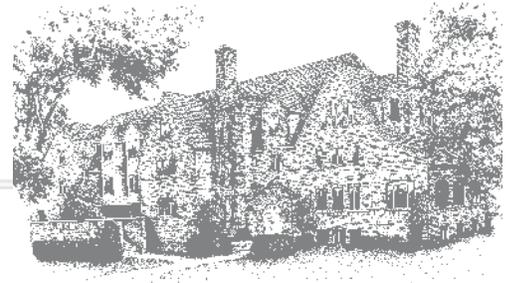




The Hello

ACACIA FRATERNITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS • FALL 2008



Over \$1.28 Million Raised to Secure Acacia's Future ... and Counting!

Great progress is being made in the \$1.75 Million Campaign for Acacia. The generosity of 107 donors has brought the campaign total thus far to \$1,282,300. Thank you to those that have supported this important effort in securing Acacia's future at Illinois. Without your support, Acacia's future would have been bleak. The support of these 107 individuals is providing the financial tools the Acacia Alumni Board of Directors need to provide future housing for undergraduate Acacia brothers.

There's still more to be done!

With the chapter's current lease ending at the conclusion of the 2009-10 school year, alumni need to act fast to secure housing as soon as possible. Currently, there are at least two properties that meet the Fraternity's needs. Both purchase options retail for \$1 million to \$1.5 million. It will take anywhere from \$200,000 to \$500,000 more in renovation work to bring the proposed facilities up to code. Significant renovation work is needed to make them suitable for living and capable of netting market-rate rents.

By raising \$1.75 million from alumni, parents and friends of the Fraternity, the Board of Directors will be able to secure the best housing option available and be left with the least amount of debt possible. This will alleviate stress on the undergraduate chapter and the Board of Directors. The best possible scenario will come when at least \$500,000 more is pledged toward the campaign and we hit the needed \$1.75 million goal.

"I cannot thank the current donors enough for helping us reach the \$1.28 million mark. This is an outstanding accomplishment and I'm thrilled with our success to date. We still need to raise the remaining \$500,000 to

paint the best scenario for our Fraternity's future," noted **Mike Duncan '74**, Campaign Co-Chairman.

Thank you to the men that have donated to the \$1.75 Million Campaign for Acacia (at the time of printing)

Scott Aberle	1983	Marshall "Lew" Mabie	1957
David W. Andrews	1942	Robert "Joe" Main	1973
Daniel D. Bayston	1980	David L. Mari	1964
Charles W. Beall	1964	J. Phil McClure	1957
John F. Beatty	1952	Arthur E. Mertes	1985
Warren G. Beebe	1980	Andrew J. Millard	1998
Gregory S. Bennorth	1983	Michael F. Mitrick	1968
Kenneth J. Betts	1986	Illinois Chapter Mom's Club	
George R. Biderman	1966	Jan A. Morel	1994
Dennis Charles Bone	2002	David C. O'Bryant	1954
Kenneth N. Brosh	1975	Eldon W. Olson	1973
Charles O. Broughton	1957	Michael Brian Owens	1985
Christopher A. Brown	1986	Ray M. Perisho	1964
Michael A. Burson	1970	Todd R. Plocher	1986
Joel W. Busboom	1994	Todd D. Porter	1973
Illinois Chapter		Adam Powers	1998
Roger L. Cogswell	1963	Howard G. Pratt	1951
Richard D. Conlin	1964	Mel W. Rapp	1949
Michael A. Conniff	1993	Mark S. Read	1973
Richard L. Cowart	1953	Stuart A. Reiter	1957
Robert L. Creston	1959	John R. Revell	1957
Albert J. Day	1957	Charles E. Rockwood	1952
Delos Detar	1939	Leades C. Rollman	1942
Dana R. Drysdale	1976	Paul E. Ruby	1972
Michael A. Duncan	1974	Michael A. Rutkowski	1986
William S. Dunham	1957	Edward W. Saloga	1986
Andrew Ekblaw	1952	Marcus J. Samaan	1995
Richard O. Erdmann	1967	William M. Sarbaugh	1971
Roger H. Evans	1956	Max N. Schmidt	1957
Philip Dale Feldman	1947	Ronald E. Schmitt	1974
Mack R. Follmer	1949	John Severson	1979
Neal R. Frankel	1974	Robert B. Smith	1955
David M. Friend	1975	Jeffrey W. Sons	1994
Donald I. Funk	1949	Charles P. Spelman	1973
Fredrick C. Garrott	1968	Timothy J. Sullivan	1977
Howard A. Gleason	1954	Robert J. Svatos	1977
Ronald M. Hamelberg	1957	Eugene C. Swager	1946
Ward Doug Hargis	1965	David C. Thies	1973
Shelton Skip Heaver	2001	David A. Tillema	1955
Ralph R. Herrick	1951	James M. Tucker	1958
Shawn R. Hill	1992	Curtis W. Voges	1977
Arthur Christian Hoelck	1941	Kenneth A. Wagner	1955
Steven P. Hoffner	1972	Robert D. Walker	1949
Devin S. Huber	1995	Roe E. Walker	1951
W. Robert James	1955	Roger A. Warnke	1964
Jeffrey A. Jones	1974	Bruce E. Warren	1974
Donald P. Kilby	1949	Bruce D. Wheeler	1959
Eric J. Kuehl	1989	Max Brooks Whitney	1960
Conrad W. Lantz	1957	James T. Wormley	1960
Robert A. Lincicome	1950	Michael K. Yates	1959
John M. Lundsten	1960		

