



the Alumni Forum



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Iota Alpha Chapter

Homecoming 1998

ISSUE CONTENTS

Page 1

- ▶ Letter from Alumni Secretary

Page 2

- ▶ Schedule of Events
- ▶ Historian's Corner
- ▶ New Alumni

Page 3

- ▶ New Collegiate Members

Page 4

- ▶ PMA Events This Term
- ▶ Phun Sinfonian Photo
- ▶ List of Current Officers

Insert

- ▶ Homecoming Invitation



LETTER FROM ALUMNI SECRETARY

Brother Sinfonian Alumni,

Just what do you think you're doing?!?

Okay, so that's a little direct, and perhaps a little harsh. But I'll bet it caught your attention. Nevertheless, it is exactly what I want to know. What have you been doing lately? What exciting things have been going on in your life?

There seems to be a large number of names on the list of alumni addresses that I have been given that I am unable to recognize. This is, of course, to be expected, as I was initiated only last term. Still, I wondered if anyone else could do a better job of identifying the various alumni that I could not. I embarked on an experiment to see if I could track down a Sinfonian who was well versed on the many names contained in the list. Four names were chosen at random, and I asked various active members if they recognized these people. No one could. Help us remember you.

You may have noticed that this issue of the *Forum* is a bit thin. I put in as much as I could, but am short on ideas. What's missing? Alumni news. Your stuff. What else would you want to know about but what other alumni are doing? What else would other alumni want to know about but what you are doing? Let us know, so we can let everyone else know. Help us stay connected.

There are lots of other ways to get involved, too! You can subscribe to the Alumni e-mail listserve (check out www.sinfonia.net to find out how) or to the new Alumni Newsletter, *Pathways* (write to Michael Schwarz, 511-6 Harding Rd., Freehold, NJ 07728 to get it). You can also join one of the Alumni Associations around the country. Currently, four exist, and they are located in Washington, DC; Philadelphia, PA; Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX; and Potsdam, NY (check the listserve or mail Lyrecrest for more information). Help Sinfonia thrive.

Once a Sinfonian, Always a Sinfonian, Long Live Sinfonia has oft only meant that you can still call yourself a Sinfonian after graduation. Indeed, now you can stay involved in Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia until the end of your days. Please keep in contact with the chapter, and please stay involved!

Alumni are our most important and most often neglected resource. Help us find you again! Get involved! Let us know how you're doing! Help!

Yours in Fraternity,
Aaron "Opus" Decker
Alumni Secretary, Iota Alpha Chapter
SLIBFS!



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

October

9 – 8pm; 11 – 3pm: ASO I
 10 – HOMECOMING!
 10 – 8:30pm: Alma Choir
 Homecoming Concert
 22-25 – Lyrecrest Retreat
 29 – 8pm: James Dapogny's
 Chicagoans Jazz trio

November

14 - Ritual
 19, 20, 21 – 8pm; 21, 22 – 3pm:
 ASO and ACDC present *The
 Nutcracker*
 ? – PMA/SAI Sing Vivaldi's *Gloria*

December

4, 5 – 8pm; 6 – 3pm: Alma Choirs
 Festival of Carols
 10 – 8pm: Alma College Jazz
 Ensemble
 11 – 8pm: Kiltie Marching Band

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

Brothers, Alumni, Friends,

Well, another year has come and gone, and with it, another seven Iota Alpha Chapter members have joined your ranks. In addition, seven new brothers, myself included, have joined the collegiate ranks of the Iota Alpha Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. As with any organization that renews its membership through the recruitment and addition of new members, we stand in danger of losing some of our chapter's history because no one knows the stories that constitute Iota Alpha's history. As historian I have discovered we have tons of pictures, posters, and ΦMA memorabilia, but all too often I have encountered memorabilia for which no reason can be found except for unapparent "sentimental value." In order to do my job better, I am asking the alumni of the Iota Alpha Chapter to mail me (at the address listed on *the Alumni Forum*, ATTN.: Historian) stories, anecdotes, and/or reflections on your memories of what it meant and means to be an Iota Alpha Sinfonian. My goal is to use your stories to start a written history of the Iota Alpha Chapter of Sinfonia, and report on my progress in the Historian's Corner portion of the Alumni Forum. Thank you for your help and assistance.

Fraternally,
 Brother Antochius Epiphanes
 Historian, Iota Alpha Chapter
 OAS-AAS-LLS!

SO LONG, FAREWELL, AUF WIDERSEHEN, GOODBYE!

