THE NEW CHAPTER HOUSE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA
What Brotherhood Really means

Up until now, I have always written about our Fraternity, its programs, the importance of growth and updating our operations. *Rising to the Challenge* and *Cornerstones* have served as a basis for our Acacia Leadership Academies and also our Conclaves.

I want to take this opportunity, especially at this Christmas season, to talk with you my Brothers about the importance to all of us of “Brotherhood” and what it means to me. As some of you know, 2008 wasn’t the best year for me. I underwent open heart surgery and also removal of a bone spur from the cervical area of the spine. Everything went fine and I am well on the road to complete recovery.

I mention these, not for what they were, but because of what they brought home to me about being a member of Acacia and the ties that our obligation instills in each of us. It has been over fifty years since I knelt at the altar and took the solemn obligation of membership. In those fifty plus years, I have found that what I learned about myself and about the importance of that oath merged into a most meaningful real life experience.

The alumni of the Fraternity, particularly from the Indiana chapter, formed a support group and the common bond that binds us all together became more than words. It became a real life experience.

Let me go back to early in the year when one of our young and talented Acacians was severely burned in a fire in Seoul, Korea. Bill Kapoun was only twenty-five when he lost his fight with massive second and third degree burns. While there was still hope, plans were made to fly him to Chicago for treatment and rehabilitation. Bill’s family reached out for financial assistance and prayers. Our headquarters staff e-mailed our chapters and those individual alumni for whom we had addresses. We needed to help the family raise over thirteen thousand dollars to pay hospital bills and pre-pay the medical flight. Acacians from everywhere responded with contributions. The fact that one of our Brothers was in dire need of support and prayers brought out the best in us, and for that I want to thank all of you who remembered our oath and acted with dispatch and compassion. When we put Bill’s remains to rest in Alexandria, Indiana, on March 15, the attendance of Acacians from several eras attested to our loyalty and our strong commitment.

Several months later, one of my Fraternity sons, Dr. Bob Cravens, suffered a massive heart attack and I lost a longtime friend and Acacia lost a longtime advocate for the Fraternity. Bob’s son, Dan is an alumnus of the Indiana chapter. The turnout of friends and fellow Acacians at Bob’s services and visitation again attested to the lifelong commitment we take at our initiation.

These events, plus the concern shown by the Acacia Brotherhood, are a tribute to the manner in which we have built a firm foundation, and our Founding Fathers would expect no less of us. We all have joyful memories of good times as Acacians. But, we also have learned to deal with difficult times and to support one another.

So I hope you will forgive me for using my message for this issue of the TRIAD to relate my deep feelings and emotions and why I am proud to be an Acaskan. You, my Brothers, have my deep gratitude for your loyalty to each other and your willingness to help those in need.

The stories about our achievements contained in this issue attest to the strength and growth of Acacia. Please continue to take part in our progress.

David J. Allen
President, Acacia Fraternity
Acacia marked its 104th year with the 55th Biennial Conclave and Leadership Academy from August 6-10, 2008 at The Brown Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky. With the famed Kentucky Derby and Churchill Downs as a backdrop, we prepared to Raise the Stakes.

The Conclave opened on Wednesday afternoon, August 6th, with greetings and challenges for the business ahead. After introductions from Executive Director Darold W. Larson, Washington State '81, the brothers met for a reception to reminisce with old friends and welcome new ones. Following the reception, Brother Doug MacCraw, Nebraska '86, making his fourth appearance at an Acacia Conclave, entertained the brothers once again. As always, Doug’s mixture of comedy and hypnosis brought down the house!

The Conclave delegation re-convened on Thursday morning for the formal opening and first business session. During the morning session, Brother Larson presented the 2006-2008 Biennial Report, outlining the progress of the Fraternity over the last biennium. In addition to regular business, the delegates were presented with new sets of Rituals for each chapter. This has been the first reprint of Rituals in over twenty years.

Following the opening session, a presentation was made to the delegates by Patrick W. McGovern, Indiana '99 and Michael A. Pastko, Purdue '04 on Acacia’s new Membership Development Program, Cornerstones. Brothers McGovern and Pastko are co-directors of this initiative. Thursday ended with a trip to Slugger Field for a Louisville Bats baseball game -- a great opportunity for the brothers to enjoy an evening in a relaxed environment.  

Continued on next page...
Following the presentation of the 2008-2009 Foundation scholarships by AFF President William A. Utic, Cornell ’74, and the Emma C. Allen Memorial scholarships by Past International President Gerald C. Cook, Shippensburg ’66, Executive Director Darold Larson presented the Chapter Excellence Awards. A complete list of award winners can be found at the end of our Conclave feature.

Saturday morning found a flurry of activity during the final business session. Several resolutions were passed to celebrate people and events during the past biennium and International officer elections were held.

The 2008 Conclave came to a close at the Final Banquet and Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening. Past International President Donald W. Solanas, Jr., LSU ’68, installed the new International Council officers, while past International President Gerald C. Cook, Shippensburg ’66, presided over the banquet and presented the Order of Pythagoras to our worthy brethren. A special presentation was made with a posthumous award of the Order of Pythagoras to Brother Donald E. Champlin, Morningside ’96. Appropriately, the 2008 Order of Pythagoras recipients were named the Donald E. Champlin Order of Pythagoras Class.

Brothers were honored with presentations of the Order of Pythagoras, the Award of Merit, the Roy C. Clark Award and the George F. Patterson, Jr. Alumnus Award. Chapters were also honored with the Founders’ Achievement Awards - the Outstanding, Superior and Malcolm awards.

The success of the 55th Biennial Conclave and Leadership Academy would not have been possible without the assistance of the International Council, the Acacia Fraternity Foundation, the Headquarters staff and the many alumni who have dedicated their time and effort for the betterment of Acacia Fraternity. We thank you!

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

New International Council officers:

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

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

**Undergraduate Counselor**
Joseph N. Psyk, St. Cloud State ’06

**Undergraduate Counselor**
Joshua J. Gannon, Oregon State ’07

Venerable Dean Carmine Iannelli and the Purdue Chapter show off their awards.

The International Council and Headquarters staff would again like to extend our thanks and appreciation 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.

J. Scott Cleland, Ohio ’88
Brian S. Downs, Central Oklahoma ’99
Gregory J. Owen, Carleton ’88
Jeremy N. Davis, Iowa State ’00
Robert H. Forney, Indiana ’60
Founder, President and CEO of The Global Foodbanking Network. Past president and CEO of America’s Second Harvest, past president and CEO of the Chicago Stock Exchange and keynote speaker at this year’s Acacia Fraternity Foundation Scholarship luncheon. Brother Forney was introduced by Indiana brother, Dr. L. Dennis Smith, class of ’56. The Irving M. Field Lectureship Series sponsors our keynote speakers’ program. Brother Forney related the similarities of his experience in Acacia to his success in life and, at the conclusion of his presentation, was presented the Order of Pythagoras.

Ann Bastianelli
President and CEO of Anthology Consulting. Ann is an expert in interpreting trends in corporate and consumer behavior, determining what is possible, probable, and preferable for marketers and consumers alike. (Ann’s presentation of What’s Your Story was made possible through a substantial donation from Brother John Hoffner for the Hoffner Leadership Series.)

Josh Orendi
Co-founder and CEO of Phired Up! Productions – the only company that specializes in providing recruitment education to membership organizations. He is also the breakthrough author of the best selling book, Good Guys: The Eight Easy Steps to Limitless Possibility for Fraternity Recruitment.
FOUNDERS’ ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

ORDER OF PYTHAGORAS

Brothers serving beyond the ordinary call of duty

Morningside
Donald Champlin

California University of PA
Jonathan Janoski
Matthew Nebel

Carleton
Jeremy Hunt
Christopher Geen

Cornell
Elie Bilmes
Jerry Kreider
Brian Clapp
David Rimshnick
Kyle Small-Davis
Robert Merritt
Peter Rimshnick
Preston Shimer
John Koltz

Illinois
Matthew Conway

Indiana
Bradley Claypool
Christopher Dobbins
Roger Kelley
Robert H. Forney

Kansas State
Bryan Cox

Louisiana State
Donald Ray Beard

Miami of Ohio
Patrick Badley

Nebraska
Cooper Minto
Todd Moran

Ohio
Antonio Tritto

Ohio State
Stefan McIntyre

Purdue
Cody Peczkowski
Michael Pastko

Saint Cloud State
Joseph Psyk
Daniel Evenson
Benjamin Monson
James Belden

The Illinois Chapter celebrates its first Malcolm Award for top Acacia chapter

Malcolm Award
Illinois Chapter

Superior Chapter Award
Iowa State Chapter
Penn State Chapter

Outstanding Chapter Award
Central Oklahoma Chapter
Cornell Chapter
Saint Cloud State Chapter

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**Award of Merit**

Brian S. Downs  
Thomas J. Balcerski  
Arthur E. Mertes  
David S. Baum  
James N. Reichard  
Corey S. Oakley  
Martin T. McKnight  
Barry F. Baxter  
John H. Peper  
Central Oklahoma  
Cornell  
Illinois  
Indiana  
Louisiana State  
Ohio  
Oregon State  
Texas  
Texas

...Brothers who have given of their time and substance unstintingly for the promotion and furtherance of Acacia...