The Impact of Momentum

By Art Mertes'88, President

We are starting to see the impact of momentum with the Capital Campaign well under way. The momentum we are speaking of reaches much farther than one's pocketbook. The momentum we seek to build is that which will sustain a place for our membership to continue to grow and excel, and for you to be proud to visit as an Alumnus of Acacia Fraternity at the University of Illinois. There are many alumni that are stepping up to the cause for various excellent reasons stemming from the upbringing that they received, in part, because of their Acacia experience.

Think of a world without the types of offerings and experiences that Acacia Fraternity has to offer now, and those that our Fraternity provided to you. Think back to the home that welcomed you every day during your time at the University. And think about what your life might be like without that experience - that feeling of brotherhood, your circles of friends that grew from it, and that feeling of being 'at home' at such a large University.

What we have to offer is special, unique, and one-of-a-kind. With your support, others will be able to experience Acacia for many years to

continued on page 3

Preparing for Rush 2008

By Matt Fitterer '07 and Dan Witt '07

The size of the Illinois Chapter has doubled in two years to 132 solid young men. This can be attributed to our stellar rush program. However numbers aren't everything. We realize the importance of finding young men who are truly willing to put forth the effort necessary to help our house grow.

As our house grows, so does the task of recruitment, and because of this the chapter has appointed three rush chairs, instead of just one. This change will help spread the work load and take more seriously the multiple and possibly conflicting opinions regarding bid offers. As far as Rush events go, we are simply beefing up our tried and true formula. In the past, Rushees were invited to the house for a couple of hours for food and conversation with whatever fraction of the house decided to show up. While this did yield some great Rush classes, we feel it was lacking something.

This year, Rush events will be more special event based. For example, we plan on inviting Rushees to play organized games of softball or football, or watch a movie or sporting event on our big-screen. Staples of Rush, like free food and a house tour, will still take place, but if we truly consider ourselves one of the best houses on campus, our Rush events should reflect that notion.

The bid process will remain much the same; aside from the fact that three rush chairs will decide the final decision on a bid, which we believe will help ensure the highest level of quality. We aim to bid a pledge class of around 30 men.

Rush 2008 will begin August 21st, freshmen move-in day, and continue into the weekend and Quad Day on the 24th. From there, we will establish a three day a week schedule, which will most likely be Monday-Wednesday-Friday.

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

1. Learn more about the chapter
2. Search for alumni
3. Update your address, phone number and e-mail address
4. Post noteworthy accomplishments (a new baby, a recent marriage, a recent promotion, etc.)
5. Purchase HOMECOMING tickets!!

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."

Update from the Undergraduate Chapter

By Ryan Alberts '07

The Hello Co-Editor

Brotherhood

Everyone knows the purpose of Brotherhood events. The Men of Acacia come together in order to strengthen the bond we all share while partaking in some sort of group activity. These special occasions unify us as a group. Last year, there was a lot of success with regards to the Brotherhood events – something we hope to continue this upcoming semester.

For our first event, the men of Acacia will have a Brotherhood golf outing. This year, the event will take place the first weekend after the completion of Fall Rush. It will be a great way to celebrate the completion of a successful recruitment process. We had our first Brotherhood golf outing last year in the spring and it was extremely successful. During the outing, members are encouraged to wear the "Acacia Brotherhood" polo shirts that we have designed specifically for the event.