We'd like to congratulate our recent graduates! We regret losing their presence in the "Alma College Bubble," but look forward to seeing them again many times in the years to come! Their names are listed here, with a brief description of the current state of affairs, or plans for the future.

Neil "Goliath" Hunt is now working at Alma College for the Computer and Media Services Department, and is considering graduate school in the future.

Dan "Priest Judas" Johnston will be attending Wayne State University School of medicine this coming fall. He's not sure what he will specialize in yet, as everything looks interesting!

Mike "Walker" Kowalski plans to first establish himself in the computer industry, finding a decent job where he can get some good experience. Then after about three years, he plans to apply to the FBI Forensics department

Tim "Hobbes" Marsh is working for Ford Motor Company as an analyst for Marketing and Sales. "The view from my cube on the 31st floor of the Renaissance Center is great!" He lives in Westland, MI and plans to be there for at least a year.

Mark "Conson" Petrocelli says, "Hail brothers! Now that I've joined the ranks of the alumni, I guess I'll have to get employed. Well, hopefully you can come hear me singing in Orlando at the Walt Disney World resort in the near future... I'll keep you posted. OAS AAS LLS!"

Scott "Plato" Sanderson has been sending resumes around to various companies in search of a position in public relations, journalism, broadcasting, or higher education. Right now, he is pursuing a possible position as manager of a radio station.

CJ "Shekaniah" Stapels will begin graduate study in the department of Biomedical Engineering at the State University of New Jersey, Rutgers, in September. He's currently involved in the Masters program, but may continue on for his Doctorate.

Best of luck to all!

GET A LOAD OF THESE NIPS!

With the loss of so many great members, it is necessary to replenish the membership each year by taking a probationary class. This past term, six great guys became Sinfonians through our chapter. We've asked that they tell you a little about themselves, so that you'll know a little more about them when you meet them at Homecoming this year!

Aaron "Opus" Decker is a physics major from Hamburg, PA. He can't seem to keep himself in the science building, though, and ends up spending all his free time in the music building, whether it be practicing the clarinet, bassoon, recorder, or sax, singing, muddling through a song on the piano, or composing. He also loves the theatre, and played Sancho Panza in last winter's production of *Man of La Mancha*. He plans to study abroad in Vienna this January.

Steve "George" Nadeau is a sophomore biochemistry major who hopes to work in molecular genetics and do research in gene therapy. His various activities include working for the Almanian and the yearbook, English tutoring, and playing sax in band (along with guitar and keyboard for fun).

Mike "Priapus" Petterson is a pre-law Junior at Alma from Sarasota, FL. This is his eighth year playing the French Horn, which he does in Alma Symphony Orchestra. His other hobbies include computers and sailing.

Joel "Antochius Epiphanes" Sandersen is a senior this year, and is majoring in history and economics. In addition to Sinfonia, he's involved in many other Alma College activities, including ALA, Phi Beta Kappa, and Ambassadors. He's planning on attending graduate school next year. "I conclusion, I would like to thank the Academy..."

Daryl "Sneezy" Showers is a Business Administration major with an economics minor. In addition to PMA, he is involved in ACUB, Glee Club, and Ambassadors. He likes money, clothes, singing, rollerblading, and booze. Er, I mean, shoes.

Keith "Exar Kuhn" Suppes is starting his first senior year at Alma this term. He's a dual major in Computer Science and International Business, with a Spanish minor. As a result, he's going to be at Alma for 5 years total. He currently sings bass with the Men's Glee Club and in addition to improving his singing ability, He'd like to eventually learn to play the guitar or the piano. For fun, he likes playing computer games, Magic, and just hanging out with people in the Sinfonia room.



ΦMA EVENTS THIS TERM

Our chapter is doing a lot of events this term! Let me tell you about some of them.

Homecoming is on the weekend of October 10th this year. Your invitation should be enclosed. We have a lot of stuff planned, and a whole bunch of time left over to just sit around and be social. Also, there's a whole lot of stuff we found in the room that we'd like you to identify! We hope to see you there!

