Tell Your Acacia Story

It’s an exciting time to be an Acacian! Our fraternity continues to improve itself through membership growth at our local chapters, enhanced efforts at Acacia Headquarters through maximizing our staff resources and skill-sets, and a stronger commitment to educational and leadership programming through our Cornerstones program for our undergraduate brothers.

At the 58th Biennial Conclave and Leadership Academy held in Nashville, Tennessee, I was honored and humbled to be elected as the 25th International President to serve Acacia Fraternity. Having the opportunity to serve Acacia Fraternity is a tremendous responsibility and one which I, along with the brothers who serve on the International Council, do not take lightly! At the Conclave, delegates also approved the 2014 Strategic Plan, Playing In Rhythm, which provides the operational framework to guide our fraternity for the next six years. We look forward to achieving the goals contained within the strategic plan, which include enhanced alumni involvement and engagement; successful expansion and recolonization projects at the University of Iowa, Indiana University, and the University of Minnesota, just to name a few; sustained financial operations; effective utilization of Headquarters staffing resources to ensure that we meet the needs of the International Fraternity and support our local chapters through continued enhancement and integration of Cornerstones.

At the Conclave’s closing banquet, I spoke about the need for us to do a better job of sharing the story of Acacia Fraternity — within our chapters, at our host colleges and universities, our communities, and with each other. Too often, we overlook our success. Going forward, I challenge each of our brothers, from our undergraduate chapters to our alumni associations and housing corporation boards, to enthusiastically share the story of Acacia. Perhaps it’s a story about why you or a fellow brother joined Acacia, or maybe it’s sharing the positive feedback from a community volunteer activity, or perhaps it’s what brotherhood means to you. Effectively sharing your Acacia story will help those around you better understand our great Fraternity!

We will share the Acacia story in The TRIAD, through our online presence (acacia.org, Facebook, and Twitter); and, most importantly, through one-on-one interactions with our fellow brothers, with potential new members and families, with university and community leaders, and with other individuals who you believe would benefit from hearing the Acacia story.

With the fall semester coming to a close at many of our host colleges and universities, our chapters and undergraduate brothers will be communicating the story of Acacia through activities such the Acacia Claus Holiday Toy Drive, initiating new brothers into our fraternity, and electing new chapter officers to lead our chapters for the upcoming year. The end of the fall semester is an exciting time for our undergraduate chapters as current chapter leaders are able to reflect upon their year of service while providing insight to the newly elected chapter officers through effective chapter officer transition programs. For our alumni, especially those who serve in advisory roles with our chapters, it is important to provide the support and guidance this season to the newly elected chapter leadership as they begin to set their goals and plans for the upcoming year. As is no surprise, the success of our new colonies, along with the continued success of our existing chapters, requires alumni brothers who are willing to volunteer their time to support the chapters and undergraduate brothers by providing guidance and serving in key advisory roles. If you are willing, I know that every chapter and colony would welcome your offer to assist and serve as a Chapter Advisor or as a member of a Chapter Advisory Board.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to thank Brother Rob Roberson, immediate past International President, for his service to Acacia Fraternity. I consider Brother Roberson a trusted friend and mentor, and I sincerely appreciate his service to Acacia Fraternity.

Thank you again for placing your trust in me, and in each brother who has volunteered and been elected to serve as a member of the International Council of Acacia Fraternity. We are excited for the opportunity to lead the fraternity and will work hard to earn your trust!

Fraternally,

Jeremy N. Davis
Reconciling that Thought of Change as a Constant

Plato credits the philosopher Heraclitus with the quote, “Everything changes and nothing stands still.” Francois de la Rochefoucauld is credited with a variant quote, expressing the same idea, “The only constant in life is change.”

Recently, while traveling to Phoenix with my two-year old daughter, Ruby, and my wife, Carrie, I reflected on the changes in my life that have accompanied becoming a husband and father. In both of these experiences, I felt a shift in my sense of self, a change in who I am, a change in the lens through which I see the world.

There was a change in my relationships with others which led to a change in my relationship with myself. Now I value a good night’s sleep where I used to value a lively night on the town. Now I value proactively cleaning the kitchen where I used to value beating my roommates in the Leaning Tower of Dishes contest. Now I value creating safety & laughter for my wife and daughter where I used to value trying to please everyone. That might sound kind of boring to some (mostly undergrads, perhaps?) but to me these changes mean the world. These instances revealed to me the man I had already become, a new part of me that I had not previously personified. I needed my relationships with others to inform me (or remind me) of the man who I had become.

As most realistic fathers do, I had my doubts about being “ready” to be a father. But when the moment came, it just came, and as it turns out, I was ready after all. All of a sudden I was looking down at my daughter in my arms and thinking, “Ok, I’m holding my daughter, so... I’m a father now? Wait... when did that happen?” Did the change happen in the months leading up to her birth, or did it happen at the moment of her birth? Perhaps both? Aristotle wrote, “For the things we have to learn before we can do them, we learn by doing them.” I needed to learn how to be a father, and the only way to do that was to be a father.

A little personal reflection after having new experiences offers the time and space to allow those experiences to change who you are, over time. This idea is evident in Acacia’s Cornerstones program (acacia.org/cornerstones), wherein our undergraduate members are encouraged to reflect on their own values and vision, and then engage in as much relevant experiential learning as is possible during their time in college. What they experience and learn is likely to cause lasting change in who they are.

“Everything changes and nothing stands still.” In the fraternity, we see this in the change from a prospect to a pledge, a pledge to an active, an active to an alumnus. We are reminded of it in our Ritual. One of the beautiful parts about our fraternity is that while much changes in the world surrounding us, our oath to Acacia and the commitments we’ve made to ourselves, our brothers, and our world remain steadfast. Acacia does not stand still, yet it is everlasting.

Just as I needed my relationships with my family to inform me of the man who I had become, my relationships with Acacia remind me of what remains constant through many seasons of change. There is no better context within which to experience change than as a brother in Acacia Fraternity.

As Pythagoras did, so will we sometimes face an arduous journey to reach our goals and fulfill our vision to become the men we wish to be. We may not know the final destination, but we know one thing for sure, the only constant in life is change.

Fraternally,

Patrick W. McGovern
CONGRATULATIONS, ILLINOIS STATE CHAPTER!
Re-chartered July 31, 2014
Originally chartered April 16, 1972

Acacia 2014 by the numbers

33 Chapters
3 Colonies
1047 Active members
394 Fall pledges (9% increase from last fall)

Expansion outlook

Recolonizations are on the docket in Fall 2015 at the University of Iowa and Indiana University. Additionally, a return to the University of Minnesota is being worked in to the expansion schedule as soon as Spring 2015.

The Acacia Headquarters staff is working with Phired Up Productions to evaluate our current expansion practices and develop a growth plan for the fraternity. Many of the ideas and practices that have been discussed are already being implemented in our expansion efforts and are being reinforced during visits to existing chapters.

Additional expansion opportunities are being cultivated at Eastern Washington University, Emporia State University, and Missouri School of Science & Technology.

The expansion and growth outlook of Acacia is bright!

Michigan Colony
The Michigan Colony continues to search for solid footing in its efforts to grow its membership to a sustainable level. Venerable Dean Peter Corso is a past Acacia Leadership Academy attendee, however, the colony did not send any representatives to Conclave this summer. The Headquarters Staff continues to seek alumni support in the Ann Arbor region to bolster the colony’s efforts and reinforce best practices from the International Fraternity.

Washington Colony
Expansion at the University of Washington is off to a successful start! Acacia Headquarters staff worked diligently over several months with UW Acacia alumni and other Acacians in the Seattle area, and Leadership Consultant Jerod Miles was on campus in mid-September when the recruitment process kicked off as classes began. Our efforts have led to the pledging and initiation of twelve re-founding fathers, and our spring pledge class is already taking shape.

Vermont Colony
The Vermont Colony is again on the right track after taking a small step back in 2014. New chapter leadership is in place after the resignation of several members, and these remaining men are both capable and eager to help Vermont Acacia reach its full potential. Alumni support is still very strong, and we have confidence the colony will rebound in 2015.

You can help! Do you know a young man attending one of these schools who would make a fine Acacian? Would you like to get involved as an advisor to an Acacia colony? Email Director of Operations Michael Weber at mweber@acacia.org for more information.
We Acacians recognize ourselves more as students of geometry than music, but you might not know that after the four incredible days and nights spent together at Acacia’s 58th Biennial Conclave & Leadership Academy in Nashville, Tennessee - The Music City.

Nearly 200 brothers (and a few pledges) representing 40 Acacia chapters assembled this summer from July 30 - August 2, 2014, to review the past biennium, discuss and decide upon policy matters, elect new International Council officers, recognize award-winning chapters and individuals, and rally behind a shared international vision for Acacia’s future through the 2014 Strategic Plan (see page XX for more on the Strategic Plan).

The event truly lived up to its billing with a theme of Finding Our Rhythm, as Acacians from the newest initiate to the most experienced of International Council and Staff demonstrated their commitment to working in concert toward a bright future for Acacia.

Official business opened on Thursday, July 31, with the chartering of the Illinois State Chapter, an occasion that called for celebration amongst all brothers in attendance. Following was a review of the 2012-2014 Biennial Report by Executive Director Patrick McGovern, Indiana ’99, and a presentation of the 2014 Strategic Plan by Director of Communications Michael Pastko, Purdue ’04.

