



# 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!*

August, 2008

Issue # 45

## ISU Chapter Receives Superior Chapter Award at 2008 Conclave

The biennial conclave of Acacia was held from August 6-10, 2008 in Louisville, Kentucky and the Iowa State Chapter was recognized in multiple categories for excellence in chapter and alumni activities.

There are three “levels” of awards that can be presented to chapters as a whole. These are commonly referred to as the **Founders Achievement Awards** are considered to be the most prestigious awards that can be given to a chapter of the Fraternity.

The third place award is called the “Outstanding Chapter,” second place is the “Superior Chapter,” and the top prize is known as the “Malcolm Award.” The Iowa State Chapter was one of two chapters to receive the 2<sup>nd</sup> place (or Superior Chapter) award at this year’s Conclave. While it would have nice to receive the Malcolm Award, receiving this award does signify that we are recognized as one of the top three chapters in the Fraternity as whole – and that is no small achievement!



Shown in this picture are (left to right) Michael S. Weber, John B. Pugh, Nicholas A. Seibold, Craig A. Buske, Brandon J. Behrens, David Allen (Acacia International President), John A. Kvinge, Jeremy N. Davis (Chapter Advisor), Clark D. Richardson (Chapter President), and Jared A. Ramthun.

One award that Iowa State Chapter received was the **Human Service Program Award**. This award is designed to recognize chapters that excel in charity-based projects both on an individual basis and as a chapter as a whole. We received the Human Service award in part due to our work with **Pages of Promise**, which collects used textbooks and sends them to universities in Africa. The chapter annually collects over 10,000 textbooks which are sent to schools in Africa.

The May, 2008 issue of the newsletter described in great detail many of the projects that the chapter had been involved in during the past year including the Dance Marathon that raised money for the Children’s Miracle Network and University of Iowa Children’s Hospital, the work at Camp Heartland for children or members of their families that suffer from HIV/AIDS, mentoring at Ames middle schools, coaching at the Ames High School, and cleaning up a two-mile stretch of the interstate on the east of Ames to name but a few.

A second award that we earned was the **Chapter Programming / Membership Education Award**. We received the Programming award due to our decision to serve as a Cornerstones pilot chapter and all of the opportunities that affords our members for growth, along with various speakers that have given presentations to the chapter on topics such as how to better manage risk in the fraternity setting.

The third award that the chapter received was the **G.K. Nelson Academic Programming Award**. This award examines and compares the academic results of a chapter with those of the corresponding Greek system and university average’s at each chapters location. The award includes such factors as a chapters reward system for academic excellence, minimum GPA for initiation, number of scholarships awarded to the chapter members by the Acacia Fraternity Foundation, and the extent to which a scholarship recruitment program has been used by the chapter when rushing potential members. The consistently outstanding results that our chapter has achieved since the chapter was recolonized in 2000 earned us this award.

The chapter was also presented with the **Best Publication Award** for the publication of our alumni newsletter. Our

chapter was recognized in part, because we continue to send out a written newsletter to all of the alumni of the chapter. Many chapters have gone to an all-electronic format, and they have seen a decline in participation on the part of the alumni in events as this has occurred.

Our publication has been sent out on a quarterly basis for the past twelve years, and we closely coordinate the updating of mailing lists with the national headquarters. The newsletter has undergone a number of format changes over the years, and we are moving in the direction of providing more pictures and a wider variety of stories within the newsletter. But the basic intent of the publication remains the same – to provide a common forum for our alumni to communicate with each other and to learn about all of the activities in which the active chapter members are engaged. To that end, we have succeeded quite well.

During the awards banquet, our own Jeremy N. Davis was recognized for all of his hard work as Chapter Advisor. Jeremy was one of the refounding fathers of the chapter when it was recolonized, and served as the venerable dean of the chapter. After graduation, he volunteered to be the chapter advisor, a position he has held ever since.

**Chapter Advisor of the Biennium**



Jeremy N. Davis #969 receives Chapter Advisor of the Biennium Award from Keith Bushey (Assistant Executive Director).

Jeremy Davis was also elected to the position of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the International Council at the Conclave.

**Jeremy Davis recognized as**



**ISU Chapter Receives Superior Chapter Award at 2008 Conclave**

Shown in this picture are (left to right) Darold Larson (Acacia Executive Director), Nicholas A. Seibold, Craig A. Buske, Michael S. Weber, Jared A. Ramthun, Brandon J. Behrens, Clark D. Richardson (Chapter President), John A. Kvinge, Jeremy N. Davis (Chapter Advisor), Keith Bushey (Assistant Executive Director).

