



The Iowa State Pythagorean

Published by the Corporate Board of the Iowa State Chapter of ACACIA Fraternity

Fulfilling the mission of ACACIA -- Making Good Men Better!

February, 2006

Issue # 36

Acacia Remains #1 in Greek System with 3.40 G.P.A.

Pledge Class is #1 for fourth consecutive year with a 3.23 G.P.A.

The Fall, 2005 semester grade results are in, and **Acacia Fraternity** continues to lay claim to the top academic honors in the Iowa State Greek System. The results for the top five chapters were as follows:

1.	Acacia	3.40
2.	FarmHouse	3.12
3.	Alpha Gamma Rho	3.05
4.	Lambda Chi Alpha	3.05
5.	Phi Kappa Theata	3.05
All Fraternity Average		2.84
All Men's Undergrad Ave.		2.81

Academic excellence has long been a hallmark of Acacia Fraternity. Our chapter has focused on attracting the best and brightest young men, and then providing them with an outstanding environment in which they can develop superior academic and social skills to become effective leaders in their chosen profession.

Our focus on recruiting only **exception men** who are **dedicated to their academic studies** and to making a **positive contribution to society** has been a primary factor in our success – and one which we will not abandon! It is our focus on academics, personality, and a demonstrated level of leadership which has enabled us to build an exceptional Fraternity at Iowa State.

Previous academic results for the Chapter are as follows:

Term	Position	GPA
Fall, 2005	#1	3.40
Spring, 2005	#1	3.43
Fall, 2004	#1	3.39

Spring, 2004	#1	3.38
Fall, 2003	#1	3.49
Spring, 2003	#1	3.24
Fall, 2002	#2	3.06
Spring, 2002	#2	3.19

For the **fourth year in a row**, the pledges of our chapter captured the top spot among all Greek Houses with an impressive **3.23 grade point average**. Their closest competitors were Delta Lambda Phi with a 3.17 GPA and FarmHouse with a 3.07 GPA.

Based on the results for the fall semester, a total of **\$3,600** was awarded to members of the active chapter. Fully 75% of the members qualified for these scholarships, and we would like to recognize the following Brothers for their outstanding academic achievements:

Craig A. Buske
Collin M Donahue-Oponski
Vincent L. Fadden
Adam B. Halls
Jared A. Kline
Matthew J. Landherr
Clark D. Richardson
Aaron S. Rosheim
Jonathan C. Vaage
Micahel J. Woolley

Christopher W. Demaria
Mark S. Eckman
Martin L. Gran
Joshua S. Haugo
John A. Kvinge
Nathan A. Porter
Jonathan A. Roghair
Phillip J. Sherman
John T. Vogel

Acacia remains the **only** fraternity in the Iowa State Greek System with **both** the **highest affiliated GPA** and the **highest new member GPA**. We have achieved this result for **three straight years!** Our congratulations to the men of Acacia for their outstanding academic performance!

Best of luck for the Spring, 2006 semester!

\$ 15,934 Donated by Acacia Alumni in 2005

Our alumni continued to demonstrate their financial support to the men of the Iowa State Acacia Chapter with another year of impressive donations to the scholarship fund. The results of the donations made to the **\$45 Grand Club** for 2004-2005 is as follows:

2004 contributions	\$ 4,665
2005 contributions	<u>15,934</u>
Total	\$ 20,599
Lynch and Zarr contributions	<u>15,000</u>
Total for 2004-2005	<u>\$ 35,599</u>

As you may recall, these funds are deposited in the **Iowa State Acacia Chapter Fund** which is managed by the Acacia Fraternity Foundation. As of December 31, 2005, the balance (unaudited) in the various accounts managed for the benefit of the Iowa State Chapter was as follows:

Chapter Expendable Account	\$ 57,940.35
Library Fund	\$ 200.00
Drdla Educational Fund	\$ 404,272.00
Education Fund	<u>\$ 5,000.00</u>
Total of all Accounts	<u>\$ 467,412.35</u>

The funds in the Chapter Expendable Account are used to provide scholarships to the undergraduate members of the Fraternity. The other three funds are used as investment vehicles to provide funds (from interest and dividends) which flows back into the chapter expendable account. Our goal is to eventually make this fund self-sustaining so that we can further increase the level of scholarships awarded to the members of the Fraternity.

