



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, 2009

Issue # 49

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

The **Spring, 2009** semester grade results are in, and **Acacia Fraternity** was tied for the #1 academic spot in the Iowa State Greek System by an old nemesis, FarmHouse. The results for the top five chapters are as follows:

1.	Acacia	3.29
2.	FarmHouse	3.29
3.	Beta Theata Pi	3.21
4.	Sigma Phi Epsilon	3.18
5.	Alpha Gamma Rho	3.16
All Fraternity Average		3.02
All Men's Undergrad Ave.		2.76

Competition for the top academic slot has become more intense as time has gone by as many potential members, and their parents, use academic performance as a key criteria in deciding which fraternity to join. New members and their parents are concerned that the living environment will be one in which academic excellence will be supported and encouraged. The academic record of Acacia has been a key factor in our success in attracting only those members with truly exceptional academic potential.

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 ten out of the past eleven semesters!** Since the chapter was refounded in 1999, Acacia has held the #1 academic slot more than 60% of the time, and we have held either the #1 or #2 academic slot 95% of the time. An impressive record of achievement by any measure.

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.

Based on the results for the spring semester, a total of **\$3,400** 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: (* out-of-house member)

Brandon J. Behrens	Pavel I. Beresnev *
Jason W. Bril *	Daniel N. Congreve
Ryne B. Dittmer	Matthew B. England
Michael L. Felderman	Alexander C. Fitzgerald
Noah J. Gullikson	Adam B. Halls
Andrew K. Joseph	Derek M. Joseph
Zachary J. Klenske	Seth M. Nelson
Jared A. Ramthun	Austin J. Schlatter
Aaron C. Schneider	Nicholas A. Seibold
Derek T. Tharp	Riley B. Thiesfeld
Jonathan C. Vaage	Michael S. Weber
Zhong Zheng	Matthew P. Zylstra

Previous academic results for the Chapter are as follows:

Term	Position	GPA
Spring, 2009	#1	3.29
Fall, 2008	#1	3.21
Spring, 2008	#1	3.29
Fall, 2007	#1	3.24
Spring, 2007	#2	3.15
Fall, 2006	#1	3.15
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

Twenty-four out of thirty-six (67%) chapter members earned a 3.00 or greater grade point for the Spring, 2009 semester. **Congratulations to all these Brothers for their outstanding academic achievement!**

Board Approves Significant Property Improvement Projects

Each summer, the Corporate Board reviews the financial results for the previous fiscal year and adopts a budget for the next fiscal year. The Board maintains four different accounts at our bank – a checking account and three money market accounts designated for specific projects related to the chapter house. Two of the money market accounts are used for projects directly related to the chapter house and the third is used for automatic payments on the mortgage on the chapter house.

At the summer Board meeting held on June 28, 2009, the Board approved a number of capital improvement projects for the next fiscal year.

The **first project** that was approved consists of **two landscaping upgrades** designed to address problems related to the outside appearance of the property. These two projects will cost approximately \$6,000. The first upgrade will be the construction of a sidewalk along the south side of the chapter house leading from the sidewalk to the back of the parking lot on the east side next to the storage shed. This sidewalk will be a flag stone pathway lined with limestone edging.

The second landscaping project will install limestone edging along the flower beds on the west (front) side of the chapter house. Together, these two projects will significantly improve the immediate area around the front and south sides of the chapter house and give it a much more esthetically pleasing appearance. We would have liked to replace the sidewalk from the front of the house to the street and the area around the sign by the street, but we lacked the funds to cover this part of our overall landscape improvement design. We are hoping that we can accomplish the next phase of the landscaping project next summer.

The **second project** is the **replacement of the soffits** on the chapter house. Work was begin by one of our chapter members (Noah Gullikson) this summer to repaint them when we discovered that quite a bit of the wood was rotting due to age. We decided that the only feasible solution was to simply have all of them replaced and repainted. This project is scheduled to be completed in September.

The **third project** that will be completed is one that has talked about for many years (if not decades) and is seriously overdue. A contract for **tuck pointing of the entire exterior** has been signed and will be completed in October. This project will cost \$19,000 and will be funded out of the money that the Board has accumulated through rent and alumni donations over the past few years.

