

## UPCOMING EVENT

### All Classes Iota Reunion and Iota Association Meeting

Saturday, May 28, 2011

Iota Lodge, Gambier, Ohio  
3 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Beverages and Cookout  
All classes are invited to attend; housing will be available in North Leonard.

Stay tuned to  
[www.iotaassociation.org](http://www.iotaassociation.org) for details.

# The OWL



Iota Chapter of Psi Upsilon Fraternity at Kenyon College  
Gambier, Ohio • October 2010 • [www.iotaassociation.org](http://www.iotaassociation.org)

## CHAPTER NEWS

### Making the Best of Our Suspension Iota Chapter Sets Sights to Return to Kenyon in 2013

It is sobering at best! As many of you know, the Iota Chapter has been suspended for three years. We are pushing hard to maintain and build on our momentum to bring the Iota Chapter back to Kenyon's campus by spring 2013. We have a lot of support from Kenyon Dean of Students, Hank Toutain, and from his staff and the Kenyon community at large.

Kenyon is an amazing place today in so many ways! Brother **Stephen Christy '71** recently traveled to Kenyon for the Philander Chase Corporation meeting. This organization works to protect surrounding farmland through a conservation trust in order to preserve Kenyon's rural setting.

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It is a brilliant idea and Brother Christy's work is in no small way helpful to our Iota's prospects! It is no fluke that Kenyon was named the most beautiful campus in America. Brother Christy's work has built respect for the legacies of Psi U at Kenyon.

## THANK YOU

All of us in the Iota Association are very grateful for your generous contributions in response to our recent letter. To date, we've had contributions to the general fund from Brothers:

Belt '51  
Fleischhauer '62  
Kallstrom '73  
Lynch '54  
McKeller '66  
Moore '85  
Musser '94  
Rathman '48  
Saltus '64  
Thomas '49  
Vallera '51

We'd also like to thank Brother Brightman '90, who generously gave to the **Lodge Renovation Fund**.

## PROPERTY UPDATE

### Change and the Iota Lodge How the Lodge has Changed with Each Generation

Our Iota Lodge is 72 years old! Women and time have changed social life at Kenyon. And over its life, Iota Alumni oversight of the Lodge has been hit or miss as older brothers passed on and few replacements lived nearby. Use of the Lodge has also changed with each generation as Kenyon changed, but for many of us old-timers the Lodge was not used that much. Now its use is constant and it has become inadequate as well as in need of substantial repair and renovation.

The Iota Association had prepared a major campaign and mailing to launch a fundraising drive to upgrade our Lodge, restore

**NO IMAGE**

w/ Lodge.jpg

CAPTION: Our Iota Lodge is 72 years old!

it, and modify it to better suit the times. Unfortunately, our Chapter's behavior over the course of four years caused us to delay that mailing more than once. Nevertheless, and despite the Chapter's current suspension, that work must still be done if we are to be viable again at Kenyon!

Stay tuned for more information.

## ON THE WEB

Are You Registered on Our Web Site?

If not, get a username and password today for full access. Go to [www.iotaassociation.org](http://www.iotaassociation.org) for more information. You can find your Member ID above your name and address on this newsletter.

## FUNDRAISING UPDATE

### Why Put the Horse Before the Cart?

As mentioned on page 1, we are looking to undergo a capital fundraising effort to renovate and modernize the Lodge. Our current strategy is to raise the money and commence work so that by the time of Iota's reinstatement at Kenyon, the Lodge would be ready – or nearly so. This would vastly help our chances of a successful Rush and an invigorated membership!

The more conservative approach would be to get the Iota Chapter back on campus first. The flaw in this strategy is one of reality. The

*“Our current strategy is to raise the money and commence work so that by the time of Iota's reinstatement at Kenyon, the Psi U Lodge would be ready - or nearly so.”*

extent of needed work on the Lodge in every category is such that it would be considered a construction site by Ohio statute and would thus be fenced off and off-limits to the

public, or the Chapter, until the Certificate of Occupancy is issued by the state. The only exceptions would be periodic inspection visits monitored by the contractor.

Many of us have warm and fuzzy memories of the Lodge (which is evident on page 4 of this newsletter). However, like it or not, starting with the wiring and going through the whole structure, the modern Building Codes see it differently. Once work began, all practicable issues would need to be reconciled to code.

