

# **Summer'12**

## **Crescent**

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# Active Chapter's Report

Greetings Brothers,

The spring semester is winding down, and the summer is quickly approaching. We have around 85% of the brothers looking forward to starting their internships. Several companies that brothers are working for include: Pioneer, Monsanto, John Deere, Agri Gold, Syngenta and Cargill. The experiences that the brothers will have are excellent networking and learning opportunities. The seniors are also looking forward to starting their careers touting a 100% job placement in their class. Several of the companies they will be working for include: Pioneer, John Deere, Elanco, FC Coop and ADM.

On March 3rd, we held our annual Founders' Day and were pleased with the attendance. It provided a great opportunity to speak with alumni and give a report about the success that the chapter had over the course of the past year.

We also held a reception for the newly appointed President Leath on March 20th. All of the executive boards in the Greek Community were invited, along with emerging Greek leaders, house directors, ISU Dean's, and campus faculty. The event was a great success with over 300 people in attendance.

Our annual Alpha Gamma Rho Spring Showdown was held on March 25th in Fort Dodge. We had nearly 300 head of cattle that exhibited. We were blessed with incredible weather and the event provided a great opportunity to mingle with alumni and potential new members.

For Greek Week this year, we were paired with the women of Sigma Kappa and the men of ADELANTE. We had fun competing in Greek Week, and we achieved 3rd place overall. In addition, we achieved the ISU President's Award for Fraternal Excellence at the awards

ceremony on the last night of Greek Week. This is the most prestigious award in the Greek Community and is a reflection of the accomplishments of our 2011 executive board. Another important aspect of Greek Week was having 40 young men stay at our house during Greek Getaway. On behalf of the active chapter, thank you for all of your excellent recommendations. The quantity certainly drove the quality for this year's recruitment event and we are currently in the process of signing new members for the fall of 2012.

Once again, we are proud of our members using their leadership abilities to help put on another successful VEISHEA celebration. With the General Co-Chair, executive board members, and committee members we are highly involved throughout the week. A new committee to 201 Gray is also in place helping plan the Iowa FFA convention on April 23rd and 24th. We are proud to welcome it back to Ames this year and will be sponsoring a meal.

This summer we will be traveling to Vermont for the Alpha Gamma Rho National Convention July 28th- August 1st. While there we plan to meet other AGR's from across the nation and compare and contrast strategies and ideas to improve our chapter. This year, all nine executive board members will be attending the convention plus others, Mom Brown and Gregg Hora included. We hope you have a pleasant planting season and enjoy the fantastic weather!

Fraternally,  
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## Paul Rhoads!

This semester Paul Rhoads came to the house for dinner. Eta chapter was his first visit to a fraternity here at Iowa State. Coach Rhoads talked about the Football recruiting program and what having dedicated fans means to the team. It was an interesting insight for both Eta chapter and Coach Rhoads. We were pleased to have him as a dinner guest.

*Paul Rhodes talking to active members before meal (pictured below)*



*Paul Rhodes addresses questions after meal (pictured above)*

# Scholarship Thank You

Dear Ladies Auxiliary,

I would like to sincerely thank you for supporting me in my education through the scholarship. I am this year's award recipient and very grateful for any support I can receive in financing my education. Financing my education is a constant challenge, but thanks to your generous support, I am able to pursue my educational goals with fewer limitations.

I am an Agricultural Studies major here at Iowa State University. I hope to gain as much knowledge as I possibly can about the vast industry agriculture by applying myself and maintaining excellent grades. My goal is to carry this knowledge into the field of agricultural business where I feel there are enormous new ideas and innovations.

My hope is to become a successful business owner and influence the agricultural industry through creating value for farmers. By studying agricultural at Iowa State University, I believe I can gain comprehensive and enlightening knowledge of the diverse agricultural industry.

Through receiving this scholarship, I believe I have come a step, or several steps, closer to achieving my educational and career goals. So I would again like to extend my upmost gratitude and appreciation to you for supporting me with this scholarship.

Gratefully,  
Colin J. Hurd



## AGR Leadership Conference

This past February Eta chapter participated in the 2012 AGR Leadership Conference. Eta chapter's own Dan Johnson helped organize and lead this event. Eta chapter was well represented with 15 brothers to participate in this conference. At this conference the brothers learned affective communication skills, risk management, and new ideas from other chapters. With these new tools we will be able to keep improving Eta Chapter.



*Stephen Prather and Grant Bargfrede are interacting in a work shop*



*Eta's delegation at Regional AGR Leadership Conference*

ALPHA GAMMA RHO  
NURTURE. GROW. GIVE. REPEAT.



