

Futuristic Flowers

Former Regional Vice President, George Staby, launches Horticulture Website



Past AGR Regional Vice President, and sponsor of the AGR Horticulture scholarship, George Staby has recently launched a horticulture website named "Chain of Life NetworkSM." (www.chainoflifenet.org)

Chain of Life NetworkSM provides information to address and solve postharvest related problems. Research has documented that approximately 15 - 20% of floral crops are ruined before being enjoyed by consumers due to improper postharvest care and handling. Examples of improper treatments include poor temperature and/or humidity management, inadequate aeration, rough handling, improper packaging, transportation delays, ethylene exposures, unsuitable irrigation and/or fertilization practices and excessive storage time. Dr. George Staby, with significant input by floral industry veterans and university researchers, has formed the most comprehensive informational care, handling and marketing program available.

The Chain of Life NetworkSM origins began in 1975, when Floriculture faculty at Ohio State

University initiated an educational program that was eventually named Chain of Life. It was the purpose of this program to obtain, verify and disseminate proper postharvest care and handling information for flowering potted plants, foliage plants and cut flowers. In the ensuing five years, numerous educational events, publications and the like were conducted/produced including the creation of a Chain of Life Speakers Bureau.

Dr. George Staby, the creator of the Chain of Life Network, was born and raised in Connecticut and received his B.S. in Plant Science. He was initiated into Alpha Gamma Rho in 1963. He went on to receive his Masters in 1967 and Ph.D. in 1970 in Horticulture at Michigan State University.

Dr. Staby said that from "his first job interview in 1965 to most recently in December of 2002," he comes across AGRs in meetings and it makes the atmosphere more positive.

From 1970-1982, he was an Assistant, Associate and Full Professor at the Ohio State University. His teaching responsibilities included both undergraduate and graduate level courses in floriculture and postharvest physiology while his research projects centered on improving the longevity of floral crops.

He was also involved with various floral marketing related research projects.

He spent a sabbatical leave from 1977-1978 as a Visiting Professor of Environmental Horticulture at the University of California, Davis. From 1982-1983, Dr. Staby was Vice President of Research of a firm that developed technologies for the transport of fruits, vegetables, flowers, and meats under controlled atmospheres.

In September of 1983, he and Dr. R.E. Woodruff formed a research and consulting firm, Perishables Research Organization, whose purpose is to provide research and information on the postharvest storage, handling, and marketing of fruit, vegetable and floral crops. As president, he has been involved in consulting and research activities with technical and transportation firms dealing with perishables, retail and wholesale florists, flower growers, fruit and vegetable industry organizations, major corporations investing in the horticulture industries, and entrepreneurs mainly in the floral trade.

He has authored or co-authored approximately 250 scientific and floral trade articles and three books, presented about 365 talks, been granted four patents, and provided

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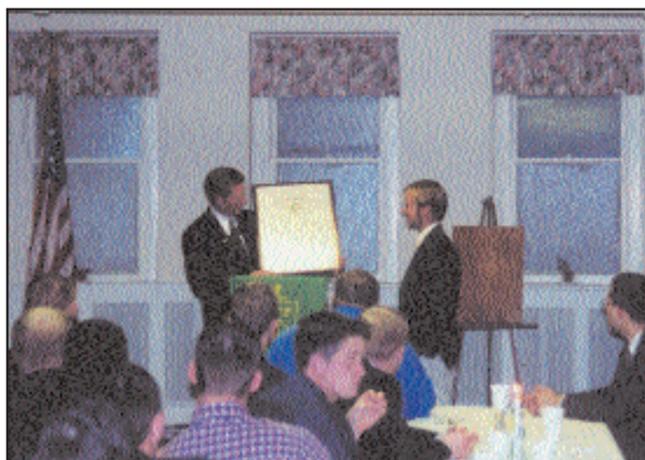
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New Chapter Installed at Southwest Missouri State

by Jarred Meyer, Beta Omega Chapter



Executive Director, Phil Josephson, presents Jarred Meyer with the Beta Omega Charter.

On January 25, 2003, the Colony at Southwest Missouri State University was formally chartered as Alpha Gamma Rho's newest chapter. Thirty-three

members were initiated, undergraduates and alumni, as members of the Beta Omega Chapter at Grace Methodist Church in Springfield.

The weekend's events started out with a Friday evening social period at 6:30 in the lobby of the church. The officers of the Alpha Zeta Chapter from

Kansas State administered the initiation test following at 7:00 p.m. Following the test, two separate discussions were led

by Grand President, Mike Jackson, and Financial Vice President, Rick Carpenter on what it meant to become a chapter in AGR. On Saturday morning another discussion was held dividing the membership into two groups with Rick Carpenter; Chapter Consultant, Josh Terhune; Former consultant, Peter Tomlinson; Mike Jackson and members of the Missouri, Iowa State, and Kansas State Chapters all mediating in the discussion. Once the discussions were over the installation proceedings took place. The officers from the Kansas State chapter conducted the installation ceremonies. After all the members of the colony were initiated, there was a break taken for lunch. Later on Saturday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. the charter signing took place.

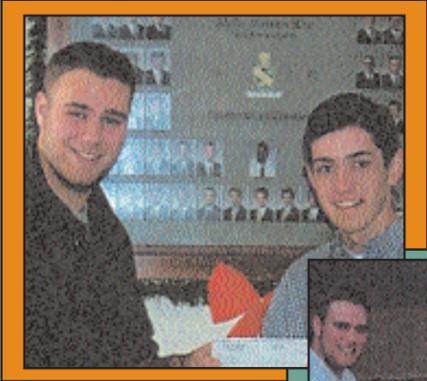
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THE GAMMA GN FOR AGR

Educational Foundation News

Alpha Kappa Chapter Awards Incoming Freshmen Scholarships



Right: Chris Vessell receives the \$500 Alpha Kappa 4-H Incoming Freshmen Scholarship from Will Barnes, past VNR - Recruitment.

