



The OPEN VISOR

THE PUBLICATION OF THE IOWA STATE CHAPTER OF DELTA UPSILON

Fall 2021

Iowa State Chapter Named DU's Top Chapter

For the first time in our chapter's history, the Iowa State DU Chapter won Delta Upsilon's Sweepstakes Award. This is the award presented to the top overall DU chapter at the annual Leadership Institute (LI) hosted by the International Fraternity. This year's LI took place in New Orleans this previous summer. Nine undergraduates and four alumni were there to accept the award on the chapter's behalf.

In addition to the Sweepstakes Award, the chapter came home with other significant honors and recognition, including:

- Chapter President Nick Lee was elected as the Undergraduate Advisory Board Representative for DU's Province 4 (holding the tip of the Iowa State flag)
- The Chapter was named a top CEP chapter in the following areas: Academic Excellence, Associate Member Education, and Operational Excellence
- The Chapter won the Innovative Member Development Award
- Chapter President Nick Lee and Vice President of Member Education Ryan Poppert were each awarded a \$1,000

McQuaid Scholarship

- The Chapter was recognized as the second highest fundraising chapter for DU's Global Service Initiative, raising nearly \$3,700
- Vice President Graham Owen was named a finalist for the Distinguished Undergraduate Award, which is given to DU's top undergraduate member
- The chapter was named a finalist for the Sweepstakes Award for the 7th straight year before winning the award

The annual Sweepstakes finalists are based on the previous academic year's performance. The 2020-2021 school year was very challenging for all fraternities due to COVID-19 and our chapter was no exception. Our undergraduate men did not use COVID-19 as an excuse and continued to improve the chapter in multiple areas. The chapter achieved a 3.31 chapter GPA, volunteered more than 25 hours per member, and raised a significant amount of money for DU's philanthropy, Global Service Initiative. This all led to the most successful year for our chapter since DU returned to Iowa State's campus nearly 10 years ago. Please help us congratulate our undergraduate chapter for an extremely successful school year!



The chapter received the highest award given to undergraduate chapters at this summer's Leadership Institute in New Orleans. This is the first time the chapter has received this award for Sweepstakes.

An Inside Look at the Architecture Behind 117 Ash

Practicing architecture (always learning since I established The Design Partnership in 1973, wherein a third of our work is preservation), I'd like to point out some of the overall attributes and subtle details that allow the architecture of our 90-year-old Iowa State home, Delta Upsilon Fraternity, to be such an appealing facility, and that add to the characteristics that qualified the building to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2010.

SITE

Located high on the hill and soaring 3½ levels, the massive-looking house blends into the topography, yet is sited to draw attention as a person walks along Ash Avenue.

COLOR

The myriad of refined paint colors at all levels invites the viewer up to the cacophony of color on the roof, topping off a neutral palette of the strong solidity of warm masonry.

COMPLEXITY

The house consists of diverse architecture, an amalgam of historic archetypes:

1. Tall **Gothic**-inspired windows in the stair as guests proceed down to the lower-level dining room;
2. **Ancient Greek** details at the eaves where dentils (the Greeks labelled them gutae), the tooth-like blocks, lift your eyes UP to the colorful roof;
3. **Italianate via Ludowici Tile**, a myriad of earth-tone colors and textures, many in subtle tones that seem to pull your vision, a trick many set designers – myself included – utilize to attract attention to the environment on the stage;

4. **English Tudor** with tall, rectangular **Georgian** windows;

5. **Renaissance 18th Century** stucco plaster, some in low relief on the back of the House, combined with Tudor wood trim;

6. **English Heavy Timber** columns and beams at the extremities to frame the massive masonry appearance of the building;

7. **Classic Greek/Roman** limestone main entrance with finials, the vase-shaped, solid containers which The

Colonnades is in the process of restoring, along with the limestone DU Crest in the Tympanum above the opening to the entrance which lend to the feeling: "This is a Greek House";

8. **Renaissance Revival** limestone surrounds on the dormer walls and massive chimney topings;

9. A cantilevered **English Revival** porch at the third level along with the "Love Porch" on the north, and front entrance door treatment;

Such complexity arouses a sympathetic response from all that are drawn to taking this noble structure...which is worthy of the preservation that is being conducted by The Colonnades, now and in the future!

