



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, 2010

Issue # 53

Iowa State Chapter brings home the Malcolm Award!



The Acacia Brothers from the Iowa State Chapter shown in the above picture attended the 56th Biennial Conclave and Leadership Academy in New Orleans, Louisiana from August 4-8, 2010. The individuals in this picture are (from left to right): Michael S. Weber, Harold D. Zarr Jr. (Corporate Board President), John B. Pugh, Darold Larson (International Executive Director), Jeremy N. Davis (Chapter Advisor), Scotty Locke, Nicholas Seibold, Riley Thiesfeld, Noah Gullikson, Matthew B. England (Chapter President), Alex Moraniec, and Rob Roberson (International President).

As all of our alumni know, the highest honor that may be given to a chapter of the Fraternity is the George A. Malcolm Award, named in honor of one of the founder's of Acacia Fraternity. This award is given to the chapter that exhibits continuous excellence in the performance of all phases of both the chapters and alumni operations. This year, for the first time since 1964, the Iowa State Chapter was presented with this highly coveted award by the Acacia International President, Rob Roberson.

Three Iowa State Brothers Honored at Conclave



Brother **Brandon J. Behrends - #1035** was honored at the 56th Biennial Conclave with the Roy C. Clark Outstanding Acacian Award. This award is named of Brother Roy C. Clark who served the Fraternity in a number of capacities, including that of National Executive Secretary from 1947-1966. This award is given annually to an undergraduate who most exemplifies the attributes of perseverance, integrity, foresight, loyalty, devotion, wisdom, and leadership within the Fraternity. Brandon graduated from Iowa State in May of this year, and is currently pursuing a medical degree at the University of Iowa. Only one other Iowa State Acacian, Brother **William C. Wolford - #680** has previously earned this award, which he received in 1968.



Brother **Michael S. Weber - #1038** was elected to one of two available positions as an Undergraduate International Counselor of the Fraternity. He will hold this position for the next two years. The position of undergraduate counselor covers a variety of aspects. The main item is that they are the voice for all of the undergraduate members to the International Council. Their job is to let the council know of the concerns from chapters about programs as well as help them deal with local issues that may

arise. Justin Caplan from the Carleton Chapter is the other counselor, and he and Mike have divided the chapters between them and they will contact their respective chapters on a monthly basis to see how things are going. The objective is to get as accurate a feel as possible concerning how things are going at local chapters.

They also plan to visit as many of the chapters as possible as time allows over the next two years. As the chapters work to implement the new strategic plan, their focus will be to help them successfully implement the plan in a manner that will work for them and for the International Fraternity as a whole. Mike will also serve as a “sounding board” for the brothers at various chapters when problems arise and they need to discuss how to deal with them effectively, or to just “bounce” idea’s off of them from time to time.



Brother **Mathew B. England - #1047** was awarded with the Duncan McPherson Fraternityship Scholarship in the amount of \$3,000. This Fraternityship is given in the memory of Duncan McPherson, long time California Chapter Advisor and past AFF President.

The award recognizes an undergraduate who best exemplifies the love of fraternity, selfless dedication, sincerity and tireless effort on behalf of his chapter characterized by Duncan McPherson. This scholarship recognizes your efforts within the chapter to build on the chapter's strengths and promote the spirit of brotherhood, while also succeeding academically on campus.

During his time at Iowa State, Matt has served in a number of officer positions in the chapter; including treasurer, rush co-chair and venerable dean. He has been a Homecoming Co-chair, the assistant business manager for VEISHEA, and is currently the Ex-Officio Student Liason to the Ames City Council.

Iowa State Chapter Earns Awards at Foundation Luncheon

At each Conclave, the Acacia Fraternity Foundation recognizes those chapters within the Fraternity for excellence in a variety of chapter operations. Sixteen operational areas are identified by the national organization. At this past Conclave, the Iowa State Chapter was recognized as one of the outstanding chapter in the Fraternity by earning awards for academic programming, the alumni newsletter, chapter programming, house management and officer organization.

