



The Iowa State Pythagorean

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

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Basement Remodeling Project Completed!

At the board meeting held on April 17th, the board voted to proceed with the remodeling of the basement of the chapter house. The basement had last been remodeled more than 20 years ago, and it was really starting to show its age. The lighting was marginally adequate, but the overall arrangement of the room was poor, with there being only a limited area for seating and watching television.

More importantly, the room under the porch was, for all intents and purposes, completely unusable. In the winter the room was so cold it was necessary to block it off with a blanket sealing the opening to the room, and the room itself was dark and used mostly for storage.

Given the sad state of affairs and the serious need to upgrade the facility to meet competition from other fraternities in the ISU Greek System, the Board authorized the remodeling project as the major summer project this year.



This is a picture of the area behind the bar, as it appeared prior to the start of construction. As you can see, this area had become a storage area as well, and the space under the bar was little more than a “junk storage” area.

Starting just after the end of the spring semester, demolition began in earnest. First to go was the bar, followed by all of the paneling, sheetrock and the “bulkhead” over the bar behind

which the pipes and electrical lines to the main basement room to the future media room were hidden. The picture shown below illustrates the progress that had been made at this point. A drain was found under the bar which had been hidden (imagine that)! All of the electrical lines were removed and the sprinkler system was temporarily disconnected while the demolition and rebuilding process was going on in the two rooms. Fortunately, access to the laundry room remained available so that the men living in the house during the summer could keep their clothes clean.



The picture on the next page shows a more complete picture of the basement after demolition of all the walls and ceiling had been completed. One of the comments that was continually made was how “big” the room was once all of the furniture and especially the bar area was removed.

It was originally thought that it would be necessary to run the pipes through the storage room behind the main basement room. This would have required the drilling of a number of holes through the nearly 12 inch concrete walls. Fortunately, the contractor was able to work with the City of Ames inspectors and route the pipes next to the existing wall and forego the need to drill the holes. This enables us to save considerable time and trouble and still reduce the impact of the pipes in the room. As

you will see in later photos, the replacement of the pipes and sprinkler system is barely noticeable in the finished room.



Unfortunately, after 37 years, the “wall” is little worse for wear, but the ACACIA label and date are still quite readable.



The next picture is one of the room under the porch. This view is one where we are looking into the room from the main basement room. The door is the exit door to the steps leading out of the basement on the west side of the chapter house. As you can see in this picture, the framing is in place prior to the installation of foam insulation that was sprayed in-place on the west and north walls and ceiling of the room. The foam has an R-value on 20, and it is expected to make the room quite comfortable.

This is a close-up shot of the names of the three Little Sisters who painted the wall, and signed their names to their work. These Little Sisters were Rose Todey, Cindy Buch and Beth Boese. The Acacia wall is now sealed behind new insulation and sheetrock, and should remain protected for years to come. But now, you know the rest of the story behind the wall!



One of the things uncovered in the basement remodeling project was the “Acacia Wall” that painted in February, 1974 by three Little Sisters of the Chapter as their “pledge” project. In the 1970’s, the chapter had, as an auxiliary organization, a group of women who were “Little Sisters of Acacia.” They were women who were ex-officio members of the chapter, and participated in social functions of the chapter and other projects, besides being just a great bunch of women to visit with in a “non-dating” environment.

Moving on the next picture, we see the room with the new walls in place and the lights installed in the ceiling. All of the lights feature the new energy efficient bulbs and the layout was designed to provide nearly four times as much light in the basement as before, but at a significant cost savings due to the energy efficient bulbs. The lighting can also be controlled so that only one-half of the lights need to be turned on, or all of them can be turned on to provide maximum illumination.