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**Chapter Excellence Awards**

- **G. K. Nelson Academic Programming**  
  Iowa State

- **Alumni Programming & Advisory**  
  Illinois  
  Kansas State

- **Alumni Chapter Publication**  
  Cornell  
  Iowa State

- **Athletic Achievement**  
  Penn State  
  Central Oklahoma  
  Louisiana State

- **Campus Leadership**  
  Central Oklahoma

- **Chapter Programming/Membership Education**  
  Iowa State

- **Communication Technology**  
  Illinois

- **Dining Operations**  
  Purdue  
  Cornell

- **Financial Operations**  
  Carleton

- **Good of the Fraternity**  
  Central Oklahoma  
  Saint Cloud State

- **House Management**  
  California University of PA  
  Oregon State

- **Membership Recruitment**  
  Kansas State  
  Illinois  
  California

- **Officer Organization**  
  Louisiana State

- **Pledge Education**  
  Ohio State  
  California

- **Ritual Exemplification**  
  Ohio State

- **Risk Management**  
  Penn State  
  Purdue

- **Most Man Miles Traveled**  
  Central Oklahoma

- **President’s Award**  
  Kansas State

- **Best Young Chapter/Colony**  
  Louisiana Tech

- **Executive Director’s Award**  
  (Most Improved Chapter)  
  Saint Cloud State

- **Human Service Programming**  
  Kansas State  
  Northwestern Oklahoma State  
  Penn State  
  Cornell  
  Illinois  
  Central Oklahoma  
  Iowa State  
  California University of PA  
  Indiana  
  Carleton

- **Chapter Advisor of the Biennum**  
  Jeremy N. Davis, Iowa State ’00

- **Roy C. Clark Award**  
  2007: Shaun E. Clair, Penn State ’02  
  2008: Jacon L. Sloan, Texas ’03
It had been over a decade since Washington State Acacia held an initiation ceremony. That has now changed, as ten Cougars officially became Brothers on December 6, 2008. Members of the International Headquarters, WSU alumni, and Joshua Gannon, Undergraduate Counselor, conducted the ceremonies for our newest WSU brethren.

The recolonization of WSU began after a strong push from chapter alumni to the headquarters staff. Brothers descended upon Pullman from all over North America to help with the recolonization, including: Carleton, Oregon State, NWOSU, Central Oklahoma, California PA, and St. Cloud State. Our colony started slowly, but steadily picked up momentum throughout the semester. These new members will ensure that Acacia’s 60-year WSU legacy will live on.

The colony is already making strides on campus and in the Greek community. The men have had several exchanges with sororities, are actively participating in campus-wide philanthropy events, and staying involved with the IFC. The chapter house is located just off Greek row and should be at capacity by next fall. The WSU colony will continue to progress toward chartering within two years.
**COLORADO**

The Greek community in Boulder has evolved over the past several years. The much-publicized death of a fraternity pledge in 2004 led to the IFC dropping its formal relationship with the University of Colorado, a decision made under the advisement of local chapter advisors and International Headquarters staff. Total IFC membership was near 800 men, a declining number. Since that day the community has rebounded to nearly 1200. This fall, nearly 800 men participated in formal recruitment, competing for the 400 “available seats” in the 14 current chapters.

Headquarters staff began an on-campus recruitment campaign in October, and 13 men were initiated on December 6th. An advisory team of nearly 20 alums has assembled to assist the colony in all operational areas. Colony Advisor Ted Vanderveen is working with the colony toward their re-chartering. A colony website at www.coloradoacacia.org is in place and the men are strategizing for spring recruitment.

The group includes juniors, sophomores, and freshmen; and their majors range from Mechanical Engineering to Art History, and from Economics to Geology. The men are already planning a community service project, introducing themselves to sororities, and collecting local dues; in addition to having secured a chapter house for next fall. Join us in congratulating these new Acacians on their decision to re-vitalize the Acacia spirit in Boulder, Colorado!

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**IOWA**

Aaron Morrow is now serving as Iowa corporation board president. With future plans in the works to recolonize at The University of Iowa, the corporation board is working on housing improvements and has kicked off a three-year pledge drive.

Improvements to the physical structure of the Iowa chapter house have already taken place. Carpet was replaced in the main living areas, hallways, and staircases. The floor in the chapter room was refinished and more plans are underway to help make the chapter house look current and fresh.

The three-year pledge drive has been in gear for some time now and donations and pledges have been coming in. The main alumni event in the fall is the annual Homecoming Tailgate and Pork Loin Roast that has taken place for the past four years.

Also serving on the Iowa corporation board are Nate Rosenberry, Treasurer; Shawn Morgan, Facilities Manager; Brian White, Treasurer; and Pat Hewitt, Vice President.
CHALLENGE ACCEPTED!

Twenty-three years ago, on July 28, 1985, the Illinois chapter house in Champaign burned to the ground. An arsonist who was never apprehended torched two other buildings the same night. One was a University building, the other a fraternity house annex.

But in just 13 months the house had been rebuilt from the foundation up and reoccupied.

Although insurance covered much of the rebuilding cost, subsequent under funding, mortgage debt, and unrelated off campus matters resulted in the house having to be sold in August 1990 to the University. For the next 23 years Acacia has been without its own chapter house. That is about to change.

A determined Corporation Board along with strong alumni support has proved that Acacia at Illinois’ time has come. By the time the Capital Campaign launched on April 25, 2008, multiple pledges had already exceeded 50 percent of the $1.75 million goal, aided very significantly by the $500,000 lead gift from Campaign Vice Chairman James Wormley ’60. At the outset, twelve other motivated alumni contributed collectively a sum almost matching the Lead Gift. A very strong start. Yet the campaign totally will depend on the response by all of Acacia’s Illinois alumni and perhaps others who recognize the worthiness of the effort.

The opportunity for Acacia to acquire a sustainable, permanent house which reflects the caliber of its membership is now on the immediate horizon. However, if the Capital Campaign should not be successful, the longevity of the chapter at Illinois is in jeopardy.

The current lease at 214 East Daniel (the old SAE house) expires at the end of the 2008-09 school year. Unless the Board and alumni act fast and stay on course, the undergraduate brothers will be without a home and at a severe disadvantage when it comes to being competitive in recruitment and challenged to find places to hold meetings, social events and brotherhood activities. This immediate deadline has spurred the alumni and the Board of Directors into action. The goal is to purchase an existing facility that suits Acacia’s needs and, if needed, properly renovate the structure.

If Acacia at Illinois cannot guarantee housing for its undergraduate membership for the 2009-2010 school year by September 2008, individual fraternity members will be forced to seek and confirm alternate living quarters elsewhere – the fraternity’s existence will be in jeopardy.

To that end, the Corporation Board has sought to find and purchase a new home that will be Acacia’s for many years to come. The Board has been working with local Champaign professionals to assess the market and its most viable options. Currently there are at least two properties that meet Acacia’s needs. Both purchase options retail for $1 million to $1.5 million. It will take anywhere from $200,000 to $500,000 more in renovation work to bring the proposed facilities up to code. Significant renovation work may be needed to make them suitable for living and capable of netting market-rate rents.

Obviously to accomplish the task of purchasing a new home, money must be available. The Corporation Board, through
previous alumni donations, chapter rental income and savvy financial management, has over $160,000 on hand today. To complement the savings and keep a potential mortgage loan as minimal as possible, the Board authorized the $1.75 million capital fundraising campaign.

At the time of printing, the capital campaign has raised a total of $1,514,876 from 196 donors for the future Acacia house! The support for the Fraternity has been nothing less than astonishing. Co-chairmen Mike Duncan ’74 and Dan Bayston ’80 stated they could not be more proud of the alumni, the Fraternity and the men who support it.

Over the next few months, finance committee volunteers will be contacting their peers to discuss this campaign. Alumni will be asked to please, thoughtfully consider making a financial pledge for the maximum amount they possibly can. It is a major fundraising drive, and if it is done right, it will be the last one for a long, long time for the Illinois Chapter. Pledges can be paid over a one to five year period.

The Campaign Committee is asking all alumni to seriously consider making a donation to this effort. The leadership of this campaign has emphasized the following from the Pythagoras Pledge Manual:

“the man who works for something greater than himself will ultimately benefit himself the most.”

The Committee welcomes the interest of all Acacian’s in supporting this chapter that had its beginning over 100 years ago and has functioned on campus ever since.

James Wormley ‘60
National Campaign Vice-Chairman

Grew up on a farm near Oswego, IL
Pledged Acacia on enrollment at University of Illinois
Served as Secretary, Stunt Show Chair and Venerable Dean
1964 graduate in Agricultural Economics
Passed CPA exam (in Illinois) in 1964
MBA from Stanford University 1966
Employed with Deere & Company
Married to Cheryl Smith (Illinois 1966)
Three sons, six grandchildren
Served at two Presbyterian boarding high schools near Augusta, GA and in Albuquerque, NM, 1970 - 1983
Soon to complete 25 years with A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. (now Wachovia Securities) in Woodstock, IL
Active in Presbyterian Church, Kiwanis, United Way
Avid reader of economics & history, likes to snow ski and travel

Should any brother be interested in supporting this campaign and want to make a financial pledge, please contact campaign manager Ryan Flickinger at (800) 955-2586 or rflickinger@omegafi.com, or Campaign co-chairmen Mike Duncan at 312-953-9403 or Dan Bayston at 312-697-4660.
For up-to-date news on chapters not listed, please contact Keith Bushey, Assistant Executive Director, at the International Headquarters for contact information for Venerable Deans.

California Chapter
Tucked away on the West Coast, the Acacia chapter at the University of California at Berkeley continues to uphold our century-old traditions of brotherhood and fraternal values. Empowered by a strong fall 2008 rush season propelled by our enthusiastic and eager Junior actives, our chapter is moving forward with Acacia’s trademark values-oriented programing that will challenge the paradigms of fraternity living at Cal. To this end, we are making marks within our membership via the newly-minted Cornerstones program, and impacting our community with the inauguration of the first annual California Acacia Claus philanthropy event.