**Acacia is #1 in ISU Greek System with 3.29 G.P.A.**

The **Spring, 2008** semester grade results are in, and **Acacia Fraternity** once again stands atop all of the other fraternities in the Iowa State Greek System for top academic honors. The results for the top five chapters are as follows:

1.	<b>Acacia</b>	<b>3.29</b>
2.	<b>Beta Sigma Psi</b>	<b>3.13</b>
3.	<b>Alpha Gamma Rho</b>	<b>3.12</b>
4.	<b>FarmHouse</b>	<b>3.11</b>
5.	<b>Delta Tau Delta</b>	<b>3.09</b>
	<b>All Fraternity Average</b>	<b>2.90</b>
	<b>All Men's Undergrad Ave.</b>	<b>2.86</b>

It is well worth noting that our fraternity achieved the distinction of having the **highest affiliated grade point average**.

Academic excellence is a hallmark of the members of Acacia Fraternity. **As you can see from the table on this page, our chapter has been ranked #1 for nine out of the past ten semesters!** Our newest Acacia Brothers had a grade point average of 3.29, easily besting the next closest competitor (Beta Sigma Psi) who had a 3.13 grade point average. Our chapter has focused on attracting only the best and brightest young men, and the results speak for themselves.

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. It is our focus on academics, personality, and a demonstrated level of leadership which has enabled us to build the preeminent academic Fraternity at Iowa State.

Previous academic results for the Chapter are as follows:

<b>Term</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>GPA</b>
<b>Fall, 2007</b>	<b>#1</b>	<b>3.24</b>
<b>Spring, 2007</b>	<b>#2</b>	<b>3.15</b>
<b>Fall, 2006</b>	<b>#1</b>	<b>3.15</b>
<b>Spring, 2006</b>	<b>#1</b>	<b>3.29</b>
<b>Fall, 2005</b>	<b>#1</b>	<b>3.40</b>
<b>Spring, 2005</b>	<b>#1</b>	<b>3.43</b>
<b>Fall, 2004</b>	<b>#1</b>	<b>3.39</b>
<b>Spring, 2004</b>	<b>#1</b>	<b>3.38</b>
<b>Fall, 2003</b>	<b>#1</b>	<b>3.49</b>
<b>Spring, 2003</b>	<b>#1</b>	<b>3.24</b>

Based on the results for the spring semester, a total of **\$2,800** 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 these Brothers for their outstanding academic achievement:

<b>Brandon J. Behrens</b>	<b>Jason W. Bril *</b>
<b>Jonathan W. Buck</b>	<b>Daniel N. Congreve</b>
<b>Collin M. Oponski *</b>	<b>Matthew B. England</b>
<b>Vincent L. Fadden</b>	<b>Alexander C. Fitzgerald</b>
<b>Noah J. Gullikson</b>	<b>Adam B. Halls</b>
<b>Joseph A. Kenneth</b>	<b>Zachary J. Klenske</b>
<b>John A. Kvinge</b>	<b>Matthew J. Landherr *</b>
<b>Eric J. Milbrandt *</b>	<b>Seth M. Nelson</b>
<b>Trevor J. E. Owens *</b>	<b>Clark D. Richardson</b>
<b>Aaron C. Schneider</b>	<b>Jonathan C. Vaage</b>
<b>Jonathan T. Vogel</b>	<b>Michael S. Weber</b>

\* out-of-house member

Twenty-two out of twenty-eight (79%) chapter members earned a 3.00 or greater grade point for the Spring, 2008 semester. **Congratulations to all these Brothers for their outstanding academic achievement!**

## Acacia Welcomes Ten New Members to its Ranks

Our two rush chairman, Matt England and Noah Gullikson got an early start on summer rush this year, and their efforts have succeeded in recruiting an exceptional group of young men who will become Brothers in our Fraternity. Recruiting members of outstanding ability has become more and more competitive between the fraternities, with each vying for the finest men available. Acacia has proven to have a competitive edge in this process based on three factors. The first is the men who currently live in the chapter house. People want to be around outgoing, socially active and successful, and the men of our chapter prove to be exactly that on every level.