Friday was largely comprised of committee work, as Conclave delegates evaluated and fine-tuned the fraternity’s budget, proposed minor corrections and updates to the Laws of Acacia, and offered numerous resolutions for the good of the fraternity. Friday was also a day to celebrate the success of our undergraduate brothers and chapters during the William A. Utic Acacia Fraternity Foundation Scholarship Luncheon. AFF Scholarship winners were announced, and the Spirit of Excellence Awards were presented to chapters for their outstanding performance in specific areas of chapter operations.

Brothers had plenty of fun along the way, as Nashville proved to be an ideal location for Conclave. Thursday afternoon saw a group of alumni travel to Lynchburg, Tennessee, for a tour of the Jack Daniels distillery, while the evenings found brothers making their way to the neon lights and music of Broadway at such watering holes as Robert’s Western World and Honky Tonk Central. After Friday night’s George F. Patterson Jr. Alumni Reception, brothers enjoyed a nighttime outing to see The Funky Meters and phenomenal opening act, DeRobert & the Half Truths, at the Mercy Lounge night club. The DoubleTree by Hilton Downtown Nashville provided comfortable accommodations each night and throughout Conclave.

The Leadership Academy portion of this year’s event featured three guest speakers. Acacia’s International Council brought in Taylor Deer of Phired Up Productions, who spoke on member retention; Jessica Pettitt used humor and an off-beat style to connect with undergraduates on the topic of diversity and social justice; and this year’s John F. Hoffner Leadership Series speaker was Wade Garard of Upper Networks whose presentation, “Relationships Matter,” addressed the how-to’s of networking and relationship building.

Our final day of official business was Saturday, August 2, as Conclave committees presented their work, a new two-year fraternity budget was approved by the delegation, the 2014 Strategic Plan was unanimously adopted, and several Conclave resolutions were passed. The final order of business was the election of new International Acacia officers. Congratulations to those were elected! (International officers listed on Page 2).

Saturday night concluded our official programming with the Conclave Final Banquet & Awards Ceremony. A formal sit-down dinner was enjoyed by all in attendance, followed by the swearing-in of new Council officers and the presentation of Acacia’s top individual and chapter awards.

The winner of the Founders’ Achievement Award (also known as the Malcolm Award) as the top chapter of the 2012-2014 biennium is… Iowa State! Congratulations to the chapter for this well-deserved recognition. Receiving the Superior Chapter Award is Kansas State, our previous Malcolm Award winner which continues to excel in all areas. Finally, Penn State is recognized for their success over the biennium with the Outstanding Chapter Award.

Individuals were recognized for their service to Acacia, as well. Named as George F. Patterson, Jr. Outstanding Alumnus for 2013 was Harold D. Zarr, Jr., Iowa State ’73. Top undergraduates received the Roy C. Clark Award: For 2013, Sean C. Keanan, Nebraska ’09; for 2014, Sabarinath Sankaranarayanan, Ohio State ’12, and John Mitchell Oldenberg, Louisiana State ’10.

For a full list of Conclave award winners, please visit: acacia.org/blog/58th-biennial-conclave-award-winners
Malcolm Award: Iowa State

Superior Chapter Award: Kansas State

Outstanding Chapter Award: Penn State

G.K. NELSON ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING
- Iowa State
- Penn State

ALUMNI PROGRAMMING & ADVISORY
- Kansas State

BEST CHAPTER PUBLICATION
- Cornell

ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENT
- Central Oklahoma

CAMPUS LEadership
- California (PA)
- Iowa State
- Kansas State
- Millersville

CHAPTER PROGRAMMING / MEMBERSHIP EDUCATION
- Kansas State

COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY
- Cornell
- Kansas State

DINING OPERATIONS
- Nebraska
- Purdue

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS
- Iowa State

GOOD OF THE FRATERNITY
- Kansas State
- Illinois Wesleyan
- Iowa State

HOUSE MANAGEMENT
- Cornell

HUMAN SERVICE PROGRAMMING
- California (PA)
- Kansas State
- Ohio
- Penn State

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT
- Nebraska
- Penn State

OFFICER ORGANIZATION
- Illinois Wesleyan
- Penn State

PLEDGE EDUCATION
- Central Oklahoma
- Illinois Wesleyan
- Penn State

RISK MANAGEMENT
- Colorado
- Iowa State

RITUAL EXEMPLIFICATION
- Colorado
- Iowa State

PRESIDENT’S AWARD (MEMBERSHIP GROWTH)
- Trine

BEST YOUNG CHAPTER OR COLONY
- Trine

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S AWARD (MOST IMPROVED)
- Nebraska
Over the next four issues of The TRIAD, we plan to run a series of pieces introducing the 2014 Strategic Plan. In this first installment, we highlight the first of four Strategic Pillars, Human Service.

**Human Service**
- Sustainable Membership & Growth
- Fraternity Operations
- Membership Experience

As the weather begins to change and thoughts turn toward family and the holidays, now is also the time that we Acacians especially consider the less fortunate and seek ways to have a positive influence in our communities. Surely one of the first things we all learned after we joined Acacia is our motto, Human Service. As Acacians, we are truly blessed by the gifts we have received in our past, and we believe that to whom much is given, of him shall much be required.

Acacia chapters and colonies participate in scores of philanthropic events and donate thousands of hours of service every year, and the holiday season is home to one of our fraternity’s most popular service events, Acacia Claus.

**HUMAN SERVICE**

**Objective 1: Grow Acacia’s existing philanthropy and Human Service initiatives**

**GOALS**
1) Grow the Acacia Claus winter holiday toy drive:
   1.1) 50% chapter participation in 2014
   1.2) 75% chapter participation in 2015 and beyond
2) Grow the Seven Days of Service program:
   2.1) 25% chapter participation during the 2014-2015 academic year
   2.2) 50% chapter participation during the 2015-2016 academic year
   2.3) 75% chapter participation during the 2016-2017 academic year and beyond

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**Objective 2: Foster new philanthropy and Human Service initiatives**

**GOALS**
1) Execute the “What’s Your 20?” program (20 service hours per member per semester)
   1.1) 50% of chapters with 50% member successful completion by the end of the 2016/17 academic year
   1.2) 75% of chapters with 75% member successful completion by the end of the 2018/19 academic year and beyond
2) Identify an inter/national non-profit organization with which to partner by the end of the 2014/15 academic year

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* Chapters are encouraged to continue supporting their existing local Human Service and philanthropy efforts.

Our primary focus is currently on Objective #1, to grow two of Acacia’s existing Human Service initiatives: Acacia Claus and Seven Days of Service. Read more about these programs on these pages.

Objective #2 contains goals to foster new philanthropy and Human Service initiatives. “What’s Your 20?” is a program which will encourage members to perform 20 hours of service per semester.

International Council and Headquarters Staff discussion regarding identification of an international non-profit partner finds us instead re-evaluating how to strengthen our relationship with an existing partner, Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Since its inception in 2004, a growing number of chapters and colonies have participated in the annual Acacia Claus Holiday Toy Drive. This event - a favorite for many of our brothers - sees undergraduate Acacians actively get out into our communities to collect toys for subsequent donation to worthy organizations that benefit the less fortunate during the holidays. Commonly supported organizations include Shriners Hospitals for Children, Toys for Tots, and the Salvation Army.

One of our Human Service goals in the 2014 Strategic Plan is to see 50% chapter participation in Acacia Claus in 2014, and 75% participation in 2015 and beyond. We hope you consider reaching out to a local chapter and asking how you might be of assistance. Anything from lending a hand (or a truck) on the day of the event to offering a monetary gift to make signs and promotional materials would be welcome.

The Acacia International office provides marketing materials and an instructional guide to assist our chapters and colonies, as well. Email us at communications@acacia.org for more information.

Another service event earmarked for growth over the course of the 2014 Strategic Plan is Seven Days of Service. Originally created during the 1983/84 academic year and designated by the 43rd National Conclave in 1984 as a National Human Service Project of Acacia Fraternity, the program initially encouraged all Acacia chapters and colonies to complete Human Service activities in their respective communities during the same week nationally.

Today, Seven Days of Service has evolved into a program in which chapters and colonies each designate their own week in which they participate in Human Service activities for seven consecutive days.
Taking a closer look at the Penn State Acacia house reveals a structure built in two phases: a converted barn structure dating back to the late-1800’s (the chapter moved into the house in 1925) and a “new part” built in the early 1960’s. Renovations that took place over the years had focused primarily on the original section of the house. It was time to renovate the newer section of the chapter house.

In the summer of 2013, the Penn State Chapter began construction on a multi-year, $2.7 million renovation of its century-old chapter house. As a result of that summer’s first phase of the plan, Acacia took on a new visual identity at Penn State with the addition of a dramatic new front entrance and an initial round of interior modifications and physical improvements. Then, in the summer of 2014, a complete reworking of the common areas in the older section of the house afforded the chapter an impressive new dining and social area, and an improved and more efficient layout of the core of the house.

The active chapter has shown their appreciation for the first two phases of construction by maintaining the house more conscientiously than has sometimes been the case in previous years. They report that the renovations are starting to have a positive impact on recruitment. And the comfortable and attractive new common areas have motivated more alumni to return to the house, and actives and pledges gather casually more often at the house. Strengthening the ties in this way was one of the initial rationales for the renovation project, and future renovations will help keep the ball rolling.