Our other major event planned for this fall will be a housewide softball tournament. There will be teams of 10-12 members, with seniors pairing up in order to pick the teams. This way, there will be members from each class on each team, which will strengthen interclass bonds. The tournament will be single or double elimination, depending on field availability. The hope is to be able to hold multiple games at one time, so that a majority of the house could be at the fields together.

In addition, the men of Acacia will participate in several other impromptu Brotherhood events this fall. Events that have been held in years past include bags tournaments, bar crawls, and hockey games.

Pledgeship

The primary goals of our pledgeship will continue to be the integration of the pledges

into the fraternity's social structure, teaching the pledges the history and legacy of Acacia, and beginning the personal growth that the brotherhood will provide.

Though we will continue many of the old traditions of pledgeship, this year will see a new addition called Cornerstones. This upcoming fall pledge class will be the forerunners for this four step program. Though all of the members will be involved in the program which strives for intellectual, social and, physical growth, the pledges of this semester will be the first to benefit from all four stages of the program.

Cornerstones will give this future pledge class an unbelievable chance for growth as well as develop leadership skills within the older members through mentoring activities. Also encouraging interclass friendships, Cornerstones is going to be a great asset to our active members, and its true benefit will be exemplified in the development of this year's pledge class.

Social

The Acacia Illinois has big social plans for the fall semester of 2008. As always, we will be planning events with many of the top sororities on campus, providing ample opportunity for our young men to meet other students at U of I, make social contacts, and forge lifelong friendships. As any Greek would know, the Greek System is a tightly knit community that makes a big campus seem a little bit smaller.

With excitement building about the coming football season, we are planning a larger than normal Football Block with Delta Gamma, Gamma Phi Beta and Kappa Alpha Theta Sororities, along with Pi Kappa Alpha and Beta Theta Pi Fraternities. We find it important to keep good relations with fraternities as well as sororities on campus. Aside from this, we plan to go to another sporting event next semester and are looking forward to the exchanges and winter semi-formal dance that we have planned. It's going to be a great semester!

All Acacia Funds are Secure and Insured

By Skip Heaver '01, Treasurer

With all of the news in the financial markets relating to bank troubles, it has been a top priority of the Board to preserve and protect the assets of Acacia. This is especially important with our ongoing Capital Campaign, but all the more challenging given the circumstances in the U.S. banking sector.



I would like everyone who has donated, as well as everyone who has made a pledge or is considering making a pledge, to know that your contributions are properly safe-guarded and federally insured. 100% of our funds are protected by FDIC. We have managed to achieve this without having the clutter of multiple banking relationships by utilizing Certificate of Deposit Account Registry Service (CDARS). The CDARS allows us to use one bank, but actually channels our funds to multiple banks in order to take advantage of each bank's FDIC coverage. It would literally take nothing less than Armageddon to put our savings at risk.

Please know that the Board of Directors has taken every possible step to ensure the proper management of your generosity and the future of our Fraternity.

The Founders' Achievement Award

By Joe Scavuzzo '05

With an Esprit de Corps attitude and complacency-adverse work ethic, the Acacia Illinois will be sending its current Executive Board to Conclave this year to achieve a level of success that was never thought possible a mere four years ago. Since the award's inception in 1956, The Founders' Achievement Award, better known as The Malcolm Award, has never been bestowed upon Acacia's Illinois chapter. Acting as the highest honor a collective chapter can earn, the Malcolm Award is awarded biennially at Conclave to the preeminent chapter of Acacia Fraternity during a specified year.

At Conclave in 2006, Acacia Illinois came ever-so-close to winning this prestigious award. However, as described by David Allen, Acacia's International Council President, Penn State beat the Illinois Chapter out in "arguably the closest race for the Malcolm in years." That year, the Illinois Chapter returned home to Champaign with the Superior Chapter Award which is heralded as Acacia's 1st runner up to the Malcolm winner.

Although elated and thrilled to have been recognized, failing to win the Malcolm award left a bitter taste in our mouth that summer. Winning the Superior Chapter Award will let the active chapter know that the past several years of work was well worth the effort. However it also helped to catalyze a reformation in the active chapter's view of themselves. With an insatiable hunger to improve, the Illinois Chapter remained true to their new path of success and became nothing but stronger.

Now acknowledging that their full potential was yet to be realized, the loss of the Malcolm Award to Penn State urged the active chapter to forge ahead and focus their attention back upon both short and long-term strategic goals. A holistic idea for overall betterment became the ultimate goal and never-before, at least in recent years, has the Illinois Chapter seen such a communally shared sentiment toward the achievement of a certain goal. Although operating at levels far-beyond those of the recent past, the Executive Boards of the past several semesters identified key areas upon which to focus a majority of our resources and efforts. These areas include: philanthropy, alumni involvement, academics, and pledge/active member programming among other areas delineated in the strategic plan.

