

1. The 20<sup>th</sup> International Grand Polaris is

\_\_\_\_\_.

2. The 20<sup>th</sup> International Grand Vice Polaris is

\_\_\_\_\_.

3. The 20<sup>th</sup> International 2<sup>nd</sup> Grand Vice Polaris is

\_\_\_\_\_.

4. The Ohio Valley Region Regional Polaris is

\_\_\_\_\_.

5. The Ohio Valley Region Assistant Regional Polaris is

\_\_\_\_\_.

6. List the Ohio Valley Regional Polari in Order of Service

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

7. There are 7 regions that Iota Phi Theta ® Fraternity, Inc. is broken into please list those regions and Regional Polari or each area:

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8. List the complete Regional Council and their job titles .

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9. Please fill in the missing information within the chart

<b>Divine Nine Organizations</b>	<b>Year Founded</b>	<b>Official Colors</b>
_____ Phi Alpha Fraternity	_____	Black & Gold
Alpha _____ Alpha Sorority	1908	_____ Pink & _____ Green
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity	_____	_____ & _____
_____ Fraternity	1911	Purple & Gold
_____ Sigma _____ Sorority	_____	Crimson & <u>Cream</u>
_____ _____ Sigma Fraternity	1914	Royal Blue & _____ White
_____	<u>1920</u>	Blue & _____ <u>White</u>
<u>Sigma</u> _____ <u>Rho Sorority</u>	1922	Royal Blue & <u>Gold</u>
<u>Iota Phi Theta Fraternity</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>Charcoal</u> Brown & <u>Gilded</u> Gold

**Bonus Question**

10. List all Of the Iota chapters that are in the state of the school you attend.

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## IOTA PHI THETA FRATERNITY, INC. "OUR FIRST FIVE YEARS"

### BEGINNINGS:

Social interests are among the many unifying factors which promote group development, and such was the case with Iota Phi Theta in the embryonic stages. On the 19th of September, 1963, twelve men, all long time acquaintances, stood on the steps of Hurt Gymnasium, on the campus of Morgan State College. They discussed the formation of a campus social club which would serve their needs without the constraints imposed by the initiation rituals characteristic of other organizations.

They were originally dubbed 'I FELTA THIGH' by Louis Hudnell. It was soon realized that, since the group would function as a campus organization, some alternations would have to be made to insure a serious reception by the campus community. Thus, the metamorphosis entered yet another stage - from clique to club to fraternity. The name was appropriately changed from "I FELTA THIGH" to the similar sounding "IOTA PHI THETA" by Lonnie Spruill. This was to be a "Greek" fraternity in name only, but unforeseen events would force changes in the future. The twelve founding Brothers of Iota Phi Theta Fraternity are:

Albert Hicks	- Polaris
Lonnie Spruill, Jr.	- Vice-Polaris
Charles Briscoe	- Secretary
Frank Coakley	- Treasurer
John Slade	- Business Manager
Barron Willis	- Chaplain
Webster Lewis	- Historian
Charles Brown	- Sergeant-at-Arms
Louis Hudnell	- Dean of Pledges
Charles Gregory	
Elias Dorsey, Jr.	
Michael Williams	

This stage was a time of innovation and creativity, for the symbolism we know today originated from the founders and the first of our pledge lines. Iota's symbols are unique and were created not to conform to everyone else's, but to represent a new and vibrant organization.

Iota has always been about the business of change; in fact, three weeks after the organization was founded, there was a transition in leadership. Albert Hicks had to leave school, and Lonnie Spruill was made acting Polaris. The Brothers began to function with the emphasis placed upon the mature image and all the related artifacts of the "*The Mature Man on Campus*". This was helpful as well as hindering to the initial growth period -- helpful in the sense that mature, level-headed individuals are essential to any organization. Hindering? If age is the only criterion for maturity, then growth must be stunted on a campus where the average age of potential members was 3 to 5 years younger. On the other hand, the artifacts of maturity -- cars, clothes and women -- tended to have a magnetic appeal for younger prospects. This does not insure quality membership in all instances, but it does build an attractive image.

