



The Hello

Heth Chapter of Acacia at the University of Illinois • February 2001

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Thanks to your contributions, *The Hello* is published for the alumni and friends of Heth Chapter of Acacia Fraternity at Illinois. Address changes, news items, photographs and contributions may be sent in the enclosed envelope or mailed to

**Acacia Fraternity,
Alumni Records Office,
P.O. Box 3244,
Oak Brook, IL 60522-3244.**

Heth Chapter, Corporation Board Take on Challenges

By Art Mertes '88, Corporation Board President, and Jay North '90, Corporation Board Vice President

It is an exciting but difficult time as we enter 2001 with a new slate of board members for the housing corporation! Former Board President Mike Ford '90 has moved to New York. We will miss his contributions on the Corporation Board. After many calls to our alumni, we have finally been fortunate to add four new board members who will be assisting in various capacities. This new infusion of energy has been needed for some time. As with any volunteer-based organization, it is difficult to harness the time and energy to effectively meet all of our goals. Our goals include the ownership of a chapter house, building our alumni network, and most importantly, maintaining Acacia's strong presence at the University of Illinois. Our

added board volunteers, who are listed at left, will be assisting with board functions, building our alumni network using technology, helping organize alumni activities and advising the chapter. Our communications during the past 12-18 months have not been as frequent as we would have liked, mainly because of the time and cost involved and the increasingly busy lives of our board members. I believe our fund-raising efforts have suffered as a result. While we historically have achieved satisfactory results in obtaining donations (both annual giving, and Chapter Sponsor and Patron), the past giving year has seen a slight downturn. We appreciate all the support you have given and ask for your continued generosity!

We would like to share with you some information that we feel is important for you to know. Most fraternities on campus, including ours, are seeing their undergraduate leadership being placed at the sophomore level. Most of us would probably agree that we are more comfortable with house leadership — especially for the position of Venerable Dean — at the junior and senior levels. The chapter is faced with the growing attraction of apartment living — without rules or the numerous brothers as housemates — as a competitor to Greek life. That has reduced the number of juniors and seniors who want to live in the chapter house, and as a consequence, it affects our pool of candidates for leadership.

Continued on Page 4

Jack S. Kilby '42 Wins 2000 Nobel Prize in Physics

By Art Mertes '88 and Brian Thomas '95

One of our already distinguished alumni, Jack S. Kilby '42 of Dallas, Texas, has won the 2000 Nobel Prize in physics for his part in the invention and development of the integrated circuit (IC). Jack grew up in Great Bend, Kan., and later earned his bachelor

of science and master of science degrees in electrical engineering from the universities of Illinois and Wisconsin, respectively. He invented the IC in 1958 while at Texas Instruments with borrowed and improvised equipment. According to the Nobel Assembly at the Royal

Swedish Academy of Sciences, his invention enabled the microelectronics field to grow to become the basis of all modern technology. His accomplishment was also announced at the Illini football game at this year's homecoming. Jack also

Continued on Page 6

Sponsors and Patrons Help Chapter Build House Down Payment

In 1995, we launched our first to-be-annual Chapter Patron and Chapter Sponsor Program to raise money toward a down payment to buy a house for Heth chapter and to make major house improvements. We asked each of our more than 800 alumni to contribute \$200 as a Chapter Patron or \$100 as a Chapter Sponsor to help fund the house.

Our first year in the program, 1995, produced \$2,850; in 1996 you contributed \$3,100; and in 1997, we garnered \$5,700, a 100 percent increase over our first year. In 1998, there was a total of \$4,700. That number slipped again in 1999 to a total of \$2,950 in Patron and Sponsor donations, with an additional Benefactor donation of \$500. However, it is great to report that the 2000/2001 giving year has been building with your help. To date, \$3,400 has been donated to the Patron/Sponsor program, with an additional generous donation of \$500 at the Benefactor level. We are also thankful to the 34 alumni who have donated a total of \$1,725 to the annual giving program. A list of those contributors is included on Page 4 of this newsletter. It is gratifying to know that so many of you have supported our fraternity communications program and are dedicated to its survival.