Bottom: John Benjamin Ingram receives the \$500 Alpha Kappa FFA Incoming Freshmen Scholarship from Will Barnes, past VNR - Recruitment, as Matt Foster, past Noble Ruler, looks on.



ber of the 4H

The Alpha Kappa Chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity recently awarded \$500 scholarships to two incoming freshmen at the University of Tennessee. Chris Vessell, Agriculture Economics Journalism major, from Flintville, TN, received the Alpha Kappa 4-H Incoming Freshmen Scholarship, and John Benjamin Ingram, Biosystems Engineering and Environmental Science major, from Benton, TN, was the recipient of the Alpha Kappa FFA Incoming Freshmen Scholarship. Vessell and Ingram each began their course work at UT in the Fall 2002 Semester.

Vessell was very active in the Tennessee 4-H Beef Project prior to enrolling at UT, and was also a mem-

State Council. Ingram served as President of the Polk County High School FFA Chapter and received the State FFA Degree during his senior year of high school.

These scholarships were jointly sponsored by the Alpha Kappa Chapter Alumni Association and the Alpha Gamma Rho Educational Foundation.

Brothers of the Century Award Announced

The purpose of the Alpha Gamma Rho Brothers of the Century Award is to recognize the "best of the best" members of Alpha Gamma Rho in our fraternity's first 100 years. The following criteria apply:

- ◆ Honorees represent the highest principles, values and ideals of brotherhood as stated in the purpose and ritual of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity.
- ◆ Honorees are recognized within their industry and community as role models for young men.
- ◆ Honorees may be living or deceased.
- ◆ Honorees may be nominated in one of two categories:
 - ◆ Service to Alpha Gamma Rho
 - ◆ Service to Agriculture
- ◆ Honorees will be recognized at the August 15-18, 2004 Centennial National Convention in Columbus, Ohio.
- ◆ Honorees have contributed their time, talent and leadership to a chapter as an adviser, alumni corporation officer, committee member and worker; or to the National Fraternity as task force/committee member; elected director; volunteer leader as regional vice president or director of the Educational Foundation

or Housing Resources Trust, or as contributor to SICKLE & SHEAF or www.agrs.org.

◆ In addition, honorees are financial supporters of chapter and the Educational Foundation or have been instrumental in aiding in the recruitment of new AGR brothers.

Recognition in Service to Agriculture

- ◆ Honorees are known for their vision, achievement, leadership and overall service in helping make a "broader and better agriculture."
- ◆ Honorees have contributed to the public's higher perception of AGR through the honoree's visible service outside of the Fraternity.
- ◆ Honorees are respected for "giving back" to their industry by mentoring and developing future leaders for the industry.

Nominations may be submitted online at www.agrs.org.

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Futuristic Flowers

(Continued from front Page)

expert witness testimonies in the U.S. and Canadian judicial systems.

Through his efforts and the efforts of his PRO Associates, over 25 products have been developed and brought to the floral industry in the last 20 years. Some of these products required detailed EPA registration work while others required extensive efficacy and/or marketing research. His latest project is the **Chain of Life NetworkSM** and its corresponding website.

One change that is soon to come with the **Chain of Life NetworkSM** website is a new section that will be a company spotlight. This section will help the Network receive grants to keep the site running.

In a recent interview with Brother Staby he said that Alpha Gamma

Rho has been a lifelong experience. His wife is an AGR Sweetheart and his closest friend, Alan Hall, is an AGR brother. Dr. Staby enjoyed being a member of AGR in college because he was able to attend classes with his brothers and they were able to study together. He also had the opportunity to campaign for the position of chaplain in the house, and eventually Noble Ruler.

When asked what his advice for undergrads was, Dr. Staby urged all students to get a broad science background so that they will have the foundation to make more intelligent decisions. He also urged chapters to look beyond the food and fiber majors for recruitment in Alpha Gamma Rho and also look for men in floriculture or other majors. ■

New Chapter

(Continued from front Page)

After the signing of the charter, the first chapter meeting and installation of the officers took place. In addition to the meeting, gifts were presented by the Theta chapter on behalf of themselves and the Iowa State, Truman State, Oklahoma State, Arkansas State, New Hampshire, Southern Illinois, Tennessee - Knoxville, and Purdue chapters. The afternoon's activities were concluded with an alumni meeting.

Later that evening, a formal banquet was held to conclude the day's events. The social hour took place at 6:30 p.m. and the banquet followed at 7:00 p.m. After the meal, the banquet program started. During the evening, the dedication of the charter, and comments from Jackson and Josephson were made about the past weekend's events. Josephson stated, "Beta Omega has a nice ring to it." After the formal banquet, a social event was held to commemorate the weekend's events. On Sunday, January 27, the members attended the church services held at Grace Methodist and afterwards everyone departed for home.

On behalf of the Beta Omega chapter, we would like to thank everyone for their gifts and support of the newest chapter in Alpha Gamma Rho. ■

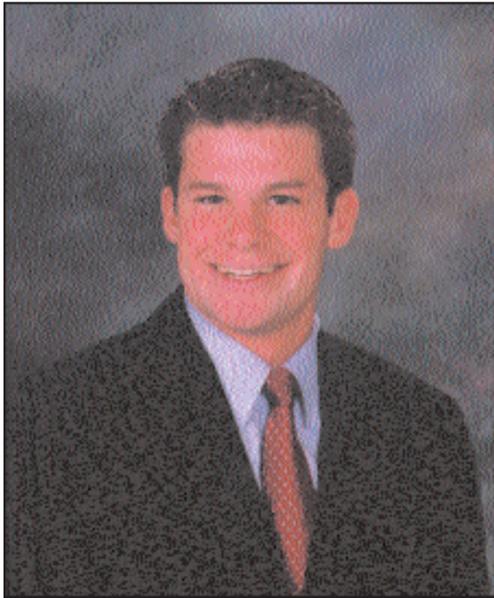


www.chainoflifenet.org

From Goltry to Seoul

The Brady Sidwell Story

By Becky Schlake, Communications Coordinator



Oklahoma State Junior, Brady Sidwell, would like every AGR to have the experience that he had when studying abroad.

