



THE TRAVELER

Cornell University Chapter of Acacia Fraternity



ITHACA, NEW YORK

OCTOBER, 1973

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

. . . by Fred B. Morris '22

A handfull of local, loyal Acacians and a few interested members of the local chapter gave us a count that made it possible to conduct the necessary legal affairs of the corporation at the annual meeting. This year it was held on Saturday, April 28, at the chapter house. Brother Ernie Schaufler presided.

It has been a good year for both the corporation and the chapter. Ernie has been a responsible president. He has had a regular meeting of the Board, with representatives of the chapter and the alumni secretary every month. He and Jim Showacre, our treasurer, have given much time to details involved in finishing the fire protection features, and with one or two exceptions, this will mean our having an A rating with the Village. The property is in good shape now, except for a few eaves troughs and work in the driveway. The major need for next semester will be a new boiler, estimated to cost about \$1200. Alan Pew reported that the chapter has a reasonable surplus to meet future furnishing needs. Rushing was successful, and with a few grads coming back this fall, the house has 33 occupants--the most in several years. General attitudes and spirit are at a high peak, thanks to some good leadership. The kitchen is well operated and at a profit.

The treasurer, Jim Showacre, reported that with the \$9900 annual rent and the money collected from alumni (\$1430 from 105 of you--bless your hearts) we finished the year with a deficit. This is due to the increases in insurance, taxes and maintenance. In the discussion that followed, the local chapter agreed to an increase to \$11,400 a year. In capital expenditures, we will still need to depend on alumni for the dollars needed until we get the mortgage paid, which will be another eight years. More precious dollars from Acacia alumni have meant that we haven't had to do two things: refinance the mortgage at a higher interest rate, or make a rental charge that would price the local chapter out of the market--Many thanks! By picking up that increased rent per month, beginning this summer, we got the cash flow on a plus basis again.

The Nominating Committee placed the names of Brothers Kulp and Albrectsen, nominating each for three-year terms. They were elected. Ernie Schaufler is president; Ed Showacre is vice-president; James Showacre, treasurer; Arthur Kulp, secretary; Ray Albrectsen, George Mueller and James Greg (Venerable Dean), members of the Board. These men constitute the Board for 1973-74.

James Showacre and his wife were recommended to the local chapter as advisors and were accepted by the chapter.

HOT WATER HEATER AND BOILER REPLACED THIS SUMMER . . . by Ernest Schaufler '48

The chapter house of Cornell Acacia is a sturdy wood and stucco unit. It retains a charm lost in many "new" buildings. Our chapter house does have to be maintained to serve some thirty-plus actives. Appliances and equipment do wear out. So it was this summer with one hot water heater and one boiler unit. After much price checking, a 65 gallon Sears heater was purchased. Master plumber James Showacre, who also serves

as house advisor and corporation treasurer, installed the heater with the help of several actives.

The old boiler had three leaky sections. It held up through last winter with a band-aid patch job. Financial decisions the size of a new boiler are not easy. A new unit was purchased and is being installed by a local steamfitter. Again the actives played a part in removing the old boiler, saving some \$50 in labor costs. So this summer saw \$2000 move into the Acacia basement.

The corporation will again have to borrow either from the active chapter or elsewhere to cover this latest expense.

We have attempted to establish a fund for such maintenance expenses, but unfortunately the fund has not reached the price of a new boiler.

The frustrations of maintaining a worthwhile fraternity on the Cornell campus have been many in recent years. The corporation hasn't given up, and we're not going to give up now. Just a few more alumni coming up with their annual dues will make it easier to keep this worthwhile chapter of Acacia alive for the future.

VENERABLE DEAN'S REPORT

. . . by Jim Greig

Another school year is upon us, and we've already been through five weeks of classes. The brothers' schedules are pretty well established, and everybody seems to be getting along fairly well.

There are 31 people living in the house this term, and we expect at least 33 next term. Brother Bob Merritt is on the Engineering School Co-op Program and is working out in the Detroit area. He will be back with us when classes start for the spring term in January.

As always, Acacians are active on campus. Acacians can be found in the Big Red Band, Campus Crusade for Christ, Cornell Cinema, ROTC, the national service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega and several honoraries.

The recreation room downstairs has a new tile floor, thanks to the Junior Actives. It was a big job, but when it was done the improvement in the appearance downstairs made it all very much worthwhile.

We have a good set of officers this year, and we expect the year to go well.

If you plan on being in Ithaca, please drop in and say hello. We'll be disappointed if you don't.

REPORT FROM THE SENIOR DEAN

. . . by Leslie S. Nelson

The pledge project, carried out by our nine Junior Actives, was completed prior to the beginning of the semester. The Juniors came back a week early to tile the entire recreation room floor, which involved sanding the concrete base to remove old paint, filling cracks, applying adhesive and finally laying the tile. Despite some minor problems (failure of the adhesive to dry because of extreme humidity) the project was completed five days later. The new floor greatly improves the appearance of the room and makes it an asset for rush.

