

# THE TRAVELER

Cornell University Chapter of Acacia Fraternity

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NUMBER 2

## Chapter Invites Ithaca Masons To Founder's Day

The weekend of May 23-24 will find the active chapter looking forward once again to its reunion with the actives of previous years. This will be an extra-special alumni weekend since it will mark the beginning of Acacia's second fifty years at Cornell.

On Friday evening, a movie of Acacia's Silver Jubilee Conclave, held in Ithaca in 1929, will be shown. Saturday morning there will be tours of the campus, giving everyone an opportunity to see the new engineering quad and the many other developments which have taken place on conclave. In the afternoon there will be an outdoor lunch at our new barbecue pit. Members of the Masonic Lodge in Ithaca will also be present as our guests at the barbecue.

The weekend will be topped off Saturday evening by a banquet to be held at the Ithaca Hotel at 7 p.m. At this time various awards will be made to undergraduate members of the fraternity.

## Chemical Firm Appoints Agel Vice President

Frank O. Agel '26, of 1625 Blair Rd., Ithaca, N. Y., has been appointed vice president in charge of development of the Nitrogen Division of Allied Chemical & Dye Corp. Mr. Agel was venerable dean of Acacia when he was an undergraduate.

Mr. Agel has been director of development, supervising the Division's research and engineering program. He has been located at Nitrogen Division's development center in Hopewell, Va. and will continue in that location.

With Allied since 1927, Mr. Agel has been principal chemical engineer, assistant to the director of development, and director of organic development. He was appointed director of development in 1954.



NEW OFFICERS. From left, seated, Bob Mayer, senior dean and Dick Powell, venerable dean. Standing, Ted Mosher, secretary, Bob Harris, junior dean, Bill Easton, treasurer, and Bob Fash, junior steward. Not pictured are Bill Traub, rushing chairman and Steve Brown, senior steward.

## Powell Is Elected Venerable Dean

William Richard Powell '59, Cherokee, Iowa, was recently elected Venerable Dean of the fraternity. He replaces John Male '59, of Honesdale, Pa.

Bill is a university tutor, a member of the Yacht Club and an amateur radio broadcaster.

Others elected are:

Robert Glen Mayer '60, Williamsport, Pa., Senior Dean. Bob is chairman of Cornell United Religious Work Community Service Area, a member of Jordan, undergraduate zoology honorary fraternity, and Alpha Phi Omega, national service fraternity.

William Buy Traub '60, New York City, rushing chairman. Bill is a Cornell United Religious Work discussion group leader.

William Bigelow Easton '60, Washington, D.C., treasurer and controller. Bill is on the editorial board of *The Cornell Engineer*, and a member of the Rocket Society.

Robert Stanton Harris, Jr. '60, Palmerton, Pa., junior dean. Bob is a charter member of the Cornell Order of De Molay.

Arthur Theodore Mosher, Jr. '60, Ithaca, secretary. He is on the news board of the *Cornell Sim*.

## Acacia Reaches New Heights Of Achievement

By Robert E. Stafford

With every day that passes, the chapter finds itself imbued with new life, new vigor, new determination. The tremendous growth of the house in recent years has also given it new strength.

The house has felt itself imbued, by virtue of its internal growth and unity, with the spirit of leadership. It is only its limited size, at the present, that keeps it from being among the most dominant houses on campus. Last year Acacia evidenced its competitive prowess by its conquest of the Community Service Trophy, the Interfraternity Debate Trophy, and numerous executive offices in major campus activities. For example, Ralph Lamar made new inroads into creative thinking in serving as Vice President of Cornell United Religious

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Stephen Duane Browne, '59, Avon, N. Y., senior steward. He is a member of the Conservation Club.

Robert Stone Fash '58, Western Springs, Ill., junior steward. Bob is on the Junior Board of Fraternities Co-operative. This will be his second year as steward.

## THE TRAVELER

Published regularly by the Cornell chapter of Acacia Fraternity for its members and friends.

### *Editor-in-Chief*

Robert E. Stafford '61 ..... New York City  
News and pictures are welcomed at all times. Please address all communications to the Editor, The Traveler, Acacia Fraternity, 318 Highland Road, Ithaca, N. Y.

### CHAPTER OFFICERS

#### *Venerable Dean*

William R. Powell '59 Cherokee, Iowa

#### *Senior Dean*

Robert G. Mayer '60 Williamsport, Pa.

#### *Kashua Chairman*

William R. Traub '60 New York City

#### *Treasurer-Controller*

William H. Easton '60 Washington, D.C.

#### *Junior Dean*

Robert S. Harris, Jr. '60 Palmerton, Pa.

