

# ALPHA GAMMA RHO

ETA CHAPTER

SUMMER '14 CRESCENT

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***NURTURE. GROW.  
GIVE. REPEAT.***



## *Centennial Celebration*



ALPHA GAMMA RHO

## *Special Edition*

Αλφα Γαμμα Ρω

## Active Chapter Report

The spring semester is over now, and the summer is off to good start. For many of the brothers, that means internships are off to a good start. Companies that we are working for include Pioneer, Monsanto, Agri Gold, Syngenta, ADM, several local co-ops, Iowa Select Farms, and many other Ag companies. The seniors all have mixed feelings about graduation. They are all anxious about starting life in the “real world,” but have cherished their final weeks within the halls of 201 Gray.

Greek Week was at the end of March, and we did not place as high as we had hoped, but the effort was still shown. During the VESPERS ceremony at the end of Greek Week, we received the Gold Award for Fraternal Excellence as well as Brother Brent Sexton was named the 2014 Greek Man of the Year.

The AGR 100 Year Celebration was an incredible success. Throughout the entire weekend we had a little less than 800 guests that had the opportunity to reminisce on their past experiences they had during their time within the hallowed halls of 201 Gray. This year we had the honor of inducting the University President, Steven Leath, as our honorary member of AGR.

Unfortunately, VEISHEA came to an abrupt end

this year due to certain events. I would like to extend a thank you for all the hard work that our brothers on committees and the executive board put in the past year to plan the event.

Recruitment so far has been very successful. We held AGR Getaway the Friday of April 25th. 29 potential new members had the opportunity to join us for the evening and engage with current members. Although this has been an interesting start to the growing season, we hope everyone has a successful crop year and a bountiful harvest.

Fraternally,



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## Mom’s Journal

I am sure you realize after reading this Eta Crescent, that the climax to the school year was of the celebration of Eta’s 100th year! 700 Eta alumni, undergraduates, and spouses gathered to reflect on Eta’s past, appraise the present, and visualize the future not only of Eta Chapter but agriculture. It was an awesome weekend filled with lots of humorous memories, brotherly camaraderie, and Eta pride. One could not help but come away realizing that Eta brothers are making a substantial difference in the world of agriculture. As President Leath indicated in his message, there will probably be another Norman Borlaug and he could

easily be from Eta Chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho.

For the last article in my “Mom’s Journal”, I would like to close with my remarks shared at the banquet.

“Thank you for all the kind words. They are sincerely appreciated. WOW! What a privilege and pleasure it has been to be Et’as housemother for the past 18 years. I have had a few weeks to reflect on this unique experience and I would just like to share a few thoughts with you. As I look back, there are many things I will miss.... and a few things I won’t!

Let's begin with the 4 things I won't miss---

1. Coming up with a topic for my Mom's Journal article in the Eta Crescent. Near as I can tell, I've done 68 of them through the years!
2. I won't miss exiting the house in the middle of the night because of the fire alarm. I am not sure why those alarms sound but waiting for the fire department to arrive really isn't much fun on a cold winter's night!
3. Hearing the guys coming home at 2 AM from "mug night" at the bar. They seem to have a hard time quietly finding their beds. Other house mothers tell me they have the same problem, but there is a difference! Their guys wear tennis shoes, whereas my AGR guys are wearing boots!!
4. The procrastination of Eta men. Why do you always have to wait for the deadline before you get something done?!!!

Now let's think about the 6 things I will miss---

1. Following AGRs involvement through campus activities. It's been a privilege to enjoy your successes, and to be associated with a chapter which strives to give back to the University by participating in leadership opportunities.
2. Seeing the USA by attending AGR conventions and leadership seminars with the Eta men. I have travelled from California to Vermont, Minnesota to Texas and many states in between in my role as Eta's house-mother.
3. Discussions about what's going on in agriculture. Our undergraduates have a genuine interest and passion for agriculture. I understand why AGR's are at the forefront of developments in agriculture that will have a big impact on our lives!
4. Networking with AGRs, their parents and the College of Ag and Life Sciences faculty and staff as we all work to help the young adults find the right balance between academics, leadership, internships, and their social activities.
5. Witnessing the evolving maturity in Eta men as they journey through ISU and Alpha Gamma Rho to become better men. Just like the changing of the seasons every year, it is always amazing to watch undergradu-

ates grow and develop their skills and in just four short years, believe it or not, they do transform their lives in preparation for that awaiting new chapter ---real work and real adulthood!