The second factor is academics. Our chapter has an outstanding track record of academic success for both the pledge class and the actives in the house. This proved to be an important factor to both potential members and their parents, as they wanted to be certain that we were serious about our emphasis on meeting academic goals.

The third factor is the chapter house itself. The construction of the third floor library and the installation of new windows and the myriad of other projects that we have completed over the years demonstrated that we were doing all that we could to provide a safe and comfortable living environment for everyone in the house. Most of these improvements have been due to the generosity of our alumni, which have paid huge

dividends to us in supporting our efforts to recruit the finest men possible for our Fraternity.

Eight of our new members will be living in the house this fall, with two living in the dorms. The Board is considering paying the "break cost" so that members living in the dorms will be



**Pavel I. Beresnev**

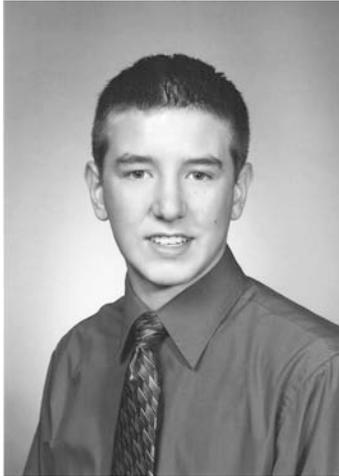
Pavel (Pasha as he is commonly known) is the son of Igor and Anna Beresnev from Ames, Iowa. In 2008 he graduated with distinction, received the Presidential Award for Educational Excellence, is a Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholar, and is a State of Iowa Scholar. He is an active player of tennis, hockey, disc golf, and basketball. He was also a volunteered his time as a tutor, in the Special Olympics and the Des Moines Y-Camp.



**Ryne Brooks Dittmer**

Ryne is the son of Randy and Carol Dittmer from Liberty, Missouri. He will be majoring in journalism. He was the junior and senior class vice-

president of his high school, was a two-time national tournament qualifier for the National Forensics League, the editor of the high school yearbook, and was involved in speech and debate. He also was a teacher's aide and participated in highway cleanup and safe Halloween activities. He also enjoys playing tennis.



**Derek Joseph**

Derek M. Joseph is from Lenexa, Kansas. He is the son of Kenneth and Linda Joseph and will be majoring in Mechanical Engineering. In high school, he was a member of the varsity wrestling team for four years, a state qualifier and All-State Academic. Derek was also active in soccer, band, the Technology Student Association (TSA). He has worked as an engineering intern for Eskridge, Inc., a planetary gearbox manufacturer. Derek is a two-time state champion in robotics and placed second in the national TSA Structural Engineering competition. He is a member of the National Honor Society and is an Eagle Scout. Derek graduated with honors in the Aerospace and Engineering Technical Program and was recognized as a Kansas Honor Scholar.

able to move into the chapter house in the spring semester. The chapter house will be filled to capacity this fall, and we have a number of men whom we hope to add as members in the spring semester as well. But for now, meet your newest Brothers!



**Tim Mildenberger**

Tim is the son of Henry and Karri Mildenberger of Smithville, Missouri. In high school he was active in football, the science club, the national English honor society, the film club and the FFA. He earned three academic letters. In his community he volunteered his time to weather proof apartments, assisted at the Golden Living Center, and participated in the Smithville Lake Clean up Day.



**Tyler Ruse**

Tyler is the son of Lee and Mary Ruse of Tabor, Iowa. He is going to major as an aerospace engineer. In his high school, he was active in track, wrestling, cross country, student council, national honor society and the science club. He was also involved in the Holy Rosary Youth Group and Tabor Historical Society.



**Austin J. Schlatter**

Austin was the valedictorian of the Iowa Falls high school (4.0 GPA), is a State of Iowa Scholar, was on the North Central Conference Academic Team, received the Governor's Scholars Recognition, the Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award, and was a member of the Des Moines Register Academic All-State Team. He was also his senior class president and received scholarships from nine different organizations including the ISU President's Award for Competitive Excellence.

captain), baseball (team captain), and soccer. He was also his class treasurer, a member of the national honor society, varsity math team, band, drum line and choir. He volunteered his time to help elementary school students learn how to read, mentored incoming freshmen in his high school, and was an elementary math tutor as well. He was on the honor roll for all four years of high school and placed 1<sup>st</sup> with a web site design for the Business Professional of America.



