

ALUMNI NEWS

ROBERTSON SPIEZ, '77, tells us that JOHN KOETHE, '77, has been accepted to Temple University's Medical School in Philadelphia for the Fall semester. He also informs us that Brothers TOM WHISTON, '77, and JOHN GAMMEL, '77, were married to Karen Pierce (July 1, 1978) and Geri Gamble (May 27, 1978), respectively.

DWIGHT MILLER, '51, writes, "Everything is A.O.K. in Clinton Corners! Son Eric graduated from University of Oklahoma! My beautiful, smart niece from Reno was turned down by Cornell. This happens all too often! She has decided to go to Vassar."

DAVID G. OSBORN, '73, and his wife, Sally, have finally settled in the greater Boston area. DAVE has completed 2 1/2 years with Micro Communications, where he is presently Project Engineer for OEM miniature magnetic tape drives. Sally is in her fifth year at Polaroid, where she is presently using computer simulations to design, test, and improve lenses and apertures. Their daughter, Betsy, has begun "cursive" writing in second grade and has lost four teeth. "When we were last at the house, we were counting teeth on the way in!"

DAVID A. GORELICK, '68, has started his second year of psychiatry residency at UCLA. His wife, Naomi, has begun her first year of internal medicine residency at Harbor General Hospital. Their son, Daniel is now two years old.

MARK F. MALTENFORT, '77, writes, "PAT CHEFALO, '75 and JIM TUCCILLO, '78 are both in love in St. Louis. Yes, even PAT, and with a girl yet! I'm trying to provide a stable influence but am having limited success."

ROBERT I. FREEMAN, '43, is still operating some tobacco farms in the Simcoe, Ontario, area. "Irene and I spend the winters in Stuart, Florida, and would like to hear from some of the brothers passing through the area."

FRANK E. MROWKA, '73, tells us that wife Linda gave birth to a boy, Frank Mrowka, III, on August 17, 1978, in Buffalo, New York. "We also bought the family farm located in Lockport, in June. Any alumni in the area are welcome to stop in anytime."

DR. ALLAN F. BURNS, '58, tells us, "After 16 years in industrial R & D—the last 10 in supervision & management—I've moved into the corporate planning function this year as a Manager-Planner for PQ Corporation (I've been with PQ 5 years). Great new challenge! The family is growing physically, educationally, and spiritually. Our oldest, John, is a freshman in chemistry at U. Penn (traitor!); Robert is a high school sophomore; Thomas is in 8th grade; and Laurie is in 5th grade."

WILLIAM A. UTIC, '77, writes, "I am finishing my final year here at the Graduate School of Design. I am looking forward to entering the real world this June—yes, I've bought my Harvard insignia tie." BILL tells us that: BOB YOUNG, '77, is alive and well in Kalamazoo, Michigan. He is working as a design engineer for the transmission division of Eaton Corp. in their Kalamazoo offices. BOB recently refinished an old upright piano—did a real nice job—you can't even tell that it fell off the pick-up truck when he was bringing it home. BOB MERRITT, '78, is also working for Eaton Corp., but as a project manager in Eaton's Detroit Research and Development Division. He doesn't like to admit it, but he's become one of the industry's experts on fuel injected, turbo-charged diesel engines. BOB is also teaching thermodynamics to night classes at a local university. Smart guy, that UNK! JIM TUCCILLO, '78, is working in St. Louis for a meteorology consulting firm. According to JIM, his firm prepares weather and crop forecasts for various regions in the US and elsewhere which are sold to commodities brokers. MARK MALTENFORT, '77 is also in St. Louis, working for McDonnell-Douglas as an administrator. Along with PAT CHEFALO, '75, that makes three recent Acacians in St. Louis. Are there any more?

CAPT. LADIS AMATULLI, '68, writes, "Evelyn and I have been in Italy for ten months and are enjoying our tour very much. We have recently traveled to Surrento, Capri, Pompei, and Naples and last spring visited Florence. We will be in Brindisi, Italy (located in the heel of the boot), until June 1980. Although the site is somewhat remote, no part of Europe is very far and we plan to travel more and more especially now that Alison (3 1/2) and Lisa (14 months) are traveling better. Best to all."

