



SUMMER 2018

THE BRAINSTORM

Phi Gamma Delta – Alpha Iota

Alpha Iota Contacts

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Brothers,

Some of you may know Brother Dave "Rhino" Rhind class of '61. He unfortunately wasn't able to attend Pig Dinner this year, but he had some words he wanted to share. After sharing some of his best memories at Alpha Iota, and the lasting impact the chapter has had on his life, he expresses the seriousness of the anti-fraternity movement: political groups aimed to close Greek chapters. As scary as it is to know that the centuries of tradition and brotherhood we share is at risk, a very powerful quote comes to mind.

"The slogan 'Press On' has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race." Now I think we are all familiar with where this passage comes from, but to me there is nothing that could more accurately describe the current mentality of the chapter. Through all of the adversity surrounding Greek life in our country, through all the politics, through media and others portraying Greek life in such a negative light, we have managed to persist to do better every single day. From our cabinet to our pledges, from seniors to freshmen, from the Board of Chapter Advisors and our House Corporation, I have seen nothing short of outstanding gentlemen living the values of Phi Gamma Delta and actively pursuing to better themselves, their brothers, and their community.

Improvements of our chapter are plenty, however there are a few that I would like to recognize.

To Stephen Soko and his past cabinet for the tremendous efforts they have committed toward bettering the chapter, to Alex Champagne for the installation of the Mental Health & Wellness committee to open the conversation on sensitive subjects most don't have the courage to discuss, to Caleb Evers and the rest of the Board of Chapter Advisors who have taken a huge step in becoming more involved with the operations of our chapter, to all of the graduating seniors who have dedicated four years of their lives to better this organization, and to all of the undergraduates who have worked tremendously in their academic studies, winning the Owen Cup for such drastic improvements in our GPA... I thank you all for your efforts.

Thank you brothers for your tremendous support, as our existence would vanish without it. It is truly astonishing to see the lifelong friendships created at Alpha Iota justifying that being a Fiji is "not for college days alone."

Fraternally,

Austin Sehnert '20
President
Pergé!



Section Chief

Another school year is in the books. '17-'18 is history. So what's been happening around 325 Ash since last fall?

The chapter is still doing pretty well. Chapter numbers of around 100. Good showings in Varieties and Greek Week (although they want to do better). Recruitment (Rush) is off to a good start 10 pledges this spring, 5 so far this summer (goal of 15) and all the spots in the chapter house are filled. I just received the final standings grade wise and Alpha Iota placed in a tie for 6th (out of 32 IFC chapters) with a 3.21 GPA. The average is up slightly from fall semester moving the guys up from 9th place. The all-fraternity average is 3.1 and the all-men's average is 3.00. The lowest chapter average is 2.75. The gentleman's "C" doesn't cut it anymore, a lot of companies won't look to hire you if you're below a 3.

Socially the chapter is doing OK. I think the chapter would do more events, but the university is becoming "Big Brother-ish". All Greek chapters must now submit plans & procedures for ANY event to a university risk-management committee for approval. NO APPROVAL, NO EVENT. Even Pig Dinner is not exempt. The chapter was initially asked to provide a listing of all attendees and their age. When we pointed out that we didn't think it legal to ask graduates their age, they backed off. In my opinion ISU has gone off the deep end and are crushing any semblance of spontaneity for the chapters.

ISU is also making it more difficult to recruit in-coming students. Starting in spring '19 a student that wants to break a residence contract to live in a fraternity will pay a penalty of about 65%. Yikes! This means some students will have to decide by March 1st what their living situation will be for the next school year. This has made the chapter re-think their approach to rush. They are considering allowing freshmen to pledge, but wait until soph. year to move into the chapter house. A couple of other ISU chapters are already doing this approach and seem to like it. Let the chapter know what you think about this potential change in policy.