The **G.K. Nelson Academic Programming Award** is given to a chapter which exhibits outstanding programming and support activities in the area of overall academic excellence. Specifically, the Iowa State Chapter has one of the best mentorship and academic support programs in the Fraternity. New members have senior members assigned as resources to help them with their courses, and the Board will cover the cost of tutors or other academic support should a member need the assistance. We also recognize individual members who earn a 3.00 or above semester GPA with certificates and scholarships. The chapter has consistently been well above both the all-Greek and university men's GPA average, ranking as #1 in the Greek system some 68% of the past 20 semesters.

For the second Conclave in a row, the chapter received the award for **Best Publication**. Our newsletter, The Iowa State Pythagorean, was cited for its outstanding consistency in on-time publication, the many photo's and in-depth articles informing the alumni of activities of the chapter and corporate board, and its ability to engage the alumni in supporting worthwhile projects (such as the Burger-Carstens-Davis-Good library) in the local chapter. Beginning this year, additional news updates are going to be provided to all alumni who provide a current e-mail address to the newsletter editor, Harold Zarr, via his e-mail address of acacia_814@hotmail.com.

The award for **Chapter Programming** is based on the extent to which chapter members engage in activities that supplement the formal educational areas of study provided by the university. For example, the new members of the chapter attend programs on alcohol awareness, academics, time management and

utilizing campus resources. Our chapter was also one of five selected to be a part of the pilot project for Cornerstones, sponsored by the Acacia Headquarters staff, that focuses on individual member development. An annual goal setting retreat is held by the new chapter officers each January where they "map out" the goals and objectives for the coming calendar year.

The **House Management Award** is based on quite a variety of factors including: Is the house filled to capacity? (Yes, we consistently achieve this!), Are their clear house rules? (Yes, we have rules that cover alcohol (none in the house), no smoking, no illegal substances, no firearms, no candles, and quiet hours are enforced to promote academic study. All members have assigned duties in terms of keeping the house clean. We also have regular inspections to ensure that our fire suppression (i.e., sprinkler) system is up to code and that we meet or exceed all city of Ames requirements with regard to fire safety. Repairs to chapter property are also handled promptly – we don't believe in "deferred maintenance" and the corporate board is constantly evaluating and implementing projects that are designed to improve the quality of the chapter house and enhance the living environment. This area, perhaps ahead of most all others, is one area in which the corporate board spends a lot of time and takes a great deal of pride.

The final award was for **Officer Organization**. One of the true strengths of the Iowa State Chapter lies in its undergraduate officer corps. The leadership provided by these men has truly made a significant difference in the day-to-day operations of the chapter. Significant improvements were made in the treasurer's office, where the use of computer spreadsheets developed by the undergraduate members allows them to instantly keep track of cash flows, balances, and allocations of expenses incurred throughout the year. A number of specialized committees were instituted that addressed such topics at initiation, education, recruitment, campus involvement, and alumni affairs (to name but a few) provide ample opportunity for the chapter members to gain valuable experience in leadership roles within the chapter under the guidance of experienced Brothers within the chapter.

Work Continues on Chapter House Improvements

Considerable work has been completed both inside and outside of the chapter house this summer, with more work scheduled to be completed in August and into September as well. Prior to leaving for Conclave, three undergraduate Brothers (**Matt England**, **Riley Thiesfeld**, and **Ezra Shields**) painted both the foyer and chapter meeting room/dining room areas of the chapter house.

In the foyer, a burgundy colored "accent wall" was painted on the north side of the room. The same paint color used on the

bottom half of the chapter meeting / dining room. The remaining walls were painted a slightly darker shade of the "tan color" was existing previously. These Brothers did an outstanding job and the new look is sharp and clean. In addition, a new sitting couch and area rug were purchased and installed in the foyer.

Chapter Advisor Jeremy Davis and a number of the active chapter Brothers jointly selected the new furniture, and the area rug was chosen by one of the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority

women who stayed at the house this summer (who is also an interior design major). The overall look of this room is quite impressive and greatly enhances the initial impression that one gets upon first entering the chapter house.

