Recognizing our “Hall of Fame” Brothers:
Lessons learned from Ron Santo and Rush

When I sat down early this winter to write a piece for the TRIAD, an issue in which we highlight the Order of Pythagoras, the timing seemed appropriate. As each year winds down, we are inundated with all types of year-end awards. The baseball and football Halls of Fame announce their candidates for induction. Newspapers and magazines make year-end “best of” lists. These honors are bestowed with the idea of recognizing worthy contributions in any given field.

In many cases, the announcements spark discussion about the relative merits of the nominees, and who or what should have been included or excluded. Acacians have enjoyed friendly debates such as these for years -- making a case for the long overdue selections of Chicago Cubs third baseman Ron Santo or the band Rush to their respective Halls of Fame, or asserting that The Avengers is better than The Dark Knight Rises. The differences of opinion that arise are almost endless when it comes to who is a first-ballot Hall-of-Famer, or whether the highest-grossing movie of the year was also the best.

When Acacia presents a brother with an Order of Pythagoras award, I do not recall any such debates; however, there have been some instances where the question was asked, “what took so long?” Unlike the MLB Hall of Fame, we all have the power to avert this question because the nomination process is simple. In order to be considered for an Order of Pythagoras award, two or more brothers must prepare a nomination and send it to the International Council for review and a vote. Without a nomination, there is no Order of Pythagoras.

Nominations can be made by any brother; you do not have to be a chapter officer, serve on the alumni board, or be an OP recipient yourself. All that is needed are two or more brothers to tell us the story of a nominee’s service to Acacia beyond the ordinary call of duty. And by sharing that story of special service, the nominators themselves are also providing a service to Acacia.

I believe that there are some Acacians who have not been properly recognized for their service to the Fraternity. Unlike the Award of Merit and the George F. Patterson, Jr. Outstanding Alumnus Award, there are no limits on the number of OP’s that can be awarded each year, and undergraduates are also eligible for the OP. It is important that brothers are recognized when they have truly met the standard for the award, and I ask you to consider your brothers for recognition when they deserve it.

I feel it is preferable to recognize someone for a contribution in a timely fashion than to wait, sometimes waiting until too many years have passed. I am sure my fellow Cubs fans wish Ron Santo had received his recognition at least two years earlier when he was around to see it, and I am equally sure that Brother McGrath, while believing it long overdue, is happy now that Rush has earned their recognition, too.

Robert E. Roberson
Inside this issue:

- Page 5: Origins of the Order of Pythagoras
- Page 7: 57th Biennial Conclave
- Page 13: Acacia commemorates our 50,000th initiation
- Page 15: Expansion & colonization update
- Page 17: Colorado Chapter prepares for historic move
- Page 21: Chapter news & updates
- Page 25: A brother’s fight with testicular cancer
- Page 29: Acacia Fraternity Foundation Donors
- Page 32: Chapter Eternal

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(AcAciA Blog)

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What’s In Your Wallet?

Anyone that knows me personally can attest that I am a television junkie. My TV is usually turned on the minute I wake up and is on any time I am home. When I go to bed, it’s still on with the timer set to go off after I have fallen asleep. I have my favorite shows that I watch over and over. In fact, I get a little ribbing in the office about particular shows that are always on at my house. I recently purchased my first DVR, so those shows are always available if I want to watch them over (and over) again.

The DVR purchase not only gave me the ability to record my favorite shows, but it also allowed me to skip through the commercials if I so desired. But, the TV junkie I am, even some of the commercials peak my interest. I have to admit, I look forward to seeing some of the repeat characters. Some characters, past and present, that are my favorites include Flo, the Progressive Insurance salesperson, the GEICO cavemen and the AFLAC duck, to name a few. Another one of the best is the variety of the Capital One credit card commercials. I’m sure you’ve seen the various versions with Jimmy Fallon, Alec Baldwin, and my personal favorite, the barbarian/viking-type characters from the Middle Ages. These specific characters are shown ransacking present day scenes with the ultimate ending of, “What’s In Your Wallet?” The point of the commercial is to determine if the credit card you use meets your financial needs and what it can do for you.

Each time I see this commercial, I can’t help but think how it relates to our Fraternity.

Over the past year, we have had a number of calls at the international office from brothers asking for replacement membership cards. For one reason or another they had misplaced it, lost it, run it through the washer, or were just looking for one that was no longer tattered or torn. The Acacia membership card, as simple as it is, is a distinctive reminder for our members, helping us recall what our beloved Fraternity has given us.

Much like the Capital One commercial asks, I wonder, has Acacia met your fraternal needs?

Think back upon your undergraduate years through today. How has Acacia worked for you? When I look at my membership card, it reminds me of all the additional skills I learned as an undergraduate. Acacia taught me leadership skills and organizational management, both as a chapter officer and a campus organization leader, something I would not have had the opportunity to do otherwise. I learned to build relationships with other brothers from my own chapter and those across North America. But most importantly, it gave me life-long friendships, past and present. Today, programs like Cornerstones help our undergraduates develop skills in those areas and prepare for a career, and surely the ties of life-long friendship are still formed within the halls of today’s Acacia chapters.

Just recently, I received a text message from a brother who had met with a group of Acacians for dinner. The text included the comment, “look what Rob pulled from his wallet,” and a picture of his membership card. Several years after his graduation, his membership card continued to serve as a reminder of his undergraduate years and his proud membership in Acacia Fraternity.

Chances are that you don’t watch as much television as I do, but the next time you tune in, especially now during March Madness, listen closely. You’re sure to hear the familiar refrain from those Capital One commercials, “What’s In Your Wallet?” Think about your Acacia membership card, and take a moment to reflect. How has Acacia met your fraternal needs?

Keith M. Bushey
A Biennium of Growth

Though it seems like just yesterday that brothers assembled along the triangle at the 57th Biennial Conclave and Leadership Academy in St. Louis, we already find ourselves approaching the midpoint of the biennium! A great year -- part of an upward trend over the past few years -- finds us excited to see what the future holds for Acacia. Let’s first take a look at Acacia today.

Acacia’s membership today

Acacia Fraternity’s chapter roll currently stands at 32 chapters and 4 colonies. Over the past three years, Acacia has seen 18% growth in the size of our undergraduate membership, with 1054 active members reported to start the 2012-13 academic year. Additionally, our chapters and colonies reported 302 initiations for the fall 2012 semester. With pledge and initiation numbers still being reported for the current spring semester, we project approximately 150 more initiations to be completed by the end of the academic year.

Although there is no supporting data, it appears that in a state of economic recession, chapter membership is on the rise across the Greek community. Is it coincidence? Perhaps. But it may be telling that many of our active members are reporting that the value of fraternity goes beyond a four-year experience and reaches to alumni networking and future employment opportunities.

Expansion activity

The last few years have seen an aggressive expansion strategy for Acacia, a pattern which will continue through the current biennium and beyond. During the past two years, Acacia added colonies on four campuses, including Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas; the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan; Trine University (formerly Tri-State) in Angola, Indiana; and Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois. Both the Trine and Illinois State colonies are thriving, while Michigan and Texas Tech are gradually building momentum.

Three re-colonizations are firmly on the expansion calendar: Indiana University (2014), the University of Iowa (2015), and the University of Vermont (fall 2013). In addition to those firmly scheduled plans, we have had contact with interest groups or university administration at Missouri School of Science & Technology (formerly Missouri School of Mines), the University of Nebraska-Omaha, the University of Nebraska-Kearney, Emporia State University, Saint Louis University, University of Massachusetts-Lowell, Florida Gulf Coast University and the University of Minnesota.

Why fraternities? Why Acacia?

The fraternal values movement of the 21st century is renewing the tradition and founding principles of Greek-letter organizations which have prospered for nearly two centuries. The opportunities for leadership development, service, brotherhood, academic achievement, networking, and social engagement that are offered through values-based organizations are appealing to the best students on campus. While every Greek organization touts its mission and values, Acacia’s membership development program, Cornerstones, has served as a tangible way to put our mission and values into practice. While we’re still learning how to quantify our success with Cornerstones, we know it has had a real impact on expansion opportunities and opened doors to Acacia that were once closed. Our efforts over the past three years have revealed that university officials, parents, alumni, and college men alike resonate with the type of programming that Cornerstones represents – an opportunity to develop the tools and skills necessary to achieve success in today’s competitive marketplace.

Continuing our journey

Our outlook for Acacia over the remainder of this biennium is very positive. With continued success in expansion and further development of Cornerstones going hand-in-hand, we expect our membership to continue growing -- both in our numbers and in the depth and value of the Acacia experience.

“Networking & future employment”
Origins of the *Order of Pythagoras*

It’s fun to recognize that, as a fraternity entering its 109th year, a half-century old tradition could be considered contemporary. In fact, such a claim could be made by nearly half of our members, as any Acacian initiated before the award’s inauguration in 1962 could have at one time called the Order of Pythagoras a “new” invention.

The legend

Legend has it that national Acacia leaders recognized that, while many brothers in both the alumni and active ranks were worthy of distinction, the exclusivity of the Award of Merit limited our potential to honor deserving brothers. Thus they endeavored to create a new award, the *Order of Pythagoras*, to recognize other Acacians for their efforts to better our fraternity’s record.

The evidence

The limited material we have on the origin of the OP speaks truth to legend: As quoted in our December 1962 issue of *The TRIAD*, the new award was “designed to recognize outstanding service to the fraternity in areas not present in the Acacia Award of Merit.”

(The full excerpt is to the right.)

And today

The criteria for an Order of Pythagoras award are essentially the same today. Any worthy brother can be considered for the award when nominated by two other brothers, and one does not need to hold any special office to be nominated or serve as nominator. Election to the Order of Pythagoras is determined by the International Council and may include alumni, undergraduates and, on rare occasion, non-Acacians.

