

The Iota Iota Messenger

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

SPRING 2019

WILL YELDELL '86 TO BE INDUCTED TO ORDER OF CONSTANTINE

In early 2019, Sigma Chi announced that our own **Will Yeldell '86** will be inducted into the Order of Constantine in June 2019. Congratulations to Brother Yeldell on this accomplishment.

Induction into the Order of Constantine is considered to be the highest honor that the Sigma Chi Fraternity bestows upon one of its members. To be considered for induction into the Order of Constantine, prospective members must have performed years



of faithful service to the Fraternity and be endorsed by five Sigma Chis for admission, at least three of whom must have been inducted into the select group in a prior year. The honor of being named an Order of Constantine Sig has been conferred on just over 720 brothers since the Order's inception at the 47th Grand Chapter in 1948. Up until recently, only one Iota Iota brother has received this honor since its inception: **Robert C. Garrison '25**. He was initiated on February 10, 1923, and graduated in 1925. He received this award in 1961.

Bell Chapter Challenge Halfway Funded

Help Us Reach Our Goal!

We are over halfway toward our goal for Iota Iota's endowment campaign for the **Thomas Cowan Bell Chapter Challenge**. We have raised more than \$161,000 toward our \$250,000 goal. We hope you will join us in supporting this exciting endeavor through a tax-deductible donation through the Sigma Chi Foundation. For an easy and quick way to donate to the **Iota Iota Bell Chapter Challenge endowment campaign**, go to <http://microsites.sigmachi.org/grand-central.php?form=Iota-Iota>.

To find out more about this campaign, the program impacts, or to make a charitable donation, please contact Brother **Steve Pracht, Penn State '76**, Senior Director of Development at the Sigma Chi Foundation, at pracht@sigmachi.org or (570) 351-8008. This designation among a select few chapters in Sigma Chi provides enhanced values-based leadership and scholarship benefits for undergraduate brothers. The campaign, led by Brothers **Bob Loftin '79** and **Bill Stiers '87**, aims to establish a foundation of support for current and future generations of Alabama Sigs.

SIGMA CHI'S LIFELONG IMPACT

Marty Hamner '85 Thankful for Iota Iota

When he was rushing Sigma Chi, **Marty Hamner '85** was unaware of the impact Iota Iota would end up having on the rest of his life. As an active, he met men from other parts of Alabama and the United States, formed lifelong friendships, and found a fun-loving network of men to call on when he needed them. That same network of brothers has been there for Marty throughout his post-graduation life. "It's too hard to name just a few because over my life there have been different brothers at different phases of my journey that have had such a positive impact." His favorite memories include cleanup parties and eating at Krystal on the strip afterwards, sorority pledge swaps, living in the house, and conversations about life with other brothers.

Iota Iota was instrumental in helping Marty start his career. "It gave me my first job opportunity when a Sigma Chi alum (Mr. Harris) arranged the interview that became my first career." Marty began his career as a business and process consultant for 17 years with Andersen Consulting/Accenture as a manager and associate partner. He also spent three years with DuPont Pharma in sales and today is the vice president of HR and recruiting for Southeast Logistics, a regional trucking company, and a real estate appraiser at Shamrock Appraisals, where he works with fellow Brother **Roscoe Shamblin '84**.



Sigma Chi has stayed an important part of Marty's adult life. He tailgates before Crimson Tide games with **Bill Sweeney '86**, **Howard Einstein '86**, **Randall Guyton '85**, **Jimmy Busby '84**, **Steve Kittleson '86**, and **Jimmy Waltman '86** and is in regular communication with several other brothers, including **Mark Freeman '84** and **Todd Paden '84**. Marty has served on the Iota Iota House Corporation twice and participated in several initiation ceremonies over the years. He most recently attended the Significant Sig induction of **Stewart McLaurin '81**. Marty is currently working as the informal Iota Iota historian, collecting memorabilia from brothers. He has collected Derby posters from the '70s, composites, newsletters and pledge manuals from the '40s, and recently, **Mark McCall '81** donated an original copy of the Phi Epsilon Petition from 1914, signed by Sigma Chi and University of Alabama President George Denny, which put Sigma Chi back on campus that same year. If anyone has any Sigma Chi artifacts to donate, please contact Marty at (678) 428-3692.