Work on the porch and steps up to the house have been completed, and it looks absolutely fantastic! The new porch floor is designed to completely seal the previous gap that existed between the wall and porch floor and prevent leakage into the recreation room area under the porch. A special type of polyurethane finish product was used to accomplish this look. The floor now slopes away from the house and has a much more durable finish that just pure concrete.



The existing bush and light pole at the intersection of the old sidewalk and parking sidewalk was removed as a part of the sidewalk renovation project. This is a view from the chapter house to the street.



The picture shown below shows the new sidewalk after it has poured and set, and the forms removed. This is Brother **Alex Moraniec - #1043** installing more soil and mulch around the new light pole and bushes that were planted at the intersection between the new sidewalk and parking sidewalk along the front of the chapter house.



This picture shows the floor after it has been ground down prior to the pouring of the new floor. After the floor had been ground down, a “concrete pad” was found that was embedded in the floor with additional concrete poured around and on top of the pad. Where the pad came from, no one knows.

This is a picture showing the forms in place after the old sidewalk has been torn out getting ready to pour the new sidewalk. To meet current City of Ames regulations, the sidewalk now slopes directly into the existing sidewalk that runs along the parking in front of the chapter house. This provides for a seamless grade up to the steps leading into the chapter house.



This final picture shows the completed sidewalk and landscaping work. This is a significant improvement over the old sidewalk that existed previously. The previous sidewalk had deteriorated significantly over the years, and had reached the point where it was dangerous to walk on during the winter as ice would form in depressions in the sidewalk.

The new sidewalk is designed to have the water runoff to the grassy area of the yard, thus helping to make the sidewalk far safer for the Brothers and guests as they walk to and from the chapter house.

New sod and limestone edging remains to be put in place which will finish the look of the entrance and significantly enhance the visual appeal of the house from the street and sidewalk. If you get the chance to stop in and take a look, it is a sight not to be missed!



Another project that has been completed is the installation of a new main entryway door into the foyer. This is a picture of the new door, which is far more substantial than the previous door which let in a significant amount of cold air during the winter. The door is an energy-efficient model supplied by Renewal by Anderson (the same company that installed all of the energy-

efficient windows in the chapter house a few years ago. This picture does not begin to do justice to the look of this new door. You really have to see it to grasp what a difference it makes!



Another project that has been needed for years, and was finally completed in August, was the replacement of split-rail fence between the parking lot and the yard on the northwest side of the property. The old fence was literally falling apart due to age and deterioration, and needed to be replaced. In the picture shown below are Brothers **Riley Thiesfeld** (foreground) and **Matt England** in the process of installing the new fence.



Another project that will be completed within the next few weeks will be the installation of a new exit door from the basement to an outside stairwell on the west side of the house. This lower basement door will be a custom-built model designed to fit this opening and provide it with a tight seal that should prevent cold air from “leaking” into this area of the basement. Our ultimate goal is to convert the area under the porch into a “home theater” area where the men of the chapter can watch moves or play video games in a comfortable, relaxing environment.

The Board also authorized the expenditure of \$7,000 to significantly upgrade the computer network system in the chapter house. This upgrade will ensure a more reliable access to the Internet, plus it will significantly increase our ability to prevent viruses or other unauthorized access to members'

computers. It also provides us with a three-year support program in the event of problems with access to the Internet and enhances our ability to monitor and/or restrict access to websites by persons authorized to use our network.

Late Summer Storm Damages Chapter House

All of the work on improving the chapter house has not stopped Mother Nature from dealing us with a hard blow due to two rain storms that hit the Ames area during the week following Conclave.

A severe summer storm hit the Ames area on Sunday, August 15th dropping more than 4 inches of rain in just a few short hours. The Board had been working on fixing some problems with the roof over the summer, but this rainstorm really caused some significant damage to the chapter house as it came before we were able to finish our roof repairs. There is a spot on the northeast side of the roof that is fairly flat, and it was at this point at which the roof connects with an upper soffit that it had begun to split into two parts. It was here where the roof and the soffit meet that water collected and ran down through the wall into the second floor bathroom and then down into the kitchen on the first floor.