# Eta Alumni Board Report

To our AGR Alumni, undergraduates, and friends! We all have opportunities to serve. To give of our time, talents and treasure's in those events and organizations of which we hold fondness to for various reasons. "Building Better Men" is a hallmark of the AGR Fraternity, while on campus or in our work and social worlds. It is with great pleasure that I serve as this year's Board President of the Alumni Corporation and Educational Foundation.

You have a board, house advisors, and property manager that are diverse, dedicated, and committed to uphold the traditions and excellence that so many of us expect. With plans for continued growth and improvement into the future, as it was with those who have done so before us. I will highlight areas which I believe are important to our continued success, areas which we provided funds, and how you may benefit from participating.

AGR Alumni Board is a member of the Greek Alumni Alliance. Participating with dollars and leadership in making all the Greek community stronger, as AGR is the largest live-in members house on Campus, along with some of the strongest on-campus leadership by undergrads, it is only natural that we participate. Provided funding in cooperation with the Active Chapter for 17 members to attend Regional AGR Leadership Seminar in February. Provide funding for 12 actives to attend the National AGR Convention in Vermont in July. Founders' Day was held in March, of which I encourage you to read the alumni recognitions as their testimonials to AGR were powerful and challenging. AGR Golf Outing in Ames on June 22nd, for fellowship and scholarship funding.

Raise the Roof Campaign. I invite you to participate with a financial donation if you have not, or consider an additional amount. The 1.5 million dollar house improvement project that was completed in 2009 has been a tremendous statement to the value of brotherhood and our expectations to the future. As a board, we have the goal to pay off the loan by the end of 2013, and begin to establish a building endowment fund for future needs. The active chapter is participating with competitive house bills for the quality housing they enjoy. Please consider a contribution to the Educational Foundation. Board Treasurer, Mike Nissly, and I would be happy to assist you should you have questions.

Looking forward October 27, 2012 is the ISU Homecoming Centennial. ISU's AGR Eta Chapter 100 year Celebration is set for April 4-6, 2014. The leadership and planning team is organized. They have begun the planning, recognition and celebration activities. Should you want to represent your class as a contact please reply to Tim Heiller or myself. Participation and memorabilia are requested.

In conclusion I encourage you sign up for the email updates by providing your email address for improved communications to Dakota Lueken, Alumni Relations VNR. Should you have input or needs from the undergrads or Alumni Board members please feel free to contact us. Thank you in advance for being part of the AGR family that has helped countless individuals develop into brothers and then "Building Better Men".

Gregg Hora  
Alumni Corporation Board President

## New Website

Nationals: [www.alphagammarho.org](http://www.alphagammarho.org)

Eta: [www.isuagr.org](http://www.isuagr.org)

Our new website has lots of new and exciting things going on it! One of the main reasons for this website is to better communicate with alumni. We have a separate tab for the alumni. This includes Founders' day, to *Eta Crescents*, and Prospective Members form. Please check out the new website!



# Alumni Relations Report

## Founders' Day

This year's Founders' Day was again a great success. Approximately 115 brothers gathered in the Alumni Center on March 3. We began the afternoon with the Alumni Board meeting, followed by the Annual Alumni Meeting. We then kicked off the banquet with a terrific meal from Hickory Park. Several actives and alumni were honored during the banquet.

- 25 Year Testimonial- Michael Turley
- 50 Year Testimonial- David VanWert
- Alumni Achievement- Rodger Main
- Agriculture Leadership- Timothy Burke

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 2012 a great success. Founders' Day 2013 will be held again at the Iowa State Alumni Center in Ames, Iowa with a date to be determined soon.

**Check the website for updates.**

## Directory Update

With the transition to a E-Mail Directory and moving away from the mailing list, I would just like to encourage each and every alumni to send in their E-mail addresses using the website form or to me at [dslueken@iastate.edu](mailto:dslueken@iastate.edu). This will enable you to receive the monthly E-Newsletter as well as the *Eta Crescent* through your E-mail. The active chapter will be making a strong push to become virtually all electronic to save on printing and mailing costs as well as to keep you better informed.

We will be doing another Calling Project in the coming months in order to get everything updated in preparation to print a new directory in time for the 100th Year Anniversary in 2014. Please help us in making our directory and updates useful to you by sending in your updated info.