With the relevant and necessary alterations made, the Executive Board for the '08-'09 school year heads to Louisville with hopeful hearts and sound minds. Confident in their abilities, however also humbled by the sheer magnitude of being considered for such an award at such a gala event, the Illinois Chapter feels to have never been so poised and well-positioned to finally take home the ultimate award.

I think I speak for the large majority in saying that The Halls of the Illinois Chapter could use a bit of adornment. Let's wish our brothers the best

of luck this August and finally join them in being able to officially say that the Illinois Chapter is undisputedly number one. In the spirit of Human Service and G.A. Malcolm, it's time for Illinois Acacia to set the standard to which all Acacia chapters ought to strive.

Editors Note: This article was written by Joe Scavuzzo '05. Joe was a house leader prior to graduating this spring, and has already attended his first Corporation Board meeting. He clearly represents the talent and enthusiasm of our

young alumni. Thanks to **Drew Millard '98** who recognized Joe's potential and invited him to attend the Board meeting.

Hello printing deadlines necessitated including this article prior to knowing the outcome of the Malcolm competition. The winner will be announced at the Annual Conclave being held in Louisville, Ky on August 9th and will be reported in the next issue of *The Hello*.



The following officers attended the important 2008 Officer Transition Meeting: Demetrius Taylor (Secretary), Casey Savatski (Risk Manager), Nikos Lioutas (Junior Dean), Ryan Alberts (Alumni Chair), Matt Schild (Venerable Dean), David Chang (Social Chair), Matt Hawk (Treasurer), Dan Witt (Rush Chair), Matt Fitterer (Rush Chair), Pete Villia (House Manager), Mark Polard (Archivist/Ritual Chair) and Ryan Van Echo (Senior Dean)

New Executive Officers Turnover Procedure

By Drew Millard '98

The Acacia Corporation Board has been conducting a meeting for the last four years that informs the new Executive Board of the undergraduate chapter of all of their obligations and duties as the new leaders of the Fraternity. In the past, the Corporation Board has noticed that the house suffered for the first couple months of each new term due to the learning curve of the new officers. In order to remedy this situation we have instated a few new procedures.

First, the chapter officer selection has been moved to April of each year. This allows the newly elected Chapter Executive Board to shadow the past Chapter Executive Board for the remainder of the school year. We have also required all the chapter officers to write an officer book. This officer book is a "how to" book that outlines everything that needs to be done during the term of that officer. The book includes the following: rules and regulations, code of conduct, bylaws, schedule and explanations of events, contacts people, budgets, etc. Then, lastly, the Corporation Board meets with the new Executive Board a couple weeks before the students resume classes. At this lengthy meeting we recap everything the new Executive Board needs to know to effectively run the house. We've found since we've enacted this new policy that the house runs very well.

The Impact of Momentum

continued from page one

come, at a place they too can call home. You, too, will be able to return to the University with a feeling of coming home to a place that will belong to Acacia for the centuries.

You can be an important part of the momentum that is building for the Acacia Capital Campaign! I urge you to contemplate

this worthy cause, and to consider providing as much financial support as you can comfortably afford over a five year giving period. With your help, the momentum of this fine organization will continue to build so that our dream of owning a home for Acacia Fraternity at the University of Illinois comes to fruition.

I promise that your participation will facilitate many more years of fond memories that will be part of your Acacia experience!

Don't Miss Homecoming – October 11, 2008

Join generations of brothers this year in Champaign for

ACACIA

Homecoming

OCTOBER 11, 2008

ILLINOIS



Pre-game Tailgate, 8:00 – 10:30 a.m.

75-seat Football Block to watch the Illini take on Minnesota, 11:00 a.m. kick-off

Reception at the Chapter House following the game

Pig Roast and brief Program during the reception, 4:30 p.m.

We'll gather following the Pig Roast, location TBD

Buy your football, reception/dinner, and charter bus tickets now online at www.acaciaillinois.com

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
ACACIA

Name _____
Roll Number _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____

Help us keep our alumni records up-to-date! Parents, please forward this newsletter to your son. Edit your member profile online at 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.

Acacia Fraternity
University of Illinois #695
PO Box 2187
Columbus, GA 31902-2187



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED