



Making Better Men
AGR 2nd Century at NDSU

Fireside Chatter

MAY 2008

ISSUE 3

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NDSU's Vice President Encourages Brothers to Support Epsilon Chapter

Dear Brothers of Alpha Gamma Rho:

Remember those days anticipating being at college? Where will I make friends? How will I find my way around? Who will help assure that I do well in academics?

You found the answers to these and many other questions through becoming a brother in Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho. AGR provided the grounding to help you be successful as a student and became an important contributor to the foundation for the successes you have had. You developed deep connections with brothers who remain among your closest friends, business associates, mentors, and confidants.

AGR is a prominent and important part of the NDSU community.

AGR is viewed by NDSU as an integral and very positive university citizen. Many of the current

members follow the long-standing tradition of their predecessors in assuming major leadership roles throughout the campus and in the community. They step forward when opportunities arise, and are sought out by student organizations and administration as important groups are formed.



D.C. Coston, VP, Agriculture and University Extension

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Draft Construction Timetable

Ground Breaking:
Homecoming 2009

Construction:
Spring Semester 2010

Chapter House Completion:
July 2010

Campaign Surges Past \$500,000!

Support for Epsilon's 2nd Century Campaign is growing daily. Dr. Roy Simonson '34 is just one of Epsilon's new donors that have pushed the tally over the \$500,000 mark in the first phase or quiet stage of the campaign. Born and reared on a farm in north-central North Dakota, Dr. Simonson

received his training in soil science at the North Dakota Agricultural College and the University of Wisconsin.

Building Update

The Building Committee – chaired by Mike Vipond '82 – has estab-

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NDSU's Vice President (continued)

The academic accomplishments of the brothers are superb. In recent years, graduation rates for the brothers of AGR have been significantly higher than the average for the entire university and the College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources. The Chapter actively supports its members' classroom achievement, and this fall, will implement even better ways of supporting all of the brothers' academic growth.

During my time at NDSU, I have come to know the current brothers of Epsilon Chapter quite well. They have included me in many of their functions and in fall 2006, inducted me into honorary membership. They are doing

a wonderful job carrying on the traditions you and others have developed and are meeting the needs of today's brothers very well. You can be proud of how they represent the heritage you helped create while preparing young men for an exciting future.

I encourage you to support the renovation and expansion of the AGR house at NDSU.

Sincerely,



*D.C. Coston, Vice President
Agriculture and University Extension*

Dr. Roy Simonson '34 Joins Donor Roster

One hundred years old this fall and living in Oberlin since 1993, Dr. Simonson has experienced a distinguished career in soil science working in academia and for the Federal government. Over the years, his work has included field studies of soils in all parts of the United States from Point Barrow AK, southward and in parts of all continents other than Antarctica. His observations and ideas have been reported in lectures, bulletins, and books covering topics ranging from morphology, genesis, classification, usefulness of soils, to the present and potential production from soil resources of the world. In addition to writing and speaking, he has provided help to other scientists as a consulting editor of *Soil Science*, and as an associate editor of the *Soil Science Society of America Proceedings*. He is currently "Honorary Editor" of the



Pictured here in 1941, Simonson was a faculty member at Iowa State College.

Geoderma web site, after first serving as a member of the Editorial Board and later as Editor-in-Chief of the professional publication.

Campaign Surges (continued)

lished a tentative timeline for renovation and expansion of the chapter house. Dependent on campaign progress, ground breaking could take place as early as Homecoming of 2009. Alternative housing will be sought for undergraduates during Spring Semester 2010. Just in time for Fall recruitment, the project could be completed by July 2010.

More Volunteers

In other campaign news, Dale Anderson '59 has rejoined our volunteer corp. to chair our Corporate Gifts Division. In this capacity Dale and his team will reach out to the business community and other organizations with an interest in supporting AGR-NDSU undergraduates.

Are Undergraduates Supporting the 2nd Century Campaign?