But the need is still there, and a large pool of Heth chapter alumni have not yet responded. The funds raised each year are currently being reserved for a down payment on a chapter house and may also be used to make cosmetic and structural improvements to our leased house, improvements for which the landlord is not responsible. These improvements are necessary for:

- The safety and well-being of the undergraduates,
- Keeping Heth chapter competitive with other fraternities,
- Ensuring all alumni a place to return in years to come, and
- Allowing other fine young men to enter the ranks of Acacia Fraternity in the future.

The longer it takes for us to gather the necessary funds for a down payment on our own house, the more we must invest in a house that we do not own. In short, we still need your help.

Kudos to Michael Ford '90 for All He's Done

The Board would like to thank Michael Ford for his past involvement as president of the Corporation for many years. Mike has since moved to New York; his forwarding information is Salomon Smith Barney, Investment Banking, Capital Goods Franchise, 388 Greenwich St., Floor 24, New York, NY 10013; 212-816-2459; michael.ford@ssmb.com. Mike is enjoying his time in New York with his wife, Chris, and daughter, Molly. Please contact him to thank him personally.

In the past, we have included the Corporation's balance sheet, but it is costly to publish it in every issue. We will gladly provide any Heth chapter alumnus a copy of the balance sheet and other financial information upon request. In the future, the Corporation treasurer plans to provide an article that will summarize the financial status of the chapter and alumni Corporation.

If you have contributed in the past, we hope you will continue to support this special program. If you have been unable to participate in the past, we hope you will give careful consideration to helping us preserve an experience that has helped shape our futures, our friendships and our lives.

[We have two programs that are important to the continued financial strength of our fraternity. Our annual giving (Dues) program coincides with the academic year and supports The Hello newsletter, our other alumni communications and the general work of the alumni Corporation.]

Your Benefactor, Patron and Sponsor support is set aside for capital items and the eventual purchase of a new chapter house. Contributions, made payable to Heth Chapter of Acacia Fraternity Corp. Board, can be returned to the Alumni Records Office in the enclosed, postage-paid envelope or mailed to the address on Page 1.]

Welcome Our Fall Pledges

Dave Anderson '02 ~ Joliet, Ill. ~ Speech Communications
Carlos Cagadas '04 ~ Glenview, Ill. ~ Liberal Arts and Science
Scott Carpenter '04 ~ Naperville, Ill. ~ Liberal Arts and Science

Kunal Desai '04 ~ Naperville, Ill. ~ Engineering
Rob Epperson '04 ~ Bloomington, Ill. ~ Finance
Andrew Erskine '02 ~ Effingham, Ill. ~ Accounting
Mike Fischer '04 ~ LaGrange, Ill. ~ Economics
Bryan Freund '04 ~ Chillicothe, Ill. ~ Business
Marc Guillen '04 ~ Chicago, Ill. ~ Undecided
Skip Heaver '04 ~ Westmont, Ill. ~ Undecided

Mike Heinemann '04 ~ Clarendon Hills, Ill. ~ Business

Jackson Hoffman '04 ~ Savoy, Ill. ~ Engineering
Danny Kim ~ Lincolnwood, Ill. ~ Finance
Jason Lee '04 ~ Aurora, Ill. ~ Community Health
Anthony Leigh '04 ~ Ottawa, Ill. ~ General Engineering
Kevin Mars '04 ~ Mt. Prospect, Ill. ~ Undecided
Rich Noreen '04 ~ Chicago, Ill. ~ Undecided
Joe Pedota '04 ~ Hinsdale, Ill. ~ Business
Ryan Puccinelli '04 ~ Forest Park, Ill. ~ Agricultural Economics
Parag Shah '04 ~ Naperville ~ Mechanical Engineering
Brian Yabes '04 ~ Skokie, Ill. ~ Economics

Heth Chapter Continually Improves

By Nathan Willert '03, Venerable Dean through Fall 2000

It is amazing how time flies. I can remember a little more than two years ago when I was just a pledge here. Things were quite different then. I had no idea what was to become of this fraternity called Acacia. I had no idea that the 27 pledge brothers I had just met would become my closest friends. At that time, I had no idea that I would ever be making some of the most important decisions involved with the house as Venerable Dean. I guess I'm trying to say that this house has changed me immensely for the rest of my life, and I know it has the same effect on every undergraduate who has and will pass through it. Acacia has a way of molding a man so that his most valuable qualities shine onto others. It sounds corny, but I think it is true.

