



THE CREST

An ePublication for the Brothers and Friends of Acacia Fraternity

DECEMBER 16, 2014


â€¢ Note from the Executive Director

â€¢ A Season of Service

â€¢ Re-founding Fathers Initiated at Washington Colony

â€¢ LSU Alumnus Honored by College of Engineering



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NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Brothers,

I hope this issue of *The Crest* finds you well and enjoying the holiday season. Acacia Fraternity during the holiday season revolves around a few things: Human Service, final exams, and planning for the upcoming year. With the fall semester coming to a close, chapters have been busy in all of these areas, and the International Fraternity has been busy preparing for 2015, as well.



Iowa State Acacia brothers enjoyed another successful Acacia Claus holiday toy drive.

The new year will kick off with the second annual Lee Kearney Venerable Dean Summit in Indianapolis, a 2-day leadership retreat for Venerable Deans from across North America, most of them newly elected to their position. This is also where we will launch a new online reporting system for our chapters that will be a major point of emphasis in our operations in the spring. We will prepare for the 11th biennial Darold W. Larson Acacia Leadership Academy this summer, and our work continues as we lay the foundation for 2015 recolonizations at Indiana, Iowa, and Minnesota. It is sure to be a full and prosperous year for Acacia.

To all those who celebrate, I wish you a happy and healthy holiday season from our Acacia family to yours.

Fraternally,



Patrick McGovern

Executive Director

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A SEASON OF SERVICE

As you may have already read in this fall's *TRIAD* magazine, Acacia undergraduates have been busy this semester bettering themselves and their communities. During this holiday season, one of Acacia's most popular International philanthropy events is the Acacia Claus holiday toy drive. Now in its 11th year, Acacia Claus is on track to see a record number of chapters participate. Beneficiaries vary by chapter and include Shriners Hospitals, Toys for Tots, Salvation Army, and others.



Another International service project of Acacia picking up momentum this year is Seven Days of Service. This program actually dates back to 1984 and was originally conceived to have all Acacia chapters and colonies complete a simultaneous week of service activities. Today, chapters and colonies are encouraged to designate their own week to participate in service activities for seven consecutive days.

Both of these programs remind us, especially at this time of the year, of the obligations we have made and values we uphold as Acacians. *"To whom much is given, of him shall much be required."* We hope that all those who celebrate during this holiday season reflect upon Acacia's motto and guiding principle, Human Service.

THE FALL 2014 ISSUE OF *THE TRIAD* HAS ARRIVED!

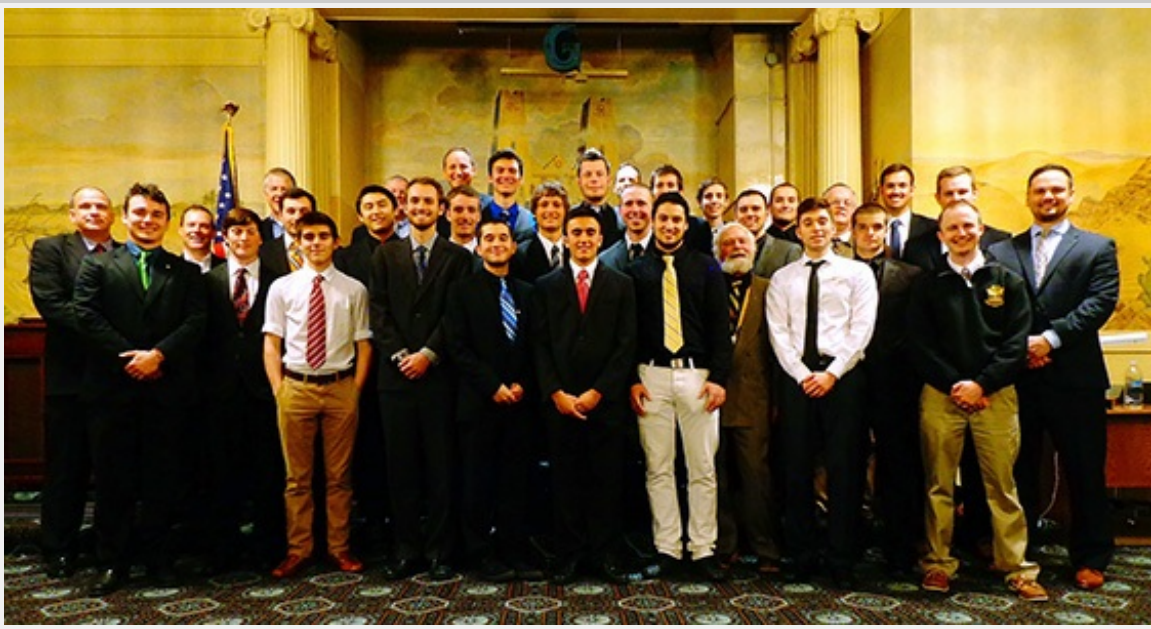
The Fall 2014 Triad has shipped, and you should be in receipt of your copy by the time you read this edition of The Crest. In this issue, we touch upon the theme of Acacia remaining steadfast through the changing seasons. We hope you enjoy this issue and would love to hear your feedback. If you have not received your copy, please email us at communications@acacia.org to confirm your mailing address and request a copy be sent to you.



[Read the Fall 2014 Triad online](#)

RE-FOUNDING FATHERS INITIATED AT WASHINGTON

The Washington Colony of Acacia has begun its journey toward re-chartering with the initiation of twelve re-founding fathers this fall. Ten new members were initiated on Saturday, November 15, at the University Masonic Lodge. Numerous Acacia leaders traveled to Seattle to conduct the initiation, including Executive Director Patrick McGovern, AFF Executive Director Darold Larson, and Leadership Consultants Jerod Miles and Nathan McKee. Undergraduate brothers from the Oregon State Chapter and undergraduates and alumni from the Washington State Chapter also attended, helping facilitate the Ritual and make it a very meaningful initiation for our new brothers.