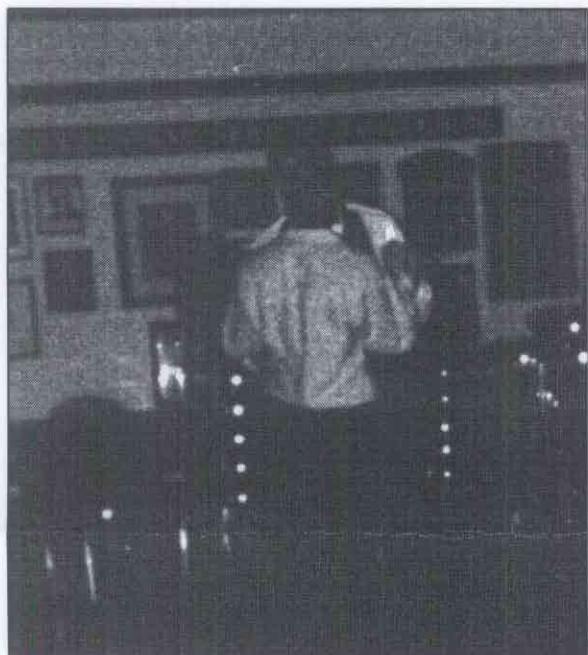
On Thursday, October 22, the whole chapter is heading down to Lyrecrest (our national headquarters) in Evansville, Indiana... and we're not coming back until Sunday the 25th! Brother Brian "Retriever" Martin (now working for Lyrecrest) has promised us a heck of a good time, including learning some of our fraternity's history. If you'd like to come with us, or would like directions to get there, please send us mail.

The ritual this term will be on November 14. Please mail the chapter for more information.

The chapter's Christmas Concert this year is being done jointly with Sigma Alpha Iota. Included in the concert will be a performance of Antonio Vivaldi's magnificent choral work *Gloria*. We're already hard at work on this piece which, along with more popular Christmas tunes, will be performed in the Alma College Chapel. We're not sure of the date yet, but if you'd like to come to the concert, please write to us and we will give you more information.

Many more things are in planning right now. A battle of the bands rock concert is to be done, sponsored by PMA and several other campus groups. We also are going to do some musical instrument demos for a nearby school. This looks like it will be a great term for the Iota Alpha Chapter!

PHUN SINPHONIA PHOTO



Brother Tim "Hobbes" Martin is seen here dancing with Brother CJ "Shekeniah" Staples at the former's recent wedding. Congratulations to Tim, as well as to Brother Ken "Moses" Marable on their recent marriages!

CURRENT OFFICERS

Officer elections were held at the end of last year for the current year. The results are:

Elected Executive Board Offices

President – Andy "Loki" Tallman

Vice President – Mat "Pablo" Dube

Secretary – Keith "Exar Kuhn" Suppes

Treasurer –

Fraternal Education Officer – Joey "Wallrus" Martin

Elected Non-Executive Board Offices

Alumni Secretary – Aaron "Opus" Decker

Historian – Joel "Antochius Epiphanes" Sandersen

Warden –

Appointed Offices

Music Director – Aaron "Opus" Decker

Room Manager – Mike "Priapus" Petterson

Publicity Officer – Daryl "Sneezy" Showers

Green Room Chairman –

Committeemen

Kent "Phi-Mufasa" LaCroix

Steve "George" Nadeau

Those of you who are keeping track of the fraternity and are paying close attention will have noticed that three offices are not filled and that three member names are missing. Mike Slater, Jeff Potter, and Pat Carmody have decided to resign from their offices and leave Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. If you would like more information on their leaving, feel free to contact them or the chapter.

THE MUSIC FRATERNITY HAS NO MUSIC

That’s right! Just like the emperor’s clothes, our chapter of Phi Mu Alpha is lacking something which is rather important. Over the summer, our stereo has decided to stop functioning. In particular, we think that it is the amplifier which has decided to evade our every attempt to play any music. Sound come out, but it is like a whisper.

It seems, therefore, that the only sensible thing to do is purchase a new one. Unfortunately, our funds are limited, and with only ten members, it is doubtful that dues alone will provide enough money for us to both be able to buy a stereo and afford all of our other many necessary expenses this term. As our biggest supply of monetary support is from our beloved alumni, we need to ask for donations at this time. Any money you can send us would be extremely helpful for our stereo fund, or toward any number of other things we need (or want) to buy this term. Thanks!

REMEMBER WHEN...

Our Historian recently found a small piece of a pizza box with some writing on it which we found to be rather amusing. I thought I would share it with you, in the hopes that someone might remember it and get a little chuckle.

Front: Winter 1992 – Chris Hunter ordered pizza with a stuffed-up nose after a long and dreary bylaw-ridden general business meeting. Apparently the pizza boy wasn’t up on his greek letters.

Back: Thi Bu Alpha – Bruske Basement