For alumni in California, we are taking a fresh look at our programming and events. In addition to our timeless Cal Game Day Barbecues, plans are in the works for additional events, large and small, with the goal of engaging the numerous Acacians, young and old, who reside in the Bay Area. These events will take place year-round, so make sure your information is current with the International Headquarters to ensure you receive our newsletter mailing and digital updates.

Our original chapter house, a product of the magnanimous architect Julia Morgan in the late 19th century, is undergoing several stages of renovation led by our alumni Housing Corporations. Renovations include refurbishments of our spacious roof deck, bathrooms, dining room and chapter room. Actives and alumni are greatly looking forward to the coming of 2009, whereupon Acacia will finally come to full occupancy of 2340 Piedmont Avenue, and the accretion of funding for widespread capital improvements will accelerate.

Of course, we California Acacians are absolutely ecstatic to see enthusiastic and successful expansion efforts at Washington State University and relish the attention that it has brought to us, and our neighbors at Oregon State on the lonely western seaboard. As always, any Acadian is welcome at the California chapter house. We look forward to having you stop by soon!

Central Oklahoma
The Central Oklahoma chapter of Acacia Fraternity was recognized at the 55th Biennial Acacia Conclave and Leadership Academy in Louisville, KY, by accepting several national awards. We were recognized as an Outstanding Chapter for our overall fraternal operations. The active members also received awards for Athletic Achievement, Human Service, Campus Leadership, Most Man Miles, and the Good of the Fraternity award which recognizes excellence in brotherhood exemplification.

Venerable Dean Reg Aldrich was awarded $4,000 in scholarships, including the Duncan McPherson Fraternityship, which recognizes the best fraternity leader among all Acacia chapters.

Acacia alum Brian Downs was recognized with the Award of Merit. Brian has served the past six years on the Acacia International Council, first as an Undergraduate Counselor and the past four years as Second Vice President. The Award of Merit is the highest honor given to an Acacia member.

Thirteen Acacia members (undergraduate and alumni) were in attendance at the conference including: Reg Aldrich, Ryan Allen, Taylor Ortiz, Zac Hood, Blake Brickman, Chase Blondell, Ryan Wells, Cameron Barnhart, Mark Anton, Tyler Weder, Blake Rockel, and Kyle Swabb.

The UCO Acacia chapter has also just completed construction on a brand new fraternity residence at 912 N. Chowning in Edmond. The fall semester was be the first opportunity for full occupancy of 21 members (see opposite page).

Central Oklahoma also recently completed their fall rush and it was a great success in officially signing 37 new pledges to Acacia Fraternity.

California University of PA
The California PA chapter enjoyed a successful summer trip to our International Conclave. The Conclave was held in Louisville, KY, and was a very enjoyable time. Our chapter was honored with the Human Service award, given to the chapter with the most excellent contributions in community service and philanthropy. All of our brothers were very pleased with this prestigious award. We were also graced with the House Management award, given to the chapter with outstanding house upkeep.

Shawn Kirby was awarded the Acacia Fraternity Foundation Scholarship for academic achievement while Jon Janoski and Matt Nebel were awarded the Emma C. Allen Scholarship for superb service to Acacia.

Jon Janoski and Matt Nebel were also presented with the most prestigious award given to an undergraduate Acadian, the Order of Pythagoras. This award is only given to the most notable brothers who have gone far above national expectations. Our entire chapter is very proud of both Matt and Jon for being recognized with this honor.

Cornell
After sending a large delegation to Conclave, the Cornell chapter has had a strong start to the fall semester. Ten brothers made the trip to Louisville in August, returning with enthusiasm and a number of great ideas to improve our chapter. We are taking steps to implement Cornerstones, a valuable program that will set us above the 46 other fraternities on campus. We are already looking ahead to formal recruitment in January, having made contacts with a number of quality young men who have been coming by the chapter house for parties and other events. This fall also begins the second year of our Centennial Capital Campaign, for which we have received over $200,000 in pledges. The major goal of the campaign, the installation of a new sprinkler system, was completed in the spring. We enjoyed meeting brothers from other chapters at Conclave and look forward to another great year at Cornell!
May 2008 marked the beginning of a new era for the Central Oklahoma chapter of Acacia Fraternity. “This house has been a dream for years now, but became a reality over the past two years,” said Reg Aldrich, Venerable Dean. The new chapter house is located on 912 N. Chowning, across the street from Wantland Stadium and Delta Zeta and next to the Sigma Kappa sorority house.

The chapter broke ground last August on the 6,000 square feet home which can house 21 Acacians. The facility features a common eating/meeting room, living room area, study hall, executive meeting room, and 11 bedrooms. Brother Aldrich noted that a volleyball court and a half-court basketball area are on the way.

The chapter had occupied their previous home since 1994. Members packed up their belongings one final time on January 31. The old house only held eight men and did not provide living conditions desirable to potential future Acacians. Brother Aldrich hopes the new house will not only accommodate the fraternity, but give brothers something to take pride in. “I personally hope that future members not only get a brand new facility in which to live, but a great place to foster brotherhood and a great place to connect with alumni.” Congratulations go out to all the brothers who made this achievement possible.

Illinois
Everything is rolling smoothly at the University of Illinois Heth chapter for 2008. After finishing up the spring semester with a Brotherhood golf outing, the Heth chapter sent eight representatives to Conclave in the summer where we won our first Malcolm Award. The Malcolm Award is bestowed upon the most outstanding chapter of Acacia Fraternity of the Biennium. It was truly a great honor to win this award and the Heth chapter is using it as motivation to keep “Raising the Stakes.”

With a new semester in full force, the Illinois chapter has just completed another successful rush in which 36 new members were recruited! With our continued struggles to find a permanent chapter house on campus, the Junior brothers have taken it upon themselves to sign a lease for a brand new 24-man senior house. The house will be decked out in black and old gold and will be the top senior house on campus for years to come.

The Heth chapter is excited to experience another great semester this fall and will keep striving to improve as the premier fraternity at the University of Illinois.

Illinois Wesleyan
The Illinois Wesleyan chapter reached a milestone as we initiated our 500th member last spring. We ended the semester on a high note at the Greek Honors Night Awards, garnering both the Chapter Advisor of the Year Award and the coveted Brotherhood Award. We also had the highest new member GPA of all fraternities on campus.

Our fall semester thus far has exemplified our chapter’s renewed enthusiasm. We established a goal to increase our presence on campus, and have already held a cookout on the quad for the entire student body. In addition, we’ve pledged to redouble our philanthropic efforts. We have already signed up to participate in Up ‘Til Dawn, an event benefiting St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, and plan on continuing our involvement with Home Sweet Home Ministries, a local homeless shelter and rehabilitation center. We also set a goal of raising $5,000 for Easter Seals. Finally, our 16-man chapter pledged 6 men before rush even started. We hope to maintain this vigor throughout the year, and usher in a new period of growth and development.

Indiana
We are looking forward to an exciting year at Acacia Fraternity. After a successful recruitment this fall, we have developed a 32-man pledge class filled with strong character. These new men definitely show genuine enthusiasm for someday being initiated as a member of Acacia Fraternity at the Indiana chapter.

We are excited to implement the Cornerstones membership development program, which will be used for the first time with this incoming fall pledge class. We feel as though this will be a good chance to reconstruct the pledge program and enhance the knowledge of the members of our fraternity.

We are looking at the Acacia Claus Holiday Toy Drive to be another successful philanthropic event this semester, as it has been in years past. We are also working hard to revive an old phi-
Iowa State
Greetings from the Iowa State chapter! We are extremely excited to be utilizing our newest addition to our fraternity, a study in our third floor. This renovation took place this summer and turned two of our former rooms into a great studying area for our members. We are hoping that it will serve as another resource to help us maintain top academics at Iowa State (which we have now held 9 out of the last 10 semesters).

We also had our first ever chapter retreat at the beginning of this semester. We went to our local YMCA camp and participated in a low ropes course, which was great for building the bonds of brotherhood. Following the ropes course, we had a goal-setting session for the fraternity and were able to discuss where we wanted to go as a chapter and how we would get there. I am sure that our chapter will continue to hold this retreat each year.

Finally, we are gearing up for our 100th celebration, which will be taking place this March. We have been privileged to have one of our alumni compose a book on our chapter’s history, and he will be providing an educational session for us regarding this history. We will be hosting a wide variety of activities for our alumni and know that this will serve as a great opportunity to reconnect with all of them.

Kansas State
The Kansas State chapter of Acacia Fraternity is celebrating its tremendous success and becoming the most talked about fraternity on K-State’s campus. The membership growth and successful introduction of the Acacia Leadership Scholarship Program surrounding the Kansas State Chapter was recognized at the international level during the 55th Biennial Conclave in Louisville, KY. On August 10, K-State Acacia was awarded four Chapter Excellence Awards including the Membership Recruitment Award and Outstanding Alumni Programming and Advisory Award marking the most decorated two-year span in chapter history.

Much of K-State Acacia’s success is attributed to the execution of the Acacia Leadership Scholarship program. The program is designed to award scholarships to incoming K-State freshmen who excel in two Acacia values, leadership and scholarship. Throughout the two-year span, over $5,000 have been dedicated to leadership scholarships and membership growth. The chapter has signed back-to-back new member classes of 13 and 18, marking the largest increase in members since our return to campus in 2001.