Fraternally,  
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563-880-9129



## Alumni Spotlight

Joe Taets "1381" is currently serving as Senior Vice President and President, Agricultural Services Business Unit Midland (ADM). In his role he is responsible for ADM's commercial activities and operations. He is also currently serving on the company's strategic planning committee. He has served as several other positions at ADM's executive board. Brother Taets pledged AGR the fall of 1984 and graduated in 1988 with a Degree in Agricultural Business. He later received his Master's in Agricultural Business from Drake University in 1992.

This past March Brother Taets had the opportunity to return to Iowa State and speak on the issue of "Feeding and Fueling a Growing World." He spoke to an ISU crowd of Faculty, Staff, Students, and 55 AGR's.

Brother Taets was somewhat surprised but very appreciative of Eta's representation, "This of course made me proud, and was well noted by others in attendance, and viewed very positively."

Taets speech focused on how agriculture is facing a daunting challenge, feeding and fueling a world with 3 billion people. His speech focused on how this is not only a challenge in the field but for the economy to make the food affordable for everyone.

In his time in the house, Brother Taets commented on how AGR gave him a good start in his freshman year, whether it was with classes, making friends or being involved. Not only did AGR help him during school but continued to help him later on in his professional career



*Brother Joe Taets speaking at ISU on the topic of feeding and fueling the world.*



# LOST BROTHERS

249	Kenneth McKinnon	529	Charles Cutter	1119	James Hermansen
152	Wilbur Pentzer	593	Leslie Mathews	1132	Christopher Floy
251	Martin Weiss	601	Roger Olson	1182	James Stark
275	Thomas Scott	613	Jakob Schmitt	1237	Michael Isley
311	Henry Wallace	683	Duane Rowe	1260	James Holub
319	Prentice Burdick	703	Dallas Western	1319	Leslie Holtkamp
327	Robert Putman	719	Rolf Craft	1429	James Meyer
335	Ferdinand Plumer	737	Lowell Taylor	1450	Brian Fischer
337	Ivan Frederickson	781	David Timm	1470	Brian Corpman
354	John Simmons	794	Gene Hohertz	1499	Todd Snider
382	Donald Ehr	806	Otto Benischek	1538	Kyle Wendt
460	Charles Neale	912	James Noble	1566	John Underwood
482	Thomas Chudomelka	979	Stephen Prizer	1863	Mathew Thome
489	Byron Thomas	998	Douglas Lynch	1907	Kyle Hotz
496	Marcus Bauer	1073	Jasper Crowe		
513	Marvin Boss	1075	Stephen Jones		

**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: None

Weddings: Best Wishes to:

Justin Behn, "2021", and Sarah Brown were married on April 14, 2012 in Hampton, Iowa.

Births: Congratulations to:

Dan Stoll, "1889", and Heather who welcomed Trevor Milo into their family on January 14, 2012. Trevor is their first child.

Nathan Katzer "1898" and wife, Jennifer, of Orion, Illinois, welcomed home their first-born son, Gavin Anthony Katzer, on October 25th, 2011.

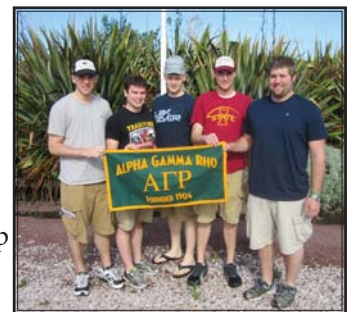
Deaths: We extend our sympathy to the family of:

Theodore E. "Ted" Tinkham, "558", who passed away on February 27, 2012 in Galesburg, Illinois.

**Please send Circle of Life updates to the Eta Editors**

## Travel Abroad

This past spring break, March 10th to March 19th some brothers decided to see the world. Five brothers went to Argentina with the ISU Travel abroad. In Argentina they saw several agricultural techniques including visiting various farms, coops, ag companies, processing plants and a government funded agriculture organization. Two other brothers decided to go elsewhere in Central America, Costa Rica. This trip was through the ISU Travel abroad and the agronomy department. In Costa Rica the brothers learned about sugar cane, coffee, chocolate, palm oil, dairy, soybean, and pineapple operations and productions. We also saw the largest soybean operation in the country, 2 acres total and they use it for a forage crop! Another interesting point was that manual labor is still preferred over machinery due to the mountains and steep slopes they farm on.



*Brothers studying in Argentina  
From left to right: Jordan  
Cowan, Ben Zelle, Colin Hurd,  
Brandon Ledger, and Neal  
Grant*

# RECRUITMENT REPORT

The Recruitment process has been in full swing over the past few months. The recruitment team, as well as other involved brothers have been actively calling and getting to know the potential new brothers. The support from our alumni and active chapter has been terrific. The list of potential new members has grown to over 60 young men for this fall, and there is already a list of 50 men that are interested in joining in the fall of 2013.

Recently Alpha Gamma Rho had hosted two very successful recruitment sessions. First, CALS high school Junior Visit Day. AGR opened its doors to high school juniors that were touring Iowa State University. We had a lot of interest from parents and students. We received roughly 25 contacts from this event. The second event was Greek Getaway. This is an event for high school seniors to visit Greek chapters during a weekend and learn what the Greek community has to offer. It is held during the celebration of Greek Week. Alpha Gamma Rho had 38 young men stay at 201 Gray during the weekend, which was the highest number in the entire community. It was great to bring all of the interested candidates together and interact with the potential new members.

I would like to address how the recruitment process has changed compared to previous years. We are no longer recruiting our members during the summer. It has switched to more of a year long process. The recruitment chair spends most of the spring semester calling potential new members and performing house tours. He also spends time getting to know the students and invites them to Greek Getaway. Greek Getaway is the largest recruitment event that we have as a fraternity now. We no longer have formal recruitment. With this being said, we have begun the recruiting process and are evaluating the members that we would like to extend invitations to join our fraternity. A nice problem that we have begun to have is the level of interest in Alpha Gamma Rho. With such a large interest in our fraternity, we have a large group of legacy that has grown much larger than the capacity of our classes. It is extremely important that we get the names of prospective members as soon as possible. We would like to get in contact with them to

evaluate them and educate them on the benefits of being a member of Alpha Gamma Rho.

If you would like to recommend someone to the recruitment team of Alpha Gamma Rho, please see our chapter website [www.isuagr.org](http://www.isuagr.org). We have set up online forms to be completed so we can then contact a prospective new member. There is also a form that interested members can fill out as well. Please use these new recruitment forms as we are trying to document all of the recruiting that takes place. We are still willing to speak with our alumni about a prospective new member.

Fraternally,  
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712-210-6334



## President Leath

President Leath, Iowa State's new president, was welcomed to the ISU Greek Community with a "meet and greet" reception held at 201 Gray on March 20th. All chapter executive boards and house directors were extended invitations. The event was very well attended with well over 250 Greek leaders meeting the president during the two hour reception. A short program introducing the ISU Greek Community to President Leath was given by several Greek leaders. The AGR Ladies Auxiliary assumed the costs and members of Alpha Gamma Rho served as hosts for this event.



*Pictured above, Noble ruler Andrew Lauver (left) and IFC President Joe Hora (right) are with ISU's new*

# Mom's Journal

Mom's Journal—March 2012

The most common question I get as Eta's housemother is, "How are things at the house?" With the end of the school year approaching, it seems appropriate to highlight some of Eta's accomplishments.

- Homecoming 2011—we placed first overall! While we were disappointed that the judges didn't value our lawn display as much as we did, the lesson learned was that everyone's effort impacted our ability to win overall. Our upper classmen participated in "Yell Like Hell" for the first time, which helped us advance to the finals in this competition.
- Fall semester academic results were fantastic! Our second place IFC ranking of 3.27, behind Acacia, proved that we can compete with traditionally strong academic chapters. Additionally, our sophomores, juniors and seniors were recognized as having the highest GPA (3.35). Our new members earned a 3.03.
- Varieties—we earned fourth place and were awarded Best Set and Best Tech. It was a family fun skit packed with lots of talent. Some of our parents saw musical talent in their sons, which they didn't know existed!
- Eta's new website is up and running! [www.isuagr.org](http://www.isuagr.org) It is outstanding and user friendly. Check out all the links! Even the quarterly Eta Crescent is available at this website. Timely photos are there and members are able to update their links as needed.
- The E-Newsletter is a one-page monthly update! You can find it under the News link on Eta's website Home Page or you can be placed on an email mailing list.
- Seventeen actives (including all exec members) and I attended the regional Leadership Seminar in St. Louis. Over 250 AGRs attended and Eta had the largest representation.
- Two members with junior classification have been selected to enter the College of Veterinary Medicine in the fall of 2012.
- Eta's appreciation event this year involved each member writing a note of appreciation to a faculty/ staff member, or community person, who has made a difference in his life.
- VEISHEA 2012 has eight AGRs serving on its Executive Committee. The co-chair is an AGR.
- AGR hosted a reception for President Leath at 201 Gray for the entire Greek Community. We had over 300 in attendance. An Eta member who is IFC president spearheaded this event.
- Over 50 Eta members attended the CALS Hertz Lecture Series which featured Brother Joe Taets speaking on strategies for feeding and fueling our world.
- Approximately 40 prospective members were our guests during Greek Get-away.
- All exec members, plus several others, plan to attend the National Convention in Vermont in July.
- Eta Chapter will climax the summer by, once again, volunteering to work the Pork Tent at the Iowa State Fair!
- Alpha Gamma Rho is named as one of ISU's 2011 President's Award for fraternal Excellence recipients.