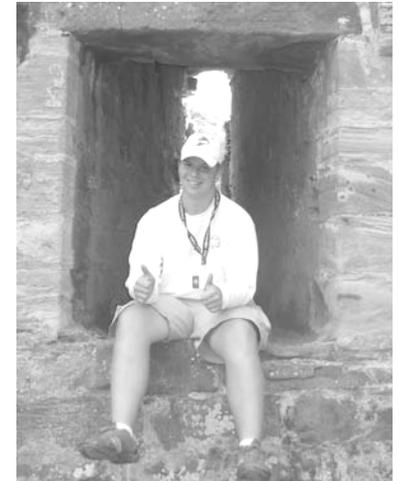
**Zhong Zheng**

Zhong is a sophomore transfer student from Anui Province, China who is majoring in accounting and finance. He is particularly interested in viewing American culture and fraternal Brotherhood as a way to learn about America and its values.



**Riley Thiesfeld**

Riley is the son of Peter and Suzanne Thiesfeld from Carver, Minnesota. Riley was a member of "tech crew" that built sets for school players and worked for two years as a volunteer blacksmith for the Scott Carver Treasures.



**Matt Zylstra**

Matt is the son of Layton and Becki Zylstra from Storm Lake, Iowa. He was captain of the swim team, vice-president and director of finance of the National Space Settlement Design Competition Team. He was an academic all-conference in football, swimming and golf. He is an Iowa Scholar and received the Dwight D. Eisenhower legacy scholarship.



**Derek T. Tharp**

Derek was highly involved in sports while in high school including football (1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference and 1<sup>st</sup> team all-metro in 2007), basketball (team

## Renovations to 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor are nearly Complete!

A few months ago, the men in the chapter approached the Corporate Board with a proposal to convert two of the rooms on the third floor into a library/study area. It also included converting the bathroom into a private bathroom attached to the room on the north side of the third floor. We are happy to report that this project has been virtually completed and the men of the chapter are in the process of moving into and enjoying this new living and library area.

The overall dimensions of the study area where the table and chairs and reading chairs have been placed are 11-1/2 feet by 21 feet.



This picture is a view of the room looking to the northwest. There is a large study table in the center of the room where two rooms previously existed. Ten men can sit at this table at one time, making it ideal for the Brothers to work on class projects as a team. At the bottom of the photo you see one corner of the railing surrounding the stairs leading up to the third floor.

On the left side of the picture you can see the bench seating area that runs along the length of the room, directly in front of the six windows along the west side of the room. The bench seating covers the air conditioning ducts that were installed on the third floor about twelve years ago. We are currently in the process of selecting an area rug that will go under the table and chairs. This should be arriving and be installed right around September 1<sup>st</sup>. We are also looking to find cushions that can be placed on top of this bench seating area.

The next picture is a view of the room looking to the south. As you see, the custom built bookshelves have been installed, and the two leather reading chairs are sitting in front of the bookshelves. This picture was taken before the historical books of the chapter, the chapter charter and awards were installed. Locking glass windows will be installed in front of the area holding the chapter charter.



The next picture shows the room looking to the southeast. This picture gives you a good view of the railing surrounding the stairway from the second floor. The contractor reproduced the existing vertical railing with a number of additional pieces to match the previous ones with a natural oak stain and varnish. All of the carpeting that was in this area has been removed, and the floors were sanded, restained, and coated with multiple layers of polyurethane sealer.



Overhead lighting provides plenty of light in the evening and is designed to match the style of an “arts and crafts” house.

There is a two-man room to the north of the library that has been remodeled and has had new carpeting installed. The previously “shared” third-floor bathroom is now open only to this room, thus making it a private bathroom for the Brothers who occupy this room.

The third floor kitchenette is still in place, complete with a small “apartment-sized” stove, refrigerator, and sink. This room will be cleaned up and painted and the appliances installed during work week (August 18-22).

The balcony on the third floor off of the Drdla President's Room was also worked on by the contractor. The drain was cleaned out and replaced, along with some of the roofing materials directly under the balcony. This balcony was installed when the house was a "bed and breakfast" and is accessed via a sliding glass door from the Drdla President's Room.

A dedication ceremony for this new room will be performed during our centennial celebration in March, 2009. A special plaque recognizing the alumni who have donated \$5,000 or more to this project will be installed on the south wall next to the bookshelves.

