

THE Traveler

ACACIA GAINS LITTLE SISTERS

The Cornell Chapter of Acacia has another interesting facet which was initiated this year. Following a proposal outlined by Joseph Schussler and Kevin Ashman, a Little Sisters organization was activated within the chapter. This "Daughters of Pythia" program was structured similarly to an already existing program at Penn State Acacia. It is now under the supervision of the Dean of Little Sisters, Brother Schussler ('80), and currently boasts four Little Sisters and four Little Sister pledges.

The Little Sisters are: Patricia Warner (Hum. Ec. '79), Mary Ellen Phillips (Ag. '80), Nancy Dobkins (Ag. '80), and Susan Glenn (Ag. '81), while the four Little Sister pledges are: Miriam Akabas (Engr. '82), Pamela Hudadoff (Ag. '82), Tanya Maltsev (Arts '82), and Ann Whitney (Arts '82). Since all the pledges are freshmen (or freshwomen) these Little Sisters will be around the Brotherhood for a while.

How does one become a Little Sister? When the Brotherhood and the present Little Sisters decide that a girl is worthy of membership, she is extended a bid. Assuming she accepts, a pledging ceremony is held, after which she passes through pledging period to initiation similar to the male pledges. The program is designed to accommodate a pledge class each semester.

What do Little Sisters do? They are most valuable during the fall semester to assist in rush. The presence of young ladies at smokers and rush dinners makes the atmosphere more relaxed and sociable. At parties they are willing dance partners and enjoy bringing rushees and pledges out onto the dance floor. They could even persuade an aging alumnus to leave the security of the sideline.

There are also little courtesies which the Little Sisters extend toward the Brotherhood. For example, they have welcomed the Brothers with donuts and orange juice in the morning. A

few seemed upset that it was five-thirty in the morning, and that there was a bit of vodka in the orange juice, but it was all very pleasant to wake up to. During formal rush, the Brothers returned from dorm contacts one night to find hot chocolate and cookies waiting for them, courtesy of the Little Sisters. It was a warm gesture and appreciated by all.

The program is now in the final stage of organization with minor changes being made as they are required. As one can conclude, it is providing excellent results. With the girls we have now, and the great possibilities in the future, there is no doubt about the worthiness of Acacia's Daughters of Pythia.

Joseph Schussler '80



ACACIA'S LITTLE SISTERS "POSE" FOR A SNAPSHOT

RUSH FROM SMOKER TO TEMPLE

As all of our readers well know, rush can be both the most frustrating and the most rewarding of fraternal activities. This year's rush was marked by at least the usual amount of dumb freshmen, awkward moments and good times. As our Rush Chairman Bill "Beauregard" Hairston put it: "As y'all can tell, we prefer to dwell on the good times." So be it.

This year's Rush program featured a number of innovations and twists on the basic theme of smokers, dinners, and parties. For one thing, "Stables Runs" went out every week to the Stables Inn in Varna for steamed clams, beer, and good conversation with rushees and dates.

Last Fall contact teams were sent out to see all rushees during December. Extending the practice of room contacts to Informal Rush meant more work for the brotherhood, but it seems to have paid off in terms of building good relationships with rushees. One of the most successful events of the Rush season was the Christmas party, which featured an unusual occurrence for the Cornell campus: more women in attendance than men, and they were all invited guests of individual brothers.

The House was fortunate enough to take in a group of boarders last fall who all proved to be suitable for pledging. Cosmo Leo and Phil Schuler were pledged on November 12, 1978. David Astor, a graduate student, was voted an alumni honorary membership. Witaly Derby was pledged during formal rush. One of the more amusing aspects of formal rush to the brothers was the fact that Witaly was also considering other houses at the time, including Kappa Delta Rho. And so the brotherhood was treated to the spectacle of KDR Rush teams calling at the Chapter House. In the end of course, Witaly made the only sensible decision and joined Acacia.

