

# Summer 2011

## Crescent

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# NOBLE RULER'S REPORT

The spring semester is nearly over now, and the summer is right around the corner. For over 80% of the brothers, that means internships are about to start. Companies that we are working for include Pioneer, Monsanto, John Deere, Caterpillar, Agri Gold, Syngenta, Cargill, several local co-ops, insurance companies, and many other Ag companies. The seniors have mixed feelings about graduation. They are all anxious about starting life in the "real world," and they are all realizing how much they are going to miss living at 201 Gray.

Greek Week was at the beginning of April, and we did not place as high as we had hoped. However, our pairing of Kappa Kappa Gamma and Sigma Nu did place 2nd in the Community Service sector and in the Spirit Sector. During the VESPERS ceremony at the end of Greek Week, we received the Gold Award for Fraternal Excellence. The highlight of the week probably was Greek Getaway, when we had 36 recruits stay the night with us.

VEISHEA, this year, was once again a success, despite the unfavorable weather. Like usual, AGR's dominated the exec and committee positions. The AGR Food Stand was located across from Beardshear, but we had a very unprofitable day due to the wind and the cold. Next year's exec positions will get filled in the next couple weeks, and AGR plans on have high involvement again next year.

Founders' Day was also a success this year. We again had it in the new ISU Alumni Center. Two Honorary Brothers were initiated - Kevin Kimle and Rod Whitney. Joe Hora has a report about Founders' Day on page 3.

Recruitment has been very successful. We appreciate all the help that the alumni do in regards to recruitment. You can read all the details in Andrew's Recruitment Report. We hope everyone has a successful planting season, once the ground temperature warms up!

Fraternally,

**Lucas Larsen "2031"**  
**Noble Ruler**

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**New Honorary Brothers**  
**Kimle and Whitney**

# RECRUITMENT REPORT

The Recruitment process has been going extremely well over the past few months. The support from alumni, educators, and current members has been outstanding. The list of potential members grew to over 90 qualified young men this year. During Greek Getaway we had 36 young men stay at the house. The high school seniors had a great time observing Eta Chapter members participate in the Greek Week activities. We have already signed our class of 23 young men for next fall and look forward to the quality of leadership and scholarship they will bring to the chapter!

I would like to address the fact that the recruitment process has changed greatly over the years. We no longer recruit all of our potential new members over the summer. The recruitment of our members is done over the winter with many of the recruits staying at the house in April during Greek Getaway. This event is our largest recruitment event. We are able to begin signing new members the first week of April and strive to have all members signed before summer break

A great problem that we are beginning to have is that our level of interest has grown much larger than our capacity. In addition, we have such a large number of Eta alumni that the potential legacy numbers have grown much larger than our class capacity per year. It is extremely important to provide me the names of prospective members (as early as high school juniors) now so we can contact and educate them on the benefits becoming an AGR during their senior year.

In addition, we are seeing more and more students attending community college because it costs less than tuition at Iowa State. Many of these young men are talented leaders but don't contact us until after junior college. We have evidence of this because in the past two years the number of junior college sophomores interested in the house has increased greatly. If we are able to identify these students early in their college selection process we may be able to offer them our Bruce Rastetter New Initiate Scholarship.

**Andrew Lauver "2061"**  
**ajlauver@iastate.edu**  
**712-210-2516**



Please feel free to contact me anytime via e-mail or by giving me a call. I thoroughly enjoy serving as your VNR of Recruitment and look forward to working with you in the future!

## FOUNDERS' DAY REPORT

Founders' Day 2011 was a great success. Approximately 140 brothers gathered in the Alumni Center on April 9. We began the afternoon with the Alumni Board meeting, followed by the Annual Meeting. We then kicked off the banquet with a terrific meal from Hickory Park. Several people were honored during the banquet. The active chapter initiated honorary brothers Rodd Whitney from Monsanto and Dr. Kevin Kimle a professor in the Ag Economics department at Iowa State University. The 25 year testimonial was presented to Brother David Calderwood and Brother Bill Kuecker was honored with 50 year testimonial. This year we also presented the Alumni Achievement Award and the Agriculture Leadership award. The recipients of these awards were Brother

Arlen Wonderlich and Brother G.W. Fuhr respectively.