A number of the Alumni Boards of the Greek houses contracted to have their exterior brickwork tuck-pointed this

summer, so we were able to negotiate a lower cost due to all of this work that will be done this summer.

The **fourth project** will be either the **gutting and complete refinishing of the basement area** into a chapter meeting and recreation room, **OR the installation of a hard surface parking lot** on the north and east sides of the chapter house. Our original intent was to upgrade the basement next summer, but the Ames City Council recently passed a new ordinance that requires all non-paved driveways and/or parking lots in the city to be paved.

There are a surprisingly large number of individual family homes in the city that do not have paved driveways. If I remember correctly, it could as high as 20% - 25% of the homes that do not have paved driveways. This ordinance would require **all** of them to have their driveways paved by the end of next summer.

As you might expect, the good citizens of Ames were not pleased when they heard the news of this new ordinance. With elections for the Ames City Council set for this fall, there is apparently a very strong movement in the city to vote out the existing members of council and vote in a new city council who will then repeal this ordinance which was just passed.

For our part, we have allocated \$30,000 from our capital improvements account to cover either the cost of the basement remodeling project or the new parking lot, but not both. We have no choice but to adopt a “wait-and-see” approach as to which project we can complete. Obviously, our preference would be to complete the makeover of the basement, but only time (and the election this fall) will tell.

While not exactly a “remodeling” project, the Board also voted to maintain our current mortgage payment amount for the next fiscal year. When we first set up our mortgage, it was designed as a variable rate note that “resets” the interest rate once every three years. The new rate will go into effect on August 1st, and we anticipate that the new rate should be significantly lower than the current rate. If this holds true, by maintaining our current payment, the Board estimates that we can cut an additional two or three years off of our principal mortgage balance prior to the next rate change. This would mean that we would only have to make payments for five or six years at most before our mortgage is completely paid off. Saving two or three year’s worth of payments (at approximately \$3,300 per month) would be a significant savings!

Active Chapter Keeps Busy with many Events!

An old saying goes, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." While the men of Acacia are serious about studying for their courses, they also believe in taking time out for recreation and in helping their fellow man as well.

On April 25th, members of the Iowa State Chapter of Acacia Brothers **Brandon Behrens** and **Austin Schlatter** man a display to bring awareness to the needs of the Youth and Shelter Services in Ames. Members of the chapter worked at both East and West Hy-Vee's and asked people to purchase extra items for Youth and Shelter Services in Ames, as part of Shelter Awareness Day. Hundreds of dollars of non-perishable food and personal items were donated by customers at these two stores for use by the patrons of the shelter. (A second photo is shown below.)



Group photo of chapter members who participated in the project supporting the Youth and Shelter Services of Ames. Shown from left to right are Acacia Brothers **Zhong Zheng**, **Kevin Wells**, **Brandon Behrens**, **Austin Schlatter**, **Ezra Shields**, **Dan Congreve**, **Matt England**, **Andrew Joseph**, **Derek Tharp**, **Tyler Ruse**, a coordinator from the Youth and Shelter Services (name unknown) and three members from Beta Theta Pi Fraternity (names not known).



On May 16th, many of the guys in the house worked at the Knoll for Stewart to help with the ISU Foundation Alumni Brunch. That evening, in thanks, **Chapter Faculty Advisor, Stewart Burger** took them out to dinner to the Latin King Italian Restaurant in Des Moines. Of course before the dinner, we had to get our picture taken with the Anderson Erickson Dairy Cow across the street. The evening was filled with delicious food, superb wine, and good times. Thank you Stewart!

Shown in this picture from left to right is **Zhong Zheng, Stewart Burger, Riley Thiesfeld, Matt Zylstra, Michael Weber, Pasha Beresnev, Noah Gullikson, Brandon Behrens, Matt England, and Bruno Orticeli** (a friend of ours who works at the Knoll). On the two cows are **Ezra Shields** and **Amy Schwager** (girlfriend of Matt England, who also works at the Knoll).

Acacia Leadership Academy Report ~ July 29 to August 2, 2009

Three undergraduate and three alumni brothers of the Iowa State Chapter of Acacia Fraternity attended the 8th Biennial Acacia Leadership Academy in Bloomington, Indiana from July 29 to August 2, 2009. Representing the undergraduate chapter were: **Michael Weber** - #1038, **Nic Seibold** - #1032, and **Matt Zylstra** - #1061. Representing the alumni were: **John Pugh** - #442, **James Schlick** - #708, and **Jeremy Davis** - #969. In total, 105 undergraduates, representing the chapters and colonies of Acacia Fraternity, participated in the ALA which was hosted at the Indiana Chapter of Acacia Fraternity house.

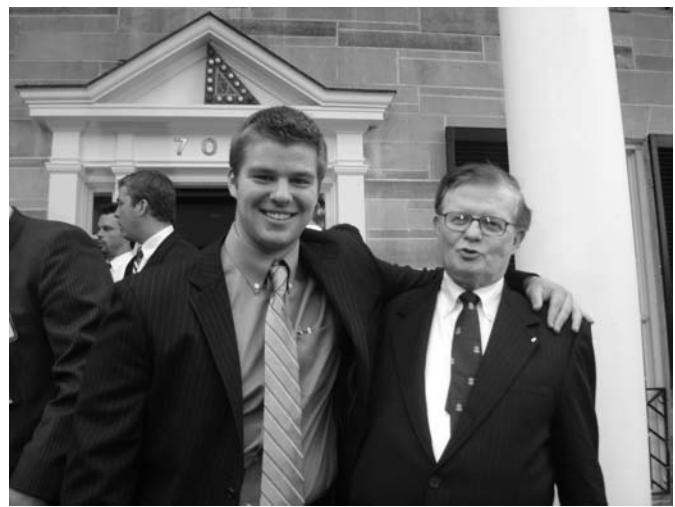
The Acacia Leadership Academy is considered to be the premier fraternal event. On the odd-numbered years (non-conclave), Acacia Brothers from across the country convene for a leadership conference that places the participants in a chapter-setting where all brothers live and operate as a fraternity chapter under one roof for the duration of the academy. From electing "chapter" officers to strengthening the ties of friendship, one with another; the Acacia Leadership Academy exists to put theory into practice for the undergraduate brothers who attend and teach them the skills they need to positively impact their home chapters.



Representatives of the Iowa State Chapter and the International Fraternity at ALA. (L to R): Keith Bushey (Acacia Assistant Executive Director), John Pugh, Jeremy Davis (Chapter Advisor and International 2nd Vice President), David J. Allen (International President), Michael S. Weber (Venerable Dean), Darold Larson (Acacia Executive Director), Matt Zylstra (Chapter Recruitment Co-Chair), and Nic Seibold (former Chapter House Manager).

During the course of the week, the undergraduate brothers attended a number of workshops which focused on membership recruitment, recognizing and eliminating hazing, Cornerstones, and personal financial management. Additionally, throughout the week, there were a number of "small group" sessions facilitated by alumni of Acacia Fraternity. During the small group discussions, brothers shared "best practices" for recruitment, membership education, and chapter operations. While not in workshops or small group discussions, the brothers participated in the Acacia Olympics, which included activities such as bowling, volleyball, acacia toss, horseshoes, euchre, 3 on 3 basketball, and darts; all in a round-robin style tournament where each small group section competed against another group. In an effort to emphasize teamwork and the art of working together, each small-group section also participated in a paintball event.

A particular hi-light of the week was the initiation of a new brother from the Missouri Chapter. As part of the initiation process, each small-group section was assigned a particular degree of the initiation ritual. One of the goals of this process is to teach the attendees the proper way to exemplify the ritual. As is prescribed in the ritual, the initiation was completed at the Bloomington Masonic Lodge. (For those that do not know, the Iowa State Chapter has been utilizing the Ames Masonic Lodge for initiation each year since recolonizing in 2000 and exemplifies the ritual as it is prescribed in the Ritual of Acacia Fraternity.)