Iowa State Library Renovation
The Iowa State Chapter recently renovated a portion of its chapter house with the addition of a library and study area. The actives proposed the project to the corporation board in late 2007. The renovation took place the following summer and was completed before the 2008 fall semester. The Library and Study Area will be officially dedicated during the chapter’s 100th anniversary celebration on March 14, 2009, and will be named for those alumni brothers who contributed $5000 or more to the project.
Laying the Foundation

When Louisiana Tech students Jason Fossella and Stephen Johnston were cleaning their local Masonic lodge’s archives, they found a letter from the 1950s asking Louisiana Masons to contribute to the LSU Acacia chapter house. This discovery inspired the two to start a new Acacia colony in which nine men are also members of Ruston Lodge, and the chapter advisor is the current Worshipful Master.

On December 9, 2007, the first class was inducted with the assistance of Tyrel Reichart and David Gregory from the Northwestern Oklahoma State chapter. The following day, the colony received associate membership in the Interfraternity Council. The colony has participated in all IFC-sponsored events, including formal rush this fall.

The first 13 actives and two honorary members of the Louisiana Tech colony were initiated on April 26, 2008. All 13 returned for the fall 2008 semester and were eager to take part in their first formal recruitment. The colony was proud to add eight new members to its ranks. The Tech colony has big plans for the 2008-09 year. The colony will continue to work with the North Louisiana Food Bank and will participate in their first Acacia Claus Holiday Toy Drive and the Seven Days of Service. The IFC will grant full membership to the colony, and the men will continue to work diligently towards their chartering.

K-State Acacia was once again applauded for its widespread alumni programming with over 60 events held with alumni throughout the year. K-State Acacia’s alumni went above and beyond over the past two years with support of the Leadership Scholarship program and facility improvements. Alumni can be seen attending record-attendance events, hosting weekly conference calls, mentoring new members through transitions, and leading member development activities. This was the third time in the past five Conclaves that the alumni of the chapter were honored with the award, making the K-State Acacia Alumni Association the most acclaimed fraternity alumni in the country.

Over the summer, the Alumni Association completed the final phase of the Chapter House renovation project which included finishing study rooms in the lower level, expanding a new laundry room, and adding a recreation room. The project focused on preparing the house for capacity membership.

With a lot of momentum behind this chapter, K-State Acadians are looking forward to the future with hopes of continued membership growth, a capacity house, increased influence within the Greek and International Fraternity communities, and a stronger member experience.

Penn State

We began the semester with an outstanding rush. We accepted 23 new pledges that are very eager to prove themselves to the brotherhood. They are a great group of guys: very sociable, athletic, and smart. We look forward to the good qualities they will bring to Acacia. We are confident they will help us continue our winning streak in the Fraternity IM sports (as last spring we captured our 7th Bishoff in 8 years).

With fall semester finishing up, we have many good things in motion and many more great things planned. To begin, this September we gave out our first annual Scott Award. The Scott Award is given to the Acacian who best demonstrates leadership and integrity. We are pleased to announce that Kelsey Gringrich has received this year’s award. We are also participating in Penn State’s Greek Sing. Greek Sing is a chance for the fraternities and sororities at Penn State to display their musical talents by putting on a small performance of a show or musical. This year Acacia has teamed up with Alpha Xi Delta and Alpha Kappa Alpha to put on their interpretation of Saturday Night Fever.

October was a very busy yet successful month, as we had many great events planned. We teamed up with Alpha Omicron Pi for Penn State’s homecoming. We built a float with them and everyone really enjoyed themselves during Homecoming week. On October 22, we hosted a dinner with our guests Dr. Graham Spanier (the president of Penn State), Mr. Damon Sims (the vice president of student affairs), and Dr. Roy Baker (the director of Greek life at Penn State). Finally, on October 30th and 31st we hosted our annual Acacia Haunted house. This is our third year having the event and we had a far greater success that we have enjoyed the past couple of years. The Collegian attended, and a local radio station broadcasted live. Both Penn State students and State College community members came together at our house for a good Halloween scare.

Texas

This year marks the fifth year since the recolonization of the Texas Acacia chapter in 2003. Since that time, our membership has grown from seven to about thirty-five actives. Over the past year, Acacia has gone from being an unknown fraternity on the UT campus, to an established name known by many students. We are still seeking to expand our membership numbers by the end of the 2008-2009 academic year. Over the past years, the Texas Acacia chapter has evolved into one of the most diverse Greek fraternities on campus.

In May of 2008, during finals week, we hosted the inaugural UT “Undie Run.” Students came to our house fully clothed but then stripped down to their underwear. We had a few bands play, and a couple hours later all the students took off on a run through campus. All of the discarded clothing was donated to a charitable organization in Austin.

Our house is currently in its best condition since moving in during fall 2006. Our pledges last semester built a wonderful bar, and are currently working on getting a fence for the front yard.

We just recently finished fall rush, in which we inducted nine new pledges and are planning on having a second fall rush to hopefully double this number. This year is a very important year for the Texas Acacia chapter. Our goal, by the end of May 2009, is to have one of the highest percentage growths of all the IFC fraternities on campus.
Wisconsin Alumni Association

During the 1970s and 1980s, the Lambdeth chapter of Acacia at the University of Wisconsin lay dormant for almost two decades. There were a few, albeit brief, attempts at rechartering, but it wasn’t until a dedicated group of men came together in 1986 and made it happen. The efforts of the re-founding fathers came to fruition at the end of the 1980s when the chapter re-chartered. The renaissance of the Wisconsin chapter of Acacia came during a surge of Greek life in Wisconsin in the mid-1990’s, when chapter membership soared. But since then, the chapter has had almost a decade of fluctuating growth and decline as Greek life on campus has done the same.

But in the past year, things have changed, and changed for the better. Interestingly enough, the tipping point that began this change came at an Acacian alumnus’ wedding. There was talk about the current state of affairs of the chapter and Greek life in general at the UW. The news was somewhat shocking to just about all the alumni in attendance. This small group decided that it was time to do something to not only assist the undergraduate chapter, but to begin to re-strengthen alumni ties.

To this end, over a dozen alumni spanning almost two decades of pledge classes and from across the Midwest have come together over the past months to create the structures and systems to allow the brotherhood to flourish long after college graduation. The Wisconsin Chapter of Acacia recently established the foundation for developing an Acacia Alumni Association as well as an Alumni Leadership Team. Our mission is simple: “To become the primary forum of alumni communication and activity in order to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood amongst alumni and the active chapter at the University of Wisconsin.” We are working to improve alumni communication and involvement, coordinate meaningful alumni events, and develop brotherhood amongst all alumni new and old.

Early in the planning process, the group realized that trying to coordinate communications and activities for brothers all over the country would be very difficult to manage. We decided that the best way to include as many people in this endeavor and to try and get maximum participation, we would need to break the alumni into smaller groups to make it more manageable. After a process of updating a contact list that had many holes, we noticed that there were large concentrations of alumni in four regional areas that were close to the chapter, but yet far enough away to not be too closely associated with the chapter. Four separate groups with their own identities that organize their own happenings while at the same time being connected through brotherhood and common experiences to 222 Langdon Street. We call it our lodge system.

The establishment of local alumni lodges in nearby metropolitan areas where we have a high concentration of Wisconsin Acacia alumni has really taken off. The idea is simple: each lodge has a leader or leaders responsible for communicating with local alumni and setting up social events in that area. These communiqués and activities are designed to strengthen the ties that initially brought us to Acacia, but on a much more manageable level. Instead of traveling to Madison in order to get together with alumni, members of the local lodges get together at a location close to their homes. They share stories, update contact information, and have fun. Currently, we have four lodges established in Madison, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, and Chicago. Each Lodge has held at least one social kick-off event and we have brought together over 40 alumni. At the end of the year, a challenge is placed to all attendees to bring someone new to the next event to try and grow the lodge. We hope to see these numbers grow in each of the Lodges. Our goal is to re-engage alumni at their individual participation level. We call it the 3-4-5 plan.

The 3-4-5 Plan is the annual structure for alumni Lodge meetings and events. On months that are divisible by three (March, June, September, and December), we hold our quarterly meetings around a brotherhood building activity. We mix the business of the alumni association, always focusing on communication and strengthening the ties that bind, and the pleasure being apart of a social fraternity, happy hour, dart tournament, bowling, or poker. On months divisible by four (April, August, and December), we hold events in support of the active chapter’s coming Rush. The April event supports summer rush, an undergraduate scholarship and marketing to incoming freshmen; August supports the crucial fall rush; and the December meeting supports spring rush. These events are social in nature, but give opportunities for alumni to give financial and experiential contributions to the active chapter. Months divisible by five (May and October) will be our big social events, held on the campus in Madison. Founders’ Day in May is a celebration of the history of the fraternity, the contributions of its members, and the contribution of the fraternity to the community. Homecoming (of course a tradition invented by an Acacian!), usually in October, is a celebration of the University and our common experience as Acacians.

The opportunities for growth in the 3-4-5 system are almost without end. We are hoping to hold an alumni softball tournament between the four lodges in 2009. We are going to promote combined lodge events during baseball series between the Cubs, Brewers and Twins. Human Service is not forgotten as a focus for alumni membership, and will grow as a focus of our alumni community. As the lodge system grows and flourishes, we will increase our positive impact in our local communities.

We are not looking to relive our college experiences, but to make alumni membership meaningful and appropriate for our graying station in life. We want to provide an effective communication system, and offer enough variety in events and opportunities for involvement that ALL alumni can become involved at some level.

Josh Zimmers, Wisconsin #880

Please help the Wisconsin Alumni Association get off of the ground. Brothers, contact us today.

