



ΑΓΡ

Eta Chapter Newsletter
Iowa State University

THE CRESCENT



FALL 2016

Judging Team

Brothers,

With the recent conclusion of the 2015-16 Livestock Judging Team we would like to give an update on the past year. As many of you are aware, there was a coaching change in the past year when former coach John DeClerk went to Texas Tech. Iowa State has welcomed new coach Chris Cassady and assistant coach Colby Redifer.

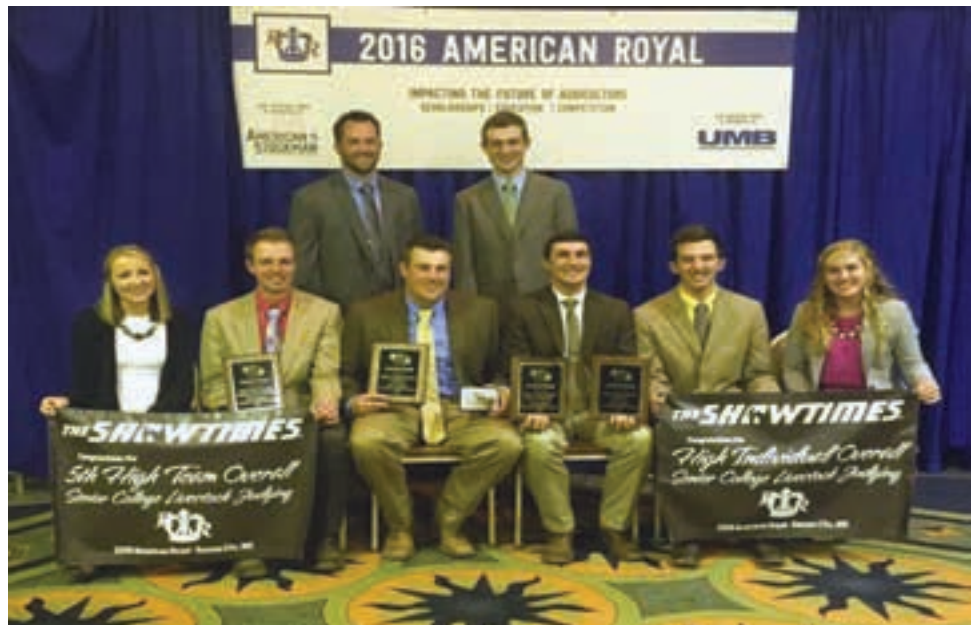
Cassady grew up on a family-owned purebred Angus and grain farm in North Central Illinois. He first attended Black Hawk East in Illinois before attending Texas A&M University where he was a member on both livestock judging teams. He was two-time high individual at the American Royal. Chris completed his bachelor's degree in 2010 at A&M. He then went on to complete his Ph.D. in cow-calf nutrition and management at the University of Illinois where he also served as the livestock judging coach before coming to Iowa State.

Assistant Coach Colby Redifer grew up in southwest Virginia where he raises club lambs. He attended Butler Community College in Kansas before attending Texas Tech and was a member of both livestock judging teams. He completed his bachelor's degree in 2016 at Texas Tech before coming to Iowa State to complete his masters in beef nutrition under Purdue brother Patrick Gunn.

The senior team included two members of Eta chapter Jonathan Triggs and Shayne Weise. The remaining team consisted of Isaac Taber, Kendall Steines, Katlyn Kahler, and Kristi Smith. Under the guidance of the new coaches, Iowa State has enjoyed success in the past year. They were third overall team at Kansas City and had several top 10 finishes. We would like to extend special congratulations to brother John Triggs on being the High Individual Overall at the American Royal in November.



Jack Kelly
"2186"



From Left to Right
Top Row: Chris Cassady, Colby Redifer Bottom Row: Katlyn Kahler, Kendall Steines,
Jonathan Triggs, Shayne Wiese, Isaac Taber, Kristi Smith

Active Member Spotlight:

John Armstrong “2189”

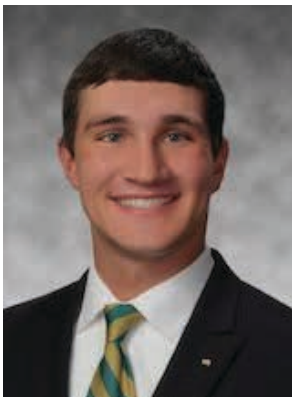
Here at Iowa State University and Eta Chapter, there has been an on-going push to promote entrepreneurship and business-oriented students. With the unfortunate decline in agricultural markets and unpredictable volatility, many brothers have begun to experiment with developing their own businesses. One brother in particular who has followed through with this desire and excelled in his early business endeavors is Brother John Armstrong of Williamsburg, Iowa. He is a Junior in Agricultural Studies and is the founder and operator of Custom Air Seeding.



