

# Success: Capital Campaign Objectives Achieved!

## New Acacia Chapter House Secured, Occupied and Maintained.

Campaign Concludes June 30, 2014

When Capital Campaign Co-Chairmen **Dan Bayston '80** and **Mike Duncan '74** considered the challenge of obtaining alumni support for the purchase of a new chapter house, their decision to march forward was with great resolve to see the results achieved. It was only after considerable research into the potential of what Acacia alumni would support that they decided to move forward. After all, there was no money "in the till" to even begin a campaign, let alone enough to garner the support that would be needed.



Dan Bayston '80



Mike Duncan '74

Still, undeterred, these two men pressed forward to achieve the objective. After almost a year of preparation, the formal start began on April 25, 2008, when Chicago area alumni and others attended a campaign kickoff meeting.

In addition to Dan and Mike, your Alumni Board hired professional fundraisers to complete a feasibility study to determine the amount that could successfully be raised. They were told the maximum amount likely to be obtained was \$1.75 million which ultimately became the goal.

Then there was the anticipated cost of purchasing property in the Champaign Urbana area. It turned out that price estimates for property were far lower than what the market was demanding. Nevertheless, Dan and Mike charged forward. Approximately eight years after the process began, a mortgage was secured and a house was purchased.



302 East Armory

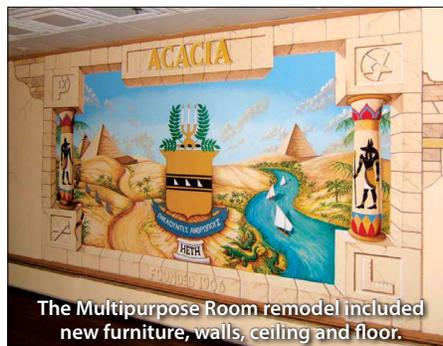
Perhaps it was the fantastic support given by **Jim Wormley '60** who made a \$500,000 contribution to get the campaign off to a great start in reaching its goal of \$1,750,000. Subsequently, more than a handful of alumni made contributions up to and exceeding \$50,000 each. What generosity and what a statement as to what Acacia meant to them. Other alumni pledged commitments extending over multiple years. At this point, almost all campaign pledges are paid in full. The current

active chapter committed itself and future chapters to a \$100,000 contribution payable over the next ten years and past active chapters contributed an additional \$40,000 for the cause.

A decision has been made to conclude the campaign on June 30, 2014, coinciding with the end of our fiscal year. Donors with pledges that are current on that date will have their names included on a plaque to be placed in the new library recognizing all campaign contributors.

If you have an outstanding pledge, or if you would like to make an additional contribution, you have until June 30 so your name will be included on the plaque.

The conclusion of the campaign, however, does not mean the need for financial support is over. With an 80 year old property, there will be situations that require further capital expenditures. In fact, two such opportunities have been noted since



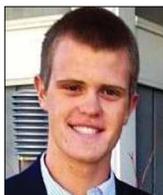
The Multipurpose Room remodel included new furniture, walls, ceiling and floor.

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## Chapter Officers 2013-2014



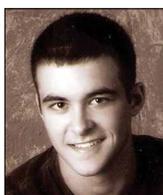
**Venerable Dean**  
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**Senior Dean**  
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Griffin Barra '12  
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**Treasurer**  
Zach Miller '12  
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**Alumni Chair**  
Dan Burke '12  
Lombard, IL  
[dburke1432@gmail.com](mailto:dburke1432@gmail.com)



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**House Manager**  
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**House Director**  
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**Risk Management Chair**  
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**Philanthropy Chair**  
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**Scholarship Chair**  
Mike Latoria '12  
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**Spring Rush Chair**  
Dan Burke '12  
Lombard, IL  
[dburke1432@gmail.com](mailto:dburke1432@gmail.com)

### A Note from Bill Jamie '11 Outgoing Chapter President



2013 was a great year for Acacia at Illinois. The house was renovated, the chapter gained 40 new members, hired a new house director and moved up in the grade point average rankings.

The Corporation Board has been an invaluable resource for the chapter executive board. These gentlemen truly go above and beyond, devoting countless hours to ensure Acacia Illinois is successful.

The chapter is growing and excelling. Illinois Chapter currently has 130 members, the largest roster in years.

The chapter house continues to be renovated and improved. During summer 2013, the main common area was updated. The project was funded by the active chapter and alumni. A nice chapter house makes the recruiting process easier.

The chapter welcomed a new house director, Jeff Chandler, in February 2013. Jeff is a valuable liaison between the chapter and the management company. He takes pressure off the elected house managers and has taken the initiative to smooth any speed bumps along the way.

Acacia provides an environment where students are able to grow academically, professionally and personally. Illinois Chapter is in great condition both internally and externally. I look forward to seeing the good that comes in the near future.