**If you would like to have your name included on this plaque, the deadline for contributions to the project is December 31, 2008. We will order the plaque right after this date so that we can have it in time to be installed**

**during our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in 2009. Any alumnus of the chapter who donates \$5,000 or more will have the library named in their honor and their name will be included on the plaque.**

We are deeply grateful to the alumni who have generously supported this project. The total project cost is estimated at \$40,000, and our alumni have donated more than \$26,000 towards its cost, making it possible for us to complete this project. Their willingness to step forward and help us with this project made it possible, and we as a Board and Chapter cannot thank them enough for what they have done. I want to take this opportunity to recognize everyone who has contributed so generously to this project and have enabled us to provide an outstanding library and study area for the men of the chapter. **Our deepest thanks to each and every one of the alumni who have supported us in this project!**



## *3rd Floor Library Donations in 2008*

### **\$ 26,225 Contributed in 2008 for new Library**

The table that is shown lists those Brothers and friends who have made contributions to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Library fund drive in 2008. Donations to this project are tax-deductible, and all alumni who donate \$5,000 to this project will have the room named in their honor for their contribution. Please accept our grateful thanks for your help with this major improvement to the chapter house!

----- Alumni Contributors in 2008 -----	
<b>Refounding Father</b>	(\$ 10,000 or more)
Stewart Burger	
<b>Board of Directors Club</b>	(\$ 5,000 - \$ 9,999)
Robert L. (Sam) Carstens - #354	
James H. Davis - #489	
Donald L. Good - #653	

<b>Pythagorean Partner</b>	(\$ 2,500 - \$ 4,999)
<b>Chapter Partner</b>	(\$ 1,000 - \$ 2,499)
<b>Gold Partner</b>	(\$ 750 - \$ 999)
<b>Silver Partner</b>	(\$ 500 - \$ 749)
Douglas R. Whitney - #627	
Laury E. Decker - #910	
<b>Bronze Partner</b>	(\$ 100 - \$ 499)
Bernard J. Kolp - #466	
Robert A. Peterson - #663	
<b>Spirit Partner</b>	(\$ 1 - \$ 99)
Walter R. Kolbe - #527	

## **New Windows Installed on July 7, 2008**

Thanks go out to all of our alumni who have generously donated to our effort to complete the installation of new, energy efficient windows in the chapter house. The board has been diligently saving money for this project for the last three or four years as well, and between our alumni and the money that the Board has been able to save we were able to

accumulate enough money to replace virtually all of the remaining windows in the chapter house.

This picture shows an employee of Renewal by Anderson installing the new windows on the second floor on the west

side of the chapter house. Some twenty windows were all installed in **one day** by this firm!



These windows are in the “prairie style” which is consistent with an arts and crafts style of home. They match the windows that we installed a few years ago, and have really helped to improve the overall appearance of the property. These windows are consistent with the intent of the Board to

ensure that maintenance and improvement projects to the chapter house are performed in a timely manner to both maintain and improve the chapter facility whenever possible.

The previous set of windows that were installed made a noticeable difference in the comfort level in the house. The installation of these windows and the added insulation that we are installing in the third floor should (we hope) produce some sizable savings for us with respect to the cost of heating the chapter house this coming winter.

Future projects include tuck pointing of the exterior walls and a number of landscaping projects to the front yard of the house. The landscaping projects include replacement of the front sidewalk, edging of the flower gardens around the house and replacement of the wooden fence between the yard and the parking lot with a combination limestone wall and flower garden.

We send our thanks out to all of our alumni who have generated so generously for this project. Your generosity has really made a difference in the lives of your Brothers who live in the chapter house!



## *Alumni Capital Improvement Donations in 2008*

### **\$ 4,965 Contributed in 2008 by Iowa State Acacians**

----- Alumni Contributors in 2008 -----	
<b>Pythagorean Partner</b>	(\$ 2,500 - \$ 4,999)
Larry J. McComber - #525	
<b>Silver Partner</b>	(\$ 500 - \$ 749)
Laury E. Decker - #910	
<b>Bronze Partner</b>	(\$ 100 - \$ 499)
Richard G. Wilson - #409	
John R. Fulkerson - #410	
William G. Percy - #420	
Hiko Takeda - #554	
Horst H. Hahn - #555	
Rev. George G. Carlson - #622	