MICHAEL J. CIARALDI, '73, is still working for Taylor Instrument Co. in Rochester. He expects to finish his MS in computer science in February at the Rochester Institute of Technology. "Ran into EDEN SLEGR, '73, and STEVE GLIDDEN, '75, when I went back for the 5th reunion in June. Came back for Summer Weekend in July. Only one problem—girls wouldn't volunteer for a wet t-shirt contest, so we had to throw them in."

DAN RATHERT, '72, a process engineer and production supervisor for DuPont, was transferred to the corporate headquarters in Wilmington, Delaware after five years in Houston, Texas.

LARS A. LUNDEEN, '72, has just accepted an associate attorney position with the Jay Dermer Law Firm in Miami Beach, Fla. "I'll be doing litigation involving personal injuries, wrongful death, and medical malpractice."

WHERE HAVE '78's GRADS GONE?

JAMES J. MANFREDI, '78, is attending Albert Einstein College of Medicine. As a candidate for a Ph.D. in the Dept. of Molecular Pharmacology, JIM is studying the molecular basis of various drugs' actions on the DNA molecule and microtubule formation. Some of these drugs form a basis for chemotherapy in the treatment of cancer. JIM's address is 1935-23B Eastchester Rd., Bronx, NY 10461 Tel. No. (212) 892-6836.

GERALD M. STONE is now working for the New York Farm Bureau as the Organizational Director of the Finger Lakes Region. JAY hopes to seek an active involvement with the farming community in this year's election process. JAY recently purchased a new mobile home in nearby Dryden, New York. Any Acacians in the area are welcome to stop in and visit. His new address is: Mott Rd. Mobil Manor, Lot No. 3, Dryden, NY 13053. Tel. No. (607) 844-5912.

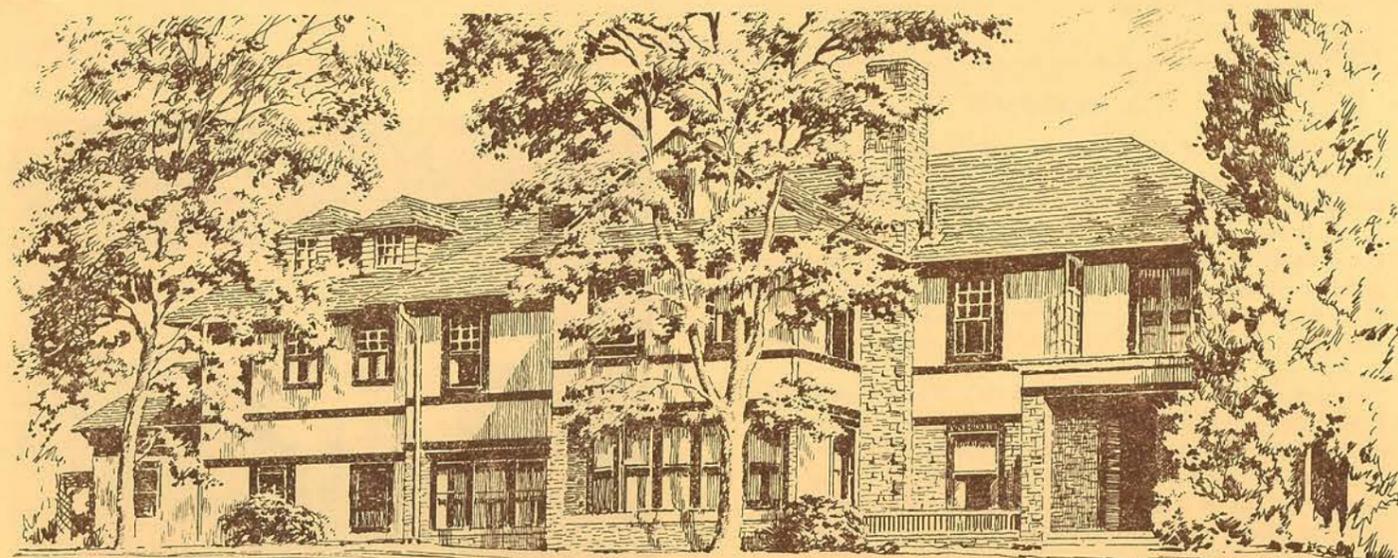
BRUCE G. SCHNEIDER is employed by Citibank in New York as a financial analyst in their management trainee program. BRUCE is supervising the preparation of the statement of sources and uses of funds for Citibank and Citicorp. In January, BRUCE will be starting work on his MBA at the University of Connecticut. BRUCE's home address is: 107 Harvester Rd., Fairfield, Ct. 06430.

