

The Alpha Iota Chapter of Phi Delta Chi

Proudly Presents...

The

# Crucible

Starring



Opening 2012



# Scenes

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# Accolades

## Reflections on Brotherhood

**“To me, Brotherhood is sharing all of yourself, both good and bad, with others. Phi Delta Chi became a source of strength for me, and I was able to realize for the first time in my adult life that there are people who won’t judge you for your weaknesses. Brothers will help you regain your strength and work with you to attain your goals.”**

**“We are more than friends or students who share a common interest in any other organization. We are a family, not by blood, but by none other than the ties of Phi Delta Chi.”**

**“Brotherhood is what allows us to move further than we ever could before, to achieve more than we could have ever dreamed on our own. Brotherhood is more than an achievement; it is an honor; it is a privilege; it is a blessing. Brotherhood is what defines us; Brotherhood is: Phi Delta Chi.”**

**“Daily, the excellence I see among my Brothers encourages me to serve others to the best of my ability, to learn as much as possible, to find passion in worthy endeavors, and not shy away from added responsibility; through their example, I learn honor and commitment. By encouraging one another’s growth, all are strengthened, and the unique contributions of each Brother create an alloy stronger than any one individual.”**

**“We are a Brotherhood, a tightly woven tapestry of ideas and beliefs centering on the fact that all people should act with warmth and equality toward one another, regardless of differences in race, creed, or nationality. We feed off the positive energy that all our members exude and continually search out ways that we can improve ourselves as a Chapter and national organization overall.”**

**“We few, we happy few, we band of brothers;  
For he to-day that sheds his blood with me  
Shall be my brother.”**

**Shakespeare’s message is that, through sharing trials and tribulations, unrelated individuals can form bonds based not just on friendship or respect, but bonds that border on kinship itself.**

**Our desire to fight against Disease and Death brought us together, but Phi Delta Chi made us Brothers.”**



# A Monologue...

Letter from the WCC

By Shannon Sulik, WCC

Another year with Alpha Iota has drawn to a close. AI Brothers have continued a tradition of excellence by enhancing Chapter activities and forging bonds of Brotherhood with 26 new Brothers. Eight Brothers started the year off by traveling to Buffalo, NY to attend Grand Council. Brothers connected with alumni, participated in officer workshops, and ventured to Canada, which included one questionable border crossing! While in Buffalo, we were able to meet several Mercer Brothers, resulting in closer ties to our neighboring Chapter.

As the school year started, AI held our three traditional rush events: trivia, bowling, and a cookout. Though the pledge process had many ups and downs, the Chapter gained 25 amazing new collegiate Brothers and one new faculty Brother, Dr. Timothy Long.

As a professional fraternity, AI puts heavy emphasis on advancing the profession of pharmacy at UGA and around Athens. The Chapter hosted two speakers this year, a nuclear pharmacist and a pharmacist who works as a medical writer. Once again, Brothers presented Pharmacy School De-Mystified to both the College of Pharmacy, as well as undergraduates at North Georgia College and State University. With the help of faculty Brother Dr. Keith Herist, we returned to Iris Place for a brown bag event. Our display board, covering everyone's favorite topic, *Let's Talk About Sex*, was presented at several health fairs, including Dawgtoberfest. Brothers were also able to become mentors to UGA undergraduate students throughout the spring semester. Our annual window display topic covered common vitamins and supplements, an important area of discussion for patients.

*Service is another major part of our Chapter's efforts. We have continued our annual activities of bingo at Morningside Assisted Living and work with the Northeast Georgia Food Bank, and we will be cleaning up the Broad River after final exams. We had an excellent turnout at our annual 5k for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, raising \$1200. Several Brothers sacrificed a Saturday morning to help build with Habitat for Humanity, and new Brother Rebecca organized lunch for patients and families at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. Thanks to the efforts of new Brother Nirali, AI has adopted Timothy Road as part of Athens Adopt-a-Highway. Alpha Iota Brothers exemplify leadership in the College of Pharmacy.*

Many Brothers hold leadership positions outside of PDC, and Brothers are frequently used as examples of excellent students. I am extremely proud of the efforts Brothers put into school and into the profession. However, Brothers definitely know how to have a good time! Outside of informal get-togethers, Brothers held two progressive dinners, Meatfest, tailgates, field day, a low country boil, and spring Formal.

Hanging out with my Brothers has made my time in PDC memorable, and *I can't wait to come back and visit! Alpha Iota Brothers have accomplished tremendous things this year, and the Chapter is still growing.*

It has been an absolute pleasure being part of a Chapter where you can always count on your Brothers to lend a hand when needed. I know I can expect great things out of this wonderful group of people who represent the Motto of our Brotherhood in every way they can.

AAAE,

Shannon Sulik #946



# Living Legends

## Outgoing Officers



### Shannon Sulik, WCC

Leaving Athens for rotations is a bittersweet moment. Though I have been anticipating the next step in my pharmacy education, it will be very different to be away from the Chapter. My experience as WCC has both challenged and strengthened my abilities to work in a team, plan large projects, and bring Brothers together for the benefit of the Chapter. I am lucky to be surrounded by Brothers willing to give their all to serve the Chapter, the school, and the community. I know Lopa will be able to keep the Chapter growing and keep the Chapter headed in a positive direction.

### Ray Dwan, WVC

It has been an honor and privilege to serve Alpha Iota as the WVC this past year. Shannon has been a strong and reliable WCC, and it has been a pleasure working with her again. I look forward to the new ideas and leadership young Charles Durham will bring to this position and continue the excellence that is expected at Alpha Iota.



### Whitney Holcombe, WC

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as Worthy Correspondent this year. Collecting articles **and recording the Chapter's activities has been a pleasure. We have accomplished so much by working together, and I can't wait to share it with other Chapters. Even through the stresses and difficulties, Brothers were always there to help me through and assist where needed.**



### Jennifer Lee, WKRS

I am honored and extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to serve PDC as WKRS this past year. I learned a lot about myself and furthered many leadership skills while in this position. Planning our bi-annual retreats was a huge project, and my Brothers really helped me execute what seemed like a daunting task and truly showed me **what Brotherhood is all about. I definitely couldn't have done it without their help. Retreat** turned out to be a blast, and I had a lot of fun! Even though I will be in Augusta to complete my last two years of pharmacy school, I will continue to be involved in PDC and will be staying in touch with my Brothers. My vision is to encourage the growing number of Brothers at satellite campuses to be more involved with PDC. I am super excited and am looking forward to seeing where PDC will go next year; the new officers have many fresh and inspirational ideas. Congrats again to all the new officers. I have no doubt that they will do a fantastic job!



### Stephanie Peccia, WKF

I have had an amazing two years serving our Chapter as the Worthy Keeper of Finance. This **is definitely a difficult job, and it's not always easy to be the bad guy. It's hard to believe** that my term has already come to a close, and even though the time has flown by, the Chapter has made great strides financially over the past two years. The Chapter currently has no debt, and we have been in the black for several semesters now. We have a solid financial foundation, and I am certain the future will bring incredible things for our Chapter. Katherine has a great deal of experience, and she will certainly do an amazing job as WKF next year. I thank the Chapter for allowing me to serve as WKF and wish Katherine and future WKFs success in the years to come.



### Kristi Carlile, WP

I have thoroughly enjoyed serving the Chapter as Worthy Prelate this past year. **Capturing our Chapter's activities through the lens of my camera has been both entertaining and inspiring.** I know Natalya will do a fantastic job next year as she documents the accomplishments of Alpha Iota.



### Toan Tran, WMA

I am so glad to have had the opportunity to get to work with the new Brothers when they were pledges, as well as once they became Brothers. The new Brothers never fail to amaze me with all of their contributions of efforts and ideas on how to improve Alpha Iota. I am extremely happy to know that I played a role in helping these Brothers become a part of the Brotherhood. I look forward to **another great pledge class because I know Jessica's passion and enthusiasm will be** reflected in the quality of pledges next year.



### Christopher Stiles, WIG

I really enjoyed being the WIG this year. It was great to have had the opportunity to play a major role in the initiation of our new Brothers. I can honestly say that I am proud of them and that I look forward to seeing them further develop as contributing members of PDC.