The generosity of our alumni has enabled the Corporate Board to significantly increase the amount of funds allocated for academic scholarships to the members of the Fraternity. Currently, every member who earns a 3.00 or above is automatically granted a \$200 scholarship. We also provide \$400 scholarships per semester to every member to cover the cost of room and board.

Our thanks go out to all of the alumni who donated money to the scholarship fund in 2005! A summary list of all of our Brothers who contributed is included with this issue of the newsletter. 2005 was a record setting year in terms of contributions and the number of alumni who participated. We hope that this trend will continue and that next year all of our alumni will be recognized for their support of the Chapter!

Thanks again to all our Brothers for their generous support

President's Room Named in Honor of Brother Edwin G. Drdla - #377

At the Board meeting held on October 15th, the Alumni Board approved a resolution to name the President's room in honor of **Brother Edwin G. Drdla** who donated **\$444,272** to our scholarship account. The donation made by Brother Drdla was discussed in detail in the August, 2005 issue of the newsletter. Suffice it to say that, thanks to his generosity, we now have a solid foundation on which to build a truly self-sufficient scholarship program.

The Board authorized the purchase of a bronze plaque which will be affixed outside of the door to the President's Room, forever recognizing the contribution made by Brother Drdla to the Iowa State Chapter, and honoring his memory as an outstanding Acacian.

After we told the story of Brother Drdla, another alumnus of the Fraternity, inspired by the example of Brother Drdla, has stepped forward and created another Education Fund within

the Acacia Foundation for the benefit of the Iowa State Chapter. This alumnus has pledged to contribute up to \$5,000 per year to an endowed account to provide another source of funds for the scholarship program for your chapter. His only request was that his name not be disclosed, which we have honored.

On behalf of the Corporate Board, I would like to thank all of our alumni for their generosity to our scholarship program. You may not realize what a difference it makes, but let me assure you that every contribution is important to us! Our goal is to build the finest Fraternity within the Iowa State Greek System in which all of our Brothers and families can take pride.

Thanks again for your support!

Planned Chapter House Improvements

A long-needed set of chapter house improvements was completed during the Christmas break. The most important

one was the refinishing of the hardwood floors on the main level of the Chapter House. All of the hardwood floors were

sanded and repolished in order to ensure their viability for many years to come. We also had all of the carpets in the main traffic areas and rooms cleaned in order keep the chapter house up to our standards.

Plans are currently in the works for improvements to be implemented this summer as well. In May, we will have the routine work of having the carpets cleaned in all of the common areas and rooms in the house. We will also have all of the mini-refrigerators and microwave ovens cleaned and made ready for the fall semester. Any items needing to be replaced will be taken care of at that time.

Our largest project is to have the basement room converted into a combination chapter meeting room/study area by the end of June. This will involve the removal of a couple of walls that currently form a small closet area, the removal of some fixed furniture, tearing out and replacing part of the ceiling and repositioning the electrical and sprinkler system in the room.

We will also “level” the floor and install new carpeting or linoleum, and repaint the room as well. This work will convert this room from its rather limited use now as a study area, to a fully functional multi-purpose room suitable for studying, chapter meetings, or relaxation.

This will also allow us to convert the main floor rooms into a more formal area for alumni gatherings and small group entertaining.

A second set of house improvements will focus on the second floor bathrooms where we plan to upgrade the floors and shower areas, paint and wallpaper as needed, and perform a variety of routine maintenance activities. As we do not typically rent out the second floor rooms, this work can be carried out this summer with a minimum of disruption to the chapter members who attend Iowa State during the summer semester.

Acacia Fraternity to support Special Olympics

Responding to a request from the Special Olympics organization, the Corporate Board voted to make space available for volunteers to stay at the Chapter House during the Special Olympics events in July. The event is scheduled to run from July 1 – July 14, 2006.

Our chapter house is uniquely positioned close to the Iowa State Center, thus making it convenient for the volunteers to

get to and from the various events. In addition, we can provide rooms with central air and access to the kitchen area as well. A nominal fee will be paid by the participants to help us cover the cost of utilities.

The motto of our Fraternity is “human service,” and this is simply one more way in which your Brothers in the Iowa State Chapter works to achieve that noble ideal!