Robert A. Peterson - #663	
William H. Anderl - #679	
Harold D. Zarr Jr. - #814	
Bernard H. Schwartze - #911	
Alan D. Hoffman - #915	
Phillip Sherman - #1014	
<b>Spirit Partner</b>	(\$ 1 - \$ 99)
Allen D. Miller - #378	
Walter C. Bredbeck - #419	
Bernard J. Kolp - #466	
Glenn S. Goodenow - #689	
Aaron S. Rosheim - #989	
Craig Buske - #1009	

## **Plans for 100<sup>th</sup> Celebration Progressing Rapidly**

The Board is in the process of finalizing plans for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the chapter next March. We have prepared a **tentative outline** of the activities that we have

scheduled at this point in time. Please note that we have a number of final details to work out, but we wanted to give all of our alumni a “heads up” on the events that we have planned

and some of the costs involved. **A final schedule and reservation form will be mailed with the November newsletter**, but we feel that it is important that all of our alumni should be finalizing their plans of attending this once-in-a-lifetime event.

Room reservations can be made at the Memorial Union (800-433-3449). When calling, be certain to tell them that this is for the Acacia Fraternity 100<sup>th</sup> Celebration. Some alumni have already made reservations, so don't wait or you may lose out!

Also, don't forget to bring a camera so that you can take pictures!

The November newsletter will include a final reservation form that you will need to return by **January 1, 2009** in order to reserve your place at the reunion. We will have limited seating for the banquet, so you will want to keep that in mind if you plan to attend. It will strictly be a first-come, first-served event, so don't wait to send in your reservation form, or you may be left out in the cold!

I think that everyone knows that we have been working on writing a history book of the Iowa State Chapter. We are going to produce two versions of this book. **One version will be a hard-bound book that will be sold for a tax-deductible donation to the book fund for \$500 each.** Alumni who purchase this version will have their name included on a special dedication page at the beginning of the book recognizing their contribution to the history book fund. **Only alumni who contribute to the history book fund will receive a hard-cover book. No extra hard-cover books will be produced.** The alumni who contribute to the publishing of the book will receive their book on Saturday evening during the banquet.

**Every alumnus who attends the celebration will receive a free, soft-bound copy of the history book of the Iowa State Chapter.** These will be given out at the banquet on Saturday, March 14, 2009.

The Corporate Board has also commissioned commemorative coins of this event to be struck. The coins will be individually numbered. They will go on sale on Saturday following the dedication of the Library. We will only have a limited number of coins (approximately 135) struck, and once they are sold, there will not be any more made. We are still working on the design and determining the final cost of these coins, but we anticipate that the cost will be \$25-\$30 each. We are also planning on auctioning off the first five coins during the banquet to raise funds for our scholarship program. Details on these coins will be provided in the November newsletter.

The **TENTATIVE** outline for this three-day event as it exists at this point is as follows.

**Friday – March 13, 2009**

A reception for all alumni who are able to attend this event will be held. Guests of Honor will be all past and present members of the Board of The Acacians. A presentation on the writing of the history book of the Iowa State Chapter of Acacia Fraternity will be given by its authors. Refreshments will be served to all who attend. **This event is free to everyone.**

**Saturday – March 14, 2009**

A bunch (**free for all who attend**) will be provided at the chapter house from 8:00 am – 10:00 am. Tours of the remodeled facility will also be given by members of the chapter.

The Corporate Board of the Acacians will be meeting in the Gallery Room of the Memorial Union starting at 10:00 am. All alumni of the chapter are invited to attend. The Acacia National Council will meet in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Library of the chapter house starting at 10:00 am.

At 12:00 pm, a light luncheon will be provided at the chapter house. **This event is free for all who attend.**

At 2:00 pm, a formal dedication of the new Library will be held where the alumni who have donated \$5,000 or more to the Library will have it named in their honor. Additional dedications and recognitions will be made at this time.

From 2:30 – 4:00 pm, walking tours of the campus will be provided for the alumni by members of the active chapter.

At 6:00 pm, a social hour (with a cash bar) will be held in the South Ballroom in the Memorial Union. At 7:00 pm, the banquet will be served followed at 8:00 pm by the program for the evening. We expect that the cost for the banquet will be between \$35-\$40 per person. The program should end at 10:30 pm.

**Sunday – March 15, 2009**

On Sunday morning a final brunch will be served to all alumni who would like to stop by one final time before heading home. This will be an opportunity to visit one last time with your Brothers from years past and with the current members of the chapter and share stories – real or made up!