As a result of these factors, there was a kind of polarization between the founders and the campus community at large. The Brothers carried on many activities in Baltimore City, due largely to the fact that they were not officially recognized on campus.

Despite these constraints, in March of 1964, Iota Phi Theta revealed its first pledge line of fifteen (15) Centaurs.

The members of the first line were:

Richard Johnson	Ronald Wheatly
Frederick Howard	Jerome Cullens
Ronald Flamer	Lawrence Brooks
Wesley Jennings	Howard Williams
Jeff Johnson	Calvin Freeland
Daniel Henson	Charles Watts
Willie Barber	James Watson
Harold Adams	

They became Brothers during the last week of April, 1964. The most significant aspect of the fraternity creed was demonstrated in the administration of this line. Pledges were initiated *without* excessive abuse and harassment; the initiation procedure was utilized more as a 'rite of passage', rather than an opportunity to belittle or dehumanize. Iota Phi Theta feels that this is the *only way* to make good brethren. Iota Men have always felt that "It only takes a few weeks to pledge Iota, but it takes a lifetime to be a Brother!"

#### THE DRIVE FOR ACCEPTANCE:

In order to be a legally functioning campus organization at Morgan State, a fraternity or sorority has to be affiliated with some governing body. In this case, that body was the local Pan-Hellenic Council, which was expressly for the "recognized Greek" organizations. Although we were never fully accepted as peers, Iota Phi Theta became a trial member of the council, and in effect, obtained official recognition on May 13, 1964. The trial membership was based upon the contingency that a Beta chapter be established in the near future.

To be sure, our presence on the council was tolerated (at best) by the other groups. Iota received little, if any, assistance from our so-called peers; however, we were fortunate to have two valuable allies: The faculty advisor, Mr. Arthur Boone, provided guidance and political influence during the early stages. Also, Mrs. Audrey Brooks had always been in support of the Fraternity. Her position in the school administration helped to keep us from being victimized by our enemies.

During the homecoming festivities of September, 1964, we claimed 'First Prize' for the best float. It was during this time that we chose to honor those women who had aided and supported us. Miss Yvonne Howard became the first, official Fraternity Queen, and Mrs. Audrey Brooks became the "Eternal Sweetheart" of Iota Phi Theta. (Coincidentally, Mrs. Brooks is the Mother of Bro. Wesley Jennings)

On January 14, 1965, Iota's Constitution was accepted by the administration of the college. Through most of this period, the chapter's officers were:

Charles Briscoe	- Polaris
Fred Howard	- Vice-Polaris
Rick Johnson	- Secretary
Baron Willis	- Treasurer

Around this time, **Brother Richard Johnson** made two very significant contributions. He wrote the original drafts of the Constitution and By-Laws, which later were used as the basis for establishing Iota Phi Theta as a fraternity incorporated in the State of Maryland. Bro. Johnson is also the composer/arranger of the Fraternity Hymn, which was adapted from the song, "**Our Lady of Fatima**", in August of 1964.

During the course of the first line, the Fraternity became active on campus and began to seek recognition by the administration and other campus groups.

#### **THE DARK DAYS:**

Functioning under the jurisdiction of the Pan-Hellenic Council soon proved to be a serious handicap. We were forced to adhere to their membership criteria, which were restrictive and pre-empted growth. This became painfully clear when we had our next line; only three individuals were eligible for membership, and consequently, only one Brother, Al Pierce, was made in 1965. The administration of 'Alpha' chapter at this point consisted of:

Lonnie Spruill	- Polaris
Danny Henson	- Vice-Polaris
Calvin Freeland	- Secretary
Lawrence Brooks	- Treasurer
Louis Hudnell	- Business Manager

At the end of 1965, tragedy struck with the death of **Brother James Anthony Watson**. On December 4, 1965, Lieutenant Tony Watson was killed while leading a night patrol in Vietnam. This event accompanied a period of low morale for the fraternity: Bros. Spruill and Hudnell left school, leaving behind a void in the Fraternity's leadership. Rick Johnson became Polaris with the Vice-Polaris slot left vacant. Other Brothers left school at this time via graduation or dropping out.

