

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, September 23
White Sox Game Outing
(see page 3 for details)

Saturday, October 7
Centennial Homecoming Celebration
(see page 5 for details)

More details and registration are available on our website
[www.acaciaillinois.com!](http://www.acaciaillinois.com)

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A Centennial Year Issue



The Hello



Acacia Fraternity at the University of Illinois • www.acaciaillinois.com • August 2006

Assistant Dean of Students Praises Acacia

Believes the Current Leadership and Membership are Invested in a Strong Fraternity

Acacia has had numerous experiences with the Dean of Students office, but none have been better than this! On July 5, Dan Bureau, the Assistant Dean of Students, forwarded a letter of commendation about Acacia and suggested that it qualify for The Acacia National Malcolm Award. Excerpts from Dan's letter included:

"I believe the current leadership and majority of membership are invested in a strong fraternity... The most notable is in the area of service... For seven days the men volunteered in numerous capacities to help the community. They volunteered with children's organizations, helped feed the homeless and worked with senior citizens. Their commitment resulted in an emphasis on service by Heth Chapter which I have not seen during my five years of serving as a fraternity and sorority life advisor at the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign.

...they have made many strides from this time last year. **Matt Conway** and some other leaders have placed emphasis on operations. They have addressed accountability issues, worked on risk management, and focused on membership education. They also are well above the campus average of 63 members, boasting almost 90 men.

...Finally, alumni continue to play a vital role in this renewed energy. A group of engaged and committed alumni have partnered with invested students to create a vision for the future. This is something Acacia has lacked. With proper support, they are poised to continue to improve and become a better organization.

There is more work to be done and they know it. The most important thing is that they are committed to working hard to be a better group. I believe there are individuals in Heth chapter who can take it to new heights. I hope you also recognize those contributions.

Please contact me about any questions you may have. I am happy to talk about the opportunities that have emerged and how we can work together to capitalize on the short term success of the group."

Thank you, Dan Bureau, for your compliments and this glimpse of Acacia at Illinois today. As Mark Twain was inclined to state, "I am more interested in the future than the past; because it is in the future where I expect to spend the rest of my life."

The future does indeed look bright for Acacia at the University of Illinois. **Come to the Centennial Homecoming celebration and meet some of these bright, promising, young men yourself.**

Lastly, our highest compliments and commendations go to the leadership and members of Acacia. You are, indeed, preparing yourselves to be leaders of the future.

Commitment Overcomes Obstacles

Acacia Achieves 100 Years

By Arthur E. Mertes, Esq. '85, Alumni/Corporation Board President

For many of us who witnessed past successes and heartfelt losses of Acacia Fraternity at University of Illinois, our achievement of 100 years as a top Fraternity on campus seemed challenging. The reality is that we have achieved this Milestone! This year marks the 100 Year Anniversary of our Charter filed on April 28th, 1906. The Acacia Illinois Chapter is 77 members strong and in solid financial condition! With this achievement comes our realization that Acacia Fraternity can achieve the greatness and stature on which it was founded, by applying fundamental principles of Acacia's teachings. You will have the opportunity to "smell the roses" on this Milestone occasion, at a special Homecoming Celebration with our fellow brethren on October 7, 2006. This will be an event to be remembered in Acacia's history, and all those in attendance will be recorded in Acacia's history as well!

Restructuring is Historically Significant

Acacia has undergone a complete restructure of historical significance over the past several years leading to this Milestone. The restructure started when the Board issued a series of Directives (authored by Art Mertes) to the Chapter in Fall 2003 that set out the Board's absolute requirements for the Chapter in areas of member development, operations, and accountable membership. The Chapter issued its Strategic Plan in 2005 structured around the Board Directives and more. The Corporation's organization was completely restructured in 2005, pursuant to revised Board, Officer & Volunteer Roles (authored by Adam Powers). These roles take into account alumni feedback and insights and were designed around two fundamental principles: *Leading the Chapter and Serving the Alumni*. Further, Acacia has adopted new Mission Statements that focus on excellent principles. Moreover, the Board determined that the Fraternity could not compete at 907 S. Third St. and leased 211 E. Daniel Street (the ΣAE Fraternity house) through Spring 2009. This has allowed us to require stricter contracts fostering greater accountability of student members.