To date, chapter alumni have contributed or financed over $1.5 million toward the cost of the renovation. While major progress has been made, the newer section of the house is still showing its age and needs additional work. Our hope is to focus any work done next year on interior and cosmetic improvements in that section of the house. To do so, and to address some major deterioration of the exterior and complete several other proposed upgrades, we will need to raise an additional $1.2 million through alumni donations. Further bank financing is unlikely, so alumni giving will be key to completing the renovation as fully envisioned.

This project has included structural, mechanical, and electrical work that has brought the house into compliance with current codes and helped prepare it for the demands of a second century of service. By project’s end, Acacia should finally have a chapter house which reflects its history as one of the top fraternities at Penn State.

A house befitting of those who have made it home for 90 years

Penn State Acacia chapter house undergoes major renovations

Have you found that you no longer have occasion to wear your jeweled Acacia badge? While we sincerely hope you enjoy wearing it to formal Acacia events and other special occasions, we also invite you to give new life to your old friend — your Acacia badge — by gifting it back to the Fraternity to be passed along to a current Venerable Dean.

Now is a great time to surprise a newly elected Venerable Dean with a gift that he will certainly take to heart. Please send your badge to Acacia International Headquarters at 8777 Purdue Road, Suite 225, Indianapolis, IN 46268.
We weekdays with Woody

By Michael Pastko, Director of Communications

From the outside, a day at the office at Acacia International Headquarters might appear just like a day at most any other office. Peek inside, though, and you’d likely find half or more of the staff away from the friendly confines of 8777 Purdue Road and working from a remote location. With both staff Leadership Consultants living mostly on the road during the academic year and two staff Directors living out-of-state, it’s really a testament to the quality of our team and the leadership of the International Council that we are able to effectively work together as a distributed organization.

Of course, we also have reasons to meet in person regularly, many of which fall on a seasonal cycle. Conclave and the Darold W. Larson Acacia Leadership Academy bring us together every summer, while the new Lee Kearney Venerable Dean Summit is a rallying point for staff and Council volunteers in the winter. Between these keystone events, however, and outside of a quick weekend retreat here or strategic planning session there, you’d be hard-pressed to find the entire team together in one room.

For me, that fact often becomes most accentuated at the midway point of each semester. Why? Because that is the furthest point in time between the last time I have seen the rest of the staff (who are also my friends and brothers) and the longest time until I will see them all next. These times each semester can also be the most challenging Acacia seasons for me, so I’m especially glad for two new avenues of collaboration beyond operations and into the area of fellowship and brotherhood.

The first thing we are doing is using a mobile app called GroupMe. This is one we picked up from the undergrads – it’s both an iPhone and Android app that allows the staff to exchange brief messages as a whole group or among a subgroup. It’s great for sharing small pieces of good news with each other, like the pledging of a large class at an improving chapter, or the growing momentum of a new colony. It’s also a great venue for us to socialize, give a virtual pat on the back, or share in some humor.

Our second new avenue for collaboration comes in the form of twice-monthly team coaching phone calls with Woody Woodcock of Phired Up Productions. Phired Up’s mission is to help fraternities and sororities grow, and to help more college students find fraternities and sororities. Their team teaches, coaches, researches, and writes about how fraternities and sororities can recruit and retain more high quality people through a values-centered, relationship-focused approach. We’ve begun to work with Phired Up in an effort to gain outside perspective on our organization, learn new skills and grow our operational capabilities, and to create a more intentional, long-term approach to fraternity growth. We started our work together with a 2-day face-to-face retreat in Indianapolis in June.

Woody himself is just the slightest bit soft-spoken with a very distinct southern accent. A Pi Kappa Phi from Georgia Southern, Woody has taken a genuine interest in each of us on the staff and helps provide encouragement, practical advice, and accountability in our work. In our first sessions together, I must admit I found the nature of our calls to be a little touchy-feely for my personal tastes. In time, though, like many things, they grew on me. They became a reliable time amidst each of our schedules to connect for a full hour and listen to each other and simply share time together, even if it was over a thousand miles.

During one of our most recent calls, the topic of perseverance and seeing optimism in the unknown was discussed. Patrick used the opportunity to share with Woody some of the Acacia tree’s symbolism – the ability to grow and thrive in rugged conditions and withstand the seasons. This rang particularly true for me as the call took place in mid-October during the lull I often feel between Acacia’s major summer and winter programs. How fortunate to have a symbol such as the Acacia tree upon which to draw inspiration during that time.

This is just one of many Acacia symbols that have provided me with wisdom that I use in my daily life and through longer seasons and years. The ruggedness of the Acacia tree – and our weekly calls with Woody – remind me that certain things are constants while other phases of our lives shift and oscillate. These regular practices help keep us grounded, keep us rooted, so that above ground we can experience fully what each season has to offer.
Chapter News & Updates (as submitted by chapters)

No. 4) Nebraska Chapter
unlacacia.acaciaconnect.org
Venerable Dean Ciaran Riley, rileyciaran@yahoo.com

As the academic year is in full swing, we at the Nebraska Chapter are excited for what is to come. Summer went well as we signed 17 new pledges. Our pledges are working hard both in the fraternity and academically. As we are preparing for the annual Acacia Claus, we at Nebraska were looking to do more. We as an active chapter have decided to adopt a new philanthropy entitled “Huskies Against Breast Cancer”. We are working with the campus Women’s Center all month selling wristbands and participating in walks for the cure and numerous other activities to promote breast cancer awareness month. As our brothers have been visiting other chapters around the country, we look to improve off of the knowledge of our brothers and continue growing!

No. 5) California Chapter
berkeleyacacia.acaciaconnect.org
Venerable Dean Benjamin Turconi, bturconi@berkeley.edu

The California Chapter has had an exciting Fall 2014 semester with new members, a rising GPA, two IFC officers and a football team that finally seems capable of winning games. Even better, we have just inducted 12 new brothers into our fraternity. With a revamped pledge education system, our new members will be prepared to take on the mantle of leadership. They recently painted the front porch and have plans to do even more work on the house in preparation for spring rush.

Acacia at Cal continues to be a leader in the Greek Community for philanthropic and other endeavors. We recently held a nAcacia event on campus to raise money for the Shriner’s Hospital in Sacramento and are currently planning Acacia Claus with a sorority to donate toys to A Safe Place, a Domestic Violence shelter in the Bay Area. We also raised our service hours requirement this semester and are planning to do Seven Days of Service and hope to make it an IFC effort in the future.

We look forward to the coming year and anticipate additional growth, planning to reach our goal of 50+ members by next fall.

No. 6) Ohio State Chapter
acacia.org.ohio-state.edu
Venerable Dean Alexander Yarkony, yarkony.2@buckeyemail.osu.edu

No report submitted.

No. 9) Illinois Chapter
www.rushacacia.com
Venerable Dean Steve Wuthrich, stevewuthrich10@gmail.com

This semester finds the Illinois Chapter of Acacia stronger than ever. We entered the semester with a dedicated rush committee whose goal was expand our membership. Our recruitment proved highly successful, leaving us with a record size pledge class of 38 members. This class is a phenomenal group of young men passionate about continuing to lead the house in a positive direction.

The chapter also took a new approach to brotherhood with our annual chapter retreat. In the past we have done team building activities at various on- and off-campus venues, but this year we took a different approach. We took the entire active chapter and pledge class to a paintball field and practiced team building in a more intense fashion. Several members of the executive and alumni boards presented on safety, scholarship, the new alumni mentor program, and more. We plan to continue our growth and improve our academic standing.

The future holds for us many wonderful opportunities. We plan to continue our growth of the new alumni mentorship program, increase our numbers with another successful recruitment, and continue to set the standard for academic excellence. Also, the Illinois Chapter will soon hand over leadership to another group of driven and smart young men after officer elections.

No. 12) Wisconsin Chapter
wiscacacia.acaciaconnect.org
Venerable Dean David Pearson, dmpearson@wisc.edu

Greetings from the brothers at Wisconsin! Our fall semester started out well as the rush period began. We had a great time meeting many potential brothers and finding those who would like to join our great fraternity. The most exciting event was our second annual Milwaukee Brewers trip where we and those rushing take a bus from Madison to Milwaukee to a Milwaukee Brewers baseball game. Although not perfect weather, the brothers and guests still enjoyed the trip, and we hope to continue this great event! This helped us get six new members for this fall with a list of potentials as we start to plan our spring semester.

Even with the semester starting to wind down, we still have big things planned in the next month. In December we will once again be doing Acacia Claus, an event the brothers enjoy doing every year. In addition, some of our brothers have been working with other fraternity chapters on Humorology, a philanthropy event that is a musical/comedy show put on by Greek students here in Madison. In years past, our chapter has been extremely successful at this and we are proud to once again partake in this great event! We also have some chapters visiting soon and hope to make a walk-out to nearby chapters to spend time with brothers at other universities.

Brothers have already been planning for the spring semester to build on our success and accomplish so much more. In the past four years, we have made strides in all aspects of the fraternal life, and we are excited to make more improvements in our chapter, Greek community, and the International Fraternity.

The future looks bright here in Madison and we’re all excited to see what we can accomplish next!

No. 13) Missouri Chapter
missouriacacia.acaciaconnect.org
Venerable Dean Matt Cassidy, mfc8c8@mail.missouri.edu

No report submitted.

