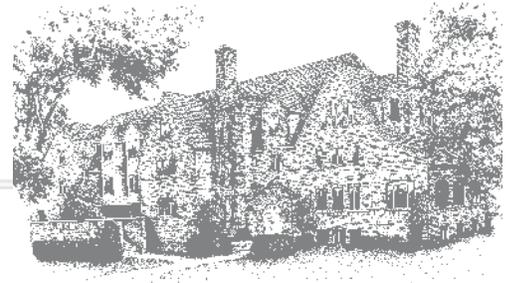




The Hello

ACACIA FRATERNITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS • FALL 2007



President's Message

Test of Time Shows Acacia's Strengths

From Art E. Mertes, '85 - Corporation President
amertes@synergylawgroup.com

I believe we can all agree: the efforts of many have managed to remold Acacia at the University of Illinois, and our chapter is fully in line with our fraternity's ideals. Each of us can be proud to call ourselves Acacia brothers! This change was a top-down effort that began with some very motivated tenured and new alumni volunteers. Also, through the efforts and support of a strong Corporation Board and National Fraternity, we are proving that the Alumni of Acacia Illinois will successfully fulfill our mission to *lead the chapter and serve our alumni*.

We are proving the hypothesis that Acacia Illinois will withstand the test of time if we, as alumni, just simply get more involved. What does that mean to all of us? Many things. It means that our alumni have a Fraternity that is worthy of their attention. It means that Acacia Illinois is capable of attracting men of good character and strength that support our ideals. It means that Acacia Fraternity can weather difficult times, and survive as a top fraternity on campus. It means the time we spent at Acacia Illinois shaped our lives and will never be forgotten so long as our legacy continues in good standing at our Alma Mater. It means that our alumni really do care what happens. It means that Acacia Illinois will continue to provide both our alumni and active chapter members with rewarding experiences through the Fraternity, for the lifetimes of many.

This school year marks an important financial milestone as the chapter has managed to both operate in the black and fully retire past liabilities to the Alumni Corporation. We needed to make improvements and now

chapter operations truly have turned around for the better. The chapter is 100+ members strong, and at full capacity with live-in members. This was made possible by, among other things, a physical structure that supports a fulfilling Acacia Fraternity experience

Your continued involvement, and the involvement of other alumni, makes all the difference. I know I have said this countless times, but please understand that *your Acacia Fraternity needs you!* Your Fraternity is providing you an excellent opportunity to get involved NOW – because great things are happening for Acacia, and there is more to come!

The first step to getting involved is to take a few minutes, pick up the phone and the Acacia directory (or visit the directory online at www.acaciaillinois.com), and call an Acacia brother with whom you have not spoken for some time. Reflect on some of the positive effects Acacia had on your life. This will help you and other brothers remember the importance of Acacia in your life during college and now as an alumnus.

More information will follow in the months ahead about how you can be more involved in special projects planned by the Acacia Illinois. For now, if you'd like to volunteer your time, please contact me (amertes@synergylawgroup.com) or any other board member you may or may not know, and we'll find the right niche for you!

The Future of Housing and Acacia

by Michael Duncan '74
Vice President, Real Estate Division
mduncan@patcap.com

If you have been keeping abreast of your fraternity and its activities on the Urbana-Champaign campus you know that securing permanent housing is critical for the long-term

success of Acacia. You are likely also aware that the active chapter, in recent years, operates among the strongest in any recent decade, with a high visibility and an excellent reputation on campus that continues to serve them and Acacia well.

With optimism and enthusiasm the Corporation Board is moving forward to overcoming the formidable challenge of securing permanent housing on campus. No subject has received more attention from the Board and those it has sought for counsel than this one.

Obviously in a project of this nature and magnitude, there are a wide variety of variables, in part depending on what happens and when. Since there is no lack of enthusiasm among alumni, the biggest challenges become finding i) available real estate and ii) capital to fund permanent housing on that real estate.

To date, a counsel of experts in various fields has been utilized to determine our course of action. From the beginning there has been a very strong conviction that any efforts undertaken should and will be lead by Acacians, while utilizing outside, expert counsel as necessary.

