



# XiCLONE

SPRING 2012

---

## Update from the Alumni Board

I'm Matt Van Berkum ('97) and would like to introduce myself as the newly appointed president of your Ames Phi Kappa Building Company & Alumni Board. I want to start by thanking Jerry Carpenter ('88) for his dedication to the chapter and all of the support he has provided over the years, especially during his previous eight year stint as president from 1988 – 1996. The current stable health of the chapter is in large part due to his dedication to the house over the years.

I'd like to start by saying it's great to be back on the board after being away for seven years. I previously served as treasurer. I'm excited about the outlook for Iowa Xi! I recently had the opportunity to dine with the undergrads and meet with numerous officers. I was very impressed with their level of passion for continuing the strong tradition of Phi Kappa Theta. Dave Feely ('07), Undergrad Relations, Craig Peterson ('02), Recruitment, along with the entire alumni board, will be reaching out to the undergrads on a regular basis to ensure they are getting the support they need and we continue in the right direction.

I also met with Juanita Loonan, House Chef/Director for the past three years, and want to recognize her for the great job she does preparing wonderful meals for the undergrads and, more importantly, serving as a mentor who they can turn to when looking for advice.

The undergrads are projecting 24 in-house members and are targeting 36 as the goal. Unfortunately, with members sleeping in their rooms, the max capacity is around 30. This will require us to make 3rd floor CADs sleep ready again and will be a key focus area in the immediate future. We've also been struggling with numerous reoccurrences of bedbug infestation over the past year. Student housing facilities on our campus and on campuses nationwide have been dealing with this bedbug issue, so this is not unique to Iowa Xi. We have asked the 11 undergrads living in the house this summer to move to the 2nd floor to facilitate increased measures to eradicate the bugs before school starts in the fall. We will be contacting multiple pest control companies, including the one we're already working with to determine the best option moving forward.

On the property front, the city of Ames has mandated that all fraternity and sorority chapter houses be equipped with several fire safety features by 2014. The alumni board is currently investigating the specific options available and will act accordingly to fulfill all requirements. In addition to fire safety upgrades, several other chapters have recently enhanced

## Recruitment needs your help!!

Do you know any incoming freshman to ISU? Maybe a neighbor, nephew, friend's child or someone in your church? We would love to speak to them to see if they would like the same great experience at PKT that you had. Please contact us if you have a young man in mind.

We are off to a great start with three incoming freshman already signed for the fall in addition to the eight members activated this spring. But we could use some help to reach our goal of 15 new members. We have a strong recruitment plan with three events planned, recruiting friends of our current members and cold calling our list of incoming freshman. With our work and your help, we are trying to reach our goal of a full house of quality young men.

**Dylan Camp**  
Recruitment Chairman  
641-521-0054  
[djcamp@iastate.edu](mailto:djcamp@iastate.edu)

**Talon Larson**  
Recruitment Chairman  
515-865-8021  
[txlarson@iastate.edu](mailto:txlarson@iastate.edu)

---

If you haven't yet... join our Iowa Xi [Facebook page](#).

---

their facilities with major renovations. We are actively assessing our facility to determine areas of opportunity to upgrade that will further position Iowa Xi to attract high-caliber members. Specific areas that will be assessed are suite style rooms, bathrooms and kitchen facilities. As our efforts develop, we look forward to further communicating our plans.

As always, I hope you will forward any names of incoming freshmen that might be interested in joining our fine brotherhood. The Rush Chairmen are Dylan Camp — [djcamp@iastate.edu](mailto:djcamp@iastate.edu), 641-521-0054 and Talon Larson — [txlarson@iastate.edu](mailto:txlarson@iastate.edu), 515-865-8021. They are both living in the house this summer. Copy Craig Peterson, [cpetersonisu@gmail.com](mailto:cpetersonisu@gmail.com), and Dave Feely, [dfeely2@gmail.com](mailto:dfeely2@gmail.com), as well.

I want to put in a plug for the Annual Golf Outing on August 11 at Veenker Golf Course. We want to shatter last year's participation of 62. I'd love to see all of you there, especially those I haven't seen in a while. So block it out on your calendars, and check out the included article from Golf Czar, Mike Fahning ('86), for more details.

I also want to put a plug in for reserving one of the seven tailgating spots in the house parking lot for the seven home football games this fall. They are only \$250 for the season! Contact Treasurer Jon Hicks ('03) for more information — [jon.hicks79@gmail.com](mailto:jon.hicks79@gmail.com) or 515-783-3169.

Ok ... one last plug. Todd Senne ('90), who has been in charge of alumni board publications for the past six years, has received some exciting news. His family is expecting an addition this fall, so congratulations are in order. Unfortunately, that also means we will be losing his skills as communications publisher after this fall's XiClone. We want to thank Todd for doing a wonderful job getting the message out over the past six years. This means there's an opportunity for someone to step up, so if you're interested in helping with publications along the lines of what you're reading, please let me know, so we can ensure they continue beyond this fall.