No. 14) Cornell Chapter
www.cornellacacia.org
Venerable Dean Sho Iketani, si75@cornell.edu

The Cornell Chapter of Acacia has had a great start to our year! After an eventful summer in which we won three chapter awards and six individual awards at Conclave in Nashville, TN, the actives returned ready to keep the momentum going. After some cleaning of Northcote, our chapter house, to maintain its cleanliness and beauty, we jumped right into the social and rush scene. With more organization and focus than before, we have had various mixers, date nights, and also participation in the Cornell Greek community – and we plan for a significant return in the spring in terms of rush.

We have just had an exciting and fun-packed Homecoming, with more than 20 alums and friends returning. In the near future, we have philanthropy events planned, as well as intramural sports and more social events. There is never a boring time here at Northcote this year, and we encourage any Acacians in the area to stop by – we would love to have you!
No. 15) Purdue Chapter
purdueacacia.org
Venerable Dean Tom Freije, thomasfreije@gmail.com

Greetings from the Purdue Chapter! We are proud to say that last semester we led all Purdue fraternities in number of community service hours per brother. After volunteering at the Klondike Elementary School carnival in West Lafayette last year for the first time, they asked us to be in charge of organizing workers and setting up the event in the future. We are extremely excited and honored to have this responsibility passed on to us, and we are looking forward to leading the event next semester.

We also continue to maintain our Adopt A Spot on campus, as well as participate in various other events in the Lafayette area. Below you can see brothers Chris Lanza, Shawn Nirappil and George Todd volunteering for Springification, an event in which Purdue students help the elderly community of greater Lafayette to prepare their yards and homes for the spring.

This winter we plan to reintroduce Acacia Claus and collect toys and money for the Salvation Army. We are also participating in the Acacia Midwest Basketball Tournament for the second consecutive year at the Illinois Wesleyan Chapter to raise money for the Jimmy V Foundation.

Beyond community service and philanthropy, academic performance is another important part of fraternity life. Last semester, we had the 4th highest GPA out of 40 IFC fraternities on campus. One of our biggest goals for the fall semester this year was to increase the size of our membership. With 26 active members, we managed to recruit 15 pledges. We are already starting to see them develop into true gentlemen. This will be significant growth for the chapter, and we are extremely excited to initiate all 15 of these men into our brotherhood. They represent a very bright future for Purdue Acacia.

No. 19) Iowa State Chapter
stuorg.iastate.edu/acacia
Venerable Dean Gabe McCoy, gjmccoy@iastate.edu

Greetings from the Iowa State Chapter! These past few months have been extremely successful for us. Eleven of our undergraduate brothers attended Conclave, and we had a fantastic time learning more about our fraternity and networking with brothers from across miles and generations. We were deeply honored to have received so many awards, including the prestigious Malcolm Award. One other area that we were recognized for was academic achievement. On Iowa State’s campus, Acicians are known for having high academic standards, but last semester was exceptional. We earned a chapter average of 3.48, just .02 points away from making the Dean’s List as an organization. We have set our sights on the elusive 3.5 for this semester, and the men are working diligently to achieve that goal.

The start of the fall semester always signals the arrival of our annual philanthropy, Acacia Root Beer Floats. We sell them on our central campus for $2 each to raise funds for Youth and Shelter Service’s Great Relationships in Pairs mentoring program which matches at-risk children in the local school systems with strong adult mentors from the community. Several of our brothers volunteer with the program, and it can be the highlight of the child’s week. This year, we raised over $1,200 for the program. Our brothers have been busy with many other volunteer activities, and we’re looking forward to Acacia Claus this holiday season, and implementing Seven Days of Service this spring.

In addition to our human service presence on campus, we’ve been very active in the Greek Community, as well. We were paired with Tau Kappa Epsilon and Gamma Phi Beta for Iowa State’s 102nd Homecoming, and while we won’t claim to be the best pairing, there were none better. We placed first in the overall competition, and placed highly in many of the events, including Yell Like Hell.

This semester we’ve also enjoyed visits from the Kansas State Chapter and the Morningside Chapter. We always welcome visitors, and it’s great to get to spend more time with brothers from around the country. We’re looking forward to initiating our fall 2014 pledge class of eight incredible young men. The fall semester is drawing to a close, but we’re still looking forward to our upcoming chapter date party, a night out with our Faculty Advisor, officer elections, and final exams.

No. 21) Penn State Chapter
psuacacia.acaciaconnect.org
Venerable Dean Jonathan Woods, jyw5308@gmail.com

The Penn State chapter moved into a renovated house this past fall! 67 brothers currently occupy the chapter house, which is an all-time record. The expanded gathering space, updated club room, two new kitchens and widened corridors have been substantial upgrades.

The chapter will initiate 16 new members in the coming weeks. In addition, the brothers have been participating in the annual Bischoff Trophy Race for intramural sports, as well as canning for the 2015 edition of THON. Overall, the brotherhood is doing fantastic and will elect a new Executive Board this month.

No. 25) Colorado Chapter
colacacia.org
Venerable Dean Dylan Cook, jondylancook@live.com

Greetings, Brothers from across the country! It has been an exciting fall semester in Boulder, as we have started only our second year in our new housing complex. We spent the first year turning a couple of large empty rooms into a real home for ourselves, buying couches, TVs, laser lights, a projector and a pool table for the space. Now we have gotten into our zone and it’s safe to say the other fraternities on campus look up to our new digs.

The good vibes are clearly showing around here, because by the end of the semester we plan to initiate 20 new members. With a brotherhood of only 29, that will set a record for the Colorado Chapter since our re-founding in 2008! We have a great group of guys that are ready to show their dedication to Acacia as brothers in the spring. We have a lot of room to grow, and I am very excited about Acacia’s future in Colorado.

As we continue to strive to better ourselves, our fraternity, and our community, we look toward the motto of Acacia for guidance. We passed a bill requiring 12 service hours per brother per semester, and our Human Service Chairmain Ryan Thomson has been working hard to provide us with service opportunities. Coming up in the last two months of the semester, we will be holding our first Seven Days of Service, as well as engaging our community in Acacia Claus.
This semester has been a time of change and restructuring for the Syracuse Chapter. We began with an entirely new executive board as we looked to tackle some of the biggest adversity the chapter has seen. Some of these matters included low funds, inexperienced executive board members, and only eight brothers. But in only two months, we managed to put ourselves back on the map. The high morale and motivation to improve our standing has done just that. We did some house improvements including repainting the living room and brothers’ rooms, refurnishing the living room with new leather couches, and cleaning out the basement, with old furniture donated to the Salvation Army.

As we began refocusing on what it means to be an Acacia, we started becoming more involved in the community. We collected money for United Way at our annual “Dollar Days at the Dome,” picked up trash for Adopt-a-Street, and created a new initiative at Elmcrest Children’s Center, a temporary home for children that are either fostered or from broken families, as well as a home for at-risk youth. The center is a private non-profit organization, and brothers have visited twice this semester to set up hay bale rides, Halloween games, and a haunted house. We will volunteer again in November by setting up a spaghetti dinner for the children.

In addition to being Acacians, we also reminded ourselves what it meant to be Greek. Several mixers with sororities and other fraternities have increased our campus awareness, something that is growing every day. Internally we have already begun rebuilding the brotherhood. This semester we have three pledges who are roughly three weeks into the process. They have been working hard to learn our history and our organization as a whole. But it is not just the pledges who have been learning; current brothers have been working to learn more about their roles as either executive board members or Acacians in general.

K-State Acacia continues to drive forward in leadership and success. Whether it be Cody Kennedy serving as Student Body Vice President, six Acacians as members of the Student Senate - four of whom held executive roles in their respective offices, brothers serving as the presidents of twelve student organizations, or Mark Hay appearing as the lead in a University musical production, it is obvious that our chapter’s leadership capacity is flourishing.

We are also excelling in Human Service. Over the past year, K-State Acacia served more than 1,235 hours in the community with different non-profits around town, making us the chapter with the most community service hours, both cumulatively and per capita, on campus.

We finished third last semester in GPA rankings out of 25 fraternities on campus, marking 17 consecutive semesters in the top quartile of fraternity academic performance. Not surprisingly, this culture of academic rigor has produced a nationally recognized Truman Scholar; six departmental distinguished scholars, twelve competitive scholarship winners, and nine student ambassadors for their respective colleges or programs from among our ranks. Whether it be in the arenas of leadership, Human Service, or scholarship, the undergraduate remains poised for success. It’s no wonder, then, that this spring our chapter received the President’s Award from the University’s Office of Greek Affairs.

Last summer saw chapter members gather for the annual STAG Golf Tournament and Poker Night, attend a Kansas City Royals game in conjunction with the IFC and K-State, attendance of seven undergraduate brothers at Conclave, and the integration of a new development program for new members titled SAMOS. The fall semester has been just as busy, with successful date parties, social functions, service events, family weekend, and Homecoming.

The natural progression of these successes is growth. We are proud to announce a new member class of fifteen. As K-State Acacia continues to grow, we remember our core values as we continue to further the Acacia name.
and let them draft the rest of the chapter on to their respective teams. From there we will have a series of grades-related competitions throughout the semester, culminating with a crowning of the team that achieves the highest overall GPA during this semester’s Academic Season. This is the first time the draft has been attempted but it is something we would like to continue throughout the coming years.