Factors Driving Successful Results

Marking our 100 Year Anniversary, things are very positive on multiple fronts at the Illinois Chapter! We attribute this to a variety of factors: (1) greater involvement of volunteer alumni under restructured Chapter, (2) more frequent interaction between Board and Chapter Executives, (3) sound business practices including strong contracts, invoicing and collection policies, new formalized house rules, outside property management, continuity guidelines and enforcement, (4) Chapter refocus on pride and respect for property, individuals, and human service, (5) focus on development of leadership in Chapter members, at Chapter and campus levels, (6) revised initiation week and pledge programs focused on reducing exposure and fostering scholarship, integrity, respect and good character, and (7) undergraduate Chapter membership committed to the "restructured" Acacia. These factors, among others, are continuing to develop the strong program that Acacia has to offer to Illinois students. Furthermore, our Alumni communications have increased in frequency due to more volunteers and more contributions. We will commemorate 100 years with a 100 Year Alumni Directory!

Ritual & Acacia Mission

This year marks the induction of **Jack Kilby '42**, Role #601, the inventor of the integrated circuit and a Nobel prize winner, into our local ritual in a very special way. His name will be as well known in Acacia ritual as that of W. Elmer Eckblaw. This year also marks the Board and Chapter's adoption of the Acacia National Fraternity Mission. Acacia's ritual focusing on Human Service, which started with B.E. Deroy to G.A. Malcolm (the Founding Fathers of Acacia International Fraternity), has continued.

Thanks to our Volunteers & Supporters

The stewardship, dedication, perseverance and leadership of volunteer alumni have made achievement of this 100 Year Milestone possible. Please extend your thanks to all of the Corporation Board Members and

Volunteers, past and present, for helping us get this far. We would like to formally recognize the service of current Board Members and Volunteers set forth in this publication and, in addition, the following alumni who helped in the past to see us through a difficult period of time for Acacia: **Rolf Cederwall '51, James Dieker '75, Clive Folmer '54, Mike Ford '87, Scott Fowler '81, Bob Hagemeyer '54, Al Hallene '48, Chris Kaczynski '88, Jack Kilby '42, Mark Ladd '90, Jeff Laurinaitis '93, Ron Mauer '54, Rob Mertes '93, Mark Mugerditchian '76, Jay North '87, Brian O'Brien '87, Doug Saloga '87, Ron Slonneger '54, David Thies '73, Brian Thomas '93, and Eric Weber '98.** Of equal importance is recognition of financial contributions by many more of our alumni who have stuck with us, without which our achievement of 100 Years would not have been possible.

Our Work Continues

With these achievements we recognize that our work as Alumni is not finished. We have laid an excellent foundation for the Chapter to excel and for Alumni to be proud. This marks a great time to get involved and reconnect with Acacia and your Alumni friends. We are faced with the following challenges and goals that your Corporation Board is working to address: (1) securing a permanent home which is competitive with today's living standards and will serve Acacia's needs for the next 100 years, (2) evolving Acacia's programming to continue to provide a rich quality Fraternity experience under modern guidelines, and (3) continuing to build a great organization that benefits our Alumni. Whether you graduated from 501, 907, or 211, we all share a common bond and history. Many credit a significant part of their character and success to their experiences, bonds created, and teachings of Acacia Fraternity. Now is Acacia Fraternity's time to band together, like a band of brothers, to make these goals a reality. This is YOUR organization – be part of it!

The Search for a Permanent Home for Acacia Progresses

Acacia Continues to Provide Young Men an Environment For Success

By Mike Duncan '74, Vice President of the Real Estate Division

The Real Estate Committee continues to evaluate alternatives and is seeking alumni in geographic clusters so that awareness of our housing needs spreads nationally. I am pleased to say that our first year at 211 E. Daniel has increased our membership, seen community service return, observed higher house grade point averages, and reconfirmed that Acacia is on the move.

Acacia is at capacity for the 2006-07 school year and more upper classmen are continuing to choose to live in the fraternity house over an apartment. The increased presence of upper classmen

improves leadership from within and reduces undesirable incidents. Acacia continues to provide young men an environment of success and demand for our fraternity is strong. Congratulations to the class of '06 and thank you for your contributions in this pivotal year.