## THANK YOU!

### To Our Recent Contributors... *Times Change, but Brotherhood Does Not*

I have pitched my remarks so far with our recent contributors in mind. You are in many ways our pioneers in that you are willing to stand up for Iota Brotherhood. Far from traditionalists, you are activists – every bit the first men at Kenyon to aspire to Psi U. Imagine, our Iota Chapter founded on the eve

of the Civil War in 1860! And here we need that vision again!

We owe you all and all our Brothers a sense of who we are on the Iota Association. You will find that Iota '48 and Iota '90 are not hidebound or stuck in the past. Times change, but brotherhood does not.

### Make a Gift

Please show your support of our general fund. There are three ways to make a gift:

- Online at [www.iotaassociation.org](http://www.iotaassociation.org).
- By calling 800-975-6699.
- By making a check payable to “Iota Association of Psi Upsilon” to the return address on this newsletter.

## CHANGING TIMES

### What if the Iota Came Back to Campus as a Co-Ed Chapter?

As much as we revere our own experiences, each new freshmen class changes any chapter. We have recently mused among ourselves about taking Kenyon's lead and opening up the Iota to women. Brother **Kim Smith** is an Iota brother and was, until a few months ago, the Chapter's Alumni Advisor. She and her husband Tracy did so much with and for our young brothers to try to keep the Chapter on campus.

What if we return to campus and then

become co-ed or come back to campus as a co-ed Chapter? Psi U International is fine with co-ed chapters. Kenyon women are fantastic and their excellence would boost our Chapter. It's a thought worth discussing. Nothing has been decided. WHAT DO OUR BROTHERS THINK? Share your thoughts on the message board at [www.iotaassociation.org](http://www.iotaassociation.org).

### Pioneer Brothers

Getting back to the “Pioneer” Brothers, in the spirit of being open to the future, you loyal contributors are the guardians of our legacy as well as the pioneers of our reinstatement. We can restore Psi U at Kenyon. We can save our beloved Iota Chapter. Your loyalty has proven that. With your help, the help of all of our Iota Brotherhood and the continued drive of our Iota Association Executive Committee, there will be an event surpassing only Brother Wilson's Alumni Spring Bash! to look forward to in 2013!

## REMEMBER WHEN?

### “It Was My Fraternity Brothers Who Stuck By Me and Remained Good Friends”

Thank you to **Kel Cohen '57** for submitting the following...

I entered Kenyon in the fall of 1953 and found Psi U the most attractive place for me. There were great guys, they reminded me of my prep school in Massachusetts--in short I felt at home. Drinking, singing, bird-dogging other guys' dates on weekends were my favorite activities. I was kicked out of ROTC

for arriving in class on Monday morning still drunk. I loved my teachers – especially Denny Sutcliffe in various English classes. I had no direction and finally, after two years, Dean Bailey recommended to my parents that I join the military. After a summer in Europe, I decided to go to medical school and thanks

to Frank Bailey I was accepted at Columbia with the condition that I maintain a B average – I did better than that, got into med school and ended up a medical school professor of surgery doing lots of research. Kenyon even honored me with an honorary Ph.D. which I cherish to this day.

## ON THE WEB

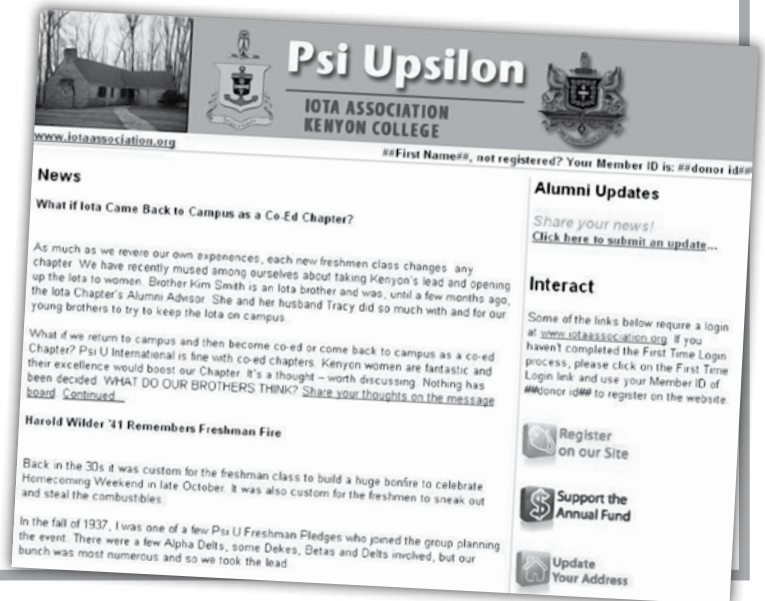
### Are You Receiving Our Monthly eLetter?