In addition Ohio Acacia placed first in the 2nd annual Sigma Kappa “Kick in the Grass” soccer tournament. The team clinched the tournament with a 1-0 victory in the finals thanks to a late goal by Junior Zach Purdum. Through and through this semester is shaping up to be one of the best we’ve had and we are excited to see what the rest of the year brings here at Ohio Acacia.

No. 43) Miami (OH) Chapter
Venerable Dean Andy Waugh, waughra@miamioh.edu
No report submitted.

No. 44) Rensselaer Chapter
www.rpi-acacia.org
Venerable Dean Jessie Christian, jessie_2993@yahoo.com
No report submitted.

No. 52) Louisiana State Chapter
Venerable Dean Matthew Barrie, mbarri2@tigers.lsu.edu
The LSU Chapter started the fall semester with our best rush in at least 25 years. Rush Chairmen Patrick Bonnaffons, Chris Reyes and Justin Reyes worked non-stop for a year, as we inducted a 46-man fall pledge class. We averaged around 55% return rate each round of recruitment.

The chapter house looks better than it has in years. Minor cosmetic repairs were done over the summer, and the exec bathroom was completely remodeled. On October 17, 2014, we hosted a bowling event, Strike at Night. Eighteen teams participated to raise over $3,000 for Team Gleason, an ALS foundation. For this year’s Homecoming, the Alumni Association and active chapter hosted a tailgate for alumni and parents. It was a huge success with close to 500 people attending. The day ended with a victory over the Ole Miss Rebels. Geaux Tigers!

No. 54) Illinois Wesleyan Chapter
iwu.edu/greek/organizations/interfraternity/Acacia2.html
Venerable Dean Derek England, djengland54@gmail.com
The fall 2014 semester has been an eventful time for the men of the Illinois Wesleyan Chapter of Acacia. We have a pledge class of seven fine men, each eager to contribute to our chapter and learn the the meaning of brotherhood. We also have bolstered our service efforts this semester and are involved in many new philanthropic events. Plans for philanthropy events co-sponsored with other fraternities on campus and the IWU Peace Garden are underway, and we are looking to participate in Acacia Claus this year for the first time in recent history.

In November we are hosting the Acacia Midwest Basketball Tournament again, which saw its revival last year. If a team of members from your chapter is interested in participating in this weekend of brotherhood, service, and basketball and has not already registered, please contact our Philanthropy Chairman, Matthew Pietrowiak, at either (815) 592-9420 or mpiotroki@iwu.edu. I am looking forward to seeing many of you there, So Live!

No. 61) Central Oklahoma Chapter
Venerable Dean Cody Beat, cbeat@uco.edu
We have been very busy and working hard in Edmond since the new semester began. We started off the new semester with a benefit concert held at our house and raised $1,250 for a local charity, Ally’s House. After the event we had our formal recruitment week and were able to sign 29 associate members. We are currently at 28 pledges with Initiation set place for November 15, 2014, at the Masonic Lodge in Guthrie.

We were also able to pair with our local Delta Zeta chapter and host the 5K For Kids in which our proceeds of $1,360 went to Ally’s House, and Delta Zeta’s went to their national philanthropy, Turtle Camp. We are also very excited to begin our first Acacia Claus in November with all proceeds going to Ally’s House, as well.

We are anchoring down on our grades again, striving to beat our GPA of 3.13 from last semester. We are about to have our Homecoming week, and we are very excited to host a parent and alumni day at the house before the game and compete to win the Campus Cup that week. Our intramural teams are also looking good, taking third place in football and gearing up for basketball season.

No. 67) Trine Chapter
trineacacia.org
Venerable Dean Austin Dean-Cross, akdean-cross@my.trine.edu
Greetings fellow Acacians from the Trine Chapter! What a past several months it has been for us. At the end of the spring semester we graduated 5 new alumni; they are our newest alumni in over 35 years! Our yearly alumni reunion dinner was held this past fall, and with the addition of newest alumni, we are gaining support from alumni that have not been active since our re-chartering. This is an excellent driving force as we move into a new academic year, pushing us to stay active not only on campus but also in the community.

Over the summer a group of brothers attended Conclave in Nashville with other chapters from around the country, and what a blast it was to meet other brothers! At Conclave we were awarded the “President’s Award” and the “Best Young Colony/Chapter Award.” The brothers were extremely honored to be presented with these awards, and we look forward to winning more in Louisville in 2016.

From our university we were awarded Most Improved Chapter, New Member Retention Award, Philanthropy/Service Excellence Award, and Intramural and Wellness Award. These awards prove that our work and dedication are paying off, not only on a local level but a national level, as well. So Live!
The past few months for the Illinois State Chapter have been filled with exciting news and growth. We attended our first Conclave by sending 11 members to Nashville, Tennessee. It was there at Conclave where we received our charter! It was definitely a weekend that the brothers here will never forget. We look forward to hosting a Chartering Banquet Ceremony, as well. This fall semester has been busy; we inducted our biggest pledge class ever of 11 new members. The initiation ceremony is set for December 6th at the local Masonic Lodge.

We are currently working with the Illinois Wesleyan Chapter to participate in both chapters’ first Acacia Claus. We will be participating in the annual Acacia Midwest Basketball Tournament for the second time, as well. We are excited to reconnect with local chapters in what is sure to be a weekend of brotherhood with proceeds going to the Jimmy V Foundation. In addition to our usual philanthropic events, we also helped a local Girl Scout Troop in leadership activities and helped the camp owners clean up the grounds for seasonal closing.

The chapter looks forward to more involvement with IFC now that we are chartered, as well as socializing with other fraternities and sororities on campus. We also look forward to accomplishing our SMART goals that the chapter made for ourselves at the beginning of the semester. The future looks bright for the chapter, and we are all proud to be Acarians. So Live!

The 2014 fall semester has been full of Human Service with more to come. At the end of September, the chapter participated in our first ever Scacia 5k run during homecoming weekend. Money was donated to the local fire department and a local shelter for kids. Acacia will also, once again, be volunteering at the shelter’s annual Christmas Basket Raffle Fundraiser. We are also participating in our first year of Acacia Claus. American Red Cross blood drives are sponsored by Acacia each semester, with our second one coming up at the beginning of December.

We currently have two new members going through the pledge process who will look forward to initiating into our brotherhood soon! The semester is coming to an end quickly, and we are hoping for a smooth transition for newly elected executive board members. Best of luck to all chapters, and we look forward to connecting with many of you at the Venerable Dean Summit in January.
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With the holiday shopping season just around the corner, this is an easy way to support Acacia’s educational and scholarship programs. Be sure to spread the word to your significant other, friends, and family!

No. 85) Carleton Chapter
carletonacacia.com

Venerable Dean Eric Lauer, elauel1@gmail.com

We’ve been making huge waves within the Greater Ottawa Community this year with our participation over the summer in the Ottawa Capital Pride Parade as the first ever Greek-affiliated participant. Brought forth from one of our alumni members, Darren Park, we entered one of the largest floats in the parade and sported tie-dyed shirts with our stigma challenging statement: “Brotherhood Doesn’t Discriminate.” The event proved to be successful in more ways than originally anticipated, as several online and print news outlets both on and off campus have interviewed us and written about us positively.

Acacia At Carleton University is raising the standard as to what it means to be an active part within the community. Our recent participation with the successful mayoral campaign of Honorary Brother Jim Watson has seen positive results as he has been elected to another term as the city of Ottawa’s mayor. In anticipation of Canadian Remembrance Day we have laid a wreath in honor of our brothers who have served in the military. The Ceremony took place at the memorial pillars at the corner of Main and Beckwith and included important figureheads within the Ottawa community.

Our pledge education process has improved dramatically as our Senior Dean Matthew Hintermann has revamped our old pledge education program. Additions to the program include historical lectures on Pythagoras to supplement those within the Pythagoras, as well as including the addition of alumni guest speakers to better equip our pledges with the tools necessary to become well-rounded fraternity men.

No. 88) Bloomsburg Chapter
bloomuaacacia.org

Venerable Dean Dean Foster, sjf18689@huskies.bloomu.edu

It comes with great pleasure to write of the many accomplishments that our wonderful organization has pursued and conquered thus far into the semester. For over five years now our chapter has been in the shadow of international debt that at times exceeded $7,000. This was discouraging to say the least during times of recruitment and always seemed to be the topic of discussion that was the least pleasing to announce at our weekly meetings. However, with adaptations made to our financial practices, stern speeches given by our more passionate executive board chair holders, and implementation of concrete deadlines, our international debt of over $7,000 has been completely wiped out. This is just the beginning, and we are as ecstatic as you to see what positive change this will ultimately bring to our organization. In addition to coming into this semester absolutely debt-free, we have already established ways to prevent relapse back into debt. A new yearly dues deadline and collections policy will have all active brothers fulfilling their responsibility to ensure our fraternity’s stature.

The second piece of exciting news to announce is that Acacia is now the third largest fraternity at Bloomsburg. We are thrilled to have a large pledge class of 10, and these next two semesters we will be fortunate to keep a large number of active brothers after our senior class graduates this spring. This year we hope to conduct a successful Acacia Claus, with a goal of raising $500 to donate toys to underprivileged children. This and other charity events such as our annual clothes drive will support our campus and community.