When Oklahoma State junior Brady Sidwell left his small Oklahoman community of Goltry (population 300) for college in the fall of 2000, he had no idea that two summers later he would be interning in Seoul, South Korea. Sidwell also had no idea what a lasting impact this journey would prove to be.

Sidwell's interest in international agriculture began after interning for Sen. Don Nickles the summer after his freshman year. After his internship, he began working for the Foreign Agriculture Services division of the US department of Agriculture. This led the AGR Junior to a chance to work as an international intern in South Korea. Sidwell spent his time as an intern writing market reports and briefs for US exporters and

attending meetings with government officials.

During his time in South Korea, Sidwell learned some of the language, and is now taking Chinese classes at Oklahoma State. He also traveled extensively across Asia and learned more than he ever could have in a classroom.

In a recent interview with Sidwell, he described his experience going to Seoul and how it was a big change and culture shock, but as hard as it was for him to adjust to life in South Korea, it was even harder to readjust to life in the US. More than anything, Sidwell was impressed with the genuineness and hospitality of the South Korean people and the way in which they welcomed him into their culture. He learned a lot about himself, South Korea and the United States.

After returning to Oklahoma State University, Sidwell created the Global Agricultural Organization, which welcomes foreign agriculture students to Oklahoma State University. The organization is now in the process of getting approved by the university, but already has sparked major interest on campus. His real motivation for creating this organization was realizing what it

was like to be a foreign student, how hard it is to make friends and how very grateful foreign students are to see a smiling face. His organization is targeting foreign agriculture students specifically, and Sidwell feels that there is a strong need for this organization on his campus.

Sidwell expressed his wish that every college student could experience an abroad study program as he did. His advice to other undergrads is to pursue your dreams no matter how far fetched or unpopular they may seem. Opportunities are everywhere and all it takes is that first step. He said that he could not have done this without the never-ending support of his family in Goltry. His rural background in his small Oklahoman town has shaped him into the person that he is today, and he will never forget his roots.

Although not certain what his future will hold, Sidwell would definitely like to be involved in international agriculture. More than anything, he would like to promote US and Oklahoma products overseas, and help keep rural America alive. He believes that the future of agriculture will be international, and that rural farmers can compete in international trade. ■

Illinois Leadership Group Blossoms with AGR Influence



(Top row) Ken Ropp-UI '93, Joe Kapraun-ISU, Jeff Adkisson-WIU, and Brian Frieden-ISU. (Second row) Joyce Watson (wife of Allen-WIU), Bob Pritchard-UI '67, Marla Behrens (mother of Martin Van Wassenhove UI '03), Doug Martin-SIU and George Lukach- UI '99. (Bottom row) Mary Holmes (mother of Brian-UI '04) and Aaron Curtis-ISU.

The Illinois Agricultural Leadership Program (IALP) has provided a training ground and strengthened agricultural leadership in Illinois since its founding in 1981. The two-year program provides a rigorous combination of experiences and education spanning over 400 hours so participants can succeed in leading the agricultural industry.

"The IALP takes participants, ages 25 to 49, to a higher level of leader-

ship and builds upon their potential" says Bob Pritchard, Alpha '67 and newly named Executive Director for the Foundation that supports and supervises the program. "Among the approximately 300 graduates of the program are the president and vice president of the Illinois Farm Bureau, a state legislator, business leaders like the GROWMARK Board Chairman, state and national commodity presidents, government officials and countless community leaders."

The curriculum consists of presentations and discussions with professionals and academics in public policy, trade, government services/regulations, economics, and decision-making, according to Pritchard. Also discussed are rural-urban issues, the environment, dealing with change, influencing others and industry consolidation. In addition to meetings, participants travel to Washington, DC and a foreign country plus work on team skills. They research and develop a solution to a current issue and then present it to a stakeholder group of the issue.

Of course, a program that selects from individuals with demonstrated leadership activities and potential is bound to contain many AGRs. Brothers comprise a third of the 2004 class and come from all four AGR chapters in the state. "The list of program graduates is rich with AGRs," adds Pritchard.

The President of the Foundation, Joyce Watson, also has ties to AGR, since she married a brother and was a RhoMate during college. Several IALP participants have AGR sons.

In his new role, Pritchard will be responsible for the curriculum of the

program, planning seminars and study trips, communications and public relations, and assisting in student recruitment and financial support. Pritchard, a past president of the Alpha Alumni Association, most recently was employed in various public relations functions at Monsanto and formerly DEKALB Genetics Corporation as well as managing his family farming operation.

Though participants contribute to the cost of the program, the Illinois Agricultural Leadership Foundation is constantly seeking financial support to make the program affordable for participants. The search for the next class of participants is also ongoing as it looks for the brightest and most capable individuals who are willing to devote the time and energy to improve their leadership.

For more information about the IALP, contact the Foundation office at 309-837-7711 or visit www.agleadership.org. ■

Soybean Industry Names 2003 Young Leaders



With a passion for farming that extends beyond their own farm gate, Kevin (Purdue) and Sherry Underwood were selected earlier this month by the Indiana Soybean Growers Association and DuPont Agricultural Products as their 2003 Young Leader Award Recipients.

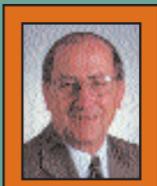
During an interview with ISGA, Underwood noted that he feels strongly about equality and worldwide market access for U.S. farm producers. "We need to continue to work with WTO, NAFTA and any additional trade agreements to make trade fairer for U.S. farmers," said Underwood. "We also need to open markets from artificial barriers."