The other major event has been the acceptance of a bid to join the chapter by Joseph Evans, who is currently a boarder in the house. Joe, a junior majoring in natural resources in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, comes from Olean, New York. Joe has begun his pledge program and has become involved in many house activities. We look forward to Joe becoming a member of the Brotherhood early next semester.

RUSH CHAIRMAN REPORTS . . . by Pat Chefalo

Rush got off a little slowly this year, but the IFC has waged an intensive ad campaign to stir freshman interest. "Operation Contact" has the goal of contacting all freshmen males by fraternity members.

Here at Acacia, some new approaches are being explored. The Brotherhood is organized into rush "teams" which will be responsible for a small group of rushees. The purpose is to increase personal contact.

Rush functions other than the traditional dinners are being discussed, with one "rush movie night" successfully completed and another scheduled. It will be no surprise to find rushees at any of our social events.

All brothers here are working hard to reach our fifteen man quota this year. Recommendations of alumni will be greatly appreciated.

SPORTS CALENDAR IS FULL . . . Don Herring

Acacia's sports calendar will be a full one again this year. Already underway are the football and soccer intramurals. Although Acacia has yet to win an outing in either category, the games have been close.

In other sports events coming up, Cornell and Syracuse Acacia are planning their traditional encounter in football. Cornell is hoping to uphold its undefeated record and a social function is planned after the game.

Other activities include ice time at Lynah Rink during hockey season and participation in basketball and softball intramurals.

FOOTBALL AND RUSH DOMINATE FALL SOCIAL EVENTS . . . Dave Fischell

The social program began with the Freshman Tea and dinner on September 29, with 30 freshman girls attending. A rush movie followed on October 6, with another planned later in the term.

Two big football weekends provided the entertainment for the next two weeks. On Homecoming (Oct. 13, Princeton) we had a cocktail party, sit-down dinner, a smooth party and open bar. The band, "Que Pasa," is one of the best in upstate New York. For the Harvard game (Oct. 20) we held a joint party with Beta Theta Pi.

Many activities are planned for Fall Weekend, including a sit-down dinner, cocktail party, two bands (rock and smooth) and an open bar.

Alumni are always welcome at our social events. Let us know when you can come.

A WORD FROM THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY . . . Carlos A. Ubarri

As the person in charge of alumni affairs, I would like to maintain close communication with the alumni of Acacia. We greatly enjoy having you come to our chapter on such occasions as Homecoming to meet old acquaintances and share your experiences with us. Sometimes it is not possible for you to come to the house, yet your suggestions and feedback on "The Traveler" or any other subject are always welcomed.

Feel free to write and ask for addresses or send suggestions. We want to maintain the memories and traditions of our Brotherhood and this is best accomplished through the active involvement of our alumni.

I hope you enjoy this issue of the newsletter and that you'll return your news for a future issue.

AN EXCITING CASE IN THE FILES OF TAUB . . . Carlos Ubarri

Last spring a group of Acacians got involved in an event that was later described as thrilling and lots of fun. It all started with the mysterious disappearance of our composite. We heard that some sorority was collecting composites from fraternities,

and Pi Beta Phi was our prime suspect.

One evening soon after the related event, a group of brothers got together and decided that it would be interesting to try to get our composite back. We considered hiring "Al Mundi" or letting the CIA take over, but we reached the conclusion that no one could do the job better than TAUB (The Acacia Underground Bunch).

We all dressed in dark clothing, wore sneakers to cut down on noise and hats to hide our identities. The night chosen was favorable: chilly, misty and dark (typical Ithaca weather).

We first hit Pi Beta Phi. Our composite wasn't in view from the outside, but how were we to know that it wasn't hidden, perhaps in the room of one of the girls who was simply hypnotized by the looks of the brothers? (Fat chance of that; this assumption is purely for the sake of intrigue.)

One intrepid brother tried the front door and in a split second he and the others were inside. The enemy was unaware of the whole operation. We decided to take a picture that was idly hanging on the wall, a small coffee table and a mirror.

Our success filled the group with enthusiasm. We simply had to try our luck once more. By the end of the evening, Kappa Psi had lost its composite and Sigma Delta Tau had lost two composites.

We traded with Pi Beta Phi for our composite and returned the others after an appropriate period of suspense. It was quite an evening.

ACACIA ALUMNI NEWS. . . .

George Mueller '56 has taken a job with Catalytic, Inc. in Philadelphia, after three years at Cornell. "I would like to meet any of the Chem E's at the Philadelphia AIChE meeting in November if they are coming. Look me up. I'll be giving a paper on my masters thesis work." George and Claudia have three boys (12,13,15), two dogs, two parrots and one finch. (810 Braddock Terr., Mt. Laurel, N.J.)