Ever since I became affiliated with Acacia at the University of Illinois, our numbers have been in the ninety and hundred range. Presently, we have 87 undergraduate members and 21 pledges, which puts us in the top five of the 52 fraternity

houses on campus. Our new members, full of creative ideas, will continue to improve the house the way the rest of the executive board and I have worked to do. It is reassuring that our future is in such good hands.

I look around the house and find it hard to believe that it is the same structure that we inhabited when I pledged two years ago. We acquired this house in August 1991; it had been an old sorority house that needed a lot of work. We know it is not the greatest building on campus, but we are proud of it and strive to make it the best place we can. Improvements made during my time here include new tables and chairs in the cafeteria to go along with the new floor, the new tiles laid in the back stairwells and a new big-screen television. The biggest overall improvement I have seen is our new computer lab, which is connected to a high-speed Internet link. What makes us proudest about our computer lab is that we did most of the construction ourselves. Many more house improvements are

planned for the future, and in another two years, I can guarantee that the house will be even better.

Even though we know that social events are not the only thing that a fraternity house is about, we take great pride in our social calendar. This semester's events have proved to be some of the best. Our serenades were so creative and genuine that we were paired with the top sorority houses on campus. It is safe to say that this semester, our social calendar is one of the best on campus. We are very proud that all our hard work and dedication toward improving our image on campus is paying off.

Oh goodness, how time flies. My term as Venerable Dean is coming to a close. I feel as though I made a positive contribution during my year in office. The most comforting feeling I have right now is that the next generation of leaders will do an even better job than we have. Things will only get better and the future is bright for the Heth chapter.

Heth Chapter Officers

Venerable Dean

Sean Dubinsky '03
Carol Stream, Ill.
Undecided

Senior Dean

Ryan Bell '03
Prospect Heights, Ill.
Undecided

Treasurer

Arthur Zaremba '03
Lincolnwood, Ill.
Mathematics

Social Treasurer

James Gorowski '03
Chicago, Ill.
Economics

Junior Dean

Ryan Denes '03
Wilmette, Ill.
Urban Planning

House Manager

Tony Mitchell '03
Brookfield, Ill.
Accounting

Pledge Educators

Mike Manczko '03
Elmwood Park, Ill.
Undecided

Michael Cox '03
Oak Brook, Ill.
Undecided

Web Site in the Works

By Brian C. Thomas '95, Vice President, Alumni Relations

Briefly, for those of you who do not know me, I am a new corporation board member installed in such capacity in September 2000.

One of my primary areas of focus as a board member will be to build an alumni network for the many personal and professional opportunities such a network will bring to Illinois Acacia. Todd Short '90, also a new corporation board member, is helping by building an Illinois Acacia Web site.

That's right, our chapter now has a presence on the World Wide Web. Our site is located at www.acaciaheth.org, and the first iteration of the site is currently viewable.

We hope to accomplish several things by developing this site. In addition to displaying up-to-date information about the undergraduate chapter and campus activities, we hope to improve our relationship with

our alumni. This site will maintain a knowledge database of current contact information on our alumni as well as news of activities such as homecoming plans, Christmas parties, golf outings or other events.

As we gain support from our alumni chapter in terms of providing the board with up-to-date information, we expect to be able to strengthen the ties among our alumni with easy access to information for

social and professional networking opportunities.

Therefore, I request that each of you take a minute to fill out the enclosed news/giving form, giving us your most up-to-date information. In addition, there is a contact page on the Web site with a direct link to e-mail us with your information or your feedback regarding the site. We look forward to hearing from all of you!

Thank you for your support!

Thank you to the brothers listed, who have already made contributions to our 2000-01 giving program. (Our giving year coincides with the school year and runs from September 1 through August 31.) Your Dues support enables us to continue our alumni relations program, which includes the publication of this newsletter. Your Benefactor, Patron and Sponsor support is set aside for capital items and the eventual purchase of a chapter house. If you have not yet sent contributions, please do so today.