The Tippecanoe County farmer noted that U.S. producers also need equality and fairness in market access worldwide. Underwood explained that U.S. policy needs to be established that does not continue to strengthen the U.S. dollar in an unstable world economy.

The Underwoods have nine years of farm experience and produce corn and soybeans on about 1,300 acres of Tippecanoe County soil, near West Lafayette, Ind. They also raise 3 acres of sweet corn, pumpkins, gourds, garden mums and asters.

Kevin earned his bachelor's degree from Purdue University's School of Agriculture in 1990. He is very involved with Indiana Farm Bureau Inc. On the county level, Kevin serves as first vice president and is chairman of the government affairs, young farmer and membership committees. At the state level, he is a member of Farm Bureau's value added and horticulture committees. ■

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LeRoy Luft
Montana State



Vernon Singleton
Purdue

LeRoy Luft, Montana State, has agreed to serve as Interim Director of Extension and Vice Provost for Outreach at Montana State University while they conduct a search to permanently fill the position.

Vernon Singleton, Purdue, was named "Outstanding Food Scientist" by Purdue University this past summer.

Dr. Adam P. Jackanicz, DVM, Murray State, has accepted a commission as a 1st Lieutenant with the U.S. Air Force Reserve. He is serving as a public health officer with the 752nd medical squadron, at March Air Reserve Base, CA.

Carl E. Motley, Jr., Texas A & M - Commerce, was married on October 19, 2002.

Robert L. Satori, Wisconsin - Madison, has recently been promoted to the position of Engineering Manager of the Structural Design and Analysis Group of Manitowoc, Wisconsin. This group is responsible for the Design and Finite Element Analysis of the major crane structures including Rotating Frame, Carody and Boon Sections, as well as the release of the Crane Capacity Charts. Brother Satori lives in Manitowoc, Wisconsin with his wife, Teresa and two daughters, Katie (3) and Gracie (1).

Joel Paul Bach, New Mexico State, was formerly employed by TAMU with Texas Ag. Experiment Station and was also Natl. Director of the Wildlife Habitat Council in Washington DC. He now manages and administers all research and teaching programs on five properties owned and/or managed by SWTSU having a combined worth between \$50-60 million.

Doug Allard, Montana State, has recently opened "Col. Doug Allard Buffalo Ranch Cafe" in St. Ingantius, Montana.

Eric D. Luce, Southern Illinois University, has moved back to Illinois to become Plant Manager at Pioneers Supply Management location in Utica, IL.

Larry D. Naysmith, Missouri, is the Director of Benefits at Arkansas Children's Hospital.

Mitchell G. Malone, Illinois State, is currently a National Guard member of Illinois with 19 year's of service in the active duty and reserves. He serves as a Reserve Forces Officer with the Selective Service System training and recruiting Draft Board members for Northwestern Illinois and serves at the State Headquarters and as the Administrative Officer, as a promotable major, a field grade position in the United States Army.

Ronald Mack, Purdue, is starting a new career as owner of RIGHT AT HOME OF ILLIANA, INC. providing in-home care, homemaking, companionship and living assistant services to senior citizens and people with disabilities throughout West Central Indiana and East Central Illinois. More information is available at www.rightathome.net/illiana.

Michael Tuszynski, Jr., Montana State, married Courtney Kelly in May of 2001.

J. Paul Konrad, Wyoming, now works for Agrilience as Crop Nutrient Sr. Marketing Manager for the Central and Southern United States. He and his family relocated from Kansas City to the Twin City area in November of 2002.

H. Fred Dietrich, III, Florida, received the National Association of Agricultural Educators Lifetime Achievement Award on December 13 at the NAAE annual conference in Las Vegas, NV. In addition to education, Dietrich has also been involved in a family cattle ranch, Dietrich's Flying D Ranch, raising Santa Gertrudis Cattle and Cracker Horses and has been an Auctioneer for 34 years doing many FFA and 4-H Auctions. He has also been active in the leadership of many organizations.

Cy Monson, Iowa State, started his own business, Diversified Management Consulting, with two other individuals. They are focusing on grower consulting in the areas of agronomics, marketing, and financial analysis.

Melvin C. Hougan, Washington State, moved to Olympia, Washington from Vancouver November 30. He had lived in Yakima, WA for more than 50 years, spending 30 of those years as a county extension agent in the Yakima Extension Office and seven other years in the Lewis and Jefferson County Offices.

Dr. George E. Berg, Montana State, retired from American Express in 1997 after 21 years of programming. It was not long after that he was hired by SAS Institute, the world's largest private software company, to teach computer software solutions.

D. Keith Gurrola, Cal Poly State, manages the family farm growing oranges and avocados while he works as a Battalion Chief for the Ventura County Fire Department.

Russell B. Johnson, North Dakota State, has been a member of the Fargo Dome Authority since 1997 and currently serve as President. He was named "sportsman of the year" because of his efforts spearheading a drive to amend the North Dakota constitution and enshrine the North Dakota hunting and fishing heritage.

Wilbur C. Mull, Georgia, owner of Classic GroundCovers wholesale nursery in Athens, was named the Georgia Green Industry professional of the year. Mull was presented the Jake Tinga Distinguished Professional of the Year Award at the group's annual meeting and trade show in the Classic Center. Mull started his business in 1963 and celebrates 40 years in the horticulture industry.



Wilbur Mull
Georgia

Cdr. Trygve A. Holl, Minnesota, is still in his home of 38 years and is doing well. His son Stephen is also retired from the Navy as a captain and lives in Reston, Va. His daughter, Shelley, lives in St. Paul near the AGR campus and teaches art in several art centers.

Matt Beasley, Georgia, was selected by Georgia Trend Magazine as one of "Forty under forty." This award identified rising stars in Georgia. Matt is a 1990 graduate of the University of Georgia. He has been a high school teacher for 13 years and is mayor of Hartwell, Georgia. Matt is married and has one daughter.