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Robert Matusiak '71 is a process engineer with Sun Oil. (230 Pennell Rd., Apt. E-8, Aston, PA 19014)

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"I purchased Service Electric Supply Co., Inc. in May after spending 9 years with the Oxford Paper Co.," writes John Male '58. "I'm looking forward to running my own business." (132 White St., Lunenburg, MA 01462)

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Philip Engler '70 is a chemist with Johnson & Johnson in Chicago. (759 Burr Oak, Apt. 4-B, Park Forest So., IL 60466) * * *

Bruce Bridgeman '66 is assistant professor of psychology and psychobiology at the University of California at Santa Cruz. He got a Ph.D. at Stanford in 1971 and went on to post-doctoral study in Berlin. Bruce is married to the former Diane Turchiarelli of North Tonawanda, New York. (1420 Addison, Berkeley, CA 94702)

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After having two daughters, John Lutz '64 says that the birth of a son last year was especially thrilling. "He weighed in at 9 lbs. 12 oz. and is now in training for Big Red football in 1990." John is doing research, planning and evaluation for a regional education service (17 school districts) in central Pennsylvania. "Our doors are open for Acacians traveling through central Pa. Bring your golf clubs--we're across the road from the 8th green of the Bucknell University golf course." (RD 1, Stein La., Lewisburg, PA 17837) * * *

John Bittance '66 has a new job as assistant editor of *Machine Design* magazine in Cleveland, Ohio. "I decided it was time to take a decent job." (2720 Derbyshire Rd., Cleveland Heights, OH 44106) * * *

Richard Lysle '69 has been admitted to the California Bar. (45 Westminster Ave., Venice, CA 90291)

MORE FROM ALUMNI. . .

Richard B. Ahlfeld '68 has joined Lawrie & Green (as business manager) after 2½ years at United Hospital in Port Chester, New York. "It is a new direction, but I'm using many of the same abilities developed at United. Our son Gene has grown like wild this year and is a great swimmer. My wife, Aline, is tending the home front. We love Pennsylvania and invite anyone in the area to stop by." Rich reports on Acacia friends: "Jerry and Kathy Kreider are expecting their first baby; Joe and Corky Sorge are expecting number two; John Brown is in Washington, D.C. and proud of his king-size waterbed; Hol Moore is with Burger King on Long Island and trying to find sites to build new units." (1067 B Huron Dr., Harrisburg, PA 17111)

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"After several years in limbo, I have found a home with McGory's," writes Jeff Wood '69, who is the new Syracuse sales manager. He says that his wife, Beverly, is working for Van Alstine & Sons, distributors of 3 M products in New York State. "Congrats to roommate John Ogden and Delores on the birth of their son, Christopher, February 17, 1973." (1433 Court St., Syracuse, NY 13208)

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David A. Gorelick '68 and his wife, Naomi, are both in school in New York City. Naomi, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, is in Cornell Medical School and David is working on his Ph.D. in pharmacology at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx. (2366 Woodhull Ave., Bronx, NY 10469)

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"I have moved back to Pittsburgh from a 2½ year temporary stay at the State Univ. of New York at Buffalo," writes Lemuel B. Wingard, Jr. '53. "I'm now teaching and doing research primarily in the School of Medicine (Univ. of Pittsburgh) and also in Chemical Engineering--an interesting combination." (4444 Gateway Dr., Monroeville, PA 15146)

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"Old Father Time is dogging my tracks, but thus far I have been able to stay one lap ahead of him," writes Byron T. Smith '24. "The years do not weigh too heavily upon my shoulders. I manage to stay busy looking after our yard and 90 registered Angus cows." (1331 Northcrest Dr., Ada, OK 74820)

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"Any brothers who might be in the Corning, New York area after November stop by 'Sorge's Rest' and say hello," writes Joseph J. Sorge '70. Joe will be leaving the Army this month to return to civilian life. (198 Lexington St., Corning, NY 14830)

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Dr. Allan F. Burns '58 left Johns-Manville at the end of 1971 when they moved part of their headquarters to Denver. "I joined a pollution abatement group at Picatinny Arsenal, working on industrial wastes generated during munitions production under a program administered by the National Science Foundation." In 1972 he became a permanent Army civilian employee and in 1973 he went to work for Philadelphia Quartz Co. as technical manager for silicates and precipitated products. Al and his wife have four children: John 13, Robert 10, Thomas 8 and Laurie 5. (RD 2, Box 302-A, Parkesburg, PA 19365)

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George "Duke" Sumner '23 suffered a cerebral hemorrhage in 1970 which left him totally blind. His wife, Kathleen, writes that George is alert and suffers no paralysis. George was the founder of the N.E. chapter of Technical Writers and Publishers. (10616 Pekin Rd., Newbury, OH 44065) * * *

We are sorry to report the deaths of the following Acacia brothers: Charles K. Tucker, Largo, Florida, Nov. 9, 1972; Blane B. Ramey '10, Winston-Salem, N.C., June 7, 1972; Glenn R. Morrow, Swarthmore, Pa., Jan. 31, 1973; Merle S. Robie '40, Chester, N.H., April 27, 1973; Burch H. Schneider '31, Athens, Ga., May 6, 1973.