#### *Secretary*

Arthur T. Mosher, Jr. '60 ..... Ithaca

#### *Senior Steward*

Stephen D. Brown '59 ..... Avon, N. Y.

#### *Junior Steward*

Robert S. Fash '58 Western Springs, Ill.

### ALUMNI CORPORATION

#### *President*

Dean R. Marble '26 ..... Ithaca

#### *Vice-President*

Dr. Edward C. Showace '21 ..... Ithaca

#### *Secretary-Treasurer*

Sanford B. Hatch '50 ..... Ithaca

#### *Alumni Advisor*

Lafayette Knapp '51 ..... Ithaca

## Acacim Plays Part

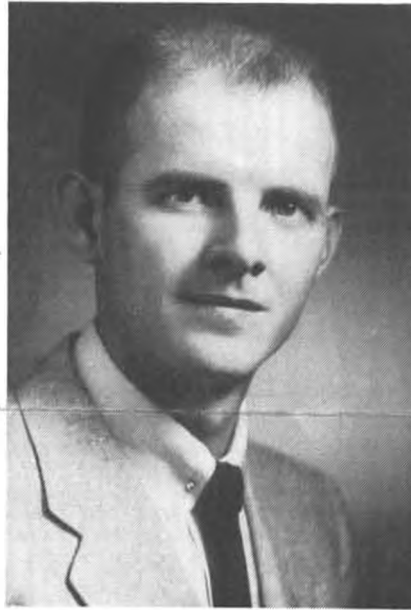
### In Satellite Firing

America's answer to Sputnik was of special interest to Axel M. Larsen '20, an engineer in the Atomic International Division of North American Aviation, Inc., at Canoga Park, Calif. Mr. Larsen is a member of the organization which produced the Rocketdyne-built Redstone engine and fuel that powered the primary stage of the successful launching of our first satellite.

This took place just eight years and a day after the first engine test, known as "Operation Sunrise" took place at Santa Susana. The catch phrase among jubilant Rocketdyne employees, riding high at the triumphant launching climax was "From Sunrise to Moonwatch in eight years and a day."

Mr. Larsen, who lives at 20306 Enadia Way, Canoga Park, writes that he gets no news from the old crowd except what he reads in The Traveler. Me and his family all work hard, he at atomic power plant design, his wife at fixing up their new home, Junior in his second year at Annapolis and Donald in his last year at high school.

## Chapter Benefits From Pete Knapp's Valuable Advice



Pete Knapp

Acacia is fortunate in having many alumni who give the undergraduates devoted and conscientious support. Not the least of these is Lafayette W. (Pete) Knapp, who has proven himself to be a real chapter mainstay. Pete has been house advisor for more than three years, and during that time has given unfailingly of his time in furthering chapter objectives.

A native of Spencerport, N. Y., he graduated from Dryden High School in 1947 and entered Cornell's School of Agricultural Engineering. He received his bachelor's degree in 1951 and his master's degree in 1955. Pete has been with Cornell since his graduation, first as the district agricultural engineer and now as an assistant professor in the agricultural engineering department, specializing in farm safety. He also operates a small beef-cattle enterprise.

He is a member of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, and during 1956-57, served as Vice-Chairman of the New York State Rural Safety Council.

Pete's extensive services to the fraternity does not detract from his participation in civic activities. He and Mrs. Knapp live at 904 Coddington Road and take much interest in their area's Community Center. They are co-presidents of the PTA at South

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

### Alumni Are Urged To Aid Chapter

By William Richard Powell  
*Venerable Dean*

Now is truly the time to strengthen the ties of friendship. Membership in Acacia is a lifetime, or perhaps even an eternal, privilege. We the actives of the present are deeply appreciative of the advances which were made for Acacia by the actives of the past, our alumni. Many of you have struggled long and hard for the advancement of Acacia. It must have been difficult to keep the chapter going during the war years. The depression surely presented trying times. Many of you remember the effort required to expand into 614 East Buffalo St., or the current house at 3115 Highland Road.

We of the undergraduate chapter are thankful for, and proud of, this heritage, which is the foundation of the current soundness and dynamic character of the Cornell chapter. We, as have you, who preceded us, are working for the advancement of Acacia. We want to build the Cornell chapter into the best fraternity on the hill. If we are to develop your chapter to its fullest potential, every one must help. We need your continued support if we are to grow with the University. A rushing recommendation from you now is just as valuable as when you were an undergraduate. A personal contact of a prospective Acacian made by you during the summer is of immense value in building your chapter.

Information about yourself, your job, and your family is always of interest to us and to your classmates. I urge you to demonstrate your continuing concern for the advancement of Acacia by returning to Ithaca for the annual meeting of the corporation, on May 23rd and 24th. Now is the time to strengthen the ties between graduate and undergraduate Acacians.