**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/](http://www.stuorg.iastate.edu/acacia/)

# I Active Chapter Report

*Clark D. Richardson, Venerable Dean - ACACIA Fraternity  
138 Gray Avenue  
Ames, Iowa 50014  
E-mail: [cdrich@iastate.edu](mailto:cdrich@iastate.edu)*

Dear Brothers and friends,

This summer has been very exciting for our chapter. We recently completed renovations on the study for the house, which is going to be an extremely useful tool for our members as we strive to maintain academic excellence. We have a new pledge class of 10 men and we are hoping to have several more sign before the start of the semester.

We are hosting the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Acacia Root Beer Float/Root Beer Pong fundraiser to raise money for our Pages of Promise philanthropy; this event will be taking place the Friday prior to classes and we anticipate that it will be a great success. We are also preparing for our first chapter retreat, which will be held on September 1<sup>st</sup> and will provide a great opportunity for us to build the bonds of brotherhood and allow us to begin to prepare a strategic plan for our chapter so that we can ensure we are always progressing and providing the best fraternal experience possible.

Finally, we don't need to mention again how excited we were to be selected as a Superior chapter, but we are certainly going to use this opportunity not as a way of becoming complacent in what we have been doing as a chapter but instead as a springboard for us to continue to improve and ensure that we are selected as the Malcolm chapter in 2010.

The 55<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conclave was held in Louisville, Kentucky we are very proud to say that the Iowa State Chapter was selected to receive the Founders Achievement "Superior Chapter" award, which is the second-highest honor a chapter can receive. This is the first award of this nature we have received since being recolonized. With this recognition of our successes during the past biennium, we know that the chapter is only going to continue to grow and excel as we move to the future.

Acacians from across the United States and Canada, including five undergraduate and four alumni brothers from the Iowa State Chapter, convened to share ideas on how to improve our chapters and to build the bonds of brotherhood. The opening ceremony was held on Wednesday evening, where Executive Director Darold Larson addressed the chapters and discussed the current state of Acacia from an International perspective. Following this ceremony, Brother Doug MacCraw (Nebraska)

performed his famous hypnotism act, where our Chapter Advisor, Jeremy Davis, and Chapter President, Clark Richardson were both hypnotized (I won't embarrass myself by telling stories of what we did but the other members who were there made sure they got plenty of camera footage). *(See their pictures below!)*



Josh Orendi from Phired Up Productions presented a workshop on Thursday that discussed the importance of Dynamic Recruitment. Dynamic recruitment emphasized the importance of chapters communicating their values during the recruitment process and building personal relationships through more intimate events, rather than having large parties where nobody gets to know one another. He certainly excited those of us who attended and got us to start asking questions about the effectiveness of our recruitment efforts.

Thursday night we attended a Louisville Bats game, which is the minor league baseball team in Louisville. This was a nice opportunity for the brothers to get away from the planned sessions we had been attending and to get to know one another in a more relaxed environment.

On Friday, Ann Bastianelli, who has served in leadership roles for a variety of companies such as McDonalds, Kellogg, Kraft, and even as an advisor to basketball coaching legend Bobby

Knight, gave a presentation entitled “What’s Your Story?” This presentation focused on helping brothers develop an effective leadership style and becoming “change-makers” in their fraternity, campus, or other walks of life. Everyone in attendance greatly enjoyed her presentation.

The Acacia Fraternity Foundation Scholarship Banquet was held Friday afternoon, with the keynote address provided by Brother Robert Forney, an alumni of the Indiana chapter who was president and CEO of the Chicago Stock Exchange and who founded and serves as the CEO of The Global Foodbank Network, which works to reduce world food insecurity by working with food banks across the globe. Following his address, the scholarships were distributed and we were once again the chapter with the most number of scholarship recipients. They also gave out the Chapter Excellence Awards at this banquet and we received the awards for Chapter Programming/Membership Education, Academic Programming, Human Service Programming, and Chapter/Alumni Publication.

On Friday afternoon the Iowa State Chapter was selected to present the Alumni Induction Ceremony for the ritual exemplification. This went very well and we were able to induct two alumni who had been serving on the International Council. We were excited to be able to show that we take the ritual seriously and, in our personal opinion, we did one of the best jobs presenting it.

