

# The Iota Iota Messenger

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

SUMMER 2023

## SUPPORTING OUR FUTURE LEADERS

*Be a Part of Their Success through the Thomas Cowan Bell Endowment*

The Iota Iota Grand Reunion held in Birmingham this spring was well attended by undergraduates and alumni. Everyone enjoyed a relaxed evening of socializing, fine dining, and old-school dancing to music by Chevy 6.

The fundraising event supported the Thomas Cowan Bell Endowment, which allows alumni to invest in the future of Iota Iota Chapter through enhanced leadership and scholarship benefits for our undergraduate members. Through our unrestricted tax-deductible charitable contributions, we support Iota Iota with academic scholarships and key leadership experiences:

- Three designated academic scholarships (\$1,000 each).
- One designated Horizons Huntsman Leadership Summit slot for a qualified applicant.
- Priority access for one additional participant at Krach Transformational Leaders Workshop.
- Local chapter leadership retreat.
- Priority access for seven sponsored slots at the Officer Training Academy.



*Alumni connect at the Iota Iota Grand Reunion. From left: Will Yeldell '86, Grant Stamps '85, Chuck Conour '86, and Bill Stiers '86.*

The next major dinner event is scheduled for 2025 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Iota Iota Chapter, which was installed at The University of Alabama on October 29, 1876. We look forward to seeing you there.

In hoc,  
**Will Yeldell '86**  
House Corporation President  
wyeldell@me.com

You can help provide leadership opportunities and scholarships to our undergraduate brothers! Visit [sigmachicago.org/foundation/ways-to-give-back/bellchapter](https://sigmachicago.org/foundation/ways-to-give-back/bellchapter) to learn more and make a gift today!

## A Third Iota Iota Brother Inducted into the Order of Constantine

Congratulations, Bob Loftin '79, and Thank You for All You Do for Our Fraternity

Each year, the Order of Constantine recognizes a group of Sigma Chi brothers for their commitment, dedication, and service to the fraternity. Induction into the Order of Constantine is the highest honor that the Sigma Chi Fraternity bestows upon one of its members. The honor of being named an Order of Constantine Sig has been conferred on just over 720 brothers since the Order's inception in 1948, and Iota Iota Chapter had only two brothers receive this honor: **Robert Garrison 1925** in 1961, then **James Willis Yeldell III '86** in 2019.

**Bob Loftin '79** became the third ever Iota Iota inducted at the Grand Chapter held in Toronto, Canada (there are 10 Sigma Chi chapters in Canada). At previous Grand Chapters, he

received the Seven Lights Alumni Award and is a member of the International Fraternity's Lockwood Society and White Cross Trust.

Over the past 30-plus years, Bob has contributed to our fraternity as an

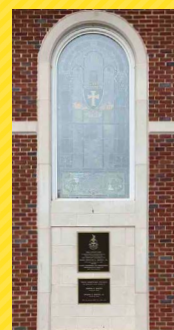


*Order of Constantine members Will Yeldell '86 and Bob Loftin '79.*

## Improving Our Home Chapter House Renovations Are Underway

Maintaining the chapter house is a full-time job that is masterfully handled by our house director, Ms. Rhae Nix.

During the spring, Rhae managed HVAC and irrigation projects and planned renovations and safety upgrades for the summer, which are underway. The kitchen is undergoing a major overhaul with state-of-the-art equipment and a staff-friendly upgrade and workspace reconfiguration. Not only will this be a showcase kitchen across campus, but it will also enhance the dining experience for our brothers.



*A mock-up of the plaque placement provided by Iota Iota House Corporation.*

We are also upgrading the courtyard, which will be dedicated in honor of **Judge Quentin Q. Brown Jr. '69** in a ceremony this fall. Iota Iota is deeply appreciative of his exemplary commitment and service to our chapter. In addition, the two large columns in the Quentin Brown courtyard will be dedicated in memory of the Macon family of Sigma Chi, a tribute that the "Golden Era Sigs" organized under the leadership of **Dag Rowe '69**.

alumnus in many roles and at many levels. He serves as chapter advisor for Iota Iota and guides the chapter to a level of excellence reflected by the Peterson Award received by the chapter year after year. This is no small feat, as Iota Iota Chapter has one of the largest chapters in the international fraternity.