ROBERT S. KENNY is working for the Parks and Recreation Department of the City of Edmonton, Alberta. As the Landscape Construction Supervisor, SCOTT is in charge of all capital building pertaining to landscaping, i.e. programming and quality control. SCOTT's plans: "Stay here! Money is good, weather is fine. Enjoy living!" Here is his address: 7815-159 St., Apt. 207, Edmonton, Alberta/Canada T5R 2E1.

THOMAS B. O'BRIEN is currently working for Parallax Inc. of Vermont as an architect in the energy systems engineering department. TOM's assignments deal with contemporary architecture, such as the design of energy efficient buildings. TOM and Doris Guiliano, both natives of Pleasantville, NY, are planning a Nov. 4th wedding at St. Patrick's Church in Armonk, NY. TOM's new address is: RD. No. 1, Box 353-3, Hinesboro, Vt. 05461. Tel. No. (802) 482-2517.

JOHN C. BRUECKMAN is a sales representative for the Proctor & Gamble Distributing Co. CHIP is covering the grocery trade in Southwestern NY and Northwest Pennsylvania. In January CHIP will begin work on his MBA at St. Bonaventure University. As for the future, CHIP is looking forward to advancement with P & G. "Any Acacians in the area are welcome to stop in anytime." CHIP's address: 32 Lakeview Dr., Apt. 2, Lakewood, NY 14750.

Cornell Acacia is saddened to hear of the deaths of our Brothers ROGER CLAPP, '28 and LLEWELLYN EDWARDS, '15. ROGER CLAPP, who retired in 1969 as associate professor of ornamental horticulture at the University of Maine, was given the first Edward Johnson Award by the Florist Association for his years of work in education, and for his progressive ideas to improve the horticulture industry in its floriculture, ornamental, and commercial aspects.



THE Traveler

ACACIA "RETREATS" TO WATKINS GLEN, N.Y.

One of the more important results to come out of the 1978 Conclave of the Acacia Fraternity, held this summer in Aspen, Colorado, was a Chapter Standards Program which, among other things, requires every Acacia chapter to hold one annual Retreat. So on Saturday, September 16th, the Cornell Chapter had its first chapter-wide Retreat in Watkins Glen State Park.

The purpose of a chapter Retreat is to get the Brothers to take stock of their fraternity: Brainstorming problem areas, setting annual or semester goals, or just getting a gripe off one's chest—all in a very informal, but nonetheless constructive manner. And to remove any hint of the long, boring, business-like quality which characterizes a regular Chapter Meeting, the Retreat was held in the refreshing and pleasant environment of Watkins Glen State Park; without the benefit of Robert's Rules of Order.

In the true Ithaca tradition, the day started out cool, with heavy thunderstorms. But by midday, the sun started to peek out, and eventually the cloudy sky gave way to one of all blue. A fully enclosed shelter, complete with tables, and a fireplace with plenty of split wood, provided an excellent "meeting hall." To keep the troops from going hungry, a picnic lunch and a chicken barbecue dinner was provided. And just to make sure no one got too dry-mouthed from all the "heavy" discussions, a keg of cold Mich was kept on hand.

The old maxim, "all work and no play makes John a dull boy," holds true even for a group of fraternity men. So in order to keep the spirits high and clear when a low ebb in the discussions was reached, several "playtimes" were called, during which the Brothers got in a little football, and played some grueling games of "Ultimate Frisbee" under the direction of Brother Mike Barr '80.