This is a view of the room looking to the south. The door on the south wall leads to one of the downstairs apartments, and the door on the right leads to the storage room in the basement. As you can see, some painting has already been done as well. The bulkhead on the ceiling is significantly smaller than what it was

before, and as you will see later on, it virtually disappears from view when the new bookshelves are installed. In a black-and-white photograph, it is virtually impossible to see, but along the wall is a “stripe” of gold and black paint that provides a border to the room. It was originally thought that we should use the fraternity colors as a border, but once it was put up it looked too much like it was celebrating the University of Iowa Hawkeyes, which we all know just simply can’t be done! Later the border was repainted to be one solid line of black paint, which ended up looking significantly better.



The next picture shows the room in its nearly finished condition. The carpeting has been installed, along with the bookshelves. The border along the floor is made up of varnished 1” x 10” boards, with three sets of bookshelves resting on top of the borders. All of the woodwork in the basement has been stained and heavily varnished. The bookshelves provide us with 12 feet of storage for all of the trophies that the chapter earned in the past ten years.

The next photograph shows the room, looking to the north. Although it is hard to see in this picture, the banner of Acacia is hung on the north wall.

You will also notice that the border has been repainted in this picture. The border is approximately six inches wide, and encompasses the entire room. It is located at approximately “chair rail” height, and really serves to provide a good “break line” between the top and bottom portions of the room, and gives it a much more “finished” look.

During the planning stage, we provided for ample electrical outlets to be available in the room as well. As needed, various electrical items (especially the vacuum cleaner!) can be plugged in so that the room can be well maintained and cleaned. In addition, an additional cable outlet was installed so that a planned plasma television can be installed in this room that can be viewed while playing pool. This will be an important feature so that we can watch and celebrate the Iowa State sports teams win many of their games in a relaxed, enjoyable environment!



In addition, you can see in this photograph that there is room on the wall between the bookshelves and door to the storage room for wall hanging plaques. Over the past few years, the chapter has earned a considerable number of plaques recognizing their achievements in the Chapter Excellence Awards that are given each Conclave. The plan at this point is to keep and display the most recent awards in the third floor library, and to place the earlier year’s awards in the basement along this part of the wall.



The pool table that was selected also features the color of Acacia Fraternity. The bumper rails are gold, while the bed of the table is made of black felt cloth. The look is striking, and the pool table has been made use of many times since it was installed. In this picture, Zachary Walker and Austin Schlatter are shooting a game of pool, with Austin no doubt instructing his younger Acacia Brother Zachary in the finer points of the game!



The room is large enough to also feature a foosball table for those waiting to play a game of pool. The foosball table is located on the southern side of the room, and here, Acacia Pledge Brothers Wicitra Mahotama (left) and Ryan Lohse (right) engage in a determined battle to see who has the greater skill in the game.



The next picture shows the finished paint job on the media room. Although the primary room in the basement is designed to subtly celebrate Acacia Fraternity itself, it was felt necessary that we should celebrate Iowa State as well, and in this room, it is the maroon and gold of Iowa State that rules.

New, energy-efficient lighting fixtures were installed in both the ceiling and in sconces along the walls so that the appropriate lighting condition could be created for watching any television program or playing a video game could be created as needed. Conduit was laid so that a surround-sound system could be installed in the room as well.



A brand new projection system was installed so that video games, television programs, or DVD's could be watched on a large screen covering nearly the entire south wall of the room.

A sectional seating system was installed in this space to maximize the seating in the room without interfering with the exit of the room to either east or west entrances. This is a view of the north side of the room, where the seating was installed. On the south side is the wide-screen television system complete with a surround-sound theater style sound system.



This project, long overdue, has been a significant upgrade to the facility and represents what kind of project can be accomplished when the alumni, board and chapter members work together for the betterment of the chapter. Coupled with the successful renovation of the third floor into a functioning library and study center for the chapter members, this

If you happen to be in the Ames area, don't hesitate to stop in and take a look at all of the upgrades that have been made to the chapter house. If you remember what the house looked like in the past, you will be amazed at the transformation! A fantastic job accomplished, and thanks to everyone who contributed to the renovation!