The active chapter would like to extend a special thank you to all those who were in attendance and to all those who helped make Eta Founders' Day a great success. Founder's Day 2012 will be held on Saturday, March 3, 2012 at the Iowa State Alumni Center in Ames, Iowa.

**Joe Hora**  
**"2047"**  
**joehora@iastate.edu**  
**515-570-2928**



# 2011 EXECUTIVE TEAM

(2 Part Segment)



Joe Hora (2046), from Fort Dodge, IA, is a sophomore majoring Agriculture Studies.

He grew up on a 2,000 acre row crop farm where his family also raised 5,000 head of finisher hogs.

He is the son of Liddy and Gregg Hora "1247".

Joe is also the Vice President of Risk Management for the Interfraternity Council, a member of the Cyclone Alley Central Committee, a Student Alumni Leadership Council Member, a VEISHEA committee member, and a Cardinal Key Exec Member.

Joe is serving as the 2011 Eta Chapter VNR of Alumni Relations.



Ryan Schroeder (2058), is a sophomore majoring in Agricultural Studies. He grew up on a 3000 acre row crop operation in Coon Rapids, IA. He also helped with his grandpa's, uncle's, and brother's feed yard having 2000 head at a time. He is currently the Farm Op Club President and served as the 2011 Veishea Parade Coordinator. He is also serving as the 2011 Eta Chapter VNR of Finance.



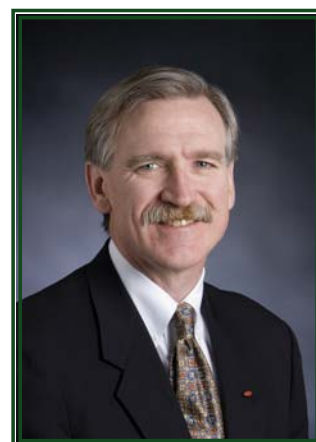
Stephen Prather (2063), a sophomore Agricultural Studies major and Agronomy minor is from a small farming community in Central Illinois called Virginia, IL. Stephen's family does not farm directly, but own 350 tillable acres that have been in the family for over a 100 years and is crop-shared with another family. His father is the President of the local bank, which is also been in the family for over 140 years, and controls half of the business decisions on the farm. Stephen states, "I have had a strong passion for agriculture since I was young. As a child I loved to see producers working the fields for planting and later harvesting the crop to feed the world."

Prather worked for a local seed company, named Burrus Seed Farms when he was younger, starting out as a detasseler and moved up to a crew boss. He also got a great chance to work for a local father and son farming operation back in Central Illinois when in high school. Working for them, he learned many things about basic farming and wonderful problem solving by using the tools found around you. Stephen has learned a lot from the people who have reached out to teach him about the farming industry and thank them for it. On campus, he has been involved in VEISHEA for two years as a Operations Committee member and plans to run for an Executive position this coming year. He is also the Historian of the Farm Operations Club. Stephen is serving as the 2011 Eta Chapter VNR of House Operations and Management.



# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

## Jim Borel



Jim Borel “1150”, is executive vice president of DuPont and a member of the company's Office of the Chief Executive. He also has responsibilities for DuPont agriculture businesses – DuPont Crop Protection and Pioneer Hi-Bred. Jim was born and raised on a farm near Clarion, Iowa. He graduated from high school in 1974 and enrolled in Ag Business with a minor in Farm Management at Iowa State University that fall. In addition to active involvement in Eta Chapter, including being Pledge Trainer, Jim was a member of the Ag Business Club, Vice-President of Ag Council, President of the ISU Weightlifting Club, a member of the ISU Powerlifting Team, and was an Intramural Wrestling Champion.