Also, we would like for all Wisconsin alumni to join one of the Local Lodges by contacting the appropriate Lodge Champion by email in order to be added to the communication list. All alumni are welcome to participate in events for any Lodge and we look forward to seeing you soon at one of our upcoming events. Please visit www.acaciawisconsin.com for more information.
Woody’s Legacy Carries on at Purdue

Leonard E. Wood, Kansas State ’42, served as chapter advisor for the Purdue Chapter for 36 years. Even though Woody left us for the Chapter Eternal in 2004, his impact is as strong today as it was during his years of service to Acacia.

Brother Wood was a teacher, researcher and consultant in Purdue’s School of Civil Engineering for 37 years before he retired in 1993. He continued to volunteer as coordinator of the Cooperative Education Program in Civil Engineering until his passing.

Leonard and his wife, Margaret, continue to support both Acacia and Purdue University with unparalleled generosity. Their efforts have not gone unrecognized, as evidenced by the recent opening of the Leonard E. & Margaret R. Wood Commons in School of Engineering building.

The Commons area, commemorated on October 27, 2008, is a quiet study area for students, staff and faculty. The area displays Leonard’s impressive collection of gems, minerals and rocks, while a plaque hangs on the wall in his honor.

Before Woody’s passing, he established the Leonard E. Wood Chapter Advisor’s Scholarship Fund for the Purdue Chapter. Woody and Margaret’s personal contribution and fund raising effort created one of Acacia’s largest scholarship funds in the nation. More than $50,000 in scholarships have been awarded to deserving Acadians in memory of Woody.

After serving in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Brother Wood earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in chemical engineering from Kansas State and a doctorate degree in civil engineering from Purdue in 1956. He became a legend among the student body for his years of teaching and insightful guidance.
Over the years, Acacia Fraternity has used the slogan “Preparing Tomorrow’s Leaders Since 1904”. What does that mean to you? Were you a chapter treasurer that first learned how to create a workable budget in the wee hours of the morning before a chapter meeting? Were you a recruitment chairman given the task of identifying, recruiting, and selecting prospective members – and had the responsibility of recruiting enough men to sustain the brotherhood, while ensuring that each one of them lived up to a set of standards that the chapter expected? Were you a ritual chairman and had to coordinate the presentation of our ceremonies, and then teach the new members to reflect on these important teachings? Perhaps you didn’t have a chapter officer position, but instead played the role of the reliable right-hand man, and all of the brothers knew that they could count on you no matter what if they needed assistance.

Each of us has a story about how we learned some valuable leadership skill during our years as an undergraduate. As we move forward with the Cornerstones program, and focus on creating a more meaningful and more consistent membership experience, we want to hear your thoughts on the following two questions:

1. When a student crosses the graduation platform and is awarded a diploma; what skills, attributes, and qualities would you like to see him possess as a result of their college experience?

2. When a brother graduates and joins the ranks of our alumni membership; what skills, attributes, and qualities would you like to see him possess as a result of their Acacia experience?

The pillars of the Cornerstones program are Intellectual Growth, Social Awareness, and Physical Well-being. But what skills are important? What does a member of our Fraternity need to be able to do, or demonstrate, to make an impact as a leader in today’s world? Please take a minute to send me an e-mail at pmcgovern@acacia.org, and include your thoughts on these two questions. We will use your responses to help shape the programming initiatives in our Cornerstones chapters.

Your input is appreciated, and you are encouraged to visit the Cornerstones website at www.gatesofsamos.org and volunteer as a Level Advisor or Career Development Mentor today!
Pass the Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act of 2007 (H.R. 643/S.638)

Make College More Affordable by Preserving Not-for-Profit Student Housing

Making College More Affordable Means Keeping Student Housing Costs Under Control. The high cost of college is a threat to educational equality and American competitiveness. The 110th Congress has worked hard to pass legislation that makes college more affordable but the job is not done. A quirk in the tax laws allows colleges and universities to use charitable contributions to build and maintain student housing while preventing other not-for-profit student housing entities from doing the same thing.

Now is the Time to Provide Equitable Tax Treatment for All Not-For-Profit Student Housing. There is no sound policy reason for distinguishing between charitable contributions made to colleges and universities for infrastructure improvements and gifts made to other not-for-profit entities such as fraternities and sororities for the benefit of similarly situated students. The Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act of 2007 (H.R. 643/S. 638) (CHIA) erases this disparity, allowing tax deductible contributions to not-for-profit student housing entities such as fraternity and sorority foundations to be used for the same purposes that a college or university could use such contributions. In the 108th Congress, CHIA passed the House by a 408-13 margin. Today, we have a bipartisan team of 200 House sponsors and 38 Senate sponsors in the 110th Congress.

One Out of Every Eight College Students Lives in Fraternity Housing. The housing shortage would be even worse without fraternities and sororities, who are the nation’s largest not-for-profit student landlords. Fraternities and sororities provide housing for over 250,000 students each year at no cost to the host institution. This $3 billion dollar segment of the not-for-profit housing industry needs CHIA to become law so it can fund safety and structural improvements. Passing CHIA will help give more students access to safe and affordable not-for-profit housing, which is usually less expensive than university residence halls and off-campus housing.

We Must Improve Collegiate Housing Safety, Capacity and Energy Efficiency. Life safety upgrades are the top challenge facing fraternity housing. Only half of our housing has fire sprinklers so our smaller and older living spaces have twice the injury rate of other campus fires and significantly higher rates of property losses. 80% of fatalities in student housing fires since 2000 have occurred in off-campus housing such as fraternities and sororities. Installing automatic sprinkler systems saves lives - there has never been a fire-related fatality in fraternal housing that has sprinklers. Given the age of our housing, there is a need to install modern heating, cooling and electrical systems that are more energy efficient and environmentally friendly.

Current Tax Laws Hinder Not-For-Profit Housing Access to Capital for Safety Upgrades. College towns such as Ames (IA), State College (PA), and Columbia (MO) are just some of the cities across the country that have passed ordinances requiring not-for-profit student housing to close if they don’t retrofit fire sprinklers by a specific date. Fraternity housing can be up to 100 years old so retrofitting can cost as much as $200,000. These costs cannot be passed along to current student tenants but the organizations often cannot raise the needed money to retrofit because the contributions are not tax-deductible. If CHIA becomes law, these organizations can raise the funds needed to make their housing safer and better for future generations of students.

Passing the Collegiate House and Infrastructure Act (CHIA) would:
- Make college more affordable with a minimal cost to taxpayers by offering a less expensive housing alternative. The Committee on Joint Taxation scored the cost of CHIA at $148 million over ten years in 2007.
- Encourage new charitable contributions to improve current collegiate housing, thereby preserving and upgrading existing housing capacity and helping construct the new housing needed to accommodate growing student populations.
- Result in safer student housing by enabling fraternities and sororities to fund the installation of modern life safety equipment such as fire sprinklers, smoke detectors, and alarm systems.

To Sponsor CHIA: Call Kim Alton in the Office of Representative Stephanie Tubbs Jones at 225-7032 OR Jennifer Cook in the Office of Senator Pat Roberts at 224-4774.
Acacia Fraternity has shaped and been shaped by the lives of innumerable men. It is encouraging to reflect every so often on the Acacians who have demonstrated their commitment on a national and international stage “…to take a more active part in the affairs of the community in which we may reside…” Please enjoy this second installment of a multi-part feature.

Hiram Bingham III, Yale ’15
Explorer and United States Senator

Bingham went on to serve as lieutenant governor of Connecticut before being elected governor. Between the election and oath of office, Bingham won a special election to the U.S. Senate, a seat that had opened up due to the incumbent’s suicide. Governor Bingham served one day in office, Connecticut’s shortest term, before taking the oath of office as U.S. Senator.

Adding to his accomplishments, Brother Bingham fathered seven sons, all of whom added notoriety to the family name. They included a U.S. Congressman, World War II hero and diplomat, physician, minister, lawyer, artist, and professor.

Clifton Hillegass, Nebraska ‘38
Publisher

If you took English Literature during your high school or college days you may be one of the millions who utilized a study guide. You might be interested to know that the most popular study guide, and the first, was created by a Nebraska Acacian. The first batch of Cliffs Notes shipped in 1958 and by the end of the year, he’d sold 58,000 copies. By 1962, sales topped the one-million mark.

Today, Cliffs Notes is by far and away the most popular supplementary study guide for English Literature and the American Classics. The phrase “cliff notes” is widely known in today’s vernacular. The expression, “I’ll give you the ‘cliff notes’ version” is the 21st century’s way of telling a condensed version of a story or event.
Harold L. Sebring, Kansas State ‘20

Esteemed Jurist & Nuremberg Trial Judge

Harold “Tom” Sebring was a prominent Acacian with an astonishingly varied background: highly decorated World War I combat soldier; star college athlete in three sports; lawyer; football referee; State Supreme Court Chief Justice; law school dean; and head coach of University of Florida track, boxing and football teams — while earning his law degree.

While on the Florida Supreme Court — after a distinguished career as a practicing attorney and Circuit Judge — Brother Sebring was appointed as a judge in the Nuremberg Trial of Nazi war criminals by President Harry S. Truman. He served in that capacity in 1946 and 1947.

Brother Sebring was also regarded as “a creative, brilliant innovator” as University of Florida Gator football coach. His 1925 team finished 8-2, the school’s best record in history at that time. During his last year of coaching, 1927, the Gators finished 7-3 and he recruited the starters for the 1928 team that would finish 8-1 and lead the nation in scoring.

Edwin Weir, Nebraska ‘25

All-Star Athlete and Coach

In 1924, Edwin Weir became the captain of the Nebraska football team. During Weir’s time as tackle, Nebraska would be the only team in the nation to defeat Notre Dame — coached by Knute Rockne and led by the famed “four horsemen.” Rockne called Weir “the greatest tackle I have ever seen.”