On a lighter note, Pig Dinner went well, especially considering the horrible weather that weekend. Some brothers flights were cancelled, others were forced to turn back after getting part-way. Still 87 brave grad brothers made it to Ames, and of course we had a good time. Alpha Iota again had the most grad brothers at pig dinner in Section XXIV. The Plaque of Pigness stays in Ames! Mike Owen, '73 did a great job as toastmaster. Ditto for Wes Cole, '62 as speaker. THANK YOU! The scholarship and award winners should be mentioned elsewhere in this Brainstorm, but we had one new scholarship to award this year. Brother Dick McCormick, '61 generously established a fund through the PGD Educational Foundation that will award a grant to the student chosen the 4-Year Fiji. The chapter chose Kyle Geolat, '18 to receive the initial \$2,500 grant. Congratulations, Kyle & THANK YOU, Dick!

The BCA did a good job this spring thanks in part to the efforts of chair Caleb Evers, '13 and PL Paul Dudley, '12. These guys mentor & advise officers & committee heads. Caleb has finished his graduate studies and has moved to Dallas for his new job. THANK YOU, Caleb! THANK YOU, Paul! Assuming BCA leadership will be Travis Dierickx, '15. New to the BCA this

spring are Matt Dohrmann, '14 & Derek Huser, '14 (grad relations-pig dinner). Travis (house manager, comm. service), Bobby Dunteman, '16 (rush) & Max Loebig, '16 (hr., philanthropy, scholarship). It's great when there are so many brothers willing to give of their time & expertise.

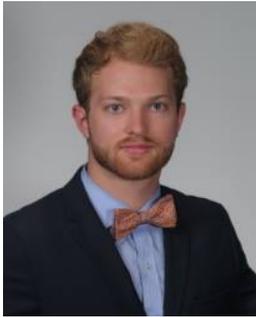
The House Corp. Board has 3 brothers that are retiring: Dave Buck, '64, Bill McElrath, '71 and Joe Price, '86. They have served for several terms each and their service is much appreciated! THANK YOU!!! New members elected at Pig Dinner are: Kevin Shires, '05; Scott Dierickx, '11; & Lance Goettsch, '13. Welcome! With a wave of fraternity construction lately at ISU (Fiji included), the board has retained the firm of Invision Architects to do a site and building analysis. Although 325 Ash is in pretty good shape now, they are looking to the future to be prepared. Currently some maintenance items are in the works as is normal when there are 100 brothers coming and going.

The Fraternity has put together a revised strategic plan that you might find interesting. Check it out on the HQ website (phigam.org), as it will guide the general fraternity until 2030.

I've rattled on long enough. Until next time, Happy Trails bros!

Lynn R. Schroeder, '76 Section Chief

Graduating Seniors: Where Are They Now?



Nolan Christensen ('17)

Hometown: Calamus, IA

Nolan recently received an award for hotel design in New York City. He currently is an Architectural Designer where he teams up with developers for new building proposals that create long term high economic value.



Luke Manwiller ('17)

Hometown: Bettendorf, IA

Luke is a Project Engineer for Perception in the Greater Detroit Area where he travels to automotive plants to install laser vision systems on manufacturing lines.



Andrew Phaff ('17)

Hometown: Minneapolis, MN

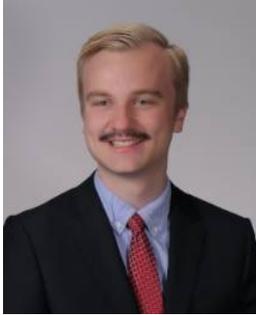
After working for the Iowa House of Representatives in the Spring, Andrew is returning to school for his Master's of Law in International Security at Vrije University in Amsterdam, Netherlands.



Dan Ackerman ('17)

Hometown: St. Paul, MN

After graduating in December, Dan traveled to Australia and New Zealand. Upon his return, Dan relocated to Oshkosh, Wisconsin where he is now working as a Design Engineer for Oshkosh Defense, a military vehicle manufacturer.



Nick Dohrmann ('18)

Hometown: Ankeny, IA

Nick is a Manufacturing Engineer for John Deere in Ottumwa, Iowa where he supports the round baler operations



Weston Morgan ('18)

Hometown: Council Bluffs, IA

Weston is a Software Engineer for Businessolver in Denver, Colorado.



