

NEW Web Site

Many of you have already checked out the new Web site at **www.AcaciaHeth.org**. Please do not forget to register and update your contact information.

We have many great capabilities with our Web site. You can:

- Post alumni events and send e-mails to the alumni network.
- Update your contact info and post important personal/family/business updates.
- Directly post family or alumni pictures.
- Look up old buddies.
- View prior newsletters online.
- Make a donation online.
- Post important news, whether about you, your business, the University of Illinois, Acacia, or even job opportunities with your company.

We now have a fantastic tool to keep our alumni connected, so please take advantage of it, as well as make sure that all our brothers get connected too! ■

Corporation BOARD

President

Arthur E. Mertes '88
(H) 773-782-1490
amertes@synergylawgroup.com
member since 2/91

Vice President and Physical Plant Manager

James North '90
(C) 708-466-4561
jay.north@comcast.net
member since 10/92

Treasurer

Robert Mertes '96
(C) 312-286-5168
rmertes@sbcglobal.net
member since 6/00

Chapter Adviser

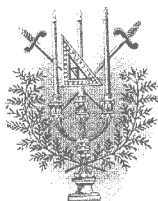
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Eric Weber '91
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member since 8/03

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Drew Millard '91
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member since 8/03



www.acaciaheth.org

The Hello

February 2004

Heth Chapter of Acacia at the University of Illinois

Acacia Fraternity Heth Chapter at Crossroads of Restructure

Alumni Involvement Critical to Success

By Art Mertes '88, Director and President, Heth Chapter of the Acacia Fraternity

Many Board members became involved with the Corporation in the early 1990's to rebuild and ensure the future of the Heth Chapter at University of Illinois. As time has passed, our Alumni are coming back. I am proud to see that our brotherhood has not lost sight of the Acacia bond.

Board and Alumni plans to move forward in Spring 2003 with efforts to purchase the current Chapter house at 907 S. Third St. were cut short, at least for right now. The University Greek Affairs office, working proactively, informed us in Spring 2003 of signs of membership trouble. The shift to younger Chapter leadership Greek-wide, a generation of students with higher lifestyle expectations, and apartment living, has posed leadership, operational and financial difficulties for the Chapter. Critical to our resolution of the issues facing the Chapter, the Board has worked closely with the Chapter and University and issued a series of directives that focus on member development, accountable operations, and accountable membership in all aspects of the Fraternity. Heth Chapter of Acacia is currently engaged in a major restructuring in response to the Board's directives. The Board believes the Chapter is committed to achieving the goals of the restructuring and has shown some good progress.

WE ARE, HOWEVER, AT A CROSSROADS. Your financial support has been vital to our success. The Board believes there are still opportunities to structure a purchase scenario for the Chapter house, if that is the direction our Alumni want to take. However, we really need your SERVICE to the Chapter to shape Acacia's future. You can help provide others the same opportunity to build the relationships, values and character that Acacia Fraternity has fostered in our accomplished Alumni. Jay North '90 and I have been pleased to serve for well over 10 years, but we must have more regular involvement and rotation among our Board. The Board this year will be adding members and holding elections for officer positions within Corporation Board. Please contact any member of the Board with your interest – we truly hope you will serve. ■

Urgent

Call to Arms We Need Board Members

As you will read in this edition, the undergraduate Chapter is undergoing a reorganization that will revitalize and strengthen the membership and operations of the Heth Chapter of Acacia Fraternity going forward.

Members of the Corporation Board and your Heth Chapter need additional participation of our Alumni forces to meet the time commitment necessary to implement such changes, and to manage and enhance our Chapter and Alumni Network.

Our Alumni must understand that there is an extreme need for them to take an active role in the continuing success of the organization by joining the Corporation TODAY. To function well, we believe 14 active alumni members are needed. For the last six years, the Board has functioned with only three to six members.

Specific offices to fill include Secretary, Director of Alumni Relations, Communications Director, the Capital Campaigns Committee, Co-Chapter Adviser, mentors, and Web-site Content Manager, and President, among others.

If we fail to dramatically increase Alumni involvement on the Board we will face eventual failure as a Chapter at the University of Illinois. Please contact Corporation President Art Mertes '88 (mobile: 312-953-0718, e-mail: amertes@SynergyLawGroup.com) to join the Board and get involved today! ■

Heth Chapter Executive Board

Venerable Dean

Chris Bader
bader@uiuc.edu

Senior Dean, Archivist, Membership Development Chair

Dave Gillespie
dgillespie@uiuc.edu

Treasurer

Derek Snikeris
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Junior Dean, Social Chair

Rob Erickson

Secretary

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Commizar

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Philanthropy Chair

Jerry Guiliano
jguiliano@uiuc.edu

Health Advocate

Tyler McClain

House Manager

Dan Hertz

Pledge Educator, Rush Chair

Ryan Puccinelli

Pledge Educators

Mike Fischer
Anthony Leigh

Undergraduate Report

By Christopher Bader '06,
Venerable Dean

As venerable dean this year and a junior academically, I have focused most of my attention on leadership. Since induction, we have been working very closely with the corporation board to restructure the chapter. I am very confident our membership will continue to improve and that we will continue to be one of the strongest fraternities at the University of Illinois. The men of the Heth Chapter are very motivated individuals and are ready to produce more positive results this spring semester.

The chapter has implemented some positive initiatives. In following the most important Acacian value — human service — last fall our chapter completed 150 hours of community service, and we have set a goal of 250 hours of community service for this semester. We are working closely with nursing homes and a local homeless shelter and will sponsor a dinner for the homeless in Bromley Hall this spring.

In spring semester 2003 we sponsored our first annual "Make A Wish Show" that was the second-biggest philanthropy event the Greek system has ever held. Five children who were suffering from a terminal illness had one wish: to be a pop star. The show consisted of stand-up comedy, dancing and singing, and sold over 600 tickets. Our first show was dedicated to a beloved alumnus, Michael "The Duke" Giarritano '99, who recently

succumbed to cancer. John Sabo '01, the founder of this event, was awarded the Order of Pythagoras and has set the bar high for continuing this great event.

We initiated our fall pledge class of 18 members this January 2004 and had one of the highest initiating pledge class GPAs on campus. Our current enrollment is 85 members. Unfortunately, the chapter made the difficult decision to deactivate eight members due to their lack of respect for Acacian values. We believe this step will help the chapter focus on a positive future. We will be at full in-house capacity for the fall 2004 school year and feel that our core brotherhood represents what Acacia stands for.

We recently sponsored an alumni event at a restaurant in Chicago attended by about 75 alumni. Most of the alumni were from the 2000-03 classes (thank you very much for coming out), but we would love to hear from older alumni as well! We will be holding two alumni events this semester and are planning a very large Acacia reunion in Chicago for fall 2004.

We would love for alumni to visit or contact us. Feel free to contact me at Bader@uiuc.edu. ■



Brother in the News Dan Bayston '83 Continues Service

In July 2003, Dan Bayston '83 was elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the Acacia Fraternity Foundation and is currently serving as its secretary.

The AFF is a not-for-profit organization and oversees external fund-raising for the overall fraternity. The AFF supports the national fraternity and provides scholarships to undergraduate Acacia members.

Dan served as venerable dean of Heth Chapter in 1981-82. He is employed as a managing director of Duff & Phelps LLC, a Chicago-based investment banking firm. Dan and his wife, Elizabeth, live on the north side of Chicago.

Dan also has continued his ties to the university through the College of Business and sits on the Dean's Business Council, a select advisory group of 25 alumni and business leaders who meet regularly with the dean to discuss the strategic plans and funding needs of the college. ■

Bequests to Acacia

Please consider making a specific bequest to Acacia in your estate plan. Every little bit helps, and you will be specially remembered at the Heth Chapter. You may designate any bequest to the Heth Chapter of the Acacia Fraternity, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation. Feel free to contact Art Mertes '88 (mobile: 312-953-0718, e-mail: amertes@SynergyLawGroup.com) with further questions. ■

Alumni Events

Cubs Outing a Swinging Success

The annual Acacia Alumni Cubs Outing was held on Saturday, August 30, 2003. Close to 50 alumni got together to attend the game and watch the Cubs take on the Milwaukee Brewers. As usual, it was a great afternoon for those in attendance. Be sure to check www.AcaciaHeth.org for information on the 2004 outing and other alumni events! ■

In Loving Memory

A Memorial for Maya

Brothers and friends of **Grant Feurer '89** and his wife, Jennifer, recently contributed to fund a memorial for the Feurers' daughter, Maya. The special memorial at the Chicago Botanical Garden consists of a white redbud tree near the Gateway Garden Center.

Beneath the tree, a plaque was placed. The inscription, which includes lines from a beautiful poem written by a neighbor of Grant's, reads, "In loving memory of Maya Drew Feurer; On her second birthday 11-7-2003; You will forever be God's child. You are with us in our hearts."

Our thoughts and prayers are with Grant and Jennifer during this very difficult time.

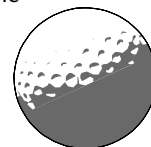
Golf Outing Honors Brother Myatt, Raises Money for Special Cause

After the successful inaugural event in 2002, the second annual Play for Paul Golf Classic was held on September 12, 2003, in honor of **Paul Myatt '85**, whose life was so tragically cut short.

After Paul's sudden death in early 2002, friends and brothers came together to establish the Myatt Children's Education Fund to aid Paul's three young children. In addition to raising money for the education fund, the Play for Paul Golf Classic contributes funds to organizations dedicated to promoting awareness of and developing treatments for depression, anxiety and other neurobiological brain disorders.

The scramble-format golf event, fun contests such as closest to the pin and longest putt, and the dinner with the silent auction made for a special day in honor of a special man. Brothers and friends in attendance were glad to spend time together, remembering their friend and raising money to help his family and a special cause.

If you wish to contribute, please mail checks made payable to The Paul D. Myatt Memorial Fund to Scott Borton, Play for Paul Treasurer, 1005 Thurman Avenue, Naperville, IL 60565. ■



Alumni UpDates

Robert W. Westenberg '53

(95 Devils Kitchen Dr., Sedona, AZ 86336-7721; rjwesten@sedona.net) I have been writing for Disabled American Veterans for over 30 years. They do not keep you on for that long unless you get results. I would estimate conservatively that my letters have brought in over \$100 million for DAV.

John R. Revell '57

(4065 N. Riverside Dr., Columbus, IN 47203-1118; ljrevell@iquest.net) I am still working and enjoy it. My wife, Lois, and I have been doing some traveling, and during the summer of 2002 we vacationed in Ireland and England. I spent seven days walking across England, following Hadrian's Wall. It was a great adventure.

John M. Lundsten

(100 N. Whisman Rd., Mountain View, CA 94043-4952; Lundadvice@earthlink.net) I enjoyed the last newsletter and want to say hello to everyone who might remember me. It was great reading the brief updates included in the '60s news. I'm living in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; San Jose, Calif.; and NYC (Murray Hill), splitting the time roughly equally, as a principal and partner in a three-person investment management firm (WhiteStar Advisors) based in Boca Raton, Fla. We deal exclusively in commercial real estate for pension funds, and it keeps me traveling regularly. I would enjoy corresponding with anyone who wants to say hello. Best wishes and happy New Year.

Accounts Receivable

Resolving Uncollected Balances

In 2003, we posted on www.AcaciaHeth.org a letter with a list of alumni who have outstanding balances on their undergraduate accounts. Unfortunately, the chapter's collection efforts were not successful, and the board lacks the resources to contact each alumnus individually.

If this has offended anyone, or if you were for some reason not previously aware of the outstanding balance, we apologize on behalf of the chapter. The board chose this method over legal action at this time, and we appreciate your understanding of our approach to resolve these delinquent accounts.

For those who wish to receive their account details, please e-mail Michelle McGraw at mmcgraw.hays@acninc.net. All member accounts are managed by Hays & Associates and not by the chapter treasurer, thus we believe the billing to be accurate.

We appreciate the action of those few who have settled their accounts and will acknowledge this on the Web site. ■

Todd D. Porter '76

(2400 Shady Oak Pl., Lexington, KY 40515-1229; tporter@uky.edu) I moved to Lexington in 1991 and am now an associate professor in the College of Pharmacy at the University of



John M. Lundsten

Kentucky. I'm married to Nada, who is also on the faculty. We have two kids: David (13) and Katarina (9). You can learn about my research interests, and even see a picture of me, at www.uky.edu/Pharmacy/ps/porter. Stop by when you pass through Lexington!

