



The Iowa State Pythagorean

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

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Issue # 40

Acacia Ties for #1 in Greek System with 3.15 G.P.A.

The Fall, 2007 semester grade results are in, and Acacia Fraternity has tied for the top academic honor in the Iowa State Greek System with Beta Theta Pi. The results for the top five chapters were as follows:

1.	Acacia	3.15
2.	Beta Theta Pi	3.15
3.	Delta Tau Delta	3.11
4.	Beta Sigma Psi	3.10
5.	Pi Kappa Phi	2.98

All Fraternity Average 2.95

All Men's Undergrad Ave. 2.83

Academic excellence has long been a hallmark of Acacia Fraternity. It is significant that Acacia fraternity was the only fraternity to be listed the top five academic fraternities for the Spring, 2006 semester. This is a clear sign of the increased competition that now exists for academic excellence in the ISU Greek System. Our chapter has focused on attracting the best and brightest young men, and as you will read later in this newsletter, both the active chapter and corporate board are substantially improving the support we provide to the men of Acacia to maintain and improve upon these excellence academic results.

Our focus remains on recruiting only **exceptional men** who are **dedicated to their academic studies** and to making a **positive contribution to society**. This has been a core strategy which has been shown to be successful over the years – 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
Spring, 2006	#1	3.29
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

Based on the results for the spring semester, a total of \$3,000 in scholarships for academic excellence was awarded to our Brothers in the active chapter. The list of the Brothers who earned a 3.00 or higher grade point is shown below, and we would like to recognize the following Brothers for their outstanding academic achievements:

Brandon J. Behrens
Daniel N. Congreve
Collin M. Oponski
Adam B. Halls
Zachary J. Klenske
John A. Kvinge
Trevor E. Owens
Jared A. Ramthun
Jonathan A. Roghair
Joseph Sloan
John T. Vogel

Craig A. Buske
Christopher W. Demaria
Vincent L. Fadden
Joshua S. Haugo
Jared A. Kline
Matthew J. Landherr
Nathan A. Porter
Clark D. Richardson
Phillip J. Sherman
Jonathan C. Vaage
Michael J. Vosatka

Twenty-two out of thirty-five men in the chapter earned a 3.00 or greater grade point for the fall semester.

In addition, **Jared A. Ramthun** and **John T. Vogel** were each awarded scholarships by the Acacia Fraternity Foundation. These two men earned a combined total of \$2,000 from the Foundation based on their academic results and leadership in the chapter. **Our congratulations to the men of Acacia for their outstanding academic performance!**

Acacia Welcomes Three New Members to its Ranks

Rushing new members is a non-stop process for the men of our chapter. So far this spring, they have signed three men to become Brothers in our Fraternity. These newest members are:

Jay L. Eggenberger is the son of Joel Eggenberfer of Plainview, Minnesota. He is majoring in electrical engineering and music technology. He is also involved in Music Technology Club, Lipsync, and a wide variety of intramural sports including basketball, volleyball, dodgeball, curling, and flag football.

Nicholas T. Roberts is the son of Tod Roberts, and is from Elgin, Minnesota. He is majoring in construction engineering and Spanish. His other interests include being a student member of the Associated General Contractors of America, the Hip Hop Dance Club, and intramural sports including basketball, volleyball, dodgeball, curling, and flag football.

Eric J. Milbrandt is the son of Jeff Milbrandt from Rochester, Minnesota. He is majoring in business and finance. Eric is also involved in the National Society for Collegiate Scholarship, the ISU Honors Program, and Lipsync.

The active chapter has been engaged in an aggressive campaign of training for all of the active members regarding recruitment activities. All of the members of the chapter are engaged in contacting potential members and participating in recruitment events. The men of the chapter have already

identified another five men that they have been in contact with regarding joining Acacia as a member.

Summer rush events that are already planned include a paintball competition, BBQ's at the house, and boating and water skiing events at a lake home owned by the parents of one of our Brothers.

As you can see, the results are already paying off handsomely. With these three men as new Brothers, it appears that we will only need only five or six more men to sign this summer in order to bring the house to its full capacity of twenty-eight men. A goal that should be easily attainable.