Weir would go on to become a Walter Camp All-American and be inducted to the College Football Hall of Fame. He would also coach track and field at Nebraska and later have the track named after him. Weir remains one of the greatest athletes to come out of Nebraska to this day.
Thank you for your support! The goal of the Acacia Fraternity Foundation is to ensure that the Fraternity realizes its vision of providing training, support and guidance to every undergraduate member. One of the most valuable and enduring ways you can demonstrate your support for Acacia is by contributing to the Annual Fund.

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Approximately two-thirds of the Fraternity’s expenses can be supported through educational grants from the Foundation. Your continuing support ensures that the spirit of Acacia lives on through future generations.
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Glenn E. Montgomery, Indiana
Elbert Eugene Oliver, Indiana
Michael J. Polydoroff, Indiana
David L. Schoon, Indiana
Walter A. Simmons, Indiana
Larry K. Small*, Indiana
James L. Turner, Indiana
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David H. Fifield, Iowa State
John R. Fulkerson, Iowa State
Dr. John N. Drowatzky, Kansas
Stephen D. Luthye, Kansas
Karl L. Scott, Jr., Kansas
Lawrence Lon Andre, Kansas State
B. Eugene Criss, Kansas State
Kyle L. Moran, Kansas State
George A. Nelson, Kansas State
Willis Arden Sheets, Kansas State
Ariel Balce Barredo*, Long Beach State
Thomas A. Bejarano, Long Beach State
Edd Clayton Bond, Long Beach State
William T. Bradford, Long Beach State
Thomas G. Golden, Long Beach State
Dr. James H. Anderson, Louisiana State
Gerald E. Eggert*, Louisiana State
Kevin C. Robert, Louisiana State
Charles Lenton Sartain, Jr., Louisiana State
Michael G. Venker, Louisiana State
Richard E. Cup, Miami of Ohio
Aron Forseil, Miami of Ohio
David A. Luecke, Miami of Ohio
Harold L. Novick, Miami of Ohio
Thomas B. Stryer, Miami of Ohio
Charles O. Weddle III*, Miami of Ohio
Edmond H. Colliau, Jr., Michigan
Michael J. Fischer, Michigan
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Merrill C. Miller*, Michigan
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Paul M. Vos, Purdue
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Robert E. Dudash, Rensselaer
Jeffrey Alan Michaels, Rensselaer
Christopher P. Minardi, Rensselaer
George Michael Snider, Rensselaer
William C. Weaver, Jr., Rensselaer
Dominic Andrew Nelson, Saint Cloud State
Kevin Michael Renslow, Saint Cloud State
Mark Edward MacDonald, Shippensburg
David A. Prosser, Shippensburg
Joel Romaine, Shippensburg
Brian J. Walsh, Shippensburg
Harley A. Hartman, Southern California
Jerald T. White, Southern California
Dr. Alan C. Euchus, Syracuse
Thomas G. Hartley, Syracuse
James C. Fish, Jr., Texas
John R. Gorman, Texas
Richard E. Holloway, Texas
Jacob Leon Sloan*, Texas
Kirkland G. Smith*, Texas
Lloyd A. Andres, UCLA
Norman A. Stewart, UCLA
Edward J. Sullivan, UCLA
Richard F. Wolbert, UCLA
Daniel Glenn Butler*, Washington
A. Reinold Anderson*, Washington State
George F. Fenton Sr., Washington State
James S. Grant, Washington State
Sherman C. Jensen, Washington State
Hilton A. Jones, Jr., Washington State
Robert W. Williamson, Washington State
Neal E. Anderson, Wisconsin
Norbert A. Bybee, Wisconsin
Adam Lee Marson, Wisconsin
Jack H. Maxfield, Wisconsin
Gene H. Wegner*, Wisconsin
Warren D. Wilson, Wyoming

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Joseph H. Porter*, Georgia
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Eugene E. Alt, Illinois
George R. Biderman, Illinois
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Samuel A. Peak, Illinois
Kenneth E. Pearson, Illinois
Paul Dennis Carnine, Illinois Wesleyan
Erik Christopher Hjerpe, Illinois Wesleyan
John David Ulrich, Illinois Wesleyan
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Charles A. Barnett, M.D., Indiana
Albert Mario Donato III, Indiana
John R. Drebus, Indiana
Kirk A. Eggebrecht, Indiana
James R. Guthrie, Indiana
Michael O’Brien Keating, Indiana
Jerry L. Mayes, Indiana
Jeffrey A. Springer, Indiana
Walter C. Redbeck, Iowa State
Keith B. Chandler, Iowa State
Kenneth L. MacRae, Iowa State
Robert E. Wall, Iowa State
Dr. Earl S. Beaver, Kansas State
Roger H. Brent, Kansas State
H. Benjaimin Funk, Kansas State
Marcus William Mountford, Kansas State
Scott A. Palumbo, Lock Haven
Donald E. Albinger, Long Beach State
Dean Yeelum Chow, Long Beach State
Bradley Marc Heller*, Long Beach State
Charles A. Stevens*, Long Beach State
David A. Tosh, Long Beach State
John A. Durnin, Jr., Louisiana State
Matthew Rhett Hart*, Louisiana State
John Lewis Meeks, Louisiana State
John Richard Kelbly, Miami of Ohio
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Chancy E. Ball, Oregon State
Frederick N. Fritsch, Oregon State
James M. Lasher, Oregon State
Anthony David Little, Oregon State
Fred E. Moe, Oregon State
William Bowers III, Penn State
Andrew William Fett*, Penn State
John F. Gillespie, Jr., Penn State
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Scott Charles Thomas, Pittsburgh/Johnstown
James G. Graham, Purdue
Robert D. Hobe, Purdue
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James F. Smith II, Purdue
John W. Wright, Purdue
William C. Aubrey, Rensselaer
Walter E. Bruetsch, Rensselaer
Michael M. O’Dorney*, Rensselaer
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SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

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2007 - Jonathan Janoski, California U. of PA
2008 - Reg Aldrich, Central Oklahoma

George F. Patterson, Jr. Scholarship
2007 - Clark Richardson, Iowa State
2008 - Jared Wolfe, Penn State

Acacia Fraternity Foundation Scholarship
Shawn Kirby, California U. of PA
Reg Aldrich, Central Oklahoma
Nathan Woolard, Central Oklahoma
Joe Scavuzzo, Illinois
Matt Warren, Illinois
Ryan McLaughlin, Indiana
Matt Tyner, Indiana
Vincent Fadden, Iowa State
Jared Ramthun, Iowa State
Clark Richardson, Iowa State
Jonathan Vaage, Iowa State
Justin Geist, Kansas State
Randal Rougelot, LSU
Stefan McIntyre, Ohio State
Ahren Early, Oregon State
Jared Wolfe, Penn State
Mazen Abdu, Purdue

AFF Cornerstones Scholarship
Jason Dunlap, Illinois
Matthew England, Iowa State
Brett Eakin, Kansas State
Joshua Gannon, Oregon State
Christopher Hathaway, Purdue
Brant Christiansen, Texas

Emma C. Allen Memorial Scholarship
Jonathan Janoski, California U. of PA
Reg Aldrich, Central Oklahoma
Joseph Scavuzzo, Illinois
Andrew Bissmeyer, Indiana
Kyle Deitchman, Indiana
John Kvinge, Iowa State
Jared Ramthun, Iowa State
Celeb Coltran, Kansas State

Iowa State Chapter Scholarship
Lucas Agrimson
Brandon Behrens
Jonathan Buck
Daniel Congreve
Mathew England
Vincent Fadden
Alexander Fitzgerald
Noah Guillikson
Adam Halls
Andrew Joseph
Zachary Klenkske
John Kvinge
Seth Nelson
Trevor Owens
David Pace
Lewis Pinto III
Jared Ramthun
Clark Richardson
Joanthan Roghair
Aaron Shneider
Kyle Schnoor
Nicholas Seibold
Ezra Shields
Jonathan Vaage
John Vogel
Michael Vosatka
Michael Weber

Kansas State Chapter Scholarship
David Becker
Robert Hayes
Spencer Null
Miles Theur

Minnesota Chapter
Donald Arvold Memorial Scholarship
Bryan Chavers, St. Cloud State
Daniel Evenson, St. Cloud State

Oregon State Chapter Scholarship
William Brown
Bryan Dipps
Ahren Early
Andrew Holbrook
Alex Koosman
Joey Marroletti
Jeremiah Matson
Victor Pisani

Penn State Chapter
G.K. Nelson Memorial Scholarship
Ryan McElhenney
Michael Lampariello
William Taylor
Jared Wolfe

Purdue Chapter
Leonard E. Wood Memorial Scholarship
Mazen Abdu
Kyle Dalbec
Curt Freeman
Ken Harland
Christopher Hathaway
Carmine Iannelli
Michael Solébello
Luke Wolbrink
Arkansas
Jon M. Russ, #338 - Promoted July 8, 2008 – General Manager of North Little Rock Electric Company.

California
George F. Emerich, #309 – I have been retired almost 27 years on a hobby rare fruit farm in Southern California. My dear wife, Natalie, has been keeping me on the straight and narrow for almost 64 years and I am in my 90th year at this time. I was initiated at Berkeley 70 years ago – 1938.

Robert M. Tanem, #434 – America’s happy gardener ™ celebrated the 14th anniversary of his radio show on HOT TALK 560 KSFO, January 12, 2008, Bob Tanem in the Garden, heard Sunday mornings from 7-10 a.m.