Marty and his wife, Susan, a Chi Omega at UA, have two daughters, Mary Annis and Rachel, both Phi Mus at UA, and a son, Will, a DKE at UA. In his spare time, he enjoys remodeling old homes, reading history about the U.S., the South, and Native Americans, and of course, Alabama football. He can be reached at marty@shamrock-appraisals.com.

FALL 2018 INITIATES

Brogan Bourgeois '22
Baton Rouge, La.

Jack Boynton '22
Brentwood, Tenn.

Todd Buck '22
Slapout, Ala.

Dalton Campbell '22
Grant, Ala.

Patrick Carroll '22
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Alex Carver '22
Atlanta, Ga.

Jackson Dempski '22
Westport, Conn.

Chandler Eudy '22
Pinehurst, N.C.

Jason Farese '21
Newport Beach, Calif.

Joey Flanigan '22
Newport Beach, Calif.

Kirkland Forrest '22
Columbia, Mo.

Bennett Gabbert '22
Barrington, Ill.

Kyle Garrett '22
Alexandria, Va.

Eric Girjel '22
Brentwood, Tenn.



Justin Guerin '21
New Orleans, La.

Benjamin Guerrera '22
Birmingham, Ala.

Coby Hirth '22
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gabe Hrib '22
Atlanta, Ga.

Benjamin Hellums '22
Mountain Brook, Ala.

Michael John '21
Westchester, Pa.

Sam Leffert '22
Louisville, Ky.

Owen Lester '22
Birmingham, Ala.

Matthew Luongo '22
Philadelphia, Pa.

Charles Martin '22
Dayton, Ohio

Talmadge Martin '22
Atlanta, Ga.

George Meyers '22
St. Louis, Mo.

Cory Milsap '22
Kansas City, Mo

Dawson Morgan '22
Brentwood, Tenn.

Renny Oldfield '22
Baltimore, Md.

Matthew Papandon '22
Philadelphia, Pa.

Jack Pierson '22
Joliet, Ill.

Jacob Pyrdum '22
Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Chase Rauhut '21
Milledgeville, Ga.

Elior Rogachov '22
Irvine, Calif.

Andrew Rogers '21
Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Max Seibel '22
Baltimore, Md.

Nick Sepanski '22
Franklin, Tenn.

Ryan Shamblin '22
Birmingham, Ala.

Ben Shuggart '22
Louisville, Ky.

Matthew Sink '22
Alexandria, Va.

Cole Speed '22
Atlanta, Ga.

William Stiers '22
Alexandria, Va.

David Thaggard '22
Hattiesburg, Miss.

Carson Thurow '22
Pinehurst, N.C.

Josh Tipton '22
Woodstock, Ga.

Andrew Walker '22
Charlotte, N.C.

Marshall Wilensky '22
Mountain Brook, Ala.

Dane Wilson '22
Collierville, Tenn.

Nick Wilson '22
Collierville, Tenn.

Ben Wimmer '22
Atlanta, Ga.

John Henry Woods '22
Jackson, Tenn.

Brooks Yeilding '22
Vestavia, Ala.

Chapter Officers

President
Tyler Howell '20
(251) 622-3525

Vice President
Peter Williams '20

Secretary
Aidan Lavelle '20

Treasurer
Kyle Williams '20

New Member Educator
Blake Scahfer '21

Recruitment Chairmen
Kyle Briggs '21
(615) 473-5686

Jay Neilson '21
(502) 889-6375

Risk Manager
Nicholas Bien '20

Historian
Benjamin Guerrera '22

Chapter Editor
William Stiers '22

Recruitment Recommendations

Recruitment is vital for our organization to maintain numbers and bring in young men to improve our chapter in many ways each year. If you know of a potential new member, please contact our recruitment chairmen.

Kyle Briggs '21
(615) 473-5686

Jay Neilson '21
(502) 889-6375



Snow Day at the house during December 2018.