On the second floor bathroom, the paint peeled from the walls and much of the drywall (about 30 square feet) was damaged and will have to be removed. This is a picture of the damage that was suffered in the 2nd floor bathroom.



The water that ran down through the interior wall damaged the ceiling tiles in the kitchen. The roof was repaired within a couple of days, which was quite fortunate for us as an even heavier storm hit on Tuesday night/Wednesday morning. This storm dumped more than 6 inches of rain in just a few hours. Flooding in the Ames area was quite severe, and was reported on the national news.

There were also a number of associated electrical problems that occurred due to the water damage, but these were all repaired within 24 hours of the initial storm. Due to this prompt action

on our part, no damage was suffered by the chapter house as a result of the second storm.

The following picture is an aerial view of the land that was flooded around Jack Trice Stadium. This is a view of the stadium looking at it from the east. To the right (north) in the picture you can see C.Y. Stevens which was also under water.

Hilton Coliseum was flooded with 6-8 feet water, and the entire parking lot surrounding the complex area was, as you can see, under water as well. The flood was reported to be more severe in terms of overall damage than the floods which occurred in 1993.



This is a picture of the parking lot around Hilton Coliseum. There was significant flooding through the city of Ames, with South Duff Avenue needing to be closed as well as a portion of Interstate 35 south of Ames. In addition, a number of the water mains were damaged in the city, and only bottled water could be used for drinking for a few days.



Despite the damage caused by the storms, the Board has been able over the years to set aside sufficient funds which, when combined with the contributions from our alumni, will enable us to pay for the repairs that will be required to the chapter house.

Alumni Continue their Support of the Chapter

Alumni donations are critical to the ongoing success of the chapter and in providing financial support for the scholarship and capital improvement programs that are used to improve the chapter house. Our alumni have been generous in their support so far this year, and we want to recognize them for their invaluable assistance and to thank them for their continued support.



Alumni Capital Improvement Donations in 2010

\$ 1,140 Contributed in 2010 by Iowa State Acacians

The table that is shown lists those Brothers and friends who have made contributions to the capital improvement fund drive in 2010. Please accept our grateful thanks for your generosity!

----- Alumni Contributors in 2010 -----	
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)
Gold Partner	(\$ 750 - \$ 999)
Silver Partner	(\$ 500 - \$ 749)

Bronze Partner	(\$ 100 - \$ 499)
William G. Percy - #420	
Kenneth A. Porter - #457	
Lynn R. Pendry - #469	
Larry J. McComber - #525	
James M. Hanson - #533	
Donald L. Good - #653	
Thomas H. Elitharp - #719	
Spirit Partner	(\$ 1 - \$ 99)
Walter C. Bredbeck - #419	
Kenneth L. MacRae - #427	
Walter R. Kolbe - #527	
William H. Anderl - #679	
Ray E. Gustafson - #712	
John A. Kvinge - #1022	
Chad R. Jackson	



Alumni Scholarship Fund Donations in 2010

\$4,875 Contributed in 2010 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 2010. 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 2010 -----	
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)
Robert L. "Sam" Carstens - #354	
Harold D. Zarr Jr. - #814	
Gold Partner	(\$ 750 - \$ 999)
Silver Partner	(\$ 500 - \$ 749)
David W. Smith - #565	
Bronze Partner	(\$ 100 - \$ 499)

Richard G. Wilson - #409	
Lynn R. Pendry - #469	
C. Ronald Hoisington - #472	
Richard W. Taylor - #506	
James M. Hanson - #533	
Gary D. Harter - #538	
John E. Shrader - #539	
Clifton L. Kessler - #548	
Larry D. Christensen - #566	
Wilbur G. Sandbulte - #639	
Bruce C. Wight - #770	
Jared Ramthun - #1019	
Spirit Partner	(\$ 1 - \$ 99)
Charles L. Dozois - #379	
Kenneth L. MacRae - #427	
Walter R. Kolbe - #527	
Gary L. Ruegsegger - #613	
Ray E. Gustafson - #712	
Timm A. Wilkin - #717	
Stephen J. Casper IV - #905	

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

Dr. Dean Mason Harms - #630



Dr. Dean Mason Harms of Ames, Iowa died of pancreatic cancer at his home Sunday, August 15, 2010.