Chapter Benefactor

Walter F. McLallen '88

Chapter Patron

Jeffrey Peotter '80

Nicholas K. Pontikes '83

Jeffrey R. Smith '83

Douglas D. Traxler '83

M. Brian Owens '87

Greg C. Mitsch '89

Chapter Sponsor

Michael R. Kastholm
Miles C. Johnsen '30
John T. Bullington '40
Jack S. Kilby '42
Reid M. Antle '43
Dana A. Stewart '46
David W. Andrews '48

Richard L. Cowart '53
Phillip A. Merriman '54
Michael K. Yates '62
Allan C. Campbell '64
Barry M. Gourley '67
Gary L. Upp '68
Fredrick C. Garrett '71

David M. Uhlenhop '75
Scott Aberle '86
Robert A. Milani '87
Arthur E. Mertes '88
Stephen M. Nelson '88
Kevin Olson '88

Thomas E. Hein '89
Brian L. Carpizo '90
Scott M. Cummings '95
Matthew F. Harmon '96
Jarret Rackoff '96
Ryan J. O'Brochta '99

Dues

Henry Volle '35
John T. Bullington '40
E. Glendon Moore '41
Roy V. Augensen '42
William R. Wiebmer '43
Eugene C. Swager '46
Eugene E. Alt '47
James A. Moore '50

Charles E. Rockwood '52
John W. Wishart '52
David C. O'Bryant '54
M. Robert Schroeder '54
Albert J. Day '57
Roger A. Adelman '61
Richard J. Budde '65
Wayne R. Johnson '66

Guy H. Manning '71
Jeffrey A. Jones '74
Michael P. Gould '79
Michael P. Delia '81
Sean T. McDermott '83
Kent A. Kunkel '84
Timothy G. Payne '85
Robert A. Milani '87

Peter M. Abruzzo '88
James M. Cox '89
Greg C. Mitsch '89
Mark C. Ciosek '90
Brian J. O'Brien '90
Jarret Rackoff '96
Timothy C. Weselak '97

Heth Chapter, Corporation Board Take on Challenges (Continued from Page 1)

We have as many out-of-house members as in-house; however, we are not the only house on campus to experience this shift. We are focusing on selling the program that Acacia has to offer — and we believe it remains a strong one — that fosters the ability to work with others, communicate and contribute to the success of an organization while experiencing a strong sense of brotherhood. However, it has been a difficult task to address the need for strong leadership, values and continuity at the undergraduate level.

Another challenging issue is maintenance of the physical structure of the house. We have recently discussed with the

undergraduate chapter the need to refocus to foster attitudes of pride and respect, for property — most importantly our own physical structure — and for individuals, at every level of membership. This has been an increasingly difficult challenge that we have addressed at every board meeting with the undergraduates, but until something (@!!#*@!) hit the fan, we have constantly faced the same issues without results. We hope that the more recent discussions will yield some positive results. Our chief goal is that the house present itself to the outside world as one that deserves to be respected. They have the talent, intelligence and

ambition to do just that and are starting to apply themselves to that end. And we have great expectations of them! For those of you who have been displeased with the physical state of the house at one time or another, we as a board share your displeasure. Please bear with us as we try to guide the undergraduate chapter to refocus on the physical structure. Please also communicate your comments to the undergraduate chapter and especially to us. Your communication assists us in our roles and is *very* important to us!

With all that said, we believe that Acacia still has a bright future at the University of Illinois. The undergraduate

chapter continues to excel at rushing top-quality students and has approximately 90 members. We are seeing positive things from the undergraduates, despite their need to do some refocusing. The addition of new blood to the board is *huge*! So please join us in our efforts, support us, call your Acacia friends with whom you haven't talked in some time, reminisce with them and catch up on life events, and make a brief stop by the chapter house at 907 South Third Street in Champaign when you're there. It may or may not be the original physical structure that you inhabited, but your brothers are still the same!

Alumni News

Retired attorney **John T. Bullington '40** (46 Smoke Tree Rd., Hillsboro, IL 62049) tells us, "It's been 64 years since I pledged Acacia — one of the smartest moves I ever made." During his years at U. of I., the general climate at Acacia was one of strict study hours and comradeship. "It was probably the one single factor in keeping my grades up through undergraduate and law school."

Delos Detar '41 (1912 Sharon Rd., Tallahassee, FL 32303; ddetar@inf.net) served on the faculty at Florida State University for nearly four decades and retired a few years ago as a professor of chemistry. During his career, he published more than 100 papers in professional journals. Delos maintains his interest in computational chemistry and continues to be involved in research and publication.

E. Glendon Moore '41 (401 Burwash Dr., Apt. 141, Savoy, IL 61874) gets together with **Bob Bishop '39** for lunch at the Holiday Inn in Decatur on occasion.

Volunteer work, swimming and reading keep **Allan M. Cress '42** (1517 Floberta St., Wichita, KS 67208) active in his retirement. He also enjoys attending concerts, plays and cultural events. Al is a professor emeritus at Wichita State University. He and M.J. have been married more than 55 years.

Since retiring a dozen years ago, **David W. Andrews '48** (603 W. Detweiller Dr., Peoria, IL 61615) hasn't missed working at all. He's been active as a volunteer for a number of organizations and served on the board of the Heart of Illinois Fair for more than 20 years.

Dave enjoys travel and spends a good part of the summer at his lake-side cottage in northern Wisconsin. He has participated in many Elderhostels across the States and is signed up for Mardi Gras in Mobile, Ala., this February.

"Old friends are still the best," notes **Charles E. Rockwood '52** (4005 Bobbin Brook Cir., Tallahassee, FL 32312). He had lunch last fall with **John Beatty '52**, **John Corliss '52**, **Bob King '52** and **Rolf Cederwall**. Charlie is a professor emeritus at Florida State University.

Clergyman **Howard A. Gleason '57** (338 Country Club Dr., Ballwin, MO 63011) has been pastor at St. Mark Presbyterian Church for more than 30 years.

Gary L. Upp '66 (208 Second St., Radford, VA 24141) is an associate professor at Radford University. When he returned to Decatur for his 35th high school reunion, he met with **Rich Crusius '65** and **Michael Pembroke '66** for a day of golf. Gary reports they had a great time.

Richard O. Erdmann '67 (13 Londonderry, Fairview Heights, IL 62208) is an attorney with Erdmann Law Office. Last year, he was looking forward to spending a few days with his pledge father, **Jeff Hotham**, and Jeff's wife Sherry at their home in Phoenix, Ariz.

As deputy director of European Bank for Reconstruction & Development, **Michael P. Delia '81** (7 Akenside Ct., 26 Belsize Cres., London, England, NW3 5QT, United Kingdom; mdelia@mbox.infotel.bg) has moved to Bulgaria. "If you are in the neighborhood, please

give me a ring." Brothers can write to Mike at the address above or give him a call at his office at 359-2-987-6611.

Douglas D. Traxler '83 (2448 Fairhunt Ct., Oakton, VA 22124; dtraxler@webbmason.com), vice president of sales and marketing at Webb/Mason, is married to Holly and has three children. He's in touch with **Pete Coules '81**, **Don Angelini '80** and **Bill Smart '79**. (Bill is on our "lost" list. If you have an address for him, please send it our way.)

Kathleen and **Scott Aberle '86** (2367 Miramar, University Heights, OH 44118; skaberle@aol.com) welcomed the arrival of their first child and daughter, Annie, in November 1999. Scott is an account sales manager at Comdisco.

Art Mertes '88 recently founded, with several colleagues, the west-Loop law firm of Synergy Law Group, L.L.C. His firm is a business transactional practice, handling corporate and real estate matters with an emphasis on emerging growth and technology companies. The address: 730 Randolph St., 6th Floor, Chicago, IL 60661.

Architect **Stephen M. Nelson '88** (27560 Gerry Ln., Sycamore, IL 60178; steven@gcarch.com) is an associate principal and office manager at Gilfillan & Callahan Architects. He's opened a branch office in downtown Batavia. Stephen and his wife, Pam, have a 2-year-old daughter, Katelyn, and announce the birth of their second child, son Griffin, in September 2000.

Mark Variano '88 (1819 Rolling Ln., Arlington, IL 60004) was recently engaged to Carolyn Schlosser (yes, there are strong ties, but not resemblances, to her brother, **Tom Schlosser '88**).

Greg C. Mitsch '89 (175 Rumson Rd., Rumson, NJ 07760; greg.mitsch@gs.com), a vice president at Goldman Sachs, is married to Jacqueline. In the photo at left, taken at their wedding, **Tom Hein '89** (far left), Greg, **Mark Piegza '89** and **Bill Hurley '87** (far right) sing Frank Sinatra's "Summer Wind." (Thanks for sending the photo, Greg!)

Continued, next page

The Wedding Singers



Acacia Takes Over Wrigley Field



Our annual Cubs summer outing took place on July 22, 2000 (Cubs vs. Brewers). We will inform you about the next Cubs outing — and events will be posted on our Web site. Please provide your e-mail address so we can contact you quickly and reduce our costs of communication.

Visit our Web site at
www.acaciaheth.org

Jay North '90 and **Demarcus Gordon '90**. Eric works for Prudential Securities in Oak Brook, Ill.

Jeff Lee '92 (913 West Altgeld, Chicago, IL 60614; jlee@fathomsolutions.com) recently founded Fathom Solutions, 223 W. Lake Street, Chicago, IL 60606, a telecommunications consulting firm.

In a new position, **Scott M. Cummings '95** (4206 Highland Ave., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266; cummingscott@hotmail.com) is an account executive at eForce Inc., a Web development and systems integration service. He was planning to run the Chicago Marathon for the third time last fall. Scott is in contact with **Tim Rottach '96**, **Keith Noah '92** and **Jim Kurtzweil '90**. Scott saw many brothers at Jim's wedding in July 2000.

Jarret Rackoff '96 (51 Pecan Valley Dr., New City, NY 10956; jarret@rackoff.com) is a tech consultant and partner in Grassroots Technologies Inc., an Internet services company.

Correspondence for **Damian Dolyniuk '00** can be sent to a new address at 1047 W. Belmont, #3F, Chicago, IL 60657; dolyniuk@hotmail.com. He is an investment banker and analyst with Arthur Andersen.

Since publication of our last issue, we have learned of the death of

Hobart S. Peterson (1/29/99),
Allan M. Tarry '38,

Stanton R. Pemberton '39 (2/24/00),
Homer T. Moore '47 (11/7/99),
John I. Mehrholz '56 (3/8/99),
Donald A. Hubert '57 (7/7/99) and
Michael J. Starkey (7/15/00).

Acacia mourns their passing and extends condolences to their families and friends.

Alumni News

CPA **Michael A. Ray '89** (1112 Mason Dr., Pacifica, CA 94044) and his wife, Janine, have a young son, Charlie.

Mike Rutkowski '89 (309 S. Kensington, LaGrange, IL 60525) and his wife, Kristen, welcomed their first — Joe Rutkowski — in April 2000. Mike is a director with Arthur Andersen in Chicago.

Todd Thiessen '89 (1311 Maple Ave., Downers Grove, IL 60515) and his wife, Rebecca, welcomed their first child, Emmett, on October 21 last year.

Congratulations to Maggie and **Steve McCabe '90** (3111 Franklins Way, Oak

Hill, VA 20171; steve.mccabe@tpnr.com), who also welcomed a new arrival. Matthew, their second son, was born earlier this year. Steve is sales manager with TPN Register.

Doug Saloga '90 (2515 Nagawicka Rd., Hartland, WI 53029; dsaloga@extremenetworks.com) recently opened Spargo Salon and Day Spa in Pewaukee, Wis. Doug is a sales manager with Extreme Networks.

Eric Kuehl '92 (12 Pine Needles Dr., Lemont, IL 60439) and his wife, Jackie, were married in April 2000. Alumni attending the wedding were

Jack S. Kilby '42 Wins 2000 Nobel Prize (Continued from Page 1)

received, in 1973, the highest award an alumnus can receive from the University of Illinois, the Alumni Achievement Award from the Alumni Association. For those of you who glanced over that sentence, *READ IT AGAIN*. What an amazing accomplishment for one of our alumni! There will be more in the future regarding our distinguished brother;

until then, please pass your congratulations on to him at 7723 Midbury Dr., Dallas, TX 75230.

There are many among our alumni ranks doing amazing things that we would like to recognize. If you have information you feel is worth recognition in *The Hello*, please send an e-mail to amertes@synergylawgroup.com.