The Corporation Board is working hard to have more detailed plans in hand to share at Homecoming. Please make plans to join Acacia brothers at the house on October 27 where you will be royally welcomed.

Hello Co-Editors

Mel Rapp '49
mrapp3@sbcglobal.net

Adam Powers '98
adampowers1@gmail.com

Save the Date

**Illini Basketball at the
United Center, Chicago**

Illinois v. Arizona,
Sat., Dec. 8, 2007, afternoon.



ACACIA

www.acaciaillinois.com

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Chapter Update

by Joel Gracan '06
Venerable Dean
grachan2@gmail.com

Going into the 2007-2008 school year, the undergraduate chapter is at the top of its game, moving forward with excellence and looking to add to the list of recent accomplishments.

April's turnover of executive officers was very smooth, and the new officers have been working hard over the summer to update both the chapter website, www.rushacacia.com, and the chapter house itself. A large project this summer has been the expansion of the study room, complete with the addition of a large conference table, more study tables, and ten more computers. The expansion will help the chapter maintain its increasing GPA earned in Spring 2007 of 3.047, breaking the 3.0 mark (on a 4.0 scale) for the first time in recent years.

In July, the chapter sent five members to the Acacia Leadership Academy held at the Indiana chapter house. Hundreds of Acacia undergrads and staff from across the country converged to learn how to improve the individual chapters and celebrate their accomplishments. Acacia Illinois was recognized for both its mentorship program headed by **Phil Chapman '71** and its financial status. Acacia Illinois is currently one of the only chapters in the country to have a \$0 balance with the National organization. Additionally, two individual members were also awarded scholarships from the National organization. **Joe Scavuzzo '05** was awarded two scholarships totaling \$1,100, and **Matt Warren '06**, our current Treasurer, was awarded a \$500 scholarship.

"These scholarships were great honors to these gentlemen and the chapter," remarked **Joel Grachan '06, VD**.

The chapter's main goals for 2007-2008 are to win the Malcolm Award given by Acacia Fraternity to the best Acacia chapter in the country and to assist in the effort to find a permanent home for Acacia.

These goals right now seem within inches of our grasp. With our GPA rising, chapter participation and excitement the best it's ever been, our financials secure and stable, our philanthropy developing into a tradition, and the Acacia name being echoed as superior throughout the campus and community, its an exciting time to be an Acacian. With that, we hope to see a large number of alumni visit the chapter this year for homecoming, and throughout the year, to share in the excitement.

Active Chapter Member Spotlight on...

Joe Scavuzzo '05

by Joel Gracan '06
Venerable Dean
grachan2@gmail.com

As the beginning of the school year approaches, Acacia pays tribute to senior **Joe Scavuzzo '05** for all he has done for our Fraternity.

Joey is from LaGrange, IL and majoring in finance. Upon graduation, Joe is headed for great things. He was recently awarded \$1,100 in scholarships from Acacia National Fraternity at the Acacia Leadership Academy in July.

This recognition adds to the accolades he received from the fraternity at last year's Conclave when he was awarded the Order of Pythagoras and a \$1,000 Acacia Illinois scholarship.

Besides holding the offices of Senior Dean and Treasurer, he wrote the chapter's Strategic Plan, the Conclave awards packet that earned the chapter the Superior Chapter Award, and drafted the Jack Kilby Ritual, in honor of the late engineer, Acacia alumnus, and Nobel Prize winner.



Joe Scavuzzo '05 is a Senior from LaGrange, IL. He has been recognized for his achievements by Acacia National Fraternity.



Joey has served the InterFraternity Council as a judicial board member and continues his efforts in the Greek community to this day. More than his list of accomplishments or accolades can hope to convey, Joe Scavuzzo has impacted the chapter in a way that simply cannot be duplicated.

"His tireless hard work and enthusiasm towards all aspects of his life is contagious, and the value contributed as a member is immeasurable" said **Matt Warren '06**.

Greek Housing at the University of Illinois

by Michael Duncan '74
Vice President, Real Estate Division
mduncan@patcap.com

Every fraternity and sorority house in Champaign – not just Acacia – faces the requirement of having their house "equipped with sprinklers" by November 2, 2009 or face challenges from the city for code violations with possible eviction. Moreover, the Housing Division of the University and the Dean of students will decertify any house that is not equipped with sprinklers by this deadline. The situation in Urbana is somewhat less critical as it is not believed the city has yet established a deadline, although 2011 is speculated.

