

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Cornell Reunion Weekend  
June 10-13

## ON THE WEB

How to Register at  
[www.rockledge.org](http://www.rockledge.org)

To have full access to our web site, you'll need a username and password.

To get them, go to our web site and click on First Time Login instructions. When prompted, enter your Member ID, which can be found above your name and address on this newsletter.

## MAKE A GIFT

Our alumni association relies solely on your contributions to stay active! Please make a donation to the annual fund in support of our efforts.

There are three ways to make a gift:

1. Online at [www.rockledge.org](http://www.rockledge.org).
2. By calling 800-975-6699.
3. By mailing a check payable to "Iota Chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi, Inc." to:

Rockledge  
Alumni Relations Office  
P.O. Box 7007  
Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007

## OMEGA CHAPTER

Since publication of our last newsletter we have learned of the deaths of the following brothers:

William Corbett '41  
William Duboc '44  
Samuel Wait '52  
Robert Dunbar '53  
Robert White III '57 (5/30/09)  
Richard Franke '59  
David Twomey '60  
Charles Jones '63  
Bill Williams '67  
Glenn Corsini '75  
Jeffrey Murphy '89  
Brian O'Reilly '05 (12/18/06)

# The IOTA SIG



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[www.rockledge.org](http://www.rockledge.org)

SPRING 2010

## OUTGOING PRESIDENT

### *A Change of Leadership at Rockledge*

After serving as President of the Iota Chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi, Inc. for more than six years, it is with mixed emotions that I announce my resignation. I am stepping down because I need to redirect my energy toward personal and professional development. Or, more simply, I need a break!

I am extremely pleased to announce that my close friend and pledge brother, **Scott Beicke '97**, has agreed to take over the role of president until his term on the board expires later this year. Scott has demonstrated exemplary commitment to Rockledge during his tenure on the board and his experience in the financial industry will continue to be invaluable in guiding our fiscal strategy.

### **Capital Campaign Continues to Climb**

Rockledge continues to make great strides. Our capital campaign is nearing \$900,000 in commitments despite economic conditions. Even if the campaign were to end today, we would be able to make much needed repairs and improvements. Therefore, I already consider the campaign to be a success even though we are still pushing toward our current goal of \$1.25 million. Furthermore, last summer we installed a beautiful fence along the gorge to increase the safety of our property and in October we installed a new dishwasher. I am extremely proud to have seen such improvements in Iota Chapter's physical and financial conditions during the past decade.

I have put so much of myself into Rockledge that, even though I will remain on the board as an at-large director, I feel like I am leaving a part of myself behind. However, I am comforted by my confidence that Brother Beicke will continue to build upon our successes. His most difficult task will likely be recruiting the next corporation president. I encourage all alumni brothers to consider the position or, at a minimum, assist the board by recommending brothers you think would be a good fit.



*Outgoing President Rich Grousset '98*

### **I've Gained Many Things from Volunteering**

Volunteering for Rockledge has enriched my life in many ways. I have connected with many interesting Rockledge alumni, dating back to the graduating class of 1943, and many undergraduate members, some of whom have become good friends. Furthermore, when I first volunteered, I had only five years of professional experience and no experience managing an organization. However, the knowledge and confidence I gained from leading the board ultimately led to my decision to start my own business. So, whether you are retired or just starting your career, all you require are an enthusiasm for Rockledge and a desire to continue a century-old tradition.

When rushing Rockledge in January of 1995, I was told that I would get from the fraternity what I put into it. It seemed like a cliché at the time, but my involvement has truly made me a better man. Thank you to everyone who has supported me, and Rockledge, during the past six years. I cannot name you all here, but you know who you are. I am also eternally grateful to those who first guided me into the Mystic Circle and to **Dave Poggi '97** for recruiting me to the corporation board.

In Phi,

**Rich Grousset '98**

## NEWS & NOTES FROM THE ACTIVE CHAPTER

### Academics: Rockledge GPA Ranks among Top on Campus

For the fifth year in a row, Alpha Sigma Phi finished with an overall GPA. in the top third of nearly 50 fraternities on campus. Continuing from the spring semester, I am working hard to compile books from brothers at the end of their semester coursework, to store in reserve for future active brothers. My goal is to help improve our academic standing relative to other fraternities on campus, as well as enhancing our ability in future years to maintain a high GPA.