Hill School, which both of their children, Deborah Louise 9, and Christopher Whitmore 6, attend. Pete coaches a Kiwanis small fry baseball team and devotes a great deal of time to the Boy Scout program. He is still able to organize his time to include his hobbies of hunting, fishing, bowling and traveling.

## Acacia Reaches New Heights Of Achievement

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Work, one of the most influential organizations on campus. Rob Mayer also served that organization as chairman of its community service area.

Acacians In Band

The colorful Cornell Big Red Band is another organization benefiting from the vigorous support of Acacia. Jim Bennett, Walt Deitrich and pledges Bob Pfahl, Pres Shiner, Pete Ochs, Dick Heine and Bill Kelt\* are all participants in that organization.

Andy Algava, a pledge at this time, is a coxswain on the freshman crew.

Jack Walsh is editor-in-chief of the Cornell Engineer, one of the foremost of all college publications of its kind. He has working with him Acacians Frank Walsh, Bill Easton and Ron Tesanik, as well as pledges Art Hart, and Bob Franson.

An academic program has been initiated to insure the maintenance of our high scholastic standards. There is no time for loafing at this house. Every evening finds the house in a subdued quiet to insure that studying goes on undisturbed. The engineers have instituted seminars, where they deal with the difficult parts of their respective assignments and programs. So also have the industrial relations students. In the basement office, there is an exhaustive file of past exams ready to serve as guides to studying during exam weeks.

Poto Knapp

The house owes debts of gratitude to many people for what it has accomplished. The most active alumnus that we have at the present time is Pete Knapp, our advisor. Pete's untiring guidance and perseverance in house affairs has been of invaluable aid. At every house meeting Pete points out the way to what invariably turns out to be the best course of action. In making a tough decision, it's always Pete that the house looks to for advice. We've also had the pleasure of Pete's and Jackie's presence as chaperones at numerous parties.

The alumni who write us during the year to tell of good rushing prospects, render an invaluable service, for they provide the seeds of house growth.



NEW PLEDGES. Front row, from left, Charles Rioch, Richard Heine, Robert Pfahl; Second row, Peter Ochs, John Fenton, Alan Baker, Arthur Hart; Third row, Richard Wolf, David Moldenhauer, Preston Shiner, John Hunter, William Kelt\*. Not pictured are Andrew Algava, Robert Franson and John West.

## Fourteen Students Are Pledged To Acacia

At the close of this spring's two weeks of formal rushing, Acacia had a pledge class of 15 men. They are:

Andrew Albert Algava, mechanical engineering, Forest Hills, N. Y. Andy is coxswain on the Big Red freshman crew.

Alan Lee Baker, arts, Endicott, IN, Y. Al played intramural hockey, and is a member of the Outing Club. He is the son of Joseph C. Baker '50.

John William Fenton, Agriculture, Avenell Park, N. Y. He is a member of the house publications committee.

Robert Taylor Franson, engineering physics, Rowayton, Conn. Bob is on the Cornell Engineer's illustration board.

Arthur James Hart, engineering physics, Massena, N. Y. Art participates in interfraternity softball.

Richard Frederick Heine, Jr., electrical engineering, Ft. Wayne, Ind. Dick is in the Big Red and Repertory bands.

The present success of the chapter is based on the efforts of the past generations who also gave their "all" to the house. They have left us a fabulous heritage, and we are tremendously proud of it.

John Hunter, 111, mechanical engineering, Floral Park, N. Y. John plays on the interfraternity softball team.

William Laurence Keltz, engineering physics, Malvern, Pa. Bill is a member of the Big Red band.

David Irving Moldenhauer, industrial and labor relations, Rochester, N. Y. Dave is on the Lutheran Church Council.

Peter Charles Ochs, agricultural engineering, Warwick, N. Y. He is in the Big Red and Repertory bands, and a member of the Agricultural Engineering Society.

Robert Christian Pfahl, Jr., mechanical engineering, Wayne, Pa. Bob is also in the Big Red and Repertory bands.

Charles Mackenzie Rioch, agriculture, Pine Island, N. Y. He is a member of the bowling and chess teams, and plays interfraternity softball.

Preston Woods Shiner, hotel administration, Westfield, IN, J. He is a member of the Big Red band, the Hotel Ezra Cornell Club and Cornell Hotel Association.

John Peter West, agricultural engineering, Attica, N. Y. He participates in intramural baseball.

