### **ALUMNI VOLUNTEERS**

#### **BOT Members**

Chris Johnson '08 Chairman **Keith Bahun '08**Member
Education

Matt Kogan '12 Vice Chairman **Derek Carlson '09**Health & Safety

**Will Mizell '87** Financial Advisor Health & Safety Advisor

Brian Howell '08 Recruitment **John Kull '08** Member-at-Large

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# GEORGIA BETA IOTA OFFICERS

### Representing our Undergraduate Chapter with Pride

Andrew Jacon
President

**Clayton Parnell** House Manager

**Max Liguori** Vice President Mike Eberle Recruitment

**Read Baca** Treasurer **Ethan Beck** Member

Srikar Thammishetti Member Education

**Thammishetti** Social **Evan Williams** Health & Safety

Jack Rager Secretary Jack Corelli Chaplain

## **ACTIVES CORNER**

# Winning in Design and Sports!

Congratulations go to Jake Salesky and Mick Baker for winning the Capstone Design Competition, as well as to the Active Brothers who are Intramural Soccer Champions!





# THE STATE OF OUR BETA IOTA CHAPTER

By Jonathan Wampler

The Beta Iota chapter continues to show that it is one of the top leadership, academic, and philanthropic fraternities at Georgia Tech.

During the spring semester the chapter welcomed six new pledge members. This is the highest spring recruitment class in well over a decrease.

in well over a decade.



Brothers Jakes Salesky and Mick
Baker participated in the fall Capstone
Design Expo where 136 teams competed in
designing products and services to improve
consumer experience for sponsor businesses.
Jake and Mick won for the Interdisciplinary
category from their Miracle on Techwood
project sponsored by Lockblox. The overall
goal of the project is to create low-cost,
locally producible, easy-to-assemble, and
structurally robust building materials for
developing nations. The team designed
and prototyped a mobile machine that will

convert rapidly renewable agricultural waste (i.e. straw, corn husks, etc.) into a patented system of mortarless interlocking construction elements that directly compete with traditional cement building blocks.

More than

20% of our members are involved in some form of honor society or honors program. Brothers' involvement also expands into athletic clubs (Georgia Tech Golf Club, Georgia Tech Running Club), the Georgia Tech Student Foundation, and many student ambassador organizations. Brother **Daley Cass** served as the Secretary for the Ramblin' Reck Club during the 2016-17 year.

The chapter has placed a major focus on career development recently, with nearly every Beta Iota brother graduating with at least two semesters of work experience. Our graduating class received offers from companies such as Exxon, Home Depot, Milwaukee Tool, Huntington Ingalls, and St. Jude's Medical Research.

This year the chapter will focus on organizing two philanthropy events for our cause, CURE Childhood Cancer.

## **INTRODUCING THE NEW BOT**

## Striving for Continuous Improvement at Georgia Beta lota

#### **Chris Johnson – Chairman**



Chris is the Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Beta Iota. As such he provides leadership and education to the chapter president and helps the chapter leadership

facilitate the design and implementation of chapter-wide priorities. He earned a B.S. in Management from Georgia Tech (2008) and an M.B.A. from Georgia State (2013). While at Georgia Tech he served as the Philanthropy Chair, Campus Activities Chair, and Vice President for Beta Iota. Chris is the Owner and Managing Director

Chris is the Owner and Managing Directo of Brightlane Partners LLC, a consulting and investment banking firm for small- to medium-sized financial institutions and other financial service businesses. He also serves on the Board of Directors for HealthMPowers, a non-profit 501 (C) (3) organization in Atlanta that promotes healthy eating and physical activity in schools. He lives in Midtown Atlanta with his wife Andrea.

#### Matt Kogan - Vice Chairman



Matt is the Vice Chairman for the Board, a role in which he works with the chapter vice president to design and implement policies and procedures that achieve success

and structure in chapter operations. He earned a B.S. in Business Administration in 2012 from Georgia Tech. While at Tech Matt served Beta Iota as the Vice President. Matt lives in the Morningside neighborhood of Atlanta and works for Cox Enterprises in Strategy and M&A. He is an avid Atlanta and Georgia Tech sports fan and enjoys getting out to the lake in his free time.