Need I write more? The balance of leadership, academics, and work experiences continues to be instilled in Eta members as they continually strive to become better men while building a stronger chapter! Our morale is high as the school year closes. Members are looking forward to challenging internships and our seniors are ready for that "real world" job. Jobs have been secured! This summer, when you see our members, please congratulate them on their successful year! Your continual support will resonate with more accomplishments.

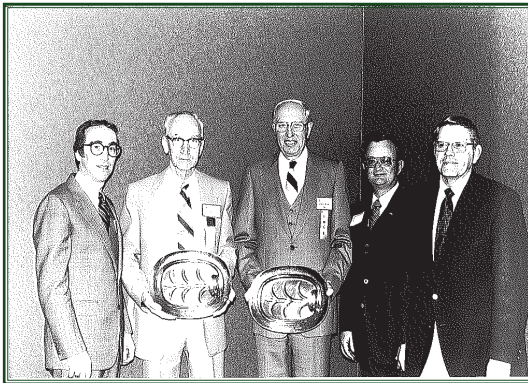
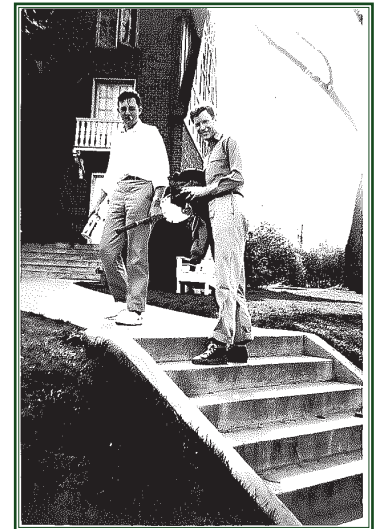
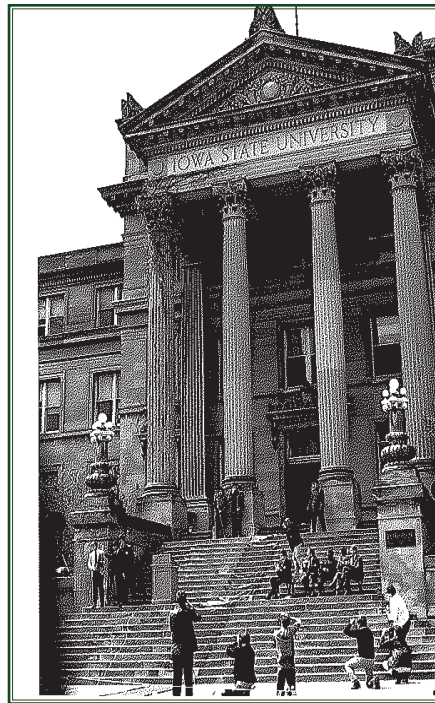
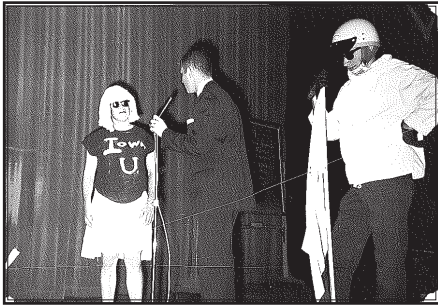
Mom Brown  
[jkbrown@cwinet.net](mailto:jkbrown@cwinet.net)



*16 ounce steak meal attracts many hungry brothers!*



# Blast From The Past... We Need Your Help



Brothers,

As the 100 Year celebration is approaching and we've decided to bring back some old photos. We don't know who these people are or what they are doing. If you have any information on these please email me at [armstrongjake6@gmail.com](mailto:armstrongjake6@gmail.com).

Fraternally,

Jake Armstrong "2094"

## EDITORS



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## 2012-2013 Calendar

April 21, 2012	VEISHEA Parade Day
April 23, 2012	FFA Convention at ISU
May 5, 2012	Spring Commencement
June 22, 2012	AGR Golf Outing
July 29-31, 2012	National Convention, Vermont
August 20, 2012	Fall Classes Begin
October 27, 2012	ISU Homecoming
April 4-6, 2014	Eta's 100 Year Anniversary Weekend