6. Finally, this thought: Mutual respect is a cornerstone of any enduring relationship. Through all the ups and downs, I have always respected the men of Eta Chapter, and in return, I have always appreciated the respect they have given me. I will miss that.

In closing...

- Congratulations to all the men, and women, of Eta Chapter on all you have achieved during your first 100 years. You all have reasons to be very proud.
  - Thank you, to the undergraduate members who have asked me to be their housemother for nearly twenty of those 100 years. It has made me a better person, and I hope, in some small ways, I have returned the favor.
  - Best of luck to Eta chapter as you begin your next 100 years... to all the alums, to all the undergrads, to all the wives and children, to all of the friends and supporters, and yes, to all the future housemothers who will be part of this family.
- Thank you!

As I leave 201 Gray, I look forward to following the families and accomplishments of the 500 young men who lived here sometime during these past 18 years. The lasting friendships and memories will only grow with time. Please keep in touch!



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# Centennial Recap

Brothers,

Wow!

What else can we say? Speaking on behalf of the entire undergraduate chapter, we could not have been more pleased with the brotherhood we were able to partake in during the course of the Centennial Celebration weekend. Through all of our interactions with all 800 brothers and guests, I did not once hear of a bad experience. In the weeks leading up to the event, we were very excited to host those brothers who built the strong reputation and tradition of excellence at Eta Chapter; but I don't think we realized how truly special this event was going to be.

As an undergrad, we often hear of the great successes that our alumni achieve in their careers, communities, and industries. But until we are actually able to meet them, they are only stories. It was such an inspiring opportunity to compare stories from alumni's days at 201 Gray, and see what they built on that foundation.

Friday night was a perfect way to open. It was a delight to see brothers enter and instantly start beaming with joy when they were reunited with a friend they hadn't seen in years. Things only went uphill from there. Not only can we take pride in having an agriculturally rooted president at Iowa State University, but we can now proudly call him a brother after his initiation on Satur-

day afternoon. Following the initiation, we were able to discuss the past, present, and future of agriculture with some of today's top agricultural leaders. We were so happy to have such an esteemed panel be that willing and eager to share their time and wisdom with us; but what was more impressive to me, was the cumulative amount of agricultural experience and knowledge that was in the crowd. I'm not sure the day could have been capped off any better than watching a livestock arena named after one of our own, Marvin Walter, transform into a banquet setting as we honored Mom Brown's 18 years of service. I could not help but stand and smile while the event was coming to a close for it is these kinds of moments that make me realize how luck I am to be a part of something so much greater than myself.

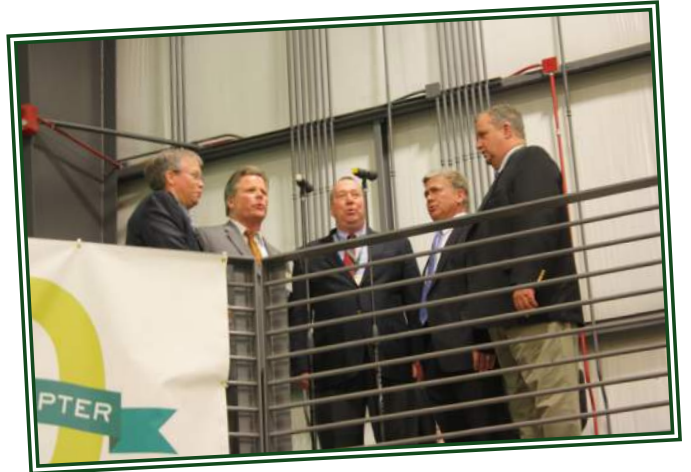
We thank all of you that were able to make it back. The celebration could only have been as good as the people who came, and you didn't disappoint. Here's to another 100 years of building better men.