D. Brian Williams, #704 – We moved back to Texas after 2 years in Cairo, Egypt with BP. I am working in BP alternative energy in the area of carbon (CO2) storage.

John T. (Jack) Brethauer, #952 – Currently serving on USS Abraham Lincoln as a nuclear engineering officer (active duty US Navy Lieutenant). Looking forward to getting back from deployment so I can attend more alumni banquets and Cal football games!

Brian R. Ouyang, #998 - Brian was initiated into Gamma Sigma Alpha Honor Society in recognition of academic excellence.

Central Missouri State

Central Oklahoma
Christopher R. Cook, #355 – I am blessed to say I was recently elected President of the American Society of Anesthesiologists Resident Component. In addition, I am honored to say that I was selected as the Chief Resident in Anesthesiology at the Baylor College of Medicine. In July 2008, I started Regional Anesthesia Fellowship at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City.

Cincinnati
Walter Crow, #265 – Still working at age 71 – also enjoying life and recently recorded my third hole in one – have solid partnership with another experienced realtor and plan to retire at 80.

Any brother who has not considered Arizona for retirement should contact me at 800-551-1253.

Colorado
Mahlon T. Wilson, #357 – I am still playing nuclear engineer, due to continuing to flunk retirement.

Cornell
Lawrence P. McSorley, #911 – Went to Cornell’s 100th celebration and had a great time reconnecting with brothers of my era and those before and after.

East Texas State
Robert McKenzie (Ken) Davis, #6 – I do some consulting in the Restaurant business and serve on the board of directors for JMK companies. I am semi-retired.

Illinois
David W. Andrews, #596 - Shirley and I are still kicking around and enjoying every bit of it. Haven’t seen any brothers in some time. Last spring we were passing thru Champaign and I stopped by the house – several actives greeted us and I looked through the house. Looked good – keep it up!

Illinois Wesleyan
Dennis E. Stark, #3 – Dennis E. Stark has been elected a Trustee of the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Chairman of the Audit Committee.

Jerry M. Israel, #353 – Released a new book examining some of the most common myths concerning college admissions and how college-seeking students can stand out from the crowd and get into the college they desire. With Brother Israel’s new book, The 75 Biggest Myths about College Admissions, the former President of the University of Indianapolis presents high school students with a sort of handbook filled with inside knowledge on college admissions. His book takes the reader from the first steps of researching schools to the first day of classes. By exposing the truth and sending readers down the right path, Israel’s book provides students the edge they need to avoid wrong turns, wasted time, and wasted money and to get a few steps ahead in the application process. Brother Israel was inducted into the Illinois Wesleyan chapter of Acacia as an honorary member in 1989. Now retired, Israel and his wife both reside in southwest Florida and maintain consulting engagements.

Terry R. Black, #111 – President of law firm Campbell, Black, Carnine and Hedin, employing 25 people. Recognized as leading lawyer by peers in four fields.

Oren D. Pomeroy III, #198 – I still treasure my time as an undergraduate. I’ve learned through my work and enjoyment as a Freemason what Acacia taught me. Brotherly Love, Charity and Hope continue to strengthen me every day. I thank Acacia for leading me to Freemasonry.

Michael B. Meyer, #480 – I started on the Cardiac/Telemetry Unit as a part of the Nurse Residency program at Rockford Memorial Hospital. I’m anticipating rotating into the Progressive Care Unit (step-down intensive care) after 6 months, spend 6 months in PCU, and then 1 year in Intensive Care. Then I get to make up my mind what area of nursing I wish to pursue.

Indiana
Timothy Bray, #1086 – is now commander of the 82nd Medical Group at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas. Before entering the Air Force in 1990, Colonel Bray practiced dentistry in the private sector for nine years. His previous position of command was squadron commander for the 2nd Dental Squadron in Barksdale Air Force Base, LA, where he led 16 dental officers and 44 support personnel while controlling $5.1 million in resources.

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Iowa State
Jeremy N. Davis, #969 - Brother Davis was named Alumnus of the Year by the Iowa State IFC.

Kansas State

Douglas W. Moore, #463 – Retired architect, Captain, Civil Engineer Corps, USNR, and a retired GS-14 Military Construction Planner for the Navy, residing in San Diego, California.


Long Beach State
James S. Murakami, #271 – Still in the Midwest! New position with QBE Specialty Insurance as Profit Center VP last 6 months. It’s great to hear about all the get-togethers in California – keep the emails coming.

Ariel B. Barredo, #308 - Is currently assigned to Buckley Air Force Base, Colorado. They perform the Space Based Infrared System Missile Warning Mission. In his civilian capacity, he serves as chief of staff for Global Customer Services, Americas, Sun Microsystems, Inc.

Louisiana State
James C. Skeen, #445 – Retired in 2003 after working in the petroleum industry for 42 years. I have 6 grandchildren and all live within 40 miles of my home. Fishing, gardening and reading fill my days.

Melvin L. Capell, #162 – My wife, Bev, and I met at LSU. We will celebrate our 40th anniversary this year. We have 3 grown children and 6 grandchildren. I am CEO of a medical malpractice insurance company, Coastal Insurance, RRG, Inc.


James H. Anderson, #362 – Hello to the pledge class of 1972! Still at Exxon Mobil, still traveling the world.

David Crane, #414 – Received the “Chrysalis Award” as National Remodeler of the Year for 2008.

Steven F. Friloux, #1018 – Selected for promotion to Commander (O-5). Deploying for 1-year tour in Afghanistan beginning July 2008.


Miami
Brian C. Montgomery, #229 – Son, Clay, Ohio State Acacian '06. Son, Drew, at Ohio U. Still get together for reunions at our place on Lake Erie – enjoy visiting with Orv & Marlene Conner when they are in the area. Dr. Conner was our Advisor at Miami and professor of Education.

Missouri
Michael J. Reese, #823 – I was recently hired to direct the data strategy of Monsanto’s 30+ biotech seed companies through their holding company, American Seeds, Inc.

Morningside
Patrick J. Murphy, #13 - Received the 2008 National Alumni Educator of the Year award from the Regional Center for Teaching and Learning at Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa. Murphy was presented with the award by Morningside’s president and the vice president of academic affairs during a banquet in March. For consideration of this award, candidates must exemplify the qualities of an effective educator, have made significant contributions to the field of education, and have had a positive impact on students and their families. Murphy is currently an assistant professor of management at DePaul University in Chicago. In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Murphy also is involved in training and consulting for managers and entrepreneurs around the world.

Nebraska
Harold D. Peck, Jr, #999 - Recently named Vice President of Strategic Pricing for Cardinal Health-Medical, a fortune #19 company based in Columbus, Ohio.

Thomas C. Macy, #1012 – Tom has added the administration of Clarkson West to his duties as CEO of the Nebraska Orthopaedic Hospital in Omaha. Completed his 9th marathon in April.

New Hampshire
James D. LaPierre, #961 - My wife, Peg, and I live in Kansas City, Missouri. I am the Regional Director for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) in the Kansas City region, with responsibility for seven states (KS, MO, NE, IA, SD, ND, MN).

Northern Colorado
Bruce E. Smith, #17 – Since I last reported, my “rocky road” of life includes a compression fracture of a vertebrae. Still alive, busy and content. I enjoy the friendship of Brother Lowell Olson of the Nebraska chapter. God bless and keep you.
Northwestern

John W. Plattner, #341 – We have moved into a retirement community and are enjoying it. Just returned from a trip to Greece, Turkey and Israel.

Steven D. Tyman, #910 – Recently elected to the City Council of Mason City, Iowa. He is also an Assistant County Attorney for Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, where he is in his twentieth year on that job.

Northwestern Oklahoma State

Andrew L. Giles, #30 – Received Associates Degree from OSU-OKC in Business Management. Leaving for Air Force on September 2nd as an Electronic and Environmental systems apprentice.

Ohio


Ohio State

George H. Wadge, #571 – Celebrated 50th wedding anniversary June 14, 2008. Yes, still married to Ohio State Kappa Delta, Ellen Seaman Wadge. Put up your flag on our day!

Oregon State

Jerald C. Burgess, #381 – I’ve been retired for almost 3 years and I’m busier than ever. Come visit in sunny southern California and we’ll play a round of golf.

Penn State

Robert L. Falzone, #537 – Jet-set reunion: Exactly a half century after my pledge semester at PSU, my big brother, Roy Rossman, attended the regular southeastern regional roundup of our era, and our wives finally met. Rossmans flew in from Texas, Falzones from Florida for the event, held at the home of Brother Lavern Myers in South Carolina.

Purdue

William J. Greer, #533 - Carolyn and I celebrated our 57th wedding anniversary this year. Both of our children, Jay and Jan, are Purdue grads and our grandchildren, Eric (ChemE '07) and Carla (Nursing ’09) have followed our Purdue tradition.

Peter N. Baker, #646 - I practiced Pediatrics in Oak Park, Illinois for 39 years and am now retired. I spend time in my home on a country road in Wisconsin. In the summer of 2006, I pedaled my recumbent tricycle all the way around Lake Michigan.

Howard L. White, #797 - My grandson, Myles Robinson, is a new active at Indiana University.

Saint Cloud State

David T. Hatten, #20 – I am currently in Iraq serving with the 191 Military Police Company.

Dominic A. Nelson, #200 – I’m settling into my third year as a National Account Executive for an international sign company in Florida – Thomas Sign (corporate signage).

Ryan A. Dawald, #210 – In sales, working a new territory (Chicago). Also help out with Nascar races since our Dewalt brand sponsors a car.

Syracuse

Franklyn N. Linton, Sr., #241 – Just had my 89th birthday. Have spent several summers mostly alone at my camp on Lake Groton.