Remodeling Projects "Order of the Day" in ISU Greek System

((Editor's Note: In the last newsletter, I shared with everyone an overview of the extent to which the other Greek Houses at Iowa State have been upgrading their facilities to provide a better environment in which their members will live. At one time, Acacia was the premier location within the ISU Greek System in terms of its living environment. Today, we are now one among equals.

At the beginning of the fall, 2011 semester, Riley Thiesfeld (Chapter President), Stewart Burger (Faculty Advisor) and Matt England (Board Vice-President) were able to tour two of newly renovated chapter houses. This is his report on what he saw on the tours that he took.))

The other week Riley Thiesfeld, Stewart Burger and I went on house tours of Sigma Phi Epsilon and Delta Upsilon. Both houses have undergone major reconstruction projects over the past year as many of you know. I tried to snap photos of the interiors along the way, but was unable to do so in the DU house. Their members were watching us closely (knowing we were from Acacia) and didn't seem to want to "offer" up any information they didn't need to. However, at Sigma Phi Epsilon, I was able to sneak away from our guide and snap a few brief photos.

In summary, DU's new chapter house looks pretty nice, but it is still below our standards. They have done a lot - but the house was in very rough shape to begin with. The house is built in a European style, and a big difference from us to all other chapters is that they have women living full-time at the chapter facility part of an Entrepreneurs Club deal they have worked out with the University. It's still a little unclear as to how they're managing this and maintaining a functioning fraternity at the same time, but regardless, they seem to be off to a better start than they have been in years.

Sigma Phi Epsilon's new house is fantastic. I hate to say it, but it makes ours look almost second rate. The photos attached to this story are all from SigEps. They have gutted the entire chapter house and rebuilt it from the bricks up. There is a large addition on the back of the house as well, designed to match the existing architecture. SigEps (and DU) have been put on the National Historic Registry so many architectural features were required to remain the same. For example, the exterior windows, walls, interior public areas, etc. were rebuilt to match their previous design. So the windows are all without screens, and every doorway in the house must be maintained, regardless of the rooms behind them - so there are literally doorways installed with "doors" that do not hinge or open; just dead doors to maintain the existing style of the house and requirements of the historic registry. However, this aside, the house looks gorgeous.



They used Harold Pike for construction and are pretty pleased with the results after the one-year project. There are many rooms in the house that have both interior lathe/drywall walls and old exterior brick, making for a very neat interior styling. There are still cold-airs, but with the addition, they are now able to sleep roughly 55 men, up from about 35, I believe. Their cold-airs are shown below in the bottom-most picture in this letter. The bunks are a unique style, built into hallways almost, in order to minimize the noise and distractions of a large bunkroom. It was a large maze-like room with bunks on both sides, each with their own curtains and privacy areas, much nicer than a standard cold-air dormitory room.



Their President's Suite was very nice - mixed the old brick with current walls, but still not as nice and open as our Drdla suite at Acacia. I think it's still safe to say we have the nicest single room in Greekland in the President's Suite. However, these other houses are certainly making large strides, and many individual bedrooms in other chapter houses far surpass the living quarters found in Acacia today.

SigEps' bathrooms might be the best addition/upgrade that we saw. As you can see from the photos, everything is granite-like tile. Auto flushers everywhere. Granite countertops. They're gorgeous. For a fraternity, I was very impressed. The bathrooms looked nicer than most four-star hotels I've stayed in.



This is a picture showing only a small part of the remodeled kitchen in the basement of the Sigma Phi Epsilon house.



As much as I love our chapter house, and as much work on it we've done in the past few years, including the basement, which is a huge improvement, I have to say, we are lagging now in terms of living space quality. With Sigma Chi's proposed new chapter facility, shown on pages 19 and 20 of the PDF linked

here: <http://vault.amesnewsonline.com/gov/city/CouncilPackets/2011/051011CouncilAgenda/32a.pdf>, combined with SigEps, DU and AGRs remodeling of two years ago, there are many quality chapter houses at Iowa State now, and many have equal (if not better) amenities that we can offer. I continue to believe we are a first-class fraternity, but unfortunately, others have closed the gap between us. With the new Sigma Chi house completed in two years being immediately next-door, and Sigma Phi Epsilon less than a block away, I foresee those new impressive chapter facilities impacting our recruiting efforts as well.