That does not mean that we will stop our recruitment activities, however. Part of our plan calls for some members to live in the dorms their first semester and to move into the house as soon as a place opens up. While this might seem strange, it does make a lot of sense. We do not want to pass on someone who would make an excellent Brother, and we have many potential members who, for a variety of reasons, want to live in the dorms for one or two semesters before moving into the chapter house.

We have found that accommodating this wish has proven to be quite beneficial. It provides our members with another option for housing without their losing out on the experience of being a member of the Fraternity. It also allows us to "show off" the fraternity to their friends as well, thus giving us an opportunity to meet additional men who might become Acacians. A classic "win-win" for everyone involved!

Active Chapter Adopts Academic Support Plan

The active chapter and corporate board are committed to maintaining sole ownership of #1 academic position in the Greek System. To that end, the chapter has launched a new academic plan designed to set aggressive academic goals and at the same time provide support for members who may be struggling in their classes.

The goals of the plan are threefold: 1) to achieve a cumulative grade point for the entire chapter of a 3.35, 2) to have all new members achieve a grade point of 3.00 or higher, and 3) to have all members in the house achieve a grade point of at least 2.50 or higher.

In the chapter, a member's ability to select a room in which to live is based on a "point system." The greater the number of points you earn, the nicer the room you can get. (Some rooms come with private bathrooms, some with kitchenettes and private bathrooms – powerful incentives to do well!) As

members increase their grade point standing from one semester to the next, they can earn additional points in the system.

Members that tutor other members in courses can earn additional points as well, thus providing internal support for our younger members while building the bonds of friendship so important in a fraternity.

Both the corporate board and the active chapter will pay for tutors if they are needed by any member of the chapter. The chapter scholarship chairman will arrange for help for any member with the academic success center on campus, and study hours and dining room quiet hours for work on projects or other study related activities are strictly enforced. Mentors and study groups are also used within the chapter, which are led by upper classmen. At the end of the semester prizes (not counting the scholarship funds awarded by the

corporate board) will be awarded for members with the most improved and highest GPA's.

Our goal is simple – we want the men of Acacia to stand out as the “best of the best” in terms of academics so that they can

Chapter House Improvements on Track for 2007

In the last newsletter, we shared with our alumni that one of our latest projects was tuck pointing of the south, exterior wall of the chapter house. This has now been accomplished, and we are continuing to make additional improvements as well.

Over the Christmas vacation, Jon Roghair and his father installed a new floor in the kitchen on the main floor of the chapter house. The Board purchased a new refrigerator to replace the existing one. The old refrigerator on the main floor was moved up to the third floor to replace the refrigerator in the kitchenette that had stopped working. Jon was also able to obtain a new stove at no cost to the chapter or Board to replace the old stove in the kitchen. So as of now, all of the appliances in the main floor kitchen have been replaced with brand new models.

Jon has also been continuing his renovation of the east bathroom on the second floor, after having completed the work on the north bathroom this summer. A new outside storage shed was also built this past summer/fall to store the lawn mower and other landscaping items. This spring, we will build a privacy fence just south of the main house to close off the area where the storage shed and parking lot is located.

have greater options to succeed both in the chapter and later in life. These actions are the tangible commitment that the actives and board members are making to our Brothers at the Iowa State Chapter of Acacia Fraternity for their success!

Once the work on the second floor east bathroom has been completed, work will begin on some minor updates to the bathroom on the third floor.

While we have completed a number of projects, and have a few still on-going, much remains to be done. One major goal is to completely renovate the basement and turn it into a chapter room for meeting and study purposes.

We also need to finish installing new energy efficient windows in the chapter house, install new fixtures and lighting, complete the tuck pointing of the entire house, replace carpeting in some of the rooms and common areas, complete the painting and refurbishing of the first floor, replace the steps and sidewalk leading up to the house, and enclose the patio area of the house.

We believe that we have the finest group of young men of any fraternity at Iowa State. Our goal is to provide them with a house worthy of them. As work progresses, rest assured that we will keep you informed of our progress!

Alumni News and Notes and Rememberances

John C. Akins - #307
1401 South East Dock Street
Apartment #201
Oak Harbor, Washington 98277

Please note my new address as we have just moved.

Among my favorite memories include living with a small, but great, group of men – destined to be successful and top citizens. Four graduate students were included from 1936-1940. The last year was spent living on east Lynn Street during the “re-building.”