Charles R. Cutshall, #624 – Syracuse University celebrated its “44 Stars of Excellence” gala during the spring 2008 semester. Chapter Advisor Cutshall was awarded with the “The Student Life ‘Live It’ Award for Excellence in Leadership”. The award is presented to those individuals who have demonstrated excellence in leadership throughout the year by consistently serving the students, faculty, staff and community through their efforts to create and implement innovative programs.

Syracuse Acacia House Corp.

R. Truxton Terkla, #520 – Currently have 2 daughters enrolled at WSU – Kiffany, 21, and Jamie, 20. My wife, Lavonne (AOPi @ WSU ‘81) and I just celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary! I currently own Facility Maintenance Contractors (a property maintenance company specializing in janitorial, landscape maintenance and parking lot services). We also own and operate TL Sea Diving – a scuba diving operation where we both teach and travel to exotic locations around the world. Just had a party (a WSU Acacia “mini-reunion”). Although the turnout was fairly small, it was a start. It was great to reconnect with so many of the brothers!

Wisconsin

Alvin A. Greason, #566 – Fourteenth year of retirement on shores of Lake Noquebay, Crivitz, Wisconsin. Now over the 400 mark for attendance at Green Bay Packer home games.

Norbert A. Bybee, #623 – On October 6, 2008, Norb and Faith Bybee celebrated 45th wedding anniversary. We met through Acacia on the Madison campus. We will travel to England on October 25th to celebrate.

Texas

Jacob L. Sloan, #1305 – Graduated and working in Austin for Aspyr Media, Inc., a video game publisher.

UCLA

Pierre A. Kern, #36 – I am still in pretty good shape – play tennis (doubles) 3 times per week and spend a lot of time on my cattle ranch in Oregon.

José R. Sanchez, Jr., #417 – Same old, same old, which is good! Traveling to Iowa City in October for Acacia gang reunion. Elected Treasurer at MWD Federal Credit Union, working with local Boy Scouts and church, and still Treasurer of UCLA Acacia House Corp. Life is good!

Vermont

Russell P. Goodwin, #285 - Announcing the birth of our daughter – Robin Marie Goodwin! Born April 11, 2008, 7 lbs. 6 oz., 21.5 inches long, and perfect!

Washington State

Clay F. Wilson, #510 – Working as an attorney for the Northwest Justice Project, a non-profit civil legal aid provider.

R. Truxton Terkla, #520 – Currently have 2 daughters enrolled at WSU – Kiffany, 21, and Jamie, 20. My wife, Lavonne (AOPi @ WSU ‘81) and I just celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary! I currently own Facility Maintenance Contractors (a property maintenance company specializing in janitorial, landscape maintenance and parking lot services). We also own and operate TL Sea Diving – a scuba diving operation where we both teach and travel to exotic locations around the world. Just had a party (a WSU Acacia “mini-reunion”). Although the turnout was fairly small, it was a start. It was great to reconnect with so many of the brothers!

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William J. Ellenberger, George Washington ’30
Brother Ellenberger passed away peacefully on March 26, 2008, in San Diego, California. Born on January 14, 1908 in Nashville, Tennessee, he lived in Washington, DC from 1909 to 1989. He had celebrated his 100th birthday in January and at that time he was still in good condition, both physically and mentally.

A loyal and generous Acacian, Brother Ellenberger was also a very active Mason. In February of 1998, he published an article entitled The Acacia Fraternity in The Scottish Rite Journal regarding the relationship between Acacia and Masonry. His efforts have gone a long way to help keep the spirit of Masonry alive in Acacia Fraternity.

Mary Jean Gleason
Mary Gleason died at home on June 8, 2008. She was the editor of the Acacia TRIAD from 1971-1978 at the National Headquarters in Boulder, Colorado. Mary is survived by her husband, George, six children, ten grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

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

Samuel S. Hicks, Pitt-Johnstown ’94
Brother Hicks was fatally shot on Wednesday, November 19, while performing his duties as an FBI agent in western Pennsylvania. He was living his dream of working in law enforcement, joining the Baltimore Police Department in 2002 and becoming an FBI agent in 2007. Hicks served the Pitt-Johnstown chapter as Venerable Dean in 1997 and will be fondly missed by all those whom he met along life’s pathway. Brother Hicks is survived by his wife, Brooke, and their 3-year-old son.

William L. Kapoun, Indiana ’01
Brother Kapoun passed away on March 9th, of the injuries sustained in a fire in his apartment in Seoul, Korea. He was overseas teaching English. Bill was an outstanding young man and Acacian. His fraternity brothers and friends raised nearly $60,000 to help cover medical expenses during his courageous battle. Brother Kapoun exemplified the qualities that we hold so dear during his brief life. He will be sorely missed by all. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.
ACACIA FRATERNITY FOUNDATION SEeks DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

The Acacia Fraternity Foundation is seeking applicants for the position of Director of Development.

The Foundation is seeking an experienced Director of Development to lead all aspects of its capital campaign, including working with alumni, board members, and other key stakeholders to secure significant gifts to support the educational activities of Acacia Fraternity.

Required:
- Demonstrated experience in fund development, preferably capital campaign management.
- Experience as a member of a college social fraternity and Phi Honor Society, Freshman Representative Council, National Italian American Foundation, Cornerstones member development program for undergraduate, and Builder’s Club.

Desired:
- Experience in fund development, particularly in higher education.
- Experience in non-profit development.
- Experience in communications and public relations.

Ken Ayers, the new Director of Development, has over twenty-five years of experience in fundraising, communications, and public relations. He was directly involved with a $1 billion campaign, was an important addition to the Acacia Headquarters staff and is a key factor in the success of the Washington State recolonization.

Through leadership positions at the Indiana University Leadership Training. In addition, he interned for Oklahoma City news station KOCO 5 and for Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Greater Oklahoma County. Brother Allen has already proved an invaluable addition to the Acacia Headquarters staff.

Help us welcome Ken to the Acacia Fraternity Foundation by sending him an email at kayers@acacia.org.
Quick - name the three core values that Acacia Fraternity is based upon? I will give you a little hint - Human Service isn’t one of them – that’s our motto. I’m a little embarrassed to say that throughout our history, I don’t think we, as a Fraternity, have done enough to promote, and certainly not advertise, our three core values.

About a year ago I stumbled across an article written by my pledge brother, John C. Witter, Washington State ’81, and his cousin Greg, who together oversee the production of the website, www.cougfan.com. I read with intrigue about one of the Cougars’ basketball stars, Taylor Rochestie, who made national news by opting out of his basketball scholarship to allow the WSU program the opportunity to sign an extra recruit this year.

Rochestie’s act of selflessness was in itself newsworthy. After all, giving back his scholarship amounted to a twenty-five thousand dollar gift to the athletic program. What really caught my attention, though, was Rochestie’s quote regarding “servanthood.” He was grateful to the basketball staff for taking a chance on a transfer with a bad knee and now this was his chance to be a servant.

The virtue, or behavior if you will, demonstrated by Rochestie was something I wasn’t used to seeing, certainly not on a sports page.

It turns out that the word servant in Rochestie’s commentary wasn’t chosen randomly as WSU’s basketball program is based on five core values; servanthood, humility, passion, unity and thankfulness.

The article reminded me of Acacia’s Ritual and the core values that it espouses. But do we adequately promote our core values? Like Pythagoras, I went on a journey in the headquarters in search of the reasons behind our core beliefs. My search for knowledge didn’t take me very far. My eureka moment never materialized. Other than the Ritual, I found nothing in our Pythagoras, William S. Dye’s, The First Half Century, Delmer Goode’s, Third Quarter Century, or our Gold Book on Ritual Exemplification. Further research into Acacia’s historical records found nothing.

Several years ago one of our featured speakers at conclave was Dr. Edward S. King, a most supportive Sigma Chi and Interfraternity man. Dr. King is noted for his presentation, The Secret Thoughts of a Ritual. During his presentation he waved the Ritual of Sigma Chi around and at one point he asked an Acacian in the audience if he would like to see it. As he extended the document forward to give to the brother, just as quickly he pulled it back. King commented, “I can’t do that, you might ask me to live up to my Fraternity’s beliefs and hold me accountable.”

The truth of the matter is, we must openly and routinely discuss our Ritual’s core values so that we may fully understand what it means to be an Acacian. Our Ritual gives us an instrument of self-evaluation by which to measure ourselves as men against our core beliefs: Virtue, Knowledge, and Truth. It is these three principles upon which we must shed the greatest light as we travel along life’s pathway...

Darold W. Larson
Executive Director, Acacia Fraternity
Cornerstones Mission
Cornerstones provides a framework for personal development of active members in the areas of Intellectual Growth, Social Awareness, and Physical Well-Being. Through effective deployment of human resources, technology, and positive reinforcement, Cornerstones benefits the individual, the chapter, the campus on which the chapter resides, and Acacia Fraternity.

Alumni Involvement
Cornerstones has led to new, more meaningful roles for alumni involvement.

Our volunteers are providing greater oversight and guidance of chapter operations.

175 new volunteers

You can volunteer today as a Cornerstones advisor by visiting www.gatesofsamos.org and completing a short sign-up process.

Gates of Samos Online Mentoring
www.gatesofsamos.org, site of the Cornerstones web application, is an online system for members to track program progress, reflect upon personal growth, and receive guidance from alumni mentors.

The web application allows alumni Level Advisors to provide guidance and accountability at critical points in a student’s pathway.

Mentoring can take place across long distances at times that are convenient for busy professionals and students alike.

Have you volunteered yet?

Acacia Fraternity International Headquarters
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