With probably less than half of the fraternity houses currently equipped, this could easily lead to significant disruptions in fraternity housing as it has existed for decades in Champaign. Some, but by no means all, houses have proceeded with the task of getting their house in compliance. The building which Acacia currently leases is not equipped with sprinklers, and the intentions of the owners are uncertain.

Obviously this is just one of the reasons that the Acacia Illinois Corporation Board is taking steps to insure Acacia's housing on campus.

As an overview of fraternity life at Illinois, take these stats into consideration. There are currently 43 fraternities who are members of the InterFraternity Council at U of I who have certified housing. According to *U.S. News and World Report*, 20% of U of I male students live in fraternity housing. Fraternity members average approximately 6,600 undergraduates with fraternity recruitment totaling about 950 new members in 2006.

The above situation is obviously very serious and a well developed overall plan will be necessary to be able to continue Acacia's prominence on campus. The support of all of our alumni will be one of the critical success factors.

Thank you to the 2006-2007 Annual Fund Donors

2006-2007 Annual Fund Honor Roll

Pythagoras Circle \$2,500+

John M. Lundsten '60

Masonic Council \$1,000 - \$2,499

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John S. Redding '97
Adam Powers '98
Geoff Klein '01

Other Up to \$39.99

Samuel A. Peak '52
J. Phil McClure '57
Aaron Alley '99

Beginning with the 2007-2008 Annual Fund campaign, you will notice new donor categories for Annual Fund contributions. The Corporation Board approved this change for all future donations:

**1906 Society
\$5,000 +**

**Pythagoras Union
\$3,000 - \$4,999**

**Masonic Council
\$1,500 - \$2,999**

**W. Elmer Ekblaw Circle
\$750 - \$1,499**

**Patron
\$250 - \$749**

**Sponsor
\$100 - \$249**

Six Year Annual Fund Contribution Comparison and Analysis

July 1 - June 30	Donors	Total	Average Contribution
2006-07	126	\$ 31,744	\$ 252
2005-06	108	\$ 13,055	\$ 121
2004-05	56	\$ 4,927	\$ 88
2003-04	73	\$ 7,450	\$ 102
2002-03	89	\$ 7,995	\$ 89
2001-02	114	\$ 8,930	\$ 78

Meticulous Budgeting and Accounting Allows for Additional Savings and Capital Purchases

by Dennis Bone '02
Chapter Liaison, Treasurer & Advisor
denniscbone@gmail.com

The Undergraduate Chapter had yet another tremendous year financially! Their success as allow them to add to their current savings as well as make needed capital purchases.

The Chapter Executive Board plans on purchasing new cafeteria tables and new cafeteria chairs. Already, executive table and chairs for the study room adjacent to the computer lab downstairs and new lamps for

the computer lab have been purchased with the surplus from 2006-2007.

Matt Warren '06, current Chapter Treasurer, created the 2007-2008 fiscal year budget, and bills were sent out to all active undergraduate members at the end of July.

It should be obvious that fiscal responsibility is again one of the virtues being achieved by the active chapter and its officers.



Corporation Financials – by the Numbers

by Skip Heaver '01
Corporation Treasurer
skipheaver@yahoo.com

Fiscal year 2006 came to an end, and I am pleased to say we ended very positively from a financial perspective. Despite significant investments into planning future housing for the chapter, a Mentorship program for the undergraduates, and other programs, we were able to post a meager profit and built the net equity of our organization to approximately \$226,763, an increase of 0.5%. We were blessed by an outstanding turnout at Homecoming that fueled significant growth and momentum for Annual Fund contributions.

For the year, we posted a 4.31% return on all savings, including money markets and certificates. While not spectacular, it improved upon last year's savings growth of 2.25%. The net difference was an extra \$4,094 of interest earned – money that will be reinvested wisely!

Looking to the future, we are committed to maintaining our financial integrity. We have renewed services with Clifton Gunderson, LLP, who will be conducting our audit for the most recent fiscal year. As our future housing plans move forward, we are well positioned to effectively preserve and grow our assets and total equity.