If not, it's because we don't have your email address!

We're missing email addresses for nearly 300 of you! Please help us to communicate with you more often and more cost effectively by updating your email address. With the cost of a postage stamp at 44 cents, your participation will help us to save money on print communications so that we can allocate funds to more vital needs.

Be among the first to know the latest Iota news, headlines and event details by updating your email address today. You can update your email address by sending it to [feedback@affinityconnection.com](mailto:feedback@affinityconnection.com) (mention Psi U at Kenyon) or online at [www.iotaassociation.org](http://www.iotaassociation.org).

Our email and mailing database is used solely for Iota communications, and will never be traded or sold. Thank you for your cooperation!



## OLD PHOTO ALBUM



We need your help to preserve the best moments in our chapter's history that have been captured on film.

Send the best photos from your era to us at [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com) (mention Psi U at Kenyon) or upload them at [www.iotaassociation.org](http://www.iotaassociation.org). We'll feature the best submissions in upcoming newsletters and on our web site.

**In this photo:** Tree cutting, Wassail 1999. Back Row: Ronan Remandaban, Will Sieck Middle Row: Tim Troha, Erol Tan, Paulo Ribeiro, Rich Rainey, John Zavala; Front Row: Andrew Garcia ('98), Graham Thomas, Mike Ditullio and Josh Prime.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

### Class of '41 Alum Remembers Freshman Fire

Thanks to **Harold Wilder '41** for submitting the following...

Back in the '30s it was custom for the freshman class to build a huge bonfire to celebrate Homecoming Weekend in late October. It was also custom for the freshmen to sneak out and steal the combustibles.

In the fall of 1937, I was one of a few Psi U freshman pledges who joined the group planning the event. There were a few Alpha Deltas, some Dekes, Betas and Delts involved, but our bunch was most numerous and so we took the lead. As I remember, our delegation was composed of John Tehan, Jim Hunter, Rudy Ahrens, Bill Davis and me.

Somebody suggested we depart from custom and actually ask for burnable materials. We tried it, and it worked. The townies were shocked, but obviously pleased. They cooperated with enthusiasm and imagination. I remember one fellow offered 24 8 x 8 bridge ties that were lying in his backyard, then offered the use of his truck to

transport them and other "stuff."

In town (Mt. Vernon), a builder was in the process of remodeling a tavern that had been known as "The Log Cabin," I believe. Lining the inside walls had been some 8 or 10 "bark-on" logs about 20 feet long. With a different decor in mind, the logs were useless to him. He actually helped us cut them in half, then load them onto the truck.

The lumberyard had a huge pile of slash-trimmings and broken junk lumber. That made a truckload by itself.

We gathered all this and more at the "Y" in the path in front of Old Kenyon and started to build.

We made an octagon of bridge ties. Since the ties were 10 feet long, so were the sides of the hexagon. We stood the 10-inch logs on end in the corners. The longer slash pieces were nailed to the logs to secure them and

create an enclosure for all the short stuff.

We finished all this sometime Thursday evening, then posted an all-night watch to keep rascals from starting the fire early.

Friday evening Homecoming festivities began! Alumni were all about. We had a bit of trouble getting a fire started, but when at last it was burning - WOW! What a fire! It actually was still smoldering late Sunday afternoon. But Friday night was nearly disaster. Somebody discovered that the varnish on the window trim in the Old Kenyon dormitory was smoking! The Gambler Volunteer firemen came and hosed it (Old Kenyon) down, and cooled off our fire, but let it continue with less fury.

For the rest of my four years, there was no Freshman Fire at Homecoming. Then, of course, we had this war, and I don't know if the tradition was ever revived.

625-008

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