I hope this letter gives you some valuable insight to our competition as we move forward in the coming years. Feel free to let me know if you would like additional details and/or concerns answered. I apologize for not having more/clearer photographs, but like I said, neither house seemed too interested in giving these photos up willingly, and they both knew who I was and who I was representing, so we had watchful eyes on us the whole time.

As Acacia moves forward and strives to defend our recent Malcolm Award, it will be important to note the importance of having a first-class chapter facility and how not doing so will impact our recruiting. I encourage you all to consider this as well when deciding on making donations to building funds, scholarships, and other charitable organizations. While we can have the best brotherhood imaginable with the best academics and social opportunities in all of Greekland, if our chapter house is not up to par or better than the competition, we will be facing a steep obstacle when it comes to recruiting the future men of Acacia.

Take care and best wishes.

Acacia Recognized for Support to the Ames ACCESS Shelter

On April 18th, 2011, our chapter was honored to be recognized as an outstanding volunteer group of Story County for 2010-2011. The award ceremony was put on by the Student Activities Center and the Volunteer Center of Story County. The chapter received a framed certificate signed by Governor Terry Branstad in honor of our service. The award was given out to various age groups in the Story County community area; our award was in the college category. Our chapter was also distinguished to be the only member of the Greek Community to be recognized as an outstanding volunteer group. We were nominated for our work with the Ames Repair and Care program, along with our efforts in the annual Acacia Clause toy drive and our help with the ACCESS shelter of Story County. Over the past year, our chapter has developed several relationships in the Ames community through service. (This is a picture of Derek Robison, who accepted the award on behalf of the active chapter.)



Already this school year, a few of us went to Heartland Senior Services to paint walls and it was a great feeling for the folks there to say, "Oh! The Acacia guys are here!" Our members have

had opportunities to do great things for others and really live our motto of "Human Service", and this is something we hope to continue with our new members and beyond.

Along with the award from the Volunteer Center, our chapter was also recognized by Youth and Shelter Services for our help with several events with YSS over the past year. YSS is a great organization to work with and we look forward to partnering with them on future projects. In addition we will be helping sponsor and host an YSS 4k run/walk later this month to benefit the children that YSS supports.

At this point in the semester our members have already put in over 270 hours of service in the Ames area. This is a new record for our chapter and we are continuing to plan services in the futures. Service opportunities also prove to be the some of the most cherished brotherhood memories for our members, and this creates a truly positive environment anywhere we volunteer.

This is a photograph of many of the staff and children helped by this organization and the ISU Chapter of Acacia Fraternity.



Acacia takes #3 in ISU Greek System with 3.12 G.P.A.

The **Spring, 2011** semester grade results are in, and **Acacia Fraternity** has taken third place in the Iowa State Greek System for academic performance. The results for the top five chapters are as follows:

1.	FarmHouse	3.30
2.	Alpha Gamma Rho	3.15
3.	Acacia	3.12
4.	Phi Gamma Delta	3.08
4.	Phi Kappa Theta	3.08
	All Fraternity Average	2.93
	All Men's Undergrad Ave.	2.88

Dakota J. Allen
Pavel I. Beresnev
Ryne B. Dittmer
Matthew B. England
Alexander C. Fitzgerald
Zachary R. Jameson
Derek M. Joseph
Seth M. Nelson
Austin J. Schlatter
Daniel A. Schwartzstein
Riley B. Thiesfeld
Matthew P. Zylstra

Samuel M. Behrens
Ian L. Bryant
Andrew D. Doherty
Michael L. Felderman
Noah J. Gullikson
Andrew K. Joseph
Thomas R. McGee
Derek E. Robison
Benjamin J. Schneider
Bryon D. Smith
Zachary J. Walker
Tyler J. Zylstra

Previous academic results for the Chapter are as follows:

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 fourteen out of the past eighteen 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.

