

February 16, 2009
Volume 3, Issue 2

Quick Links

[Have you been in Egypt?](#)

[New Century Campaign](#)

[ALA 2009](#)

[Join Acacia Online!](#)

[CHIA](#)

Have you been in Egypt?

As roll number Custom Field 1 of the Custom Field 2 Chapter, you are one of 48,300 Acacians who have taken the oath of initiation and added to our Fraternity's legacy. That number will grow this month. Strictly by the numbers, February is our most popular initiation month with over 7,100 men having taken our ritual's oath and added to our Fraternity's heritage.



Top 5 Months for Initiation

- February: 7,101
- April: 7,066
- January: 6,699
- March: 5,634
- November: 4,494

Top 5 Days for Initiation

- December 3rd
- January 12th
- December 2nd
- January 20th
- January 14th

I have learned through the years that behind every roll number is a story. I learned an interesting fact just last week. On January 12, 1969, our Penn State chapter initiated two Metzgers. Of greater coincidence, they have almost identical full names - one being D. Lee Metzger and the other Lee D. Metzger, and they are not related! What's your story? We'd love to hear from you.

Whereas Acacia has never initiated anyone on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day or the Fourth of July, we have had a total of 44 brothers take their oath on February 29th. Further research shows that 299 members have been initiated on Acacia's anniversary - May 12th.

Take a moment and revisit the information on your membership card. Can you remember what you were doing on Custom Field 3, the day you became a member of Acacia? The card is a vivid reminder of your pledgship, the ritual (mastery of geometry), the word and grip, initiation, serenades, the house, parties and brotherhood!

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Hopefully your memories associated with Acacia are pleasant ones. Whether it is getting involved with [Cornerstones](#) - our new membership development program, becoming active with a local chapter's alumni board or recommending a rushee, I encourage you to help carry on the tradition for the undergraduates of today.

Acacia Fraternity is halfway through our Annual Fund program this year and I appreciate those of you who have contributed. Acacia, too, is feeling the financial crisis like so many in today's economy. We are enjoying a good year and need your support to ensure our successes come to fruition.

Please click on the PayPal link below to make a secure donation to the Acacia Annual Fund. Contributions are 100% tax-deductible.



Proud to be an Acacian!

Fraternally,



Darold W. Larson
Executive Director

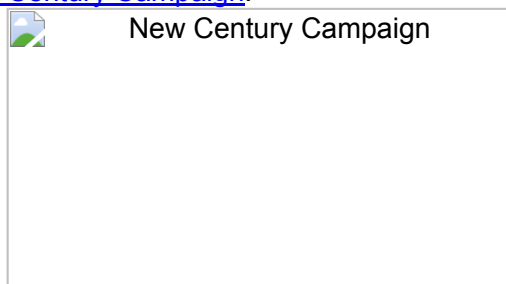
New Century Campaign

During its first century Acacia Fraternity shaped the lives of over 47,000 men. Its commitment to developing men of strong values and character has never wavered.

Undeniably, Acacia continues to make a difference in the world. Alumni from all walks of life, including a United States President; a Nobel Prize winning inventor and engineer; and successful executives of prominent international corporations have exemplified our motto of "Human

Service" and inspired others to follow them.

As Acacia alumni, we have a responsibility to help ensure the success of the Fraternity for the next 100 years and beyond. In this spirit, we began the [New Century Campaign](#).



The New Century Campaign ushers in a new era for Acacia Fraternity. One that seeks to forge a unified national identity. One that strengthens each chapter and colony through leading-edge brotherhood development programs. And, one that creates a rising tide of greater alumni involvement in charting our destiny.

In the third year of the campaign, with nearly 2 million dollars raised in gifts and pledges, we continue to seek your generosity. Gifts to the New Century Campaign may be made outright, payable over 3-5 years or through your estate or other planned giving instrument.

The direction that Acacia has taken with the New Century Campaign will create a strong foundation for young Acacians. This will allow them to pursue success as leaders and students. Thank you for your support.

Please contact Director of Development Ken Ayers for more information: (888) 345-1904 or kayers@acacia.org.



Acacia Leadership Academy 2009

The 8th Biennial Acacia Leadership Academy begins this summer on Wednesday, July 29, at 3:45 p.m. and runs through Sunday, August 2. Our host again this year is the Indiana Chapter, located in Bloomington, Indiana.

Held during off-Conclave years, ALA brings together over 100 Acacians from across North America to meet and function as one chapter. This leadership academy, unique in the interfraternal world, pushes undergraduate brothers to forge relationships, meet challenges, surpass goals, and share in both tough decisions and hard-earned victories. Brothers will enjoy four days of fraternal events, team competitions, guest instructors, and leadership training.



More details will follow over the next few months, but please contact Keith Bushey, Assistant Executive Director, with any questions or feedback regarding ALA: (888) 345-1904 or kbushey@acacia.org. You

can also stay updated by [following the event on Facebook](#).

Join Acacia Online!

Have you found Acacia online yet? You can find us on [Facebook](#) (over 1000 members!), [LinkedIn](#) (career networking with over 450 alumni), [YouTube](#), even [Twitter](#)! While you're catching up with old brothers and getting the latest news, please take a few minutes to update your membership record online.



The size and accuracy of our membership database grows every week, but we need you to play your part! [Update your info now!](#)

Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act

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.

Learn more about CHIA by downloading this [one-page document](#), or visit <http://www.fraternalcaucus.org>.

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For more information, please visit us at www.acacia.org.

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