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**63 ACACIANS GET NEW PYTHAGOREAN AWARD AT AUSTIN**

New to Acacia is an honorary award -- “The Order of Pythagoras” -- presented for the first time at Austin during the 32nd biennial Conclave. Designed to recognize outstanding service to the fraternity in areas not present in the Acacia Award of Merit (usually given only to alumni), the Order of Pythagoras can go to actives as well.

At Austin a total of 63 Pythagorean Orders were presented by President Krieger at the Tuesday luncheon. Candidates for this newest award include:

1) Past field secretaries; 2) Actives transferring to other chapters to assist in rehabilitation activities; 3) Alumni giving long service to the chapter through housing corporations, fund drives, building or remodeling projects, etc.; 4) Outstanding chapter advisors; 5) Alumni contributing outstandingly to new chapters; 6) Actives serving beyond the normal call of duty either to their chapters or for campus activities.

Commenting on the new award, Executive Secretary Roy Clark points out that the current recipient list is lengthy, that it is a composite of recommendations from many sources, and that there are omissions. “Candidates for future recognition are welcomed,” says Roy, and they can be nominated by both chapters and alumni.
Recognizing someone demonstrates awareness and gratitude for exemplary behavior. Sometimes simply showing that you are aware of someone's dedication, hard work, or persistence will give them the motivation that they need to continue to act in an exemplary manner. Within the fraternity environment, recognizing exemplary behavior not only leads to more positive outcomes, but also motivates brothers who witness that recognition.

Recognition provides others with an exemplary model to follow. We've all heard the famous Charles Caleb Colton phrase, “imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.” To cultivate praiseworthy efforts from all brothers, we must first recognize those excellent brothers and actions which are most worth imitating, so that we may encourage others to model similar behavior. We may not always get it right, but it matters that we have examples to follow.

Let’s consider the following reasons for giving recognition:

Recognition demonstrates awareness and gratitude for exemplary behavior. Sometimes simply showing that you are aware of an individual’s dedication, hard work, or persistence will give them the motivation that they need to continue to act in an exemplary manner. Within the fraternity environment, recognizing exemplary behavior not only leads to more positive outcomes, but also motivates brothers who witness that recognition.

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Three ways to recognize your members, co-workers, and others:

**Verbal recognition** is everything from sharing a private comment with a specific member to recognizing a “Brother of the Week” during chapter meetings and asking him to stand for brief applause. Verbal recognition is easy, direct, affordable, and abundant.

**Formal recognition** could include holding an event for the specific purpose of presenting awards, trophies, or plaques. Examples here include award presentations at Conclave and the Acacia Leadership Academy, and also the scholarships awarded at the Acacia Fraternity Foundation Scholarship Luncheon. This category can also include any form of public recognition on a larger scale, such as chapter newsletters, placements in the student newspaper, and social media posts -- these methods are more formal than a verbal comment because of the potential for many more people to take note.

**Certificates & awards** include any recognition that includes giving the honoree an item to serve as a constant physical reminder of how much they are appreciated. For Acacia, this category includes your membership badge, scholarship and award certificates, and the Order of Pythagoras lapel pin, among others.

Perhaps the most important lesson here is that non-monetary recognition of positive behavior is the most effective tool we have. The cost of recognizing a brother for an award like the Order of Pythagoras is minimal, but the impact on that brother’s life can be immense. It doesn’t cost much to prepare a certificate or purchase a lapel pin, but the statement behind the award can be motivation enough for a brother to stay involved for years to come as an alumni volunteer.

Who can you recognize today?
MEMBERSHIP GROWTH
Acacia experienced strong growth over the past decade with active membership reaching over 1000 men. This figure is a high point over the last decade. Turn to page 4 for more details on how we’ve succeeded in expanding our membership.

In addition to active membership growth, we continue to expand to new campuses across the country. Current colonies include Michigan, Illinois State, and Trine University. Turn to page XX for a more in-depth colony update. Upcoming expansions include Iowa (fall 2015) and the University of Vermont. The headquarters operation has also experienced an influx in the number of interest groups getting in touch with us about colonization.

Reviewing the past biennium & setting the course for the future

57th Biennial Conclave
Brothers were greeted by sweltering summer temperatures and humidity as they arrived in St. Louis on August 1, 2012 for four days of business and brotherhood at Acacia Fraternity’s 57th Biennial Conclave and Leadership Academy.

Empowered by the theme, Architects of our Future, Acacians of all ages gathered to conduct the business of the fraternity, acquire new skills and share ideas, and strengthen the ties of friendship, one with another.

Patrick McGovern, Director of Membership Development, sets the stage for the week.

Architects of our
FINANCIAL HEALTH
The financial health of the fraternity improved greatly in the last two years under the leadership of President Robert E. Roberson, Illinois Wesleyan ’74, International Treasurer Anthony D.J. Phillips, Carleton ’06, and Executive Director Keith M. Bushey, Indiana ’86. Our accounts receivable diminished greatly, with many chapters working hard to address the debt saddled upon them by their predecessors.

The Conclave delegation, on the recommendation of the finance committee, voted to increase pledge fees from $70 to $85 and annual dues from $120 to $125. The cost of per capita liability insurance also increased from $165 to $175.

ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNANCE
A frequent topic of conversation — and often confusion — is that of governance and organizational structure among the international fraternity, alumni associations, housing corporation boards, and active membership. Common issues include housing, taxation, donations, and scholarships. In order to resolve these questions and provide increased continuity across generations of leadership, a new task force led by International Counselor Brian S. Downs, Central Oklahoma ’99, and International Second Vice President Jeremy N. Davis, Iowa State ’00, will address these issues.

MEMBERSHIP EDUCATION
Cornerstones, the Membership Development Program of Acacia Fraternity, still a relatively young program at six years, continues to evolve and have a greater impact on our active members, chapters, and alumni.

- Our active membership is truly taking ownership of the program with the formation of the Undergraduate Cornerstones Task Force, led by brothers from several participating chapters. The UCTF is charged with creating programs to advance individual and chapter development.
- Director of Membership Development Patrick W. McGovern, Indiana ’99, has assembled resources at AcaciaCornerstones.org to inspire and enable lifelong learning.
- The “Alumni Track” of Conclave continues to grow and provide our alumni members with new skills and expertise. This year’s highlight was programming that helps workplace managers understand how to best work with the millennial generation.

COMMUNICATIONS
An area that the fraternity looks to improve is communications. Immediately preceding Conclave, the Headquarters staff added a full-time Director of Communications, Michael Pastko, Purdue ’04, to lead this effort. Brother Pastko previously served in this capacity from 2007-2009 and has already bolstered our operations in this area since his return in July 2012.

Our chapters continue to adopt ACACIAconnect, an online resource provided jointly by ChapterSpot.com and Acacia Headquarters. ACACIAconnect provides our chapters with an internal management & communications network and a website builder tool.
New International Council officers:

**International First Vice President**  
Scott H. Meyer, St. Cloud State ’89

**International Second Vice President**  
Jeremy N. Davis, Iowa State ’00

**Undergraduate Counselor**  
George “Chip” A. Ray, Penn State ’10

**Undergraduate Counselor**  
Joel A. Zeni, Oregon State ’10

Special thanks go to the following brothers leaving the Council this year for their hours of service and dedication to Acacia!

**International First Vice President**  
J. Scott Cleland, Ohio ’88

**Undergraduate Counselor**  
Justin M. M. Kaplan, Carleton ’07

**Undergraduate Counselor**  
Michael S. Weber, Iowa State ’06

The International Council and Headquarters staff would like to extend our sincerest thank you to our Conclave Fellows for their continued support and dedication to Acacia and their willingness to provide leadership and education to this year’s undergraduates.

Jeremy N. Davis, Iowa State ’00  
Brian S. Downs, Central Oklahoma ’99  
Jonathan A. Janoski, Cal PA ’08  
Scott H. Meyer, St. Cloud State ’89

**INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

Up for election at Conclave were the positions of International First and Second Vice Presidents and both Undergraduate Counselor positions. After a close election, Acacia welcomed new **International First Vice President Scott H. Meyer, St. Cloud State ’89**, to the Council. Running unopposed for a second term, we congratulate **International Second Vice President Jeremy N. Davis, Iowa State ’00**, on his re-election. Five strong candidates were nominated to serve as Undergraduate Counselor, with the delegation electing brothers **George “Chip” A. Ray, Penn State ’10**, and **Joel A. Zeni, Oregon State ’10**. All officers were sworn in during the final Conclave banquet.

**FEATURED PROGRAMS AND ENTERTAINMENT**

On Wednesday, August 1, attendees enjoyed the comedy hypnotism of **Brother Doug G. MacCraw, Nebraska ’86**. Brother MacCraw’s show had Acacians laughing non-stop and set the stage for a great week.

Thursday’s featured program, part of the **John F. Hoffner Leadership Series**, was “The Young and the Restless: A Millennial’s Guide to Success.” Jeffrey Hiller of Job Bound explored the difference between work attitudes and preferences among various generations, while helping actives get ready to enter the workforce after graduation. Jeff later presented, “Dude, What’s my Job?” to our alumni attendees which provided a perspective on managing millennials in the workforce.

In supporting our motto of **Human Service**, dozens of Acacians donated blood to support the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center on Friday afternoon. Our brothers’ donations helped almost 100 people in need of blood this year.

“How Do You Want to be Remembered?” was the question posed by Friday’s speaker, Kent Stock. Kent’s story of following your passion, always having a Plan B, and being conscious about your interactions had an impact on all who attended.