The most positive by-product of 1965 was the formation of a fledgling group of graduate Brothers. At this time, members were allowed to "pledge" into the graduate chapter. The officers and initial members of Iota's first graduate group (which would later become known as the Alpha Omega Graduate Chapter), started in March of 1965, were:

Charles Briscoe	- Polaris
Jeff Johnson	- Vice-Polaris
Harold Adams	- Secretary/Treasurer
Earnie Donaldson	

William Watson  
Carmie Pompey  
Samuel Frazier

Through the efforts and dedication of the Brothers, both in and out of school, Iota survived 1965. Bros. Hudnell and Spruill returned, and in February of 1965, Iota Phi Theta voluntarily left the Pan-Hellenic Council and began to exist on Morgan State's campus as an "outlaw" fraternity.

#### THE COMEBACK:

To bear the brunt of scorn and ridicule as "outlaws" is not an easy task, but the pride and determination of the remaining Brothers was more than equal to the job. At this time, Fraternity policy stated that every Brother would have and wear a sweater . . . and they did! Attempts to repress them were rendered futile, and subsequently, Iota held a "smoker" to attract potential members. The result was a line of twenty-eight (28) Centaurs, which was later dubbed, "**The Trifling 28**". To be sure, this was not a model line -- many were not serious at first, most of the pledges lived in Baltimore, and like the Founders, many were working and attending school part-time.

On the plus side, this line had more than its share of popularity, and though their pledging was taken lightly by other organizations, their vitality and appeal gained favor with the campus community. On April 19, 1966, the "Trifling 28" galloped into 'Iota Land' and began paying their dues. Friendships grew, songs were written, and people began to respond. **Robert Young ("Half")**, the President of the line, developed the now-famous "**Centaur Walk**", which has become a Fraternity institution. The effect of dozens of Brothers performing the "Centaur Walk" is fantastic.

Another important outgrowth of the line of 1966 was the fact that many contacts were developed among campus-based students. It was this interaction and participation almost entirely of out-of-state campus students that distinguished the pledge line of 1967.

These twenty (20) men, known as the "**Pied Pipers**", were the most popular and talented group to pledge Iota yet. They possessed a drive and spirit, which revitalized the older Brothers and charmed the campus. This was unmistakably a turning point: Not only had the gap between city and campus been bridged, but the way had been cleared which would allow for the founding of new chapters. The "Pied Pipers" crossed the sands on April 20, 1967, and the era of the road trip, 'en masse', began.

The Fraternity really began to expand in 1967 with interest groups organized at Hampton Institute and Delaware State College. The Hampton interest group was the first, founded by Robert Hawkins. However, Delaware State became the first chapter established outside of Baltimore. Since there was no functioning national body at this time, both chapters had their founding members inducted by the Polaris of Alpha chapter, who, at this time, was Brother Arkley Johnson.

The expansion continued in 1968 with chapters being formed at Norfolk State College and Jersey City State College under Brother John W. House, Polaris of Alpha chapter. This growth period was gratifying, but the lack of central authority would prove to be disastrous. In any event, the tide and high spirit moved forward, and on November 1, 1968, Iota Phi Theta was officially and legally incorporated as a National fraternity, with its base in the State of Maryland.



## THE GREEK ALPHABET

LETTER	NAME	ENGLISH EQUIVALENT
A	Alpha	A
B	Beta	B
Γ	Gamma	G
Δ	Delta	D
E	Epsilon	E
Z	Zeta	Z
H	Eta	H
Θ	Theta	Q
I	Iota	I
K	Kappa	K
Λ	Lambda	L
M	Mu	M
N	Nu	N
Ξ	Xi	X
O	Omicron	O
Π	Pi	P
P	Rho	R
Σ	Sigma	S
T	Tau	T
Y	Upsilon	U
Φ	Phi	F
X	Chi	C
Ψ	Psi	Y
Ω	Omega	W