Upon graduation, Jim joined DuPont in Findlay, Ohio, as a sales representative. From 1981 to 1987, he held a variety of product and sales management positions in Agricultural Products in Wilmington, Del., and the United Kingdom. From 1987 to 1993, Jim held various roles including manager, Agricultural Products Canada in Toronto, Ontario, general superintendent, responsible for agricultural products operations at the Belle, W. Va., site, and manager, global Human Resources for Agricultural Products.

In 1993, Jim transferred to Tokyo, Japan, with Agricultural Products as regional manager, North Asia, and the next year he was appointed regional director, Asia Pacific.

He returned to Wilmington, Del., as business director, North American Crop Protection in January 1997 and was appointed vice president and general manager of DuPont Crop Protection later that year. In January 2004, Mr. Borel was appointed senior vice president – DuPont Human Resources. He was named group vice president, responsible for the agricultural businesses of DuPont in February 2008. He was named to his current position in October 2009.

Mr. Borel is chair of the National 4-H Council's board of trustees. He also serves on the board of CropLife International; board of the Farm Foundation; board of Delaware Community Foundation; and board of trustees, University of Delaware.



Borel with Eta members at Borel's Hertz Series lecture in Ames.

Jim received the Floyd Andre Award from ISU, the College of Agriculture's highest award, in 2010, the AGR Brothers of the Century Award in 2004, Iowa State University Outstanding Ag Business Alumni in 2003 and Eta Chapter Ag Leadership Award in 2000.

Jim and his wife Marcia (also an ISU alum) split their time between Johnston, Iowa and West Chester, Pennsylvania and have two grown children.



## HOMECOMING



Homecoming this year included many activities from Yell Like Hell to Lawn Display. Eta's Lawn Display skit captured 1st place leading the house to an overall 3rd place finish. The Homecoming game brought many alumni back for the post-game celebration and a meal catered by Hickory Park. Hope to see you on **October 22** for this year's event.

## DANCE MARATHON



This year the event raised more \$264,000. for the University of Iowa's Children's Miracle Network, which was a 46% increase from last year. Eta had 17 members participate in one of the nation's largest Dance Marathon events.



This year, Eta was paired with the chapter's of Beta Sigma Psi, Kappa Alpha Theta, and Alpha Omicron Pi. They were given the award for Best Directors.

## DINNER GUESTS



Eta Chapter regularly encourages alumni, company representatives, as well as government officials to have dinner with us on Mondays and Thursdays. Steve Zumbach, pictured above, visits with the active chapter.

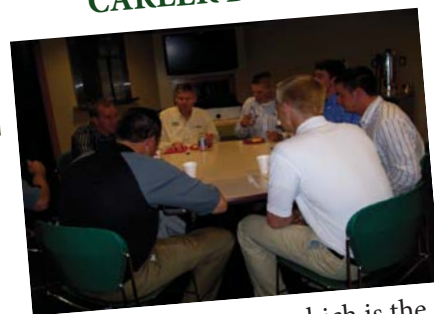
## NEW CHEF



This semester, Eta chapter welcomed Chef Lee Wilkins.

# YEAR IN

## CAREER DAY



The ISU Ag Career Day, which is the largest Ag Career Fair in the nation turned out well for Eta members. Almost 90% of the members have an internship or job this upcoming summer.

## Community Service



Eta Chapter was involved in many service projects throughout the year from helping work at brother Tom Latham's telethon booth, clearing out a church property, delivering faculty appreciation baskets, as well as putting on our two philanthropic events, BBQ B4 Books and Western Waffles.



# REVIEW

## HONOR SOCIETIES



Eta members are involved in many Honor Societies and are Exec members on many of them. The chapter has members in the following Societies: Cardinal Key (pictured above), Alpha Zeta, Alpha Epsilon, Alpha Lambda Delta, Phi Eta Sigma, Phi Kappa Phi, Order of Omega, Society of Leadership and values.



Eta members also ran their annual food stand by Beardshear and survived the less than ideal weather at this year's VEISHEA.