I look forward to seeing many of you this fall at football games and Homecoming!

Alumni Spotlight on... Howard Gleason '57

Howard Gleason '57 cherishes his life at Acacia for the high quality of the brothers



Howard Gleason '57, photographed in 1957.

and the opportunities for leadership. The shared responsibility of running the house and maintaining its prominence on campus contributed to the development of many skills used throughout his life.

Gleason commented, "We are molded and shaped, not only

by our genes, but by our decisions and experiences, especially that to which we make commitments. It is important that the decisions we make today not be something we regret tomorrow. My time as an Acacia collegian was one of those experiences that I am so grateful to have under my belt".

Howard has been a Presbyterian Church (USA) clergyman for 45 years. In 2005, he retired from full-time ministry, having served the St. Mark Presbyterian Church in Ballwin, MO for 34 years. During that time, St. Mark's congregation tripled in size and had four building programs.

Howard founded Businesspersons Between Jobs, a self-help program for persons in employment transition. Today, Howard serves as part-time chaplain for a nearby skilled nursing residence.

Howard's wife, Rosella, shares his conviction that life's deepest joy comes in service to others. Howard and Rosella are blessed to have their son and his family, including three granddaughters, living near them in the St. Louis area.



Howard recently retired as a Presbyterian minister.

Alumni communication support and assistance provided by Omega Financial, Inc.
(800) 955-ALUM (2586)
www.OmegaAlumniServices.com

Tailgating Acacia Style

by Adam Powers '98
Corporation Secretary
Adampowers1@gmail.com

If all the talk about the Illini football team is not enough to get you excited about attending football games this season, then this should: Acacia Alumni-Sponsored Tailgating! Alumni from all eras are sponsoring a tailgate for every Illinois home game. Along with the camaraderie, come for food, games, and beverages. Plans include bean bag and football toss, grilled sausage and hamburgers, deep-fried turkey, and enjoying beer or soda with brothers. Once you find your own parking, come join the gathering. We will be parked in the lot kitty-corner and southwest of Memorial Stadium (due west of Assembly Hall), marked by Illini and Acacia flags on a 20 ft. tall flagpole. For further details, game-day sponsors and contact information, check the website at www.acaciaillinois.com, or email adampowers1@gmail.com.

A special 'thank you' goes to all of this year's volunteer Tailgate Sponsors: **Bob Lincicome '50, Mel Rapp '49, Richard Erdmann '67, Dennis Dusek, MD '68, Mike Duncan '74, Dan Zollner '76, Leigh Roadman '78, Dan Bayston '80, Jay North '87, Eric Kuehl '89, Todd Wallin '98, Charlie Pikul '99 and Maz Kothari '99.**



Homecoming: A New Era with New Traditions

by Adam Powers '98
Corporation Secretary
Adampowers1@gmail.com

Whether you helped commemorate the Centennial Celebration in person or shared the day through photos and stories about the event, you won't want to miss Homecoming this year. Acacia is celebrating all over again, and following the same recipe for success. Make plans to see your fellow alumni and meet the active chapter on **October 27, 2007**.

Actives will be on hand to lead house tours and serve coffee and donuts before the 11:00AM kickoff. The board purchased a 75-seat block of tickets, which are now available through the website. Following the game, Acacia brothers will gather at the Chapter

House for a reception that will lead into a tented dinner in Fraternity Park with a brief presentation. The day will end at a campus bar, where we will again have a room reserved. Additionally, a charter bus will run from Chicago to Champaign and back for those Alumni, friends and family that prefer not to spend the night on campus.

Tickets and more information for the football game, the Homecoming banquet, and seats for the Chicago-Champaign Charter bus are all available on the website at www.acaciaillinois.com. Please sign-up now to help us accurately plan for food and accommodations. We look forward to seeing everyone again in October!



Kim Rivest and Joel Busboom '94 of St. Louis, George "Beeds" Biderman '66 of St. Louis; Dick Erdmann '67 of Shiloh, Illinois; Richard Kent (K.P.) Price '66 of Des Peres, MO; Dennis Dusek '68 of St. Louis; and Sharon and Dale Kanady '68 of Fairfield, Illinois, all gather together at the first of St. Louis-area Acacia dinner at TNG Restaurant in St. Louis.