The answer is an overwhelming yes! To date, undergraduates have been involved in the design phase of the proposed renovation and expansion. Two undergraduates are participating on the 2nd Century Campaign Committee, which is leading the campaign effort – Doug and Steve Wosick. Undergraduates are also being asked to volunteer in campaign activities and make a charitable gift to the project. Expect more news this fall.

2007 Was a Great Year For Epsilon!

- **Green and Gold Chapter Status – Gold Chapter** for meeting 8 of 9 criteria based on scholarship; membership development; alumni relations; chapter Crescents; member participation in activities outside of the chapter; recruitment excellence; chapter management; chapter web site appearance and usability; chapter history within the past year.
- **Chapter Activities Award – High Honor** for member participation in activities outside of the chapter; sponsoring at least 1 philanthropic event annually;

sponsoring at least one parent and faculty event annually; demonstrating a balanced social program; educating members on how to get involved in campus activities.

- **Chapter Alumni Relations Award – High Honor** for producing at least 2 Crescents annually; printing a directory within the past 4 years; sponsoring at least 2 alumni events annually; maintaining a list of lost alumni no greater than 3% of membership; inviting 1 local alumni to dinner each month.

- **Chapter Crescent – Best Single Issue, Highest Honor**
- **Alumni Corporation Award – High Honor** for assisting with undergraduate recruitment; coordinating at least 2 functions in conjunction with the undergraduates; developing a long range housing plan; conducting an annual appeal to generate funds; assisting undergraduate officers with their duties; helping the chapter to establish and achieve annual goals.

Double or Even Triple Your Gift Through a Corporate Match!

Brothers working for, or retired from, companies offering matching gifts for employees, may be able to double or even triple gifts to Epsilon's 2nd Century Campaign.

First, secure a matching gift form from your employer, and learn the criteria for a matching gift. In most instances, your gift may be matched through the Educational Foundation of AGR – a 501(c)3 organization. In the likelihood that your employer will not match to a fraternal organization, NDSU will accept the gift and direct it to the AGR scholarship fund to be used by Epsilon undergraduates. Campaign Coordinator Bill Harbeke is available to steer you through the process. Contact Bill at 701/277-9681 or email at goldieh@juno.com.

Bill can also assist you with non cash gifts, including gifts of commodities, and other questions concerning the campaign.

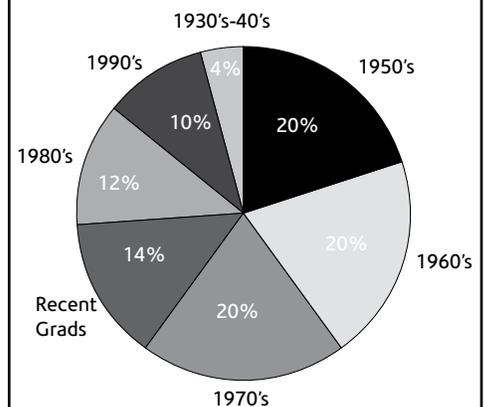
Hot Off the Press...

Contact Bill Harbeke to receive a computer CD that will lead you through Epsilon's 2nd Century project and campaign effort in the convenience of your own home or office!



Who Has Bragging Rights?

50s, 60s, 70s Lead all Decades!



Brothers from the 50s, 60s and 70s are stepping forward to lead the 2nd Century Campaign, outnumbering all other donors. Most recent graduates are close behind. Our largest donors to date are from the 60s and 70s. Thank you for setting the bar for others to come!

Bill & Geri Harbeke – Campaign Coordinators
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West Fargo, North Dakota 58078

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Making Better Men
AGR 2nd Century at NDSU

“A financial commitment is a big deal for anyone, and it took me a while to decide how much AGR has meant to me. Then I considered what I talked about most in my job interviews. Ultimately what made me pledge \$5000 were the skills I’ve learned, the people I’ve met, and the lifelong friends I’ve made because of my time at Epsilon. It is my goal that by my pledge and others that improvements made to the chapter house will offer the same great experience that I had to hundreds of other young men for years to come.”



Steve Wosick
Graduating Spring ‘08