Despite the informality of the day's events, much was accomplished. With Brother Bill Bethke '80, acting as moderator, the group as a whole was presented with various areas of concern previously submitted by each Brother for possible discussion. Bill then led the discussion in such a manner as to narrow the concern into a specific problem. Once the situation was clearly defined, it was presented to the Brothers, who, in groups of 3-4, brainstormed the problem for 15-20 minutes. After that time, the groups dissolved back into a "committee of the whole," and each group reported its suggestions. All suggestions and ideas were recorded and are being compiled along with a written report to be presented to both the chapter and the National Council as of this writing.

Some of the areas discussed include: Chapter pride; personal commitment; chapter enthusiasm or spirit; campus and community image; innovating the social program; and improving the rushing program. While no definite action on any of these areas was formally adopted at the Retreat, the Brothers were given an opportunity to share their views and ideas with each other, and get the "rusted gears" moving again, as a new and promising year for Cornell Acacia begins.

In retrospect, what the House Betterment Committee and I tried to accomplish in organizing this Retreat was simply a day away from the house, where everyone could have a good time interacting with each other, both physically, as on the playing field, and intellectually, on a level of discussion solely devoted to the Fraternity at-large. To these ends, and more, I believe we were very successful; and that the chapter will profit from such Retreats in the future, I have no doubt.

Thomas Visconti, '78
House Betterment Committee Chairman

PLEDGE PROJECT

The pledge class of 1978 took on a job usually reserved for outside contractors as its pledge project. Not content to creosote the house, whitewash the stucco, remodel the garbage pit, or cut firewood, they voted to put in a new driveway. It was not even an ordinary driveway, but six inches of reinforced concrete on top of a six inch crushed stone base. It is designed to be a rather permanent part of the Cayuga Heights landscape, and it took six days in the August heat and rain to complete.

The idea for the project began Parent's Weekend when Dr. John Skiff, father of two brothers in the house, surveyed the sorry remains of the old driveway and remarked that he would be willing to pay part of the cost for concrete if the brothers decided to put in a new concrete driveway. Dr. Skiff installs concrete driveways for his office building back in Castleton, N.Y., and is a firm believer in the cheapness, durability and ease of construction of self-poured concrete driveways. Brother Jim Skiff presented the idea to the junior active class and they approved it enthusiastically. The proposal was approved by the chapter at a housemeeting after prolonged debate about finances, alternative projects, and whether the ten J.A.'s could complete the project. Basically it was decided that the asphalt driveway was a mess and would have to be replaced in the near future anyway, and it would be best to go ahead now when there was some financial help available.

The actual construction did strain the backs and aching muscles of the junior active class, but not their spirits. Before pouring the concrete it was necessary to excavate the 1050 foot square area of the old driveway to a depth of one foot. The easiest part of that job was to tear up the already crumbled asphalt and sidewalk of the old driveway. But beneath that was another 10 inches of packed clay and gravel that had to be laboriously picked out. The junior actives started Sunday August 27. After working from 7 AM to 10 PM Sunday and Monday, the J.A.'s had removed an estimated 60 tons of clay, gravel, asphalt, and concrete, which was hauled away in a pickup and dumped down a hill behind the apartments, at the owner's request. On Tuesday morning a truck dumped 30 tons of gravel that was spread out by hand and tamped down with a rented motorized tamper. Concrete forms were also constructed. On Tuesday afternoon the concrete truck arrived to pour the first half of the driveway. Under the able direction of Brother Jim Skiff, who had lots of practice working on his father's driveways, the concrete was poured and reinforced with thick wire netting. After Thursday was rained out, on Friday the second half of the driveway was poured. Both pours ran the length of the driveway and were thus 52 feet long and 10 feet wide. The sidewalk was torn up to allow an uninterrupted pour of concrete, after obtaining a Village of Cayuga Heights permit. The two slabs were then covered with plastic sheets and kept wet for 14 days to allow the concrete to cure to full strength.