Undergraduate Brother Matt Zylstra and International President David J. Allen having a spirited conversation prior to the closing banquet at the Acacia Leadership Academy.

While the undergraduate brothers were participating in their various events, the Acacia Fraternity Foundation also met and conducted its annual meeting. Our chapter is very fortunate to have one of our alumni brothers, **John Pugh** - #442, serving as a Director. Additionally, Brother **Harold Zarr Jr.** - #814 also serves on the investment committee for the AFF. As can be expected, the Nation's economy has impacted the AFF's corpus negatively. It is with great hope that the financial sector will turn-around within the year. On Thursday evening, the AFF hosted a reception for Acacia Alumni who were able to attend. Brother **James Schlick** - #708 was in attendance, along with Brothers **John Pugh** - #442 and **Jeremy Davis** - #969.



ISU Acacian Michael Weber - #1038 receives congratulations from Acacia Fraternity Foundation President William Utic upon receiving the **George F. Patterson Scholarship**.

On Saturday evening, the Acacia Leadership Academy concluded with a closing banquet where several undergraduate brothers were recognized with scholarships funded through the AFF. Of particular note, Brother **Michael Weber**, current Venerable Dean, was the recipient of the **George F. Patterson Scholarship** in the amount of \$3000 for his leadership in the chapter and on campus. At Iowa State, he currently is the Business Manager for VEISHEA and is also the Speaker of the Senate for the Government of the Student Body. The George F. Patterson, Jr. Scholarship is named for Brother Patterson who tirelessly worked for the betterment of Acacia Fraternity and truly is one of the Great Acacia brothers and an

individual brother who truly left a long-standing legacy for our fraternity.

Additionally, Brother **Brandon Behrens** - #1035 received the **Cornerstones Scholarship** (one presented to an undergraduate brother from each of the Cornerstones-participating chapters) and Brother **John Vaage** - #1029 received an **AFF Undergraduate Scholarship**. At the conclusion of the banquet, the Passing of the Gavel occurred where many of the attendees (undergraduates and alumni) reflected on their Acacia Leadership Academy experience.

History Book Receives Plaudit from Cornell Chapter Historian

In June, 2007, the Cornell Chapter of Acacia Fraternity celebrated its one-hundredth year celebration. A member of their corporation board, Thomas J. Balcerski, wrote a book on the history of their chapter and he was kind enough to forward on some copies to the authors of our history book to serve as a model for how the work was accomplished. His insights and help were invaluable to us as we wrote our book. In thanks, we sent him a copy of our history book. Reprinted below, is a letter we received from Brother Balcerski.

June 21, 2009

Dear Brother Davis,

I completed reading the Iowa State Chapter history today. I am very pleased with the book, and I congratulate you and your co-authors on your laudable efforts. Researching and writing (and publishing) a chapter history is no easy feat, and the meticulous attention to detail shines through strongly in your mutual effort. I feel especially proud of the Iowa State Chapter and her efforts to recolonize and recharter after a period of years absent from the campus.

The history of the Cornell Chapter parallels and intersects the history of the Iowa State Chapter in many important ways. We have shared connections through brothers. Brother Howard Pierce (Cornell) was a founding member of the Cornell Chapter, and he helped to found the Iowa State Chapter as well. Stewart Burger has been generous with his time and resources to both our chapters. But we also seemed to celebrate similar periods of excellence and experience unfortunate downturns concomitantly. Cornell Chapter did not officially recolonize, but we were reorganized in 1987-1988.

We too benefited from outstanding leadership consultants and financial support from alumni and the Acacia Fraternity Foundation. Our two chapters have had a focus on academics, outstanding newsletters, and chapter programming. We have both been recognized as either outstanding or superior chapter by Acacia Fraternity in the last four years.