Dr. Harms was born October 25, 1942 to Hyla Ann Severson Harms and Rudolph John Henry Harms in Alden, Iowa. He grew up on a farm near Alden and graduated from Alden High School, Iowa State University, and the University of Iowa College of Medicine. He married Mary Jane Brinkman on June 11, 1966 at the Colo United Methodist Church in Colo, Iowa. Dr. Harms completed his internship at Sacramento County Hospital in California, his ophthalmology residency at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, and served as a medical officer in the United States Air Force. In 1975 he began his ophthalmology practice in Ames, Iowa. He was known as a dedicated and compassionate physician who always considered his patients as friends.

Dr. Harms was a member and served on the Board of Councilors of the American Academy of Ophthalmology. He held leadership positions in the Iowa Academy of Ophthalmology, the Story County Medical Society, and the Ames Morning Rotary Club, and was a member of Collegiate United Methodist Church in Ames.

Dr. Harms enjoyed doing volunteer work at the Central Christian Ophthalmology Clinic in El Progreso, Honduras (CCSM de Honduras), where he did eye surgery and was on the board of the L.D. Perry Memorial Scholarship Fund, which he helped establish. A library serving the high school and community in El Porvinier, Honduras, has been named in his honor. He also enjoyed gardening, travel, and catching a nice walleye.

He is survived by his wife, Mary, as well as his children, Philip Harms, Sarah Freitas (husband Gary), and Mark Harms, and three treasured grandchildren: Joseph, Ryan, and Julia Freitas. He is also survived by sister Ann Gamble and her husband Richard Gamble of Spirit Lake, Iowa; brother Everett Harms and his wife Ann of Alden, Iowa; and nieces and nephews.

Brandon Behrends Elected to Corporate Board



Brandon J. Behrends - #1035
215 Highland Drive
Iowa City, Iowa 52246
e-mail: brandonjbehrends@gmail.com

In the previous edition of the newsletter, the alumni of the chapter were asked to vote on amending the articles of re-incorporation to add an additional young alumni relations director position. The vast majority alumni voted in favor of the proposal, and Brandon Behrends was the first person elected to this new position on the Corporate Board.

The first thing that Brandon plans to do is to compile a more comprehensive database of our alumni from the re-chartering that would be accessible to him, the young alumni, the board, and the undergraduate chapter. He would like to collect basic contact information as well as things such as what pledge class they were in, when they graduated, what their degree was, did they go to grad school, where they live, what they do, are they engaged/married, etc. He plans to use this information for a variety of purposes including creating a young alumni list serve to more easily contact all of our young alumni, organizing events (possibly by class, or graduation year, or geographical location), and to increase chapter correspondance to our young alumni base.

After updating the database, the next step is to work with the active chapter especially the president, historian, and alumni chair (if available) to get a young alumni relations program rolling. I think that alumni really want to hear from the actives, and actives really want more visits and interaction from the alumni - so I want to make both of those things happen. Eventually, I would like to see chapter correspondance go out the young alums for birthdays, weddings, invitations to chapter events and initiations, etc. I would also like to work with the active chapter to establish an annual event that can be put on between the active chapter and the young alumni, hopefully funded by the Corporate Board.

The next goal is to initiate a giving program to target our young alumni base. This is an idea that Phil Shermnan (the current alumni board secretary) brought up at a discussion and I really

think that the ideas he put forward are good ideas. The suggestions would be to donate \$345 per year, or \$19.04 a month to support directed scholarship or other educational programs.

If this goes well, Brandon see's his position as one where his position on the Board would be useful in promoting other events and reunions of interest to, and in part organized by, other young alumni of the chapter.