Brother Loftin was also elected as the Grand Trustee at the 82nd Grand Chapter and served as Iota Iota House Corporation president and general counsel. In addition, he is also a driving force behind a Sigma Chi colony at The University of Alabama in Birmingham. We are proud of Bob's service to Sigma Chi and his contributions to the alumni and undergraduate brothers of Iota Iota.

# Congratulations, Recent Graduates!

Connect with them on LinkedIn

Bo Alterman  
Brody Arrington  
Samuel Barnett  
Connor Best  
Evan Brown  
Zach Brouillette  
Matthew Caprio  
Charlie Carse  
Cole Cazenave  
Bennett Clark  
Carson Cross  
Jack Denning  
Jack Dial  
Otto Fernandez  
Peyton Friedmann  
Jameson Fulford  
Crosby Guercio  
Dylan Hatton  
Griffin Holloway  
Quinn Hutchins  
Colton Ikeler  
Chase Johnston  
Bradley Keller  
Robert Knott

Brayden Lewis  
Jacob Limbocker  
Jack Mackinnon  
Griffin McGowan  
Christian Nanna  
JT Osborne  
Matthew Pancoast  
Eli Pappas  
Reiss Plauche  
Michael Plunkett  
Matt Powell  
Hunter Robinson  
Matthew Savage  
Andrew Sinclair  
Beau Staton  
Harrison Stogner  
Nick Taylor  
Thomas Teauge  
Joseph Tucker  
Louis Vacca  
Matthew Williams  
Spencer Williams  
Will Williams

## Additional Achievements

- Seven brothers attended the Krash Leadership Workshop and received the “Best Marketing for Derby Days” award.
- Brother **Griffin Holloway '23** attended Grand Chapter in June.
- We improved our GPA by .09 points from fall to spring.

# Achieving Greatness

*Iota Iota Goes Above and Beyond at UA*

We are extremely proud of our success over the last school year, but we're never satisfied and always climbing to achieve new heights.

We finished the spring semester with 181 active members, which makes our chapter one of the largest among 34 fraternities on campus. We initiated 52 new members this past October, all of whom we believe are some of the finest young men The University of Alabama has to offer.

With a newly implemented academic plan, we were able to increase our chapter GPA from 3.17 in the fall to 3.26 in the spring. Both semester GPAs were well-above the all-fraternity, all-undergraduate men, and all-IFC averages.

In other news, Iota Iota was recently named “Philanthropy Chapter of the Year” by UA’s IFC, largely due to the great success we had with Derby Days this spring. We are extremely proud to announce that we raised \$48,645 in the spring 2023 semester alone.

Not only is Iota Iota excelling in academics and philanthropy but we are also making a difference in the UA student community. Brother **Sid Elkins '24** has been elected vice president of IFC, which is the governing body of the 34 fraternities on campus. In March, newly initiated Brother **Connor Hux '26** was elected as an SGA senator for the Culverhouse College of Business. We could not be prouder of the work our brothers are doing and are excited to see the impact they will make on our campus.

This February, Iota Iota was proud to share our recent successes with our amazing alumni at our annual Iota Iota Grand Reunion in Birmingham. Our undergraduate brothers were able to spend the evening networking and updating our alumni on the current state of the chapter. We are excited for next year’s reunion!