Gregg Doud, Kansas State, will take over the post of Chief Economist for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA). In his new capacity, Doud will focus on economics, trade, industry structure, and a broad array of live-cattle marketing and international policy issues. He will communicate with an array of audiences regarding financial conditions, industry economics and marketing/trade issues and policies for the beef industry.

Bixby receives Agricultural Activist Award



Donald Bixby, Michigan State, was recently awarded the Agricultural Activist Award for 2002 by the (North and South) Carolina Farm Stewardship

Association. Bixby was recognized for his work with the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy to conserve and promote a wide range of livestock breeds and genetics in sustainable agricultural systems. That work has included censuring of breed populations, providing technical assistance to rare breed

stewards across the country, the establishment of a gene bank, international development, and policy development with the USDA National Animal Germplasm Program in Fort Collins, Co. Bixby was Executive Director of the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy since 1988, but recently assumed the position of Director of Technical Services. ■

MOVING? CHANGING JOBS? RECEIVING AWARDS?

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STATE:	ZIP:	Please enclose a photo to be used in a future issue of SICKLE & SHEAF.
SOCIAL SECURITY NO.:		Send to: Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, 10101 N. Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO 64153 or FAX: (816) 891-9401. (FAX label on reverse as well.)

THE MOVE ON

Hyde Murray, Maryland, has been named Chair of the Republican Party of Waupaca County in Waupaca County, Wisconsin. Brother Murray is an attorney who is also president of Waupaca Area Retired Educators Association, River Writers and the Ogdensburg Athletic Club, and is active in the Waupaca Lions Club.

Joe Taets, Iowa State, has been named president of ADM European Oilseed Processing. Joe has held various trading and management positions in both the North American and European oilseed groups. He was most recently Vice President of Soybean Crushing for ADM's European operations.

E. Glenn Nelson, Nebraska, operates a well drilling, irrigation pivot and water system business. Brother Nelson works with his son Rick Nelson who serves as President and sales engineer for their company, Nelso Wells, Inc. The business was started in Mitchell, Nebraska and was there for four years before moving to Alliance, Nebraska where they have been for the past 32 years.

Dr. Donald F. Schwartz, North Dakota State, retired from Cornell in 1998, but continues to do research and write, work with graduate students and chair a faculty senate committee.

Kenneth W. Fryman, Ohio State, retired from the Air Force as a Colonel. He is now the Administrative Officer for the Southern District of the Ohio of the US Marshals Service.

Tom D. Leisy, Nebraska, is enjoying retirement in the beautiful Northwest. He is keeping busy by assisting Oregon State Parks in developing and presenting interpretive programs. He is also planning a trip to England the summer of 2003.

Dee W. James, Kansas State, is a financial consultant at A.G. Edwards.

Chad E. Chase, Kansas State, is a risk management officer at First National bank in Derby.

Steve Faulks, California State - Fresno, was awarded a gold watch and certificate for 25 years of service with the California Department of Food and Agriculture Shipping Point Inspection.

Wayne B. Martenas, Penn State, is Vice President of Engineering for CNH Global. As VP, he is responsible for engineering of all ag equipment (except tractors) as well as all ag. E/E and Innovation Competence Centers.

Hornback Announces bid for Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture



Barney Hornback, University of Kentucky alumnus has filed with the Secretary of State as a democratic candidate for Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hornback is a veteran agricultural leader bringing to the campaign a 40-year career spanning the last eight Kentucky Commissioners of Agriculture. Under his guidance as Director of County Fairs & Horse Shows the popular North American International Livestock Exposition held in Louisville each November was created in 1974. In addition, Hornback was a developmental force and served as the first chairman of the Governor's Sale of Champions for 4-H and FFA livestock at the Kentucky State Fair. This scholarship has sent hundreds of Kentucky farm youth to college.

Before retirement with the Kentucky Department of Agriculture in 2000, Hornback served as Director of Value-Added Development. Hornback worked with traditional agricultural enterprises to add value to Kentucky products that have a competitive advantage. Equine, timber, forages, livestock, poultry, dairy heifers, dairy and meat goats, tobacco, corn, soybean and specialty crops were top priorities.

Hornback's vision for the future of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture is to expand consumer services to focus on food safety, create a new division for Kentucky equine promotion and development, develop college scholarship programs for students pursuing careers in agriculture and promote Kentucky agricultural products in the Commonwealth, United States and World Market. ■

International Service in Agronomy Award to Charles



Last November, the American Society of Agronomy presented the International Service in Agronomy Award to Charles (Chuck) Francis, Phi Chapter, U.C. Davis (1961). Since first working in the Philippines as a graduate student in 1964-66, Chuck has been involved with research and education on cropping systems that will benefit small farmers who lack access to the best land and other resources. After earning a doctoral degree at Cornell University (1970), he has worked as a plant breeder and agronomist on maize, sorghum and bean production systems including the intercropping systems that are so important in the tropics. His emphasis has been on sustainable agriculture and agroecology.

While at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture in Columbia, Dr. Francis was director of three different programs and conducted research on maize protein quality, photoperiod sensitivity, and sustainable yields. He designed studies of intensive maize/bean intercropping systems that use resources through most of the year. Many trials were with farmers in their production fields. Later he was Director of the

MIAC/Morocco Dryland Agriculture Program, and then International Program Director at the Rodale Institute in Pennsylvania. While a Professor of Agronomy for 25 years at the University of Nebraska, Dr. Francis has worked in Africa and Latin America on more than fifty assignments as consultant in research and education. He has written or edited 15 books and over 100 technical publications. He and his wife, Barbara lived and worked in Columbia for eight years and in Norway for one year where Dr. Francis helped design a new graduate program in ecological agriculture for the Nordic Region. He received an honorary doctor of science degree from Helsinki University in 1999 for innovative programs in education.

