

# The LAMP

a PUBLICATION OF THE ALUMNI OF THE iOWA ALPHA CHAPTER OF phi KAPPA pSI

Hello again from the Iowa Alpha Alums! First and foremost, this is the first newsletter in years that has been published by alums. But more than just a newsletter, this signifies a group of us committing to a new start in re-energizing the alumni of Iowa Alpha. Too many missed Homecomings, too many lost e-mails/ phone numbers, and too many of us losing touch with Phi Psi and the old house on the hill has made us realize that now is the time to get back involved.

Last January, a small group of alums ranging from the pledge classes of the '70's to the pledge classes of the late 90's traveled back to Iowa City for a reunion and to begin planning how to re-energize alumni participation. Thanks to Joe Schemmel and Doug Parsons holding down the fort for the past 10 years, the alumni have had a continued influence in the chapter's operations and finances. We are now planning to expand the group to include more alumni, to provide new ways for alumni to build and strengthen Iowa Alpha, and to have a good time getting some of the old crew together.

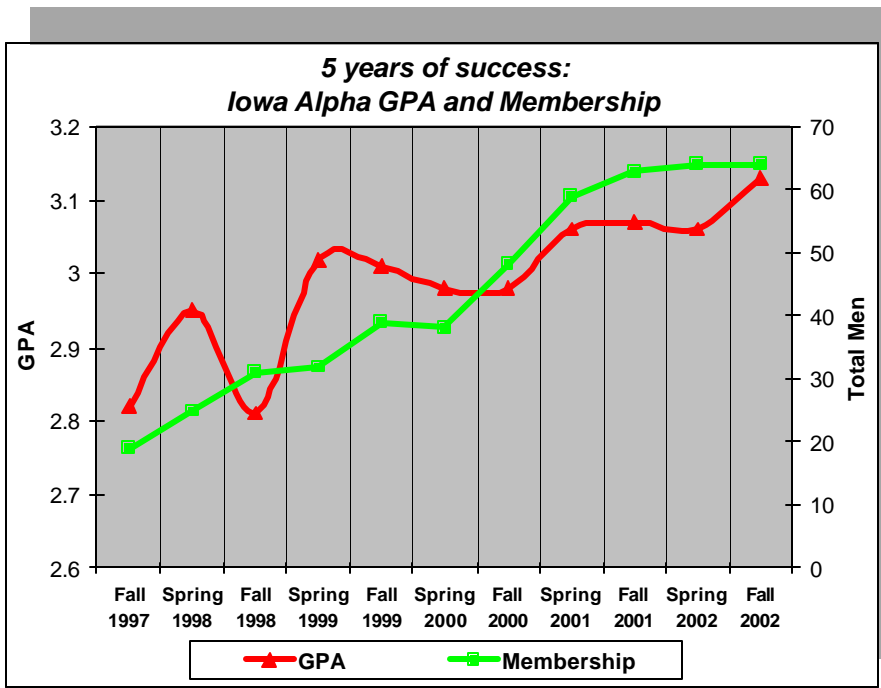
All in all, we are excited about getting reconnected with Iowa Alpha. Now is the time to get back involved and we are looking for others who would like to participate. Check out the newly revamped online member database. Drop us an e-mail. Or sign up for one of the upcoming events. The house is a special place for all of us and together we can guarantee the future success of Iowa Alpha.

In the bond,

*The Alumni Members of Iowa Alpha*

## High, High, Higher...

o After rising from the ashes of the devastating chapter house fire of January 1994, Iowa Alpha has become a force at The University of Iowa and in Phi Kappa Psi nationally. The chapter has won the President's Award for Fraternal Excellence (the highest award for Greek organizations at the UI) each of the last five years and won Phi Psi's national Grand Chapter Award last summer as the fraternity's most exceptional chapter. Over the past five years, the chapter's growth and improved scholarship (both detailed below) have been the key to the recent successes.



## IA Alpha Online Member Database Becomes Reality

By Tim Evans, Iowa Alpha '98

Since the web began evolving in recent years, there have been many requests from alumni throughout the country for an online member database. In response to that request, a tool has been created to allow IA Alphas to reunite with brothers last seen years ago. The next time you visit the web, go to: <http://www.iowaalpha.com/db> and click on "New Users". This will allow you to create a profile with your contact information. The database's main purpose is to provide a sole source for up-to-date contact information when sending out newsletters and announcements as well as to allow for networking in the field of business and various other careers. The database will even create the opportunity for alumni brothers to present undergraduate brothers with information regarding internships. After you update your information, feel free to search for brothers in your pledge class and even share a few long lost stories with one another. Eventually, we'd like to distribute the newsletter over e-mail via Adobe PDF format to save cost in postage. This will also allow us to send out newsletters quarterly instead of yearly or in the fall and spring.