Edd Soenke , '66 AIA

Board of Trustees: Iowa Architectural Foundation



Brother Edd Soenke has extensive background restoring historic buildings as an architect. He has led several repair projects at 117 Ash since being appointed to the Housing Operations Committee.

New Colonnades Board Makes an Immediate Impact

Since re-organizing the Colonnades Board, twenty-two board members have started their duties to help our chapter. Over half of these volunteers are new to the board, which means we have a lot more alumni helping Colonnades to expand service to our chapter.

Our President, Colin Finn '05 has led this robust team of alumni volunteers. He continues to work tirelessly in coordinating their efforts for an effective board. New board secretary Dusitn Meyerman '16 has recorded the newly updated bylaws, as well as notes for board meetings and resolutions.

VP of Chapter Advising Hunter Feldman '19 leads an advising team including Joe Vershoor '19, Chet Kaiser '20 and Jorge Romeo-Castro '19. At least one advisor participated in all chapter board meetings. Hunter has advised on several critical issues, including a loss prevention issue the chapter ran into earlier in the semester. The advisors worked with the chapter and IHQ to act judicially and solve the problem while learning along the way. Besides that, the advisors have helped undergraduates in a variety of other areas, including helping prepare for career fairs by reviewing their resumes.

VP of Housing Operations Kevin Guinan '15 spent a week with undergrad volunteers doing maintenance and deep cleaning to prepare the house for occupation this fall. Committee members Edd Soenke '66, John Kerber '69, and Mike Espeset '91 have identified several issues that need to be addressed. See Edd's article in this newsletter about our historic DU home.

VP Alumni Engagement and Fundraising Jeff Couter '84 has already announced plans for Escape to 117 Ash in the summer of 2022. Event manager Tom Rice '78 says the weekend event will be updated and promises to be an irresistible opportunity for alumni to return to Ames. Keaton Mohr '17 heads up the Open Visor. John Carson '73 (fundraising) and Bruce Becker '74 (bequests) complete the committee.

Experienced at-large board members Don Larew '63, Craig Foss '71, Craig Vermie '73 and Tom Hansen '79 provide additional support for the board. The Colonnades Board is prepared to lead our chapter in the future. We thank these dedicated brothers who deliver hundreds of volunteer hours to secure the future of Delta Upsilon at Iowa State.

John Carson '73

Treasurer's Report



Tom Peters '06 heads the reformed Finance Committee after the purchase of 117 Ash by the Colonnades.

October 2021 opened a new chapter for Colonnades as the purchase of 117 Ash LLC was complete and we resumed full operation and management of our Fraternity House and its finances. I want to thank our Brothers from 117 Ash LLC for their diligence and meticulous recordkeeping over the years which helped make for a smooth financial transition this past month.

A finance committee has been selected to oversee Colonnades'

finances and consists of Tom Peters '06 as Treasurer, Jim Smith as finance advisor, and Dan Miller as our accountant. Overall, Colonnades is solvent with a strong balance sheet, thanks to alumni donations and everyone's hard work to maintain a strong, full house. However, this does not mean our work will be easy in the coming years. Our housing committee and numerous Brothers with architectural/construction expertise have been investigating and strategizing to develop a multiyear maintenance and capital improvement strategy. As we finalize our 2022 budget, we will formalize plans for both structural and cosmetic

improvements needed for the house, as well as how we plan to fund these projects. A few of these projects will be both extensive and costly but needed to maintain the structural integrity of our house. Without a doubt we will need alumni assistance and will communicate those plans clearly.