We have even undergone similar renovations to houses of

about the same age. Our one-hundred-two year-old house has recently benefited from a fire-suppressant sprinkler system and new windows around the house (replacing the inefficient single-paned windows). This summer the corporation board has undertaken the complete upgrade from a steam heating system to a modern hot water boiler system. We are also expanding and paving our back parking lot. All of this has been possible through the last two years of our chapter's Centennial Capital Campaign. To date we have received pledges amounting to \$236,000 out of a stated goal of \$345,000. As chairman of the campaign, I have been overwhelmed by the alumni support of the chapter. The active chapter has been equally supportive of the corporation's efforts, and they have contributed many thousand dollars on top of their annual rent towards the campaign.

The alumni who have sustained Iowa State and Cornell Chapters share much in common. Harold Zarr '75 and Steve Stein '73 share a remarkable number of similarities. They have both served as corporation board presidents for an unprecedented period of time, both have contributed time and money to their chapters, and have both have been justly (if belatedly) recognized for their hard work through local and national awards (Order of Pythagoras and Award of Merit). Cornell Chapter has also benefited greatly from the life-long commitment by Jim Showacre '50. He may very well be the John Pugh or George Gross of Iowa State Chapter. Jim too has received national and local recognition. And I cannot deny the impact of recent alumni to local and national affairs.

Jeremy, your efforts in refounding the chapter and sustaining its excellence are notable and praiseworthy. Congratulations on your many accolades and election to national office within the fraternity. The fraternity is in good hands. I have the enviable position of returning to Cornell University in the fall for graduate work in history, and I look forward to living in Ithaca and being a more active part of the fraternity again (in person).

There is much more I could write about specific chapters, stories, or moments. I could also write critically (as an academic historian) about your interpretation of the past, composition and style of the prose, and inclusion of detail.

Indeed, I would certainly enjoy a conversation with the three authors if the occasion ever allowed, in Ames, Ithaca, or wherever we happen to be. Please let me know if you would like additional copies of the Cornell Chapter history. I plan to keep the Iowa State Chapter history in my personal library of fraternity and university histories. If an additional copy could be spared for the Cornell Chapter library, I would be happy to see it is placed in its shelves.

Please share this e-mail widely with the other authors and

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/

In Memoriam

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

**Robert P. Grobeck - #347
1005 Cedarfield Court
Richmond, Virginia 23233**

With much regret I must inform you of my father's death on April 8, 2009. He dearly loved being an Acacian.

Respectfully,
Marcia Benjamin

GROBECK, Robert Peter, 87, departed this life on Wednesday, April 8, 2009.

Bob was born on October 9, 1921 in Omaha, Neb., to Martin and Margrethe Knudsen Grobeck. He was raised with his sisters, Bernice, Adele; and brother, Milton, on the Grobeck Dairy Farm. After graduating from South High School, he attended Iowa State University.

He signed up as an aviation cadet for pilot training in 1942. He was called to active duty in early 1943. He flew C-47 and B-52 aircraft in New Guinea, the Philippines and Okinawa. He was stationed in Tokyo prior to flying home in 1946 where he returned to Iowa State University to finish his degree in Dairy Husbandry.

True members of the greatest generation, Betty and Bob were married on March 15, 1944. Four children were born to this marriage: Jodie, Marcia, Debbie and Jon.

He spent a lifelong career with Sealtest Ice Cream and Kraft, coming to Richmond in 1976. Bob continued to serve in the

other proud Iowa State Chapter alumni. You have much to be proud of in the last one hundred years. I wish you the very best for the next one hundred.

Fraternally,

**Tom Balcerksi '05
Cornell Chapter #1063
Alumni Historian**

Air Force reserve, retiring in 1962 as a Lt. Colonel, with 20 years combined active and reserve service, to include reactivation for the Korean Conflict, 1951.

He married Brenda Coffman on August 30, 1986. He was known for his quick wit, love of golf and dedication to his family and friends.

Bob was preceded in death by his daughter, Jodie; wife, Betty; sisters, Bernice and Adele; and brother, Milton. He is survived by his wife, Brenda; three children, Marcia (David Jr.) Benjamin, Debbie (Dan) Bingham, Jon (Jill) Grobeck; stepdaughter, Dodie Corpener; seven grandchildren, David (Tammy) Benjamin III, Colin Benjamin, Jenny Grobeck, Jessica Grobeck, Sean Benjamin, Heather Bingham and Fawn Bingham; two great-grandchildren, Payton and Joanna Benjamin; and beloved nieces and nephews.