Brother John Armstrong and Custom Air Seeding at work.

Custom Air Seeding is, to no surprise, a custom seed application business that primarily focuses on cover crop, small grain, and soybean application. They have a current customer base spanning within a 30 mile radius from Williamsburg, Iowa. They run primarily during the spring and fall and are striving to seed about 4,000 acres during this fall post-harvest season. He works in tandem with his father to cover these acres. John owns half of the seeding equipment with the other half belonging to a friend and former employer. John and his father, Brother Mark Armstrong, currently run the seeder as much as they can while the other partner manages his own swine and row crop operations. John plays a pivotal role as he works with customers, does all of the billing documentation and paperwork, and manages all maintenance on the equipment.

John is very enthusiastic about the future of cover crops and custom seeding. He states that he wanted to “help get crops in the ground when the farmer is busy elsewhere and do this task in a timely fashion”. He has always loved to farm and work with his dad. This business has given him great exposure to custom operating and what goes into running a business. With the increased demand for cover crops in his area, he saw this as a great opportunity to start a business that could open a pathway to a career near his hometown. He would love to continue farming and this is a great head-start to achieving his dreams.



Here at 201 Gray, we are very proud of Brother Armstrong for his devotion to entrepreneurship and his great representation of Eta Chapter. Cover crops are a great innovation for the agricultural industry, and John is a prime example of youth in agriculture that will continue to push for efficiency and innovation. If anyone is interested in further information, feel free to contact John at (319) 530-3607. Iowa State University and Alpha Gamma Rho will continue to develop leaders and business-oriented entrepreneurs and John Armstrong is one of the brothers leading this push.

Brother Shayne Wiese “2158”

2nd Century Campaign Surpasses 1 Million

With a push in fundraising, the Second Century Campaign has surpassed \$1 Million in cash and pledges, making it the largest fundraiser ever in the 100 year history of ETA Chapter. Congratulations to the alumni who have participated to date. Amazingly, this has been raised from fewer than 300 individuals and families. The potential to reach the committee's goal of 1.5 million is very realistic. If you haven't yet completed a pledge form, please visit the campaign's website at etasecondcentury.com. Surely you'd like to claim participation in the largest fundraiser ever conducted in ETA's 100 year history. Any gift, large or small, will be welcomed.

The building plans are being finalized and there have been some interesting pictures and videos posted on the etasecondcentury.com website. The planning committee is excited to see this project coming to reality after considering ideas and plans since August, 2014. A contract has been signed with Story Construction to be our construction managers. We will be receiving a Guaranteed Maximum Price contract from them in early January, with contracts finalized before the first of February. Once the frost clears in March, work outside of the house will begin with dirt work, foundation work, and perhaps even some early block work, all taking place before the students leave the beginning of May. Then a busy three and a half months follows with the project nearing completion by the time the students return in mid-August.

The project will provide solutions to a number of concerns we had when the alumni board initially began discussion back in 2014:

- The expanded dining room will allow all the brothers living in the house to eat together. Presently, a large dinner crowd will push brothers into the chapter room, disrupting the continuity of the dinner.
- The new chapter room will actually serve as a multipurpose space. Chapter room, Varieties practice, Yell-Like-Hell practice ... anything that needs a big space will be able to utilize the new area.
- The living room above the chapter room will be spacious and open with plenty of windows affording a great view of Rho Ave. It will also be arranged to have conversational groupings and study areas.
- The west side of the existing living room will be converted into a large boardroom. A large table with appropriate chairs will provide a meeting space for in house and campus committees to meet and conduct their work. It will be equipped to facilitate efficient meetings.
- The new glass walls will also provide for attractive trophy display in new LED lit cases.

The logo consists of the letters 'A', 'T', and 'P' in a stylized, bold font. The 'A' is yellow with a green outline, the 'T' is green with a yellow outline, and the 'P' is yellow with a green outline. They are set against a white background with a subtle shadow effect.