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:

Term	Position	GPA
Spring, 2011	#3	3.12
Fall, 2010	#1	3.24
Spring, 2010	#1	3.32
Fall, 2009	#4	3.03
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
Fall, 2003	#1	3.49
Spring, 2003	#1	3.24
Fall, 2002	#2	3.17

Twenty-four out of thirty-nine (61.5%) chapter members earned a 3.00 or greater grade point for the Spring, 2011

semester. **Congratulations to all these Brothers for their outstanding academic achievement!**

Alumni Donations Support Basement Renovation

The feature article in this newsletter was our basement renovation. The total cost is expected to come in at around \$70,000 and we want to thank our alumni for their support of this project. This is the current list of the alumni who have provided

financial support for the project, and we want to recognize all of them for their generosity with this critical upgrade to the chapter house. Feel free to stop in and shoot a game of pool the next time you are in town!



Basement Renovation Donations in 2011

\$14,200 Contributed in 2011 by Iowa State Acacians

The table that is shown lists those Brothers and friends who have made contributions to the basement renovation project in 2011. Please accept our grateful thanks for your generosity!

----- Alumni Contributors in 2011 -----	
Refounding Father	(\$ 10,000 or more)
Board of Directors Club	(\$ 5,000 - \$ 9,999)
James H. Davis - #489	
Pythagorean Partner	(\$ 2,500 - \$ 4,999)
Chapter Partner	(\$ 1,000 - \$ 2,499)
William L. Neidig - #332	
Larry J. McComber - #525	
James M. Hanson - #533	
Laury E. Decker - #910	
Gold Partner	(\$ 750 - \$ 999)
Silver Partner	(\$ 500 - \$ 749)
Arther P. Roy - #588	
Paul G. Anderson - #618	
David E. Wolfe - #656	
Laury E. Decker - #910	
Jared Ramthun - #1019	

Bronze Partner	(\$ 100 - \$ 499)
Richard G. Wilson - #409	
Dale W. Weber - #436	
Donald W. Messer - #447	
Donald G. Lyon - #461	
Lynn R. Pendry - #469	
James M. Hanson - #533	
Gary D. Harter - #538	
Neil H. Woodley - #567	
Ronald D. Henricksen - #569	
Michael D. Walker, MD - #665	
David H. Fifield - #671	
L. Alan Lowry - #725	
John W. Bridenstine - #752	
Harold D. Zarr Jr. - #814	
James E. Mueller - #868	
Spirit Partner	(\$ 1 - \$ 99)
Kenneth L. MacRae - #427	
John S. Burnstrom - #470	
George A. Robinson - #471	
Denton W. Ericson - #504	
Walter R. Kolbe - #527	
William H. Anderl - #679	
Ray E. Gustafson - #712	
Nicholas A. Seibold - #884	
John Kvinge - #1022	
Jonathan Vaage - #1029	

Thanks to our Alumni for 2011 Scholarship Donations

The donations provided by our alumni to the Scholarship and Capital Improvement Funds have been vital factors in the long-term success of the chapter.

Many of the fraternities at Iowa State now offer scholarships to new members and active chapter members as means of both attracting new members and helping to defray the cost of

attending school at Iowa State. These funds have been tremendously helpful in our being able to attract the “best and the brightest” to our fraternity. As these donations are tax-deductible, the benefits extend to both the donors as well as our members. Our thanks go out to all of our alumni who have been loyal supports of our scholarship program this past eleven years, and we hope you will continue to help us into the future!