#### Will Mizell - Financial Advisor



Will is the Financial Advisor to the chapter where he works with the development of and education about the chapter's spending plan. He has been employed by

Waffle House, Inc. since 1989. His current position is Vice President of People and Control (Recruiting, Training, Retention,

Development, and Restaurant Profits) and Lead Coordinator, Crisis/Emergency Response Efforts. Will holds a B.S. in Management from Georgia Tech (1987) and an M.B.A. from Georgia State (1989). He is married to Julie Lenaeus Mizell (married 28 years) and has 2 children: Bill, 2017 graduate of Georgia Tech; and Elizabeth, Junior at Georgia Tech. His other activities include his church, St. Bede's Episcopal Church, where he serves on the Vestry and is Treasurer and Head Usher. Will has been a Trustee on the Georgia Tech Alumni Association from 2005-2009 and on the Board of the American Red Cross of Atlanta, Hobbies/ interests include golf (all four family members play) and Georgia Tech football and basketball season ticket holder.

#### Brian Howell - Recruitment Advisor



Brian "Fluff" Howell is the Recruitment Advisor for the Board where he works with the recruitment chairman and chapter and advises in the development of an aggressive

and continual recruitment culture. He graduated from Georgia Tech in 2008 with a degree in Management. While at Georgia Tech, Brian served Beta Iota as Recruitment Chair.

Brian currently lives in Atlanta and serves as Vice President for Stream Realty's Atlanta office, a commercial real estate leasing and management company. His primary focus is the marketing and leasing of commercial properties and identifying investment opportunities for the firm and its clients.

### Keith Bahun – Member Education Advisor



Keith is the Member Education Advisor for the Board and in this role he works with the chapter member educator and advises in the development of chapter

culture that supports pledging as a positive and developmental assimilation period. He graduated from Georgia Tech in 2008 with a degree in Industrial Design. While at Tech, Keith served the Beta Iota chapter as Campus Activities Chair, Recruitment Chair, and Vice President.

Keith is currently a District Manager for Boston Beer Company. He lives in the Buckhead area of Atlanta and is getting married in December to his fiancé Natalie.

# Derek Carlson – Health & Safety Advisor



Derek is the Health & Safety Advisor for the Board, a role in which he advises the chapter health & safety officer in the development of a risk management education

program that promotes individual responsibility and self-governance of the chapter. He earned a B.S. in Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering from Georgia Tech in 2009. While at Georgia Tech, Derek served as both the Chapter President for Beta Iota and the President of the Interfraternity Council.

Derek lives in Marietta where he is a Market Development Manager for Renmatix, Inc., a global technology licensor enabling the low-cost production of cellulosic sugars from non-food biomass serving chemical and fuels markets by cheaply converting cellulosic biomass – from wood waste to agricultural residue – into useful, cost-effective sugars.

#### John Kull - Member-At-Large



John is a member-at-large on the Board of Trustees and serves as a liaison to the chapter, as well as our property owners Richmond Property Group, for issues related to

housing and facilities. He graduated from Georgia Tech in 2008 with a degree in Building and Construction and is currently pursuing his MBA at Georgia State. While at Georgia Tech John served Beta Iota as the Alumni Relations Chair and Yard Manager.

John is currently a Project Manager for MDH Partners, an Atlanta-based real estate investment firm. He lives in West Midtown Atlanta with his wife Mary Beth. They just celebrated their two year anniversary in December in Maui.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

## By Chris Johnson '08

During the spring of 2017 the institute's Office of Student Integrity placed the chapter on disciplinary suspension after it was found responsible for violations of the student code of conduct. The local alumni Board of Trustees (BOT) and the ATO National Fraternity worked together with chapter leadership to identify areas of deficiency within the organization that needed to be addressed in light of events that led to its suspension. A multiyear strategic plan was developed for rehabilitating the fraternity and changing its culture. After reviewing this plan, the institute has allowed the chapter to continue operations earlier than expected and we are ready to move forward positively.

The events that took place and a subsequent review of policies and procedures helped identify clear areas that need a renewed focus, including recruitment, risk management, new member education, bystander intervention, officer and organizational leadership training, and chapter advisor training. The BOT will work indefinitely with the chapter on a monthly basis to ensure clear goals and objectives are identified and met and that a sustainable change is made using the strategic plan as the blueprint.

One program that all chapter members have already completed is the Chapter Pursuit program developed and operated by the ATO National Fraternity. This

mediation involved all of the chapter member's full participation through two full weekend sessions led by the ATO National staff. Each member and BOT member took the Birkman Assessment - an online personality, social perception, and occupation interest assessment - prior to the sessions. It consists of in-depth information that allows an individual to learn specific activities that will motivate (interests), how a person is perceived to the world (usual), details of what happens when an individual is stressed out (stress), and the individual needs that allow a person to live a stress free life (needs). This high level of information provided the chapter with behavioral instruction for how it operates currently and how to communicate the positive changes from within.