In hoc,  
**Blake Lester '24**, Consul  
bhlester1@crimson.ua.edu

## Congratulations!



*Sid Elkins '24 for being elected vice president of IFC.*



*Connor Hux '26 for becoming an SGA senator for the Culverhouse College of Business.*



*Jason's Seniors Men's Honorary Society inductees Blake Lester '24, Joseph Tucker '23, and Sid Elkins '24. Recipients of this award are regarded as some of the most influential men on campus and are academically talented and extremely involved in extracurriculars.*

# CHAPTER OFFICERS

Consul  
**Blake Lester '24**  
bhlester1@crimson.ua.edu

Pro Consul  
**Connor Gorman '24**

Annotator  
**Landon Godso '24**

Quaestor  
**Ryan Border '24**

Magister  
**Pierce Hingten '25**

Recruitment Chairman  
**Billy Vercher '25**  
wdvercher@crimson.ua.edu

Philanthropy Chairman  
**Keaton Wright '25**

Risk Manager  
**Bobby Ryan '25**

House Manager  
**Caden Kramer '25**

Chapter Editor  
**Jacob Schurman '26**

Tribune  
**Quinn McGinley '26**

Kustos  
**Vincent Klueppel '26**

# WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

**Jackson Averys** | Mountain Brook, Ala.

**Justin Banks** | Orlando, Fla.

**Rocco Bastoni** | Folsom, Calif.

**Logan Bollinger** | Scottsdale, Ariz.

**Tilson Branch** | Jacksonville, Fla.

**Jackson Broadway** | Orlando, Fla.

**Colin Brown** | Cumming, Ga.

**Mike Burney** | Hopkinton, Mass.

**Jack Carlin** | Duluth, Ga.

**Harrison Cline** | Hendersonville, Tenn.

**Mason Corazzari** | Milwaukee, Wis.

**Zach Costopoulos** | Mountain Brook, Ala.

**Gus Dillon** | Louisville, Ky.

**Davis Dooley** | Savannah, Ga.

**Matthew Dupps** | Cincinnati, Ohio

**Will Dyer** | Southlake, Texas

**Charlie Easter** | Cary, N.C.

**Charlie Ellis** | Scottsdale, Ariz.

**Landon Eskridge** | Wichita, Kan.

**Jackson Estes** | Scottsdale, Ariz.

**Hayden France** | Atlanta, Ga.

**Connor Gelatt** | Woodstock, Ga.

**Jack Harney** | Dana Point, Calif.

**James Hojel** | Boulder, Colo.

**Connor Hux** | Sikeston, Mo.

**Nick Johannes** | Hingham, Mass.

**Alex Jordan** | Woodstock, Ga.

**Lane Killian** | Huntsville, Ala.

**Vincent Klueppel** | Sikeston, Mo.

**Matt Kolenda** | Southborough, Mass.

**James Long** | Birmingham, Ala.

**Luscher Mayhall** | Fairhope, Ala.

**Gamble McCrary** | Huntsville, Ala.

**Quinn McGinley** | Arlington, Va.

**Hadden Meyer** | Nashville, Tenn.

**Ryan Milsap** | Overland Park, Kan.

**Eric Nielson** | Louisville, Ky.

**Luke Peters** | Tampa, Fla.

**Steel Rawls** | Atlanta, Ga.

**Reagan Saylor** | Huntsville, Ala.

**Jacob Schurman** | Westfield, Ind.

**Hayden Smith** | Acworth, Ga.

**Jack Spiekerman** | Scottsdale, Ariz.

**Chris Venturini** | Allentown, Pa.

**Zachary Vos** | Dana Point, Calif.

**Kai Watson** | Huntsville, Ala.

**Andrew Winslow** | Cincinnati, Ohio

**Johnnie Wolf** | Huntsville, Ala.

**Hampton Wyman** | Bluffton, S.C.

**Blake Wynia** | Raleigh, N.C.

**Rocco Zunnino** | Danville, Calif.

## Q&A with Some of Our Newest Members

**Q: What have you liked about Sigma Chi after your first year?**

**Hayden France '26:** When I first got my bid, I was amazed with how there were so many people from different places. I met guys from the same town as me and guys from across the country! I like how it never mattered where I was from, but who I am. We share the same bond in being leaders of men, and no matter where you are from, Sigma Chi will always be a bond between brothers.