The Acacia Fraternity National Foundation has launched a capital campaign. For those of you who are approached, we ask that you remember the fraternity in your plans. The Acacia Foundation has been notifying me of solicitations and I thank **Ralph Rhodes** for bringing the housing needs at Illinois to the forefront. We are

working with the Acacia National Fraternity Foundation to advance Acacia at Illinois and I will talk more about this in the fall. We have the resources amongst us, but do we have the will to preserve our future?

We are also in the process of developing and formalizing a business plan to be used while pursuing a permanent house. The variety of options open to Acacia makes this a significant challenge in itself.

I look forward to seeing many of you in October for our 100th anniversary celebration. Please make every effort to attend. You should have already received your invitation. Details are also included in other areas of this issue of the *Hello*.

Finally, anyone interested in helping secure a long-term home for Acacia, please feel free to contact me (312-601-7610).

Making Preparations for our 100th Year: From Events to Our Alumni Directory

Alumni Giving Doubles from 2004-05!

By Mike Conniff '93, Vice President, Alumni Relations

Although Dee Brown and James Augustine have graduated from the University of Illinois this year, there is still reason to cheer and remember your years in Champaign Urbana. In 2006, we celebrate 100 years of Acacia at Illinois, which is a remarkable accomplishment. As Daniel Burnham once said, "make no little plans." We at the alumni division are making big plans this year. In commemoration of this Acacia Centennial Celebration, we have planned several exciting events both on and off campus. We have a White Sox game outing planned for September 23, and our Centennial Homecoming gala event on October 7. These are events you will not want to miss!

The Alumni division has made a substantial effort to better publicize events and make registration easier. I am sure some of you may be saying to yourself "those events sound great but I would like to know if my pledge brothers are attending." You might also want to go to an event with brothers you have not spoken to in many years. We now have a list of those tentatively attending our homecoming event online at www.acaciaillinois.com. In addition, we have online payment available for the White Sox outing and other upcoming events.

Since we realize you may have lost touch with some of your brothers, we have created a new Acacia Illinois alumni directory which

you will be receiving in the mail shortly. The corporation board has made an investment updating contact information and printing the directory so please use it to reach brothers and coordinate trips to our upcoming events.

The 2006 year has also been a historic year in annual giving for Acacia Illinois. We exceeded our goal of \$12,000 which is over double the giving of 2005! Thank you for your generosity. We realize you have many outlets of charitable giving and we appreciate you have chosen our local chapter as one of those you support. Your support helps fund chapter initiatives and also allow us to better communicate with our alumni.

The 100 year celebration of Acacia Illinois only comes along once in a lifetime. Be a part of it.



Take Me Out to the Ball Game

White Sox Outing Scheduled

September 23, 2006

By Mike Fischer '01

Corporation Board Member, **Mike Fischer '01** has coordinated an Acacia patio party and baseball game at Sox Park (U S Cellular Field in Chicago) on September 23. This is a great chance to share some good times with fellow Acacians.

It'll be the White Sox vs. the Seattle Mariners at a time of the year when the Sox may well be claiming hold on another title! The patio party will begin at 4:30

in a special section reserved in right field. There will be unlimited ball park beverages and a dinner buffet from Bertucci's.

Further details are available on the Acacia website at www.acaciaillinois.com where you can reserve your tickets. The cost is \$58. Friends and families are welcome! Order on the web site now. Only a limited number of seats have been purchased.

Batter up!

\$1,000 Alumni Scholarship Winner Announced

Todd Kantarek Earns Recognition and Award

By Drew Millard '01, Vice President, Chapter Relations

Many Acacia alumni feel a duty to ensure that as young men pass through Acacia they get the full experience. These alumni feel a need and responsibility to help members develop their professional and academic skills.

In order to meet those needs, the Corporation Board has initiated an annual \$1,000 scholarship to help motivate members to excel within the house and in the classroom. All active members were invited to submit applications this past year to compete for this award. The first \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded at the biannual Champaign meeting

on September 17, 2006.