One big area the new executive board would like to improve upon is alumni support. We realize in past years that current members had done a poor job of staying in touch with our essential alumni. After having meetings with Acacia Headquarters staff, we plan to host an alumni weekend in the spring to bring everyone together to remake pledge class paddles that were lost many years ago.

No. 89) Indiana University of Pennsylvania Chapter
iupacacia.acaciaconnect.org

Venerable Dean Jonathan Palumbo, jon.t.palumbo@gmail.com

Greetings all from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania chapter of Acacia. It has been an exciting year here at IUP as we are growing and emerging to stand out on campus. Our main goal this year was to become a more active part in both the Greek community and also the Indiana PA community. I believe we are succeeding greatly with this goal. We have participated in many events to help support charities such as the local food bank and the Alice Paul women’s shelter. We participated in Sigma Kappa’s Frats at Bat softball tournament, and although we didn’t come out on top, we dug deep and came home with the Best Sportsmanship Award, which shows that Acacians are true gentlemen.

Along the lines of everyday chapter function we have really focused on brotherhood bonding this year. It has never been a problem with us but we felt we could put forth a better effort. We had pinned in two pledges for the fall semester but unfortunately had one drop. This leaves us with one, though we are really focused on quality over quantity, and we see him doing big things. For all chapters close to us, please don’t be shy as you are always welcome and will always have a place to sleep.

No. 90) Morningside Chapter
webs.morningside.edu/acacia

Venerable Dean Cory Klujeske, cak003@morningside.edu

Acacia at Morningside College has been having a very successful year. After assessing the real issues at hand there have been many improvements and reforms made to make the chapter prosperous. We are becoming better recognized on campus and in the community and gaining a lot of attention because of it. The activities that are getting us recognized are such things as Acacia Claus and Seven Days of Service. I encourage all chapters to utilize the Seven Days of Service as an effective recruiting method.

This success has helped us bring in a great group of pledges that will help us to become better than we could have imagined. However, like any great organization, we are striving to become ever better. We would like to thank the chapters that we have visited for any tips and pointers (they have contributed immensely) as well as the chapters we hope to visit in the future.
California

Cal Poly/Pomona
Andrew J. Stout, #142 – Founded Stout Global Wealth Management. Thanks for the experiences I received from Acacia...

Central Missouri State
Richard W. Blowers, #191 – Retired from public and private sector work in May 2014.

Cornell
David A. Gorelick, #717 – Retired from NIH last October. Now part-time Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Maryland.

Paul G. Molnar, #1014 – Paul and Mary Joy Molnar are the proud parents of Zachary Paul Molnar born on May 7, 2014.

Emporia State

George Washington
Robert M. Riggs, #277 – Living in Cumberland, MD in retirement from University Professorship.

Indiana
Richard L. Routh, #602 – Let’s get Indiana Chapter back on its feet with a Code of Conduct befitting of Acacia.

Douglas J. Bade, #1264 – Serves as Vice Chairman and U.S. Consumer & Industrial Products Managing Principal at Deloitte. Led Deloitte’s sponsorship of the U.S. Olympic Committee and the firm’s commitment to the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic teams. Serving on the Art Institute of Chicago’s Business Council as a Founding Member, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Board of Trustees, and the American Red Cross Central Illinois Chapter Board of Directors. Residing in Kenilworth, Illinois with wife, Suzanne Krieger Bade, and 13-year old son, Benjamin.

Iowa State
Michael S. Weber, #1038 – I married my lovely wife and fellow Cyclone, Kelly Albrecht, on July 12, 2014, in Ames, Iowa. There were 24 fellow Acadians celebrating the day with us.

Long Beach State
Arthur B. Curtis III, #880 – Retired Vice President of Operations, Neutrogena Corp. division of Johnson & Johnson. Living in Minnesota Beach, NC and Baltimore MD, sailing MV Tiger Woman with wife, Lorraine.

Louisiana State
Gary L. Bailey, #106 – Spent his career in California’s Silicon Valley as an electronic engineer and engineering manager developing high-tech new products including modems, computers, control systems, and Atari video games. Gary led the team of engineers that developed the world’s first commercially available industry standard DSL systems for high speed internet access. Gary would love to receive email from his Acacia friends at tigergary@earthlink.net.

Luther A. Smith
David V. Lemone, #76 – It’s been over 50 years since I sponsored the chapter at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. I left Southern in ’64 and went on to Texas Western, now known as the University of Texas, El Paso. Lost my pin and the accompanying texts some years ago. The origin of Acacia and the camaraderie of its members over the years – this is what it’s all about.

Michigan

Missouri
Michael J. Reese, #823 - I was recently elected to the Board of Directors of St. Louis Efforts for AIDS. I will be serving as the Chairman of the development committee and working with the organization to develop strategic plans and tactics surrounding the organizations grants and fundraising efforts. I recently helped organize Monsanto’s first participation in EPA’s annual “Dining Out for Life” event; I am very proud and humbled to be part of such an amazing organization serving those in need in both St Louis and seven surrounding counties.

Nebraska
Joseph P. Bushelman, #1168 – I work with CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ) as a Campus Minister at the University of Arizona. My beautiful wife, Beverly, and I just celebrated our 15-year wedding anniversary. We have four active children, Tara (13), Kyle (12), Megan (10) and Katie (8). Although I love my Arizona Wildcats, I will always be a Nebraska Cornhusker. Go Big Red!

Northern Colorado
Robert C. Trezise, #37 – I have recovered from 2013 kidney surgery. I am active in Masons, Grand York Rite and Order of Eastern Star, as well as being the organist for St. Clare’s Parish in Beaver Creek, CO.

Penn State
Christopher W. Soika, M.D., #963 – I joined the Army and have been stationed in Korea for about one year now. It is fun and interesting to learn about Korean history and culture. My wife’s family and part of our twins’ heritage is here so the experience from a few years here will be great.

Perdue
Scott C. Graham, #1467 – Began a new position with Boston University as Senior Leadership Gift Officer, New York City.

Syracuse
Rev. Dr. Alan D. Cutter, #449 – Have published a novel on Amazon based on experiences in Viet Nam – “At the Altar of War.”

Texas
T. Frank Smith IV, #816 – Finally found a suitable site to begin construction of a 40 fourplex unit of extended stay motel for low cost housing, 1 mile east of Gregory, TX. Construction to begin fall 2014 and continue for approximately 3 years. On-site manager will be T. Frank Smith V (AKA Tee), my son. We will be constructing 42-foot diameter monolithic concrete super insulated domes that will be equally divided into 4 units. First major development of this construction type outside of Italy, Texas (1 hour south of Dallas).

UCLA
Knox Williams, #40 – Chosen as Carlsbad, California’s, Citizen of the Year for 2013.

Wisconsin
Alvin A. Greason, #566 – 1955 U.W. Grad – 21st year of retirement near Crivitz, Wis. after 30 years in public office. Attended my 472nd home Packers game in August.
An Acacia Leader in Congress
Steve Scalise, Louisiana State '86, named House majority whip in June

Brother & Congressman Stephen Scalise, Louisiana State '86, was selected by House Republicans to serve as the majority whip in the U.S. House of Representatives on June 19, 2014. The whip’s role is to round up votes for his or her party and ensure those representatives are in attendance when important votes are taken. Brother Scalise has represented Louisiana’s 1st Congressional District since 2008.

Brother Scalise was awarded Acacia’s Award of Merit at a Washington D.C.-area Acacia alumni event on July 22, 2014.

Congratulations to Brother Scalise on his success!

Acacians to gather in Las Vegas for 2nd annual Acacia Alumni Brotherhood Conference
Organized as a grassroots event by at-large Acacia alumni, the 2nd annual Acacia Alumni Brotherhood Conference will take place in Las Vegas, Nevada, from January 15-19, 2015. We invite you to join the festivities and help us build upon the success of our inaugural gathering last year.

The 2015 AABC will take place at the Red Rock Casino, several miles off the Las Vegas strip. Planned activities include a bowling tournament and social gathering, a brotherhood dinner, and educational programming on topics relevant to Acacia. Spouses and significant others are welcome to join the fun.

Call 866-767-7773 to book your room, and mention Acacia Alumni Leadership Retreat to receive our discounted rate.

Please contact Brother Steven Etter, California (PA) '92, at acaciaalumniretreat@gmail.com for more information.

Single and double rooms are $140 per night with a $15 resort fee per night, plus 12% tax. An airport shuttle is included with the resort fee. Check-in begins at 3:00 p.m. on January 15.

Fall 2014 alumni outings

Texas Acacians gathered at the chapter house at 2614 Rio Grande for a day of brotherhood with the actives and a Building Association meeting before the October 18 football game vs. Iowa State.

Upper Iowa Acacia alumni celebrated the 40th anniversary of their chapter’s founding on October 4 during Homecoming. Thirty-five brothers traveled to the reunion, including Brad Anderson all the way from Ethiopia! Some brothers had not returned to campus in as long as 38 years.

Minnesota and St. Cloud State Chapter Acacians played in the Al Grewe Memorial Golf Scramble on September 13, 2014.
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Foundation and the Acacia Fraternity Foundation express their sincerest thanks to the following donors for their support during the last fiscal year. Your contributions to the Foundation ensure that the Fraternity realizes its vision of providing training, support and guidance to every undergraduate member.