Stephen Soko ('18)

Hometown: Bettendorf, IA

Steve will be attending the University of Iowa Law School this Fall.



Zach Taalman ('18)

Hometown: Park Ridge, IL

Zach works for Tesla at their Gigafactory in Reno, Nevada where he works in their quality lab. His main role is to confirm and investigate the quality of parts from external suppliers and internal manufacturing lines.



Lucas Brandt ('18)

Hometown: West Des Moines, IA

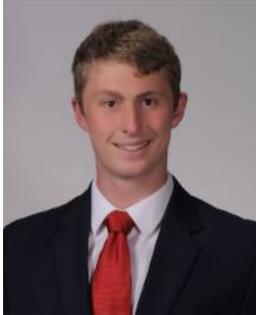
Lucas is a DJ and producer for his band LAV.ISH. They have more than 20,000 monthly listeners and are playing shows throughout the Des Moines Area.



Kyle Geolat ('18)

Hometown: Eden Prairie, MN

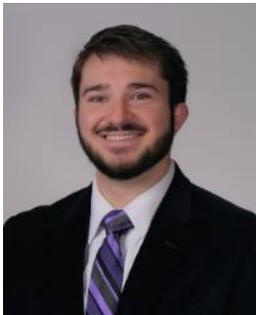
Kyle is an Intermodal Management Trainee for J.B. Hunt Transport, Inc. in Chicago Illinois.



Erik Brandt ('18)

Hometown: Eden Prairie, MN

Erik is an Associate Financial Analyst for Ecolab in St. Paul, Minnesota where he assists in software support and financial forecasting.



Alex Champagne ('18)

Hometown: Ankeny, IA

Alex is a Data Analyst Consultant for Keyot's Crew212 Program in the Twin Cities. His current client project has him handling quality assurance for a very large remediation effort.



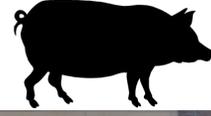
Matt Scattergood ('19)

Hometown: Edina, MN

Matt is an Investment Operations Analyst for Thrivent Financial in Minneapolis, Minnesota.



Pig Dinner 2018





Keynote Speaker,
Wes Cole '61 (left),
being introduced by
the toastmaster,
Micheal D.K. Owen
'73 (right) at the
110th Norris Pig
Dinner

Silver Owls

Blaine D. Deutch '95
Michael K. Finarty '95
Ahmad Haseeb '95
Adam N. Jacobs '96
Darin J. Johnson '96
Matthew T. Kenny '96
Troy W. Leekley '92
Michael J. Jupo '95
Jarrold R. Pauling '96
Anthony M. Schallau '95
Chad R. Sussex '96
Paul D. Toppin '95



Jarrold Pauling and Adam Jacobs receiving their Silver Owl award at Pig Dinner

Gold Owls



Tom Waterman, Bill McElrath, and Harrison Cass receiving their Gold Owl awards at Pig Dinner

R. James Abbott '70
Harrison E. Cass '70
Tim J. Feeley '70
Robert J. Hoffman '70
John R. Krantz '70
William W. McElrath IV '71
Stephen R. Messimer '71
Garry L. Norris '69
Mark L. Penkhus '71
Bruce W. Reynolds '71
Daniel D. Smith '70
Steven E. Ternoey '71
Richard J. Treharne '71
Thomas C. Waterman '70

Sires and Sons



(L-R): Jason Pauling '94, Caden Pauling '21, Hunter Brown '21, David Brown '86 (Purdue University), Carter Chambers '21, Tim Chambers '88

AAA Scholarship Recipients

- Stephen McMahon '20
- Quinn Celske '20
- Justin Fischbach '20
- Alexander Bowler '21
- Carter Chambers '21
- Nicholas Chase '21
- Thomas Paul '21
- Caden Pauling '21
- Christopher Rodriguez '21
- Matthew Scott '21
- William Wehrspann '21
- Chase Byrnes '21
- Parker Rodenberg '21