Alumni News and Notes!

Jean Proctor
1952 Becchelli Lane
Redding, California 96002-0138
jhproc@charter.net

This is to notify you of the death of my beloved Bob – Robert E. Proctor - #314, on November 26, 2005. He loved his Acacia and the fact that his father-in-law, John Hug, had been a charter member of the Iowa State Chapter, and his brother-in-law, Harris C. Hug, had later become a member of the Iowa State Chapter.

We had celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary on September 16, with our three children and four grandchildren present. And even though he was in the hospital at the time, it was a very special occasion for him and for all of the family.

Donald G. Lyon - #451
325 West Merrill Street
Lime Springs, Iowa 52155
563-566-2887

Enclosed is a check for the Acacia Fraternity Foundation. I want to dedicate it the memory of my ex-roommate, Don Larson. We roomed south of the campus and worked for our meals in Lyon Hall, but would attend fraternity social functions.

We roomed together my last two years in school. He was brilliant, quiet and fun to tease; he was very patient.

My sister, Marilyn, who was in nursing school at Iowa City lined us both up with blind dates one weekend. Don married his date, I didn't. I'm sure he is sorely missed.

Wayne I. Roberts - #508
1404 Gloucester Point
Kerrville, Texas 78028
Flvr42@satx.rr.com

I am told that the former (REAL former) Acacia house was up on Lincoln Way, and when World War I was declared, the members closed the house, boarded it up, and enlisted to a man. I heard this from the son of one of the members at the time, John Walker, of Litchfield Park, Arizona.

John P. Bahr, Ph.D. - #545

**8675 North Point Drive
Fox Point, Wisconsin 53217**

Thank you very much for keeping me informed about the Iowa State Acacia chapter. I'd received nothing for several years. After previously hearing that the chapter was having a hard time, I thought it had perhaps just disappeared. Thanks for finding me again. Enclosed is a check for your work. Use this anyway you want for expenses or programs. Based on my reading of your good work there will be more to follow.

I'm including a brief report on my life after Iowa State for your file. Use it any way you want. My years at Iowa State were very important in my life. Since leaving Ames, I've graduated from two other schools. (University of Wisconsin and Marquette.) Iowa State is the only one that I feel connected to. After the other schools, I appreciate Iowa State more.

((John sent along with his letter this summary of all that he has accomplished since leaving Iowa State. I am reproducing it here for you.))

John P. Bahr
Class of 1959

There is much to catch up on in my life. I'm now retired from the world of gainful employment. I've had an interesting career doing a number of different things. After graduating from Iowa State in 1959 with a degree in electrical engineering, I worked for General Electric for about thirteen years. I started out in the Management Training Program and had a variety of jobs in different parts of the country. My last job in manufacturing was as a supervisor of Advanced Manufacturing Engineering in Milwaukee. One of my projects put me on the cover of a national magazine. I also created the process and facility to convert GE's medical products from point-to-point wiring to printed circuit boards. (That was a long time ago.) Following my work in manufacturing, I switched to advanced engineering, designing several new products for GE Medical Systems.

I left that job to go back to school for a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering. Most of my academic work was at the Medical College of Wisconsin. After graduation, I was offered a faculty position at the Medical College where I stayed for many years in research, computer system development and teaching. I worked primarily in obstetrics and the newborn nursery. While there, I organized and chaired the first National Conference on the Use of Computers in Perinatal Medicine. The lead to the publication of several books.

I left the medical college to form a business in medical computer applications. I developed and later sold two businesses focusing on computer applications in the long term care of the elderly. This was the other side of the age spectrum from my previous perinatal work. It was a good blend of my medical background and computer system

experience. After the sale of the second business, I retired to do new things.

For years I've been very active in church activities and outdoor activities. I've gone on many canoe trips to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and Quetico Provincial Park. I climbed Long's Peak once and Mt. Whitney twice, and have done a lot of mountain backpacking. I'm also an avid bicycle rider.