A. Dean Platt - #321
3905 Oak Park Circle
Waterloo, Iowa 50701

It's getting later than I like to think. Bob Proctor was my roommate for several years and I turned 87 yesterday. We moved from a rented house on Lynn to 138 Gray during my four years at Iowa State. Thinking about it takes one back a few years.

My regards to you Harold. We old crews appreciate what you're doing.

((My thanks to you, Brother Platt. I have not accomplished this on my own. A great deal of credit goes to the other Acacia Brothers who have served, and are currently serving on the alumni Board. In addition, the men in the chapter over the past few years have played a vital role as well! Their energy and commitment demonstrate what quality men can accomplish when given the opportunity!))

Joel E. Jensen - #496
544 Saint Davids Avenue
Saint Davids, Pennsylvania 19087-4431

One of my favorite memories is when, as a pledge, I slept in an unheated room full of bunks, as did all of Brothers in the house!

Robert E. Davis - #511
3001 Bridgeway
Apartment #301
Sausalito, California 94965
415-342-2148

I wanted to send you my new address. I am now retired and living in Sausalito near San Francisco. I have a "new" life partner. She and I have been together for seventeen years. We have a house (actually two houses) in a medieval village in the south of France where we spend about six months of the year. (We have a website for the houses that is julanandbob.com). So y'all come and see us. Dick Taylor has been there and had a great time.

I have two sons and five grandchildren and all will be with us for Thanksgiving, so it should be a great time.

Please extend my best wishes to all the Brothers and their families!

Jerry L. Mark - #546
1273 Shockeyville Road
Winchester, Virginia 22603

I wanted to let you know that we have moved from West Virginia to our new address in Virginia. Thanks for keeping us in touch with the activities of the Iowa State chapter.

We visited Iowa Falls relatives earlier this fall. It was good to reconnect. I miss the big sky.

Douglas L. Carlson - #592
28825 South East Andy Street
Boring, Oregon 97009

I wanted to provide my new address. The sign outside town says "Welcome to Boring, Oregon, an exciting place to be." We're east of Portland about twenty-five miles, about thirty miles from Mount Hood. Beautiful nursery area we're in. Matter of fact, our place backs up to a 200 acre tree nursery. I learned last weekend that they plant about 10,000 trees per acre, and I can probably see about forty acre's of it from my back window.

We moved from Novato, California on November 1st, after having lived there for some twenty-seven years. We decided to move here to be close to some of our grandkids and to really retire. We're about ten miles from our daughter and her family.

The move went well, and we arrived here on the very day that the winter rains began! We have had some beautiful days in between the rains.

I appreciate receiving the newsletter and I am gratified to hear that the chapter is doing so well. It makes me proud. I was also sorry to see that Doug Nelson passed away this spring – he was fine guy.

Steve A. Hulburt - #824
14160 236th Street North
Scandia, Minnesota 55073

Please note my new address and share with everyone.

Robert Borcharding - #978
9655 Alarado Lane North
Maple Grove, Minnesota 55311

One of my favorite memories was when five or ten of us would run the few blocks to the rec center for a pick-up game of basketball in the middle of the winter when it was below freezing!

Thanks again for all that you do for Acacia!

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/

I **Active Chapter Report**

Vincent Fadden, Venerable Dean - ACACIA Fraternity
138 Gray Avenue
Ames, Iowa 50014
e-mail: vfadden@iastate.edu

Dear Brothers and friends,

Greetings from the active chapter at Iowa State! We have had a great semester so far, and we are looking forward to a successful finish as well. Despite a slight decrease in academic performance we still finished first on campus academically last semester and we are implementing a new scholarship program to help us reach new highs with our chapter GPA this semester.

We were paired with Alpha Chi Omega sorority and Farmhouse fraternity this year for Varieties, and it was a very successful pairing for us. We made it to second cuts, but were eliminated before Sweepstakes despite being nominated for many awards, including best male vocalist, best female

vocalist, best band and many others. We are looking forward to Greek Week and we will be paired with Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and Alpha Gamma Delta sorority. We're expecting great things from our pairing this year, as we've been involved with both of those houses in the past and have had great experiences.