– Rani Brooks, Academic

### Brothers Engage in Philanthropy Efforts

The Rockledge brothers performed a dunking booth with the Alpha Phi sorority to raise funds for art education in Africa. It was a fun event and done on behalf of a worthy cause. Additionally, Rockledge sponsored a “Battle of the Bands” at the Nines in Collegetown that raised more than \$600 for cancer research. And Rockledge was a strong participant at the annual “Collegetown Cleanup,” led by the Interfraternity Council. This semester, we are looking forward to making a difference in the community and build on the considerable success of the fall semester.

– Jeffrey Roshko, Philanthropy Director

### Chapter Welcomes 14 Pledges through Spring Rush

We had an extremely successful spring recruitment this year. Rockledge was able to recruit a diverse pledge class of 14 men, featuring varsity athletes and musicians. All the planning way work of the fall semester set the table for the success of 2010 spring rush. We look forward to welcoming these men into Rockledge.

–Zachary Zaranka, Recruitment Director

### Brothers Meet with IFC for “Call to Action”

Tristan Owens, HJP, and Recruitment Director, Zachary Zaranka attended what is known as the Call to Action Summit, a conference hosted by the IFC, where they discussed ways of achieving values-based recruitment and brotherhood development. They were able to bring what they discussed back to the chapter. “I found the discussions about recruitment to be particularly informative and productive because they brought to ways of getting to know the individuals that we recruit well, prior to handing out a bid”.

–Tristan Owens, Vice-President

### Outside Rockledge

The following brothers are involved in various campus activities. **Douglas Durant '11** of is the president of Cornell Concert

Commission, and is now serving in that role for his first full semester. **Albert Monina '12** is an a cappella singer for Key Elements. **Patrick Demarle '11** is a diver for the Cornell diving team. **Karl Volkmann '12** is a member of Cornell's varsity crew team. **Douglas Jones '12** is member of the water polo team.

### Staying Competitive in Intramurals

This semester, Rockledge will field competitive teams in a variety of sports, including basketball, water polo, hockey, and volleyball. We are excited about what the brothers and pledges together, will accomplish on the athletic field this spring.

–Douglas Jones, Athletic Chairman

### From the President

The brothers are thrilled to be back at the House for another semester working together again to continue improving our chapter. There is a high level of enthusiasm to make this semester a special one. On behalf of the chapter, I would like to extend an open invitation to all alumni to visit the House. My number is 845-797-0224, and you should always feel free to call me to coordinate visits to the House or to check in with questions about the condition and progress of Rockledge.

–Tyrone Stevens, Chapter President

## FROM THE ARCHIVES...

We love coming across great photos from our chapter's archives, including this one of guys from the Class of 2002 before a formal. Thanks to **Brock Tuczynski '02** for sharing this picture at [www.rockledge.org](http://www.rockledge.org).

Do YOU have great pictures from your era? Send them to us at [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com) and we'll feature them on our site.



## ALUMNI COORDINATOR

### Tired of the Same Old, Same Old?

#### Help Our New Alumni Coordinator Gather Unique Content for The Iota Sig

By Jeff Snedeker '78

As the new alumni coordinator for the Iota Sig, I'm very interested in hearing from other alumni about what you'd like to see in upcoming issues. If you're like me, the Iota Sig gets a quick glance, and a quick trip to the circular file (or recycling bin) if it looks like the "same old same old." Well, here's your chance to help us make this rag worthy of your attention!

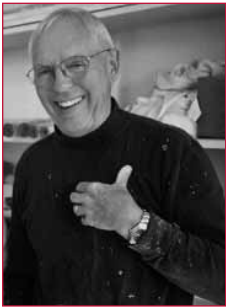
Send me ideas about content, articles, bios – anything YOU'd like to read about or hear more about. If you (yes, YOU) don't send in ideas, you're likely to get more of the same. I'd love to fill the Iota Sig with news about all the unique and exciting things that our Rockledge alumni are up to. You can email me at [jsnedek2@twcny.rr.com](mailto:jsnedek2@twcny.rr.com).

This issue has an article about one interesting and unique alum, **Ken Keoughan '58**. We happened to learn about Ken's woodturning school by chance, and thought others would like to know more about him and what he's doing. If this kind of article appeals to you, send in your ideas about whom we might feature in an upcoming issue (including yourself!).

## ALUMNI PROFILE

### Turning to Woodturning in Retirement

#### Brother Ken Keoughan '58 Operates Successful Woodturning School in Midcoast Maine



What do you think you might do after you retire? For many, thoughts might turn to the golf course, a trip overseas, or perhaps just a life of leisure. But former Miami advertising executive

**Ken Keoughan '58** had something else in mind: he founded a wood turning school! His original vision was to create a school to which students with little to no

woodturning experience could come to learn and develop woodturning skills and knowledge. Key to this concept was the idea that a student could just walk in and have state of the art equipment and tools on which to learn. Keoughan's motto is: "All you gotta do is sign up and show up."