More recently, I've been very active in promoting renewable energy as a replacement for fossil fuels. I started promoting wind power in presentations to many community groups in our region. I'm now adding new presentations on: solar energy; energy from biomass sources; and energy conservation and efficiency. I find this work to be intellectually stimulating and very satisfying. This is much to learn, and it's never too late to learn new things. As a board member of RENEW Wisconsin, the major renewable energy organization in our state, I'm currently expanding our education program, developed in Milwaukee, to other regions in Wisconsin. I'm also involved in promoting biofuels. It's becoming a full time job in my retirement. I tell people I'm "gainfully unemployed" since it's all volunteer work. I do feel like I'm making a difference.

I share ownership of a family farm in Kansas with my brother. We raise corn, soybeans, and a little alfalfa. Two farm families do the actual work. I focus on administration and grain marketing. It's a long drive from Milwaukee. We spend a lot of time on the telephone and Internet.

My wife Cheryl has also had several careers in university staff work and business. She decided to leave the business world to go into a "caring profession" and went to nursing school. After years of long term care nursing and management, she is now earning a masters degree in counseling as a career change. She plans to become a certified geriatric counselor. (She can practice on me.)

I have four children. David is an environmental attorney in Oregon; Cindy is a psychotherapist working with troubled teenage girls; Michael is an architect and building project manager; and Becky teaches students from foreign countries in Minneapolis after several years of living abroad.

Recently, I've been doing a lot of traveling. This year we spent three weeks in Australia and New Zealand, and then traveled to several states to visit children, then to Mason City for my 50th high school reunion. Later, I went on a Sierra Club Wilderness Canoe Trip in Canada and then traveled with an Iowa State group to Switzerland and Germany.

I have many good memories about my time with Acacia. It's nice to reconnect. I still have a large box of pictures taken during 1956-1959. After not hearing from anyone for many years, I'm delighted to see that the chapter is enjoying good success. I appreciate Harold Zarr reaching out to old alumni. Good work!

Alex I. Fraser, M.D. - #608
1425 Grand Avenue
Iowa City, Iowa 52246
319-354-3164

Please accept this check for the Iowa State Chapter of Acacia.

I have moved from California to Iowa City to accept a faculty position in the Department of Anesthesia at the College of Medicine.

William H. Anderl, P.E. - #679
4911 33rd Avenue North
Golden Valley, Minnesota 55422

Among my favorite memories were Mom Brownley (the housemother) and Mel Stout (the cook) were an important part of Acacia life for me.

I **Active Chapter** **Report**

Craig Buske, Venerable Dean - ACACIA Fraternity
138 Gray Avenue
Ames, Iowa 50014
e-mail: craigbus@iastate.edu

Dear Brothers and Parents,

This is my first update as the new Venerable Dean of Acacia, and I couldn't be happier to write it. Things have been going very well for the Iowa State chapter, and I'm glad to get the chance to tell you about them. We recently learned that we achieved the **highest average GPA** of all the fraternities at Iowa State, beating our nearest rival, Farmhouse, by over a quarter of a grade point. Continuing our tradition of excellence in academics, **the new members carried a 3.23 GPA**, which easily put them in **first place** in the Iowa State Greek System.

In addition to our academic success, things in the chapter have been going well in other ways. The house just finished helping out with our bi-annual philanthropy, Pages of Promise, which collects used text books and sends them to schools throughout Africa. With Acacia's help, Pages of Promise collected and shipped over **16,000 books** this fall semester alone. Pages of Promise is especially important to the Brothers of the Iowa State chapter, because it was started by our alumnus **Keegan Kautzky**, who is currently in South Africa working on his Masters degree and doing advocacy work for Refugee International.

I'm also pleased to say that more and more Alumni have been stopping by the House to meet some of the members, take a look around, and see the recent improvements that have been made to the house recently.

If any of you would like to stop by while you're in town for a game, or for whatever any other reason, please feel free! If you give me a call beforehand, I can even arrange for a full house tour (and maybe pick up a little too)! Finally, if you know any qualified young men who will be attending Iowa State, please send them our way. We are always looking for new recruits, and greatly value the referrals made to us by alumni.

We're very proud of our house and all of the things that Acacia has enabled us to do. I want thank all of the alumni and parents for your generous support these last few years, and hope we'll continue to grow and improve well into the future.