Now that the plastic is off, the brothers are able to admire a solid expanse of smooth concrete from the service entrance to the street. The total cost of the project came to \$940; however the junior actives and Dr. Skiff picked up \$350 of that cost. While the cost to the house was way above the normal \$100 cost of a pledge project, the cost was certainly bargain basement compared to anything obtainable from private contractors for a similar driveway. Certainly the junior active class has constructed a project they can take pride in all their years at Acacia.



JUNIOR ACTIVES HARD AT WORK ON THE DRIVEWAY

SO LONG TOM!

Brother Thomas Visconti (Arts, '78) graduates at the end of this semester, but he leaves behind him many traditions and programs he has initiated since he was a pledge in 1976. In 1976 he received the outstanding pledge award, and last year the outstanding senior award. He has held the office of Recording Secretary from September of 1976 to April of 1977, the office of Venerable Dean from April of 1977 to April of 1978, and the chairmanship of the House Betterment Committee from September of 1977 to December of 1978.

During his reign as Venerable Dean, Brother Visconti remolded the House Betterment Committee from a dead, do nothing committee to a prominent standing committee, with the ability to decide and present before the chapter for approval any ideas, that are infeasible to discuss before the chapter-at-large. Besides remolding this committee, Brother Visconti is responsible for the first chapter retreat, and annual human service project, the revision of the constitution, and hosting the National Winter Council meeting at Cornell.

This might seem like a long list of achievements for any one person to accomplish during his four years at Cornell, but it barely rakes the surface of what Brother Visconti has done for ACACIA. When he leaves in December, the house will feel his loss in every phase of its activity. He will be missed by every one of us.

The Brotherhood

THE TRAVELER is published by the actives to keep you informed. Let us know about what is new with you! Photos and articles of interest are always welcome! Direct all communications to:

Acacia Fraternity
c/o SMC-Alumni Services
Willard Straight Hall
Ithaca, New York 14853
House Phone: (607) 257-7055

CONCLAVE '78

The Cornell contingent found adventure and entertainment as they traveled cross country to Aspen, Colorado for the Diamond Anniversary Conclave. Among the intrepid few were Tom Visconti, Jim Manfredi, Jeff Hadrick, Bill Hairston, Dave Nolte, and myself. Since we spent as much time on the road as we did at Conclave, we got to see a bit of the country.

The trip was off to a fast start as Tom, Jim and I first drove to Buffalo, where, after being treated to lunch and conversation by Rob Spiez's ('77) folks, we flew to Chicago. There we met Jeff and spent the afternoon touring the city. In the evening we went down to the waterfront, where several bands were playing (part of the city's Chicagofest celebration). Andy Gibb was featured, but we found the foot-stomping country group more entertaining. The next morning, refreshed by the hospitality of Jeff's folks, we set out across the endless corn fields of Iowa to Kearney, Nebraska. We noticed some strange phenomena en-route, such as the lack of variety on the radio (an apparent rotation of four songs) and Ken's Pizza parlors. The adventure started when we reached Kearney and discovered that all the major motels between Kearney and Denver were booked. We began to meander through small towns trying to find a place to stop. We took a break in Ogallala, which was thoroughly booked because of a rodeo. We were therefore inspired to continue on to Denver. However, Denver at four in the morning, as may be imagined, was not terribly hospitable. So we headed for the hills and came to rest somewhere near Buffalo Bill's grave (no pun intended). We turned off the car and slept where we sat. Breakfast the next morning provided additional motivation for us to continue our journey (the eggs and orange juice had about the same color and consistency). We arrived in Aspen fatigued but ahead of schedule to meet Bill who was fresh and energetic after his champagne flight in from Alabama. Dave Nolte lives in Denver and joined us the next day.

Conclave went well. A new crop of officers was elected, and retiring National Executive Director Harvey Logan was honored for his long service (his successor is Tom Nelson). The biannual awards were presented, and the Cornell Chapter was awarded for its pledge program. Aside from the usual committee activity there was a set of "chapter standards" passed that set forth specific goals and requirements for the chapters. Aside from the formal meetings, we also met other Acacians on the social level, e.g. a ten-keg party. We made some friends and in general got a better view of ACACIA as a National Fraternity.

