

The Iota Iota Messenger

SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA | EST. 1876 SPRING 2024

House Corporation Updates

NO MAJOR REPAIRS, STOP BY THE HOUSE SOMETIME!

Iota Iota House Corporation has had a fairly quiet year, and that’s a good thing! This means no major repairs, upgrades, or enhancements to the house were required. We did complete some long-overdue updates to the kitchen cooking equipment as well as a major rekey of all rooms in the house. As of this printing, we don’t have any major projects due over the summer, but if our invaluable house director, Mrs. Rhae Nix, has any suggestions,

we will take them into consideration, as we always trust her judgment.

As always, the chapter house will be open for all home football games, so if you want to come by and see our house and show it off to family and friends, please do so.

On a personal note, I would be remiss if I didn’t mention the passing of **James Willis**

Yeldell Jr. (my Father, I’m JWY III), *Iota Iota 1956-1960*, who passed away on March 15. God Speed, Dad. To quote Bear Bryant, “Have you called your Momma today (in my case “Dad”)? I sure wish I could call mine...”

In hoc,
Will Yeldell ’86
President
Iota Iota House Corporation

SIGMA CHI SUCCESS

Derby Days, Recruitment, and Academic Achievements



Landon Eskridge ’25 (middle) alongside Blake Lester ’24 (left) and Sid Elkins ’24 at the Jason’s Senior Men’s Honorary induction ceremony.

In spring 2024, Iota Iota Chapter was able to accomplish many noteworthy achievements and milestones. The brothers of Iota Iota found this success both as individuals and working together.

DERBY DAYS DOMINATION

During the week of April 7, Iota Iota Chapter held the 67th running of Derby Days. In contrast to previous years, the chapter decided to donate all proceeds to the Jason Foundation, a youth suicide awareness organization, in honor of the chapter’s late brother, **Brady Dodson ’23**.

Despite many unpredictable obstacles and adjustments, Derby Days was a huge success, reeling in about \$20,000. This event extended throughout the entirety of campus, bringing in participation from every Panhellenic sorority.



Brothers gather in the streets of New Orleans during the annual formal event.

Due to this, Iota Iota achieved what it set out to achieve, which was to bring an increased awareness of youth suicide to The University of Alabama.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS

Our overall chapter GPA increased due to heavy concentration and consideration of individual performance in the classroom. This increased success was a result of newly implemented study halls where brothers could help one another.

MORE BROTHERS THAN EVER!

Iota Iota initiated 60 new brothers early in the semester, which is the largest pledge class the chapter has seen in its 148-year history. This new group has already made an effort to get involved in both the fraternity and the campus.



Samuel Redelsheimer ’27 gets pied at the Pie a Chi event of Derby Days.

MAKING HIS IMPACT

Landon Eskridge ’25 was recently inducted into the 111th class of Jason’s Senior Men’s Honorary. Induction into this honor society is considered to be one of the highest honors a student can receive at The University of Alabama. The 40 new members each year are regarded as the most influential men on campus for the rising senior class.

We can’t wait to wrap up this academic year on a strong note and see what fall has in store for the men of Iota Iota.

In hoc,
William Vercher ’25
Consul

Chapter Goals

- 1 Never settle at the chapter’s current state. Always work toward increased success and achievement from brothers.
- 2 Increase our chapter’s GPA by .2, as we believe academic success is a great reflection of our overall progress.
- 3 Gather a group of well-rounded, versatile young men as our next pledge class in the fall. They are the future of this chapter!



Parents and their sons gather in the house’s front yard for Parent’s Weekend.

CHAPTER OFFICERS

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Pro Consul **Landon Eskridge ’25**

Annotator **Caden Kramer ’25**

Quaestor **Robert Meszaros ’25**

Magister **Eric Nielson ’23**

Recruitment Chairman **Jackson Broadway ’23**
(407) 484-3019 | jacksonbroadaway3@gmail.com

Know Someone We Should Know?

Send Us Your Recruitment Referrals Today!

Please refer any potential new members to **Jackson Broadway '23** at (407) 484-3019 or jacksonbroadway3@gmail.com. Please include their full name, number, and hometown.

Thank you for helping to ensure Iota Iota's continued growth!



UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION NOW

In this fast-paced world, staying connected matters more than ever. Help us maintain the bond that makes Sigma Chi special by updating your digital contact information while it's top of mind.

Your details ensure you receive the latest Sigma Chi news, event invites, and opportunities to reconnect with fellow alumni. Simply send your updated information to updatemyrecord@penningtonco.com with "SX AL Email Update" in the subject line. (We'll also take any updates you have for your physical mailing address if it's needed!)

Thank you for helping us strengthen our Sigma Chi connection!

Alumni News

Walter J. Phillips III '67 is still working full-time at 79 and enjoying every minute. "Very blessed." He resides in Frankewing, Tenn. Email: walter@bagleyandbagley.com

Robert Grimes '76 is single, living in the Atlanta suburb of Kennesaw, Ga. He still works as a senior key account manager in the automotive industry and spends his spare time traveling and visiting his daughters and granddaughters in Huntsville, Ala. His hobbies are golf and pickleball. Email: grimesr828@gmail.com

Mark R. Wyatt '76 retired from Regions Bank after 42 years as a geologist in the natural resources and real estate department, where he managed 10 million acres of mineral rights for trusts, estates, and charitable foundations. He resides in Mobile, Ala., and he and his wife spend a lot of time taking in scenic sunsets at the bay house on Mobile Bay. Email: mwyatt62@comcast.net

Robert M. Davis '78 is retired and enjoying life and his grandchildren. He resides in Huntsville, Ala. Email: mike.davis35802@gmail.com

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What words come to mind when you think about Sigma Chi?



What are your favorite memories from living at the chapter house and/or spending time with Sigma Chi brothers at The University of Alabama?

- "Friendships, parties." –**Bryant N. Sheehy, M.D. '55**
"Great friends, football games, weekend bands, good food." –**Walter J. Phillips III '67**
"My favorite memory is a brother coming into the dining room and asking if anyone wanted to go to California for the summer—I said yes!" –**Jim R. McGee Jr. '72**
"I had one roommate, **Graham Pilsch**, for 3 1/2 years." –**Loring "Cavett" S. Jones III '75**
"Pledge swaps with sororities, band parties, initiation, Sigma Chi Derby, NOLA formals and spring break trips to Ft. Walton-Destin, and intramural football." –**Mark R. Wyatt '76**
"Football game band parties, late-night card games, initiation week, and breakfast on cold mornings." –**Robert Grimes '76**
"Friendships, meals, bonding with Big and Little Brothers." –**Robert M. Davis '78**
"Band parties, swaps, game days, Derby!" –**Johnny Price Jr. '81**
"My grades improved when I moved in because there was more accountability. During Derby Week you were much more involved." –**David White '86**
"Moving into the house after being chosen as consul. I was able to get to know so many more people. It was the best thing I did with my time at Alabama." –**Brett T. Taylor '91**
"Really enjoyed playing pool/ping pong as well as hosting volleyball for Derby in the backyard at the old house." –**Trey Melancon III '05**
"Eating together, studying together, celebrating together." –**Bennett Theriot Jr. '20**