



THE TRAVELER

Cornell University Chapter of Acacia Fraternity



ITHACA, NEW YORK

MAY, 1974

VENERABLE DEAN'S REPORT . . . by Leslie S. Nelson

This semester finds Acacia in fine shape and good spirits. The brothers returned to Cornell the third week of January in order to initiate two fall pledges, Joe Evans, Agr. '75, and Steve Glidden, Engr. '75. Immediately following this, we engaged in a very successful rush which resulted in what we believe to be the largest pledge class in the history of Cornell Acacia. The pledges were initiated in mid-April, after experiencing an active social program which included a pledge party as well as some "big" weekend celebrations.

It is my pleasure to announce the results of our recently held elections of house officers. They were installed following initiation.

Venerable Dean, Leslie Nelson, Engr. '75	Steward, Joe Evans, Agr. '75
Senior Dean, Robert Merritt, Engr. '75	Housemanager, Steve Glidden, Engr. '75
Rush Chairman, Patrick Chefalo, Engr. '75	Corres. Secy., Michael Feinberg, Engr. '76
Junior Dean, John Abeles, Engr. '75	Recording Secy., Richard Williams, Engr. '76
Treasurer, Harold Teller, Agr. '76	

As always, the brothers of Acacia are involved in many varied activities on campus. These include the Big Red Band, the Symphony Orchestra, the Wind Ensemble, the Cornell Daily Sun, Tau Beta Pi, NROTC, Mummies, Campus Crusade for Christ, Alpha Phi Omega, Ho-Nun-De-Kah, ASME, AIChE, ASCE, Civitas, the Cornell Engineer, the Engineering Co-op Program, and various intramural sports.

Odds and ends: The abandoned fraternity house located behind us is being converted into efficiency apartments which will hopefully be housing brothers who will be living out next year.... During a violent wind storm a few weeks ago the large black locust tree shading the barbeque area was uprooted. Inspection of the property indicates that other trees may have to come down....We wish to thank William Ahern for his unique gift which is being put to its intended use.Pearl sends her love. ...Much of the furniture in the Commons, which has served us so well, is due to be replaced in the near future. ...The house cumulative average last semester was a 3.01.

SENIOR DEAN'S REPORT . . . Kirk T. Bellman

We are happy to welcome this year's pledge class of nineteen into our Brotherhood. Coming from all across the country, they are: William F. Abeles, Agr. '77, Terrytown, NY; Jerry B. Alverson, Engr. '77, S. Windsor, CT; Matthew L. Brown, Arts '77, Natick, MA; Jeffrey A. Earickson, Engr. '77, Albuquerque, NM; John F. Feldsted, Engr. '77, Santa Barbara, CA; Owen K. Fujimoto, Engr. '77, Kaunakakai, Hawaii; John C. Gammel, Engr. '77, Los Alamos, NM; Cesilio Ch Garcia, Engr. '77, Weiser, Idaho; Rhett K. Heberling, Arts '76, Ithaca, NY; John D. Koethe, Arts '77, Lansdowne, PA; Donald A. Macleod, Engr. '77, Santa Anna, CA; Mark F. Maltenfort, Engr. '77, Silver Spring, MD; Richard Martinez, Engr. '77, Lake Hopatcong, NJ; Samuel C. Morrie, Engr. '77, Olean, NY; Thomas B. O'Brien, Arch. '78, Pleasantville, NY; Robertson C. Spiesz, ILR '77, Buffalo, NY; William A. Utic, Engr. '77, Green Bay, WI; Thomas R. Whiston, Engr. '77, West-Chester, PA; Robert A. Young, Engr. '77, Lincoln, MA.

This year's pledge program saw the reinstatement of several lost traditions. We started out by moving the pledging ceremony downtown to the Masonic Temple. This aided in the degree of formality connected with that event. From there we returned to the house for a champagne celebration. With the mood set, we then went out to the Stone House Inn for a delicious banquet dinner. After that, we returned to the House and got sloshed--in accordance with a long held house tradition.

After the successful "Brother Raid," the pledge class responded with a 3:45 a.m. "Pledge Raid" which managed to raise the entire Brotherhood. Though successful at arousing everyone, the pledges found their escape abilities lacking. Thus they were given the opportunity to clean up the mess. It was all taken in good spirit and proved a worthwhile experience.

What with particulars and house history, the guys then got busy trying to learn everything by initiation time. We are very pleased with our group of nineteen. We are convinced that they will be an asset to Acacia at Cornell.

RUSH WAS AN OUTSTANDING TEAM EFFORT . . . Patrick M. Chefalo, Rush Chm.