Friday evening, dozens of Acacians braved the intense heat and humidity at Busch Stadium to watch the St. Louis Cardinals defeat division rival Milwaukee, 9-3. A second group of brothers visited the the City Museum. We also welcomed local alumni to join us for the **George F. Patterson Society Alumni Reception**.

On Saturday, featured speaker Andrew McCrea presented, “Losing to Win: The Leadership Paradox” as part of the speaking program sponsored by the International Council of Acacia Fraternity. Andrew illustrated that sometimes the direction you are heading is 180 degrees from where you thought you’d be and demonstrated how to adapt to changing circumstances.
FINALS BANQUET AND AWARDS & HONORS

The 57th Biennial Conclave Final Banquet was held on Saturday, August 4, 2012. A formal dinner was enjoyed by all in attendance, with brothers of all generations joining to celebrate our Acacia experience together. The fraternity awarded our highest chapter awards, including the Malcolm Award (also known as the Founders’ Achievement Award) for top chapter of the biennium and Acacia’s highest individual honors.

INDIVIDUAL HONOREES: (All winners pictured L-R)

Robert W. Mickam, Texas ’85
Jeremy N. Davis, Iowa State ’00
Pictured in center:
Robert E. Roberson, Illinois Wesleyan ’74
Other winners not pictured:
Edward Cunnington, Minnesota ’63
Larry Forsland, Minnesota ’61
 Lucas D. Shivers, Kansas State ’01

Melvin W. Rapp, Illinois ’49
Ronald T. Hopkins, Syracuse ’69
Pictured in center:
Keith M. Bushey, Indiana ’86

Justin M. M. Kaplan, Carleton ’07
Michael S. Weber, Iowa State ’06
Nicholas M. Montanari, Wash. State ’08
Joshua J. Gannon, Oregon State ’07

Robert W. Mickam, Texas ’85
Jeremy N. Davis, Iowa State ’00
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Justin M. M. Kaplan, Carleton ’07
Michael S. Weber, Iowa State ’06
Nicholas M. Montanari, Wash. State ’08
Joshua J. Gannon, Oregon State ’07
Acacia Fraternity and the Acacia Fraternity Foundation were proud to hold the William A. Utic Acacia Fraternity Foundation Scholarship Banquet, so named at Conclave 2010 in recognition of the tireless service of William A. Utic, Cornell ’74, to the Foundation. Brother Utic served as keynote speaker of the event as part of the Dr. Irving M. Field Lectureship Series. Through the generous support of Foundation donors, numerous scholarships were awarded to deserving undergraduate members. Also awarded during the banquet were the Spirit of Excellence awards, earned by chapters for excellence in specific areas of chapter operations.

**Executive Director’s Award**  
(Most improved chapter)  
Illinois Wesleyan

**President’s Award**  
(Chapter growth)  
Ohio

**G.K. Nelson Academic Programming**  
Iowa State, Kansas State

**Alumni Programming/Advisory**  
Illinois, Colorado, Kansas State

**Best Publication**  
Iowa State, California (PA)

**Athletic Achievement**  
Penn State

**Campus Leadership**  
Kansas State, California (PA)

**Chapter Programming/Membership Education**  
Kansas State

**Communication Technology**  
Illinois Wesleyan, Kansas State

**Dining Operations**  
Nebraska

**Financial Operations**  
Kansas State, Iowa State

**Good of the Fraternity**  
Ohio, Iowa State

**House Management**  
Wisconsin, Saint Cloud State

**Human Service**  
Oregon State, Penn State, Ohio

**Membership Recruitment**  
Ohio, Penn State

**Officer Organization**  
Syracuse

**Pledge Education**  
Ohio State, Texas

**Ritual Exemplification**  
Illinois Wesleyan

**Risk Management**  
Nebraska

**Best Young Chapter**  
Washington State

**Chapter Advisor of the Biennium**  
Cory S. Oakley, Ohio ’94

**Largest Conclave Delegation**  
Kansas State

**Most Man Miles Traveled to Conclave**  
Morningside

Special thanks to Conclave attendee Casey W. Shea, Colorado ’10, for his formal photography of award winners.
Scholarship Recipients

The Foundation awarded over 140 scholarships totaling $121,756 in the past year from chapter scholarship programs and the General Fund.

The Foundation was proud to award the following brothers with International-level scholarships during the 2012-2013 academic year:

**Duncan McPherson Fraternityship**
Joel A. Zeni, Oregon State

**George F. Patterson, Jr. Scholarship**
Derek E. Robison, Iowa State

**Emma C. Allen Memorial Scholarship**
Jerod K. Miles, Central Oklahoma
Andrew A. Floyd, Michigan

**David J. Allen Scholarship**
George “Chip” Ray, Penn State

**Acacia Fraternity Foundation Scholarship**
Benjamin M. Lurie, California
Zackary W. Morris, California
Eric R. Ruzalski, Illinois
Michael J.D. Hoefer, Iowa State
Gabriel J. McCoy, Iowa State
Andrew G. Broeckelman, Kansas State
William Chu, Syracuse

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**YOU CAN MAKE AN IMPACT**

Your gift to the Acacia Fraternity Foundation demonstrates your commitment to the future of our Fraternity. Help foster a level of excellence and expand our programs of leadership, brotherhood, membership development, and fraternity operations.

Doing your part is easier than ever! Just visit www.acacia.org and click “Donate Today” or call Darold Larson, AFF Executive Director, at 317-872-8210.
ACACIA FRATERNITY COMMEMORATES OUR 50,000TH INITIATION

Over 108 years ago, the first Acacia pledges stood before the active chapter in Ann Arbor, Michigan as candidates for initiation. We can only imagine the scene that day as R. W. Bunting and C.C. Van Valkenburgh were challenged to address the brothers before them, but we can probably guess they weren’t thinking about how many men would come after them.

Who could predict that over a century later, Acacia Fraternity would call its 50,000th candidate, Brother? As difficult as it may have been to conceive then, it’s arguably even harder to believe today.

Think about this — Acacia has endured two World Wars, the Great Depression and periods of acute economic uncertainty, and incredible social transformation at home and abroad. We’ve witnessed the invention of the radio, television, and Internet, and watched mankind walk on the moon.

Today, the challenges and opportunities before us are as great as ever. An increasingly populated and globalized world make our lives and those of future generations unique to any that have preceded us. How will we, as Acacians, rise to the challenge of this 21st century and beyond? How will our guiding principle of Human Service lead us in giving light to our fellow man? What hand will Acacians play in shaping the future of technology? The humanities?

When the University of Central Oklahoma Chapter greeted candidate A. Connor Johnson as (next page...)
"Brother" for the first time on October 27, 2012, it marked a proud milestone for our fraternity — 50,000 men have been initiated as Acacia brothers. 50,000 men whose unique stories combine to tell the Acacia story, whose individual and collective actions as brothers have sustained our fraternity for generations.

Only time will tell what lies ahead for Acacia and the changing world around us, but we can be sure — from Bunting and Van Valkenburgh to Johnson — that Acacians will be there taking an active part. Cheers to Acacia!

Did the 50,000th feel any different than the other initiations? Or was it business as usual?

It was very much business as usual, although it was hard to ignore what this group of initiates would represent and ‘who’ would fall as the 50,000th member. We did stop and take the time to celebrate, but that moment was not about that one guy or the Central Oklahoma Chapter. This was about Acacia as a fraternity at large having reached a significant moment in our fraternal history! I think being in that building and taking the time to truly discuss what that moment signified had a meaningful impact on most all of us.

What does it feel like to have played this part in Acacia’s 108-year history?

It was very cool. I’ve had the opportunity to be a member of Acacia (and proud of it) for nearly 10 years now. I remember the Centennial celebration and how cool that was, but this was something different. This was one day, one occasion, and one moment where I was able to witness and document the moment for all to see for the next 100 years. The moment was, of course, bigger than me but to be able to snap the photo at exactly the moment where the Venerable Dean called him a brother was a huge moment for me and something I’ll cherish for a very long while.
1 **MICHIGAN COLONY**

Growth of the Michigan Colony continues to be a slow and steady process during its second year, as the re-founding members have worked hard to get established on this competitive campus. To assist with recruitment efforts, the Headquarters staff recently dispatched new Leadership Consultant, Nicholas M. Montanari, *Washington State ’08*, to Ann Arbor, MI. Brother Montanari is working diligently to recruit men from 70+ other student groups on campus and is spreading the word in creative ways like shoveling “ACACIA” in giant letters in the snow. Nick has already built a list of over 100 potential new members. The roots of Acacia run deep at the University of Michigan, and this colony will prevail with continued dedication.

2 **TRINE COLONY**

The Trine Colony continues to impress the university, local alumni, Acacia international leadership, and everyone around them. They have taken charge and made it their mission to be one of the best fraternities on campus, a tremendous goal for a group just founded in Fall 2011. The alumni support in the Angola, IN area has been fantastic, and recruitment efforts have been especially strong given the small size of the university. Expect great things from this group in the future, and look for them to petition for chartering soon.

3 **ILLINOIS STATE COLONY**

The Illinois State Colony formed during the spring 2012 semester after a few ISU students made friends with members of the neighboring Illinois Wesleyan Chapter. Shortly after, the first group of eight men began their journey, culminating in our first initiation at Illinois State in over 30 years in April 2012. Since that time, the new colony has thrived, adding another six members during the fall 2012 semester. The colony has been active on their campus and community and has received numerous accolades from their university.