James Hildebrand White Star Pledge Award



Spring 2017:
Max Kiley (left)
Electrical Engineering
Barrington, IL
2020

Fall 2017:
Jake Lawler (right)
Ag Business
Mokena, IL
2021

Byron V. Toot Scholarship Recipients

Kyle Geolat
Supply Chain Management
Eden Prairie, MN
2018

Eric Bergquist
Supply Chain Management
Bartlett, IL
2019

Daniel Montemurro
Psychology
Cary, IL
2020
Treasurer

Ty Williams
Supply Chain Management
Plymouth, MN
2020
Recording Secretary

Matt Scott
Finance
Des Moines, IA
2021



(L-R): Ty Williams, Daniel Montemurro, Eric Bergquist, Kyle Geolat.
Not pictured: Matt Scott

Richard D. McCormick Four Year Fiji Award

This year, brother Dick McCormick sponsored the “Four Year Fiji” award. In recognition of what Dick received from his Alpha Iota Fiji experience, he has always given back at the chapter level and national level. At the suggestion of Lynn Schroeder, this year Dick created a \$2,500 endowed scholarship for Alpha Iota’s “Four Year Fiji” winner, the first of which is being awarded at Pig Dinner in April of 2018. Hopefully this award will grow as time goes by.

Kyle Geolat
Supply Chain Management
2018



Allen C. Stelle Award



Lou Filosa
ISU '73



This summer multiple brothers attended the 170th Ekklesia in Dallas, Texas. The undergraduate voting delegates from Alpha Iota served on various committees while in attendance. Austin Sehnert '20 worked on the Amendment of Laws committee, Daniel Montemurro worked on the Credentials committee, and Nick Costello '19 worked on the Permanent Organizations and Resolutions committees. Graduates Lynn Schroeder '76 worked on the Nominations committee, Clark Conover '93 represented William Jewell as their Purple Legionnaire, and Pete Rimsans served as the Parliamentarian for the Ekklesia.

At the awards ceremony Alpha Iota received the Certificate of Academic Achievement, the John Templeton McCarty Chapter Proficiency Award, and a Standout Performance for the Newton D. Baker Social Service Cup. In addition to these awards the chapter was given special recognition for their efforts in the area of Mental Health and Wellness.

In addition to these awards Tom Waldon '79 was elected an Archon Councilor. Congrats Tom!



Pictured left to right: Pete Rimsans '93, Clark Conover '93, Lynn Schroeder '76, Tom Waldon '79, Nick Costello '19, Daniel Montemurro '20, Austin Sehnert '20. Not Pictured: Joe Falk '96, Nick Smock '08

Thank You!

Board of Chapter Advisors	
Caleb Evers '12	President
Larry Vanderpool '62	Finances
Chris Peters '05	PR & Brainstorm
Dustyn Curran '07	Cabinet
Matt Dohrmann '14	Grad Relations & Brotherhood
Travis Dierickx '15	Community Service & House Manager
Max Loebig '16	HR, Philanthropy & Scholarship
Scott Dierickx '11	Risk Mgmt, Tech & Mental Health
Bobby Dunteman '16	Recruitment & Social

Caleb Evers has retired as President of the BCA. Thank you Caleb for your years of hard work.

House Corporation	
Jon Dohrmann '83	President
Stephen Walker '88	Treasurer
Joe Finelli '07	Secretary
Mark Cowan '86	Director
Kevin Shires '05	Director
Andrew Mott '05	Director
Eric Ritland '90	Director
Scott Dierickx '11	Director
Lance Goettsch '13	Director

A big thank you to the House Corporation members who retired this past year, Dave Buck, Bill McElrath, and Joe Price. And welcome to Scott Dierickx '11, Lance Goettsch '13 and Kevin Shires '05.

Brothers who have passed Ad Astra recently

Eldon J. Appling '61
Donald L. Nickerson '49
Mark S. Schipper '78
John E. Voreis '67
Donald C. Clapsaddle '46
H. Robert Hoak '52
Charles H. Logan '74
Jerome P. Lucey '55
John C. Parrott, Jr '43
Keith B. Smith '77
Wallace E. Sorensen '52