**Q: Are you and your Big Brother close? If so, what is your relationship like?**

**Will Dyer '26:** Wish Lorimer '25 and I have known each other since before I got to Alabama. We grew up in the same town (Fort Worth, Texas) and enjoyed the same hobbies.

Going through recruitment was the best decision I've made so far in college. During pledgship, I got to know Wish even more and we became great friends. We've enjoyed hanging out, playing basketball, and running NBA-2K for hours. We even went to the same date parties sometimes with other sororities. Wish has been one of my best friends since I came here and even became a real big brother.

**Q: What made you go through recruitment at Sigma Chi?**

**Connor Hux '26:** I knew about fraternity recruitment through my grandpa, who was a Sigma Chi (Southeast Missouri State University), and he told me stories all about the fraternity. Hearing about my grandpa's Sigma Chi experience, I knew what I wanted

## Hear Their Thoughts on Sigma Chi

out of my college experience and rushed to the same fraternity. I was nervous going through recruitment, but Sigma Chi was the one. I wasn't surprised that my grandpa told me Sigma Chi was the right place to be. When I met the brothers for the first time, I knew they were guys with their heads held high and leaders who held strong to their beliefs. I am glad I can be in the same place as my grandpa and learn to become a leader just like him.

## Chapter Goals



Continuously improve the chapter's academic and philanthropic performance and always strive to be regarded as the premier fraternity on campus.



Carefully consider and recruit the pledge class of 2023 to bring together a group of young men who strongly reflect the high standards and expectations of Sigma Chi and Iota Iota Chapter.



Continue to promote our newly formed mental health and wellness committee that focuses on the mental health and overall individual development of our members to support them through the ups and downs of life as college students.



*Brothers hanging out in front of the house.*



*Brothers getting ready for the Duelers Ball, our formal date party. From left: Justin Banks, Jackson Broadway, Johnny Wolf, Hampton Wyman, Luke Peters, Tilson Branch '24, and Luscher Mayhall '26.*



*Davis Dooley (left) and Charles Ellis '26 getting pied for the Derby Days "Pie a Chi" event to raise money for the Huntsman Cancer Foundation.*

**CALLING  
ALL ALUMNI!**

## Send Us Your Recruitment Recommendations



? Do you know of an incoming freshman who is a quality man?

Send us his information and why you think he'll be a great addition to Sigma Chi. Contact Recruitment Chairman **Billy Vercher '25** at [wdvercher@crimson.ua.edu](mailto:wdvercher@crimson.ua.edu) or (205) 470-3880. There is also an interest form for all potential new members attached to our bio on our Instagram page, @UASigmaChi. Once that form is filled out with the PNM's contact information, Billy will reach out to them regarding any upcoming recruitment events!

*Join us in finding the right men to bring Iota Iota Chapter to new heights!*

## Do We Have Your Digital Contact Info?

If you're reading this, hopefully we have your correct mailing address. But what about your email or phone number?

We want to be able to stay in contact with all our brothers; having a complete list of emails is essential to doing that!

Please send your preferred email to our communications coordinator at [updatemyrecord@penningtonco.com](mailto:updatemyrecord@penningtonco.com) with "SX Alabama Email Update" in the subject line, and we'll make sure we have you on our list!

Thank you for helping us stay connected.

Don't worry—your email is safe with us! We do not share your info outside of our organization.

# The Iota Iota Messenger



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Tuscaloosa, AL 35403

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## See what else our brothers have been up to inside!



*Winner of the Derby Days Basketball Competition, Tri Delta, with Brothers Davis Dooley (left) and Hayden France.*

*Recent Order of Omega inductees Grayson Shook '23, Sid Elkins '24, and Blake Lester '24. These brothers, along with Landon Godso '24 (not pictured), were recognized for their outstanding achievement and leadership in the Greek system.*