Todd Kantarek of Wheaton, IL is the first award winner and is doing outstandingly well in Mechanical Engineering. In fact, he is maintaining a 3.81 GPA while working a part-time job and acting as Acacia's house manager. Anyone who has gone through the engineering school can attest to the hard work this young man has put forth in order to receive such exceptional grades. The University of Illinois also recognized his hard work and achievement by awarding him an invitation and a scholarship to the master's degree program

in engineering. Todd has also received numerous nominations to the Dean's List and is a member of the Engineering Honor Society.



To further broaden his horizons, Todd recently went to Spain to study abroad. While there, he was recognized for out-performing other students and received an International Engineering Scholarship.

Congratulations, Todd! In an ideal world, all undergraduate Acacians would perform in such a manner. Our membership looks forward to following your career. (The Board is in the initial stages of launching a "tutoring and mentorship program"). The new scholarship program is intended to make that concept a reality.

New Venerable Dean Looks to Increase Membership Numbers With Over 100 Members by the Spring Semester

Planning Begins for This Year's Philanthropy Events

By Mike Lombardo '99

When **Andrew Braun '08** arrived at the University of Illinois two years ago to embark on his college career, he had no idea what lay ahead. Andy was new to the college experience, and he was not quite sure what the fraternities were all about. Fast-forward two years and there is no stopping this Acacian All-Star from keeping Acacia where it belongs, atop the University of Illinois Greek System on a scholastic, philanthropic and social level.

Andy is from Bartlett, IL and is majoring in General Engineering, with a concentration in Engineering Administration. He aspires to obtain his MBA and start his own business. But that is down the road. Right now, he has

his hands full with running Acacia. This is not a small task, considering the recent move from 907 S. 3rd Street to the new location next door, the former ΣAE Fraternity House. The fraternity will be running at capacity this fall with 42 members living in-house. There are currently 77 active members, not including the fall pledge class. Andy's goal is to have a strong fall rush that puts the chapter back over 100 members by the spring semester.

Andy's hard work is also rubbing off on his brothers. There is currently one Acacian holding a position on the Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC) as the Vice President of Scholarship, another will be running this

fall for the position of Vice President of Judicial Affairs, and four brothers are Kolusis monitors. The house is very well represented in Greek Affairs.

Andy is also hard at work organizing this year's philanthropy event, "Seven Days of Service." Acacia will be following last years' "Seven Days" success, in which they assisted an elementary school with an after-school program, volunteered at the YMCA and helped at the Salvation Army. They are also hoping to "Adopt-A-Frat-Park," similar to the "Adopt-A-Highway" Program.

Andy is also quick to remind us about his stellar social life. He ensured Acacia's continued social success on campus by securing exchanges with such houses as Delta Delta Delta and Football Block with Delta Gamma.

Is there anything this young man hasn't done yet? Andy says, "I want to make sure that Acacia has the absolute best Homecoming Centennial Celebration so all of the alumni can come relive their college glory days."

Dollars and Sense:

Repositioning Acacia's Investments in Higher Yielding Instruments and Improving the Payment System to Ensure Bill Payments Are Prompt

By Shelton S. "Skip" Heaver '01, Corporate Treasurer

I have recently joined the Corporation Board and accepted the role of Corporate Treasurer, succeeding **Rob Mertes '96**. I'd like to thank Rob for his dedication and loyal service as Treasurer and his guidance in ensuring a smooth transition.

We have taken many steps towards

improving our corporate financial systems and processes. One of the first steps was repositioning Acacia's investments in very safe, but much higher, yielding instruments. We expect that the additional interest revenue will be put to great work through scholarships the Board manages and the needs of the chapter.

We have also made improvements to our payment system that ensures prompt bill payments, takes steps towards resolving old debts, coordinates our fiscal year with suppliers and ensures that we are up-to-date on all things financial. I cannot take sole responsibility for these improvements, and I thank the rest of the Board for their assistance.

I look forward to working with the rest of the Board, making sure the Corporation runs as efficiently as possible, and serving our beloved fraternity!

An Alumnus Speaks Out

Alumni Support Is Essential for Acacia to Survive Another 100 years

By Jay North '87

As I think about writing this article, I'm already looking forward to Homecoming on October 7, 2006. Many of us will be getting together to mark the 100th Anniversary of Acacia's Illinois Chapter. I'm also looking forward to attending the Rutgers football game in September with seven other alumni from the New York area. It is events like these that remind me of what has remained the most important experience of being an Acacian, the friendships that I have made. It is these friendships that make us drive across country with a van load of kids to see each other for the 4th of July, make us leave work early to catch a Cub's game, host a Super

Most years, we've had only 30-50 alumni send in their annual dues – about 3% of our base.