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News for the next Triad:
Acacia Fraternity Foundation 2013-2014 Scholarship Recipients

The Foundation awarded 141 scholarships over the past year from chapter scholarship programs and the General Fund. The following major scholarship recipients were announced at the William A. Utic Acacia Fraternity Foundation Scholarship Luncheon during our 58th Biennial Conclave in Nashville, Tennessee, on August 1, 2014:

**George F. Patterson, Jr. Scholarship ($3,000)**

Joseph L. Webb, Iowa State ’12  
Hometown: Murray, Iowa  
Major: Nutritional Science / Pre-med  
GPA: 3.96  
IFC VP of Scholarship; ISU Acacia Junior Steward; Neuroscience/Genetics Lab Assistant; Alternative Breaks Site Leader; Dairy Sensory Evaluation Panelist

**Duncan McPherson Fraternityship ($3,000)**

Ross M. Allen, Kansas State ’12  
Hometown: Soldier, Kansas  
Majors: Philosophy, Economics  
GPA: 4.0  
K-State Acacia Venerable Dean; 2014 Truman Scholar; Blue Key Senior Honorary; K-State Student Alumni Board; Student Program Coordinator for K-State School of Leadership Studies

**Acacia Fraternity Foundation Scholarship ($1,000)**

**Cody M. Beat, Central Oklahoma ’11**  
Hometown: Edmond, Oklahoma  
Major: Industrial Safety  
GPA: 3.46  
UCO Acacia Venerable Dean, Executive Dean, Treasurer, Philanthropy Chair; IFC Director of Recruitment, VP Internal Affairs; Leaders of Tomorrow Council, Big Pink Volleyball Tournament Fundraising Chair

**Acacia Fraternity Foundation Scholarship ($1,000)**

**Wicitra Mahotama, Iowa State ’11**  
Hometown: Bandung, Indonesia  
Major: Environmental Science  
GPA: 3.76  
ISU Acacia Senior Dean; Iowa State Environmental Science Club Founder and President; Divine Eyewear Founder and CEO

**Acacia Fraternity Foundation Scholarship ($1,000)**

**Gabriel J. McCoy, Iowa State ’11**  
Hometown: Estherville, Iowa  
Major: Mechanical Engineering  
GPA: 3.99  
ISU Acacia Venerable Dean; University President’s Leadership Class Teaching Assistant; VEISHEA Exec Board IT Manager; University Honors Program

**Acacia Fraternity Foundation Scholarship ($1,000)**

**Ryan M. Haefke, Kansas State ’14**  
Hometown: Holton, Kansas  
Major: Accounting and Finance  
GPA: 4.0  
Acacia Recruitment Chairman; College of Business Administration Ambassador; Staley School of Leadership Studies Ambassador & Alumni Relations Chairman; Student Administrative Asst. to the VP for Administration & Finance

**Acacia Fraternity Foundation Scholarship ($1,000)**

**Ryan E. Ward, Texas ’11**  
Hometown: Clear Lake Shores, Texas  
Major: Management Information Systems  
GPA: 3.34  
Texas Acacia Junior Dean; Management Information Systems Association; Best Buddies; UT’S The Project 2013 and 2014

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**Cody A. Kennedy, Kansas State ’12**  
Hometown: Phillipsburg, Kansas  
Majors: Secondary Ed. and Mathematics  
GPA: 3.75  
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Terry Lynn Ressegue
John H. Stretcher #
Marc R. Summervill

Kansas State - Samuel G. Unger Memorial Scholarship Fund
($500+)
James Dennis Bassett
Fred W. Loseke Jr.
Donald M. Rasmussen
Terry Lynn Ressegue
($250-$499)
Brent B. Bayer
James S. Birkbeck
Stanley E. Christiansen *
Stephen Patrick Collins
Daniel C. Dolezal
Timothy Isaac Franklin
Gary J. Haag #
Harlan D. House
Larry L. Iriig
Tim E. Poling D.D.S.
Tyle Keith Turner
Jody Lewis Vanarsdale

Louisiana State Fund
($2,000+)
Mark R. Guidry Jr.
Louisiana Tech Fund
($75+)
Weston Cash Colvin #

Michigan Fund
($100+)
John Bennett Green
Richard August Kruse
William A. McElfresh
($50 & below)
Richard Ivan Williams, Grand Valley State Colony
Edward Allen Wilson

Missouri Fund
($100+)
Michael Edward Barcroft *
Derrick M. Ray *
($75 & below)
Christopher Sean Cannon *
Corey Allen Cox *
William Devin Reeder
Samuel Caleb Smith *

Nebraska Fund
($250+)
Justin Edward Cardisco *
G.E. Foundation
($50 & below)
Joshua J. Gannon, Oregon State Miles J. Hildebrand *
New Hampshire Fund
($100+)
Acacia Fraternity Building Corporation (NH) *

Ohio State Fund
($50+)
David E. Ovzat

Oregon State - Scholarship Fund
($2,500+)
Hubert W. Austin
($250-$750)
Michael A. Howard
Paul G. Ingram
Leonard W. Kearney
Stanley A. Roberts
Michael L. Rollins, Washington *

Penn State - W. Russell Scott Memorial Scholarship
($500+)
Leland J. and Martha Adams Jr., Friends of Acacia

Penn State - Leonard E. Wood Chapter Advisor's Scholarship Fund
($5,000+)
Purdue Fund
($1,000)
Richard T. Freije Jr.
($100-$500)
Lon Arthur Brown
David E. Conner
Dennis E. Davis
David A. Fruchey
William A. Haines
Robert R. Halderman
Mark L. Hildebrand
Anthony Alan Jung
James L. Kinnard *
Joseph B. Martin *
Kenneth E. Michael *
Mark W. Quebe
David Charles Salyers
Thomas G. Sibbit
Kerry W. Skelton
Thomas Stiegelz
Robert H. Thayer *
Robert K. Wichmann
Robert L. Zell
($75 & below)


Pennsylvania - Michael S. Hannes Memorial Scholarship Fund
($500+)
Kevin Thomas May
James L. McFarland
($200-$499)
William C. Andrae *
Brian Roger Durst
David John Engeldinger #
Jeanne E. Hannes, Friend of Acacia *
Blake John Hutchison *
Curtis Richard Waltz *
($175 & below)
Matthew Carl Dunning *
Jeffrey David Kjome
Michael James Steininger *
Acacia Foundation of Wisconsin *

practice 4.076 Fund
($500+)
F. M. Hildebrand

Penn State - G. Kenneth Nelson Memorial Scholarship
($50+)
David J. Gray *
Brian Thomas Taddeo

Penn State - Square & Compass
($20,000+)
Edgar H. Grubb
George B. Jackson
($5,000-$10,000)
Donald E. Larson Jr. *
($250 & below)
Scott Christopher Graham

Penn State - Rensselaer Fund
($150+)
UnitedHealthGroup Matching Gift Funds

Syracuse - Scholarship Fund
($500+)
Joseph E. Peter

Texas Fund
($1,000)
Gene Greenlees M.D.
($100-$500)
William J. Carroll
Robert C. Thamer *

Trine (Tri-State) Fund
($200+)
Edward R. Boes, Purdue *

Washington Fund
($250+)
Michael Lee Rollins *
Donald W. Sabo *
($50 & below)
Michael Joseph Dunn

Washington State Fund
($100-$500)
Cara Ashley Andreas
Aaron Ray Beattie #
Patrick R. Brentin
John P. Byrne
Barrett K. Byrne
Eric A. Farinha *
Martin Ronald Fischer *
William David Heath *
Robert William Hentges *
Jayson Douglas Hicks *
Darold W. Larson #
David Alan Loofburrow #
James Peter May
Thomas William McDougall
Martin T. McKnight, Oregon State
Clifford J. Monlux #
Marcus W. Mountford, Kansas State
Mark Daniel Murray #
Gordon Duane Olson
Tracey Steele Ramirez *
David L. Roller, Friend of Acacia *
Pete Spencer Sechler
Patrick Douglas Sheehan
Scott M. Valley
Peter Gunter Viethaler #
($99 & below)
Carl S. Kuntz *
Jed W. Morris
Michael Scott See
Robert W. Williamson
Clay F. Wilson

Wisconsin - Michael S. Hannes Memorial Scholarship Fund
($500+)
Kevin Thomas May
James L. McFarland
($200-$499)
William C. Andrae *
Brian Roger Durst
David John Engeldinger #
Jeanne E. Hannes, Friend of Acacia *
Blake John Hutchison *
Curtis Richard Waltz *
($175 & below)
Matthew Carl Dunning *
Jeffrey David Kjome
Michael James Steininger *
Acacia Foundation of Wisconsin *

Additional Foundation Funds
John F. Hoffner Leadership Series
($1,000)
John F. Hoffner

International Council Speaker
($250+)
Jeremy Nicolas Davis, Iowa State
Scott H. Meyer, Saint Cloud State
Robert E. Roberson, Ill. Wesleyan
Message from the Foundation

Darold W. Larson, Washington State ’81
Executive Director
Acacia Fraternity Foundation

That Winning Season

We learn early in childhood there are four seasons to the calendar year – spring, summer, fall and winter. However, growing up in the Pacific Northwest, I quickly learned of only two seasons – rainy and overcast. I have since refined my seasons to three: baseball, football and basketball.