### Jennifer Gaddie, WAL

This past year as Worthy Alumni Liaison has been one of my favorite as an Alpha Iota. I **genuinely feel if we allow ourselves to "drift" after graduation, our Brotherhood loses so much.** Thank you, Brothers, for giving me the last year to keep our alumni informed and pull them **back into active duty! I've had a great time pushing our faculty alumni to come to events and creating a few events specifically for them. I'll always remember initiating our newest Graduate Brother and continue to be humbled by the generosity of those who have graduated. My biggest wish is to see the ties I've started or rekindled continue to pull our alumni "home."**



# Rising Stars


## Incoming Officers



Lopa Joshi, WCC-elect

As incoming WCC of Alpha Iota, I am very grateful for the opportunity to lead our Chapter this year along with the new Executive Committee! We have a lot of innovative ideas for the upcoming year, and we will definitely need the help of one another to implement them successfully. My long-term vision is that we will become a top-tier Chapter that shapes our Brothers into exceptional leaders. Our first step in accomplishing this goal is participation in the biannual Leader-Development Seminar this summer in Lexington, KY. Additional goals for the year ahead include further engaging our alumni Brothers and faculty advisors. We will also strive to increase opportunities for involvement for P4 and satellite Brothers. Please join the Brothers of Alpha Iota in getting energized about our exciting journey ahead! Your new ideas and valuable words of wisdom and encouragement are always welcomed!

Charles Durham, WVC-elect




I anticipate serving both the Chapter and the community through my position in the coming year. I stand ready to assist Lopa in guiding Alpha Iota, yet I feel her strong and independent style of leadership will free me to accomplish much as an autonomous entity within the Chapter. I endeavor to identify and leverage our academic resources to ensure all Brothers benefit from the outstanding scholars in our midst. I pledge to remain impartial in my decisions, always keeping the best interests of the Chapter in mind. As a member of every committee, and as their voice to my fellow officers, I strive to represent all our efforts fairly. Above all, I hope to forge a strong bond of Brotherhood within Alpha Iota. Though the weight of expectation weighs heavily upon my mind, my heart overflows with hope of what we will accomplish together.



Stephanie Coleman, WC-elect

**I'm really excited to have been elected Worthy Correspondent for the upcoming year. I hope that I will be able to strengthen Alpha Iota's ties with other Chapters and make our bonds of Brotherhood stronger by supporting all of the Brothers in our activities. I will try my best to do an accurate and efficient job reporting on our events throughout the year, and I am so happy to be able to represent Alpha Iota.**

Sandra Quach, WKRS-elect



It is a great pleasure to have been elected Worthy Keeper of Records and Seals. I look forward to assisting my fellow officers and Brothers in our endeavor to strengthen Phi Delta Chi. I am very excited to plan retreat as well as keeping our Chapter updated on our plans during the year. I will do my best to uphold the expectations of this position while establishing long-lasting relationships with my Brothers and with new Brothers. I am honored to represent PDC and cannot wait to see what lies ahead in the upcoming year.



Katherine Kwon, WKF -elect

As the Worthy Keeper of Finance, I hope that my experience with managing and organizing will help the chapter financially so that we can fund more endeavors. As a result, I hope that more Brothers get the opportunity to do many events together, professional and social. I feel the more we do as a chapter together, we will be able to not only help the community but also become closer as Brothers. I am sure the new year will bring great outcomes for PDC as a whole and the chapter itself. Go Alpha Iota!



Natalya Kusayeva, WP-elect

I am really thrilled about holding a Worthy Prelate position next semester. I feel that being in this position will show me more of the inner workings of our Chapter and will drive me to be **as active as possible in it. I'm excited to work with all the new officers and contribute to our chapter as a spiritual leader to the best of my abilities. I can't wait to learn of all the ways I** can be a good WP and represent our chapter and our fraternity accordingly.



Jessica Chen, WMA-elect

I'm honored to be the WMA of Alpha Iota for the upcoming year. I hope to educate, but more importantly show potential Brothers all that PDC has to offer. PDC is not just another organization on campus, but a Brotherhood that will last even after graduation. I desire to represent PDC to the best of my ability and to uphold all the values and morals that we represent. I promise to pass along those morals to people that will eventually become the future of PDC. I'm looking forward to seeing what the next year holds for Alpha Iota!



Alexander Nguyen, WIG-elect

As the newly elected Worth Inner Guard, I hope to maintain the values and traditions that make Phi Delta Chi a successful Professional organization. I will, to the best of my ability, help guide new members into the Brotherhood, so that their individual talents will help strengthen Alpha Iota chapter as a whole. I will strive to guard and direct our rituals to the highest standards. I see a great future in store for our Brotherhood and I am thankful for the opportunity to be a part of this great organization.



Jenny Dean, WAL -elect

**I've worked with a Phi Delta Chi alumnus for several years, and when I pledged last fall, I** immediately asked her about her experiences in PDC. I was told nothing but great things about service and leadership within the fraternity. Her mentoring confirmed my belief that PDC offers a lot in the way of professional development. Knowing how much knowledge alumni Brothers have, I hope to access it as the next Worthy Alumni Liaison. In the next year, I will encourage alumni to help in small ways with the service and professional projects. We need more active alumni Brothers to set the standard of Brotherhood for current **Brothers. I look forward to meeting the challenges imposed by the schedules of Alpha Iota's** alumni over the next year.



# Casting Call

## *Battle of Wits at Buffalo's*

By Jennifer Gaddie

During rush, the Brothers of Phi Delta Chi continued the tradition of Trivia Night. However, instead of hosting it at Transmet like **many previous years, we branched out into a larger venue at Buffalo's Café.** With over 45 potentials coming out to enjoy an evening with the Alpha Iotas, the extra space was definitely needed. We were overjoyed to see a number of our faculty Brothers and alumni come out, as well. The Alpha Rho Brothers from Mercer also made an appearance, further exemplifying the bonds created by Brotherhood.

The evening started off with a delicious meal which segued into Brothers teaming up with potentials for trivia battle. With **team names like "Flushots" and "Compounders," Brothers and potentials** alike showed off their mental prowess. The evening culminated with top groups matching wits against one another for the chance to win t-shirts, bumper stickers, and other pharmacy paraphernalia in a final jeopardy round. There is nothing like a night spent with good company, good food, and good times!

## Rush Events



## Cookout at Memorial Park

By Whitney Holcombe

When Alpha Iota Brothers returned to class Fall 2011, we really hit the ground running. Thus, we especially looked forward to our annual rush cookout, the second rush event. It served not only as an opportunity to get to know potential pledges, but also was a fantastic study break.

**Our "Grill Master," Brother Shuang, manned the grill quite masterfully enough to deserve the title.** He served up juicy hamburgers and hotdogs all afternoon, while Brothers and potentials gathered around the pavilion, shooting the breeze and picking off picnic tables heaped with dishes of salads, chips, cupcakes and pies.

While some worked on satiating their summertime munchies, others indulged in rousing games of volleyball and Frisbee. Future pledge Natalya Kusayeva discovered she had a genius touch for bocce ball, and some particularly brave participants hopped into an impromptu dance party and Wobble lesson by Brother Crystal. This year, even Faculty Brother Michael Bartlett and his wife, Brother Sarah Bartlett joined the festivities with their children.

As fun and laughter flowed, some conversations turned more serious as potentials asked questions about the Brotherhood of Phi Delta Chi. By the end of the afternoon, even more potentials ensured that PDC was the place for them.

## Bowling for Brotherhood

By Chris Dobry

Our third and final rush event was bowling at Showtime Bowling Center. Here, Brothers bonded with more potentials over finger food and a game of ten frames of ten-pin bowling. The turnout was smaller than previous rush events, which could be attributed to an exam the next day for both third-year and first-year students. However, there were still plenty of students in attendance for a great time.

After meeting with many of the same people several times and other people for the first time, Brothers were now better able to gauge who seemed serious about the commitment to become a Brother for life and those who merely wanted free food and temporary fun. Who will be the next generation of Phi Delta Chi, Alpha Iota? Nothing like a friendly bowling match to inform that crucial decision.



# Making the Cut

2011 Pledge Class

*Alex "Dr. AK" Nguyen*

My most memorable pledging experience was all the little non-official stuff we pledges did to bond together. We had movie nights and cookouts and potlucks and went on some trips that really gave us time to get to know each other, away from the stress of school and life.

*Michael "Jagger" Arena*

My favorite part of the pledge process was the progressive dinner. It was great fun and I got an excellent opportunity to interview Brothers, eat, socialize, and develop deeper relationship with the Brothers and pledges of Phi Delta Chi.

*Tiffany "Quick Draw" Chong*

The most memorable part of this process was the interviews with current Brothers. This was the start of a collection of first impressions, and it was interesting to see if they changed or not after getting to know everyone more.

*Natalya "Riku" Kusayeva*

The informal initiation allowed me to interact more with my pledging Brothers and to get to know and network with some of the older Brothers. At the end of the night, I felt like I found a place I belonged; I already felt like a Brother.