Daniel J. Zollner '76

(115 S. LaSalle St., Suite 2600, Chicago, IL 60603; dzollner@lordbissell.com) I am still married to Becky (22+ years), living in Naperville (15+ years) and working at Lord Bissell and Brook in Chicago (22+ years). That is either a sign of stability or a testament to inertia. Becky is a CPA and working for a couple of firms in DuPage County. We have three children: Matt (17), Jackie (15) and Lisa (10). Matt will be going to the University of Illinois next year, which does not seem possible. We are looking forward to visiting the campus again. My work number is 312-443-0451 and e-mail is dzollner@lordbissell.com. For a bio and not-too-recent photo, you can check out www.lordbissell.com. I look

(Continued on Page 4)

Alumni UpDates ... continued

forward to catching up with the old crowd.

Richard F. Bednarek '84

(5913 S. Newcastle Ave., Chicago, IL 60638-3251; richbednarek@ameritech.net) I have been very busy at work due to the current political situation and obtaining my private detective and security contractor license. If anyone needs this service, feel free to contact me at richbednarek@ameritech.net or via cell at 773-680-4321.

Robert M. Shaw '85

(9301 Hanover South Trail, Charlotte, NC 28210; bshaw@getconcentric.com) My company, Concentric Marketing, was featured in "Entrepreneur" magazine's "HOT 100 Fastest U.S. Businesses" in the June 2003 issue. Those of you interested can also view a slightly older and expanded version of my former self, as the issue featured a picture or two of me and my two partners. Hope all are well!

Art Mertes '88

(c/o Synergy Law Group, 730 W. Randolph St., 6th Fl., Chicago, IL 60661) Over the December 2004 holidays, I became engaged to Anja Abele. A bit late as I am now 37, we dated 4-1/2 years as I grew a business/tech law firm and focused time on the Acacia Board. Our first official date was at Mark and Anne Ciosek's wedding!

James North '90

(3211 Fox Ridge Ct., Woodridge, IL 60517; jay.north@attbi.com) **Doug Saloga '90** was married on September 26, 2003, in Hartland, Wis.



1990.50 pledge class celebrates at Doug Saloga's wedding, September 2003. From left ... Jay North, Doug Saloga and Steve McCabe, along with Farm House alum, Stacey Huels.

Ken B. Weingard '90

(1866 Sherman Ave., Evanston, IL 60201-3741; kenweingard@comcast.net) Hey, the Dodge Coronet is sold, but I do have a few Grand Torinos left in the lot. I'm saving one of them for **Mark Piegza '89** so you better act now before they're all gone. I'm currently working as an IT consultant for a health-care company in Evanston, Ill. As of September 2003, I have a 16-year-old son, Brian. As for me, I currently have a serious girlfriend, and I like to snowboard, swim and bike during my free time. I'm a vegetarian, but occasion-

ally I get a little wild and eat unhealthy food too. I would love to hear how everyone else is doing! Come to the Acacia Club's outing each summer!

Brennan S. Wells

(6275 Soaring Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80918; flyrodder1@hotmail.com) I've been married seven years, living out in Colorado at the foot of Pike's Peak, and just had a second son recently. After I realized that the B.A. in speech communication wasn't going to be much use in the real world, I went back to school for an MBA and then a B.S. in information systems. I'm now in my fourth year as a software analyst for Oracle Corp. **Ken Weingard '90** has been out for fishing and skiing, and we went up to see **Brian Gansmann '90** in Denver. I'd love to hear from any of the brothers coming out this way! ■

Go to www.acaciaheth.org to find more Alumni Updates!

Where Does the Money Go?

By Rob Mertes '96, Corporation Treasurer

We have an open book policy with regard to the financial condition of the corporation for all alumni members in good standing. If you have any question in that regard, please contact me directly at 312-286-5168 (cell) or rmertes@sbcglobal.net. ■

Heth Chapter news in the
latest edition of *The Hello ...*

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Heth Chapter of Acacia Fraternity 284



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