Sigma Chi freshmen enjoying Crimson Tide football at the 2018 Iron Bowl.

CHAPTER REACHES 172 ACTIVES, LOOKS TO MAINTAIN SUCCESS IN 2019

The Iota Iota Chapter of Sigma Chi has experienced great success over the past couple of years. As we continue in our transition of officers we are constantly looking for ways to better the chapter. By the end of this year we hope to improve our standing in grades, philanthropic involvement, alumni relations, and many other general chapter activities.

IOTA IOTA WELCOMES 50 NEW BROTHERS

Iota Iota is proud to announce that we are currently at 172 active members after a successful pledging period in the fall of 50 initiates. Many of these brothers are involved in a multitude of campus organizations including: four Interfraternity Council representatives, two SGA senate representatives, multiple Greek Ambassadors, and many brothers participating in varying honor societies on campus.

The fall of 2018 proved to be a very successful semester as we finished seventh in grades among 32 fraternities on campus. We finished with an overall chapter GPA of 3.2, with intentions to improve this ranking to top five in the spring 2019 semester.

RAISING THOUSANDS FOR CHARITY

We are also very proud to report that we donated \$25,000 to the Women's and Children's Hospital in Birmingham, Alabama, from the spring 2018 Derby Days. Despite our philanthropic success with the hospital we have decided to switch

our main philanthropy to the Huntsman Cancer Institute for 2019, hoping to donate \$30,000 following Derby Days on March 7-13. While we look to increase our donations, we are also looking to expand our campus philanthropy involvement, hoping to become more engaged in other fraternity/sorority philanthropy events.

THANKFUL FOR ALUMNI SUPPORT

On February 15, we had the pleasure of hosting the Golden Era Sig's alumni reunion. This event was a major success and hopefully will be a catalyst for many more alumni reunions soon. We also hosted parents' weekend on March 29-31, which included our Derby Dash 5K benefiting Derby Days.

Maintaining our chapter's success has become a priority for the executive committee entering 2019. We want to improve our grades, maintain current recruitment numbers, increase alumni relations/involvement, and further our campus involvement. We believe that we are a leading fraternity among campus and want to prove that Iota Iota is among the best chapters of the National Fraternity. Thank you to all our alumni and please feel free to contact me at (251) 622-3525 anytime.



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



Blue Angels flying over the house while practicing for the Tuscaloosa Air Show.



*Current Consul Tyler Howell '20
(middle) and recent initiates
Dane Wilson '22 and Ryan Shamblin '22.*



Current Pro-consul Peter Williams '20 and recent initiate Ryan Shamblin '22 after the fall 2018 initiation.

Alumni News

Thomas McKenzie '48 shares, "My wife, Charlotte, and I now live at Regency Pointe in Rainbow City. It is a very nice retirement facility. I am 89 years old and glad to still be here." Email: tommck14@bellsouth.net

Paul G. Haigh '49 shares, "My life has been good except for a few falls this year. I use a walker now and have my daughter drive me around. I follow Alabama football on TV and follow the chapter activities as best I can. Congrats on your success!" Email: goldhawkpg@hotmail.com

Robert Holloway '50 says that to keep from rusting out in his old age (89) he has done some traveling the last four years to Australia, New Zealand, France, and many more. Two highlights were Normandy beach in France and St. Petersburg, Russia.

Judd P. Webster '52 wants alumni to know that the central Florida alumni group meets on the first Tuesday of every month. They have a Christmas party every year as well. Email: jpwebsterl11@aol.com

Bill Greiner '53 shares, "Dear Brothers, glad to hear you are doing so well. Congratulations. God Bless and Roll Tide!" Email: bama53@wi.rr.com

Michael Ferniany '65 shares, "I am acting, writing, and directing in Los Angeles, Calif. I appeared in Gwen Stefani's first-ever live video at the 2016 Grammy Awards." Email: mferniany@hotmail.com

Tom Roberts '68 retired in 2014 as the Director of Broadcasting for the Crimson Tide Sports Network. Email: tomrobertsm@gmail.com