*Stephanie "Chantilly" Coleman*

I thought the pledging process was really tough at times but I had a great time getting to know the Brothers and my fellow pledges. I am truly proud to be a Brother of Phi Delta Chi and an Alpha Iota!

*Aimee "Bazinga!" Shin*

My most memorable moment during the pledging process was the day when our Big Brothers were revealed. After receiving gifts from my Big Brother, I already could guess who she might be and I felt excited to be able to finally meet her.

*Kylie "Headshot" Makanani*

My favorite event during the pledging process was Reveal Week. I had no idea who my Big was, and when I found out it was Shannon, I was ecstatic. I knew that I had a Big who would be a Brother that I could always count on no matter what.

*Synthia "Bliss" Wang*

The most memorable part of the pledging process was making the paddles. Being able to operate the jig saw is one of my proudest achievements during the pledging process, and I could not have done so without the assistance of my fellow pledges.



*Ji Young "Lady Blue" Kim*

My favorite part of the pledging process was actually some of the pledge tasks I got, one of which was to organize a Board Game Night at our apartment. That was one of the few times that the pledges got to have fun in an intimate setting.



*Rebecca "Beaker" Howell*

My favorite part of the pledging process was receiving my jersey because it was such a jovial occasion with story-swapping, and finally having a tangible display to show my pride in making it as a Brother.



*Erin "Purr Daddy" Ward*

My favorite part of the pledging process was the projects that we did together as a pledge class. I most enjoyed the Adopt-A-Highway project, because having a clean environment and clean community is very important to me.



*Nirali "Charisma" Naik*

**My favorite thing about pledging was a social event called "Meat Fest". Everyone got together at two of the Brothers' house and enjoyed food and hanging out. The event hosted by the Brothers was very welcoming and a great way to learn the Brothers' true personalities.**



*Sonia "Tori" Liaw*

One of my favorite parts of the pledging process was the informal initiation. We stuck together and helped each other, even when we were on a time crunch. It was our first chance to get with the entire fraternity and that gave us a taste of what Brotherhood was about.



*Hyoung Sook "C. Concerto" Kim*

I cannot forget the warm, friendly atmosphere that PDC Brothers showed during rush events, and that was one of the reasons I wanted to be a part of PDC AI.





*Hailey "Lil' Stux" Kwon*

**It was the most amazing experience to have a Big Brother for the first time in my life. It's like I got my best friend for life. The initiation process was enjoyable and fun, and it was nice to get to know the Brothers.**

*Brittany "Phyllo" Lawrence*

Pledging with Phi Delta Chi has been the single best decision I have made since entering COP. I'm glad to be a part of an organization that is as involved and close-knit as PDC.



*Khushbu "K. Bu Bu" Patel*

**My favorite part was when we had trivia night at Buffalo's. It was a great way for us to have fun and get to know each other. I am pretty shy but I had a great time getting to know some of the Brothers and they made me feel really comfortable.**



*Hamilton "Legs" Wen*

My most memorable part of the pledging process was the interviews we had to have with all the brothers and the pledges. I got to know a lot of people going into pharmacy school. It definitely helped me settle in and get more comfortable with the environment.



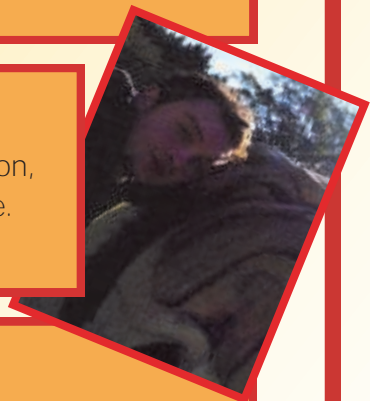
*Sandra "Sakura D." Quach*

The best part about the pledging process was being able to mature into a better person alongside my pledge Brothers.



*Abel "Aff-Abel" Kusouschi*

I enjoyed seeing all the Brothers uniting to help usher in the pledges. The compassion, kindness, and teamwork they showed made the decision to join easy and enjoyable.



*Brittany "#jellyfish" Williams*

My favorite part of the pledging process was Meatfest—I definitely love to eat! I truly enjoyed being able to sit in the middle of the floor and get to know my future Brothers.



*Jenny "J-Rex" Dean*

Who can resist going to an event called Meatfest? Not only did I get my share of delicious grilled goodies, but I got to know many of the Brothers. I loved finding out that someone had a cat that is a doppelganger of mine!



*Sukeun "Russell" Kang*

My favorite part of pledging was being able to meet and to befriend so many amazing people. I know that pledging provided me the opportunity to meet new friends without having to muster the initiative to meet them on my own.



*Maria "Stellent" Bondar*

My favorite part about pledging was everyone helping each other out when we had to do the interviews and paddles. I feel like helping each other brought the pledging class closer.

*Julie Jo Young "Sonnet" Moon*

Becoming a Brother of Phi Delta Chi is like making valuable connections at the pharmacy school. The strong ties between the pledges will help me get through school.



# Writing the Script

Fall and Winter Retreats

Fall Retreat at Tugaloo  
By Jennifer Huggins

For our annual Fall Retreat, the Brothers of Alpha Iota headed to Tugaloo State Park in Lavonia, GA. Upon arrival, we enjoyed a delectable Mexican-themed dinner prepared by Brothers Jennifer Lee, Nhu-y, Cam, and Paula, the core members of the Food Committee, who have become so indispensable to the Chapter. After dinner, the Formal Meeting was opened to prepare for activities in the upcoming fall semester.

Once business was completed for the evening, the Brothers were then free to enjoy some time off. Many played Catch Phrase, some went down to the lake for a bonfire, and some just chatted with each other, catching up about the summer before heading off to bed for the night.

The next morning, Brothers enjoyed a delicious breakfast by the Food Committee. Then, it was picture time. Everyone headed down to the lake to take the group picture and individual class pictures. The water **and sand beckoned, hinted at fun times ahead. But first, there's work to be done! Images captured, Brothers** met once more in committees to continue planning for service, professional, and social activities in the upcoming semester. Not to be accused of all work and no play, however, the Chapter split into five teams—Phi, Delta, Chi, Alpha, and Iota—and competed with each other in a three-legged race, a PDC trivia relay, Over Under, and Thread the String in a series of Brotherhood activities.

It was a full day. By the time our Brotherhood was thoroughly solidified over an afternoon in the park under the summer sun, every Brother was ready to chow. Brothers Ray and Joanne grilled juicy hamburgers and hotdogs that really hit the spot. Eventually, dinner wound down, we closed the Formal Meeting, and conducted Pass the Gavel. Retreat came to a close, and for a last, romp, Brothers went down to the campfire to **roast marshmallows and make s'mores. As always, Retreat was an invigorating mix of fun and productivity,** featuring plenty of quality time with the Brothers!





## Winter Retreat at The River Cabins

By Kristi Carlile

Winter Retreat was held at the River Cabins in Ellijay, which has become a favorite location for the Brothers of Alpha Iota. Located on the river, as the name indicates, these cabins provided a spacious location for conducting business related to the upcoming semester, along with ample opportunities for entertainment with game rooms, flat screen televisions, hot tubs, and bonfire areas.

The Winter Retreat was an especially great opportunity for us to bond even more with our new Brothers who were initiated in November, just before the Fall semester came to a close. As this was their first retreat, the new Brothers were introduced to long-standing traditions of Alpha Iota, including the process of selecting Spring committees and chairs and participating in Brotherhood activities.

Brothers Shannon and Jennifer Lee did a great job planning the retreat and ensuring everything went smoothly. The Food Committee did an outstanding job of keeping all our tummies fed with delicious meals throughout the weekend including a spaghetti dinner and a scrumptious homemade breakfast.

Retreat is always a great time to further cement our bonds as Brothers of Phi Delta Chi, and this Winter Retreat was no exception!



# Cast Parties

Social Events

Making Meaningful Memories at Meatfest

By Chris Dobry

This year, it was my honor to host the signature Alpha Iota event, Meatfest, at the house that Brother Charles Durham and I share. **Meatfest is our Chapter's annual football social event, held for the UGA football team's first away game every season. This is** an occasion when Brothers enjoy tables laden with good food, quality time in conversation and football with Brothers and pledges, and laid-back yard games in the shade.