Fred Skiff, '79

ACACIA HOSTS KAPPA DELTA

On September 13 Acacia sponsored an exchange dinner with Kappa Delta Sorority. Ten brothers had the opportunity to visit and dine with the girls, while ten sisters were warmly welcomed at the house. A fine meal was prepared by our cook, Pearl Murray, and the ladies were favorably impressed.

The girls came as a delegation to accept the return of a set of carved wooden letters (the letters being KD as you might expect), which were appropriated by Brother Joe Schussler, '80, during a recent incursion into the sorority house.

PEARL'S WESTERN TRIP

Mrs. Amanda "Pearl" Murray continues to amaze the brotherhood with her interesting and varied life. This fall brothers can congregate in the kitchen and hear Pearl's tales of her trip out west. Last July Pearl and five of her lady friends and relatives rented a Winnebago camper and set off to see the country. The camper was the mobile home variety, and had two designated "pilots" and two "co-pilots." Pearl stayed in the back and presumably kept everyone else entertained with her stories.

The trip began with stops in Akron, Ohio, and Indianapolis, Indiana, where Pearl was able to visit some of her many relatives. After Indianapolis, the ladies headed straight for the far west, through Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas to Arizona. In Arizona they visited the Grand Canyon and a Navaho Indian reservation. Unfortunately, the temperature was 103 degrees when the Indians did their famous dance, and there was nothing to sit on but stones. Nevertheless Pearl quickly made friends with all the little Indian children and learned a great deal about how they lived. She was amused at the practice of burning "buffalo chips" for fuel, but declared that she wished she could have taken some of those darling Indian children home with her.

Pearl is also an enthusiastic gardener, and at one point she spied a beautiful desert plant which she wanted to plant at home. Unfortunately its roots were planted in the desert soil more firmly than she thought, and it took her about 15 minutes to wrestle it out of the ground. When she got back to the bus she was a little upset to learn that rattlesnakes are very abundant in the area and that they like to curl up in the branches of such plants for shade. As many brothers can attest, Pearl does not like snakes. But she did get the root and probably will have the exotic desert plant growing in her garden by next spring.

In Flagstaff, Pearl met the brother-in-law of a recent Cornell graduate, class of '70. His name was Turner, and he probably visited the chapter house for parties, although he was not a brother. In Las Vegas Pearl confined herself to the one-armed bandits, and did not visit the big casinos. Brothers who have watched Pearl operate at house casino nights will tell you that the casino owners got off easy that time. The group also visited New Mexico but did not have time to see California.

From all accounts it was quite a trip, but the brothers of Acacia are glad to have our beloved Pearl back with us this fall.

Jay Stone, '78

MOOSEHEAD

The active chapter is looking for a moosehead or a deerhead to replace the one that was once mounted over the commons fireplace. Judging from old formal weekend pictures, it disappeared about 1965. If anyone knows what became of it, we would like to know. Also if anyone has a moosehead gathering dust somewhere and is willing to donate one, be assured that it would be gratefully received by the active chapter and displayed in a place of honor.

FLASH!
ALUMNI ATTENDING HOMECOMING, 1978

As listed in the guest book, the following alumni and their guests participated in the Homecoming activities at Acacia:

Bill Burnett, '53, John and Una Lutz, '64, Richard Brewer, '65, David Owens, '66, Bob Lightfoote, '69, Howie Zwiefel, '69, Steve and Mary Stein, '73, Bob Rudolph, '75, Carlos Ubarri, '75, Tom Whelan, '75, Mr. and Mrs. David Fischell, '75, John Maciag, '75, Alan Grant, '76, Harold Teller, '76, Don Herring, '76, Bill Utic, '77, John and Geri Gammel, '77, Bob Spiesz, '77, John Brueckman, '78, Jay Stone, '78, Bruce Schneider, '78, Jim Manfredi, '78, and Tom O'Brien, '78.

TAKE NOTE!

Fall Weekend 1978

November 17 and 18

Cornell versus Pennsylvania

There will be an informal get together Friday night and a semi-formal band party Saturday evening featuring "Laural Canyon." Come and celebrate a great weekend with us!