Scheduled chapter and alumni events will be noted on the Iowa State Chapter website on their "Google calendar". Alumni will also be notified via e-mail of planned events, but all alumni are encouraged to frequently check this website to see all the events planned by the active chapter and what which ones coincide with events at the University. This "Google calendar" is already up and running, so our alumni are encouraged to provide us with feedback as to the usefulness of this tool and other options that may work as well.

Active Chapter Report

Mathew B. England, Venerable Dean - ACACIA Fraternity
138 Gray Avenue
Ames, Iowa 50014
E-mail: mattenglan@gmail.com

Dear Brothers and Parents,

What a summer it has been! It seems that just a few short weeks ago we were taking final exams and packing for our summers. And now as brothers are trickling back to Ames from their various adventures, we begin preparing for a new semester. Even now as I write this, 36,000 ft. above the Mojave Desert flying back to Ames, I am getting ready for classes and another exciting semester to commence.

This August, eight of us from the chapter, and Brothers Harold Zarr, Jeremy Davis and John Pugh traveled to New Orleans for Conclave 2010. We had an amazing time, and I think it's safe to say we all have a few stories from Bourbon Street. It is with great pride that I can tell you that the Iowa State Chapter of Acacia Fraternity has won the Malcolm Award for the second time in our history (the first since 1964)! In addition to the Malcolm, the chapter won five of the sixteen "Best Practices" Awards, given to the chapters who are best exemplifying operations in a variety of areas.

Brother Michael Weber has been elected to the International Council as an Undergraduate Counselor; Brother Brandon Behrens won the Roy C. Clark award for Undergraduate Acacian of the Year; and I, myself, won the Duncan McPherson Fraternityship Scholarship. Winning the Malcolm Award is a huge accomplishment, and I hope it makes each and every one of you as proud as I am to be an Iowa State Acacian. As we move forward this fall, those of us who attended Conclave will be bringing back many ideas we learned from other Acacia chapters, and trying to implement them in our daily routines.

It is rare for a chapter to win the Malcolm Award twice in a row, but I firmly believe that we are in an excellent position to do exactly that. We will work hard as a chapter to implement new ideas and practices and continue to strive for excellence, but we will also need continued outstanding alumni support from all of you. Together, through hard work and dedication, we can hopefully repeat in 2012!

In addition to Conclave, it's been busy with repairs all around the chapter house this summer. As I'm sure you've seen by the photos, we have been improving the house quite a bit. Several of us have been working hard, repainting the first floor, repainting the front sign, replacing the front and back fences, cleaning the basement of the house, resurfacing the driveway, and landscaping the lamppost area amongst other projects. Meanwhile, we have contracted out to resurface the front porch, repave the front sidewalk, replace soffits and replace the front door to the house. If you are around Ames, be sure to stop by and check out all the new improvements!

The City of Ames has experienced one of the worst summers of weather ever this year. On July 18, winds of 70mph across the City took out hundreds if not thousands of trees. Then the worst flooding on record occurred on August 11 after most of the Skunk River and Squaw Creek's watersheds received almost 6 inches of rain in a matter of hours, on top of about 5 inches over the two previous nights. We were very fortunate at the chapter house to not have been affected by either of these disasters other than losing water for the better part of a week during the flood, after the City had to shut down its distribution service when eight water mains broke and drained the water towers. Many other Greek houses were affected with either loss of trees or water damage as well.

I'm pleased to tell you that we have ten new members signed to join our chapter this fall. We are still recruiting as well, and this fall, Iowa State IFC is starting Fall Fraternity Rush, a new formal recruitment process, so we're hoping to increase our fall pledge class still as well through this new process.

Family Weekend is October 1-3, with the football game versus Texas Tech on October 2nd. Sunday, October 3rd, we will be having our biannual family scholarship luncheon at the Campanile Room in the Memorial Union. As always, I would encourage as many of you to attend as possible, and remember this event is open to all alumni and families as well. It's a great opportunity to meet the active members in the chapter and we always love meeting you and hearing your stories from when you were in the house.