## FOUNDERS' DAY



This year's Founders' Day was held on April 9 at the Alumni Center. Awards were presented to class award winners, 25 and 50 year testimonials, the Alumni Achievement Award, and the Agriculture Leadership award. Join us for next year's Founders' Day, which will be held on March 3, 2012. The Eta Board Members present included Mike Nissley, Leon Helling, Bruce Lorch, Gregg Hora, Dan Frieberg, and Kevin Drury. Missing from the picture are Heath Brock and John McClure.



## GREEK WEEK

Greek Week had Eta members participating in Lip-Sync, Karaoke, Greek Olympics, and many more activities. We received 2nd place finishes in Community Service and Spirit and earned a Gold Chapter rating on campus. We also had 22 members participate in the Polar Bear Plunge, which is a event that raises money for the Iowa Special Olympics. As seen to the left, members dress up in preparation for the Plunge.



## VEISHEA



Eta Chapter again dominated VEISHEA as we had the General Co-Chair, seven

Exec members, and over 40 committee members working to help keep VEISHEA a "timeless tradition."

## SPRING SHOWDOWN



The annual AGR Spring Showdown was held on March 27, at Fort Dodge, IA.. A little under 300 head participated in the show and despite the cold the day was an overall success.

## SCHOLARSHIP MEAL



Eta members that achieved a semester GPA or greater than 3.24 were treated to a Prime Rib dinner. 23 members attended the meal. Group photo to the left.

## MOM'S WEEKEND



Mom's weekend was held on the weekend of February 19th and involved attending a men's basketball game, the annual auction and the presentation of the Women's Auxillary Scholarship. It was a great weekend for the mothers and sons alike.





# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

## John Latham named AGR Grand President Award Winner

John is the third generation to lead the Latham family seed company, which was founded in 1947 by his grandfather. John literally grew up in the seed business in Alexander, Iowa, which remains the company's headquarters. In fact, his grandparents' former home has been remodeled into the company's office and his wife, Shannon, cooks up marketing ideas in the home's former kitchen.

But Latham Hi-Tech Seeds is no "mom and pop" operation. Thanks to John's leadership, the family-owned company is strong and growing. What had been a soybean-only company for the 60-plus years it was managed by John's grandfather, father and uncles, now also offers a full lineup of hybrid seed corn and alfalfa. In addition, the sales force has doubled over the last 24 months.



John Latham with AGR Regional Vice President Dan Johnson

Latham Hi-Tech Seeds was formed in March 2009 as a result of an acquisition of the Latham Seeds by Latham Hi-Tech Hybrids, which John founded in 2004. For five years, John continued to work full-time in sales and marketing for the soybean-only company while he built the corn business. His hard work and dedication paid off when, at age 38, he was in a position to buy the majority of the family stockers.

This acquisition allowed Latham to remain independent at a time when global corporations were buying up regional and family-owned seed companies. John leads the unified Latham Hi-Tech Seeds as president, while Shannon serves as vice president.

Although John now runs his own company, he built his seed career from the ground up. After graduating from Iowa State University in 1992 with a degree in Ag Business, he spent two years as a production agronomist for Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. He then joined Latham Seeds in 1994 as a sales representative and was later promoted to sales and marketing director.

While attending Iowa State, John "1469" was an active member of the Eta Chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho and served as VNR of Alumni Relations in 1991. He also served as Government of Student Body Senator from 1990-1992 and was a member of the ISU Ag Council in 1990-1991. John remained active in AGR upon graduation, serving on the Eta Chapter Alumni Board. He also served as president of the Eta Chapter Educational Foundation and the Alumni Corporation. In addition, he was honored as a donor for Eta's recent fund-raising campaign.