- The study rooms on the second floor of the addition will allow the students to spread out from their current cramped study spaces. One of the study rooms in use currently used to be a hallway on the third floor (back in 1980).
- The new entryway enters on the same level as the living room and creates a new large, open stairway to the dining room. No longer will dinner guest have to descend single file down the winding stairway
- An elevator will be installed in the new entryway. Combined with a new ramp leading to the north door, the first floor and basement will become handicapped accessible.
- The ladies bathroom (butterfly room) will be expanded to two stalls, one being handicapped accessible.
- The Laundry room gets expanded to allow for additional washing machines and dryers and to provide folding and hanging space.
- A Kitchenette is added in the existing Chapter room to provide a spot for fixing weekend meals or late night snacks.
- All flooring on the basement level will be new terrazzo, allowing for easier maintenance and a durable surface.
- Air Conditioning will be installed throughout the house. No more unbearable activation ceremonies. (I know, we all lived through it and it made us better men!)
- A benefit of the expanded dining room is an expanded balcony above. This will allow for better seating options on the balcony and a friendly gathering place.

A summary like this looks impressive and the committee believes the new addition and improvements will be very impressive. Competition in the Greek System is very real. The Delts have built a brand new house, as did Sigma Chi. Farmhouse has completed an extensive addition and we hear plans are being made at TKE and Acacia for improvements. New dorms and an expanding apartment selection are tough competition also. The alumni board has been diligent and has been paying attention. The new addition's plans, long in the making, will keep AGR the premier living space for Ag majors at ISU. As you consider giving today, recall the good times you had while living in the house, and realize how many men have been made better by their AGR experience. Paul Kruse, a member of the planning committee, was heard saying, "My father once said, 'Don't wait to give back for your education until you can afford to give. You start right away because it will be the habit of a lifetime.'"



Homecoming 2016: Leave Your Legacy

Yet another year and another great Iowa State homecoming for the men of Alpha Gamma Rho! The pairings this year were selected at random and we found ourselves paired with the women of Alpha Omicron Pi and the men of Phi Kappa Theta. Our houses started homecoming season off right by getting to work on our Yell Like Hell performance. Our Yell Like Hell co-chairs this year were Jack Kelly, Jake Hovden, and Trey Wiese. They worked together to come up with a performance involving a re-creation of skits from Saturday Night Live thus naming our skit Cyclone Night Live. We practiced three nights a week for a couple months leading up to the performance and ended up moving on to the second round to place in the top 8 for Yell Like Hell.

While the Yell Like Hell performers were hard at work, there was much to be done on Lawn Display back at the house. Our Lawn Display co-chairs this year were Nick Lane and Brady Janssen. They worked hard on developing a theme and plans for building our lawn display. We decided to go with Harry Potter for a theme and Nick and Brady led the charge of construction of a castle. With the night of the performance approaching, everyone was hard at work doing final touches. Luckily we finished in time and gave a great performance that got us second place in lawn display!

These great efforts in Yell Like Hell and Lawn Display, along with other Homecoming traditions, paid off and we got 2nd overall this year in Homecoming! We are proud of everyone involved and are excited and hopeful to see what next year brings!



Above: Our 2nd Placing Homecoming Banner and some of the cast and crew of Lawn Display



Fraternally,
Caleb Lichty
"2219"

Check out the new feature on the website!

As apart of our ongoing efforts to have accurate records of Alumni Contact information. We have added a contact update form to the “Alumni” tab on the website. Please do fill out if you don’t receive the E-Newsletter emails, The Crescent, or publications from Nationals.

A screenshot of the "Alumni Contact Information Update Form" on the website. The form is titled "Alumni Contact Information Update Form" and includes a brief introduction: "Dear Alumni Members of Alpha Gamma Rho - Eta Chapter." Below the introduction, there are two input fields: "First Name" and "Last Name", each with a "First Name" or "Last Name" label and a "First Name" or "Last Name" placeholder.

Please fill out the entry boxes by scrolling the page on the right side of the webpage.

Be looking for an email on 1/31/17 that contains the same information. **If you don't receive this email**, please click the link available. It will send you to this contact update form, and you can enter in your correct information!



TOP - (left to right) Brothers Thomas Wilgenbusch, Adam Baker, Kyle Kent, Reed McCormick, and Shane Bockenstedt operate the fryers during Agger Fries.

ABOVE LEFT - (left to right) Brothers John Armstrong, Grant McMillan, Nathan Holloway, and Mathias Peters at the money table at Agger Fries.

ABOVE TOP RIGHT - (left to right) Brothers Kyle LaFrenz, Wes Reever, Brandon Zumbach, Andy Love, and Brandon Hansen at Agger Fries.

ABOVE BOTTOM RIGHT - The crowd on the rainy night of Agger Fries.



TOP RIGHT - A packed house on Dad's Weekend.

BOTTOM RIGHT - All of the Legacy Fund Achievement Grant Winners.

TOP LEFT - The Latham Family Legacy Fund Achievement Grant Winners.