Alumni Scholarship Fund Donations in 2011

\$9,775 Contributed in 2011 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 2011. 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 2011 -----	
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	
Donald L. Good - #653	
James K. England - #800	
Gold Partner	(\$ 750 - \$ 999)
Silver Partner	(\$ 500 - \$ 749)
Lowell B. Johnson - #426	
John W. Tschantz - #385	
Peter J. Eversole - #635	
David E. Wolfe - #656	
Laury E. Decker - #910	
Bronze Partner	(\$ 100 - \$ 499)
Albert H. Wiese - #351	
Charles L. Dozois - #379	

John R. Fukerson - #410	
William G. Percy - #420	
Kenneth A. Porter - #457	
Bernard J. Kolp - #466	
Richard W. Taylor - #506	
James M. Hanson - #533	
Lynn R. Pendry - #469	
David Wm. Smith - #565	
William J. Dilcher - #576	
Jerry W. Crossett - #577	
John R. Dick - #587	
Lee R. Christensen - #601	
John W. Baty - #623	
Robert A. Ketch - #648	
Robert D. Howlett - #672	
Bruce A. Banister - #777	
Harold D. Zarr Jr. - #814	
Christopher C. MacKenzie - #973	
Stephen J. Casper IV - #905	
Jonathan Vaage - #1029	
Kenneth S. Joseph - parent	
Spirit Partner	(\$ 1 - \$ 99)
Kenneth L. MacRae - #427	
George A. Robinson - #471	
Denton W. Ericson - #504	
Walter R. Kolbe - #527	
Gary L. Ruegsegger - #613	
Ray E. Gustafson - #712	
Louis M. Chip” Riedmann, Jr. - #795	

Harold Zarr Elected to Acacia Fraternity Foundation Board of Directors

At its annual meeting held at the on July 30, 2011, Harold Zarr was elected to the AFF Board of Directors. After his election, Harold was appointed to be the Chairman the Investment Committee, taking over for John Pugh from the Iowa State Chapter who had directed the committee for many years.

The Investment Committee is responsible for the oversight and investment of the \$1.8 million dollar assets of the Foundation. The goal of the Foundation is to provide financial support for members of the Fraternity through grants and scholarships to its members and to the International Fraternity Headquarters staff who perform work on behalf of the Foundation.

Harold was elected to a two-year term and will be responsible for investing excess funds of the foundation, in addition to reviewing and reporting on the status of the investment funds to the members of the Investment Committee and overall Board of Directors on a monthly basis.

Active Chapter Report

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Dear Brothers and Parents,

Greetings again from Ames! It is good to be back here at the chapter house and at ISU again. I hope everyone reading has had an enjoyable summer. As for me I spent my summer in the unbearable heat of Kansas City working for Honeywell.

I am very pleased to say that we are starting out our fall 2011 semester very strong with 14 new members, the second largest pledge class since our re-charter in 2001. If you haven't already, take a look at their bio's as these new guys are quite the bunch. I think I echo everyone's feeling when I say that every fall semester I am re-energized to see new faces come through our doors.

As we progress into the semester our chapter is making some really big changes. The first of which was the implementation of our new member orientation program, Acacia 101, which was held a week prior to classes. This program is an in depth orientation program to ensure that the new members feel comfortable at the chapter house and at Iowa State and are equipped with the tools necessary to succeed. The program

consisted of three main parts: an in depth house tour, a campus tour, and a few short lectures.

The house tour gave the new members all the information necessary to feel comfortable living and studying at the chapter house. The tour covered everything from how the house gets cleaned to how the laundry system works to where everything is located such as cleaning supplies, maintenance closets, officer's rooms, etc.

For the campus tours all of the new members were taken to their respective classes so that on the first day everyone would know where to go without any problem. Lastly the short lectures were on academics, Cornerstones 2.0 (Our highly involved membership development program), and time for questions. The academics portion covered topics such as how to succeed in class, in house tutors, ISU tutors, and scholarships available through the fraternity.

Secondly we have switched our food catering from Hy-Vee meals to Greek House Chefs. Greek House Chefs is a professional company that caters food just for fraternities and sororities. I am pleased to say that this new food is many times better than what Hy-Vee has provided in the past.