We have been chosen by the International Headquarters to be a pilot chapter for the new Membership Development Program, and we are working closely with the Acacia Headquarters as we help to develop a successful program that can be implemented in all of our chapters. We appreciate everyone's interest and support for our chapter as we continue to uphold the great history that is 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 don't know about you, but I for one am ready for spring to finally arrive! It has been a tough winter for us here in the wilds of Iowa, and recently the weather has been brutal on us. But not to worry, hints of spring are everywhere and in just a few weeks; the bad days of winter will be but a memory.

Elections to the Corporate Board will occur in April, and a ballot has been included for your use. Please sign it and return it to me at the address shown.

I would also like to thank all of our Brothers who have generously contributed to the scholarship fund this past year, and to those who have already contributed in 2007. Your gifts make a real difference to the men in the active chapter cover the costs of attending Iowa State, and are greatly appreciated.

I would like to invite all of our alumni to attend the Corporate Board Meeting in April. The date is set for **Saturday, April 28th**. The Corporate Board meet at the chapter house in the morning with a continental breakfast provided for all who attend.

Following the meeting, we Corporate Board will host luncheon at the Memorial Union where we will be recognizing our undergraduate members for their outstanding academic results and thanking the graduating Brothers for their leadership in the chapter. For our visiting alumni – in addition to the free meal, the Corporate Board we will be hosting a golf outing in Ames. This will give all of us a chance to visit in an informal setting and enjoy a round of golf as well.

There is a reservation form included with this newsletter, and I hope that many of you will take advantage of this opportunity to stop in and visit with our current members and their parents, and hopefully see some of your Brothers from days-gone-by! We think this should prove to be a lot of fun, and hope to see you there!

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	402-301-6489
Jeff Peil	Treasurer	641-430-5998
Gene Lucht	Secretary	515-964-9006
Don Good	Alumni Relations	515-956-3150
Vincent Fadden	Chapter President	515-491-5405
Mike Vosatka	Chapter Treasurer	641-590-0804
Brandon Behrens	Chapter Representative	515-770-6816
Jeremy Davis	Chapter Advisor	515-291-7019

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 November, 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.



Alumni Scholarship Donations in 2006

\$ 13,965 Contributed in 2006 by Iowa State Acacians

The table that is shown lists those Brothers and friends who have made tax-deductible contributions to the chapter scholarship fund in 2006. Please accept our grateful thanks for your generosity! Your contributions provide vital support the academic efforts of your Brothers in our Chapter!

----- Alumni Contributors in 2006 -----

Board of Directors Club (\$ 5,000 - \$ 9,999)

Harold D. Zarr Jr. - #814

Pythagorean Partner (\$ 2,500 - \$ 4,999)

Chapter Partner (\$ 1,000 - \$ 2,499)

Robert L. Carstens - #354

Donald G. Lyon - #461

James E. Weiss - #474

Gold Partner (\$ 750 - \$ 999)

Silver Partner (\$ 500 - \$ 749)

Lowell B. Johnson - #426

James H. Davis - #489

Stewart L. Burger

Alex I. Fraser - #608

John W. Baty - #623

Bronze Partner (\$ 100 - \$ 499)

Elizabeth (Boese) Gehring

John C. Akins - #307

A. Dean Platt - #321

Richard G. Wilson - #409

William G. Percy - #420
 James T. Parry - #464
 Lynn R. Pendry - #469
 C. Ronald Hoisington - #472
 John G. McDonald - #494
 Joel E. Jensen - #496
 Richard W. Taylor - #506
 James M. Hanson - #533
 John P. Bahr - #545
 Dale H. Vanderholm - #586
 Gary L. Ruegsegger - #613
 James E. Hunt - #628
 Peter J. Eversole - #635
 Wilbur G. Sandbulte - #639
 William H. Anderl - #679
 James E. Mueller - #868
 Stephen J. Casper IV - #905
 Laury E. Decker - #910
 Cecil G. Williams - #929
 Rob Borcharding - #978

Spirit Partner (\$ 1 - \$ 99)

George A. Buck - #345

Gordon A. Cook - #390

Kenneth L. MacRae - #427

John S. Burnstrom - #470

Richard E. Kust - #485

William J. Dilcher - #576

David W. Underwood - #705

Brian B. Dubes - #735

David C. Lieberman - #811

Cecil G. Williams - #929