Each member learned about their profile and strategic ways of how they can manage their day-to-day, as well as communicate to others what they need, and ultimately navigate on how to work together. Once learned, this information was flipped into the entire chapter specifics where the members applied the Birkman education to their organization. These set up the prompt for what areas in the chapter are causing members to stress, giving us a starting point to then build a plan.

The Chapter Pursuit Program will be an ongoing, annual program that all members continue to take each year they are in

school, including all new members.

Other initiatives that will require annual participation from members focus on risk management and bystander intervention. Using the Alpha Tau Omega Health & Safety Manual & Resource System as its guide, the chapter developed risk management training that all members must complete each semester. This involves educating members on national policies and procedures, as well as best practices to manage risks on a daily basis. In addition, a third-party will speak to the chapter about bystander intervention.

The task of creating a sustainable culture change is one that requires the participation from many parties. In addition, the chapter itself has to want to change. The local Board of Trustees reached out to alumni in search of new volunteers to help carry out the new strategic plan as board members, and as a result the size of our volunteer group has doubled with many others having agreed to serve in an informal capacity. These new additions have allowed our group to have a one-to-one relationship with the top executive leadership positions so as to more effectively focus on specific areas.

We look forward to welcoming alumni back to the Alpha Tau Omega house and continuing down a positive path with the chapter members.

# **UNDERGRADUATES DESERVING OF PRAISE!**

# **Congratulations to our Undergraduate Scholarship Award Winners**

Each year the Board of Trustees presents scholarships in the name of alumni Eugene M. Clary (Class of 1932) and C. Whitney Knoll (Class of 1970) to 3 outstanding members of the fraternity.

#### Eugene M. Clary Award Winner: Jake Salesky

This award is given each year to a graduating senior who best represents the principles of Alpha Tau Omega on campus, in the classroom, in the community, and within the fraternity. This is considered the alumni's choice for "best brother".

# C. Whitney Knoll Award Winners: **Jack Corelli & Patrick Feininger**

This award is given each year to a rising senior and sophomore who best exemplify what it means to be a leader on campus and in the fraternity.



Jack Corelli



Patrick Feininger (right)





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Inside:

- Meet the New Board of Trustees!
- State of Georgia Beta-lota
- Alumni Profile: William Collins '57

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## **ALUMNI PROFILE**

## **Bill Collins '57**

With so many of his friends in the fraternity, Bill Collins was naturally attracted to Alpha Tau Omega, where he met "quite a few boys," he says.

Some of his favorite memories? All the fraternity sports (which he and the brothers were quite good at), as well as the social events.

"I don't remember

us losing a softball game the three years
I played," Collins
recollects. "In track we ...had a hurdles
relay, and we either won it two, or three
years in a row." In football, Collins
remembers only one loss. "And, we only
had four touchdowns going for us the last
year."

"In those days we had to have chaperones at the parties..." he continues. "My parents chaperoned many of the parties for probably two and a half years." It was a responsibility he says they truly enjoyed.

Beyond all the fun, Collins feels Georgia Tech and ATO taught necessary skills for his career. "After graduating, I went to work



L to R – Holt Garrard, Martha Keith, Bill Collins, Betsy Jordan, Jack Jordan, Joel Cowan, Garnett Keith, Pat Davis, Ed Davis (5 of 6 are ATOs – everyone but Garnett, who was a Sigma Chi, all graduted – half graduated in 57, Joel Cowan graduated in 58).

for a company called Martin Company in Orlando, Fla. Now, it's Lockheed Martin. I went to work down there as an engineer..." he says. "I went to graduate school and worked at the – what they called it then – the Georgia Tech Experiment Station." Afterward, Collins worked 32 years with Pinkerton & Laws Company, a small construction firm that greatly expanded in the early '80s.

"A year later [in 1993] I started my own construction company with a person who had worked with me for many years by the name of Jerry Arnold...We did mainly commercial and industrial...And, then I

retired 18 years ago," Collins explains. After his retirement, he sold the company to its employees.

Collins has also invested in Burger King Franchises, shopping centers, storage facilities and thousands of acres of land. "I had partners in most everything I did," he says, and his brothers were often involved.

Collins continues to keep in touch

regularly with his ATO brothers through email. John Morrow acts as an official communicator, and event coordinator, for a few of them. Recently, Collins, Ed Davis, Jack Jordan, Holt Garrard and Joel Cowan met in Charlottesville, Va., for a brief reunion, and, once a year, they enjoy watching a football game together, usually in October.

Friends are not all ATO brought into Collins' life. His wife attended every ATO party with him from the time they met, until he graduated.