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Iota A Province

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Letter from the President—submitted by Tracey Wygal



Dear Sisters,

This year is off to a great start. We had our first meeting September 24th, with five possible affiliates in attendance! Our chapter growth will skyrocket this year, not only in numbers but I hope in spirit as well!

The calendar of chapter events this year provides opportunities for sisterhood, music and charity. All of which

are great things in life that Sigma Alpha Iota provides to its members. One thing to note of special interest is our Music Education grant available to area teachers. Applications have been sent out to many professionals in the music field--spreading the word of the good work and great contribution that Sigma Alpha Iota is providing to the music field and especially in our school music programs.

I look forward to this year and hope you do as well! And remember to check out our wonderful website, maintained by Larissa Elliott, for updated information.

Wishing you the best,

Tracey

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Grand Opening



View pictures of our trip to NH at www.geocities.com/saiwincalumpics

The new National Headquarters building had its grand opening celebration on June 12.

Winchester Alumnae members Tracey Wygal, Patty Eitemiller, and Larissa Elliott made the road trip to Asheville, North Carolina with Iota A Province Officer Deb Volker.

The headquarters building was adorned with many bouquets of red and white roses. Tours of

the building were given while chamber music was performed in the parlor. A ribbon cutting and founders day ceremony was held outside. After the ribbon cutting, a concert was performed at a nearby church, followed by a decadent reception. The entire event was fun for all.

Congratulations to the Fraternity for finally having a home of its own.

Music Giveaway Successful



Jennifer Sharp and Larissa Elliott set up tables at Shenandoah.

The chapter had been collecting donations of music to the point that we accumulated 27 large boxes full of it! Tired of housing the music in attics and garages, we decided the best thing to do with it was to give it away.

We met in June to sort the music into easy to find categories including choral music, band music, piano music, and "antique" music. We got a bit dusty from the boxes, but we enjoyed delicious ice cream sundaes to cool us off.

In July, Shenandoah University hosted a music performance festival including workshops for young student performers. We set up tables and marked the music "free." Students swarmed the tables and by the end of the week we were left with only 7 boxes. The remainder of the music will be donated to SAI's People-to-People project to be given to those in need such as those affected by hurricanes near the Gulf of Mexico.



Students dive in to the pile of free music.



Weave Us Together in Tucson

Recapping the First Sigma Alpha Iota Leadership Seminar—submitted by Patty Eitemiller



A view of the resort from our room

In late July, I traveled to sunny Tucson, Arizona for the first ever Sigma Alpha Iota Leadership Seminar. We arrived at the Marriott Starr Pass Resort and Spa in Tucson mid afternoon on Friday, July 29th. On the drive up to the resort we were all amazed at the vastness and beauty of this new resort.

The seminar began with a chance to learn the conference's appropriately named theme song, "Weave Us Together" by Rosemary Crow. Immediately following, we were introduced to Matt Savage from Rhythm Alive, who would be leading our "Drum circle." Each person was provided with a drum or percussion instrument and worked together to keep the beat. We learned how everyone could be a leader and follower at the same time, but also that working together in a group requires individual efforts to complete

a finished product. The catch phrase and concept pulling it all together was "Move together, Think together, Work together, Play together."



Mary Kay Traver and Deb Volker prepare to keep the beat!

Saturday morning began with a dynamic presentation by Elaine Penn, a motivational speaker from CampuSpeak, specializing in leadership. Penn provided a very energetic and participatory presentation that stressed the importance of commitment, accountability, respect and integrity using a variety of methods including musical performance, discussion and group activities.

The afternoon continues with National Vice President of College Chapters, Yvonne Glass May and Michelle Gaddis Kenemer, both musical therapists, leading a discussion on the "Art of Goal Setting" and how it pertains to individual

leadership, chapter membership and the entire organization.

The conclusion of the seminar on Sunday included a presentation of individual and chapter awards and a fraternity sing. A few of us stayed an extra day to explore the sights. After traveling through the hills and cactus filled mountains near our resort (stopping to see the view from "Starr Pass") we headed off to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, where we were able to see a variety of plant life and living animals native to the region. A 5 hour plane delay, postponed our return, so what turned out to be a great weekend of SAI sisterhood, fellowship and of course music also included a little bit of adventure! Can't wait to see what the trip to Orlando next summer brings!!



Patty and friends (Amy Clark and Jane Cross) pose for a picture at the Desert Museum

Meet the MITs

Frostburg State University has its first Members in Training as they prepare to install a new chapter. The pledging ceremony was held September 11 with representatives from several chapters in the Iota A province.