Washington Acacia re-founding fathers and various supporting Acacians

A second initiation ceremony was held the following Thursday night, November 20, for two additional men. This second initiation was led by the Washington Colony active brothers and local alumni under the leadership of Leadership Consultant and UW Acacia expansion coordinator Jerod Miles.

The Washington alumni would like to thank everyone who made the re-colonization and initiation possible, including those cheering on from afar. The colony is humbled by the outpouring of support from Acacia brothers.

MARK GUIDRY RECOGNIZED BY LSU COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Mark R. Guidry, Jr., *Louisiana State A'57*, was recognized in November through the induction of the Guidry Foundation into the LSU College of Engineering's Society for Engineering Excellence for lifetime commitments of \$1 million dollars or more to the college. The Foundation has made contributions to the Division of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the College of Engineering. The Guidry Foundation was established by Mark and the late Carolyn Guidry, and their children and spouses: Gayle and John Dilley, Mike and Barbara Guidry, and David and Jennifer Guidry.

Brother Guidry has served on the Acacia Fraternity Foundation Board of Directors since 2011, is a member of the LSU House Corporation Board, and has previously served as LSU Chapter Advisor.

A BROTHER LEAVES US TOO SOON

It is with tremendous sadness that the Texas Chapter reports the loss of one of its active members. Evan Michael Line, 18, an honors electrical and computer engineering freshman, passed away unexpectedly from complications stemming from his life-long struggle with diabetes on December 4, 2014. A new initiate into the Texas Chapter, Evan's loss is deeply felt within the chapter where he was universally held in high esteem. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family in this most difficult time.



“Though we are now deprived of the physical presence of our brother, each of us shall always carry his life within us.”

JOIN ACACIA ALUMNI IN LAS VEGAS IN JANUARY

Acacia alumni are currently planning the second annual Acacia Alumni Brotherhood Conference and invite you to join the festivities in Las Vegas, Nevada, from **January 15-19, 2015**. Organized as a grassroots event by at-large Acacia alumni, the 2nd annual AABC is sure to build upon the success of its inaugural gathering last year.



Acacians at the the 2014 AABC in Las Vegas

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

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

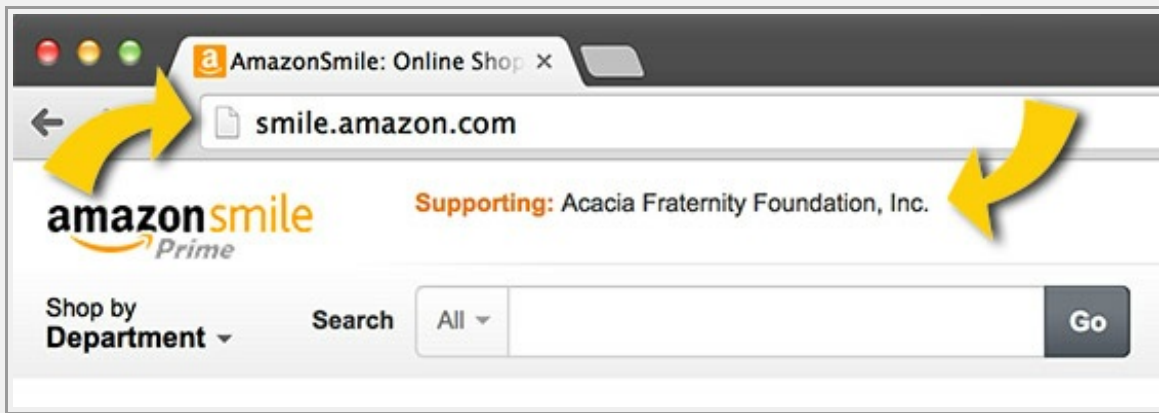
[Book your room online](#) or call to make reservations at 1-866-767-7773, and mention Acacia Alumni Leadership Retreat to receive our special discounted rate.

Please contact Brother Steven Etter, *California (PA) A'92*, at acaciaalumni retreat@gmail.com for more information. We hope to see many of you in Las Vegas in January!

SUPPORT ACACIA THROUGH HOLIDAY SHOPPING AT AMAZON.COM

Now you can support the Acacia Fraternity Foundation through your regular online shopping at amazon.com by instead pointing your browser to smile.amazon.com. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the

purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases (including tens of millions of products) to the AFF. Supporting Acacia has never been easier.



Your existing amazon.com account works seamlessly with AmazonSmile. On your first visit to [AmazonSmile](#), you will need to select a charitable organization to receive donations before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection of the Acacia Fraternity Foundation, and then every eligible purchase you make on AmazonSmile will result in a donation.

With the holiday shopping season just around the corner, this is an easy way to support Acacia's educational and scholarship programs. Be sure to spread the word to your significant other, friends, and family!

Â€œA NEW LIFE FOR AN OLD FRIENDÂ€

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

With the second annual Lee Kearney Venerable Dean Summit about to take place in January, now is a great time to surprise a newly elected Venerable Dean with a gift that he will certainly take to heart. Please send your badge to Acacia International Headquarters at 8777 Purdue Road, Suite 225, Indianapolis, IN 46268. We will happily recognize your gift in a future Acacia publication.



Acacia needs your support. [Make a contribution to](#)

[Acacia Fraternity today](#). Your gift makes a lasting impact and may be tax-deductible.



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[Order Acacia gear online](#), from apparel to jewelry to gifts. Your

purchase directly benefits Acacia Fraternity.