There were a great number of Brothers and pledges who were able to show up, including Faculty Brother Matt Perri, his beloved wife, and even Brothers from the Alpha Rho Chapter at the Mercer University of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

Pledges who used the time to complete Brother interviews learned not only the basic facts that they were required to collect, but also essential details such as who cares the most about Georgia football and who performs most masterfully at a game of corn hole. Meatfest was a memorable event for everyone who participated, thanks to spectacular successes in attendance, cooking, and need-**less to say, the Dawgs' victory against Ole Miss.**



## Three Courses in Getting to Know Your Brothers By Whitney Holcombe

Progressive Dinner is one of the most interactive fall traditions of the Alpha Iota Chapter. Requiring quite a bit of teamwork and communication, it consists of Brothers hosting an epic three-course meal **across town, feeding pledges in Brothers' homes in circuit. Each group of pledges travels to one Brother's apartment for appetizers and another's place for dinner, before everyone gathers at a single last house for tables heaped with all kinds of indulgent desserts, always the Brothers' strong suit.**

**Pledges socialized and toured Brothers' apartments as they enjoyed a myriad of home-cooked delicacies, from pasta to enchiladas to cheese biscuits and more.** The coziness of small groups and yummy plates made it easy for everyone to chat and get to know each other further.

Nearly seventy Brothers and pledges were in attendance this year, so the hosts of the dessert house took on a major endeavor. Brothers Charles Durham and Chris Dobry boldly accepted the challenge and graciously hosted one of the largest gatherings of Phi Delta Chi to date at their house. Brothers and pledges talked and laughed into the night as they devoured platters full of irresistible baked goods, despite the groaning of already satisfied stomachs.

As we all came together to enjoy the culinary offerings and hospitality of the Brothers, we shared stories of past retreats, regional meetings, and endless Brotherhood memories. With delicious food and **company that was even more so, this year's Progressive Dinner was a roaring success.**



## A Very Merry Christmas Party By Kristi Carlile

To celebrate the holiday season, the Brothers of Alpha Iota gathered together to eat a delicious meal, **exchange gifts, and enjoy each other's company.** Brothers Charles Durham and Chris Dobry generously hosted the gathering at their home, providing a spacious location for our growing Chapter to commune and a beautiful, fresh tree to set the mood.

Newly initiated Faculty Brother, Dr. Tim Long provided delicious barbequed chicken and ribs for the festivities, and Brothers brought a vast array of side dishes ranging from fresh salads to macaroni and cheese to sweet potato soufflé. As we Alpha Iotas are known to be able to crank out some awesome desserts, the sweet treats were also in abundance in the form of cakes, cookies, fudge, and more. Needless to say, no one left the party hungry! And if they did, it was their own fault!

**After devouring all the delectable foods, we gathered in the living room to exchange our "Secret Santa" gifts.** Names had been exchanged weeks before in anticipation of surprising each other with some thoughtful token of the holiday spirit. The gifts were as varied and unique as our Brothers and included such things as baking dishes, bath products, gift cards, and even a picture frame made from recycled computer keyboards.

In all, the Christmas party was a great way to wrap up a challenging fall semester and spend some quality time with our Brothers before heading home for the break for much-needed rest and relaxation. We all left the celebration filled with holiday spirit and anticipating the season ahead.



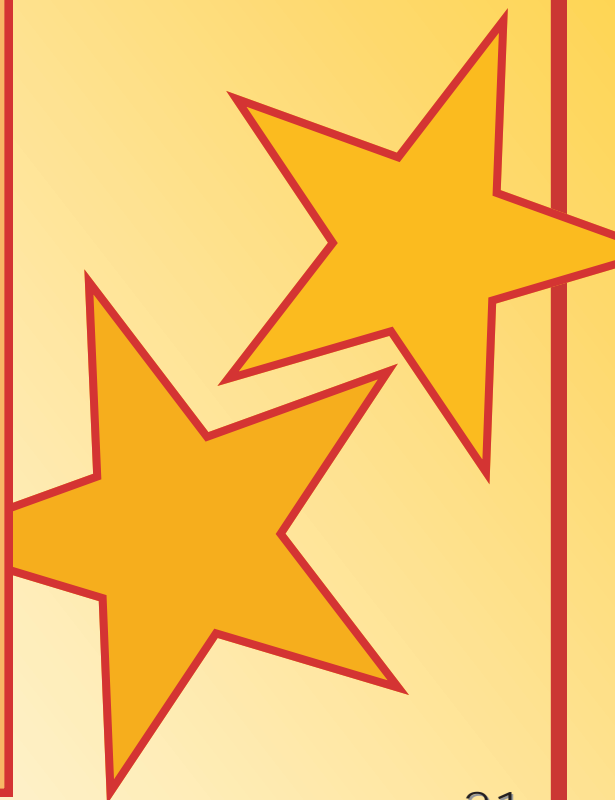


## Field Day By Kristi Carlile

The Brothers of Alpha Iota are nothing if not a little competitive. What better way to express some of that competitive nature, all the while spending time with and bonding with our Brothers than a Phi Delta Chi Field Day? Once again, Brothers Charles Durham and Chris Dobry opened their home to allow for another Alpha Iota gathering. **Their house was the official "party house" of the year!** Since their yard is huge, it was the ideal location for some outdoor activities.

Everyone arrived to Field Day that cool April morning with their game-faces on and ready to take down the competition. Field Day activities included classics like extreme Frisbee, tug-o-war, and even a good old-fashioned water balloon toss. The competition was fierce and so was the Brotherhood, as teams banded together to overcome the opposition.

The day ended with everyone exhausted from the physical demands of the games and a little damp from being hit with bursting water balloons. The day also ended with new alliances formed and stronger bonds developed between the Brothers of Alpha Iota.



# Giving back to the fans

## Service Projects

Mardi Gras at Morningside  
By Nirali Naik

On February 21st, nine of the Alpha Iota Brothers hosted a Bingo Night at Morningside Assisted Living Home. This was not your average Bingo Night, however. Theme: Mardi Gras. Brothers opened up the night by tossing festive bead necklaces to the participating residents. A vibrant party atmosphere exploded—it was exactly what the residents needed to get into the spirit of Mardi Gras!

Brothers called out numbers, handed out prizes, and played alongside residents for ten games straight. The residents seemed to enjoy the special activity, and Brothers did, too. It was a positive and rewarding service experience for the **Chapter, and we can't wait to go back!**



## The St. Jude 5K

By Trac Nguyen

It is October 22nd, and my cellphone alarm wakes me up promptly at 6:30 a.m. Today is our **Chapter's annual 5K charity event for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. It is a struggle, but I must wake up—**this is a very important event for our Chapter, and it also means a lot to me. I am not a morning person, **I am not a runner, and I rarely spend a Saturday anywhere other than at the pharmacy. Don't get me wrong, I** have always helped out during the 5K, doing whatever I could to ensure that the event turned out to be a **success. But this year is different: I'm registered to run.**

I resisted getting up, but I begin to hear the stirrings of my roommates, who are Brothers also up for the 5K. Yep, definitely time to roll out of bed. I open the front door of my apartment to take in the **morning's first air—**bitingly cold, enough to warrant layers and a heavy coat. I dress quickly, donning a thick track jacket and thick running pants.

7:00 a.m. The sun is just peeking over the horizon as we start our car. We arrive at the Stegeman Coliseum parking lot to the warm greetings of Brothers who are already there. Several have set up a registration table under a tent and have laid out another table of breakfast goodies for participants. While everyone huddles to combat the chill, I meander from one shivering cluster to the next to say good morning.

I see Brother Cam begin stretching for the run. Days before, she already expressed her motivation to **win, telling me, "I want that gift card for first place!" As usual, our Chapter had cultivated support from various** restaurants and businesses around Athens, and the winners of the 5K are awarded gift certificates that these donors have generously supplied us. With these incentives, no doubt Brother Cam is capable of winning today. I know her determination, that of a champion of a recent 5K.

There are so many pledges participating this year, more than I have seen in the past two years. A few come up to me to ask for an interview and a pledge task. I eagerly oblige, telling them this was going to be **the first 5K I would ever finish. They wish me luck. "If I don't cross the finish line," I say, "then Josie (the hyperactive dog that would be my running partner) is going to drag my bloody body across the finish line."**

8:00 a.m. The race starts promptly. While we receive instructions at the starting line in front of Stegeman Coliseum, I check out my competitors. There are Nikes, New Balances, and Reeboks of every shape and size, ready to push against the pavement. All the runners look like lean, mean running machines. **There is no way I can compete with these incredible athletes. Pausing to myself, I think, "Well, the important thing is just to finish, not to win." This is practically my first race, and I clearly do not know what I'm doing.** At the whistle, everyone takes off, but I remain at the back of the pack, unable to see Cam or any of my other roommates who are running. Five minutes in, and I am already out of breath. A little while later, I see people running past me as they make their way to the finish line. I laugh to myself.