**Current expansion opportunities:**

- **UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT** (Fall 2013)
- **UNIVERSITY OF IOWA** (2015)
- **FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY**
- **MISSOURI SCHOOL OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**
- **TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY**
- **UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND**
- **UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**

**Did you know?** There are many ways to get involved with an Acacia colony, and many don’t take much of your time. If there is a colony or upcoming expansion near you, please contact us so that we may enlist your support. Simply knowing you’re in the area is enough to encourage these young men to keep making Acacia the best it can be. Email us at execdir@acacia.org or call the International Office at (317) 872-8210 today.

**ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY** (INTEREST GROUP)

A group of SLU students contacted the Acacia international office in 2012 with a strong desire to bring Acacia Fraternity to their university. Though the university was not offering expansion opportunities during the fall semester, this group is preparing to expand its efforts through Spring 2013.
Cornerstones: A Look Ahead

As it prepares to enter its seventh year, the creation and implementation of Cornerstones: The Membership Program of Acacia Fraternity, has directly correlated to positive trends in Acacia’s membership growth - 18% growth over the past three years - and our financial health. As we see our efforts beginning to bear fruit, to what aspects of Cornerstones do we attribute that success?

- Bringing discussion of our core values of Virtue, Knowledge & Truth to the forefront
- Providing a framework for our members to get more active within their chapters and on campus
- Providing a framework for a constructive pledge program
- Encouraging a higher level of achievement from our members
- Helping our members articulate the benefits of joining Acacia
- Mobilizing alumni to get involved as mentors

These positive outcomes establish Cornerstones’ strong foundation as it prepares to enter the next stage of its own development. At this adolescent stage, and with that strong foundation, we still see great opportunity in learning from our efforts and shaping the program to the greatest benefit of our members and chapters.

It’s a major undertaking. Implementing such an ambitious program at the international level has demanded more of us as an organization, and we continue to learn from our successes and challenges along the way. Here are some key things we’ve learned and are actively working to improve in 2013:

Members understand the benefits of participating in a program like Cornerstones that goes beyond the typical college curriculum, but we can better communicate the nuts & bolts of how to participate. In response, we’re creating a simpler step-by-step model to guide members through the program.

We have created a wealth of personal development resources at AcaciaCornerstones.org, but we can provide a gentler learning curve for starting with the basics and transitioning into more in-depth and advanced topics. Look for us to make it easier to get started with activities like goal-setting and more natural to dive deeper into personal growth and development.

Over 200 alumni have already volunteered to serve as mentors and advisors to active members, and we’re still figuring out the best ways to create and nurture those relationships. We’re planning for greater use of online tools, including an invite-only Facebook community, to create a support network for brothers truly committed to their personal development.

Cornerstones has already had a demonstrable impact on Acacia at the international level, and we are excited to have an even greater impact on even more men as the program evolves into 2013 and beyond.
After conducting an exhaustive diligence process, the board elected to work with experienced Boulder developers Michael Boyers & Brinkman Construction to develop the new complex. Consisting of two large residential buildings, the facility is designed to be larger in scope than Acacia alone will occupy. However, Acacians are granted rights of first refusal for all units. Through a joint venture, the entire complex is still under full ownership of the housing corporation board and is operated under terms of a “ground lease.” The Plaza on Broadway, as the complex is known, is the first fraternity redevelopment in Boulder in over fifteen years.

To make way for the new facility, demolition of the old Acacia house at 955 Broadway took place on May 14, 2012, while alumni and actives were on hand to witness the scene. The wrecking crew made short work of the building that Acacians called home since 1940, and in a matter of only three hours, it was a pile of bricks and broken timber. With the site cleared and prepped, the official groundbreaking ceremony took place on June 14, and new construction followed suit at a fast and furious pace.

Next fall, members of the Colorado Chapter will move into a new space that completely redefines how one envisions fraternity living. Transitioning from a 72-year old art-deco style house into a completely new apartment-style complex, the ambitious housing project keenly reflects current trends in collegiate housing wherein “suite-style” living arrangements are becoming the new standard. More than just a series of connected suites, however, the new housing complex includes a state-of-the-art fraternity space devoted to the exclusive use of Acacia brothers.

The main chapter building will be comprised of 3,100 sq. ft. of exceptional study rooms and social space. The facility is designed to accommodate guest speakers, host educational seminars, and provide members with a supportive environment for their academic pursuits. A large kitchen and dining area will provide members and guests with a central hub for dining and conversation, while the basement affords the chapter a place to watch movies, cheer on the Buffs, and hold social functions.

Adjacent residential units are commonly composed of four bedrooms and four baths, a communal living room and balcony, and a kitchen outfitted with modern appliances. Some units also provide views of the Flatiron Mountains. Additionally, the chapter has allocated room for a live-in residential advisor.

The project is now two years in the making, as alumni serving on the chapter’s housing corporation board recognized an opportunity to redevelop their prime campus property at the same time the recently rechartered chapter was outgrowing its second house in four years.

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This innovative new housing project represents both the Colorado Chapter’s progress since its re-founding, and its new responsibilities in sustaining success. Colorado was re-chartered and named Best Young Chapter at the 56th Biennial Conclave in August 2010 and was subsequently awarded for Best Alumni Programming/Advisory in 2012, in no small part due to the leadership of alumni during this redevelopment initiative.

For more information, visit the Colorado Chapter website at acaciacolorado.org and the alumni website at colacacia.org.

This past August, when 1960s-era Illinois Wesleyan University alumni gathered for their annual Chicago-area barbecue, they cooked up more than the usual fare. With contributions from brothers and spouses exceeding $10,000, these 60s-era initiates established a new chapter scholarship fund for active members in need of financial assistance. The scholarship was a surprise announcement to the active chapter seven weeks later at the Illinois Wesleyan homecoming.

“The scholarship needed a name,” said Alan Leahigh, Illinois Wesleyan ’64, who served as Venerable Dean in 1966-67. “We decided to call it the 915 Scholarship Fund to commemorate the address of our chapter house at 915 North Main Street in Bloomington.” Although the fraternity vacated that address in the early 1980s, the number 915 holds special meaning to those who were actives in the 60s.

In creating the 915 Scholarship Fund, alumni donors decided that the university is best positioned to determine who receives the awards, with criteria specified by the alumni – second-, third- and fourth-year Acacia actives who have financial need. The scholarships will be awarded over a period of three academic years – two in 2013, and one each in 2014 and 2015. The university is also handling the administration of the scholarships, including processing contributions, banking and releasing the funds, sending pledge reminders and coordinating with each recipient’s other scholarships and grants.

To make a tax-deductible contribution and have your generosity recognized by the chapter, please visit www.tinyurl.com/915-Fund
The Cornell Chapter’s “Centennial+5” celebration took place over the weekend of August 24-26, 2012. All the actives were excited as the date approached; none of us had experienced an Acacia event of this scale. The first event was a dinner catered by Taste of Thai Express, inside the new Physical Science Building. The actives and alumni quickly took to joking and talking together about Cornell, and more importantly, Acacia. It wasn’t long until the sight of the dinner looked almost family-like, as the brotherhood strengthened its ties to both the past and the future. From here, we were ushered into a lecture room to hear from Thomas Balcerski, Cornell ’02, and Steve Stein, Cornell ’70. It was an enjoyable time seeing how the house has improved over the last five years.

The next morning, Northcote, our chapter house, was looking spotless as alumni arrived for tours. We showed off the sprinkler system, the air make-up handler, the recycling shed, the new heating system, and many other changes. In my own personal tour group, we shared new information about the house while alumni were able to give us interesting historical facts about Northcote’s past. It was a true bonding and learning experience for both the actives and the alumni.

After house tours were complete, everyone gathered in the newly renovated chapter room. Some powerful words were spoken here, as Jim Showacre, Cornell ’47, was recognized for his service to the chapter with the addition of a portrait that is now hanging in the room. Martin Scutt, Cornell ’90, also honored brothers who have passed away, including his pledge brother, Andy Nolan, Cornell ’90, by presenting a plaque in his memory.

Celebrating our Centennial+5 at Cornell
By Neil Parker, Cornell ’12, Cornell Chapter Dean of Alumni Affairs

After an informal sandwich lunch catered by Jimmy John’s, the brotherhood gathered at Statler Beck Center Park Atrium, where we enjoyed each other’s company with drinks and appetizers. After we all had gathered and settled, we moved into the beautiful Statler Ballroom and enjoyed an exquisite buffet. Familiar faces from the weekend stood in front of us as we heard more moving speeches and presented awards to deserving brothers.

On Sunday morning, we enjoyed brunch made by Carol, our cook. The meal was bittersweet as the successful weekend was soon to be over. After everyone said their farewells, the alumni took their leave, but they left the actives with new knowledge and the memories of an amazing weekend.

For me personally, the weekend was something special, something in which I had an active role to both orchestrate and enjoy. From the initial planning to the farewells, it was a time where I was able to structure myself and get a better grasp of the places where Acacia can help take me. I was also reminded of teamwork. Without the help of our alumni, we would not have been able to make Centennial+5 something that will be remembered as a weekend of true brotherhood. I hope that I’ll have the opportunity to attend a similar event after I join the ranks of our alumni.
The Illinois Chapter of Acacia Fraternity is proud to announce the completed purchase of 302 E. Armory for its new chapter home at the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign. The purchase provides Acacia a permanent home on the University’s campus that will enhance its ability to invest in the chapter, the physical plant, and strengthen its commitment to adhering to its standards of excellence and contributing favorably to University life through leadership, participation, scholarship, and philanthropy.

302 E. Armory’s premier location lies in the area most desired by University students, with convenient access to the main Quad, Business Quad, athletic and recreation facilities, shopping and entertainment. The Theta Upsilon Omega fraternity originally built the classic structure in 1929, and Phi Mu occupied the house since 1946.