Fraternally,



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## Circle of Life

Congradulations to:

Brother Dan Foor, #1525 for being named CEO of La Crosse Seed!

Deaths: We extend our sympathy to the families of:

Brother Willis Kuecker, #610 passed away June 9th, 2014

Brother Justin Michael, #1905 passed away May 8th, 2014

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

## Lost Brothers List

249	Kenneth McKinnon	489	Byron Thomas	1182	James Stark
152	Wilbur Pentzer	496	Marcus Bauer	1260	James Holub
251	Martin Weiss	513	Marvin Boss	1429	James Meyer
319	Prentice Burdick	529	Charles Cutter	1458	Jeffrey Vondrak
327	Robert Putman	593	Leslie Mathews	1470	Brian Corpman
335	Ferdinand Plumer	613	Jakob Schmitt	1750	Lee Brinning
354	John Simmons	703	Dallas Western	1863	Matthew Thome
382	Donald Ehr	979	Stephen Prizer	1929	Aaron Wenger
460	Charles Neale	1073	Jasper Crowe	2007	Jeremy Wurzer

**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)**

## Eta Chapter Legacy Fund

Eta Chapter has many legacies. Not only generational legacies, but also legacies built by brothers through their commitment to this fraternity with their financial gifts, their time, and their talents.

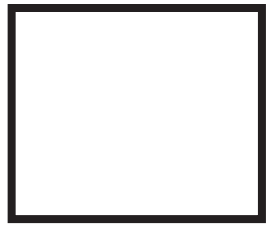
The new AGR Legacy Fund is an opportunity for each of us to individually support the house on an ongoing basis. The fund is being built by many brothers contributing a little bit on a regular and consistent basis through monthly, quarterly, or annual giving. Through many participants the fund becomes significant right away.

Two giving options are available to you. The first is through our own educational foundation. Contributions here will support all the things that our educational foundation has supported in the past and will support in the future. The second option is through a unique arrangement with the ISU Foundation and the College of Ag and Life Sciences. Contributions here will help fund the Achievement Grants. These grants will solidify AGR as one of the premiere fraternities at ISU. In a competitive environment, where we fight each year to recruit the best agricultural men, any advantage we can sell to the new potential brothers will help the legacy of AGR continue into our second century.

The legacy fund will be supported by brothers who have a passion for agriculture and a passion for Eta Chapter and AGR. Brother Bruce Rastetter, President of the Board of Regents, has talked about the need to reinvest money back into our schools and research. I would challenge you with the need to reinvest back into Eta Chapter. Our first 100 years were successful with the investments that were made by our founders and other brothers who believed in the purpose of Alpha Gamma Rho. Now it is our time to reinvest back into ETA Chapter so that we can continue to educate young men and provide the leadership that will continue to build agriculture as we move into our next century. Brother Steven Leath, President of Iowa State University, talks about our obligation to build leaders; building leaders that will be significant in agriculture. Adopting The Legacy Fund with passion and enthusiasm is expected from the alumni as Eta's second century unfolds. The fund will allow us to build in; to build up; and to build out as we make better men at 201 Gray. Say YES to The Legacy Fund. Say YES to the next century of Eta Chapter. Say YES to scholastic excellence and leadership. Say YES by filling out your pledge form and mailing it off today!



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## 2014-2015 Calender

Aug. 1st-4th AGR National Convention (Indianapolis)

Aug. 25th Classes Begin

Aug. 30th First Home Football Game

Oct. 11th Homecoming

Oct. 14th Ag Career Fair

Nov. 24th-28th Thanksgiving Break

Dec. 15th-19th Finals Week