As we look to our future, the finance committee is working to be transparent, as well as working to remain efficient, such as streamlining our expense reimbursement process. From a transparency side, we look forward to sharing more financial detail to inform each of you where we stand and where we are headed. I am also working on a plan to present to our local undergraduate Brothers next semester. As an undergraduate, the Colonnades relationship and how we interact with them was grey at best. I want to use this opportunity to help our Brothers understand what role Colonnades plays as well as go through our balance sheet in detail as a learning experience. Let's continue to Build Better Men and maintain a strong foundation. I look forward to the opportunity as our Treasurer and continuing to build what 117 Ash LLC established over the past decade.

Fraternally
Tom Peters '06
Colonnades Treasurer

Undergrad Members Attend Emerging Leaders Program

After a year off due to the pandemic, the DU Emerging Leaders program returned to in-person programming. The program coincided with the Leadership Institute in New Orleans. DUEL is designed for first- and second-year students who are interested in developing their leadership potential.

During this year's DUEL program, five undergraduate members participated. Participants identified and developed their own unique leadership strengths utilizing the StrengthsQuest philosophy. They immersed themselves into conversations regarding diversity and shared values to effectively collaborate and lead through courage and conversation. Most importantly, the men created a personal vision of the future for themselves and their chapter.

"DU has created a safe environment for me to not only push myself but build off my fellow brothers. My chapter continues to surprise me on how they stay true to building better men." – Noah Snyder '24

Thanks to the generosity of the Colonnades, the men were also each awarded a travel scholarship to attend DUEL. Iowa State had the most men represented during DUEL with five of the 30 attendees being from the chapter. Four of the men received scholarships from the Delta Upsilon Educational Foundation to

cover their registration and one member received a scholarship through the Iowa State Chapter Legacy Plan.

"The most important thing that I want DU alum to know is that I am forever grateful of the experiences they allowed me and my brothers to have." – Ben Freiberg '24

Colin Finn, '05



Five undergraduate members participated in the Emerging Leaders Experience in New Orleans last summer. Brothers Sean Owens, Noah Snyder, Alec Frey, Ben Freiberg, and Noah Stenberg, all of the 2024 class, were in attendance.

Brothers Craig Foss and Craig Vermie Fund New Endowment



Keaton Mohr '17, Dustin Cary '18, and Thomas Nettelton '18 attend Global Service Initiative in Negril, Jamaica in January 2018.

Thanks to the generosity of Craig Foss '71 and Craig Vermie '73, the **Foss and Vermie Global Service Initiative Endowment Fund** has been established.

Through this endowment, Brother Craig Foss and Brother

Craig Vermie seek to leave a legacy for the Fraternity and carry forth the charge of Building Better Men. The endowment's purpose is to provide scholarships for the award-winning Global Service Initiative for the men of the Iowa State Chapter. Part philanthropy and part service, the Global Service Initiative builds global citizens and better men. Since 2011, DU and GSI

have taken students to Jamaica for a service immersion trip where they are engaged in direct, hands-on service. Brothers go to Negril, Jamaica to immerse themselves in the culture, interact with locals, provide manual labor for various construction projects at local schools in the area, and participate in daily discussions on how the experience has impacted them, led by trained DU staff. GSI has been a popular program for the Iowa State Chapter, sending over 25 guys to the program since the chapter returned to campus in 2013.

Craig Vermie '73 commented: "The GSI experience is a great opportunity for our college men. They can go on a service trip to Jamaica and engage with local people via projects that improve their lives. I like the idea of giving DU's the learning opportunity to give of their time, money and experience to help those in need."

This endowment will help ensure that more Iowa State Brothers get to attend the Global Service Initiative each year. Thank you, Brother Foss and Brother Vermie.

A Word from President Nick Lee

With almost a year under our executive board's belt and the semester soon to be coming to a close, we can look back at our successes and look forward to where we want to go in the future. As many know, the Iowa State Chapter was proud to go to the Leadership Institute in New Orleans this past summer and receive multiple awards. Among these awards was the awards for most outstanding chapter of Delta Upsilon, an award we have never won before.