302 E. Armory is a large, well-constructed structure of two connected stone buildings on a double-lot. The building square footage includes approximately 16,000 square feet plus parking and a large outdoor courtyard.

The acquisition and financing of the property was led by Acacia Corporation Board members David Thies, Illinois ’73 at Weber & Thies, PC, Michael Duncan, Illinois ’74 at Patriot Capital Advisors, Art Mertes, Illinois ’85 at Synergy Law Group, LLC, Michael Conniff, Illinois ’93 at Thomson Reuters, Adam Powers, Illinois ’98 at Karnes Law Chartered, Dan Bayston, Illinois ’80 at Cognient and Mel Rapp, Illinois ’49. In addition, the purchase would not have been possible without the leadership of the active chapter, the Alumni Board, additional volunteers, and our donors - specifically James Wormley, Illinois ’60 - who led more than 200 alumni in raising nearly $1.75 million for the chapter’s Solidifying our Foundation campaign.

Acacia Fraternity Corporation Board President, Art Mertes said, “On April 3, 2012 we reached a substantial milestone for Acacia Fraternity at the University of Illinois.” Mike Duncan, who along with Art Mertes and David Thies directed negotiations, said in a letter to involved Acacia Alumni, “It is my pleasure to inform you that Acacia Fraternity now owns 302 E. Armory in Champaign, Illinois. I thank all of you for your hard work over the 25 years it has taken us to realize this goal and for believing in and working for our beloved fraternity. God bless us in our efforts to provide young men a bright future through the fellowship we all enjoy.”

Said past Venerable Dean, Jyoji Morimoto ’10, “Establishing a permanent home on campus is a significant improvement for the current chapter. The most important aspect of a chapter house is the feeling of tradition. Having our own house will provide consistency and bring together the current pledge class with those of the future. We are excited to begin these traditions again. One of the first things we suggested when asked what we wanted to do with the new house was to put “Acacia” everywhere; our letters, the crest, composites, awards, everything. We would like everyone who walks past or goes inside the house to know, without question, who lives there. We are very proud and grateful to have a beautiful new house to call our own.”

New Hampshire Alumni Homecoming 2013

The New Hampshire Alumni are in the planning stages for their next UNH Homecoming event, scheduled for October 12, 2013, when the Wildcats take on the Rams of Rhode Island at 12:00 p.m.

The chapter’s 2013 goal is to reconnect with all of its “lost” brothers. The effort is led by Brother Ron Majer. Please make sure your most up-to-date contact information is on file by contacting Ron through the chapter’s website at www.acacia-nh.org, by email at ronmajer@comcast.net, or by phone at (617) 281-3050.
Chapter News & Updates
As submitted by chapters

For up-to-date news on chapters not listed, please get in touch with the International Headquarters at (317) 872-8210 or execdir@acacia.org for Venerable Deans’ contact information.

No. 4) Nebraska Chapter
http://unlacacia.acaciaconnect.org

The Nebraska Chapter is doing great with our membership up to 25 actives. Fifteen great young men initiated into the brotherhood we call Acacia late last semester, and most of us are now holding executive offices in the house. We are currently in the process of bringing back a bunch of old traditions, including Melodrama. We have chosen Delta Delta Delta to be our partners in Melodrama, and we are planning on putting it on late in October of this year. We are very excited about bringing back this great traditional philanthropy. We are also planning a few other small philanthropies but those are still in the works at the moment.

We are currently in the process of making some great renovations to the house, including painting the living room and putting all of our awards on display. We are also planning on painting the dining room and renovating the academic room in the near future. Overall, we are working very hard to get this house back in shape so we can show everybody that we are back and as strong as ever.

No. 9) Illinois Chapter
http://www.rushacacia.com

After our first semester in our new, beautiful home, things have finally started to settle in for the Illinois Chapter. Of course, with the purchase of a new house, we have had our share of challenges, but we have managed to adequately adapt to our new circumstances. We are now focusing on renovating and decorating our house. We couldn’t be any happier with our new, permanent home.

We have managed to initiate yet another quality pledge class. The 28 new initiates continue to mold very well with the existing chapter. They are quickly learning what it takes to be a successful chapter, and their ambition and optimism continue to ensure us that they will continue the great traditions of Acacia.

The Illinois Chapter looks forward to yet another successful and memorable semester and will work on continuing to improve its already impressive standing.

No. 13) Missouri Chapter
http://missouriacacia.acaciaconnect.org

Times are great for the men of the Missouri Chapter of Acacia. The brothers at the University of Missouri have made tremendous strides in recent semesters, specifically in the realm of Human Service. During this past autumn’s Acacia Claus, our chapter raised over $1,500, drastically surpassing our expectations and past totals.

Last semester we received academic recognition, as we ranked 9th in grades among fraternities and above the All-University Grade Point Average. While we have seen many beloved brothers gradu-
Bruce Borror recently stepped down as President of the local board after many years of dedicated service to the chapter. Marty Wagner is now serving as board President and seeks to build upon the work of Brother Borror and the rest of the board.

As 2013 gets underway, we are going to continue to focus on improving our alumni engagement through email, direct mail, as well as social media. You can like our Facebook Page and join our LinkedIn Group to both stay up-to-date with the happenings of the chapter and connect with actives. We encourage everyone to get involved, whether it be through email correspondence, local board participation, pledgeship mentoring, or as a donor. I’m excited for the future of our chapter, and we can’t wait to share our future successes with you.

No. 19) Iowa State Chapter  
http://www.stuorg.iastate.edu/acacia

The Iowa State Chapter enjoyed a very successful 2012. Just when we think we have peaked, we turn around and do a ton more things and continue to raise the bar for our chapter and others in the Iowa State Greek Community. Our chapter faced challenges in 2012, as every chapter did, and we had to adapt and mold to keep that high standard.

We came back to school in the spring on top of the grades rankings for fall 2011, but we still had to revamp our scholarship plan to provide a strengthened mentoring program to support our brothers who needed it. We also made a big decision in switching our major philanthropy for the first time since 2003. We decided to partner with Youth and Shelter Services in Ames to help them with a 5K run in November, and our fund raisers will go to YSS for the 5K which benefits their mentoring program for children in Ames.

In the past year, we’ve also had an increase in brotherhood events. Last spring, our academic adviser, Stewart Burger, Cornell ’67, took the chapter out to dinner and the musical “Young Frankenstein.” Our chapter has also had a bowling night, a day of paintballing, several pick-up basketball games, and a number of card and board games. In warmer weather, it is now common to drive past Acacia and see a circle of our members in the yard playing “two-ball.”

Also last spring, our chapter was honored with the President’s award for the ISU Greek Community, the top honor of the Fraternal Awards of Excellence. We then had a great time at Conclave this past summer in St. Louis, where a number of our members were honored with individual awards and our chapter was recognized with the Superior Chapter Award. This fall, our chapter was a part of the winning pairing for Homecoming, making our record three out of the last five Homecomings won by our pairing.

Through Cornerstones, we have been reflecting at our chapter meetings about our chapter and characteristics we should all embody as Acacians. This is an ongoing effort as we look into our membership development.

Toward the end of 2012, we added an Alumni Relations chair as well as a Public Relations chair so we can reach out to our alumni and brothers from around the country. If you ever find yourself in Ames, please drop by! We’d be glad to show you around!

No. 25) Colorado Chapter  
http://acaciacolorado.org

Hello from the Colorado Chapter! This fall we gave out a record number of bids and had a record number of bids accepted since our re-founding in 2008. We initiated our biggest pledge class since our re-founding, with 11 new brothers when all was said and done.

We are very much looking forward to our final semester in our temporary house before our move into our new chapter house. The redevelopment is the first newly built fraternity house in Boulder since the 1960’s. Our brotherhood is very excited to move into the new house. We are also excited about our spring pledge class of 7 new members, which is also a record for our chapter’s spring rush since our re-founding. Of these 7 great guys, one is on the University of Colorado cheerleading team and one is from South Korea.

No. 26) Syracuse Chapter  
http://syracacia.acaciaconnect.org

The fall semester at the Syracuse Chapter was a busy one – between academics and giving back to the community, the brothers found much time to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood.

The chapter has participated in many community service events recently. One such event is a weekly visit to the local Salvation Army where we help serve breakfast. Another was Dollar Day at the Dome, where we collected money for United Way for the benefit of local groups and programs. We also came in first place for Canstruction, a food charity event where we constructed a building out of canned food and had a great time doing it.

The Syracuse Chapter also hosted our annual comedy hypnotism show on September 21st with Brother Doug MacCraw, Nebraska ’86, putting on a great performance. Acacia also participated in several sorority-sponsored philanthropies such as Alpha Xi Delta’s Kicks for a Cause and Phi Sigma Sigma’s Phi Sig Inferno.

A brotherhood event last October saw several brothers visit the Carleton Chapter in Ontario for their campus’ Greek Olympics. We had a blast and hope to visit with our Canadian brothers again soon. We followed that excursion with a paintballing trip in November, and brothers returned home with more than a few new bruises.

A great 2012 leaves us with an exciting outlook for 2013!
Chapter News & Updates

No. 27) Kansas State Chapter
http://kstateacacia.org/

The past semester at the Kansas State Chapter of Acacia has been a busy one! After receiving the Malcolm Award last summer, we were ready to hit the ground running. Kicking off the semester right with the initiation of 2 new brothers, a Young Man (pledge) class of 16 members, and a new cook, the semester showed extreme promise. Following a completely dry and extremely enjoyable barbecue that introduced hundreds of ladies and a few other gentlemen in the community to what K-State Acacia is all about, the semester began. Multiple intramural playoff appearances, “Throwback” and “Christmas Semi-Formal” date parties, a strong performance in the float competition for homecoming (coming home with 3rd place), a brotherhood trip (35 current members and 15 alumni) to Dallas for the K-State football game, an Acacia Claus that raised hundreds of toys for the local Salvation Army and so much more filled the semester.