## News From Acacians Everywhere

"Glad to see the house finally got that backyard fireplace finished," writes *Robert (Ding) Williams*, '58. Ding and his wife, the former Jeanette DePue, have a seven month old daughter, Suzanne Carol. He expects to get his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Ohio State in June, 1959. He gets to see Frank Letz and Walt McClellan now and then, and also saw Marv Townsend at Frank Letz' wedding. Reach Ding at 7 E. Center St., Elmira, N. Y.

"We are now the proud parents of a new boy, Michael Patrick Conroy," writes *Edward Conroy*, '57, 1800 Whited St., Pittsburgh 10, Pa. "This makes two boys, the other one is Dennis. We live in a four room Mobilhome. Ed is a salesman for the Fisher Scientific Company. His job is selling laboratory equipment, etc., strictly to hospitals.

A new assignment at Naval Ordnance Test Station near Inyo Kern, Calif. (Mohave Desert) is reported by *Jarman G. Kerrard*, '43, engineer for General Electric. His four children are doing well and are enjoying quarter midget racing in the Kerrard's new racing car. He is assistant scoutmaster for Ridgecrest, where he makes his home at 405 Alford St. He so writes that he occasionally hears from Dave Sheldon and Fred Burton.

*Russell J. Smith*, '29, 73 Coolidge Ave., Spencerport, N. Y., is the owner of the Spencerport Coal & Feed Company. His two sons are attending Rochester Institute of Technology, both taking cooperative courses in engineering. While passing through Lakeland, Florida in January, he had a telephone visit with "Gus" Heuser '15, whose recent retirement was reported in the January issue of *The Traveler*, and who is now enjoying life in Florida's sunshine (608 Hillside Dr., Lakeland).

"After renting for several years, we purchased a home at 90 Morningside Drive, Elmira, N. Y., and moved there in November," writes *Robert I. Snowden*, '39, director of industrial relations for the Eclipse Machine Di-

vision of Bendix Aviation Corporation. "In addition to the numerous community activities and committee responsibilities, and those associated with the industrial relations field, I am president of the Rotary Club this year. It is a very stimulating and rewarding experience. We have about 260 members and I had the good fortune to represent our club at the International Rotary Convention in Lucerne, Switzerland last May. As pointed out in the January issue, under alumni news from Eddie Sunderly, my wife and I visited Eddie and family in Heidelberg. Bob Reid flew over from London and joined us for the weekend. We had a wonderful Acacia reunion."

Now a member of an old, established firm, *Robert B. Warr*, '51 is an ensign in the navy flight program and stationed in Pensacola. Prior to reporting there, in August, to train for flying multi-engine aircraft, he was aboard a destroyer tender at Norfolk, Va. He may be reached at BTC-2, NAAS Cory Field, Pensacola. Through Bob, we learn that *Larry Phillips*, '51 is also an ensign and aboard the USS John Paul Jones, a destroyer, serving as electronics officer. Since reporting aboard, he has seen a good part of Europe, cruising to the Mediterranean as well as northern areas. Bob, particularly enjoyed the last issue of *The Traveler* . . . it is good to see factual reporting as opposed to an article full of opinion.

*Ronald E. Stillman*, '42 has been promoted to resident manager of Jones & Loughlin Steel Corporation's new sales office in Youngstown, O. Formerly at Mt. Lebanon, Pa., he moved his family to 205 Nesbitt St., Poland, O., in January. He has three children, Sara Jane, 9, Gary, 7, and Nancy, 2.

*Frederick J. Seism*, '52 was recently appointed to the position of real estate appraiser for the Cleveland Trust Company. His home is at 19603 Longbrook Rd., Warrensville Heights, 28, Ohio.

## Japanese Student Is House Guest



Mike Khimmla

Acacia is pleased to have this term as a house guest Makoto (Mike) Shimada of Tokyo, Japan. Mike attended the University of Tokyo and received his Bachelor of Technology degree there in 1954. He is now doing graduate work in the Cornell Chemical Engineering School.

When Mike finishes his studies in June, he will work for the New York branch of Daichi Bussan Kaisha Ltd., a large Japanese engineering firm.

Mike's main purpose in studying in the U.S. is "to get a better understanding of America, as well as to further my academic training." Eventually he hopes to work and live permanently in New York City.

Roy Clark Is Named

To Smithsonian Poet

The past few months have been eventful ones for the Roy S. Clarke, Jr., '49 family. Last June he received his Master's degree in chemistry at the George Washington University. In August, his third daughter, Grace Courtney, arrived. In October, he joined the Smithsonian Institute as associate curator in the Division of Mineralogy and Petrology.

Roy writes that he would be happy to hear from Acacians when they hit Washington. It is easy to get in touch with him, as he is listed in the telephone directory or can be called during the day at the Smithsonian. His home is at 741 Decatur St., N.E.