



# THE CROSSING



SIGMA PI

ALPHA IOTA CHAPTER

## AIBA President's Letter

Homecoming 2023 was such a treat. It is always a joy to get back to Rolla to see how the undergraduates are doing, catch up with old friends and get to know more and more of the brothers from across the decades. This year's event was very well run. I want to thank the entire chapter for hosting the alumni. Much fun was had by all members and a fair few spouses at the Casino Night on Saturday.

The highlight of the event to me was seeing how the house is succeeding in so many areas. I am proud of the undergraduates. These men are honoring the legacy of Alpha-Iota Chapter. I invite you to visit the chapter house and get to know them better.

The chapter house has turned 3 years old, and, like every house, problems arise and issues need fixing. Sam Gard '14, AIBA Vice President, has done a great job of working with the House Manager and 2C to make sure the small problems stay small. Kurt Steinmann '97, has continued his tenure with the AIBA Board to help advise in transition. Chris Brannan '98, is supporting the chapter by advising on insurance, liability, and risk management. Jack Moore '17, is working on alumni networking and some financial matters, and the 2 newest members have really jumped in to support the board: Mike Little '14, as Treasurer and Brett Kraus '16 as Secretary. I appreciate the effort and support that each of these brothers gives in support of the chapter.

AIBA continues to grow and expand our efforts in support of the chapter. We've grown the board to 7 members and are actively recruiting alumni for advisory positions. If you want to volunteer, please reach out to me ([jeff.mockaitis@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.mockaitis@gmail.com)) and let's find a role for you.

I hope that this newsletter finds you well and getting prepared for the Christmas Holiday. Remember the Alpha Iota Chapter in your year-end giving. The chapter is doing great work and I hope that we can all dig deep to provide donations in support of the next generation of Sigma Pi and Engineering leaders at Missouri S&T. Donations can be made by going to [www.sigmapi-mst.org](http://www.sigmapi-mst.org) and clicking on the upper left corner "Donate to Sigma Pi" button.



Jeff Mockaitis '96, **President, AIBA**



AIBA Past President Kurt Steinmann and Current President Jeff Mockaitis celebrating their 30th anniversary of the Pledge Class.

# AIEF THANKFUL FOR A GREAT 2022

## President's Report

- Mike King '93, for ably taking on the job of AIEF Treasurer from Jeff Ostermann, whom we thank for his years of dedicated service to this position.
- Phillip (PJ) Weber '95, for serving AIEF in many ways, including marketing, scholarship administration, and assisting with facilitating meetings including agenda development.
- Tim Kamp '88, for taking on the role of AIEF Secretary.
- Larry Cook '94, for hosting the joint Alumni / Undergraduate Strategy Session in February.
- Jeff Tottleben '91, who received the Founders Award at this year's Convocation. Among other things he has accomplished over the last few years, he gave Bernie Ebert '64, Mike Munsell, PJ Weber, John Flake, Jeff Mockaitis, and Andrey Marquart '22 a great excuse to get together in San Antonio, tell some stories, smoke some cigars, and generally have a great time.
- Jeff Mockaitis '96, who represented the AI alumni very well at Convocation, re-established the Prospector's Club, successfully nominated Tott for the Founders Award, and who works tirelessly for the house on many requests and activities.
- John Berger '68, who gave another great speech, this year at our fall Scholarship Dinner. John talked about why we, as alumni, give to the house.
- John Flake '91, who again organized a fantastic ballpark trip to Washington, D.C. What an incredible tradition that John, Tott, D-Boy, Ace and Big Save created 25+ years ago. In 2023, the ballpark club

will see the Cardinals play the White Sox on July 8th; please contact PJ Weber (225-572-2260) if you want more information!

- Richard '62 and Ruth Swanson, for their generous forward-thinking gift that will be paying dividends to young Sigma Pi men for many years to come.
- John Kaminski and Justin Hart for their tremendous job planning scholarship dinner and homecoming events.

Current officers and directors of AIEF are Mike Munsell, Mike King, PJ Weber, Bernie Ebert, Larry Cook, Bob Niehaus, and Troy Ganson as financial advisor. We get together via Zoom about once a month to discuss AIEF business and share great stories from years past.

AIEF asks that you begin to consider your own estate plans and ways that you may be able to put the Alpha Iota Educational Foundation into those plans. AIEF is in the process of putting together a more formal program to assist brothers that want to put these provisions into your estate plans. The impact of estate donations can have a long lasting impact on the lives of many within the undergraduate community at Missouri S&T and can help support and sustain Alpha-Iota for future generations of Sigma Pi men.

Please contact Mike Munsell at 314-807-1516 or Phillip Weber at 225-572-2260 if you have any questions, or if you would like more information about AIEF's programs, donations or volunteer opportunities.