Speaking of alumni, one of ours was chosen to decorate a ceramic Wildcat that will commemorate K-State’s 150th Anniversary this spring. The Wildcat will be sold and the funds used to create a scholarship at K-State. Just another example of how incredible our alumni base truly is at the Kansas State Chapter. In addition, just recently we found out that our Chapter ended the fall semester with over a 3.43 grade point average, one of the highest in our Chapter’s history, and over 700 hours of community service! What a great way to end our 99th year!

Leadership Week, a variety of date parties, social functions, brotherhood events, and a continuation of our newly implemented Cornerstones program as well as other chapter programming, we look to continue to strive for improvement during our centennial year.

The kickoff to our celebration will be held in style at the new Flint Hills Discovery Center in Manhattan, KS. As alumni return, we hope to have an exceptional gathering of brothers from all generations, retelling stories from their time in the house and revitalizing among all of us what it means to be an Acacian.

As the 100th anniversary year begins, we are initiating our 1200th brother at Kansas State, look towards some new small capital improvements in our facilities in the near future, and we have a young, eager exec team made up of 3 freshmen, 2 sophomores, and 2 juniors. With plans in the works for our second annual Civic Leadership Week, a variety of date parties, social functions, brotherhood events, and a continuation of our newly implemented Cornerstones program as well as other chapter programming, we look to continue to strive for improvement during our centennial year.

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No. 28) Texas Chapter
http://utexasacacia.acaciaconnect.org

Fellow Acacians! Our 46 man University of Texas Chapter is gaining momentum with each semester. Having recruited 9 pledges in the fall, and a current total of 13 new pledges for this spring, we’ve secured an enthusiastic new generation of U.T. Acacists. Last semester, we finally got an in-house meal plan with a catering company working out of our kitchen. This has been extremely beneficial to both our chapter and the company, and we’re building a great relationship with the owners, who love our wild meal requests. To say the least, we are quite happy about this. Last fall we also had a larger presence in intramural football and basketball. We will continue our athletic ventures in the spring and await the start of softball season.

We have quite a bit on our plate for this spring. We plan to top last year’s Nite on the Nile build, which included several 7-foot tall fluorescent pyramids and an Anubis head on the roof of our house. Round-Up (U.T.’s version of Greek Week) is already being prepared. Classier formal events will likely end the semester. A large Rodeo philanthropy event is currently in the works which we are excited about.

Best of luck to all other Acacia chapters. Feel free to visit your Texas brothers any time. Proud to be an Acacian!

No. 38) Washington State Chapter
http://wsuacacia.org

Greetings again from Pullman and the Washington State Chapter of Acacia! We hope you all were able to enjoy your holidays with friends and family. Syllabus week recently ended, and we are collectively looking forward to another semester of classes. Our grades over the past couple semesters have not quite been where we would like them to be, but we are confident about this coming semester. Our newly elected Scholarship Chairman, Carlos Rodgers, has implemented a new academic policy, and positive results are expected.

We are also working to recruit a strong, successful pledge class this spring. Our Rush Chairman, Max Hasse, has made extensive efforts to ensure that this class will contribute to both the quantity and quality of our members. We have been working with our alumni and Acacia International Headquarters staff to implement scholarship recruitment in our rush strategy. We have been granted funds to offer several “Gentlemen’s Leadership Opportunity” scholarships in amounts of $500 and $1000 for prospective new members. Other Acacia chapters have used with this recruitment technique, and it has proven successful for them.

Our financial picture is much improved, as we have paid off our entire $8,000 outstanding debt to Headquarters. Our new Treasurer has been working diligently with both our previous Treasurer, as well as the new Venerable Dean, to create an effective budget for the semester and the future. This was our primary concern for some time, and it is a great relief to have it off of our shoulders. Through successful officer transitions a year from now, we will be able to keep this positive trend going strong.

One fall highlight was a road trip that a dozen brothers took to Oregon State in October to visit our OSU Chapter brothers. While only a few of our members got tickets to the WSU vs. OSU football game,
the rest of us had a great time meeting new brothers and hanging out. We also were invited to their induction ceremony which was held up in the mountains at dawn. The trip reinforced the idea of brotherhood and strengthened the ties of friendship.

The chapter would personally like to thank you all for taking time to continue following us, and believing in us.

No. 54) Illinois Wesleyan Chapter
http://acacians.net

The Illinois Wesleyan Chapter of Acacia continues to grow in numbers and is performing better in many different functions of fraternity life. From philanthropy to various recognitions by our campus and International, the IWU Chapter has set the foundation for being the best men on campus. Recently, we took home awards at Conclave for Communication Technology, Ritual Exemplification, Most Improved Chapter, and welcomed Brothers Kenneth A. Moore and Michael T. Grittani to the Order of Pythagoras.

Our brothers showed passion and motivation to exemplifying Human Service on campus. Our Chapter completed over 700 hours of philanthropy and held multiple events to raise over $1,000 for Shriners Children's Hospital, including Wetter for the Better, where we gathered on our quad and accepted donations in exchange for the chance to throw a water balloon at an Acacian. The professors really seemed to enjoy the opportunity. We also stepped up for local Mulberry Elementary School when other volunteers backed out at the last moment, and Acacians made sure the school's 5K still ran.

Chapter alumni joined in celebrating our 55th Annual Homecoming as a Chapter this past October with outstanding attendance. Alumni from the 60s showed their support to our actives through a $10,000 scholarship for deserving Brothers. We greatly appreciate and admire the support of our alumni that still show what brotherhood means and exemplify the ideals of Acacia after graduation.

After several years of low numbers, we have succeeded in being able to call over 30 men our brothers in 2012. Currently, our Chapter house offers residence for 12 of our active members; in fact, we are above fire code any time we have a brothers-plus-one event.

Starting at the beginning of the fall semester 2013, we will have a new house, which was originally the Acacia house on campus up until 1987. We are all enthusiastic and more than ready to move to a larger, better quality house. It is truly a milestone in our Chapter's history, and a symbol of our growth and future prosperity as the 54th Chapter of the Acacia Fraternity.

No. 76) Pitt-Johnstown Chapter
http://upjpittacacia.acaciaconnect.org

A lot has been looking up for us Pitt-Johnstown Acacians. We are focusing on fund raising and increasing our numbers. For fund raising, we are selling candy from a well-known Pittsburgh chocolate company and selling artwork by one of our chapter’s alumni. We’re anxiously approaching our 40th anniversary, which will be held in March or early April.

Our brothers have been broadening their horizons and becoming more involved on the campus. Two brothers are on Judicial Board, four on Student Government Association, and many are partaking in other various clubs and activities among campus. We hope all of our fellow chapters of Acacia had a great year. So Live.

No. 61) Central Oklahoma Chapter

The Central Oklahoma Chapter has experienced a renewed vigor towards human service, brotherhood and leadership. The membership was honored and humbled by the opportunity to initiate the 50,000th member of ACACIA. The distinguished tradition of ACACIA has been established by thousands of individuals committed to our principles, and this milestone for the international fraternity served as a point of reflection and rededication for our members. ACACIA members currently hold three positions on IFC; President, External Vice President and Recruitment. The chapter helped a local sorority’s efforts to support a sister who was diagnosed with cancer by raising over $2,700.00 for Maddy’s Mission last fall. The chapter is also well on their way to defending the Intramural All-School Trophy earned last spring. Spring recruitment efforts are in full swing and the chapter is excited about Greek Week and Big Event Day of Service.

The Central Oklahoma Alumni Chapter recently enjoyed a night hosting an OKC Thunder watch party in the Bricktown district. Over 40 members and guests attended our first event of the new year. The loyal commitments of our members through our 19.04 giving campaign also support $1,000.00 of scholarships for our local undergraduates. Central’s Homecoming brought the ACACIA family together for an excellent lunch, parade and football game. The evening ended with an old-fashioned campout which took many of us back to times when we could stay up a little later and dance a little better. The chapter is currently planning our annual summer golf tournament which will take place on June 8th in Edmond, OK.

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

The Morningside Chapter of Acacia had 13 members graduate last year but added a pledge class of 7 new members before the seniors left. Fourteen members were sent to Conclave this year thanks to a grant from our student government.

This year we have taken on a new community service project with the Boy Scout’s of America Pack 208. We made a haunted house for them during the week of Halloween and spend an hour with them every week helping to teach and act as role models. We have helped the annual Santa’s House in Sioux City. Some of the guys volunteered at the BPI Meat Awareness event sponsored by the Sioux City Chamber of Commerce where we grilled thousands of hamburgers. This year we participated in the Siouxland Sleep Out and won our division by making a symbolic structure which we then slept in.

We won the Greek Week Trophy for the third year in a row and are looking forward to winning it for the fourth. Since we started using a local collection company we are finally getting our financial situation under control and are looking forward to a more prosperous year by doing more fund raising.
A Brother’s Battle & an Ongoing Fight
How a diagnosis of testicular cancer became a call to philanthropy

If you noticed a few more of your Acacia brothers than usual sporting beards this past January, it might have been a part of their efforts to raise awareness and raise money to fight testicular cancer. For one Acacian specifically, the cause is deeply personal.

Scott Minnig, Indiana ’95, was diagnosed with stage-3 testicular cancer in March of 2009. At this stage, the cancer had metastasized from his testicle through his lymph nodes and grew into three tumors in his lungs. Scott received incredible support from family, friends, and the great staff at the Indiana University Simon Cancer Center, and after receiving treatment including surgery and chemotherapy, Scott has been in remission of his cancer since August of 2009.