Please send any donations in memory of Robert Grobeck to one of the following or a charity special to you: National WWII Memorial, 2300 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 501, Arlington, Va. 22201, or Acacia Fraternity Foundation, Chapter 19, Iowa State University, 8777 Purdue Road, Suite 225, Indianapolis, Ind. 46268.

**David C. Roy - #562
99 LaSalle Avenue
Framington, Massachusetts 01701**

A memorial service was held on Sunday, September 7, 2008 in Edwards Church UCC, Framingham, for professor geology and geophysical David D. Roy, who died August 30, 2008 from Alzheimer's. He was 70 years old.

A native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Dr. Roy taught at Boston College for 33 years and served as chairman of the Geology and Geophysics Department for six years. One of Dr. Roy's professional accomplishments was his mapping of the geologic structure of northern Maine for his research dissertation, through which he was able to contribute to the State of Maine Geologic Map and become a licensed geologist in the state.

Dr. Roy would drive for hours to bring undergraduate and graduate students to remote sections of the state, which suited geologist's specialization in sedimentary rock.

Recognized as an exemplary field geologist, Dr. Roy was also a dedicated teacher, said colleague Prof. Chris Hepburn.

"Dave was entire devoted to his students and vise versa," said Hepburn. "It was noted when he retired that he was probably the only faculty members who over 30-plus years never missed an office hour. That was sacred to him."

He is survived by his wife Marjorie, brother Arthur, and daughters Deborah, Margaret and Patricia.

Boston College Chronicle – September 5, 2008

**Virgil S. Lagomarcino - #574
1801 20th Street – Apt. K21
Ames, Iowa 50010**

Virgil Seth Lagomarcino of Ames, one of Iowa's leading educators in a career spanning more than four decades, passed away peacefully in his sleep Tuesday, July 21, 2009, with family members at his side. He was 88.

Virgil Lagomarcino was born March 23, 1921, in Plainfield, Iowa, the son of John James Lagomarcino and Cora Alice Scott Lagomarcino. He attended Waverly High School, graduating in 1939. He attended Coe College, Cedar Rapids, earning his B.A. in political science in 1943; Drake University, earning his M.S. in education administration in 1948; and Iowa State University, earning his Ph.D. in education in 1955. In 1944, he married Neva Dorothy Baird, also of Waverly, at the Little Brown Church in Nashua, and on July 29, 2008, they celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary.

Dr. Lagomarcino taught high school in Vinton in 1944-45 and served as superintendent of the Keystone Consolidated Schools from 1945 to 1949, and Anamosa Public Schools from 1949 to 1951. He became a regional consultant for the Iowa Department of Public Instruction in 1951, and a research associate at Iowa State College (now University) while attending graduate school. In 1954, while still a graduate student, he was named Director of Curriculum and Supervision and Director of Public Junior Colleges for the Iowa Department of Public Instruction. In 1955, he joined the faculty in education at Iowa State, advancing to the rank of professor; was appointed Director of Teacher Education at Iowa State in 1961; and, upon formation of the College of Education at Iowa State in 1968, was named its first dean, a position he held until his retirement in 1990. Upon his retirement, he was named Professor and Dean Emeritus.

As Dean of Education, Dr. Lagomarcino oversaw the development of the new college and, in the mid-1970s, the remodeling of the former Veterinary Medicine Quadrangle into a home for the College of Education and Department of Psychology. In 1986, that complex was named Virgil S. Lagomarcino Hall in recognition of his contributions to Iowa State and to education.

He is the author of several professional publications on decision making processes, bond elections, and teacher

preparation for Iowa school districts. He was a consultant to several colleges and universities, and an examiner for the North Central Association (NCA) Commission on Colleges and Universities, including serving as chair of numerous NCA accreditation teams. He was a member of two U.S. State Department educational missions to Egypt, and several education seminars in Europe.