Mentoring Program Progresses

by Philip W. Chapman '63
Chapter Advisor, Mentor Programming
pchapman@highlandil.com

The successful Illinois Acacia mentoring program nears its first anniversary this November. The two phases of the mentoring program strengthen the house and its members in a number of ways. The alumni mentors share their expertise, which prepares the actives for successful academic and professional careers.

Strengths of the program

- **Actives' Interest:** Eighteen mentors advised twenty-two actives in a variety of disciplines this past year. Due to the success of the program, active **Shams Lambaz '07**, Chairman of Acacia Alumni Relations, anticipates as many as forty actives may participate this fall. Actives want to know the alumni and learn from the knowledge and experiences they can offer.
- **Alumni Interest:** Mentors reported positive communications with the actives. Many visited the house and had lunch with their protégés. Others communicated with actives via telephone or e-mail. One alumnus invited the active to visit his work place. It provided and resulted in an opportunity for their protégé to find an internship in a major city.
- **Time Investment:** Mentors have found the commitment of time has not been too great. Initially, they wondered if the commitment of time to mentoring might be too much. However, feedback from mentors noted the time requirement proved much less than feared. Some mentors had over fifteen communications with the protégé but reported this was not burdensome. Not surprisingly, mentors reported speaking with the actives to be an enjoyable experience. Mentors liked the opportunity it afforded "to give back to the house". They have enjoyed the camaraderie and friendship the mentoring program offers.



Alumni gathered at the Acacia house for a Mentorship Breakfast in Spring 2007. Alumni attending the event were Bruce Warren '74, Philip Chapman '71, Mel Rapp '49, Mike McCulley '68, Dave Theis '73, and John Schumacher '73

continued on page 6

Acacians Ask...

by Michael Conniff '93
Vice President, Alumni Relations
mconniff@usa.net

As the school year starts, the Corporation Board wanted to take this opportunity to respond to feedback from the most recent annual alumni survey. Many alumni offered feedback and your thoughts are greatly appreciated. The Corporation Board is working hard to incorporate alumni ideas and suggestions into future plans. Specifically, the Board wanted to address a few of your thoughts and your questions:

Acacians ask:

- Many alumni responded that a new chapter house needs to be a top priority for the Corporation Board. Where does the Board rank the chapter's housing need on its list of priorities?

Board response:

- The Board views a permanent home for Acacia Illinois as its #1 priority.

Acacians ask:

- I am so impressed that each time I dropped in our chapter house over the past eight years I have been welcomed like a brother and the undergraduate members took plenty of time to show me around. It hasn't always been like that, what has made the difference?

Board response:

- Thank you! The Chapter division of the Board has worked hard to ensure that active chapter members are always respectful of our alumni. In 2006, the mentorship program was implemented which has also helped to make huge strides in this in alumni relations. You can read more about that above.

Acacians ask:

- I live far away from Champaign-Urbana. How can I help the chapter from afar?

Board response:

- It may be difficult to feel a part of, or volunteer for, an organization that may

be a thousand miles away. Although Acacia at UIUC may no longer be a short walk from the Quad, it does not mean you still cannot be a part of the alumni organization. We welcome participation from alumni locally as well as those who may live far from Chicago or Champaign. For example, we have a brother who lives on both coasts who serves in an advisory role for the Board. We often communicate as a Board via email or over conference calls so please do not let geography be a hindrance. Another excellent way to get involved is to be a part of, or create, a local alumni group. For example, Kent Price '66, Richard Erdmann '67, and Dennis Dusek, MD '68, in St. Louis have created a St. Louis-area alumni group. This Fall they are hosting a tailgate for the Illini vs Mizzou game at the Edward Jones Dome, and have occasionally met for dinner with other area alumni. If you are interested in starting or joining a local alumni group, please contact **Mike Conniff '93** directly at mconniff@usa.net.