We are still in the process of developing a professional web presence for IowaAlpha.com. For those of you who have ideas on what you would like to see in an alumni website, feel free to contact myself, Tim Evans: TEvans28@aol.com or David Theobald: dtheobald@hotmail.com. Also, if you have scanned photographs for the website in .jpg or .gif format, please send those along as well and we will be sure to have a photo gallery when the site launches.



# Upcoming Events for Alumni



## Nile Kinnick Scholarship Weekend

In what has become one of Iowa Alpha's most important events each year, over \$1,500 in scholarships will be awarded to some of the best and brightest incoming freshmen men to The University of Iowa on the morning of Sunday, August 17th. Prior to the Kinnick Brunch on Sunday morning, the active brothers will be hosting a barbeque at the chapter house on Friday night, August 15th. The Spring 2003 pledge class will be initiated later that same night, allowing alumni brothers a chance to experience a ceremony while in town. On Saturday, a nationally-renowned speaker for Phi Kappa Psi, Brother Paul Wineman, will present to the chapter about successful negotiating. A golf outing and dinner later that night will follow. Contact alum, Dan Mullen at [daniel\\_mullen@hotmail.com](mailto:daniel_mullen@hotmail.com) or current chapter Alumni Relations Chairman, Blair Schoell at [blair-schoell@uiowa.edu](mailto:blair-schoell@uiowa.edu) with questions.

## Homecoming

The yearly tradition falls on the weekend of October 4th this year as the reigning Big 10 champion Iowa Hawkeyes will face the University of Michigan Wolverines. The chapter will host a tailgate prior to the game and alumni will meet after the game for a group dinner and meeting.

## Cabo San Lucas Alumni Retreat

Over the past five years, Brother Jerry Nelson's (CA Epsilon, '48) compound and hotel in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, have become the location of choice for brothers young and old seeking to reinvigorate the brotherhood (and find a little slice of paradise in the process). In fact, over 40 active or recent alums from the chapter have had the opportunity to experience "Cabo Alpha" during Winter and Spring Breaks since 2000. Now, it's your chance. The alumni of Iowa Alpha have recently been given the opportunity to spend a week in Cabo. The first week in January has been designated as Iowa Alpha's week at Brother Nelson's hotel, a venue on the beach that was recently purchased and remodeled for use by groups just like us. Brothers will spend the week golfing, participating in various water sports, seeing the sites in one of the most beautiful locations on earth, and setting the course for the future of Iowa Alpha. Brothers of any age are welcome and are free to bring their wives. For more details, please contact Brand Newland at [brandnewland@hotmail.com](mailto:brandnewland@hotmail.com).



By Joseph Friedman

## chapterUPDATE

AG, Iowa Alpha '03

The brothers at Iowa Alpha have been very busy over the past quarter. In February, over 40 brothers participated in Dance Marathon, a student-run philanthropy on campus that raises money for the Children's Hospital at The University of Iowa with an emphasis on the pediatric oncology unit. Together the brothers danced for 24 hours and raised over \$21,000, the highest amount ever raised by a fraternity at the UI.

At the University's Greek Community award ceremony in April, the chapter received first place in five of eight categories (including Recruitment, Risk Management, Educational Programming, Community Relations, and Academic Programming) and second in the other three areas. Iowa Alpha also gained recognition for obtaining the highest grade point average on campus (both overall and new member) and was awarded the Chapter Brotherhood Award (for the second straight year) based upon a vote by the all the Greek chapters at Iowa. Individual members of the chapter were recognized as well. Brother Collin Swanson took home a Fraternalism Award while Brother Eric Parker was awarded the Randy Ross Senior Leadership Award. Brother Brand Newland was named 2002 IFC Officer of the Year, 2003 Greek Man of the Year, and was awarded the North American Interfraternity Conference Award of Distinction (an honor given to only five Greeks nationwide). To cap the night, the chapter was awarded Iowa's top prize, the President's Award for Fraternal Excellence, for the fifth straight year (four of those five years Phi Psi has been the only fraternity awarded).

For Phi Kappa Psi's second National Day of Service, the chapter's members volunteered at the University of Iowa's annual Pow Wow. Several weeks later, the chapter hosted the fourth annual Phi Psi Hoops three-on-three women's basketball tournament with all proceeds benefiting the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation.

Based on the success of the Nile Kinnick Freshman Scholarship, the chapter decided to expand its recruitment through scholarship this spring by creating the Mary Peterson Freshman of the Year Scholarship. Named after the well-known Greek Advisor at the UI, the scholarship is based on recognizing young men who experienced successful high school careers and are looking to carry that momentum into college. The initial \$500 scholarship (to be funded by Mary herself...she volunteered after hearing the chapter's idea) will be awarded in mid-August at the Kinnick Scholarship Brunch.