This quote was taken from the award nomination: "As a futurist who takes a systems view of agriculture, society and our profession, Dr. Francis is concerned about agriculture's long-term impact on the environment and society equity, and its effects on other members of the ecosystem. He believes that our professional activities are not value-free, and urges students and colleagues to explore their values and aspirations as they relate to research and education. He strongly believes in envisioning and pursuing a desirable future that we can build, rather than accepting one shaped by trends to which we must adjust. He agrees with biologist Rene du Bos that 'Trend is not destiny.'" ■

E.T. York Honored By Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture



E.T. York, a prominent University of Florida faculty member, has been named to a group of 60 U.S. Citizens who have contributed most to the progress

of agriculture in the Americas over the last 60 years.

He will be highlighted in a commemorative book, "60 at 60, as part of the 60th anniversary of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture.

York also was honored at a formal reception in Washington, DC February 3 in the Organization of American States Hall of the Americas. IICA was created in 1942 and represents the agricultural progress and aspirations of 34 countries of the Western Hemisphere.

The "60 at 60" publication identifies the most influential individuals and institutions in the United States who have played an important role in promoting rural prosperity in the Americas.

York, chancellor emeritus of Florida's State University System, has spent a

lifetime strengthening the land-grant university system and its role in domestic and international agricultural development. He has employed his talents as a scientist, educator and administrator, and has become a recognized leader in agriculture. York has served UF as vice president for agricultural affairs, executive vice president and interim president.

In addition to supporting the mission of land-grant universities, York has served as an adviser to Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter and Reagan. In that capacity, he traveled widely to provide agricultural assistance in countries throughout Latin America, Asia and Africa. His analysis of the agricultural development challenges faced by the countries of Central America and the Caribbean was a precursor to the Caribbean Basin Initiative. He continues to focus on alleviating world hunger, particularly on expanding food production to meet rapidly growing needs, making food safer and more accessible, and increasing production efficiency to lower food costs. He has received many national and international honors with seven awards or programs developed in his name. ■

Auburn Alumnus Elected to Mississippi Legislature



Merle Flowers was elected on Saturday, March 1 to the Mississippi State Legislature. He joined Alpha Gamma Rho in the Fall of 1987

and graduated from Auburn in 1991. He then went on to get his MBA from the University of Mississippi. As an undergraduate, Flowers was Rush Chairman for Alpha Gamma Rho, and was elected to vice president of the Auburn Student Body.

Brother Flowers will represent district 19, which includes about 60,000 citi-

zens. While he was campaigning, he received a major endorsement from Bill Hall, the under secretary of the USDA. He has a great love for agriculture and will do whatever he can to promote and be a friend to agriculture.

Thirty-four year old Flowers established a website last year (www.merleflowers.com), which was filled with information about his candidacy the day his campaign was announced.

Flowers and his wife Stacey have a 3 year old daughter, Sarah Ann, and as of press date, his wife was expecting their second child, a son, in the next several weeks. ■

Grand President Award Winners



Jeffrey D. Adkisson, CAE

Jeffrey D. Adkisson, CAE, serves as the Executive Vice President and Treasurer of the

Grain & Feed Association of Illinois.

The Grain & Feed Association of Illinois is a state-wide trade association for the grain and feed industry. The association is made up of nearly 310 companies representing over 975 facilities in the state of Illinois and the neighboring states of Wisconsin, Indiana, Missouri and Iowa. Over 90% of the commercial storage space in the state of Illinois is represented by the Grain and Feed Association of Illinois. Membership consists of feed dealers, feed manufacturers, grain brokers, country and terminal grain elevators, truckers, and both corn and soybean processors.

Jeff has two children, Elizabeth, age 13 and Samuel, age 10. He has been involved in organizations such as the Illinois Society of Association Executives, Agribusiness Committee of the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce, the Agriculture Association Executive Council, and is currently serving as President of the Chatham Area Library District. ■



Russ Galle

A native of Kansas, Russ Galle attended Kansas State University and received a Bachelor of

Science in Milling Science and Management. A unique degree designed to prepare students for careers in the food and feed processing industries.

He currently serves as Production Planning and Purchasing Manager for the Quaker Foods Division of PepsiCo in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. His responsibilities include capacity management, ingredient and package material procurement and new product commercialization for the Aunt Jemima, Corn Goods and Specialty Grains businesses produced at the Cedar Rapids plant and six contract manufacturers. The Cedar Rapids plant produces Cap'n Crunch, Life Cereal, Quaker Oatmeal, Quaker Grits, Aunt Jemima Syrup and many other specialty cereal products. The plant carries the designation as the largest cereal mill in the world.

Russ has a passion for helping coworkers and others in the early stages of their careers. Together, with his wife Pam, they facilitate the Pre-Marriage Mentoring classes for their church and community. He spends much of his free time coaching and supporting activities of their 14 - and 11- year- old daughters. ■



Charles Hall

A Native of North Carolina, Charlie Hall received his BS in Agricultural Economics from the University of

Tennessee in 1984 and his Master's Degree in Ornamental Horticulture and Landscape Design from the University of Tennessee in 1986. He then obtained his Ph.D. from Mississippi State University in 1988 and began his academic career at Texas A&M in 1988.

Dr. Hall is currently a Professor and Extension Economist in the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Tennessee.

In addition, Dr. Hall has received numerous awards including the Association of Former Students' Distinguished Achievement Award in Teaching, the Vice Chancellor's Award in Excellence for Student Counseling and Relations, the Outstanding Extension Publication Award, from the American Society of Horticultural Science; the Texas Agricultural Extension Service Superior Service Award, the Texas Association of Nurserymen Award for Outstanding Service to the Nursery Industry, and the Certificate of Meritorious Service and the State Early Career Award, both presented by Epsilon Sigma Phi, the professional society of the National Extension Service. ■



Rick Nagel

Rick Nagel has served in many different roles in his life, and currently is serving God, as he is studying at St.