As you read this issue of The Triad we are in the midst of football season. What is your favorite team? I generally search the dial for Washington State (my alma mater), Indiana (family’s alma mater) or Texas Christian (coached by Gary Patterson, Kansas State ’80). Rooting for those first two schools reminds me of oft quoted Albert Einstein’s definition of insanity – doing (watching) the same thing over and over again and expecting different results... a winning season.

The third school on my list, Texas Christian, was a program in despair after decades of mediocrity and was a non-invite to the then-new Big 12 Conference. It was a vagabond program in search of an identity and a conference. In the year 2000, TCU hired Acacian Gary Patterson to lead the football program as head coach. Since that time, TCU can proclaim a top five winning percentage and a permanent conference home in the Big 12.

It is not difficult to draw a parallel between a successful college football program and a well-run fraternity program. Brother Patterson would be the first to stress the importance of recruiting good players to develop and maintain a successful football program. Other elements key to a successful program are preparation, planning, practice, facilities, and, perhaps the crucial element, creating an atmosphere for a winning attitude.

Unfortunately some chapters experience a successful recruitment period one year, relish their success, and then relax their efforts the following year. The result is cyclical operations – constant ups and downs, peaks and valleys. For newer chapters this is sometimes evidenced as a “post-chartering slump.” TCU is still a relative newcomer in the elite ranks of college football programs. A couple of years of poor recruiting would turn Patterson’s Horned Frogs into also-rans. Fortunately, Brother Patterson has built such a program that for the elite football player, TCU is a school of first choice.

The goal for the Acacia Fraternity Foundation is to support the Fraternity in its goal to make Acacia a fraternity of first choice. To rise above the cyclical nature of fraternity operations, Acacia’s game plan for success includes educational programming throughout the year. This includes our Cornerstones membership program, the Acacia Leadership Academy, the Biennial Conclave, the Lee Kearney Venerable Dean Summit, and our chapter visitation program. The Foundation, through the generosity of its donors, helps make this possible.

Last year the Foundation provided $140,000 in support for the Headquarters’ operation, $130,000 in scholarships to undergraduates, and nearly $200,000 in qualified ‘bricks and mortar’ projects for chapter housing. Although not the only factor, I believe the Fraternity’s three-percent growth over the last five years is a by-product of this educational programming and financial support.

I recently attended a seminar in which it was stated that only 4 to 5% of alumni give back to their Fraternities with their Time, Talent or Treasure. Those figures mirror Acacia. Our challenge? Increase contributions from our current donors, re-acquire support from our lapsed donors, and acquire contributions from new donors to net an increase of $50,000 in contributions.

You should have recently received an Annual Fund mailing with the announcement of a matching gift challenge, as one AFF board member has agreed to increase his support to $50,000. Acacia continues to be a positive influence in the lives of our members, and your contribution enables us to secure a future in which tomorrow’s Acacians may realize the same life-long benefits of fraternal membership.

I make no apologies asking for alumni support, whether it be hands-on involvement, financial contributions – or both – because I know that the fraternal experience provided by Acacia has been a valuable one for tens of thousands of brothers. Like Brother Patterson and TCU, let’s make 2014-15 a winning season for my favorite team – Acacia Fraternity!

Fraternally,

Darold W. Larson

The Triad
Acacia is symbolic of immortality. For centuries it has been emblematic of eternal life. Though we are now deprived of the physical presence of our brother, each of us shall always carry his life within us. What he accomplished and stood for cannot be taken away. He stands now, as always, with his God, and for this we must be grateful.

Chapter Eternal

ARIZONA
James F. LeCain, #53

CALIFORNIA
Bern R. Swarts, #268
Hiram N. Bishop, #274
Harry D. Finch, #277
Roney A. Noonan, #279
Frank Lewis, #284
Harry J Cartwright, #285
Charles R. Poppe, #430

CENTRAL FLORIDA
Leroy K. Silva, #72

COLORADO
Edward J. Meikkel, Jr., #343

COLORADO STATE
Robert E. Manville, #84
G. Thomas Bunch, #230

CORNELL
Robert C. Bradley, #365

GEORGE WASHINGTON
Richard E. Hurdle, #233
John C. Cherry, #278
Edward M. Felegy, #301

ILLINOIS
Melvin W. Rapp, #710
William H. Gustin, #850
Neal R. Frankel, #1260

ILLINOIS WESLEYAN
Robert L. Seabright, #88

INDIANA
Robert C. Kohlmeier, #389
Fletcher S. McCracken, #571
David K. Trenary, #634
L. Craig Fulmer, #773

IOWA STATE
Donald L. Beachler, #376
Donald J. Biegler, #393
James T. Parry, #464
John H. Post, #465
Gerol L. Goodlove, #490

KANSAS STATE
Kyle L. Moran, #314
Glenn Frakes, #322
Richard L. Alexander, #356
Lee S. Russell, #377
Stanley R. Miller, #490
Rodney R. Jarrett, #523
Clinton A. Hueslenskamp, #756
John E. Puchosic, #900

MIAMI
Linn E. Belden, #174

MINNESOTA
William A. Allen, #518

NEBRASKA
James F. McLeod, #641

NORTHEASTERN
Arthur W. McAdoo, #285
Thomas D. Goder, #487

OHIO
Kenneth L. Coe, #29

OKLAHOMA
Robert Reed, #536

OKLAHOMA
Lendell E. Steele, #432
Joe L. Baumgardner, #808
Robert B. Robitshek, #830

OKLAHOMA STATE
Donald L. Bransome, #349

PENN STATE
John G. Johnson, #458

PURDUE
William K. Delaplane, #415
Jake H. Coyner, Jr., #490
Donald C. Peary, #582
Bruce C. Gessley, #1021
Sagar G. Patel, #1733

R. Craig Fulmer, Indiana ’61

Brother L. Craig Fulmer of the Indiana Chapter passed to Chapter Eternal on May 21, 2014 at the age of 71.

After graduating from Lawrence Central High School in Indianapolis, Fulmer attended Indiana University where he joined Acacia and graduated with a B.S. in Accounting and an MBA. He began his career at Ernst and Young in Indianapolis, Fulmer attended Indiana University, and he worked in the dairy industry for Borden. He retired from Quality Chekd Dairy Association in 1990.

Ronald D. Hill, Washington State ’64

Ronald David Hill, loving husband and father, passed to Chapter Eternal unexpectedly at home on February 26, 2014.

Brother Hill received his undergraduate degree from Washington State University where he played football as a defensive back and was a member of Acacia Fraternity where he served as Venerable Dean in 1965-66. Hill received his Masters Degree from Iowa State University.

After graduation, Hill worked for Shell Oil Company before starting his long career as a Career Advisor and Development Officer at Florida State University (where he met his wife Mary), Georgia Southwestern State University, UGA’s School of Law, and Brenau University before retiring.

Ron served as the Director of the FSU Presidents Club and, during retirement, Treasurer of the Oconee County Dug-Out Club.

Barry E. Knapp, #529
Randolph W. Stotts, #791

KANSAS STATE

L. Craig Fulmer served his community as a board member of United Way, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Kiwanis Club, Downtown Economic Development Corp, Elkhart County Community Foundation, Beacon Healthcare Systems, ADEC, Lake City Bank, Sam’aritan Center and Riverview Adult Day Care. In addition he served on LaSalle Council of Boy Scouts of America, United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, Univ. of Indianapolis and Nature Conservancy of Indiana.

Fulmer has been recognized as Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year, Boy Scout National Distinguished Eagle and United Way Volunteer of the Year, Salvation Army Trinity recipient, Lewis Armstrong Award, and Ernestine Raclin Community Leader.

Brother Fulmer was an active member of Trinity United Methodist Church where he was a Sunday school teacher and a youth counselor. He also worked with children in the Elkhart community as a CARES mentor.

A long-time supporter and donor to Acacia Fraternity and the Acacia Fraternity Foundation, Brother Fulmer served on the AFF Board of Directors for several years and was recognized as George F. Patterson, Jr. Outstanding Alumnus in 1994, received the Award of Merit in 1990, and named to the Order of Pythagoras in 1981.

Chapter Eternal

Melvin W. Rapp, Illinois ’49

Melvin “Mel” Rapp, age 84, passed to Chapter Eternal at home on June 10, 2014. He was born March 19, 1930 in Peoria to Karl and Edith Rapp.

Rapp grew up in Peoria and graduated from the University of Illinois, where he met Carol Linde. They were married on August 14, 1954 in Rockford while Mel was serving in the US Army. He earned his MBA at Bradley University, and he worked in the dairy industry for Borden. He retired from Quality Chekd Dairy Association in 1990.

Chapter Eternal

As an Acacia Fraternity alumnus, Brother Rapp served on the Acacia Fraternity Foundation Board of Directors and the Illinois Acacia Corporation Board. He was also the Co-Chapter Advisor from 2010 until his death. He was recognized for his efforts with the George F. Patterson, Jr. Outstanding Alumnus Award in 2012 and the Award of Merit and Order of Pythagoras in 2007.

Chapter Eternal

Ronald D. Hill,
Washington State ’64

Chapter Eternal

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Chapter Eternal
Are you an Acacia Mom or Dad receiving this issue of The Triad?

If your son has recently moved, we’d love to have his new address to keep in touch with fraternity publications like The Triad. Please send us (or ask him to send us) a quick update at communications@acacia.org or 317-872-8210. Feel free to keep and read this Triad! We’ll send him another copy.