Tentron Norman, ISU Acacian, Interns for Senator Grassley in United States Senate

This is the second time that Trenton Norman has had the opportunity to intern with Senator Charles Grassley of Iowa. Previously, in 2004, he interned with Senator Grassley who is the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. This committee is responsible for, among other things, health issues such as medicare, medicaid, the uninsured, TANF, social security, and other related items. The finance committee is also involved in Tax, Trade, and Oversight.

Trenton will be graduating from Iowa State this May, and just completed a term as president of the local Acacia Chapter before returning to Washington, D.C. in January.
Congratulations to Trenton on his second appointment!

New Website Address!

The Iowa State Acacia website address has changed. Please go to the following address to see what's new with the Iowa State Chapter.

www.stuorg.iastate.edu/acacia/

Board President's Message

Harold Zarr, Corporate Board President - The ACACIANS
215 Glen Drive
Iowa Falls, Iowa 50126-1957
e-mail: acacia_814@hotmail.com

Greetings my Brother ACACIANS!

I must first of all apologize to everyone for the delay in getting this issue of the newsletter out to all of our alumni, parents and friends. This semester has been a really busy one for me, and

delays in getting the fall semester grades certainly did not help the cause!

Second, on behalf of the Board, I would like to extend our condolences to Jean Proctor, the wife of Brother Robert E. Proctor - #314 who passed away in November, 2005.

This newsletter is chock full of events with the Board and the House, so there is no need for me to repeat them here.

One thing that I would like to pass along is an invitation to everyone to attend the next Board meeting. It will be held on **Sunday, April 30th** at the chapter house. In addition to the usual Board meeting in the morning, we will be having a bar-be-que at lunch time for all of the chapter members, their parents and guests. Following the meeting, we will be recognizing the members of the chapter with an awards ceremony honoring their academic achievements and recognizing the outstanding seniors who will be graduating just a couple of weeks later.

Best of all --- **it's FREE!** How can you beat a deal like that?

There is also some additional information included with this newsletter concerning election to the Board and registration for the April bar-be-que. **Please mail them back to me, postmarked no later than April 15th.**

Have a great spring, and we hope to see you in April!

In Memoriam

We remember our Brothers with whom we were privileged to share our Fraternity and which have departed from us.

Robert E. Proctor - #314 November 26, 2005

Born August 3, 1916, in Fernald, Iowa, he moved to Shasta County in 1962 from Coos Bay, Oregon. He served in the U.S. Army and the U.S. Air Force during World War II; was a forester with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management in Coos Bay and Redding; was a member of Sons in Retirement Branch 129 in Redding and Pilgrim Congregational Church; and was a lifetime member of Military Officers Association of America and the Shasta Country Chapter of Military Officers Association of America.

Mr. Proctor died Saturday, November 26, 2005, at the Shasta Regional Medical Center in Redding. Internment will be at the Nevada Municipal Cemetary in Nevada, Iowa.

Survivors include wife Jean; son John of Eugene, Oregon; daughters Nancy Kuehn of Emporia, Kansas, and Lori Snyder of Ottawa, Canada; sister Ruth Sowers of Carterville, Illinois; and four grandchildren.

Corporate Board Members

The following Brothers are your representatives on the Corporate Board. The Corporate Board is composed of both active chapter members and alumni. Feel free to contact us whenever you have ideas, suggestions or concerns!

Harold Zarr	President	515-964-6696
Michael O'Doherty	Vice-President	
Jeff Peil	Treasurer	641-430-5998
Gene Lucht	Secretary	515-964-5501
	Alumni Relations	

Craig Buske	Chapter President	515-491-5405
Joshua Haugo	Chapter Treasurer	
Jon Roghair	Chapter Representative	
Jeremy Davis	Chapter Advisor	515-291-7016

Newsletter Information

The newsletter is sent to all of the alumni, pledges and actives of the ISU Chapter of ACACIA Fraternity, and their parents.

This newsletter is sent at **no cost** to all of its recipients, although donations directed towards the cost of this publication will be accepted by the Board. Should you wish to make a contribution, please make your check payable to **The ACACIANS**, in any amount.

The next newsletter is planned for May, 2006. (They are sent out on a quarterly basis, every February, May, August, and November.) If you have any information you would like to share, please send it to **Harold Zarr** at his e-mail address **acacia_814@hotmail.com**. Take care, and best wishes to all of the Brothers and friends of our Fraternity.