>	James Paxton '22 <i>Atlanta, Ga.</i>	Louis Vacca '23 <i>St. Louis, Mo.</i>
George Cole '23 <i>Menasha, Wis.</i>	Bradley Keller '23 <i>Fairhope, Ala.</i>	Reiss Plauche '23 <i>Covington, La.</i>	Matthew Williams '23 <i>Hattiesburg, Miss.</i>
Carson Cross '23 <i>Charlotte, N.C.</i>	Noah Landsberg '23 <i>Dallas, Texas</i>	Michael Plunkett '23 <i>Alexandria, Va.</i>	

RECRUITMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Recruitment is vital for our organization to maintaining numbers and bringing new young men to continuously improve our chapter. If you know a potential new member, please contact Recruitment Chairmen **Kyle Briggs '21** at (615) 473-5686 and **Jay Neilson '21** at (502) 889-6375. We greatly value your input as we continue Iota Iota's legacy at UA.



Nine active brothers and three alumni attend the Krach Transformational Leaders Workshop learning how to better Iota Iota Chapter.



Congratulations to our two brothers, Tyler Howell '20 and Peter Williams '20, who were tapped to join the Jason's Society.

Iota Iota Ranked Top Five in Grades

More Than 60 Brothers Achieve 3.5 or Above GPA

Chapter Fact Facts



3.24 GPA



23 BROTHERS
made President's List



40 BROTHERS
made Dean's List



INITIATED
56 New Members



Thanks to everyone who helped make our Derby Dash a success!

Iota Iota's executive board is motivated to continue making extensive progress this school year, maintain the chapter's strength for years to come. We look forward to initiating 56 new members and seeing what they bring to Sigma Chi this year.

63 BROTHERS ACHIEVE 3.5 OR ABOVE GPA

Iota Iota ended the spring semester with a cumulative GPA of 3.24, surpassing the 3.11 IFC average and 3.08 all-men's average. Twenty-three brothers made the President's List by obtaining a GPA higher than 4.0, and 40 brothers made the Dean's List with a 3.5 GPA or above. Our new members boast an incredible cumulative high school GPA of 3.68 and ACT score of 26. We graduated 23 seniors; several graduates have been accepted into medical school and four have been accepted into law school.

WELCOMING 56 NEW BROTHERS

The brothers of Iota Iota are excited to welcome 56 new members hailing from 19 states—from California to Florida. Our recruitment chairmen, **Jay Neilsen '21** and **Kyle Briggs '21**, skillfully recruited the 2019 new member class with young men who embody Sigma Chi's values.

Beyond recruitment success, **Blake Schafer '21**, our newly elected magister, attended Grand Chapter and the Krach Leadership Institute last year. He's extremely

excited to begin preparation on the brotherhood process with the new members.

CHAPTER INCREASES CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

Last spring, we hosted another successful Derby Days in addition to partnering with sororities on campus for a few other philanthropy events. This upcoming school year, we have several philanthropy events planned. **Ryan Pamplin '21**, our newly elected Derby Days chairman, is excited to begin planning for the spring.

Iota Iota saw a drastic increase in campus involvement last year and looks forward to continuing that trend this year. We had representation in numerous campus organizations, such as the Student Government Association, Culverhouse Investment Management Group, IFC, Greek Programming Board, Greek Ambassadors, Lobby Board, First Year Council, and Management Consulting Academy. This ramped up involvement benefits the chapter's image and status on campus.

Finally, thank you to all our alumni! We couldn't do what we do without your support, and we welcome you to visit the chapter house next time you find yourself on campus.

In hoc,
Tyler Howell '20
Consul
twhowell@crimson.ua.edu

SAVE THE DATE

Iota Iota Gala
Saturday, February 29
Birmingham, AL

Crimson Tide's Remaining Games

ARKANSAS*
October 26

LSU*
November 9

MISSISSIPPI STATE
November 16

WESTERN CAROLINA*
November 23

AUBURN
November 30

**Home game*



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Alumni Update

CHAPTER ETERNAL

James G. Harmon '46 entered Chapter Eternal on June 7. Born in Elmore, Ala., in 1924 to Dr. James Harmon and Mae Gantt Harmon, he is survived by his wife of 64 years, Betty; children, James Samuel Harmon II, Sidney Scott Harmon, and Melissa Ann Harmon; granddaughters, Jamie Harmon, Christy (Tomas) Leon, Bonnie Greiner, Taryn Harmon, and Autumn Harmon; and great-grandchildren, Layla Leon and Zachary Leon. James was loved by all who knew him and will be missed by his friends, family, and Sigma Chi brothers.

Robert G. Esdale Sr. '53 entered Chapter Eternal on April 16. Bob was the son of the late James and Willie Winfield Esdale of Birmingham. A graduate of Gulf Coast Military, he served in the United States Army with the 167th Infantry. Bob practiced as a trial lawyer for 20 years in addition to being a clerk of the Supreme Court of Alabama for 30 years. His wife, Suzanne, writes, "Bob truly loved his Sigma Chi brothers. He was a faithful friend and confidant, quick to smile and give a great hug, and his sense of humor was contagious."

ALUMNI NEWS

Bryant N. Sheehy, M.D. '55 was honored to attend the initiation of his grandson, **Brandon W. Sheehy**, into Sigma Chi at Valparaiso University, pinning him with his 1951 Sigma

Chi pin. "He had been up all night, and when he saw me in the dimly lit room, he thought he was hallucinating," Bryan said. "I live in California, so he did not expect me there! It was a great moment to see him become a Sigma Chi. My best wishes to all of you." Email: bryantseehy@yahoo.com

Henry Crawford Jr. '65 received his Million Miler certificate from Delta Airlines in 2018. He lives in Montrose, Ala. Email: hcrawford@bellsouth.net

Roger C. Williams '66 works as an arbitrator and mediator all over the country along with occasionally practicing law. In October, he began a two-year term as president of the Alabama Kiwanis Foundation. He lives in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Email: rogercwilliams@aol.com

David A. London '70 and his wife, Jenny, moved to Saint Simons Island, Ga., in July. David is an avid sailor and enjoys racing his 39-foot sailboat. "Please call if you ever plan to visit the island," David said. Email: davidlondon@bellsouth.net

Jody Chorba Jr. '73 is forever grateful for the many opportunities opened by Sigma Chi. "Most of all, Consul **Jim McGee '72**, who always encouraged me to study with him,"

Jody said. During the Vietnam War, he was a freshman and had a 25 deferment, keeping him out of the draft if he stayed in school and completed 29 hours per year. The war came to an end when he graduated in the spring of 1973. Jody lives in Guntersville, Ala. Email: jody@chorbacontracting.com

H. Nathan Clark III '05 was recently named head football coach at South Effingham High School in the Savanna, Ga., area. Nathan credits his success as an assistant and coordinator at both Peach County and Lee County High Schools. He and his family moved to Coastal, Ga., this past spring. In May, Nate and Mary Lee had their second daughter, Maggie Rose. "I am proud to be a father of two little girls," Nathan said. "I hope to one day return to Tuscaloosa to visit the house and take in another football game!" Email: nateclark1137@gmail.com

Ross W. Kennedy '16 lives in Birmingham, Ala., and works as director of implementation and cash flow for Zora Financial, a behavioral financial planning firm. Email: rosswkennedy@yahoo.com

Hunter D. Ross '17 became an associate of the Society of Actuaries in March. He lives in Birmingham, Ala. Email: hdross@crimson.ua.edu

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