### Message from Steve Wuthrich '12 Incoming Chapter President



During my term as chapter president, I will focus on academics, housing contracts and organization.

Academics will remain a priority for Acacia at Illinois. The current executive board supports the social ban on members who let their grade point average fall below 2.0. The new scholarship program should motivate brothers to work harder, thus raising the house grade point average even further.

Housing contracts are vital to the chapter's finances. The new executive board will encourage everyone to live in the new house until the maximum capacity is reached. As long as the house is occupied to its fullest, the chapter will remain financially stable.

The chapter must become more organized. Last year, many events and ideas were not fulfilled due to poor planning and communication. The current executive board will attempt to be more organized and communicate better.

## Focusing on an Alumnus: Charles (Charley) Rockwood '52

Submitted by: Charles Rockwood '52



Charles Rockwood  
Then

“So, you say, tell me about the last 60 years and whether those wonderfully transforming times at the University of Illinois and Acacia were of any lasting benefit. Well...

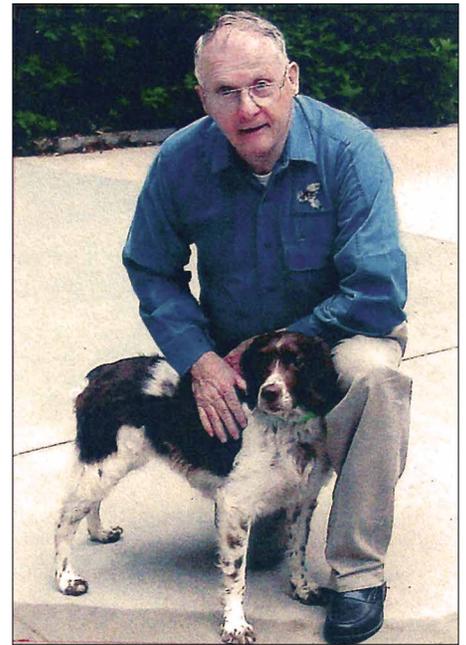
My family moved from Illinois to Florida while I was an undergraduate at the University of Illinois. I left the state immediately following graduation and have rarely been back since.

After leaving Illinois, I obtained a PhD in economics and taught my entire professional life at Florida State University. The years were full of teaching, publishing and

professional service, including testimony before Congress, the Florida Legislature and service as chairman of Governor Graham's Economic Advisory Committee.

Outside of my academic work, I am active in my church. I support the Boy Scouts and served as president of a Scout Council that served five Georgia counties and ten Florida counties. I also served as Rotary International District Governor for Northwest Florida and started a charity camp for handicapped youth which just completed its 20th year.

In retirement, I keep an eye on two farms in Southwest Georgia. We grow cotton, corn, peanuts and a few pine trees. I still hunt often. These days mostly quail. Go Illini!”



Charles Rockwood Now

## Corporation Treasurer Report

Submitted by: Ron Hamelberg '57, Corporate Treasurer

The chapter's corporate accounts are in reasonably good shape according to the audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013. However, alumni are encouraged to continue to support the chapter through financial contributions, either for scholarships or for the Illinois Chapter Building Fund.

Scholarships are awarded to active brothers who achieve excellent academic records. These scholarships encourage brothers to work hard and let them know alumni truly appreciate their efforts.

At Homecoming 2013, twelve actives received scholarships totaling \$16,250. Recipients were chosen by a scholarship committee and actives were rewarded for straight As, top grade point averages under A and most improved grade point averages.

Scholarships are funded by contributions made to the Acacia Fraternity Foundation and designated for the Illinois Chapter. Alumni can contribute to the scholarship fund by using the pledge envelope included in this newsletter or by mailing a check, made payable to the Acacia Fraternity Fund, to Acacia Headquarters, 8777 Purdue Road, Suite 225, Indianapolis, Indiana 46268-3176.

Alumni can also contribute to the Capital Campaign Fund through OmegaFi, our fundraising partner. These contributions

are designated for the Illinois Chapter Building Fund.

The Acacia Fraternity Foundation is a 501(c)3 tax exempt corporation, therefore contributions are tax deductible. However, all funds received from the Foundation must be used for educational purposes. The funds support undergraduate scholarships and educational space in the new house (study rooms, library, etc).



Communications support and assistance provided by:  
OmegaFi  
800.276.6342 • [omegafi.com](http://omegafi.com)

## House Improvements and Maintenance

Submitted by: Ken Wagner '55,  
Corporation Property Manager

Improvements made to the chapter house over the past year have been reported, described and illustrated in the 2013 spring and fall editions of *The Hello*. The plans and budget for 2014 are currently being established and projects will be completed during the summer. In the interim, the house is maintained as needed. Alpha Management and the chapter house managers conduct bi-weekly inspections to identify issues that need to be addressed in order to keep the facility operating safely, efficiently and in good condition at all times.