Also a leader in the seed industry, John currently serves as chairman of the American Seed Trade Association's Corn & Sorghum Division. John and Shannon also co-chaired the ASTA's 125th annual convention in 2008. At age 32, John held the distinction of becoming the youngest president of the Iowa Seed Association. John is active in his community, as well. He served as church council president and was a member of the pastoral call committee. In addition, John has helped raise thousands of dollars through his local Relay for Life sponsorship and for Sheffield's Octoberfest, which raises money for his community's Little League programs. In his leisure, John enjoys playing golf and traveling. He's a die-hard ISU fan and proudly holds season tickets to both Cyclone football and basketball games. He's also the proud father of two children: 10-year-old daughter, Elizabeth and 9-year-old son, Ian.



# LOST BROTHERS

311	Henry Wallace	513	Marvin Boss	1075	Stephen Jones
319	Prentice Burdick	529	Charles Cutter	1119	James Hermansen
327	Robert Putman	593	Leslie Mathews	1182	James Stark
335	Ferdinand Plumer	601	Roger Olson	1260	James Holub
337	Ivan Frederickson	613	Jakob Schmitt	1268	Michael Elson
354	John Simmons	703	Dallas Western	1429	James Meyer
382	Donald Ehr	737	Lowell Taylor	1566	John Underwood
460	Charles Neale	781	David Timm	1709	Timothy Foley
482	Thomas Chudomelka	912	James Noble	1861	Kyle Staley
489	Byron Thomas	979	Stephen Prizer	1863	Mathew Thome
496	Marcus Bauer	998	Douglas Lynch	1900	Cody Stamm
		1073	Jasper Crowe	1929	Aaron Wenger

If you know the new addresses of these brothers or if you are at a new address please notify one of our Eta Editors or contact the Home Office at [www.alphagammarho.org](http://www.alphagammarho.org)

# CIRCLE OF LIFE

**Engagements:** We extend congratulations to:

Clint Hartmann (1922) and Cassandra McCullough announce their engagement. They plan to be married on June 30 2012.

**Births:** We extend congratulations to:

Geoff (1663) and Amber Peterson who welcomed their first child, a baby girl. Caroline Anne Peterson was born on April 4, 2011.

Marc (1752) and Heidi Oostenink along with big brother, Mason, welcomed Abby Elizabeth to their family on February 18, 2011.

Mike (1498) and Sharon Brown along with older sister, Logan, welcomed Lane Verald to their family on March 19, 2011. Lane was born in England.

**Deaths:** We extend our sincere sympathy to the families of:

William "Bill" Sayre, (474), passed away on April 11, 2011.

William "Bill" Hitz, (413), passed away on April 22, 2011 in Crosslake, Minnesota.

Please send Circle of Life updates to the Eta Editors

# WEBSITE ADDRESSES

Stay updated on Alpha Gamma Rho

Home Office site: <http://alphagammarho.org/home>

Eta Chapter site: <http://www.alphagammarho.greek.iastate.edu/>

Eta Alumni Email Account : [alumnirelationeta@gmail.com](mailto:alumnirelationeta@gmail.com)

Make sure to send any changes or updates for the Membership Directory to this new account.



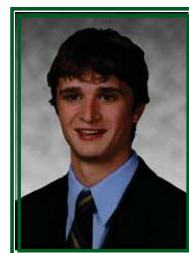
# Eta NEWS UPDATE

Dear Ladies Auxiliary,

I would like to take this time to thank the AGR alumni selection committee for selecting my "What AGR Means to Me" essay for the Mom's and Women's Auxiliary Scholarship. I speak on behalf of the actives when I say we appreciate this scholarship, as well as Mom Brown's coordination, in making this scholarship possible. I would also like to sincerely thank all the mothers that attended Mom's Weekend. Your provided auction items and donations are what make scholarships like this, and other AGR house projects possible. I will be using my scholarship money to help advance my education here at Iowa State University. Again, thank you very much for your past and future support to the active chapter.

Sincerely,

Aaron Lorch "2053"



## Sexton Century Farm Celebration

We invite our Alpha Gamma Rho brothers and their families to join our family in celebrating a Century Farm designation on Sunday, September 4. The celebration will be held at our home/farm located at 2195 250th Street, Rockwell City. Join us anytime during the day. Bring a lawn chair and head for the hoop building for food, fun and fellowship.