Rush was brought to a successful conclusion this year by the pledging of nineteen good men. The brothers here on the hill made an outstanding team effort; in fact, we exceeded our pre-set goal for pledges for the first time in many years. The pledges were attracted here by many things: the physical house, its insulation and isolation from campus, our social program, but most importantly, of course, the spirit they felt among the brothers. We are convinced that these men will greatly add to the name of Acacia at Cornell.

For a rush program to succeed, we must make contact with eligible and worthy young men. This year our pledges were introduced to us from many sources: our rush smokers; the IFC's "Operation Contact," referred to in the last issue of The Traveler; personal contacts with the actives; and in several cases from recommendations by alumni and National. It is in this last instance that we wish to especially thank those of our alumni brothers who made recommendations to us and most strongly URGE that this practice be expanded. If you know of any worthy young men who are planning to attend Cornell, please drop a line to the Rush Chairman here at the house. Please do this as soon as possible, as competition for fraternity material is very keen. I look forward to hearing from you.

SOCIAL REPORT . . . David R. Fischell

The social program this spring began on February 16 with a pledge banquet following the pledging ceremony. The following weekend was the pledge party. We were graced with the presence of some twenty girls from Wells College and Cortland who enjoyed, with the brothers, pledges and dates, the open bar and music of the rock band "Keel the Puppet."

The 22nd and 23rd of February was IFC Weekend. On Friday night we had a candle-light dinner followed by an open bar rock party with "Albatross." Saturday night we went to a joint beer party with the unbelievable "TNT" supplying the music.

After three weeks of partying, even the most social house must get back to work. Our next social activity was in April (27-28) when Cornell's own singing group, the Sherwoods, entertained after the dinner and cocktail party on Parents' Weekend. This was also the weekend of the Acacia annual meeting.

Spring Weekend this year is the 10th through 12th of May. We are planning a rock party on Friday night, a picnic on Saturday afternoon, and a smooth party with "Moss" on Saturday night. It has been a good year for the social program at Acacia and I hope to see it become even better.

ACACIA IN SPORTS.....

Acacia is in the process of completing a full schedule of intramural and various other athletic activities. Last fall, the Cornell chapter continued its dominance of the Cornell-Syracuse rivalry by defeating Syracuse 13-6. Cornell has yet to lose to Syracuse and there has been talk of possible basketball or hockey matches between the two houses.

In intramural sports, Acacia has participated in basketball and soccer (in the fall) and plans to play badminton and softball this spring. Despite a poor showing this season in basketball, a better season is anticipated next year as virtually all starting players will be returning.

Acacia has also organized various other athletic events. In a much contested game, the pledges defeated the brothers in basketball by a narrow margin. But in the rematch later on, the brothers got their revenge in defeating the pledges rather handily. Another very popular activity was "ice time" at Lynah Rink. Brothers, dates, and pledges all participated in an informal game of hockey, and a good time was had by everyone. All in all, this year has proven to be a very successful one in sports.

THE BROTHERS PULL A PLEDGE RAID

It was late one dark night when the Chief Planner of All House Mischief and Bedevilry awoke in the dorm. With a sweat on his forehead, his beady eyes squinting, he shouted into the dark: "Eureka! I've got it!," whereupon the 14 other newly awakened brothers stuffed pillows down his esophagus. Undaunted, the Chief spread his infectious plan about the house so it was not long before the house was alive with the air of Mischief and Bedevilry.

The wheels of his plan were soon set in motion, and the phone calls with the impersonated voice of the pledge on wake-up, still snoring in the dark, were made to the pledges. The bait was taken and the trap set. Spies were sent out to report the pledges' progress to the waiting brothers, clad in ceremonial robes and hiding in the dark by the front door.

The pledges gathered in the parking lot across the street. The house appeared dark and tranquil as they crept up the sidewalk with all the stealth of a herd of intoxicated elephants. Reaching the front door, the pledges walked in trying to focus in the dark, thus violating the sanctity and security of the Halls of Acacia with their presence. The waiting brothers had no choice but to respond to the challenge.

The resulting atmospheric pressure drop from the bodies fleeing through the front doors was enormous. Reports came from as far away as the neighboring fraternity as to the magnitude of the sonic boom and shock wave which blew all the feathers off their pet turkey. The bewildered pledges, eyes burning with the recent bright lights and ears ringing with the Death March from the piano, were easily apprehended and dragged back into the Halls of Acacia where the brothers gloated over their victory. The thwarted but wiser pledges returned to their abodes on campus as the brothers regaled in their triumph and heaped praises on the Chief Planner until someone glanced at the clock and noticed that he had only 10 minutes to make his 8:00. Frowns and grimaces abounded aplenty as the victory turned Phyrriic, and Monday morning classes loomed with the tones of doom and despair. Great amounts of dirt were heaped on the Chief Planner as the dawn broke. The day would have been a total loss except for the sight of that damn naked turkey around next door, soothing the savage brothers once more.