Record Breaking Year for ACACIA

by Andrew Millard '98
Vice President, Chapter Relations
drewmillard@hotmail.com

As the Vice President of Chapter relations and head chapter advisor, I am pleased to report that our chapter's positive momentum continues to build. Every aspect has improved during the past few years. I wish I could take the credit for this, but the fact of the matter is that the chapter Executive Board is the group that have made a conscious effort to become much more than a social fraternity by installing the values that we all hold true as Acacians.

We've had a record-breaking year this year in membership! We initiated 39 brothers in the fall class and followed up with the 17 more initiates in the spring, which was the biggest class on campus. That equates to 56 members in the 2011 class. The initial reaction might be the thought that we are bidding members of Acacia that are not of the caliber that we have come to expect. On the contrary, I've personally met each and every one of the pledges, and I was very happy that these young men came off as very upstanding individuals. There were many factors that contributed to the successful rush, but the plans for a new house, our strong brotherhood, and

mentorship program were the primary catalysts.

As I am sure you've heard, **Brother Chapman** has dedicated much of his time to the mentorship program with the undergraduate chapter. Each semester that he's executed this program our young men's grades have improved. Now our house boasts an overall GPA solidly above a "B" average. This is one area that we've struggled with during the past 5 years, but I am delighted with our sustained improvement.

Another large factor that has contributed to our success is the physical structure of the current house. Those of you that attended the Centennial Homecoming saw the improvement in morale due to the living conditions. Since moving to our new location we have had the house at capacity every semester, and the fraternity's overall numbers have greatly increased. This further illustrates our need for a new home that we can call our own.

Everything these young men have accomplished gives me the utmost confidence that this chapter has what it takes to make it another 100 years. The new 2007 Chapter Executive Board is strong and will lead these young men to yet another great year at the University of Illinois.

Alumni Enthusiasm and Support Returns

by Mel Rapp '49
Communications Chairman
mrapp3@sbcglobal.net

Just a little more than two years ago it was rather obvious that alumni support of Acacia at Illinois was lagging. The Board decided on taking a survey as to the situation and found that, indeed, alumni in general were not aware of progress of the fraternity in Champaign. It was apparent that communication with the membership needed reinforcement and the

Board has been trying to do so ever since.

With a strong active chapter leading the way in Champaign, very competent house officers, and new efforts to communicate the progress made and being made, alumni financial support is just short of unbelievable, greatly encouraging and appreciated.

What that record shows is that alumni still have a strong interest in the fraternity, and they want to see it succeed. Alumni are willing to join in supporting the fraternity financially.

This reinvigoration could not have come at a better time. Most everyone knows that Acacia faces one of its greatest challenges ever on the Champaign campus as a House Corporation Committee readies itself to provide a permanent home once again for Acacia.

Make plans to get to Champaign this fall and to include a visit to the house. Tailgating opportunities at each home football game, house visits, and another festive Homecoming is planned for all of you! Plan to be a part of Acacia's continuing resurgence!

Mentoring Program

continued from page 5

In an unexpected benefit, the active chapter has found the program to be an excellent recruiting tool.

Opportunity for other alumni

The chapter is seeking additional mentors from a variety of disciplines. The chapter currently has a number of pre-med, pre-law, business, and engineering majors. "We anticipate as many as forty actives signing up this fall. You can be part of a great program which enhances the alumni-actives relationship by providing insight, wisdom and expertise to an Acacian. Don't miss this chance to be part of the Acacia resurgence at Illinois!

If you are interested in serving as a mentor, call Phil at (618) 654-1118 or e-mail him at pchapman@highlandil.com.

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Board Volunteer
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Mike "Aldi" Aldworth '99 (sporting a "Warren Carter" wig), Tom Nee '98, Todd Wallin '98 and Sachin Lulla '98 show their Illini Pride.

Historical Records Recovered and Preserved

Records to be displayed at Homecoming

by Mel Rapp '49
Communications Chairman
mrapp3@sbcglobal.net

Ever wonder where the first initiate of the Illinois chapter originated? You can now find out. Or how long ago he was born? You can find that out too. Imagine, 101-year-old Acacia initiation records, including the first 600 chapter roll number members, are once again available for public viewing.

Alert observations of chapter members last year of old Acacia records and follow through by then Venerable Dean **Andy Braun '05** and the past Corporation Board, resulted in not only the preservation of these records, but reproduction of them enabling everyday public view. The first viewing of the completed project will be at Homecoming on October 27, 2007.