Matt Braafhart ('98) has agreed to build a new Iowa Xi alumni website that we hope to be rolling out this summer. We will communicate the address once completed. This site will serve as the primary way to register for events, pay dues and registration fees, link in to new chapter business, contact info updates, etc. We're excited Matt has offered up his programming skills to give us a streamlined and content-rich Internet presence.

In closing, with an active board that meets once a month and is linked in with the undergrad body, the future of the house is bright! I encourage you to reengage again if you've been away for a while. A strong alumni presence is critical to the long-term health of the chapter, and the alumni board could use your help ensuring it remains that way.

Faternally,

**Matt Van Berkum**

Ames Phi Kappa Building Company / Alumni Board President

Cell: 319-360-9269

Work/Home: 515-664-9030

Email: [berk88@gmail.com](mailto:berk88@gmail.com)

---

# Financial Report

As the current treasurer (elected in August 2011), I want to provide a financial update for the fraternity and the alumni board. After a very difficult year, the alumni board's financial activity is beginning to once again have cash flow. The strong rental market and help from a recently acquired property manager has provided a boost to the financial health of the Annex at 117 Beach. This, in turn, has helped offset some large shortages during the past year within the fraternity's activities. Although cash flow is still tight, we should break even for the year with proper budgeting. Please note that we are currently reviewing electronic payment options for annual alumni dues. Further information on these options will be provided in the next issue of the XiClone. If you have any additional questions about financial activities, I can be reached at [jon.hicks79@gmail.com](mailto:jon.hicks79@gmail.com).

**Jon Hicks**  
Class of '02

---

## Letter from the Undergraduates



Greetings brothers: My name is Linden Shoup, and I'm the Undergraduate President of Iowa Xi. This is turning out to be a great year for the house. For Homecoming 2011, we were paired with Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity and Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority. We were not able to make it past first cuts of Yell Like Hell, but we did place second in tournaments and third in community service. We were able to finish out the fall semester strong, receiving the eleventh highest GPA out of twenty-eight fraternities, and our AMs pulled in the second highest new-member GPA. Our scholarship is very strong, and we hope to duplicate our previous success and move up in the overall GPA rankings.

As the spring semester began, Talon Larson, our IVP, Mike Kaufmann, the house treasurer, and I drove to Linwood, Kansas, to attend the Regional Leadership Convention put on by our national chapter. While there, we were able to network with national staff members and other chapters from the Midwest and West Coast. We learned about servant leadership and took part in a rush book camp put on by Phired Up. The three of us hope to apply what we learned there to our chapter here at ISU.

We had six incoming freshman stay at our chapter for Greek Getaway. We were paired with Beta Sigma Psi Fraternity and Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority. In my three years here, this was by far the best pairing we've had. All of our members bonded with both houses very well. Once Greek Week ended, the chapter started preparing for our annual philanthropy called Jump-A-Thon. We jumped on trampolines for forty-eight straight hours with the women from Alpha Omicron Pi and Kappa Alpha Theta Sororities to raise money for the Children's Miracle Network.

The end of the year was very busy, and we finished strong. There is a very positive outlook for next year with everyone fired up for rush and willing to put in the time and work. God bless, and we hope all of you can visit 2110 Lincoln Way in the near future.

---

## Letter from the Golf Czar

Greetings from the humble Golf Czar! My name is Mike Fahning, and I have the honor of organizing and recruiting golfers for this year's Phi Kap Open! As a 1986 ISU grad, I have had the pleasure of many golf outings, and I believe last year's outing might have been a record breaker: 62 golfers! Thanks to your support and diligence, we were able to make the last couple of years' events very successful, even after the 2010 event changed venues four times in a matter of a few days due to the extremely wet conditions. Thinking outside the box last year with a creative registration process and fee structure promoted the younger generation of PKT alumni and undergrads to participate. This year will be no different.

### **As we get closer to the event date, you will see the following:**

- Online registration process and payment acceptance using Paypal
- Interactive communication via Facebook
- Ability to donate money to the event even if you are unable to golf
- Option to sponsor rounds of golf for undergrads or new alumni to play
- Tiered pricing for registration fees based on alumni age or graduating class

Some of you may be aware that I was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease over 10 years ago at the ripe old age of 38. I retired from the workforce in February of this year, and I'm spending some considerable time in the fundraising arena: volunteering my time to a Minneapolis-based Parkinson's nonprofit group and raising awareness to the benefits of biking as exercise for those afflicted with Parkinson's or other neurological disorders. I will try to bring some of that fundraising energy to this event also.

At this point, simply save the date — Saturday, August 11, 2012, at Veenker Memorial Golf Course, 8 am shotgun start. There will be a lunch after the event, ending with a short Alumni meeting and an awards ceremony and prize giveaway.

Stay tuned for more info to come!

In the Bonds,

**Mike Fahning, '86**

Phone: 952-212-5850

Personal email: [Mfahning64@gmail.com](mailto:Mfahning64@gmail.com)

---

© Copyright Phi Kappa Theta, Iowa Xi.

[Unsubscribe](#) here to leave this mailing list or modify your email profile.

This email was sent by: Phi Kappa Theta, Iowa Xi | PO Box 393 | Ames, IA 50010