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WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU, YOUR FAMILY, JOB, ACACIA FRIENDS? RETURN THE ENCLOSED NEWS FORM.

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CORPORATION MEETING HELD ON APRIL 27

The Cornell Chapter of Acacia Corporation held its annual meeting on Saturday, April 27. Ernie Schaufler and Don Payne were re-elected for a three year term as board members, and Mike Ciaraldi was elected to a one year term on the Board as a replacement for Jim Showacre. Jim, who is now Chapter Advisor, will be an ex officio member but will continue to serve as Treasurer. Other Board officers for the coming year are: Ernie Schaufler, President; Ed Showacre, Vice President and Art Kulp, Secretary.

Both the Acacia Corporation and the active chapter are solvent. The Corporation has managed to survive another year of financial problems which included the replacement of the furnace and the hot water heater. A bequest of \$1,000 was received during the year from the estate of Brother Claude A. Kezer '22. Ninety-one alumni members contributed \$1,370 in dues which helped keep the Corporation in the black.

Nineteen pledges were initiated in April and 36 brothers will be living in the house in the fall. There is every reason to expect that the Cornell Chapter of Acacia will have another successful year.

THE DEAN'S CORNER

...by Thomas R. Fiutak

Assistant Dean of Students & Advisor to Fraternities

Walking into the position of a Fraternity Advisor for the nation's second largest fraternity system is analogous to arriving at a race at Watkins Glen one hour after dark. All you see are clusters and individual cars racing past you with no distinction as to who was first and who was last. In order to make sense of the event, you must consult the program, those in the crowd, and the scoreboard. It is a matter of orientation.

This past September was basically a blur of names, houses, officers, brothers, all clustered like the cars at the Glen. Yet, as the semester flew by, the reference points became clearer and what originally looked chaotic, appeared as the logical evolution of the tradition which has been the stability of Cornell and its fraternities.

My reference points were many. Steve Watts, a Chi Psi and the Interfraternity Council President, spent long hours tutoring me in the ways of Cornell. The various house officers made sure that I was not led to believe that Chi Psi was the beginning and end of Cornell fraternities! And then it struck me. The race about me was concurrently based on competition & cooperation. The competition fuels the houses and fires the enthusiasm to excel. The cooperation tempers the zealot and installs the fundamental axioms of life: We are all brothers, and to excel together often means to put your neighbor before yourself. These reference points I could understand and the race made a lot more sense.

Usually the last reference points to be acknowledged are those which precede the ongoing day to day concern. My first impression of the Cornell fraternity system was based more on numbers; forty-four houses, fifteen hundred actives, over seven hundred pledges, etc. But quantity is just one dimension of strength. You, the alumni of Cornell fraternities, have made me aware of the quality of life that existed before I became a part of this University for which I will be held in part accountable.

My ability to carry on this tradition of strength depends therefore, on your continued interest and support.

RUSH YIELDS RECORD NUMBER OF PLEDGES FOR CORNELL FRATERNITIES

During the last week of January, the rushing efforts of Cornell's fraternities and sororities culminated in a record number of freshmen pledges. At the end of January, over 696 men had formally pledged Cornell's 44 fraternities. The percentage of

the freshman class pledging this year is even higher than last year's record figure.

Credit for the successful rush seems to fall in several areas. The Interfraternity Council established a new and innovative program this fall employing representatives from all fraternities to make contact with almost every incoming freshman to explain the strong points of fraternity life and to encourage participation in rush. This effort yielded a record number of freshman rushees. Second, the attitude of the freshmen (and the entire campus) toward fraternities has become much more positive than it was several years ago. In the fraternities themselves, strong rush programs were instituted, leading to larger classes in most instances.

The pledging figures, as reported by the Cornell Daily Sun, are tabulated below. It should be noted that since the end of formal rushing many houses have added additional pledges.

Acacia	19	Delta Upsilon	21	Psi Upsilon	23
Alpha Chi Sigma	10	Kappa Alpha	23	Seal & Serpent	6
Alpha Delta Phi	10	Kappa Delta Rho	21	Sigma Alpha Epsilon	31
Alpha Epsilon Pi	12	Kappa Sigma	14	Sigma Chi	22
Alpha Gamma Rho	19	Lambda Chi Alpha	11	Sigma Nu	25
Alpha Sigma Phi	8	Phi Delta Theta	17	Sigma Phi	12
Alpha Tau Omega	14	Phi Gamma Delta	27	Sigma Phi Epsilon	32
Alpha Zeta	5	Phi Kappa Psi	18	Sigma Pi	31
Beta Theta Pi	6	Phi Kappa Sigma	8	Tau Epsilon Phi	13
Chi Phi	17	Phi Kappa Tau	9	Tau Kappa Epsilon	23
Chi Psi	24	Phi Sigma Epsilon	24	Theta Chi	6
Delta Chi	12	Phi Sigma Kappa	13	Theta Delta Chi	12
Delta Kappa Epsilon	18	Pi Kappa Alpha	11	Triangle	8
Delta Phi	11	Pi Kappa Phi	8	Zeta Psi	10
Delta Tau Delta	21	Pi Lambda Phi	12		

ALUMNI NEWS. . . .