In addition, the Board authorized reproduction of the records on a "gold" C.D. which will be capable of being read three hundred years from now. All of the recovery work was completed by a historical records expert in Chicago. The three new binders are bound and identified just like the originals and placed in new protective boxes.

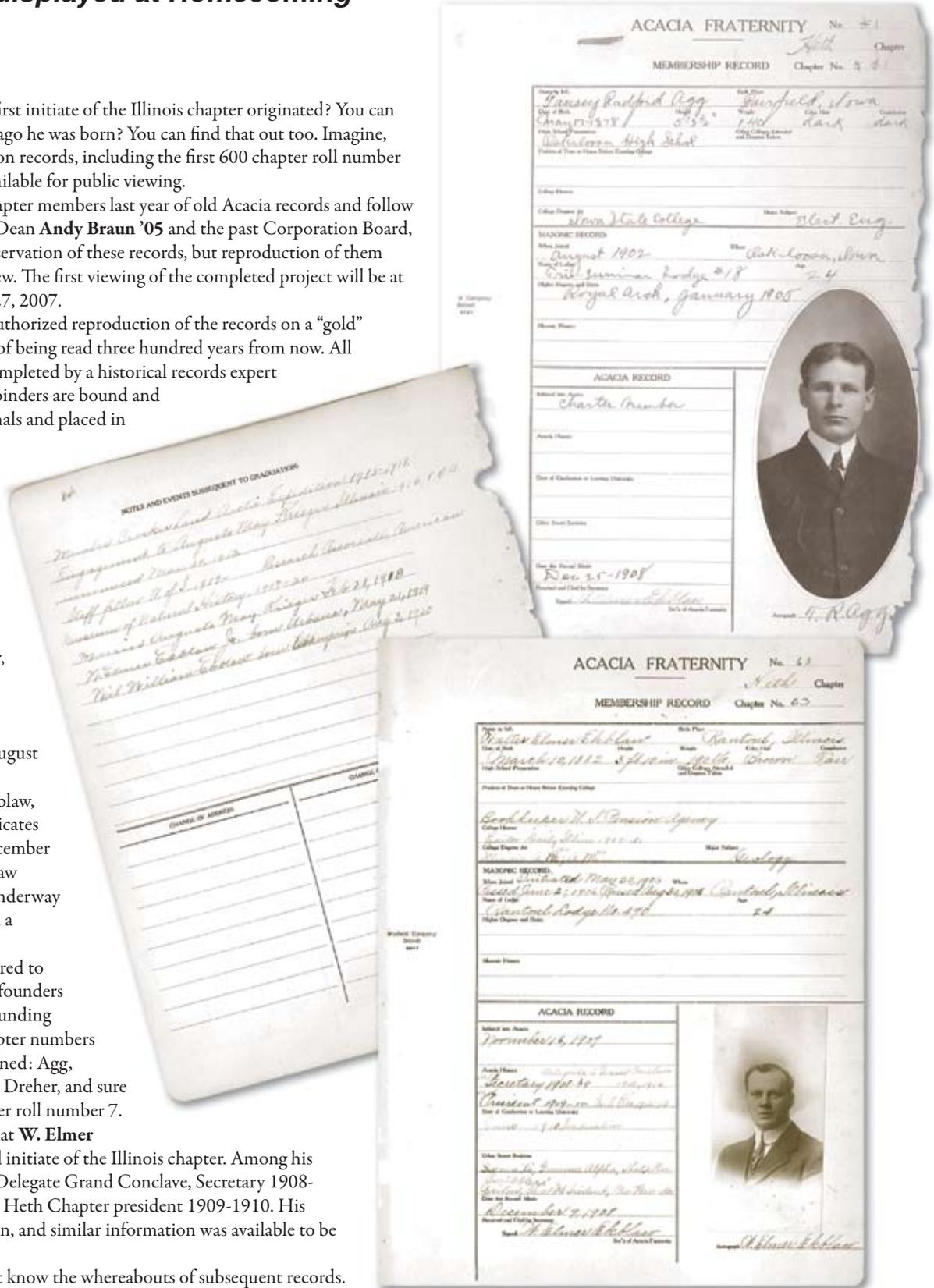
A cursory review of the contents shows that **W. Elmer Eckblaw 1907**, who was not initiated until November 16, 1907, reveals that he apparently assumed the initial responsibility of putting the records together, as his signature is shown on initiation certificate #1 for **Tansey Radford Agg 1908** from Fairfield Iowa, born August 17, 1878.