**- Mike Munsell '93**



**GIVING TUESDAY is November 29, and AIEF would greatly appreciate your support. Stay tuned for updates on how to give to Sigma Pi this Giving Tuesday!**

# PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The undergraduates have had a great fall semester at the Alpha Iota Chapter of Sigma Pi. Rush was very successful, bringing in 24 new members and increasing the total number of undergraduates to 66 members. With a house this size, and being the largest membership in this new house, it was clear that brotherhood events, service projects, philanthropy, and social events needed to be taken to the next level. Thus far, the house has participated in over 400 hours of community service, including highway cleanups, raking leaves for the retirement home, and volunteering to staff a marathon race. The chapter has also raised over \$1500 toward our philanthropy, The Rolla Mission. Most of these funds came from supporting Zeta Tau Alpha's Pink Week, Sigma Pi's Annual Cornhole tournament, and participating in Adopt-a-Family with the Greek community and the university police.

Overall, the house has been very active and hard at work focusing on grades, building the brotherhood, and working towards a large spring recruitment class. This year's Homecoming was one of the best ever in the new house with several grateful alumni sharing fond memories and knowledge from their time in the house. As the house membership continues to grow, we ask for ways the alumni and undergraduates can get together for work opportunities, social events, and future donations to help grow the chapter and the brotherhood. Thank you for everyone who came out for Homecoming. The undergraduates hope to see you all again shortly at 2023's Best Ever St. Pat's!

## Dylan Reiter '23



Kendrick Lathau, Justin Wylam, & Troy Ganson at Homecoming 2023

# ALUMNI NEWS

## Dave Kleikamp '86

Donna & I recently moved from Cedar Park, TX to Washington, MO.

## Scott Davidson '96

Moved from Kansas City to Winchester, MA.

## Greg Failes '18

Moved to Columbus, Indiana, from Sandusky, Ohio to start a new job with US Aggregates.

## Troy Ganson '04

Has started filming short Virtual Crossings videos on the Sigma Pi Fraternity at Missouri S&T Youtube Channel.

## Heath Groom '09 and wife, Katie

Had their third child, Camden Heath Groom, on October 17, 2022.

## Alex Niner '14 and wife, Mallory

Had their second child, Autumn, on November 3, 2022.

## Kevin Ponder '15, and Daniel Mulrow

Married June 25, 2022.

## Christopher Gibbs '17 and Alyson Snow

Married on February 22, 2022.

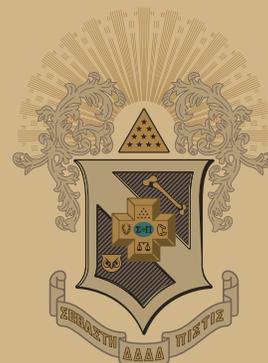
## Andrew Kueny '18 and Amanda Kubiak

Married on September 17, 2022.

## ADYTUM ON HIGH

## Jim (Gator) Hampel '72

passed away suddenly on October 17, 2022



# AIEF Scholarship and Grant Award Winners

The AIEF grades program provides \$1000 for any brother achieving a 4.0 for the semester and up to \$2000 if he continues achieving a 4.0 for three consecutive semesters. It also awards \$1000 scholarships to Active of the Year, Brother of the Year, and Pledge of the Year (awards that are voted on by the house). The program will also provide \$10,000 for the house if it finishes in first place among all fraternities.

## For receiving a 4.0 semester GPA:

Wyatt Barnett  
Jayce Billington  
Jacob Brownfield  
Caleb Cummings \*\*  
Alonzo Edmond  
William Gleeson \*\*  
Justin Hart \*\*  
Daniel Kyle  
Jack Lackman  
Robert Marquart  
Logan Mattson  
Douglas Moloney  
Christopher Steinbach

*\*\* Indicates number of consecutive semesters*

## Pledge with 3.5+ semester GPA:

Drake Bentley  
Jayce Billington  
Jarrett Ely  
Jett Jameson  
John King  
Jack Lackman  
Brendan Leuthauser  
Brining Mulkey  
Joseph Simon  
Aidan Weaver  
Elliott Weiler

## Pledge with 3.25 or better:

Lucas Bartlome

## Most Improved GPA:

Thomas Benson  
Isaac Bieghler  
Levi Burns  
Ashton Goff

## Pledge of the Year:

John King

## Active of the Year:

Jack Skinner

## Brother of the Year:

Jacob Brownfield

**And finally, a big congratulations to the 2022 winners of the AIEF Scholarships:**

## Swanson Scholarship:

Joseph Goring

## Dr. Miller Scholarship:

Ethan McMillan



Alumni enjoying Casino Night



Casino Night:  
Poker, Roulette,  
Craps, Blackjack!

# Outstanding Success by Alpha Iota Undergraduates

**Congratulations to the following undergraduates that are going above and beyond to live the Creed of Sigma Pi Fraternity:**

- Wyatt Barnett (Rush Chair) and Dylan Reiter (former Rush Chair, current Sage) for working together with the chapter to sign 24 new members. The future of Alpha Iota is strong and bright.
- To all the undergraduates honored at Homecoming on Friday Night's Scholarship Dinner, several undergrads showed off their academic prowess (you can read more in the AIEF report).
- The entire Alpha Iota Chapter for winning the Grand Council Award, recognizing it as a Top 3 chapter amongst fraternities with 10-19 fraternities on campus.
- Logan Ostermann, 1C deserves special thanks for pulling together all of the events for Homecoming weekend.
- Alexander Martin (Marty) was recognized as Zeus during Greek Week ... the 2nd Zeus in a row for Sigma Pi after Chris Steinbach.