Ladis W. Amatulli '68 writes that he and his wife, Evelyn, spent 14 weeks last summer at Maxwell AFB for Squadron Officer School. "After school finished, we spent some time in New Orleans and then an enjoyable weekend with Brother John Toole and his wife, Betsy, at Scott AFB, Illinois." Laddie passed his exam to be a professional engineer in NYS last August. (6020-B Maine Rd., Plattsburgh AFB, NY 12903)

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"Alice and I have a new daughter, Elizabeth Rhine, who was born May 16, 1973," writes John R. Ahlfeld '63. "Her brothers, Roger, 5, and John, 3, are delighted to have a sister." John is planning director for the Lancaster County Planning Commission. (2634 Royal Rd., Lancaster, PA 17603)

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Jerry W. Kreider '68 is an architect with Lawrie & Green in Harrisburg, Pa. A first child, Melissa, was born in August... "looks like her mother--a blond bombshell." (321 N. Front St.)

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W. Oscar Sellers '30 writes that he and his wife spend a lot of time living and traveling in their motor home. They have been as far as Alaska and usually try to head south in the winter. Oscar says that he also plays golf and works on developing a wood lot. (714 Ball Ave., Watertown, NY 13601)

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"Keep the new boiler hot," writes Richard C. Bonser '43, "and maybe I'll stop in for a shower." Dick is an importer and distributor of construction materials for Lipari Pumice Aggregate Co. in Westport, Ct. (12 O'clock Rd., Weston, CT 06880)

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Cdr. Raymond A. Ways '54 is presently assigned to the USS Enterprise (CVAN 65) somewhere in the Pacific. (FPO San Francisco, CA)

John B. Frisbie '53, a pilot with Pan American, has been in Berlin for over 9 years. He'll be returning to the States this summer and will be flying out of Kennedy or Logan. "We love living in Berlin and will hate to leave, but I'm ready to fly the "big bird" and get back to trans-oceanic navigation. Also, it's time to get the children (Teddy, 13) and (Dina, 10) re-acquainted with the American scene." John says that he almost never writes letters. "What prompted this rare display of communicativeness is the excellent work you are doing on the Traveler. I cannot remember when there has been anything of equal quality." (Ring Strasse 14, 1 Berlin, Germany)

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Robert Lightfoote '69 is getting his masters in public administration at the Graduate School of Public Affairs, SUNY, Albany, NY. "Rich Lysle has moved his law practice to Los Angeles; Rex Inglis is still farming, and Tom Kocovsky is still at the U.S. Patent Office and going to George Washington Law School at night." (RD 2, Geneva, NY)

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Paul W. Thompson '10 sent the chapter a copy of the constitution which he helped prepare in 1912. Tommy is retired at 1119 Devonshire Rd., Grosse Point Park, MI 48230.

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David Bills '58 went to the Princeton homecoming game last fall --"and by sheer chance, Dick and Dannie DoBell had seats in the same row." David is teaching in the Management Training Dept. of Eastman Kodak in Rochester. (933 Little Pond Way, Webster, NY 14580)

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"For some reason, I enjoy retirement," writes John B. Cheney '24. He and his wife spend their summers in Canton, NY and winters in Florida. (57 E. Main St., Canton, NY 13617)

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Ed Rayburn '70 asks for the address of Keith Hering '69: RD 3, Oneonta, NY 13820. Ed and Sue finished their masters degrees at V.P.I. last year and now he is a lieutenant (Army) at Ft. Hood, Texas. (111 North Dr., Copperas Cove, TX 76522)

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The animal disease center at North Carolina State University has been named Grinnells Animal Health Laboratory in honor of Dr. Claude Delbert Grinnells '18, who joined the faculty in 1925 and taught courses in animal diseases from 1932 to '49. The center was dedicated on June 21, 1972. (511 Forest Lake Rd., Fayetteville, NC 28305)

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Richard Magnacca '65 writes that a son was born on October 6, 1973. "We have a house now and would welcome visits from Acacians passing through the Boston area." Dick is an electrical engineer with Stone & Webster. (29 Carleton St., Newton, MA 02158)

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Fredric Burton '42 is still flying the company Cessna all over the Northeast. Fred II recently had a new addition. from Syracuse
SUNY