When he first noticed a small bump on his right testicle, Scott was hesitant to have it examined by a doctor. Pride and fear played a large part. “Like most guys, I wouldn’t go to the doctor unless I was very sick,” he says. “And it is hard to ask another guy to check your testicle and admit that you might have something wrong with it. Most guys think they have the best package in the world.”

Remembering an old piece of advice from a friend who had died of cancer in 2007 helped Scott overcome his reluctance. The simple advice, “don’t be a fool like me, go to the doctor,” provided the necessary encouragement to get Scott to the doctor.

Early detection was the key, and it inspired Scott to form a charity with two fellow Acacians, Ryan Korte, Indiana ’96 and Sean Corley, Indiana ’96, to be that voice that encourages men to see a doctor. Like the name of the organization, Beards4Balls, the guys intend to have fun while raising awareness and money for a worthy cause.

“All three of us had always wanted to do more community service, but previously never found anything we were passionate about. When this idea and opportunity presented itself, we all jumped on it to make it happen. Ryan and Sean were quick to show support, help get the charity off the ground, and put in the work needed.”

Since establishing itself as a 501(c)3 charitable organization, Beards4Balls has raised over $20,000 for the research of testicular cancer through the Indiana University Foundation.

“My main advice is to make sure you go to the doctor every year because... early detection for cancer, blood pressure, cholesterol, etc. is critical to longevity.”

Beards4Balls raises awareness and funds each January through the simple and fun exercise of growing a beard. Participants sign up online at www.beards4balls.org and start off with an initial donation and a fundraising goal. Then, throughout the month of January, donations are collected, and most importantly, participants educate men around them about self-check methods, dangers and risks, and provide encouragement to seek out a doctor if they ever experience pain, discomfort, or bumps.

“My main advice is to make sure you go to the doctor every year because guys are inherently terrible at doing this. It was really hard for me to go to the doctor and admit there was something wrong with me down below. Early detection for cancer, blood pressure, cholesterol, etc. is critical to longevity, so go see your doctor!”

Scott is an Indiana University graduate who was raised and currently resides in Chicago, Illinois. He is married to Eva, with whom he has two daughters, Ava and Reese. Ava was born three months before Scott’s diagnosis, and Reese was born after all treatments ended.

Facts about Testicular Cancer
From the American Cancer Society

Cancer of the testicle can develop in one or both testicles in males of any age, including infants and elderly men.

Almost half of all cases of testicular cancer are in men between the ages of 20 and 34.

Testicular cancer is not common; a man’s lifetime chance of getting it is about 1 in 270.

Testicular cancer can be treated and usually cured, especially when it is found early. If you have any of the signs or symptoms described above, see a doctor right away. You may not have testicular cancer, but if you do, the sooner you start treatment, the more likely it is to work.

The risk of dying from this cancer is about 1 in 5,000.
Acacia Alumni to Gather in Las Vegas this June

It may lack the daring of a Hollywood-style casino heist, but Acacians from across North America are sure to enjoy themselves during a weekend of brotherhood planned for June 27-30 this summer in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Acacia alumni leaders have been informally plotting for quite some time to hold an alumni event in off-Conclave years, and such a proposition was finally formalized as a recommendation of the Alumni “For the Good of the Fraternity” Committee at the 57th Biennial Conclave in St. Louis. Brothers involved in this effort include Steven J. Aves, Illinois Wesleyan ’75, Steven R. Etter, California University of Pennsylvania ’92, Maximilan J.B. Hopkins, California ’80, and Andrew J. Stout, Cal Poly/Pomona ’90.

Informally, some brothers have coined the event, “Alumni ALA,” in reference to our undergraduate Acacia Leader-ship Academy which also takes place in off-Conclave years. Though an unofficial title, it speaks truly to the motives behind the event: To strengthen the ties of friendship, and to promote opportunities for learning and leadership. Surely brotherhood and fellowship will be the order of the day.

Currently in the planning stages are social activities like attending a show together (perhaps The Beatles LOVE by Cirque du Soleil®), a bowling tournament, a dinner, and other gatherings. Significant others are most welcome to attend, and many are already confirmed to join us!

Other weekend programming is more Acacia-centric, with at least one afternoon dedicated to discussing how alumni can help the fraternity prosper and how alumni can have a meaningful impact as mentors to younger Acacia brothers. While we may have only been undergraduates for a few years, it is important to remember that we are Acacians for life, and such an alumni gathering epitomizes that lesson from our Ritual.

Though this inaugural gathering is not an “official” Acacia event, organizers are coordinating with members of the International Council and Headquarters Staff on both communications and programming efforts.

RSVP Information:
June 27 - 30, 2013
This event is only open to alumni and significant others.

Registration fee:
$60 if paid by May 15
$75 if paid by June 1
$100 if paid after June 1

Hotel information:
A block of rooms has been reserved especially for our group at Harrah’s, Las Vegas. To book your room by 5/29/2013:

Harrah’s phone: 888-458-8471
Group name: Acacia Fraternity
Group code: VH3ACA3
Online at: http://www.totalexperiences.com/totalexperiences/event.html?group=VH3ACA3

Rates (normal room/Executive Suite):
6/26: $45 / $137
6/27: $45 / $137
6/28: $102 / $204
6/29: $102 / $204
6/30: $45 / $137

All rooms are based on single/double occupancy. 12% hotel tax not included.

To register, or get more information, please email Steve Etter at acaciaalumniretreat@gmail.com
Alumni News & Notes

Cal-Poly/Pomona
Krishna James Ramsaran, #3 – Now living in Irvine, CA, working for Optimer Pharmaceuticals.

California University of Pennsylvania

Central Oklahoma
Jarrod VanZant, #479 – Nicole and I welcomed our second child, Wyatt James VanZant, on July 16, 2012.

Reg Aldrich, #561 – Working for Country Financial, I was named All-American in the top 100 of 3200 financial representatives.

Cornell
Lawrence P. McSorley, #911 – Living in Calgary, Canada for 18 months where I’m National Building Science Director for Golder Associates, LTD.

Paul G. Molnar, #1014 – I married the lovely Mary Joy Garcisto on September 8, 2012.

Thomas J. Balcerski, #1063 – After moving to New York to do history research, I am now a Doctoral Candidate in Department of History at Cornell University. Centennial Capital Campaign Chair for Cornell research, I am now a Doctoral Candidate in Department of History at Cornell University. Centennial Capital Campaign Chair for Cornell.

Emporia State

Georgia
Donald P. Doherty, #59 – was promoted to Senior Vice President of Operations for the Community Corrections Division of Corizon and is responsible for all contracts to provide healthcare to jails in the Northeast region. Don is an NCCHC Certified Correctional Health Professional and has published several articles on corrections-related topics. He is also a frequent presenter at various conferences and seminars sponsored by NCCHC, NJACA, and other organizations.

Illinois
Rolf A. Cederwall, #747 – I am absolutely thrilled that the Illinois Chapter has its new house. The Corporation Board deserves much, much praise and thanks.


Illinois Wesleyan
Alan Leahigh, #104 – Several years ago a burglar broke into our home and took everything from my wife’s jewelry box and my jewelry box. Gone were my cuff links, rings, etc., but the only devastating loss was my Acacia pin. With its 12 pearls and 3 garnets, the pin cost nearly $100 -- quite an expenditure for a freshman student in 1964. On Christmas morning, I unwrapped a surprise present from my wife, Charlene. It was an exact duplicate of the pin that was stolen. How cool is that? I think she’s a keeper.

Indiana


Barry A. Forst, #875 – Retired from The Vanguard Group in 2010 after 12 years with the mutual fund company.

Patrick W. McGovern, #1886 – Patrick and his wife, Carrie, welcomed Ruby Muree McGovern into the world on September 12, 2012. Born six weeks early, Ruby was tiny at only 4 lbs 4 oz! Now almost 6 months old, she is a healthy & happy little girl, up to 14+ lbs and bringing much joy into her Mom & Dad’s lives. Carrie and I want to say a heartfelt thank you to all of the brothers who have kept our little darling in their prayers from the beginning of her journey - it means more to us than we can adequately express with words.

Brandon M. Nordhoff, #2137 – Completed a service trip to Carrefour, Haiti, where we were able to feed several families and deliver medical supplies, school supplies, and soccer balls!

Louisiana State
Donald P. Moriarty, #5 – Submitted a book manuscript to the publisher, Historic New Orleans Collection (www.hnoc.org) - The history of the “Orleans Light Horse, Louisiana Cavalry”, 1861-65: this is the story of an independent troop of cavalry which served as an Escort Company in the Confederate Army of Tennessee. Hopefully, the book will be published and released by December 2013.

Miami
Frederick J. Fett, #165 – Last June I attended my Miami University 50th class reunion, Class of 1961. After 50 years, I met with fellow classmates and Acacia brothers, Jim Jackson and Ken Carpenter.

Morningside
William Lincoln Heubum, #30 – In September of 2011, I was invested with the degree of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor, 32 degree, Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. I encourage all Acacians to become Masons.
Northwestern
William R. Epcke, #547 – Northwestern Chapter brothers (’55-’59) got together at Beverly Shores, Indiana. Brothers from Alaska to New Jersey were there.

Penn State
Philip F. Hallock, #242 – On April 21, 2012, PSU Brothers Lefty McIntyre and Chuck Rohrbeck commissioned a plaque to be presented to Brother Hallock in thanks “for your many contributions and your dedication to the fraternity over the past eighty years.” Brother Hallock is a long time Penn State professor who designed the “new part” of the chapter house in the early ’60s. He was initiated on February 28, 1932 and is the Penn State Chapter’s oldest living member at 99.