Saturday morning was the final business session and we were extremely excited to see Brother Jeremy Davis elected to the position Second Vice President for the International Council. We know that he will be a tremendous asset to the Council and his serving in this capacity will continue to help our chapter build our relationship with headquarters.

Saturday evening was the final banquet. Brother David Allen (Indiana), the International President, had not been able to be in attendance at Conclave due to having triple bypass surgery three weeks prior to the event. However, he refused to miss this banquet and he received a loud standing ovation as he was welcomed to the podium for the final awards presentation. The Chapter was again pleasantly surprised as Jeremy Davis was named Chapter Advisor of the Biennium, and we all held our breath until we were announced as the recipient of the Superior Chapter award.

Conclave was undoubtedly a great experience for everyone who attended and it made us all excited to hit the ground running this fall. The Iowa State Chapter is now fully-committed to do what it takes to win the Malcolm Award in two years!

## **Board President's Message**

*Harold D. Zarr Jr.  
Corporate Board President - The Acacians*

*834 South East Michael Drive  
Ankeny, Iowa 50021-3671  
e-mail: [acacia\\_814@hotmail.com](mailto:acacia_814@hotmail.com)*

Greetings my Brother ACACIANS!

This newsletter has to set some kind of record. Twelve pages filled with news from the summer and plans for the 100<sup>th</sup> reunion – wow! I can’t begin to explain how exciting things are at the chapter house, and how much fun (and work!) we have been engaged in during these past few months.

This year marks my twelfth year on the Board. It doesn’t hardly seem possible that so much time has passed, but I can truly say that I am enjoying this work as much today as I did back in 1996 when I was first elected to the Board.

I also cannot say enough good things about the men in the house. We truly have one exceptional group of men, and the pledge class that we have recruited has all of the earmarks of setting new standards for excellence.

The officers of the chapter are among the most highly focused group of leaders that we have had since the chapter was refounded. Earning the superior chapter award has only served to motivate them more, and I have high hopes that we will walk away with the Malcolm Award at the next Conclave.

I really hope that many of our alumni will be able to attend both the fall alumni reunion and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. The Board has worked for years to get the chapter to this point, and the only piece of the puzzle that we need to complete this picture is lots of alumni showing up to share these good times with us. I think that if you take this opportunity, you will go away with the same positive feelings that we have for the future of our chapter.

I will close by reminding everyone to seriously start making plans on attending the celebration. If you are thinking about attending, **please send me an e-mail** so that I can include your name on the list of Brothers planning to attend that will be published in the next newsletter. This event will be the best opportunity that many of you will have to meet with the Brothers that you shared your experiences with when you lived in the house. I hope that you take advantage of this opportunity!

Please send me an e-mail at [acacia\\_814@hotmail.com](mailto:acacia_814@hotmail.com) if you plan to attend the celebration. Final reservation forms will be included in the next newsletter. We 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	515-257-4683
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

Clark Richardson	Chapter President	515-450-4955
Mike Vosatka	Chapter Treasurer	641-590-0804
Matt England	Chapter Representative	515-770-6816
Jeremy Davis	Chapter Advisor	515-291-7016

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, 2008. (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!

## Newsletter Information



# *Alumni Scholarship Fund Donations in 2008*

## **\$ 790 Contributed in 2008 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 2008. 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 2008 -----	
<b>Refounding Father</b>	<b>(\$ 10,000 or more)</b>
<b>Board of Directors Club</b>	<b>(\$ 5,000 - \$ 9,999)</b>
<b>Pythagorean Partner</b>	<b>(\$ 2,500 - \$ 4,999)</b>
<b>Chapter Partner</b>	<b>(\$ 1,000 - \$ 2,499)</b>
<b>Gold Partner</b>	<b>(\$ 750 - \$ 999)</b>

<b>Silver Partner</b>	<b>(\$ 500 - \$ 749)</b>
<b>Bronze Partner</b>	<b>(\$ 100 - \$ 499)</b>
John C. Akins - #307	
Walter C. Bredbeck - #419	
Richard W. Taylor - #506	
Gary D. Harter - #538	
Larry D. Christensen - #566	
Randy D. Elkin - #670	
Gary F. Barton - #673	
Harold D. Zarr Jr. - #814	
Bernard H. Schwartze - #911	
<b>Spirit Partner</b>	<b>(\$ 1 - \$ 99)</b>
Charles L. Dozois - #379	
Walter R. Kolbe - #527	