Needless to say, I am unable to overcome the feeling of my life slipping away as I trudge on, slipping away with my motivation to run...so I walk to the finish line. Despite my struggles, to my surprise, I am still the first pet-runner to finish! I celebrate this great personal triumph with a hearty portion of fried chicken, mashed potatoes, and ribs when the race is over.

Great race. Cam and a first year medical student took first places for the women and men, respectively. PDC raised \$1,200 for St. Jude from the 5K. The Brothers and pledges were able to bond even more closely together through our struggles with gravity and inclines, and we also helped out a good cause. **Looking back, I'm glad to have participated in the race. It wasn't that bad, and next year's 5K will be even better.** I will conquer those treacherous inclines!

## Phi Delta Chi Keeps Athens Beautiful

By Phoeny Li

**On March 24th, fifteen Alpha Iota Brothers met to pick up trash along “our” mile of Timothy Road in Athens, GA.** We were proud volunteers of the Adopt-A-Highway program managed by Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful, a nonprofit organization dedicated to litter prevention, waste reduction, and beautification of Athens-Clarke County.

It was a crisp, quiet morning and early for a Saturday, but Brothers were up and ready to work. We piled into four vehicles at a gathering point, then we divvied up the trash bags, pick-up tools, and the fluorescent, mesh vests incredibly flattering to our figures. With efficiency as our goal, we split into two teams, each team splitting further in order to comb opposite sides of the road simultaneously. We made sure that Timothy was well-scoured.

The Brothers worked together tightly within each group, sharing tools and taking turns carrying trash bags. When one team finished their side of the road before the others, they crossed the busy highway to help their Brothers finish on the other side. Model Brotherhood, Brothers! Eventually, all the beer bottles, plastic wrappers, and even car crash debris were collected in trash bags ready for pickup on the sidewalk, and all the Brothers returned to the middle of the mile. Some Brothers drove back to pick up the laden trash bags for proper disposal.

The clean-up totaled approximately two hours, and Brothers gathered almost eight full bags of trash. For the relatively small effort and time commitment on our part, Brothers felt vastly rewarded by the difference we made for the environment, not to mention by the quality time we shared, chatting and jesting along the way. Alpha Iota will continue to support Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful by serving Timothy Road at least four times a year. This is one of the ways that we will uphold our commitment to give back to the community that serves us as a home away from home.



## Tea at Two By Rebecca Howell

On the Friday before Christmas, Alpha Iota sponsored an event benefitting the patients, families, and staff of the **Aflac Cancer Center and Blood Disorders Clinic at Children’s Healthcare** of Atlanta, Scottish Rite. This event was held as part of the daily Tea at Two series, a holiday tradition for children who are hospitalized during December. Tea at Two provides families and patients with an opportunity to socialize with each other on the floor of the hospital and to spark friendships and support networks for anybody who is experiencing a difficult time.

Brothers Toan, Whitney, Jenny, Sandra, and Rebecca donated such treats as hot chocolate, assorted cookies, a cake, a cheese platter, and mini-sandwiches. Brothers Whitney and Rebecca set up tables for the event and stayed to greet and serve the patients, families, and staff who came by. In the course of just one hour, Brothers served about sixty people. It was apparent that the simple gesture was a welcome way to make everyone feel just a bit more comforted.



## Cards and Cupcakes for Morningside By Jennifer Gaddie, Tiffany Chong, and Phoeny Li

**As a part of our Valentine's Day celebration this year, the Brothers of Alpha Iota signed handmade cards and delivered cupcakes to more than forty residents at Morningside Assisted Living Facility.** The facility is home to a number of aging community members who have so far been delighted by the monthly Bingo sessions that we host for them.

Brother Jennifer Gaddie, with the help of Brothers Shannon and Whitney, created stacks of beautiful **Valentine's Day cards and brought them all to Chapter for Brothers to personalize.** Brothers all admired the colorful creations made lovingly with paper lace and red, pink, and white construction paper. Every Brother present signed every card, forming an assembly line of love. Their notes of hearts and smiles and general cheer made the cards that much warmer.

**No Valentine's Day is complete, of course, without indulgence in some sweet treats. To make sure** Morningside residents had a proper celebration, Brother Gaddie also baked her signature cupcakes with a variety of colorful icing decorations to deliver along with the cards. At the annual Morningside Valentine's Day **Party, the Facility Coordinator distributed Alpha Iota's cards and cupcakes to the residents, and our contributions brightened the day of many elder citizens in our community.**



## Recycling for a Cause By Natalya Kusayeva

This Spring, Phi Delta Chi Service and Sustainability Committees organized a recycling drive to collect aluminum cans, empty ink cartridges, and old electronics to benefit the Athens Area Humane Society.

The initiative began with Brother Natalya, who learned about this opportunity through the AAHS website. After speaking with Brother Nirali, the Service Committee Chair, and Brother Phoeny, the Sustainability Committee Chair, it was decided that the drive was to be set up at the main office of the College of Pharmacy and was going to last the whole semester. Brother Nirali made flyers about the drive, and Brothers Natalya and Phoeny announced the drive at one of the organizational hours. The COP student, faculty, and staff were notified via email as well.

Brothers Nirali, Ji Young, and Khushbu collected aluminum cans that contributed to more than half of the total number of cans raised. By the joint efforts of the Brothers and other students at the COP, the drive collected 90 aluminum cans, 47 ink cartridges, 2 cell phones, 3 cell phone batteries, 1 digital camera, and 1 land-line phone. All the items were handed to the AAHS, which will use the funds earned from recycling those items to supplement the operation costs of the shelter.

## Pharm Dawgs and Farm Dawgs: A Day at UGArden

By Kyley Makanani and Phoeny Li

It was the first time that Brother Phoeny had ever wielded a chainsaw. She was not expecting this to be her introduction to UGArden, but she was certainly not balking at the idea! Quite the opposite. With careful guidance from UGA horticulture faculty member, Peter Hartel, the protection of earplugs securely stuffed into her canals, plus a face shield to deflect any stray particles, she soon grasped the proper use of the tool and proceeded to make quick work of segmenting two sweet gum trees into four-foot-long logs.

Why would a soft-spoken tree-hugger like Phoeny spend a sunny Sunday afternoon dismembering two **perfectly innocent trees, you ask? Brothers Phoeny and Patrick were actually representing Alpha Iota's first**-ever Sustainability Committee in helping UGArden make fresh sweet gum logs for Shiitake cultivation.

UGArden is the only student-run community vegetable garden at the University of Georgia. In recent years, it has grown not only to include Shiitake mushroom logs (selling mushrooms at a major profit for \$15 a pound), but also a beehive, an aquaponics system, and even vertical planting. Volunteers meet weekly to learn about and apply sustainable gardening techniques, and as each crop comes into season, they can harvest whatever they helped grow.

A large portion of each UGArden harvest is donated to the Campus Kitchens, a service that uses donated and reclaimed food to provide meals to people in need of food assistance. UGArden has also donated hundreds of pounds of food to the Northeast Georgia Food Bank, another place where Brothers serve.

After two hours of trimming and prepping the new Shiitake logs behind the workshop and weeding the garden plots in front, Brothers Patrick and Phoeny sipped apple cider with the rest of the rosy-cheeked volunteers. Then, they picked Brussels sprouts and fresh bunches of three varieties of kale to take home. It was a fun, rewarding service project, unique to the history of the Chapter.

## Service at the Food Bank: An Alpha Iota Tradition

By Jennifer Gaddie

Every semester for over five years, the Alpha Iota Brothers have volunteered at the Northeast Georgia Food Bank. While our tradition of service at this site remains strong, the itineraries of our visits are far from **predictable. The Food Bank's needs vary from month to month, and this semester's activities were no different.**

Our first encounter was a unique one, requiring Brothers to paint bowls for a local benefit dinner. We were given creative license to decorate the clay pieces however we could imagine, and the bowls were then fired with food-safe glaze. The night of the benefit dinner, our artful, useful pieces were auctioned off to the highest bidders to raise funds for the Food Bank. The dinner raised \$11,000—and counting—which estimates to more than 44,000 meals provided to food insecure people in the region.

Our next visit was completely different. We formed a long line and assembled over 240 bags of food for distribution. Items for donation ranged from canned fruits and vegetables to pasta to Fig Newtons.

Finally, the Brothers came in for a third round of volunteering. This time, we were led into a part of the warehouse filled with boxes donated from local CVS stores. Each box contained miscellaneous items, from Christmas decorations to peanuts to aspirin to energy drinks...and anything else you could think of! Perishable food items were set aside for further sorting by the facility, and non-perishables were set to be sold in a discount store with proceeds going to the Northeast Georgia Food Bank.