Meinrad Catholic Seminary in Southern Indiana. Upon completing a five-year formation program, he will be ordained as a priest and serve the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Nagel has been involved with the FFA program since high school. Three weeks after his high school graduation he was elected to serve the Indiana FFA Association as student president.

After graduating from Purdue University, Nagel taught high school agriscience, agribusiness and leadership classes. After six years of teaching, Nagel took a one-year position to build and open a new agriscience and business magnet program in inner city Indianapolis.

His journey in education then took him to the State Department of Education where he served for three years as the Executive Director of the Indiana FFA Association.

Finally, he was led to serve as State Executive Director for the Indiana State FFA Foundation and Leadership Center. ■

Transitions

The following deaths were reported to the Home Office since the last publication. The year listed is the year of initiation.

Arkansas William R. Olive, Sr., 1941	Maine Henry L. Hartwell, 1937	Ohio State Richard G. Schmitt, 1938 William K. Brandt, 1962 John Hirzel, 1963	Wisconsin - Madison Gordon B. Radke, 1937 Thomas D. Crist, 1941
Auburn George L. Edwards, 1942 T. Howard Johnson, Jr., 1943 George B. Pearson, 1957 Ross. T. Walker, 1975	Maryland Erik C. Varacalle, 1993	Oklahoma State Walter J. Clore, 1930 William C. Dysinger, 1941 James N. Clancy, 1950 Jacob W. White, 1950 John H. Neely, 1950	Wisconsin - River Falls Dennis P. Stuttgen, 1968
Colorado State Tunis Hanna, 1923 Arthur V. Briggs, 1940	Michigan State Milton Ulmer, 1948	Oregon State Ezra Hornbrook, 1925	Western Illinois Ronald G. Utter, 1963 John S. McVickar, 1963 William E. Dare, 1967
Florida Arthur R. Chambers, 1941 Warren K. Trotter, 1943 John L. Cone, 1945 Jack W. Bass, 1963 Willie Menasco, 1963	Missouri Earl R. Shade, 1930	Purdue Edward Miller, 1934 Donald W. Glover, 1938	
Iowa State Fred E. Tunks, 1951	Minnesota Paul J. Moore, 1934 Richard P. Gosen, 1953	South Dakota State Arthur E. Dracy, 1964 Gary E. Schwartz, 1975	
Kansas State Joseph Greene, 1927 Harold I. Davis, 1935 Otto E. Wenger, 1936 Thomas H. Morgan, 1972	Montana State J. Robert Thompson, 1945 Kenneth W. Harman, 1955	Tennessee - Knoxville Rex A. Bracy, 1953 Jared Holland, 2002	
	Nebraska Glenn Thacker, 1936 Lewis E. Lawson, 1950	Tennessee - Martin Will B. McClanahan, 1999	
	New Mexico State Paul J. DeClercq, 1997		
	North Dakota State Gary Rourke, 1972		

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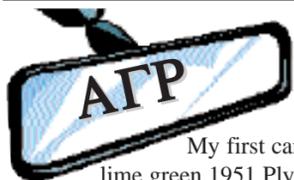
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Your Place in AGR History!

Do you have an amusing, clean story of a brotherhood prank from your undergraduate days? If so, let us hear from you. You might just find your story in the book! Contact Becky at Becky@AlphaGammaRho.org and tell us your story!



AGR'S CENTENNIAL HISTO -

My first car was a lime green 1951 Plymouth with a lot of miles and a rusted out body, a radio and one rear view mirror. Any date that dropped a lipstick could kiss it goodbye. Some did. But, that is a different story. This story is about rear view mirrors!

I have a Cadillac now (finally my father's car) with three rear view mirrors and vanity mirrors, too. These mirrors are smart; they adjust light and correct for distance.

I saw an eighteen-wheeler at a truck stop this week with more mirrors than I could count. It had mirrors within mirrors; one for vertical distance; a convex ones for looking around the rear quarter and one for looking down for the hidden little sports car when changing lanes. All these mirrors were an epiphany of sorts, as I realized that everyone needs to look back to see how to go forward successfully.

History is a rear-view look; Alpha Gamma Rho's Centennial History is a very special look back to learn insight into our fraternal character, the wisdom of our forefathers and what it will take in the second century to succeed. The published *Centennial History of Alpha Gamma Rho* is our rear-view

mirror into what has made us unique and better men.

At the December 6, 1924 installation of Alpha Beta Chapter at Oregon State, the banquet speaker, founder Rudo Lorenzo Fromme, said "This event needs a song," and sing he did. He introduced the new brothers to several AGR songs. Said historian, Nathan Rice, "It will be remembered that the uncontrollable musical inclination of Brother Fromme once caused Beta Chapter to be ejected from their house and home by an irate landlord. That, however, is no reflection on his musical ability."

Tom Sutherland (Iowa State), a hostage of Islamic Jihad for 6 ½ years in Lebanon, much of the time chained to a wall like an animal, responded to the question about survival. He said many things contributed to survival—love of family, faith, good luck with health and keeping his mind active. "One thing I know for certain," said Tom, "is that reading ran like a powerful thread through those years keeping me in the world, stimulated and going." The written word—any word—was cherished.

Maynard Coe expressed his view about being professional at AGR's diamond anniversary as follows:

"For 75 years the impact of Alpha Gamma Rho in upgrading the professional and ethical standards of agriculture has been immense. Looking back, it seems that our Founders must have been divinely inspired when they wrote into our purpose, 'to build better men and through them a broader and better agriculture.'

Of course not all has been academics and professionalism in the first one-hundred years of our existence. There was a wedding of a brother in Wisconsin. His ever-loyal brothers assembled for the wedding watched as the bride and groom got into his decorated Volkswagen Bug for the honeymoon departure. A frameless rubber tire had been placed under each of the car's tires, which looked harmless enough, until he tried to drive away. Try as he might he could not rock or power that Bug out of its entrapment. His amused brothers shouted encouragement and advice and waited. How long they might have waited nobody now knows, but for the groom, it was thirty frustrating minutes later before his brothers boosted the Bug out of its trap and on its way—another quality prank.