In Iowa, Dr. Lagomarcino served as chair of the Governor's Task Force on Teacher Preparation/Participation and the Iowa Commission for the Study of Teacher Excellence; was charter president of the Iowa Association of Colleges for Teacher Education; a member of the Iowa Legislature Excellence in Education Study Committee and Iowa Professional Teaching Practices Commission; and led numerous Board of Regents task forces and committees, including serving as chair of the Iowa State University Presidential Search Committee in 1985. He was a member of several academic and educational honor societies, including Phi Kappa Phi, and he received Phi Kappa Phi's Outstanding Educator Award.

His community service included service on the Mary Greeley Medical Center and Ames Public Library Boards of Directors. He was a member and past president of the Ames Kiwanis Club, and he was a lay teacher for adult Bible study classes for the First Baptist Church of Ames much of his more than 50-year affiliation with the church. He had many interests, including golf, and the study of American and Biblical history. Dr. Lagomarcino led an active retirement, authoring three books: A Window on Main Street, about growing up in Waverly, Iowa; The Owl, the Elephant and the Other Side of the Mountain, a reflection on his years in education and at Iowa State University; and a children's book Life With Santa and Sarah Claus, a collection of Christmas stories he told his children when they were growing up.

Survivors include his wife, Neva Dorothy, children: Mary (John) Anderson, Ames; Mark (Teresa) of West Des Moines; and Martha (Tom) Gleason, Boone; grandchildren Scott (Gretchen) and Michele Anderson of Ames, and Justin, Jared and Sarah of West Des Moines; and great grandchildren Tyler and Lucas Anderson of Ames. He was preceded in death by his parents.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, July 24, at the First Baptist Church, 200 Lynn Avenue, Ames, Iowa, with the Rev. David Russell officiating. Private burial will be at the Ames Municipal Cemetery. Adams Funeral Home of Ames is in charge of arrangements. The family requests that memorials be designated to the Virgil and Dorothy Lagomarcino Scholarship Fund in care of the Iowa State University Foundation.

Written by John Anderson, assistant to the ISU president and Dr. Lagomarcino's son-in-law.

I Active Chapter Report

*Michael S. Weber, Venerable Dean - ACACIA Fraternity
138 Gray Avenue
Ames, Iowa 50014
E-mail: msweber@iastate.edu*

Dear Brothers and friends,

Summer is coming to a close, as it is time for ALA, Acacia Leadership Academy. Matt Zylstra, Nick Seibold, Jeremy Davis, and myself are all converging on the Indiana Chapter house along with about 100 other fellow Acacians from all over the US and Canada. We are all looking forward to meeting our fellow brothers from other chapters as well as learn from them and have an all around great time in Bloomington.

We are getting ready to have our new pledges move into the house and helping our new out of house member's move into their dorms. As of the time of writing this article we have 10 new members signed, 7 living in the house and 3 out of house members. We are now getting big brothers all lined up and getting the house ready for all of our brothers moved in for the fall.

Rush has been going along quite well this summer. With multiple dinners each week, many phone calls and email correspondence. We would like to extend another Thank You to the Congreve's for opening their home to our brothers and prospective new members at their lake house again this summer. Everyone that attended had a great time and many are already looking forward to the possibility of the lake house again next summer. Thanks again!

Since the last newsletter, the Greek Affairs office released the grades for the Greek Community. We received a house GPA of 3.29, and Farmhouse tied us for 1st place. We are excited how the spring semester turned out and ready for the fall semester to keep up our record and tradition.

As an active chapter we were deeply sadden to see the passing of one of our famous Iowa State Acacians, Dr. Virgil Lagomarcino. He passed on to Chapter Eternal July 21, 2009, peacefully with his family at his side. He was the first Dean of the College of Education at Iowa State and was instrumental in the remodeling of the old Veterinary Quadrangle to become the new home to the College of Education, which was later renamed Virgil S. Lagomarcino Hall. Our prayers are with his family and friends as we all remember and celebrate his great career and life at Iowa State University.