This fall we are paired with the men of Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity and the lovely women of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority for Homecoming. This is the same pairing we had my freshmen year when the pairing won virtually every award in the Homecoming competition, so we are all very excited win Homecoming again this fall.

Finally, I'd like to share a story with you from Conclave. When Darold Larson was announcing the chapters that had won Best Practices Awards at the AFF Scholarship Luncheon, he came across one and muttered, as if to himself, "Eh, they'll get that one later," and moved on. After we had won four Best Practices Awards and the banquet was over, we were standing around waiting for pictures to be taken. Darold approaches me, and goes, "Oh, here's another award for you guys... Chapter Programming, congratulations," and tossed me the fifth award. As if four weren't enough!

And as always, if you're in Ames for a football game this fall or any other reason, be sure to give me a call and come by the house to see the Malcolm Award, the new house improvements, and of course to meet the new members! Take care, all.

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!

You may not believe it, but I really tried to keep this newsletter to just eight pages. However, with all of the stuff that has been happening with the chapter and board, and the improvements to the chapter house, it proved absolutely impossible to limit this issue to eight pages, or even ten. So now, we are up to twelve pages. I suspect that this may become the norm, and not the exception for well into the future!

I want to encourage all of our alumni to try and attend the alumni luncheon on October 3rd in the Campanile Room in the Memorial Union, and then walk over to the chapter house for ice cream following this event. For those you who have not been back, and even those of you who attended the 100th celebration, you simply will not believe the extent of the changes to the chapter house this summer. Its new look is truly impressive and really represents what a "class act" our chapter has become during the past ten years.

One area in which I have consistently worked as board president has been to constantly upgrade the living conditions in the chapter house. I think that this year, we have really made some significant strides in that regard, and I hope that you will come back and take a look.

I also want to take a moment to talk about the job our rush chairman (Sam Behrends and Zach Walker) did this summer. The job that they have done this year has been absolutely outstanding. I had the opportunity to meet our newest pledges the other day, and they are one impressive group of young men. One of the young men I spoke with said that he had just moved

into the house a few days earlier, and he was already convinced that this was absolutely the best decision he could have made. Friendly, personable and out-going only begins to describe these newest members of our Fraternity. I am convinced that with men like this, our future success is assured both within the Iowa State Greek System and within the International Fraternity as well.

One of my major goals this year is to try and significantly increase our efforts to reach-out to alumni, and encourage them to visit and become more involved with the active chapter and alumni board in any manner in which they feel comfortable. One of the key areas in which we will be judged in two years as we try once again to earn the Malcolm Award will be the extent to which we increase alumni involvement in chapter and board activities. Over the years, the alumni board has worked diligently to build a chapter that all of our alumni can take pride in calling their own. We hope that you will reward our efforts by attending as many events sponsored by the chapter and board as possible. We enjoy meeting with you and sharing with you the stories of the chapter today.

We need your input, so the stories of yesterday will not be forgotten. Together, we can make this happen!

Chapter Advisor's Message

Jeremy N. Davis - #969
711 Beach Avenue
Ames, Iowa 50014

WOW! It's amazing how quickly time goes by. It seems like only yesterday that the colony was moving into the-then recently repurchased chapter house at 138 Gray. When we moved into the chapter house on August 1, 2000, the refounding fathers and the first pledge class were praying for one thing: We've got one chance to do this; so let's do it right.

Ten years later, at the 2010 Conclave, the chapter was awarded the Malcolm Award (for only the second time in our history). The first time was in 1964 and Brother Cal Hultman was serving as the-then Venerable Dean. I had a chance to speak with Brother Hultman recently to tell him about the chapter's receipt of the Malcolm Award at Conclave. He was very excited to hear that the Chapter had received the Malcolm Award and also indicated that he hoped to be able to make it up to Ames at some point this upcoming fall semester to meet the undergraduate brothers.