CENTER LEFT - Brother Dave Wiese and sons Trey (left) and alumni Chance (right) chat on Dad's Weekend.

BOTTOM LEFT - The Bonner Family Legacy Fund Achievement Grant Winners.



TOP - There was a large crowd for the Homecoming Reception!

ABOVE LEFT - Brothers at Thanksgiving meal along with Mom Diane Pinneke's granddaughter, Hannah.

ABOVE TOP RIGHT - Brothers Jacob Steinbeck and Nick Lane work on the lawn display.

ABOVE BOTTOM RIGHT - The finished product of the Harry Potter themed lawn display.

Quiet House Projects

We are in the midst of a major house renovation and fundraising project. While projects like this one get a lot of the attention, there are other projects that go on during the times that there isn't a major campaign. Recently there were two improvements done here at 201 Gray that we, the actives and the Alumni Board, are very proud of.

The first was a major renovation of the bathrooms in the house. This project was completed during the Spring semester of 2016. They were in need of updating there were some new features added. The tile floor was replaced with the durable terrazzo flooring. Some showers were widened for a more comfortable shower. New counters also feature granite counter tops with a tile backsplash. The lights are now motion sensor automatic lights, so there is no more light switch!

The second was an upgrade of our internet capabilities. Technology is always changing and this project helps keep us up to date with how we can connect to the internet. There are many online requirement for classes, and not to mention courses that are completely online. There was Ethernet ports installed in every room, so that the internet connection would be faster as the WIFI would get bogged down with 90 guys on the internet with multiple devices. Recently the WIFI system was upgraded and is outstanding. The system is very similar to what is used on campus for their WIFI connection.

There has been another recent contribution by the Educational Foundation to the active chapter that has saved brothers money, and that is the contribution towards our more organized book library. With book prices sky high, and the fact that those who live here generally take many of the same classes. So those funds were used to purchase books that used by many brothers and that have a high cost.

The new Librarian minor house position is in charge of the checking in and out the books that we have.

We the actives and the Alumni Board are very appreciative of your continued support so projects like these can happen!





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FOUNDER'S DAY 2017 - FEBRUARY 19TH

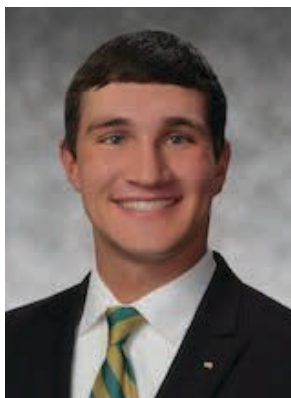
Founder's Day will be moved up this year in efforts to avoid the conflicts during the busy Spring schedules. There will also be a watch party for the Iowa State University vs. TCU basketball game on Saturday evening (2/18/17). Keep in touch for more details about the hotel block, watch party and Founder's Day events!

Lost Brothers

These are the brothers who we are currently having trouble contacting, if you know of the correct information please contact us at agralumni.eta@gmail.com.

387	Joseph R. Mitchell	1027	Thomas D. Juergens	1565	Colby J. Entriaken	1897	Gerret Dean Moenk
401	Charles C. Bach	1041	E. Bruce Ahrendsen	1576	John C. Atkinson	1910	Andrew Lee Butcher
615	Richard Warren	1093	Dennis D. Gourley	1591	Michael J. Heller	1940	Garrett Richard Skaar
654	Robert D. Clawson	1132	Christopher G. Floyd	1662	Nicholas E. Westphal	1964	Keith Albert McCormick
662	Luther G. Tweeten	1134	Mark E. Wilson	1681	Michael A. Cook	1983	Justin Cade Linderman
684	Donald W. Heineking	1179	Michael D. Grandgeorge	1714	Nick L. Lampe	1988	Craig A. Floss
743	Jacob J. De Jong	1187	Douglas S. Martenson	1731	Brian E. Wischmeier	2029	Brett Michael Pfrantz
747	C. Frederick Foreman	1260	James Holub	1787	Jeff Hoogendoorn	2082	Chris Heilskov
775	Robert L. Eggers	1319	Leslie A. Holtkamp	1789	Mark T. Knauer	2100	Aaron Dibble
796	Jack Van Nice	1417	Steven O. Wright	1854	Heath L. Brock	2104	Tyler Stutsman
797	Jerry D. Rhodes	1450	Brian J. Fischer	1860	Kevin M. Roepke	2107	Logan Lyone
960	Craig A. Athen	1531	Thomas J. Sager	1861	Kyle Staley		
997	Richard J. Nelson	1550	Jeffrey D. Rowe	1863	Matthew Thome		

Meet the Editors



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