As you can see, Alpha Iota served the Food Bank in a variety of ways this year. We will be sure to **continue the tradition in the Fall, and we'll be ready for anything!**

## Easter Party at the Boys and Girls Club

By Jennifer Gaddie

This April, Alpha Iota Brothers worked on developing our ties with the local Garnett Ridge Boys and Girls Club (BGC) by putting together an afternoon of creativity and fun for the kids to celebrate Easter.

Preparations started the day before. Brothers gathered at multiple houses to stuff plastic eggs for the egg hunt, boil eggs and dye them for decorating, and bake cookies and cupcakes. The next day at Garnett Ridge, Brothers brought all the goodies and set up a series of stations for the children to move through in groups.

First, there was a food-decorating station. Here, Brothers handed every child a plain sugar cookie, a pre-dyed egg, and all the icing, sprinkles, and decorations that they could need for their creativity to run wild. When the children devoured their cookie creations and stashed their decorated egg in a goody bag, they then moved on to a coloring and maze activity. At this station, they were encouraged to color a picture of an Easter egg with a bunny hopping out of it. Director Susan Wilson planned to take their creations and pick the best for a grand prize the next day. Each child was extremely excited about the possibility of winning a prize for coloring.

Next came face painting. The children were given choices for what he or she would like to be painted on their cheeks, foreheads, or noses. By the end of the day, the facility was bursting with hopping bunnies and **fluttering butterflies all over the children's faces.**

After a taste of their sugar cookie creations at the first station, the children came to a cupcake walk at the fourth station. Here, everyone danced along to the beat with the encouragement of the Brothers, until a lucky someone received a second sugary treat when the music stopped.

The final station, which was by far the most exciting for the children, was the Easter egg hunt. Each child, still holding on to their goody bags, raced to collect brightly colored, candy-filled eggs hidden in the grass. **No matter how many eggs the children were able to snatch up, however, it was the one "golden egg," filled with the treasure of four shiny quarters, that the egg hunters coveted.** Every eye was peeled for the prize egg—it was the talk of the hunt.

What a fun, full afternoon at the Boys and Girls Club! At the end of all the activities, the children went home with goody bags of treats and giddy tales to share with their parents. Ms. Wilson was particularly pleased with the party and encouraged Alpha Iota to return to host more events. The Brothers enjoyed the quality time with the kids, but more importantly, they found a delightful way to give back to the Athens community.



# In the spotlight

## Professional Projects

### Brown Bag Event at Iris Place

By Shannon Sulik

In October, eleven Brothers and pledges visited Iris Place Retirement Community to host a brown bag event for residents there. The Brothers all came prepared with drug information resources and set up three counseling areas in a quiet activity room in the main community building.

One by one, residents trickled in, and Brothers were able to converse with patients about the indications for each medication, the proper way for them to be taken, and the side effects to expect. Though the turnout was unexpectedly small—only four residents stopped by—Brothers nevertheless had a meaningful time conversing with residents about prescription medications, OTC supplements, maintaining good health, and **residents' concerns.**

While the residents appreciated the time and information that the Brothers gave them, the Brothers were eager to take advantage of the opportunity to apply their drug information skills and assist a special patient population with our newly gained drug knowledge. On that front, Brothers learned a great deal from Faculty Brother, Dr. Keith Herist, who generously gave his time and energy to assist with and supervise the event.

Although it turned out to be a small affair, this brown bag event was a good learning experience for those who participated, and Brothers are optimistic about hosting another event in the coming year.

### *Let's Talk About Sex: Wrap that Halloweiner*

By Chris Dobry

**In October 2011, Alpha Iota represented at the UGA College of Pharmacy's annual health fair, Dawgtoberfest. A previous class of Brothers created an informational display entitled "Let's Talk About Sex!"** about the importance of practicing safe sex. Brothers presented the information in shifts over the duration of the fair, standing at the ready to explain concepts and ideas on the trifold in greater detail to any curious passerby. Simultaneously, we all distributed small bags stuffed with an informational brochure, condoms, a sample-size packet of water-based personal lubricant, and a button featuring a cartoon condom and the slogan, **"Wrap that Halloweiner!"** courtesy of the University Health Center.

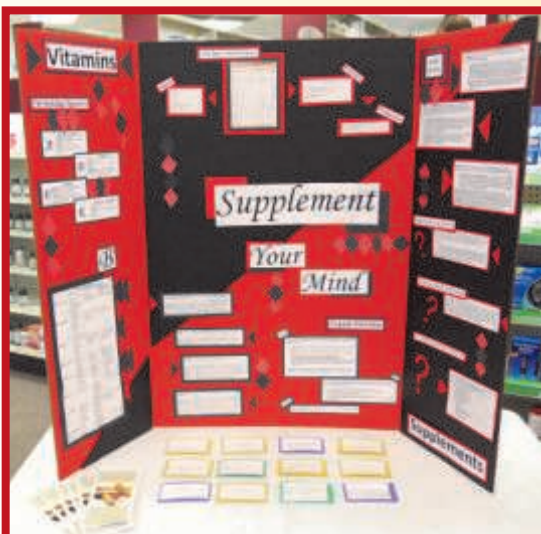
Over a three-hour presentation, Brothers served approximately 150 people with accurate, timely information and free supplies to practice what was preached. In a beautiful example of Brotherhood, the eight Brothers who signed up for the display were joined by even more who showed up and helped. Thanks to **everyone's best efforts, the "Let's Talk About Sex!" board at this year's Dawgtoberfest was a huge sensation.** Brothers look forward to presenting it again and again for years to come.

## Supplement Your Mind: The 2011-2012 Window Display Board By Stephanie Coleman

The Brothers of Alpha Iota started off this spring on the right foot with our professional window display board. One of our first big projects of the semester was putting together a presentation entitled **“Supplement Your Mind,”** to educate the general public about OTC supplements. Twenty-nine Brothers, spearheaded by Professional Co-Chairs, Brothers Abel and Stephanie Coleman, collaborated over three days to collect the materials and create the presentation. It featured essential information about the most commonly used vitamins and supplements, as well as an interactive component, in which participants matched various supplements with their physiological functions.

Brothers proudly presented the red, white, and black themed board in five cities throughout the metropolitan Atlanta and Athens areas, at retail pharmacies as well as gyms, reaching a broad target audience. Through the hard work and dedication of our Brothers, Alpha Iota was able to counsel well over two hundred people about how vitamins and supplements work and what regimens might fit their individual needs.

This project taught Brothers a great deal about working together as a team. As parts of a whole, **Brothers created the display board, scheduled and staffed each presentation, expanded each other’s** knowledge, and helped each other to adapt to the diverse needs of different patient populations and interact effectively with community members. While Alpha Iota might have gained much for itself in Brotherhood through this project, more importantly, the Chapter contributed to the lives of many patients in the community, broadening their understanding of their personal health needs and options they have available to make their optimum health a reality.



## Alpha Iota Reaches Out with Pre-Pharmacy Seminar By Abel Kusovschi

To supplement our ongoing commitment to inspire others in the field of pharmacy, the Brothers of Alpha Iota hosted an open forum discussion with students of the UGA Pre-Pharmacy Association this spring. First-, second-, and third-year Brothers attended to give encouragement and advice to undergraduates. Knowing the approachability, professionalism, honesty, and willingness of Alpha Iota Brothers to talk to students, we decided an informal small group style Q&A session would be most beneficial. Pre-pharmacy students would be able to ask Brothers open questions about the application process, preparatory coursework, and other tips for acceptance into pharmacy school. We initiated the event with the President of the Pre-Pharmacy Association, seeking to reach beyond what had already been covered in sessions with professors, pharmacy staff, and pharmacists, to fill in any remaining gaps of understanding.

After a brief introduction to welcome the attendees, Brothers approached undergraduate students to initiate conversation. Thanks to an excellent turnout, Brothers found themselves balancing conversations **between two or three prospective students at a time. This worked to everyone's advantage because it allowed the** students to make connections with each other, share their experiences, and prompt further helpful inquiries. At the end of the evening, the President of the Pre-Pharmacy Association said that it was one of the most active and productive meetings that they have had that semester. Members of the association agreed when asked how they deemed the event. Overall, they had all their questions answered satisfactorily and enjoyed their open discussions with the Brothers.

The purpose of this event was to help reach out to the pre-pharmacy students at UGA and help them with their application process and answer any questions that they have in regards to the pharmacy school. In reaching out to these students, we not only accomplished what we set out to do, but we have also set the groundwork to foster bonds with potential incoming first-year students to the College of Pharmacy. Developing relationships that honor the vision and values of Phi Delta Chi creates stronger ties within the COP community and further promotes the field of pharmacy, beginning with young, aspiring professionals.