Just as Brother Hultman plans to visit the chapter house, should you be in Ames, please feel free to stop-by and meet our undergraduate brothers. We have a tremendous group of undergraduates that truly make us proud each and every day. The character, intelligence, and dedication exemplified by our undergraduate brothers makes me very proud to serve as the Chapter Advisor; and as alumni, we should all be very proud of what our chapter has accomplished and the undergraduate

brothers that helped to make this happen. Just as I alluded to above, when we recolonized, we knew we had one chance to do it right and over the past ten years, the chapter has continuously moved in a positive direction. Although there have been challenges and growing pains along the way; receiving the Malcolm Award affirms the hard work set-forth by the undergraduates during the last ten years and especially by the undergraduate brothers during the past two years, as these brothers built upon the previous success of the chapter and have elevated the chapter to a true level of excellence.

Although receiving the Malcolm Award is a significant accomplishment; it is also the sign of more work ahead. As with many honors in life, receiving the honor is only the first step; the true test of a strong chapter is when it is able to continuously improve upon this level of success as it moves to the future. I recently had this discussion with the chapter leadership, and it is highly evident that they understand that while receiving the Malcolm has been a great accomplishment, it is now going to require more hard work and dedication to achieve continuous chapter improvement. However, the chapter cannot succeed alone and it takes active involvement from our alumni brothers on various levels: from serving on the Board or as an advisor in various capacities, contributing financially to our fraternity's projects (chapter house upgrades or our scholarship program through the AFF), and simply having positive interactions with our undergraduates.

On another note, at the 2010 Conclave, the delegate body approved the "Striving For Excellence" strategic plan. This updated strategic plan is the next step forward from the "Rising to the Challenge" strategic plan, which was approved by the 2004 Conclave. Through "Striving For Excellence" chapters, along with the International Fraternity, will each have several tasks which must be accomplished. The new strategic plan creates an integrated Cornerstones New Member Program that allows for a standardization of material for all undergraduates at all chapters, increased alumni communications from both the chapter and International fraternity, and works to build a stronger financial base for both local chapters, alumni corporation boards, and the International Fraternity. Each of these tasks, along with many others, are targeted to be achieved by the 2014 Conclave.

At Iowa State, we will also be working on a "Chapter Action Plan" for the chapter. This to, is an out-growth of the "Striving For Excellence" strategic plan, and will allow the chapter to set specific goals and will allow for a more-formalized tracking method to monitor progress towards reaching these goals. All in all, the changes and enhancements adopted through the "Striving For Excellence" strategic plan are designed to improve each chapter of Acacia.

As was alluded to elsewhere in the newsletter, the City of Ames was significantly impacted by a flood in mid-August. It appears that nearly every person in Ames was affected. The torrential rain began in the evening hours of August 10 and continued into the early morning hours of the 11th. On the evening of the 10th, there was a City Council meeting (which Matt England and I

were both at) and during the meeting it was announced by the City Manager that the Emergency Operations Center was going to be activated due to the excessive amount of rain quickly falling in the Squaw and Skunk watersheds.

Needless to say, when I arrived home, I quickly ascertained that water was flowing out of my sump-pump pit. It is a very discouraging sign when this occurs. And so, I quickly called Brother Matt England and stated that I needed help bailing water out of my basement. He, along with Brothers Alex Moraniec, Riley Thiesfeld, and Zach Walker came over to my house and we baled water for nearly 4 hours. But, fortunately, we were able to keep the water in the un-finished portion of my basement (laundry room area). This, my brothers, was the true exemplification of brotherhood at its finest and I sincerely thank each of those four undergraduate brothers for their assistance at my house in the middle of the night and ultimately helping to keep most of my basement dry. This, my brothers, is why I continue to say, "I'm an Acacian. I am proud of it."

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	515-249-4631
Don Good	Alumni Relations	515-956-3150
Brandon Behrends	Alumni Relations	319-830-7620

Matt England	Chapter President	319-558-8085
Matt Zylstra	Chapter Treasurer	712-299-0409
Zach Walker	Chapter Representative	515-402-1216
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 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, Little Sisters and friends of our Fraternity.