The third change is purely physical, our basement renovation. As many of you have probably heard, over the past summer our basement has been completely remodeled. The old bar that was never used has been removed, walls have been moved and removed, old inefficient lighting has been replaced, new paint and carpet, and a brand new 7 foot pool table – really the works. In addition, we have changed our old recreation room into a media room. Here brothers can enjoy movies from a projector on a 97" screen! If you are in the area please stop by to come take a look. I'm sure someone will be willing to play a game of pool.

In addition, four members from our chapter attended the Acacia Leadership Academy at the Indiana University chapter in Bloomington Indiana. Those four were Dakota Allen, Tyler Zylstra, Michael Weber (who is currently one of the two Undergraduate Counselors on the International Council), and myself. We took a lot of good information back with us and have begun to implement it at the chapter. Most notably is the new vision of Cornerstones, (Cornerstones 2.0) which has taken a much more systematic approach to the development of college students. The program encourages members to become more than the average person, to better themselves and personally develop in all aspects of their lives.

As our chapter grows in numbers, so does our philanthropy, programming, and leadership potential. Right now we have some very committed members who are exemplifying the ideals Acacia and once again are showing how great this Fraternity really is. This fall semester will be one of the best semesters yet.

I am an Acacian, and I am proud of it.

Find us Online!

www.stuorg.iastate.edu/acacia

Find more updates, past newsletters,
member biographies, photos, and more!

also



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Acacia Fraternity - Iowa State University

Stay up to date with photos and
live updates from the Chapter!

Board President's Message

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Greetings my Brother ACACIANS!

This has been one busy summer! The basement remodeling project is finally wrapping up, and I am convinced from having seen it myself, that this was money very well spent. This was an upgrade that was long overdue, and long promised to the members of the chapter by the board, and I am happy that we have finally been able to get it accomplished.

The financial support provided by our alumni was helpful, to say the least. But in this case, the majority of the cost was picked up by the Board and the active chapter who were equal partners with the Board in purchasing the pool table, furniture and media system for the basement. I am pleased to report that the Board, even with this expenditure, has been able to replenish its mortgage account at the bank and still put aside a nice “nest egg” in the capital improvements account as well. The Board has always had a policy of maintaining a full 12-months worth of loan payments in the mortgage account at all times, as our own “insurance policy” against any unexpected problem that may arise so that we can always meet our loan obligations on the chapter house. That fund is once again at full capacity for the next twelve months. (Our banker, as you might guess, likes that policy as well!)

We are now in the process of rebuilding the funds in our capital improvement account. The conservative investment policy of the Board over the past ten years gave us most of the funds that we needed to complete this project. Our task now is to rebuild this account as quickly as possible so that we can remodel the entire second floor of the chapter house in approximately three years. This project would entail the

elimination of the “common bathroom” on the second floor and redesign the room arrangement so that each room would have its own private bathroom.

As you can see from the article submitted by Matt England, facility improvement and excellence is a “moving target” within the ISU Greek System. I’m not sure that I can adequately share with you how much the Greek System has changed since I attended school at Iowa State in the 1970’s. I can even less express how different the expectations are of students today vs. what they were when I was student. But unless we continue to adapt and upgrade our facility, we will go the way of the dinosaur.

I continue to be impressed by the men of our chapter. In the next newsletter, we will feature an update on all of our newest members. I think you will once again see what an outstanding group of men we have recruited to become our Brothers in our great Fraternity. Until then, take care.

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
Matt B. England	Vice-President	319-558-8085
Jeff Peil	Treasurer	641-430-5998
Chris MacKenzie	Secretary	515-314-8236
Don Good	Alumni Relations	515-956-3150
Brandon Behrends	Alumni Relations	319-830-7620

Riley Thiesfeld	Chapter President	952-292-8394
Tyler Zylstra	Chapter Treasurer	515-306-8272
Andrew Doherty	Chapter Representative	507-779-0788
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 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 and friends of our Fraternity.