## Multicultural Health Fair

By Lopa Joshi

**The University of Georgia College of Pharmacy's 7th Annual Multicultural Health Fair (MCHF) took place on Saturday, April 14th at the Pendergrass Flea Market in Pendergrass, GA. Located about 30 miles from the UGA campus, Pendergrass is the state's largest indoor flea market. Over 15,000 visitors stroll through every weekend, and more than 500 diverse merchants offer their products and services to the public here. At the MCHF, PDC Brothers not only represented our fraternity, but also APhA-ASP, GSHP, SNPhA, and COPA NTS (College of Pharmacy Association of Non-Traditional Students)—the newest student organization at the COP.**

A primary aspect of the MCHF is to educate the community about contemporary health topics. This is accomplished via window display presentations designed by each COP organization. Brothers Stephanie Coleman, Chris Dobry, Natalya, Synthia, Kiley, Whitney, and I, with a board representing PDC, informed visitors about the importance of sexual health. As visitors trickled past, Brothers shared with them practical facts about sexually transmitted infections, described resources available for testing or further information, and distributed free condoms courtesy of the University Health Center.

I also represented APhA-ASP's **Operation Immunization**. **While distributing immunization schedules** and recommendations for people of all age groups, I informed them of the advantages and potential risks of certain vaccinations. Patients learned about vaccinations for pertussis, measles, mumps, rubella, and HPV.

Brothers Jessica, Katherine, Charles Durham, Ami, and Sara represented GSHP to educate visitors on the proper use of over-the-counter medications and supplements. They explained that many dietary supplements are not always proven to work by FDA standards.

Not only are MCHF visitors offered free education on pertinent health topics, they were also encouraged to participate in free screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol, blood glucose, and bone mineral density. Several faculty members supervised pharmacy students as they collected patient information, performed measurements, and provided patient counseling, all while conducting themselves in an utmost professional manner.

Since a large portion of patients at the MCHF are Latino, and not many COP students are fluent Spanish speakers, it is often a challenge to communicate health information in a way that these patients can understand and accept. To our great fortune, Brother Aimee, a native Spanish speaker and polyglot, was available this year to translate screening results to more than four Spanish-speaking patients and their families. She conveyed the risks of hypertension and elevated blood glucose, discussed the significant influence of a family history of diabetes, and counseled patients on diet, exercise, and weight modifications in their native tongue. Evaluation of screening data determined that at least one patient needed to see a physician immediately upon returning to her home country, and Brother Aimee effectively emphasized the importance of taking that action.

With thirteen Brothers representing PDC and the COP at this popular, highly-attended, and well-received public service event, we were able to give our best efforts to our community and each other, and we **feel we contributed greatly to making this year's MCHF another big success.**

*"It IS teargas!"*

By Kyley Makanani

**I didn't set my alarm. Brother Shannon called me at 8:45 a.m. Saturday morning and asked, "Where is this place? My GPS isn't working!" I gave her quick directions from my brief glance at Google Maps the night before, and added, "I just woke up. I'm going to be late."**

We were trying to be on time for the Athens-Clarke Recycling Facility's Shreds and Meds event. I cursed the overcast morning. It was perfect sleeping-in weather, and I wanted to stay in bed so badly. The event was to start at 10 a.m., we were supposed to set up at 9:00, and I arrived at 9:30. There were already cars lining up, and I started feeling extremely guilty for being tardy.

I found Brothers Heidi, Shannon, and Phoeny under a tent with a burly, tough-looking police officer and **an energetic, excited woman, who immediately bounced up to me. "Hi! I'm Suki. Are you volunteering? This is Captain Pozen; he's going to help you girls take the drugs and answer questions about the disposal of those drugs."**

We were briefed about our responsibilities and given our supplies. All tablets, capsules, and creams—controlled or not—could simply be collected in one receptacle to take to the incinerator at the GBI. Liquids were not allowed, so one of our jobs was to separate them from the rest. Syringes, inhalers, and other miscellaneous items each had their own bins. Armed with latex gloves and form-flattering, neon-yellow **"Community Service" vests, we were ready to sort through bags of discarded medications.**

10:00 a.m., the gates opened, and all the cars that were waiting drove straight to the back of the facility—for shredding. I began to be nervous that no one would show up to dispose of medications. To my relief, a sparkling, brand-new red Toyota with all the stickers still on the windows pulled up. It was a sweet elderly lady with four plastic bags of meds in the backseat. We enthusiastically greeted our first participant, welcoming her to the event, and started unloading bags of what we thought would just be bottles of pills. Someone opened a **bag and pulled out a black aerosol can that was labeled "PARALYZER."**

**"That's the teargas," the driver casually informed us. We all laughed politely, thinking surely not. "Well, these aren't my medications...or my car," the lady shouted as she drove away. I was slightly disturbed and thought, "Shady." Behind me, the girls were chattering about the "teargas."**

**Curious, Captain Pozen walked over. "It's probably just some kind of pepper spray." He picked up the can, took off his sunglasses (even though it was cloudy and had been all morning) to get a closer look at the ingredients. He hesitated. "It IS teargas! Don't know where she would've gotten that." My eyes widened, and I thought, "No wonder she was driving a car without tags." It was the first of many surprises of the day.**

**The next car that drove up was a shiny, clean black sedan. "That's the coroner," Captain Pozen said. The driver, in a crisp, white button-down, stepped out and proceeded to hand us two giant sacks full of bottles and boxes of meds. We started sorting through them, and I overheard him tell Captain Pozen that these were drugs collected from deceased people. I was a little creeped out, but pretended I didn't hear a thing. At the bottom of one bag, Brother Phoeny found a handful of grimy loose change. "Um...what do we do with this?" she wavered. She tried to give it back to the coroner, but he wouldn't take it. "It's your tip!" I exclaimed. Phoeny was not amused.**

**A few cars later, a kind older gentleman came to our tent. "Thank you all for doing this event. I really didn't know what to do with all of this stuff. This is fifteen years worth of crap from the medicine cabinet." I laughed thinking he was over exaggerating. As I pulled packets out of the bag, I found Sudafed that had expired in 1991. I started digging further into the bag. "I will find something expired before I was born," I**



thought. We pawed through the cornucopia of drugs. “1982!” I screamed. It was the oldest drug we saw the entire day. No wonder these people need a drug disposal event. They really don’t get rid of this stuff!

After we scarfed down a lunch of Domino’s pizza, we sorted through a few more drop-offs, and then the three P2 and P3 Brothers departed to study for upcoming finals. I remained to hold down the fort for the rest of the event.

I expected the afternoon to be as pleasant as the morning was, but Athens-Clarke County had a different plan. The sun suddenly came out in full force. Car after car drove up and unloaded bags and bags of medications. People started leaving other items like batteries, light bulbs, mercury thermometers, and even electronics. **“Suki said I could drop it off here,” they all said. At one point, I almost lost my cool and wanted to yell at them, “DO YOU HAVE ANY DRUGS TO DROP OFF?” But I smiled calmly and took the junk without a word.**

2:00 p.m., and the gates were finally shut. 325 cars came through the facility, and we collected 292.4 pounds of drugs and shredded 6.88 tons of paper. I had not expected the day to be so memorable, but I quite enjoyed laughing and spending time with my Brothers while helping community members with proper medication disposal.

## Brothers Mentor Undergraduates Through AWIS ICMP By Whitney Holcombe

This year, Brothers of Alpha Iota mentored pre-pharmacy students who were members of the **Association for Women in Science (AWIS), as a part of AWIS’s first-ever** Intercollegiate Mentoring Program (ICMP). AWIS is an interdisciplinary group of undergraduate students that brings together young women interested in any science-related field of study. Their monthly meetings feature guest speakers who represent and share about their work in different fields, from research to academia to the healthcare professions. ICMP was created by President Amita Nawathe to bring together students in the medical and professional schools on the UGA campus so that they could connect with and provide guidance to undergraduate students aiming to follow in their footsteps.

Amita reached out to the College of Pharmacy to ask Brothers for help with the ICMP initiative in late October. Brothers Shannon, Grace, Phoeny, and I leapt at the change to reach out to pre-pharmacy students and represent PDC. The first ICMP meeting convened at the end of fall semester. Almost twenty-five mentors and students met in groups by discipline. Aside from pre-pharmacy, there were pre-med, pre-vet, public health, and even other fields represented among the attendees.


















Brothers Shannon, Phoeny, and I sat with about seven pre-pharmacy students. They were most curious **to know each Brother’s journey to pharmacy school. It was enlightening to me to learn about the different** paths my Brothers had taken to get to the same place—I understand them now in a new light.