## Chapter Hosts Toys for Tots Toy Drive Collects 130 toys for the community

Acacia Illinois partnered with Gamma Phi Beta to host a Toys for Tots toy drive this holiday season. Toys for Tots is a U.S. Marine Corps Reserve program that collects new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year. The toys are distributed as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in the community.

“The chapter wanted to establish an annual philanthropy program and decided to partner with Gamma Phi Beta to host a

Toys for Tots toy drive,” said **Nick Samaan '11**, former Risk Management Chair and Pledge Educator. “Toys were collected at each chapter house and at other locations around campus. In total, more than 130 toys were collected to be distributed in the community. Acacia brothers were excited to host the event and felt great about giving back to those less fortunate. We look forward to hosting another toy drive next Christmas.”



# Acacia Alumni Scholarship Award Program 2013-2014

\* Tax Deductible Donations

## Update: 23 alumni donate more than \$8,000 thus far

Thanks to the 23 generous brothers listed at right, Acacia at Illinois has raised \$8,125 for the *Acacia Alumni Scholarship Award Program*.

The *Acacia Alumni Scholarship Award Program* is a new scholarship fund designed to recognize brothers for their high achievements in the classroom. The purpose of the program is to build on past achievements and to encourage the continued growth of a culture of academic excellence at Acacia Illinois.

Alumni who have not yet supported the *Acacia Alumni Scholarship Award Program* are encouraged to do so today. To make a contribution, you may either use the pledge envelope included in this newsletter or visit [www.acacia.org](http://www.acacia.org). Once there, click the "Donate Today" link in the upper right hand corner then ensure that you select "Illinois Scholarship Fund" from the drop down menu before submitting the online form.

***Donations to the Acacia Alumni Scholarship Award Program are tax deductible.***

## Acacia Scholarship Jumps!

After the fall 2013 semester, Acacia's scholarship ranking climbed from 19th among 49 Greek organizations reporting to 13th! Our sights are now set to break into the top ten. Incidentally, monetary scholarship awards funded by Acacia alumni to chapter members exceeded \$16,000 this past year. Thanks to those alumni who support strong scholarship results.

### Donor List

as of February 14, 2014

#### Founding Member \$500+

Daniel D. Bayston '80  
Philip W. Chapman '71  
Terrence A. La Bella '85  
Robert A. Lincicome '50  
John M. Lundsten '60  
Mel W. Rapp '49  
Paul E. Ruby '72  
Jeffrey R. Smith '80  
David M. Uhlenhop '72  
Kenneth A. Wagner '55  
Joel A. Winick '71  
James T. Wormley '60

#### Patron \$250 - \$499

David L. Mari '64

#### Sponsor \$100 - \$249

Rolf A. Cederwall '51  
Fredrick C. Garrott '68  
Robert O. Jesberg '41  
Morgan J. Lyngé '61  
Samuel A. Peak '52  
Richard Kent Price '66  
Robert J. Svatos '77  
Daniel T. Walker '63

#### Contributor \$50 - \$99

Howard G. Pratt '51

#### Donor \$1 - \$49

Michael E. Broms '94

An anonymous pledge of \$10,000 was recently made to the Acacia Alumni Scholarship Award Program; a true example of loyalty and commitment!

## Meet Acacia's New Recruits

*And their thoughts on pledgship*

### John Tsarwhas



John Tsarwhas is from Lake Forest, Illinois. He is currently a general studies major but is working to get into the college of business.

*"Pledgship taught me a lot about working with others. It also built a high level of trust among my pledge brothers that will only grow as our college experience continues."*

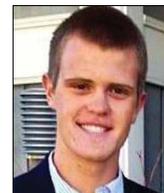
### Greg Haszu



Greg Haszu is from Montgomery, New Jersey. He is a freshman studying civil engineering. Haszu is also on the Men's Lacrosse team at the University of Illinois.

*"Pledgship made my first semester very difficult but I learned a great deal about handling stress, time management and brotherhood. Going through it with my pledge brothers created bonds that will last a lifetime. I am excited to represent Acacia in all I do as I continue on my life's journey."*

### Ben Belford



Ben Belford is from Belvidere, Illinois. He is a freshman studying in the college of business.

*"During pledgship, my initial favorable impression of Acacia was confirmed and I became incredibly close with my pledge brothers. I look forward to being able to take a more active role in the house."*

### Jake Holden



Jake Holden is from Lombard, IL. He is a freshman with an undeclared major at this time but is considering a major in business or actuarial sciences.