One of the areas that we did really well in last year to achieve this award was service. We have continued to work towards creating a service-driven culture in our chapter. Everyone places a different priority on service in their lives but by providing opportunities and showcasing the impact that service has, we were able to report more hours than we expected of ourselves last year. This is continuing this semester as we have been working to give our members opportunities to serve. Undergraduates Graham Owen and Skylar Burke have worked together to make weekly opportunities for our men and have put on a chapter wide service event to clean our local campus.

Another area of success was in CEP completion. By submitting CEP to our international headquarters, we have the opportunity to hand our newly elected chapter leaders a chapter ready to succeed in the upcoming year. Because CEP is a large part of winning awards like sweepstakes internationally, I have taken a personal interest in its completion. Going forward I believe that CEP can become a thing that the chapter as a whole is more aware, in hopes that this will create a common understanding of the things we strive to accomplish as a chapter.

Building a strong academic foundation and continuing our academic success has been an important focus for our men. Last semester we saw one of the highest GPAs in a long time at a 3.31 undergraduate GPA. From study groups to hours spent at the library and in the office, we want to continue bettering our studies now that we can benefit from in person classes again. The last thing but arguably one of the most important things that I want to touch on is brotherhood. We have seen our fair share of obstacles in hosting safe brotherhood and social events over the last year, but as we have moved in person we have been able to do things that the chapter has missed for a couple of years. One of these things was taking part in homecoming once again. The members of DU were eager to rally behind our homecoming efforts and grew connections around the traditions that homecoming offers us. Furthermore we have brought back brotherhood events from last semester and years past. Our brotherhood has been able to expand through recruitment and bonding that has shown essential to a successful chapter.

As my time as chapter president comes to an end, I want to thank everyone involved for support and buy in that building a successful chapter has taken. There will always be many men behind the scenes but because all of our brothers, the chapter has been able to thrive in difficult times. I have been proud to be a part of Delta Upsilon at Iowa State so far and I look forward to the future of our great chapter.



The undergraduate chapter took part in the Sorority Serenades as campus slowly brings back traditions from before the pandemic.

The Story Behind the Chapter's Largest Bequest Yet

In 1980, W. Allen Perry '30 retired from a career with the San Diego Parks Department and the San Diego Trust and Savings Bank. He was recently widowed and had recovered as much as he could from a stroke. Additionally, he was not well connected with Delta Upsilon anymore – but that was about to change, leading to our chapter's largest bequest.

In early 1980, I decided to write all of our Iowa State DU alumni who graduated in 1930 or earlier, asking about college life during their days in Ames. The most frequent correspondent was Allen. He had many tales to tell of life in Ames and at the original DU house at 209 N. Hyland Ave.

At the time I first wrote, he was well connected with Iowa State. He and his wife, Phyllis, had donated to the Brunnier Museum and Gallery in the Scheman Building. After Phyllis passed, Allen revised his trust, leaving a small stipend to his daughter Vickie and the remainder in equal parts to the Brunnier Gallery and to his church.

Allen and I had a close friendship across the miles. While working as Executive Director for DU, it was easy to include a San Diego stop on trips out west. One Saturday in 1992 during a late lunch at the Fairmont, the waiter told us, "Yeah, Iowa State won 19-10." Allen got to his feet, propped himself on one cane, and waved the other as he sang the old Iowa State fight song, resulting in a standing ovation.

Allen became more than a DU brother to me, he also was a family friend. I recall when I was attending the DU convention in Arizona, which happened to be the 70th anniversary of the one DU convention Allen attended. I got Convention to pass a resolution commemorating this event, made up a certificate, and presented it to Allen in San Diego the next day. He cried.

But time passed and while Allen grew more frail, my contacts and those of other DU staff over the years strengthened his love for DU. He changed his trust again, now to include the Iowa State Chapter. Due to a falling out with his church later on, Allen replaced the church in his trust with the DU Educational Foundation.

So things stood in 1999 when Allen died. Vickie continued to get her small stipend until her death earlier this year, at which time the trust corpus was divided among the beneficiaries. And this is how a bequest of \$292,000 has gone to each of the three institutions Allen loved.



W. Allen Perry '30 is among this dapper dozen of DUs gathered for a winter formal. He is at the right with a light-colored waistcoat and his hand in his pocket. Photo taken at the old DU house on N. Hyland Ave.

I am glad to write this story of my friend Allen because we often think of "the Promotion of Friendship" as referring to the close friendships we formed with the men at 117 Ash. Yet there is so much more that could result from learning the interests of our older members. And, of course, if the final outcome is something tangible, like Allen's bequests, it only adds to the value of the living brothers.

Tom Hansen '79

Tom Hansen Proves brotherhood spans decades:

- *1930 brother W. Allen Perry graduates
- *1980 brother Tom Hansen '79 corresponds with him
- *1980-1999 brotherhood becomes friendship
- *1999 brother Perry dies
- *2021 Colonnades receives Perry estate gift



Chapter Enhancement Gifts

Each year, the Colonnades receives gifts that take the chapter to the next level. Our donor base has strengthened because of the Chapter's successful track record since returning to campus 10 years ago. Our goal is for more alumni to see examples on how they can make gifts that make a *big* impact on our members and our facility. The Colonnades would like to thank the following donors for their gifts:

John Carson '73 - \$5,000 ISU Chapter Legacy Plan
Craig Foss '71 - \$17,500 ISU Chapter Legacy Plan
Craig Foss '71 - \$17,500 Global Service Initiative Endowment
Craig Vermie '73 - \$17,500 Global Service Initiative Endowment
Steve Jackson '75 - \$7,500 Colonnades Housing Fund
Don Larew '63 - \$9,000 Larew Leadership Institute Scholarship Fund
W. Allen Perry '30 - \$292,000 estate bequest

Operating a thriving DU chapter requires a top-notch facility at 117 Ash, Executive Board training, ongoing volunteer coaching, and annual chapter retreats. Through your support, we can achieve these goals year after year. To learn more about a Chapter Enhancement Gift, please reach out to Colonnades President, Colin Finn, '05 at 312.505.8698.



Colonnades Campaign 2021

This issue of the Open Visor shares good news of the generous bequest from brother W. Allen Perry '30. A large portion of brother Perry's donation will be used to buy down the mortgage Colonnades assumed to buy 117 Ash. Remaining funds will start to address major repairs and updates to the house.

Your dollars are needed now more than ever to maintain the success we have achieved. Our Colonnades operating expenses have grown as our support to the chapter increased. We invite you to view our Colonnades Campaign website to see how Colonnades funds are helping our chapter.

<https://www.memberplanet.com/campaign/iastatedu/colonnadesclub2021>

Currently we are at 57% of our annual goal of \$20,000. A sincere thank you to the 40 brothers who have already donated this year.

In the last issue of the Open Visor, we published a graph of the growing annual contributions to Colonnades. It is a healthy trend, but the trend in number of donors is decreasing. This

is an alarming trend. We invite you donate this year. Join your brothers who demonstrate their support for the chapter in tangible ways, donations, and volunteering.

In almost every obituary of a DU brother, his membership in Delta Upsilon is mentioned. Our fraternity impacted their lives. Many brotherhood relationships last a lifetime. When you support Colonnades, you help pass on that gift to current and future men at 117 Ash.



The Colonnades

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Delta U Remembers

Delta U Remembers...

Robert Allbert '53 - Brother Bob passed away at the Searstone Retirement Community in Cary, NC on July 9, 2021. Read his full obituary here: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/cary-nc/robert-allbert-10264315>

Larry Pearson '64 - Brother Larry passed away on May 3, 2021. Read his full obituary here: <https://www.schroederfuneral.com/obituaries/Larry-Pearson-7/#!/Obituary>

Leo Schneider '45 - Brother Leo passed away at Northcrest Community in Ames, IA on January 18, 2021. Read his full obituary here: <https://www.northcrestcommunity.org/memorials/leo-schneider>