We all enjoyed your company at the 100th celebration in March, and hope that many of you will stop by again soon, especially those that weren't able to make it in March. We

love hearing your stories and we want you all to meet the active brothers of the chapter and be able to reconnect with your chapter.

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*

Greetings my Brother ACACIANS!

As I write this letter to you all, I am feeling a sense of optimism that fills me with excitement about the future of our Chapter. For many years, the members of the Board and the Chapter have worked hard to build an outstanding chapter and it seems as if all of our dreams are now coming to fruition.

The 100th anniversary celebration was an event not-to-be-forgotten, and it seems as if good fortune is continuing to smile on us. The summer rush program under the direction of Brothers Matt Zylstra and Riley Thiesfeld has been a complete success. The house will again be filled to capacity this fall, and we will have a number of new members living in the dorms waiting for an opportunity to move into the house, perhaps in the spring semester.

Financially, the Board is in the best shape that it has been in since I first started as Board President some thirteen years ago. The fact that we can launch and pay for four major renovation projects at the house at the same time is a testament to the sound financial practices followed by the Board --- and the generosity of our alumni in supporting both the scholarship program and the capital improvements campaigns launched by the Board.

Academically, Acacia still remains the chapter to beat in terms of trying to gain top grade-point honors. Their success in pursuit of their studies makes the process of recruiting like-minded new members much easier and in convincing their parents that we are NOT your stereotypical fraternity house.

Lest you worry, we are not about to start getting complacent. The joint focus of both the Chapter and the Board for the past few years has been to lay the groundwork for our chapter once again to earn the right to receive the Malcolm Award at Conclave. While there are no guarantees, achievement of that long sought-after recognition remains our goal. We believe that we should have an excellent chance at earning this award at the Conclave to be held in 2010.

The next alumni luncheon will be held during Family Weekend at Iowa State on Saturday, September 26, 2009. If you plan to be in the area, please attend this event. It will give

you an excellent opportunity to stop in to the house and visit with all of the new Brothers, plus you get a free meal! That is the best deal you will get anywhere in Ames! Please fill out the enclosed registration form and send it back to me right away!

As always, please send me an e-mail at acacia_814@hotmail.com if you need to communicate with me about anything related to the Board or the chapter. I enjoy hearing from all the alumni and answering your questions. Take care and my best wishes to you and all in your family.

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
Phil Sherman	Secretary	
Don Good	Alumni Relations	515-956-3150



Alumni Scholarship Fund Donations in 2009

\$ 6,720 Contributed in 2009 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 2009. 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 -----

Refounding Father	(\$ 10,000 or more)
Board of Directors Club	(\$ 5,000 - \$ 9,999)
Pythagorean Partner	(\$ 2,500 - \$ 4,999)
Chapter Partner	(\$ 1,000 - \$ 2,499)
Mark L. Larson	
Harold D. Zarr Jr. - #814	
Gold Partner	(\$ 750 - \$ 999)
Silver Partner	(\$ 500 - \$ 749)
Robert A. Ketch - #648	
Richard K. Perrin - #541	
Bronze Partner	(\$ 100 - \$ 499)

Richard G. Wilson - #409	
Albert M. Fellows - #475	
Jay D. Quick - #535	
Gary D. Harter - #538	
Dennis G. McComber - #556	
Larry P. Yarham - #682	
Stephen J. Casper IV - #905	
Jeremy N. Davis - #969	
Spirit Partner	(\$ 1 - \$ 99)
George W. Gross - #343	
John R. Fulkerson - #410	
Gordon N. Sundberg - #501	
Walter R. Kolbe - #527	
Larry D. Christensen - #566	
Ray E. Gustafson - #712	
Rev. Timm A. Wilkin - #717	
Ronald M. Larsen - #718	
Monte W. Ball - #818	
Laury E. Decker - #910	
Mary Ann (Vorisek) Dilla – Little Sister	

Michael S. Weber	Chapter President	515-291-8718
Matt England	Chapter Treasurer	319-558-8085
Matt Zylstra	Chapter Rep.	712-299-0409
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 November, 2009. (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!

Peter A. Thiesfeld - parent