*"During pledgship I gained some of my best friends and learned about responsibility and managing your time wisely."*

# Illinois Chapter Wins Acacia Midwest Basketball Tournament

Unbeatable in tournament, defeats opponents by an average of 40+ points

Illinois Chapter traveled to Illinois Wesleyan University on November 9, 2013, to compete in the Acacia Midwest Basketball Tournament.

The Acacia Midwest Basketball Tournament was started in 1966 by John Miller (Illinois Wesleyan). Chapters from all over the Midwest send teams to compete and raise money for The V Foundation for Cancer Research. The tournament was a huge event in the 60s and 70s. This year, the Illinois Wesleyan Chapter decided to bring it back.

"Illinois Chapter was undefeatable," commented **Samy Darwan '12**, philanthropy chairman. "The games were 20 minutes long and we averaged a margin of victory of more than 40 points! We were told before the tournament that the chapter was notorious for winning so we were very excited to bring the John Miller Cup and bragging rights back to Champaign."

The tournament raised more than \$1,000 for The V Foundation for Cancer Research. The V Foundation for Cancer Research was founded in 1993 by ESPN and Jim Valvano, a former basketball coach who was diagnosed with cancer at the young age of 46.



Illinois Chapter won the Acacia Midwest Basketball Tournament held November 9, 2013, at Illinois Wesleyan University. The chapter won all four games, defeating their opponents by an average of 40+ points.

## Brothers Eternal

*Editor's note: We rely on members of the family as well as alumni submissions to report the passing of alumni. We apologize for any delay in forwarding this information.*

The Hello was advised of the deaths of **Roy T. Terp '47** who passed away on January 7, 2013, **Jack Wishart '52** who passed away on January 24, 2014 and **Rolf E. Monteen '61** who passed away on October 4, 2013. We extend our sincere condolences to the members of their families and welcome them into the ranks of Acacia Eternal.

## Help Wanted!

Alumni interested in the history of Acacia at the University of Illinois are needed to help accumulate electronic versions of Acacia's history.

If you are interested or for more information, contact **Ken Wagner '55** at (630) 770-0686 or **Mel Rapp '49** at (630) 404-4994.

## Acacia Illinois Adds 33 New Members During Fall 2013

Acacia Illinois now has 130 members, thanks to a successful recruitment season. The chapter gained 33 new members during fall 2013.

"The brothers worked hard to be the best possible recruiters and the results are fantastic," says **Jon Brusha '11**, pledge educator. "This was the largest class in years and the guys worked great together. The new recruits built a picnic table, decorated the senior house for Halloween and decorated the chapter house for Christmas. They also donated blood and brought two toys to the toy drive. It's a great group of gentlemen and over the semester they truly became the men of Acacia."

Alumni are encouraged to submit recruitment recommendations to **Dan Burke '12** at [dburke1432@gmail.com](mailto:dburke1432@gmail.com).

## The Hello Editors

**Dan Burke '12**  
[dburke1432@gmail.com](mailto:dburke1432@gmail.com)

**Mel Rapp '49**  
[mrapp3@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mrapp3@sbcglobal.net)

**Adam Powers '98**  
[adampowers1@gmail.com](mailto:adampowers1@gmail.com)

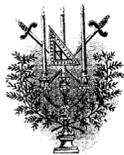
## Success!

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occupancy. The first would increase house capacity by an additional six members, thus increasing income at the same time. The second, when finances permit, would create an enlarged and improved front entrance, turning current exterior space into valuable interior space.

In the time between the kickoff and the upcoming conclusion of the campaign, more than 30 conscientious and committed alumni served as solicitors to reach the goal of \$1.75 million in cash and pledges. It was their willingness to make calls and ask for support, as well as the commitment shown by campaign leaders, who made the campaign a success. The fraternity owes them a great indebtedness for not only their foresight, but their willingness to see the project through to a successful conclusion.

A heartfelt THANKS to those who so generously helped, and a gentle reminder to those who have not, that there is still time to join the cause and be recognized.



**Acacia Fraternity**  
University of Illinois #1151  
PO Box 2187  
Columbus, GA 31902-2187

Help us keep our alumni records up-to-date! Edit your member profile online at [www.AcaciaIllinois.com](http://www.AcaciaIllinois.com) or clip this form, place it in a stamped envelope and send to: Acacia Fraternity, University of Illinois #1151, PO Box 2187, Columbus, GA 31902.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Roll Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Acacia Christmas Spirit



### Chapter House Update

Submitted by: Chris O'Shea '12 & Andres Villarreal '12, House Managers

#### Completed Projects

- Updated the multi-purpose room
- Built two ten-man picnic benches

#### Planned Projects

- Re-organize the tool room and create an inventory list
- Build wooden benches to be used in the cafeteria
- Extend the multi-purpose room into the courtyard