Bowl party full of Acacia alums, or buy a block of tickets to watch the Illini basketball game each year at the United Center. It is also these friendships that have led many of us to go into business together, stand up in

each others weddings, be Godparents to each others' children, and be there for one another in times of crisis.

While I think of how valuable these friendships are to me, I am also fearful that there will not be another 100 years of Acacia friendships without greater support from our Alumni.

I understand that many do not understand what is required to run an active chapter. For the past 15 years, Acacia has survived at Illinois, but only because of the actions of a very small percentage of our Alumni. Despite having an alumni base of over 1300, we've only managed to have about a dozen alumni on the corporation board during the past 15 years – at times only two or three. Most years, we've had only 30-50 alumni send in their annual dues – about 3% of our base. Until now, we've gotten by with the support of that 3%, but that won't get us by for much longer.

The Fraternity and Corporation Board are stronger today than it has been in the past 15 years. The board has attracted more volunteers

and has made more progress than it had in the previous 15, all because of the efforts of our alumni. For the first time in a long time we are in a position to move forward in a positive direction and will be looking to our alumni for a course of action. Note the positive comments made by the Assistant Dean of Students in this *Hello*.

In the next couple of years, our alumni, both you and I, will need to decide whether or not to commit to building or buying a permanent home for Acacia at Illinois. If we decide to, it will be due to the alumni's positive actions, such as volunteering their time, money or leadership skills.

In the next couple of years, our alumni, both you and I, will need to decide whether or not to commit to building or buying a permanent home for Acacia at Illinois.

Each alumnus has to ask himself the following: "Am I going to step up and be part of the future? Do I want Acacia to be at Illinois in another 100 years? What can I do about it?"

I hope the answer will have me continuing to look forward to more and more homecomings for years to come.

THE CENTENNIAL HOMECOMING CELEBRATION

Our Centennial Homecoming Is Gearing Up to be the Largest Gathering Ever of Acacia Alumni!

By Mel Rapp '49, Communications Chairman, and Mike Fischer '01, Social Chair

The Active Chapter and Corporation Board hope to make this an occasion to remember. More than 100 alumni that they expect to be attending. What a great opportunity to get together with old friends!

Festivities Include:

- ❖ Illinois vs. Indiana Football Game at 11:00 a.m. A block of seats has been reserved for alumni.
- ❖ A Gathering and Reception immediately following the game at the chapter house

❖ A full Centennial Dinner that includes a short program to recognize the chapter and discuss the progress being made toward a new Chapter house.

We also chartered a bus in the metro Chicago area for alumni not wanting to drive the whole way themselves!

More details can be found on the invitation that you should have recently received in the mail or by visiting our website www.acaciaillinois.com. Please make your reservations now so that the committee can adequately prepare.

Also, please remember that friends and families are welcome. This will be a once in a lifetime occasion. Don't miss it!

If you have any questions, please contact **Mel Rapp '53 or Adam Powers '98.**



HISTORY OF ACACIA ILLINOIS

A Look at the Past 100 Years at Acacia in Champaign, Illinois High Academics and Moving Houses Remain a Trend for Acacia at Illinois

Founded April 28, 1906, The Pythagoras Club was chartered as the sixth chapter of Acacia Fraternity. During its first eight years, the Illinois Chapter was located at 505 East Green Street in the heart of "Fraternity Row."

Disaster struck Acacia when a fire, started by an arsonist (never apprehended) who torched other University buildings the same night, destroyed the house. The ramifications of that fire have plagued the fraternity to this date.

In 1914, an Old English country house with gables and a high-pitched roof was built at 501 E. Daniel, just two blocks south of the old location. It was an ideal location, providing an excellent view of the southward growth of the University of Illinois campus and the corresponding shift of fraternity houses. The house was considered to be one of the finest examples of architectural design in the country.