As expected, the mentees had lots of questions concerning pharmacy school admissions, as well. We continued to discuss life at the COP, our experiences and impact of undergraduate programs, acquiring a job in pharmacy...Many students were very excited to get their questions answered truthfully and straightforwardly, and we did our best to do precisely that.


Afterwards, Brothers met with our individually assigned mentees. Each of us were responsible for two or three students, and we all exchanged contact information so that we could continue to correspond between meetings. Throughout the semester, we answered further questions and concerns as well as offered encouragement to our mentees as they fought through difficult exams, stress from all sides, worries, and doubt.

# An all-star cast

2011-2012 Composite







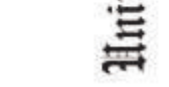
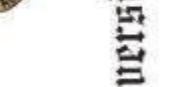


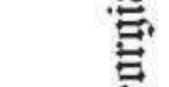
































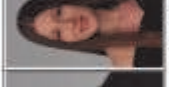








**Phi Delta Chi**  
Alpha Iota Chapter









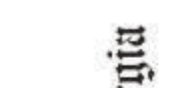
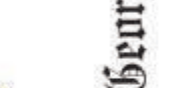


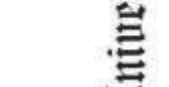






2011      2012

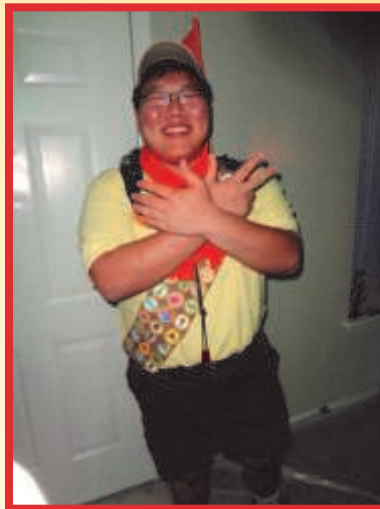
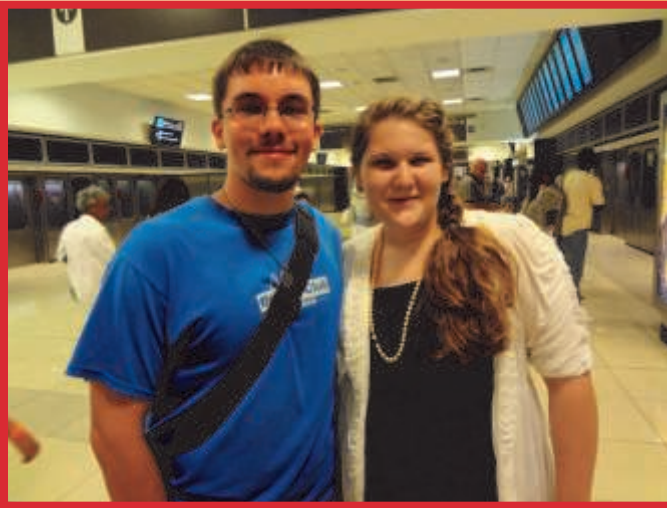
University of Georgia

2011      2012







# Walking the Red Carpet

2012 Formal Banquet

A Night of Red Carnations  
By Paula Phestadasack

**This year's Formal took place at a classy yet unique local venue, the Foundry Park & Inn. The Ball-**room was aglow in soft light, while Brothers, Faculty Brothers, alumni, and various guests all mixed and mingled before dinner, sharing hugs of reunion. Everyone posed glamorously in their evening wear for photographs in front of a beautiful backdrop of red carnations designed and painted by Brother Tiffany. It was a wonderful turnout. Over one hundred guests, including several Faculty Brothers, were present this year, notably Dr. Matt Perri, Dr. Keith Herist, Dr. Randy Tackett, Dr. Tim Long, and, of course, Dr. Henry Cobb.

**At seven o'clock, attendees lined up for plates at the catered buffet. Juicy strips of steak, savory potatoes and asparagus, and hearty vegetarian lasagna tantalized the nostrils and growling stomachs of those guests who were slightly behind in line.** There was plenty for everyone to get heaping platefuls, however, and while all enjoyed the tasty food, a slideshow displayed pictures of Brothers at PDC events of the year, many of them eliciting laughs from the audience. Meanwhile, certain guests with healthy appetites went back for seconds—and even thirds. For dessert, everyone dug into an enormous red velvet cake from Cecilia Villaveces Cakes, topped with rich cream cheese icing.

For the feature of the evening, charming emcees, Brothers To-My and Charles Durham, presented the academic, faculty, alumni, and superlative awards, and they hosted a graduation ceremony for all of the 4th year Brothers attending: Brothers Laura Briscoe, Ryan Markam, and Jennifer Smith. Attendees of the evening were full of admiration and soon good-natured laughter as winners walked up to accept their certificates and sashes.

Once the ceremonies were complete, a small but energetic group of merrymakers danced the night away on the ballroom floor, while other attendees pursued quality conversations with their Brothers and guests. The entire lovely evening was made possible by the hard work of Brothers Thuy, To-My, Charles Durham, and many others who helped organize. It was surely a Formal to remember!



# Leading Roles

## Leadership in Pharmacy Organizations

Alpha Iota Brothers are leaders, not only in Phi Delta Chi, but in many organizations on campus. Below are the Brothers who held leadership roles in other campus organizations during 2011-2012.

Ryan Markham	GSHP Student and Resident Committee
Crystal Beal	SNPhA Service Chair
Heidi Hesprich	GSHP Secretary
Nhu-Y Nguyen	SNPhA Historian
Stephanie Peccia	PLS Treasurer, COPANTS Treasurer
Angie Zhou	PLS President, AMCP Vice-President, ASCP Vice-President
Charles Durham	COPANTS Communications Officer
Ah Hyun Jun	GSHP Fundraising Chair, ASP Historian
Grace Lee	ASP Service Co-Chair
Phoeny Li	ASP AIDS Co-Chair, Class Representative
Ami Patel	ASP AIDS Co-Chair, ASP Heartburn Co-Chair, GSHP Treasurer
Erin Ward	COPANTS Organizational Liaison
Michael Arena	Class Representative
Aimee Shin	ASCP Network Liaison



# The After-party

Announcements, Achievements, and Future Plans

## 4th Year Legacies/Plans

Tony Casedonte:

**Well, I'm goin' out west**

Where the wind blows tall

**'Cause Tony Fanciosa**

Used to date my ma

They got some money out there

**They're giving it away**

**I'm gonna do what I want**

Do what I want

**And I'm gonna get paid**

**Goin' Out West by Tom Waits**

Jennifer Fries: I will be working for Wal-mart post graduation, and my husband and I will be living in the Augusta area.

## Announcements

Engagements:

Heidi Hesprich and Craig Jones

Abby Hobbs and Eddie Yabut

Weddings:

Jennifer Fries and Josh Smith

Michael Posey and Jennifer Chang

Merinda Mason and Matthew Lee

Births:

Emma Luschen (Parents: Bob and Casey Luschen)



# Credits

Publication Committee

A special thanks to the following Brothers for their hard work and dedication in helping make the Crucible possible. They sacrificed many hours to ensure our publication meets the highest standards.

Rebecca Howell  
Shannon Sulik  
Stephanie Coleman  
Tiffany Chong



# A word from the Directors

Publication Co-Chairs

It has been an absolute pleasure to serve as Publication Co-Chairs for the 2011-2012 academic year. Throughout the year, we have meticulously recorded each event, activity, and project that Alpha Iota has hosted or participated in in order to provide this publication as, not only a written account of our accomplishments this year, but also as a memento for ourselves and our posterity. Of course, none of this would be possible without the contributions of every Brother, particularly those who wrote articles, edited articles, and submitted photographs to help make the Crucible the rich compilation of words and images that it has become.

A special thanks to the Publication Committee for your hours of labor pouring over articles **to make sure every "i" was dotted and every "t" crossed.** Also, many thanks to all the Brothers of our wonderful Chapter for being the dynamic, fun, vibrant, giving, intelligent group of people that you are, enabling all of the activities of Alpha Iota to come to fruition. Without each of you, there would be no Alpha Iota, and without Alpha Iota, there would be no Crucible.

We hope that each one who picks up this edition of the Crucible will be inspired by seeing how our Chapter is committed to our profession, our community, and each other.

Alterum. Alterius. Auxilio. Eget.

Kristi Carlile and Phoeny Li  
Publication Co-Chairs, 2011-2012





Al ter um. Al ter ius. Auxil io. Eget.