Winchester Alumnae president Tracey Wygal will be the "MIT Mom," educating the girls in preparation for their membership exam. The eleven MITs are Erin Briskey, Katie Brown, Kara Gross, Jessica Grow, Olivia Hartman, Julie Mason, Ginny Mattes, Gwyn Mitchell, Alecia Reinke,



MITs pictured front two rows above with Iota A Members behind.

Amy Saavedra, and Mary Wempe.

The MITs will present a

musical on October 29th, and their initiation and installation will be Sunday, October 30th.

FRED Facts—Fraternity Education

Below are listed the National Objectives for the 2003-2006 Triennium. This month, let's reflect on how Winchester Alumnae is contributing to the fulfillment of these

objectives. What else can we do as a chapter to fulfill these objectives? What can you do personally to contribute?

National Objectives for 2003-2006

- Strive for excellence and effectiveness in chapter activities through creating and achieving chapter goals.
- Promote awareness and support of SAI Philanthropies, Inc. and involve members in its activities.
- Encourage community projects that reflect a positive fraternity image.
- Advocate for music education through collaboration with local school systems.
- Celebrate music as a vital art form by supporting quality performances of works by living composers.
- Recognize the contributions of women in all fields of music.
- Inspire members to pursue a lifetime commitment to the fraternity through increased fraternity education and interaction between college and alumnae members.

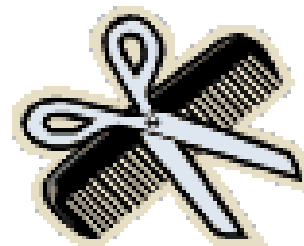
Sisterhood Traditions Blossom

One of Winchester Alumnae Chapter's goals this year is to increase sisterhood. One project we are working on is developing relationships with nearby college chapters. Tracey Wygal is working with the new chapter at Frostburg State University, educating them to become installed at the end of October. Several Winchester members attended their pledging ceremony and plan on attending the initiation.

Visits to Gamma Gamma at Shenandoah University and Eta Tau at Shepherd University are also in the works. Winchester members will attend the college meetings this Fall. Also, Eta Tau will be hosting Province Day for Iota A this year and Winchester Alumnae has volunteered to help.

Other sisterhood happens without planning. Tracey Wygal and Larissa Elliott have formed a haircutting tradition. It all started a couple of years ago when Beth Herr got her hair cut after a meeting at a nearby mall. Larissa was tempted by the idea and Tracey went with her to get her hair cut. Since then Tracey and Larissa have gotten haircuts together several times. "It helps to have a buddy supporting you when you're going through such an irreversible change," Larissa says.

Sisterhood is an important part of Sigma Alpha Iota. The relationships that are blossoming now will become "lasting, loving, and true" in years to come.



Do you have a sisterhood story you would like to share? Email our editor at LarissaElliott@yahoo.com including any pictures you would like to accompany your story.

Music Project Grant Announced

This Fall, the Winchester Alumnae Chapter is offering a \$100 grant to area educators to help fund a music project or event that they are working on. Schools and other organizations working with students and children can

apply for the grant by November 1st. The grant can be used to fund projects such as hosting guest performers, purchasing instruments and music, traveling to performance festivals, or giving music workshops.



Grant application forms can be downloaded at www.geocities.com/saiwincalumgrant.



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Visit our website!
www.geocities.com/saiwincalum

Winchester Alumnae Calendar 2005-2006

Date & Time	Meeting Type	Program
October 15, 11am	Sisterhood	Assemble gift bags, crafts for new members
October 29-30	Installation	New chapter installation at Frostburg State U.
November 19, 11am	Formal Meeting	Affiliation, business, musicale, music grant vote, Jennifer Sharp's recital
December 17, 12pm	Service Project	Angel Tree gift donation at Apple Blossom Mall in Winchester, VA
January 21, 11am	Business Mtg	Business, award nominations, review bylaws
TBA*	Province Day	Province Day at Shepherd University
TBA*	Fundraiser	Mary Kay fundraiser (place TBA)
TBA*	Business Mtg	Business, musicale
May 21, 11am	Formal Meeting	Affiliation, business, musicale
June 17, TBA	Social	Founder's Day picnic (place TBA)
July 27-31	Convention	National Convention in Orlando, FL

*After Province Day is scheduled, the fundraiser and business mtg will be chosen from Feb 18, Mar 18, and Apr 16.

**Unless otherwise indicated, all meetings will be held at Shenandoah University in Winchester, VA.