The record made by Eckblaw, who signed as secretary, indicates the record was made on December 25, 1908. Apparently Eckblaw decided to get the project underway during what must have been a Christmas break.

As those who were required to memorize the names of the founders would know, the original founding members were assigned chapter numbers alphabetically thus they learned: Agg, Barger, Clark, Cope, Crane, Dreher, and sure enough, Eagleton has chapter roll number 7.

The records also show that **W. Elmer Eckblaw 1907** was the 63rd initiate of the Illinois chapter. Among his Acacia honors shown were Delegate Grand Conclave, Secretary 1908-09, 1910, and 1912. He was Heth Chapter president 1909-1910. His record shows he was a Mason, and similar information was available to be recorded for each initiate.

Unfortunately we do not know the whereabouts of subsequent records. Anyone with insight please contact any Board member or Venerable Dean **Joel Grachan '06**.



An effort to restore Acacia historical documents is now complete. These documents and records will be on display at Homecoming 2007.

Brother to Brother

Jay North '87 wrote in to say, "In May of this year, my younger Brother Brad was diagnosed with Hodgkin Lymphoma Cancer. In support of Brad's fight against this disease, I am participating in 'Hike for Discover' in September, hiking the Grand Canyon to raise money for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society – money that will go directly to support Cancer Research and help families of cancer patients. If you would like more information, or to support my efforts, please visit: <http://www.active.com/donate/hfdil/hfdilNorth>. Thank you. Brad is progressing well, he just finished up last week his 5th Chemo treatment. The Doctors at Northwestern in Chicago now want him to complete 8 treatments, then have radiation treatments for three weeks, starting around the end of September. We are hopeful that he will be in remission by the end of the year."

Do you have interesting information you'd like to share with other alumni? Post it on the website by visiting www.acaciaillinois.com and clicking on the alumni links then "Brother to Brother."

Annual Fund Contribution Progress

by Mel Rapp '49
Communications Chairman
mrapp3@sbcglobal.net

Acacia alumni are clearly re-enthused about their fraternity and its impact on young lives during college. The number of donors has grown over the past few years. Perhaps even more impressive, the average size of donation has doubled in the past year and nearly quadrupled in the past six years. Nevertheless,

the 126 contributors this past year represent just 9.5% of all our living alumni. Think how the 2007-2008 numbers will appear if even half of alumni choose to give back a bit of what they gained from their Acacia experience. "We're hopeful and optimistic that many more Acacia brothers will participate in the 2007-2008 campaign and look forward to the progress that comes with such an active alumni base," explained **Mel Rapp '49**.

For more information on the progress of Acacia Annual Fund Campaigns, go to page 3.

Visit www.acaciaillinois.com the official Acacia website to:

- Learn more about the chapter
- See pictures of the new house
- Search for alumni
- Update your address, phone number and e-mail address
- Post noteworthy accomplishments (a new baby, a recent marriage, a recent promotion, etc.)
- Sign up for and Purchase Tickets for Homecoming 2007!

Maybe You Noticed...

Acacia has a new address for all of its alumni relations! The return address for **The Hello**, coordination of our web site, assistance with online ticket and event ordering, and any details relating to our Annual Fund contributions have all changed:

The new address for alumni communication or sending contributions to Acacia is:

**Acacia Fraternity
University of Illinois #695
c/o Omega Financial
PO Box 2187
Columbus, GA 31902-2187
800.955.ALUM (2586)**

We'll continue to make this address obvious when the need arises.

Help us keep our alumni records up-to-date! Parents, please forward this newsletter to your son. Edit your member profile online at <http://www.acaciaillinois.com>, or clip this form, place it in a stamped envelope and send to: Acacia Fraternity #695, University of Illinois, P.O. Box 2187, Columbus, GA 31902.

Name _____

Badge Number _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