Quentin Brown Jr. '69 shares that since his retirement from the bench in 2001, he has been involved with Brown Mediations, a business which handles a wide variety of mediations involving legal cases and business controversies. He also enjoyed his involvement with the Iota Iota Chapter of Sigma Chi, and the planning and building of our new house. In the last few years he has been proud to be associated with efforts that resulted in Brother **Dag Rowe '69** from Huntsville being raised to the status of Significant Sig. They were also successful in obtaining this special award for Dr. Doug Loyal and most recently, **Dr. Will Ferniany '73**, the President of the UAB Medical Center. Email: qb@brownmediations.com

R. Kurry Wyatt, D.M.D. '69 shares, "I have two new grandsons, which brings the total grandchildren to five. My son, Nathan, is a practicing neurologist and my daughter, Rachel, teaches AP Physics and AP Calculus. I am enjoying retirement and doing a lot of traveling." Email: kpwyatt2003@aol.com

Terry K. Lamar '70 was thrilled to see 15 members of his 1967 pledge class. They enjoyed a 50-year reunion in October 2017. "New house is fantastic!" Email: tklamar47@gmail.com

David A. London '70 shares, "I have just completed 10 years of retirement after a 30-year career in real estate. My wife, Jenny, and I spend about half of our time at our home on Saint



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Simons Island. We enjoy the beach and island lifestyle. I also enjoy sailing and am very active in racing our boat with the local sailing club." Email: davidlondon@bellsouth.net

Steven Shockley '71 shares, "I'm busy playing golf five days a week. Roll Tide!" Email: bamarahrah71@gmail.com

John Y. Christopher, Jr. '72 and his wife, B.J., moved to Fairhope, Ala., in 2015. John is now doing international consulting. E-mail: jychristopher@gmail.com

Loring S. Jones III '75 says, "I became a grandfather for the first time in 2016. I completed my 10th African safari a few years back. My son, **Loring Jones IV, Furman '07**, has recently been promoted to the rank of major in the USAF." Email: L3@jalaw.net

Mr. Marl Cummings III '75 shares, "I'm active in commercial real estate, brokerage, development, leasing and management. I am a member of the local Sigma Chi alumni chapter and was appointed to a housing board (CHI). Email: marl@cummingsassoc.com

Jack M. Sammons Sr. '77 shares, "I am the longtime General Chairman of the FedEx St. Jude Classic PGA Tour gold tournament in Memphis, held annually in June. I would like to invite alumni and active brothers to attend as my guest." Email: jack@jacksammons.com

Douglas A. Woodman '82 shares, "Ann and I still live in College Park and are adjusting to

the sometimes-empty nest. Our oldest son, Joey, lives nearby and works for golfnow.com. After a successful three years at Ole Miss, our other son, J.B., was drafted in the 2nd round of the 2016 MLB Draft by the Toronto Blue Jays. He currently plays CF for the Palm Beach Cardinals, a minor league team for the St. Louis Cardinals. Email: doug.woodman@iberiabank.com

William G. Brooks '84 shares, "I am excited to now have my son, **Lee Brooks '18**, as my brother at Iota Iota. I was also honored to be project director on the nation's largest new airport terminal design at Orlando International. This \$1.8B program opens in summer 2020." Email: curenflnow@gmail.com

David White '86 shares, "My wife, Kristi, and I built a new house in 2016 in the historic district of Tuscaloosa. She is a tenured professor at Alabama in the Nutrition Department and I am running my company, GrassRoots Lawn Care, going on 20 years." Email davidwhite9326@gmail.com

Bryan Finison '96 and his wife, Lee, welcomed their fourth child, Elizabeth Starling Finison, in January 2014.

James A. Hurt III, M.D. '03 took a job back home at The University of Mississippi Medical Center as an Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery and Sports Medicine. He specializes in minimally invasive surgery of the shoulder and knee. His wife, Christin, opened a dermatology practice in Clinton, Miss. They are the proud parents of four children, James, Luke, Mary Harper and Abigail. Email: jhurtiii@gmail.com