## Why I Volunteer – Get to know the new AIBA Board Members:

**Name:** Brett Kraus

**Pledge Year:** Fall 2011

**Graduation Year:** My mug says 2015, but in reality, 2016.

**Major:** Civil and Architectural Engineering

**Current Employer:** Clayco, Inc.

**Why I joined AIBA:** To help future generations experience the same fraternity benefits I had as a student.

**Name:** Chris Brannan

**Pledge Year:** Fall 1994

**Graduation Year:** 1998

**Major:** Biological Sciences

**Employer:** State Farm Insurance and Financial Services

**Why I joined AIBA:** I had been detached from the chapter since 1998 and felt it was time to get reunited with the brothers (mainly the ones from my era, but have since made new relationships). Joining AIBA gives me a reason to visit more often than every handful of years. Since joining AIBA, I have found that the “real world” of the last 25 years needs to be shared with the current actives.

**Name:** Michael V. Little

**Pledge Class Year:** 2010

**Graduation Year:** 2014

**Major:** Engineering Geology

**Current Employer:** Atlas Geotechnical

**Why I joined AIBA:** I can't think of a better way to give back to an organization that has done so much for me than to donate my time to ensure the Alpha Iota chapter of Sigma Pi continues to grow stronger.

**Name:** Samuel Gard

**Pledge Class Year:** 2010

**Graduation Year:** 2014

**Major:** Business and Management Systems

**Current Employer:** Sunflower Bank

**Why I joined AIBA:** Jeff Mockaitis needed help and I had nothing better to do, BUT, I benefit in getting experience with situations and tasks that are far outside the realm of my career. I like the challenge and enjoy reconnecting with the chapter and alumni.



**SIGMA PI**

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**First Row:**

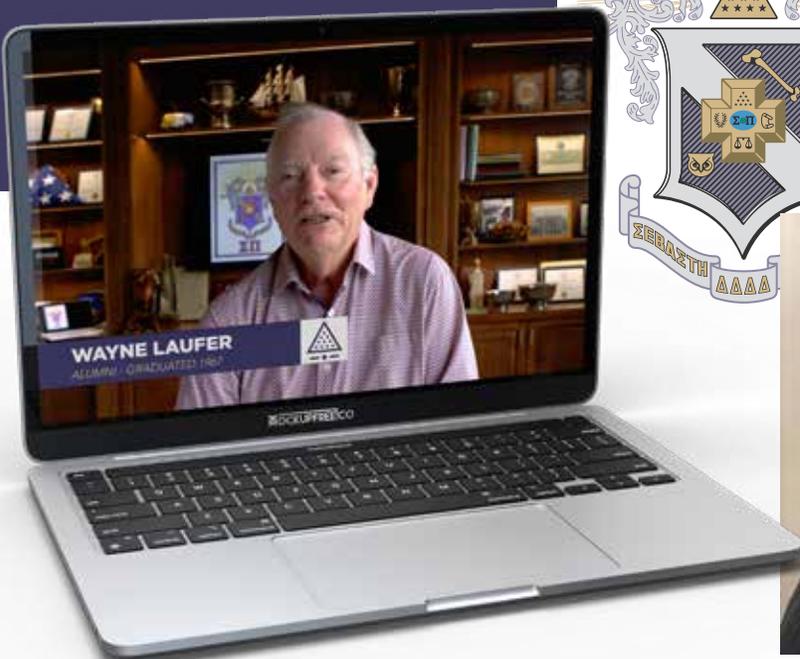
John Kaminski, Scholarship Chairman  
J.P. King, House Manager  
Dylan Reiter, Sage  
Justin Hart, Second Counselor  
Logan Ostermann, First Counselor

**2nd Row:**

Brining Mulkey, Herald  
Tyler Willis, New Member Educator  
William Gleeson, Fourth Counselor  
Wyatt Barnett, Recruitment Chairman  
Austin Burnett, Third Counselor  
(not pictured; Jacob Kunes, Past Sage)



Watch our latest Alumni video at  
<https://vimeo.com/sigmapi/alumni>



## Upcoming Chapter Events

**Best Ever St. Pat's 2023, 115th Celebration**  
March 17-18, 2023

**Alpha Iota Chapter 90th Anniversary**  
April 29, 2023

**Ballpark Trip: Cardinals at Chicago White Sox**  
(contact PJ Weber)  
July 8, 2023



John Berger discussing the importance of doing Hard Things and brothers working together as a team.



AIEF President Mike Munsell honors Undergraduate Scholastic Grant Winners