Purdue
William J. Greer, #533 – Was named “Distinguished Chemical Engineer” by Purdue in 2010.

Syracuse
Franklyn N. Linton, Sr., #241 – Still go to the Y and to our camp on Lake Groton, VT for most of the summer. Happy to be active and hope to reach 94 years in July.

UCLA
Knox Williams, #40 – Had a grandson graduate from UCLA in June of 2012. His older brother graduated from UCLA in 2008.

José R. Sanchez, #417 – Celebrating 25 years at Metropolitan Water District in the office of the CFO.

Washington
Donald W. Sabo, #595 – The Washington Alumni Association of Acacia met last May 12th for our annual Founders Day. Twenty-two brothers attended including three who had not attended in more than 20 years. This year’s function will be May 18th. E-mail danda22@frontier.com for more info.

Washington State

Wisconsin
Benjamin M. Mulhern, #957 – I recently completed my debut novel, Everybody Wants You Dead. The book, a mystery/thriller, heavily involves a fictionalized Greek system and takes place mostly in and around Minneapolis and St. Paul, MN where I have lived since 2005. www.benmulhernauthor.com

Recognizing Brother (Dr.) Robert G. Travnicek, Kansas ’59, for his “legendary service and dedication to public health” in the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the Mississippi State Medical Association recently presented Brother Travnicek with its Physician Award for Community Service. His extensive study and practice of both medicine and public health helped him not only survive but lead public health emergency preparedness and response to Hurricane Katrina on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. This recognition honors both active practice of medicine and community service above-and-beyond the call of duty.

Katrina aimed directly at the six counties Travnicek oversees as director of the Coastal Plains Public Health District, a post he’s held since 1990. According to disaster response plans, he went early to the Harrison County Emergency Operations Center; he all but lived there for the next 60 days.

The fellow physician who proposed the award called the recognition overdue in light of Katrina but apt for “a long and illustrious medical career which has spanned nearly five decades. He is a man of highest character and deserves recognition of this prestigious award.”

In crediting others, Travnicek personified the strengths of his public health career: team-building and cheerleading. Accepting the award, he said, “This gives me a chance for the first time to publicly recognize at least three of the hundreds with whom I was teamed.” He lauded George Schloegel, then president of Hancock Bank and now Mayor of the City of Gulfport, Gary Marchand, CEO of Gulfport Memorial Hospital, and “finally and particularly, my long-suffering wife who as a staff nurse was in a lockdown situation at Garden Park Hospital during the storm and for two days after.”

Brother Travnicek’s selfless acts not only call to mind Acacia’s motto of Human Service, but also the words of our Preamble which remind us “to take a more active part and to have a greater influence in the affairs of the community in which we reside.”

We salute Brother Travnicek for exemplifying what it means to be an Acacian.
Leadership Gifts
July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012

$25,000 and above
Dr. David Fischell, Cornell
Mark R. & Carolyn Guidry Foundation, Louisiana State

$10,000 - $24,999
L. Craig Fulmer, Indiana
William M. Riley, Jr., Kansas State
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Phyllis Zielke, Friend of Acacia

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Washington Alumni Association
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Norman K. House, Kansas State
Charles J. Kinzel, Oregon State
Arthur E. Mertes, Illinois

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30
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Are you missing out on hearing the best Acacia news throughout the year?

The Crest eNewsletter
Bi-monthly Acacia news in your email inbox.

Send an email to: communications@acacia.org

And say, “I want the Crest!”
Larry Don Anderson, Central Oklahoma '65

Larry “Skeeter” Anderson, beloved husband, father, grandpa, brother, uncle, and friend, passed away unexpectedly from a heart attack on Dec. 13, 2012. He was 67 years young. Larry graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma in 1967 with a B.S. degree in physical education and social studies. He was one of the founding members of the Central Oklahoma Chapter of Acacia Fraternity with roll #39. He served in the Naval Reserve for 6 years.

In 1968, he married Rachel Anderson. Larry received his Master’s of Education in 1970 from UCO. He coached and taught in Edmond, OK, and Oklahoma City. He also worked in sales for Allied Signal and retired as an administrator from the Granbury ISD in 2005.

Larry dearly loved his family and friends, and he was loved in return equally as much. His golfing and fishing buddies brought him great joy, as did his fraternity brothers with whom he kept in touch nearly 50 years.

He is survived by his wife and soul mate of 44 years, Rachel “Fluffy” Anderson; daughter, Kelli “Buddy” Connell; son, Nick Anderson; and numerous other family members and friends.

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 stands for cannot be taken away. He stands now, as always, with his God, and for this we must be grateful.
Without a will, you can’t determine the way

*It is surprising what one can remember.*

Conversing with a fellow church member over a cup of coffee some 20+ years ago, I recall an acquaintance of mine referring to my propensity to use monosyllabic words. Whether the inference was that I tended to speak in brief or terse terms, or that my vocabulary was lacking – either way I was taken aback. I don’t know why I remember it, perhaps *monosyllabic* is just an unusual word.

I’m pretty sure the word *codicil* meets the standard to be considered polysyllabic, and I’m quite sure it is a word that you don’t hear every day. As some of you may know, a codicil is an amendment to a will. Recently a re-worked will came across my desk which named the Acacia Fraternity Foundation as a beneficiary. The interesting codification of the will led me to do a little research on the topic. I wondered, how many Americans even have a will? I discovered that many of us don’t. Almost three-quarters (71%) of adults under the age of 34 do not have a will, and, surprisingly, 41% of our aging baby boomers don’t have one, either.

Reasons cited for this oversight are: The perception of the process being too expensive, lack of assets to protect, or just plain procrastination. The facts are: You don’t have to be wealthy to have a will, you need a will if you want to distribute your estate the way you want it done (instead of the way other individuals or the state dictate), and you don’t have to have a new will drawn if you change your mind - you can add a *codicil* or two.

I realize what I’ve said is an oversimplification, and yes, you’ll need a lawyer to draw up your will. But if your estate is relatively modest and your distribution relatively simple, a will should cost no more than a few hundred dollars to complete. Helpful financial websites are in abundance these days, and a will can be drawn up rather quickly.

What is important is to start the conversation. Don’t be afraid to discuss it - ask fellow fraternity brothers, friends and family, or trusted professionals such as CPAs or family lawyers. Why go it alone?

The bottom line is that people are busy living their lives and do not want to think about their mortality. *However, estate planning is not about our own selves.* It’s about ensuring the best possible future for loved ones and causes that can make a difference.

No matter how large or small your estate, a will is necessary if you want any of it to go your church, your college, your fraternity, or any organization or worthy cause you would like to recognize. If left to state law, your estate will be distributed only to family members, and even these rules vary from state to state. For example, state law may require that shares be distributed equally among your children. That would be fair in most cases. But what if one child is the only one who hasn’t yet gone to college? What if one has spent years caring for a parent? What if one is handicapped? Only a properly planned will can take care of those special needs.

Many people I’ve known have promised me they would have their wills drawn... and didn’t. Many people have promised me they would include Acacia in their wills... and didn’t.

For Acacia, you can join the growing list of Acacians in *The Evergreen Society* who have decided to leave a lasting legacy by designating the Acacia Fraternity Foundation in their estate plans or other planned giving instruments.

I believe that Acacia Fraternity is truly worthy of your support, and you can be confident that your gift will help strengthen Acacia in perpetuity. *Perpetuity*, perhaps my vocabulary has expanded.

The Foundation office will be glad to send you some literature explaining how simple it is to include Acacia in your will, and the programs you can help support.

*After all, it is surprising what one can remember.*

Darold W. Larson
Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders

Acacia's preamble and Ritual declare our purpose, in part, "to prepare ourselves as educated men to take a more active part and to have a greater influence in the affairs of the community in which we may reside." A call to leadership! In recent years, Acacia has committed to strengthening our leadership programming and finding new and motivating ways to develop the leadership skills of our undergraduate members.

Success has been found in the Acacia Leadership Academy, the Cornerstones program, and new leadership programming at Conclave. Few initiatives have the scope and promising impact of Cornerstones, poised to enter its seventh year. With a comprehensive approach to personal growth, the lifelong benefits of Cornerstones have already become a driving force in our most successful chapters. This program is truly revitalizing the fraternity experience for Acacia undergraduates.

How Does the Acacia Leadership Fund Make a Difference?

Support of the Leadership Fund provides funds for expanding the resources needed to fully implement the Cornerstones program. These additional resources include materials, hands-on staff mentorship and travel, and scholarships recognizing superior undergraduate leaders. Implementing and managing Cornerstones places higher demands on time and communication by Headquarters staff and chapter leaders. Your gift will expand our capacity to accelerate the tremendous impact of this program.

In addition to the emerging Cornerstones program, the Leadership Fund provides essential support of the acclaimed biennial Acacia Leadership Academy, a new Venerable Dean's Academy under development, and funds the participation of deserving Acacians in leadership retreats and seminars within the Interfraternity community.

How Do I Support the Acacia Leadership Fund?

You can direct your financial support to the Acacia Leadership Fund to support the expanded leadership activities of Acacia Fraternity. Donors to the Leadership Fund will be recognized each year for their generous commitment, and most importantly, your gift will directly benefit our commitment to make "Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders" an identifiable result of the Acacia experience.

I/we are pleased to support the Acacia Leadership Fund with this gift.

Gift enclosed: □ $5,000.00 □ $2,500.00 □ $1,000.00 □ $500.00

Name: Chapter: Roll Number:

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Thanks for your support of Acacia!
Brother!
Join us for the 58th Biennial Acacia Conclave!

July 30-August 3, 2014
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www.acacia.org  |  communications@acacia.org