"Sheepy" was a good AGR and he came by his nickname honestly. He was a junior national sheep-shearing

champion and he breathed and lived sheep. He still does in Colorado. But, he had the detestable habit of leaving his boots and clothes in a pile in the middle of the room while taking a shower. Sometimes the boots and shoes remained there for a few days until the next sheep-shearing job. The smell was intense. One day having had more than he could accept, the roommate threw the clothes out the window, unlaced the shoes and drove a spike nail through the sole of each shoe flush into the floor. There was grumbling and threats but the shoes didn't move. Only a crowbar would dislodge them!

This is life in Alpha Gamma Rho. The bonds of brotherhood run deep as life experiences build trust and trust builds commitment and commitment means success.

Looking back has its rewards. Sometimes the mirror is clear and sharp revealing important truths, but it can also be fuzzy and leave doubts. Several brothers have told me they are not into history, but not looking back is a disservice to the lives of our forefathers and a waste of the lessons of time. ■

Delta Brothers on Spring Break!

Purdue AGPs and their ladies enjoyed a reunion in Estero, FL January 28, 2003. Most of the nineteen brothers and 15 wives are considered snowbirds who escape to Florida for a warm weather respite. Of the 34 people, nine claim Florida as a full-time residence.

Included in the daylong outing were Dick and Carolyn Apple, Wayne and Therese Beehler, Kent and Linda Bowen, Hal Bowman, Walter Burcher, Joe Coffey, Wendell and Marilyn Coopriker, Bob and Justine Crume, Byram Dickes, Dick and Jo Elsbury, Max and Shirley Evans, Dick and Janet Feltner, Eldon and Marsha Fredericks, Jim and Janet Gardiner, Ron and Betty Graves, Morris and Barbara Odle, Walt and Jan Waitt, Don and Judy Wright, John and Barbara Lucas. Many of the brothers and their wives enjoyed a round of golf at the Villages at Country Creek. Others just relaxed, toured, or shopped and all engaged a lively



Left to right: Joe Coffey, Don Wright, Jim Gardiner, Kent Bowen, Byron Dickes, Dick Feltner, Max Evans, Wendell Coopriker, Hal Bowman, Justine Crume, Dick Apple (behind Justine Crume), Carolyn Apple, Jan Feltner (back), Janet Gardiner, Morris Odle.

conversation and reminisced about the "good old days."

This first of what may become an annual event was organized and hosted by Eldon and Marsha Fredericks and Morris and Barb Odle. They encourage any Delta brothers who missed this year to give us your Florida address,

phone number or better still, email address. Perhaps we can bring this event to a location near you next year!

Fraternally,
Eldon (Fred) Fredericks Delta '56

Leadership Seminars were a Success!

By Thad Koenigsfeld
Chapter Consultant

Another successful Leadership Seminar season has just been completed and with it a renewed sense of purpose and commitment was brought back to our chapters across this great nation. Whether seeing the snow fall on our Nation's capital, enjoying the southern hospitality of Birmingham, the bright lights of Reno, or the midwestern charm of Indy; nearly 600 undergraduate and alumnus AGR's participated the 2003 "Men of Integrity" Leadership Seminars.

In keeping with the theme of integrity, the men had the chance to listen to our four Grand President's Award winners describe in their own special way what integrity means to them. Those who attended Birmingham heard Brother Seth Hammett share some of his experiences from his days at the Auburn chapter when he lost the only election he ever ran for—his bid to be Noble Ruler up through today as he proudly serves the state of Alabama as the Speaker of the House. Brothers shared ideas with each other about practices that worked best in their chapters and inquired how programs operated and were implemented at others.

At some seminars, the men participated in a variety of workshops ranging from recruiting and retaining the best men to developing those men for four years and a lifetime. At others they interacted with leaders who sat on panels discussing integrity in the many facets of AGR life, personal and professional development, and other thought provoking subjects. The two days were packed with opportunities to absorb and share information, and of course opportunities for the guys to relax and enjoy the sights and sounds of their host cities.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the undergrads and alums who attended and actively participated, our invaluable volunteers who helped out with the programming, and the accommodating folks in the four cities we visited this year. Alpha Gamma Rho is a vehicle that in addition to many other positive attributes enhances the leadership qualities of our members. These seminars illustrate the leadership opportunities we all have in our own chapters and communities. Enjoy the rest of year and make plans to participate in the seminars next year and for many years to come. ■

Money Raising Idea Begins an Eta



Mike Taylor (right) passes wall hanging on to new owner, Jake Thomsen.

Iowa State Chapter collegiate, Mike Taylor, donated his quilted wall hanging of the Eta Chapter House to the Mom's Weekend Auction with the understanding that the new owner purchases the hanging for one year and then returns it to the auction block for a new owner. This traveling wall hanging tripled its value in one year's time! Mike's AGR son, Jake Thomsen, purchased the quilt this year. Each new owner will print his name, pin number, and year of ownership on the back of the hanging.

Would you believe Eta's auction raised \$4,000 this year for the Mom's and Women's Auxiliary? The second annual scholarship of \$500.00 was presented by the auxiliary during the auction. Any sophomore, junior, or senior with the house GPA is eligible to apply by submitting an essay entitled, "What AGR Means to Me." Selection of the recipient is determined by alumni who serve on the scholarship committee ■

Dates To Remember

April 4-5	Board Meeting Raleigh, North Carolina Nu House Dedication
May 26	Memorial Day Home Office Closed
June 27-28	Adviser Forum Kansas City
August 22-23	Leadership Conference
October 3	World Dairy Expo AGR Reception 4:30-9:00 Clarion Hotel
October	FFA Convention Alumni Dinner

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