The Woodturning School, which he founded in Damariscotta, Maine in 2004, has attracted a wide array students, including many who've never worked with a piece of wood before. The school is housed in a Swiss chalet-style former cabinet shop with 11 foot ceilings and lots

of natural light. After 5 years, the school's professional instructors have taught 178 classes, with students working on their six professional Oneway 1640 lathes for nearly 7860 student hours.

Ken's own work has been widely shown throughout the northeastern US in galleries and juried shows, and he has demonstrated at a number of professional symposia. To learn more about Ken and his school, go to [www.woodturningschool.org](http://www.woodturningschool.org).

### Send Us Your Email Address!

Thanks to the help of our alumni volunteers, 114 more alumni brothers have received our eLetter the past few months. For those of you who have been receiving our electronic communications for the first time, we hope you enjoy them! But, we're still missing email addresses for 248 of you.

Having a high percentage of email addresses is a critical advantage to our alumni association. Why? It saves us money on paper and printing, it enables us to communicate with you more frequently, and it allows us to put you back in touch with long lost Rockledge brothers.

We will never sell, trade or give away your email address – ever. Your email address will be stored in our secure database and used solely for Rockledge communications.

So please update your email address today to stay informed on the latest news and activities from Iota Chapter undergraduates and alumni. You'll also receive electronic reminders when we're getting ready to publish an issue of The Iota Sig so that you can submit your latest news and photos for publication.

**You can send your email address directly to our alumni relations firm at [feedback@affinityconnection.com](mailto:feedback@affinityconnection.com) (mention Rockledge) or update it online by logging in to [www.rockledge.org](http://www.rockledge.org).**

## ALUMNI UPDATES

### '60s

Sally, the wife of **Steve Tipton '61** reports "Steve was diagnosed with Primary Progressive Aphasia (a Frontal Temporal Lobe Dementia diagnosis) 10 years ago. As a result, he has lost language...ironic for a former English teacher... and his memory for past events is very poor. He hangs onto a couple of things...the ability to take long walks (3-4 hours) and not get lost, and he enjoys Sudoku. So, not good news but... 'it is what it is.'"

You can write to Steve at 22 Farm Rd., Sherborn, MA 01770.

### '80s

#### Marco Sodi '80

(27 Pembridge Crescent, London W11 3DS, United Kingdom; sodim@vss.com) 2009 saw the arrival of number 5 for the London-based Sodi family! Ariane and I are joined by our children Nadia (13), Isabella (12), Maximilian (10), Brando (8) and Sienna (1).

#### Sonny Ginsberg '87

(400 Forest Ave., Oak Park, IL 60302; sginsberg@ginsbergjacobs.com) I formed Ginsberg Jacobs, LLC this past June, as an 11-lawyer boutique transaction firm, specializing in commercial real estate, hospitality (now I wish I had taken those wine-tasting courses at Stadler!) middle-market corporate and tax credit financing. We've finally escaped, for good, from supersized national firm practice. Come see me if any of you are in Chitown.

### '00s

#### Andrew Bonfiglio '03

(Calle del Castillo 22, 3d, Madrid, Spain; arbonfiglio@yahoo.com) I have recently graduated from IE Business School in Madrid and am currently working on a start-up that will be based out of NYC and Madrid and with operations in South Africa. I would love to get in touch with anyone who has Leadership Development and Training expertise, NGO experience, or a Corporate Social Responsibility

background. I will be visiting NYC in February and hope to catch up with several brothers from the '98, '99, '00, and '01 pledge classes. Also, a few of us will be heading to Princeton to see Cornell hockey. This reminded me of one of the best weekends with my pledge class when about 8 of us went to Lake Placid to watch the ECACs. We lost in OT to Harvard, but the memories from that weekend are still great!

#### What's New with You?

We want to feature your news, updates and photos in the next edition of *The Iota Sig*. Ideas include:

- News of recent weddings, babies, career changes, etc.
- Best memories, stories and pictures from your fraternity days
- Recent reunions you've had with Rockledge brothers

You can submit your content online at [www.rockledge.org](http://www.rockledge.org), or by emailing it to [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com).

We're looking for YOUR best Rockledge photos. See page 2 for how to submit them for an upcoming publication.



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**Iota Chapter of  
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**A Change of Leadership at Rockledge!  
Read the Details Inside...**

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