The architectural committee, with which one of the members of the chapter collaborated, planned well in designing the house to accommodate thirty-five men. The main floor provided spacious living rooms, a chapter room, a library of 800 volumes, a sun porch, and a guest room. The dining room and the kitchen were located in the basement. The cost of the property was \$40,000.

As the chapter grew steadily in size, it became necessary to provide more housing. In 1946, a large framed

house next door was purchased for \$20,000 and was used as an annex until the 1970s remodeling resulted in a larger overall structure that combined the two buildings. The old annex was then demolished.

When reviewing the chapter's accomplishments scholastically, it was stated in a 1947 Pythagoras manual that the chapter had placed 26 times in the upper five, and 37 times in the upper ten of the national social fraternities. There were more than 60 fraternities on the campus at that time. By comparison, in 2006, there were 43 fraternities. High scholarship has remained a fundamental element in the fraternities' objectives.

Disaster struck Acacia when a fire, started by an arsonist (never apprehended) who torched other University buildings the same night, destroyed the house. The ramifications of that fire have plagued the fraternity to this date. While the insurance payment of \$1,150,000 was forwarded within sixty days, the cost of reconstruction exceeded that amount in excess of \$500,000. A mortgage was obtained and the house was rebuilt and occupied. Eventually it became impossible to service the mortgage, and after all other alternatives failed, the fraternity

sold the building to the University. Although interior remodeling of the new building occurred, the exterior remains very faithful in appearance to the rebuilt house.

Without a physical house, the fraternity remained viable on campus nevertheless. Two years later, the Board of Directors obtained rented facilities at 907 S. Third. This location was occupied until 2005. Acacia then obtained a four-year lease and moved to the unoccupied ΣAE house at 211 E. Daniel, just two blocks west of the original property. The Board of Directors is currently pursuing a course of action that will return Acacia at Illinois to its own permanent house within the next three to four years. A determined Board and a supportive alumni body will make that possibility a reality.

Historical details of Acacia at Illinois can be found in the *Journal of the Acacia Fraternity*.



ALUMNI UPDATES

40s

David Andrews '42

(603 W. Detweiller Drive, Peoria, IL 61615) Shirley and I are doing OK and still go and do as we please. We are enjoying retirement. She volunteers at a church sewing and quilting group and the Methodist Hospital Gift Shop. I'm doing escort duty at Proctor Hospital for the Salvation Army Advisory Board. We enjoy our Wisconsin summer cabin with our grandchildren. We also still go to our cottage in Washington in the summertime. Our daughter, Kathy, lives in Bloomington, IL and son, Bruce, is in Oak Forest, IL. We see the grandchildren and them frequently. Life is good!

Arthur Bass '43

(P.O. Box 307, Hillsboro, IL 62049) I will be in the Alumni Band with my son at Homecoming.

50s

Robert Lincicome '50

(2007 Del Webb Blvd. W., Sun City, FL 33573; ralnorth@verizon.net) I retired in 1991, after 36 years as a writer and editor,

Please visit our website at

www.acaciaillinois.com to read more updates and to post one of your own.

specializing in subjects of interest to electric utility executives and engineers. After retirement, my wife, Joyce, and I built a log home on a lake in Maine, but we're spending our winters in Florida. I went back to school in Florida to become an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). Since 1998, I have been on an ambulance team in Sun City Center, providing pre-hospital care to those who need it. I am also a licensed EMT in Maine. Joyce died in 2000 after a battle with cancer. We had been married 48 years. I remarried in the fall of 2001, and now Jane and I make the semi-annual journey to and from Maine and Sun City Center with our three cats.

Ronald Hamelberg '57

(115 Kainer Avenue, Barrington, IL 60010; RonNan660@aol.com) I plan to be at Homecoming with my wife, Nancy.

80s

Christopher Brown '88

(5931 Bayview Drive, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308) Hey everyone. I Live in Ft Lauderdale, FL and specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of adult and children spinal disorders. I ran into **Mike Kernan '76** in Rio de Janeiro a couple years back and Boppin' **Bill Hurley '85** on South Beach. I always look back with nostalgia on the days at Acacia. I would love to see all of you. I have been partnered for about 5 years, but always love visitors. Let me know if you want to get some sunshine or experience a hurricane.