### Schedule

10:00 AM	Catholic Mass
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 – 1:15 PM	Program
1:15 – 4:00 PM	Entertainment (Swing Crew)

Keith Sexton "970"  
Brian Sexton "1932"  
Brent Sexton "2078"

Register online by June 1 for the 2011 AGR Scholarship Golf Event:



[www.coldwatergolf.com](http://www.coldwatergolf.com)

Golfing is Friday afternoon, June 24th Event Schedule;  
at Coldwater Golf Links in Ames.

Net proceeds fund Eta Chapter scholarships  
via the Central Iowa AGRs.

Entry fee of \$90 (alumni) / \$45 (undergrads)  
FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2011

Payable to Central Iowa AGR by cash or check on June 24th  
(credit card charges will not be incurred this year)

11:30 a.m. Registration / Box lunch available

12:30 p.m. Shotgun start

5:00+ p.m. 19th Hole with prizes and fellowship!

Please contact John Chism at 515-360-4409

# MOM'S JOURNAL

Just this week, I picked up the Charles Peterson print, "RFD", which depicts a farm child getting the mail. The father can be seen visiting with another farmer who stopped his buggy and got out to visit and the mother and another child are by the barn involved in chores. "RFD is one of Peterson's typical nostalgic Americana scenes.

Many of you may remember when your address included the letters RFD. I asked several in the chapter if they knew what RFD stood for and they did not. Are you able to recall what the RFD means? The answer is "Rural Free Delivery". Today the 911 emergency addresses have replaced the old RFD numbered zones.

I selected this print for several reasons, but predominately because this may be the last generation of AGRs who experience daily mail delivery. As attached to technology as students are, I am a bit surprised that the young men continue to anticipate mail delivery and check daily to see if there might be a letter! Almost every day I hear the comment, "I never get any mail." I remind them that they have to send mail to get mail, but I'm not sure they really appreciate that reminder – or that it is even true in this new age! Most get more packages from UPS or Fed Ex than they get letters and yet that letter or card is anticipated. The volume of mail received at the house easily fits into our mail box, unlike 10 years ago when the bundle or bundles of mail were dropped inside the door because the mail box was too small. Why the change? Much less "junk mail" – no more credit card companies seeking applications from every member of the chapter; bills are received and paid online; "letters" to and from home are done through email or texting.

This numbered and signed print will hang in the formal living room area of 201 Gray and is possible through the fantastic success of our Mom's Auctions. Once again, the auction this past February raised just under \$6000. Additionally, the auction proceeds make it possible to provide a scholarship to a deserving chapter member. Aaron Lorch was named the recipient of our 10th annual scholarship (\$750). What began as a \$500 scholarship will next year become a \$1000 scholarship. Other amenities purchased with these funds this past year included four computers, three food service warmers, computer software, kitchen equipment, and many miscellaneous items! (On Founders' Day, the AGR spouses who attend the Ladies Auxiliary gathering approve the budget for the expenditure of these funds. As the housemother, I am responsible for drawing up the proposed budget for this group of ladies to adjust and approve.)

In just two weeks this school term will be history! Our seniors are ready to enter the real world of work, and it is exciting to know a full class of new members is on deck! The time flies by as I continue to enjoy working with the men of Alpha Gamma Rho. May your spring and summer be fantastic!

Mom Brown  
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515.292.9396



"RFD" print that will be hung in the house this fall.



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## 2011-2012 Calendar

<b>June 24</b>	AGR Golf Outing
<b>August 22</b>	Fall Classes Begin
<b>Sept. 30-Oct. 2</b>	Family Weekend
<b>October 22</b>	Homecoming Game Day 2011
<b>November 21-25</b>	Thanksgiving Break
<b>December 17, 2011</b>	Fall Commencement
<b>Dec.19- Jan 8</b>	Classes Recessed
<b>March 3, 2012</b>	Founders' Day
<b>March 12-16</b>	Spring Break
<b>May 5, 2012</b>	Spring Commencement