90s

Jim Georgia '93

(705 Chantilly Court, Ballwin, Mo 63011) I just got back from my honeymoon. I married Kelly Hettenhausen, who also lives in St. Louis, on May 20, 2006. We went to Playa del Carmen, Mexico for two weeks and oddly enough, I ran into **Guapo!** I only had about two minutes before I had to jump on the bus taking us to the ruins at Tulum, but he seems to be doing great. I have owned my Chiropractic office in St. Louis for seven years and just hired another doctor. Things are great, except St. Louis needs a beach with turquoise waters.

Scott Cummings '95

(1041 14th Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254; cummingsscott@hotmail.com) I still live in Hermosa Beach, CA...I can't believe I just had my 10 year anniversary. I married my longtime girlfriend, Beth, in October. Many brethren were in attendance, including **Kurtzweil, Midanek, Bogg, Speedo, Erik Adams, Lawlor, T-bag Tim Rottach and Neil Harness**. I spent New Year's in Denver with **Jeremy Coleman** and **Mike D**. While there, I found out we were expecting our first child. Recently, I saw **Guapo** on a recruiting trip. I see **Schwede** from time to time. I sell software in Southern California for SAP America and do some real estate on the side. Also, I would enjoy a reunion for those alumni here in CA – it appears that there is an ever growing contingent of us.

25 Alumni Mentors Sign up for New Mentoring Program

New volunteers have received notes of appreciation on behalf of the active chapter in Champaign and Acacia's Board of Directors, for their recent indication of willingness to assist Acacia by volunteering to serve as a mentor for a house member or an incoming freshman. They are truly

getting in on the "ground floor" of this program.

We believe this will become a significant value to house members. Also, it will give Acacia something to offer new members that other fraternities may not.

Soliciting your participation and that of others was the first step. Early this fall, we will be requesting input from chapter officers as to how this program might best function. At that time the program will move forward.

Involvement in the program is welcomed. Let any board member know if you are interested in helping out.

Volunteer To Help Acacia By Serving on the Board

(It takes just a few hours a week)

Acacia, like the Marines, is looking for a "few good men." These men are willing to join the current dozen or so Acacia alumni that are leading a rejuvenated Board. They are supporting the fraternity at Illinois

into its second century. Only those with a strong appreciation for what the fraternity has done for them need apply.

We also need about six more alumni to contribute one or two hours per week in

pursuit of the fraternity's various interests. The work is enjoyable since it frequently involves contact with those whom you had a close relationship with in earlier years.

If are interested and willing to participate, call President Art Mertes (312-454-0311). Those who are currently volunteering will tell you it is a very rewarding experience.

Acacia Receives High Praise from the President of A Greek Management Company

The Fraternity House Is Consistently Well Maintained and Clean and in the Top Three on Campus for Overall Operations

When David Kelton, President of the Greek Management Company completed his assessment of this year's fraternity activities on campus, he chose to write a "To Whom It May Concern Letter" that included the following.

I am writing in regards to the Acacia fraternity at the University of Illinois. I am President of Greek Management, which is a property management firm for fraternities and sororities. I have been involved with the Acacia fraternity for one year and assist them with many topics, with the primary one being maintenance and routine inspections of the house for the House Corporation Board.

Most House Corporation boards do not typically have a detailed procedures list and if they do, it is not followed with high diligence.

The results have been Acacia keeping the house well maintained and clean on a consistent basis. If there is an incident or damage or upkeep, the actives will take it upon themselves to resolve the issue before an inspection takes place to find these items.

Of the 25 fraternities and sororities I manage, Acacia is definitely one or the top three I manage on campus for overall operations.

ON THE WEB

New on www.acaciaillinois.com!

Career Center and Brother to Brother Classifieds Just Added

Register for Upcoming Events

You now have the ability to register for our upcoming events (White Sox Outing and Homecoming) easily through our website. You can also see who is coming!

Networking Made Easy

The site now offers a Career Center, for job and resume postings and online business card files.

Whether you're job seeking or seeking for a good candidate, you can search here first.

Buy/Sell Cool Stuff

Another cool new area is the Brother to Brother classifieds section where you can list or purchase items for sale by other brothers.



284-35 FN

Centennial Celebration during Homecoming. See page 5!

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