The pledge class taken consists of ten fine young men. There are five engineers, three in the Arts and Sciences school, one in the agriculture school, and one in the Hotel School. Most of them are from the Northeast, but Andrew Mercer continues the Acacia tradition of geographic diversity. He is from the island of Bermuda. Their names follow:

- Ethan Hall Cosgriff, Bloomfield Town, Mich., Arts '82
- Barry Alan Davis, Brooklyn, N.Y., Arts '82
- Witaly Derby, East Northport, N.Y., Engr. '82
- Thomas Fabian Horbacz, Roselle Park, N.J., Engr. '82
- Cosmo Liberty Leo, Utica, N.Y., Engr. '80
- Andrew Howard Mercer, Hamilton, Bermuda, Hotel '82
- Frank Dean Price, Upper Darby, Penn., Engr. '82
- Phillip Mark Schuler, Rome, N.Y., Engr. '82
- Louis Michael Schwartz, Loch Sheldrake, N.Y., Arts '82
- Timothy Kehamm Thom, Manhattan, N.Y., Agr., '82

The new pledge class has already shown some of its distinctive character. In a daring attack, three pledges barricaded the Wing during a beer night dinner. They were joined by their seven pledge brothers a few seconds after dinner. This group neglected to take in the garbage and dashed in the Wing fire escape door. The fortress was secured and held for about an hour and a half. Then it fell to the furious assault of the brothers, with some assistance from a hacksaw. A rumble in the Wing hall to end all rumbles in the Wing hall followed. The next day the pledges

further impressed the brothers as an all around good pledge class by losing the annual pledge-brother Volleyball game. At this writing the score stands: brothers 2, pledges 0.

Bradley J. Meyer, '78, Senior Dean



BROTHERS AND PLEDGES BATTLE IN VOLLEYBALL

TAKE NOTE

SPRING WEEKEND festivities are scheduled for the weekend of May 4-6. There will be a smooth dinner and party on Friday night. Our traditional picnic on Saturday will be held at Taughannock State Park followed by a relaxing evening at the house (activities are still in the planning stage!). We hope to see you for the weekend fun! Call (607) 257-7055 for more details.

HOMECOMING, 1979 will be this October 26-28 featuring the traditional football game and activities at the house. We hope you will mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend! Look for a schedule of events in our next mailing.

THE TRAVELLER 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
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York 14853
House Phone: (607) 257-7055

RECOLLECTIONS FROM THE PAST

In this and the upcoming issues of The Traveller, articles from past publications will reappear and hopefully bring back some memories of Cornell and your Acacia Fraternity. Here is an article reprinted from the December 1946 Traveller:

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THE TRAVELER

Vol. 26, No. 1

Leisure Time at 318

By WILLIAM WICKHAM

Once again the halls of Acacia are resounding with the happy voices of the carefree students as they gaily discuss the ease of their scholastic work and the gay times they have chatting with the Profs. in the recitation periods. Every night a group of the men drive downtown (using the '46 models which are owned by many of them) to enjoy a movie. The others, probably a bit tired from a game of Cassino, turn in about 10 P.M. for a full nine hours of refreshing sleep. Ah! To have the joy and comforts of this enviable life is indeed a truly desirable position!

(No law against dreaming is there?)

If an outsider was trying to learn the names and faces of the men here merely by listening to them talk to each other, he would probably end up at a point directly below the suspension bridge or in an "institution". I believe that 99 44/100% of the fellows' first names are "Lover". And when someone calls "Hey there Lover", immediately nearly every man is there—except maybe Bob Flickinger and Dick Lawrence who have graduated from the "lover" level.

Speaking of this heart warming subject, naturally turns the train of thought (keeping it on the track) to Don Berens and Bill Pendarvis, those campus Casanovas, those rollicking Romeos, who are never too busy for a quick picnic. For those boys it is never too cold, too warm, too wet, or too dry for a jaunt to Stewart Park.

Bill Bunyan seems to be developing rapidly along these lines also. He does his homework between classes and therefore has plenty of free time evenings! (He says)

And of course there is "Buck" Laufer, who, judging from the way he's

starting off, will by next year have to have a body-guard to hold off the women.

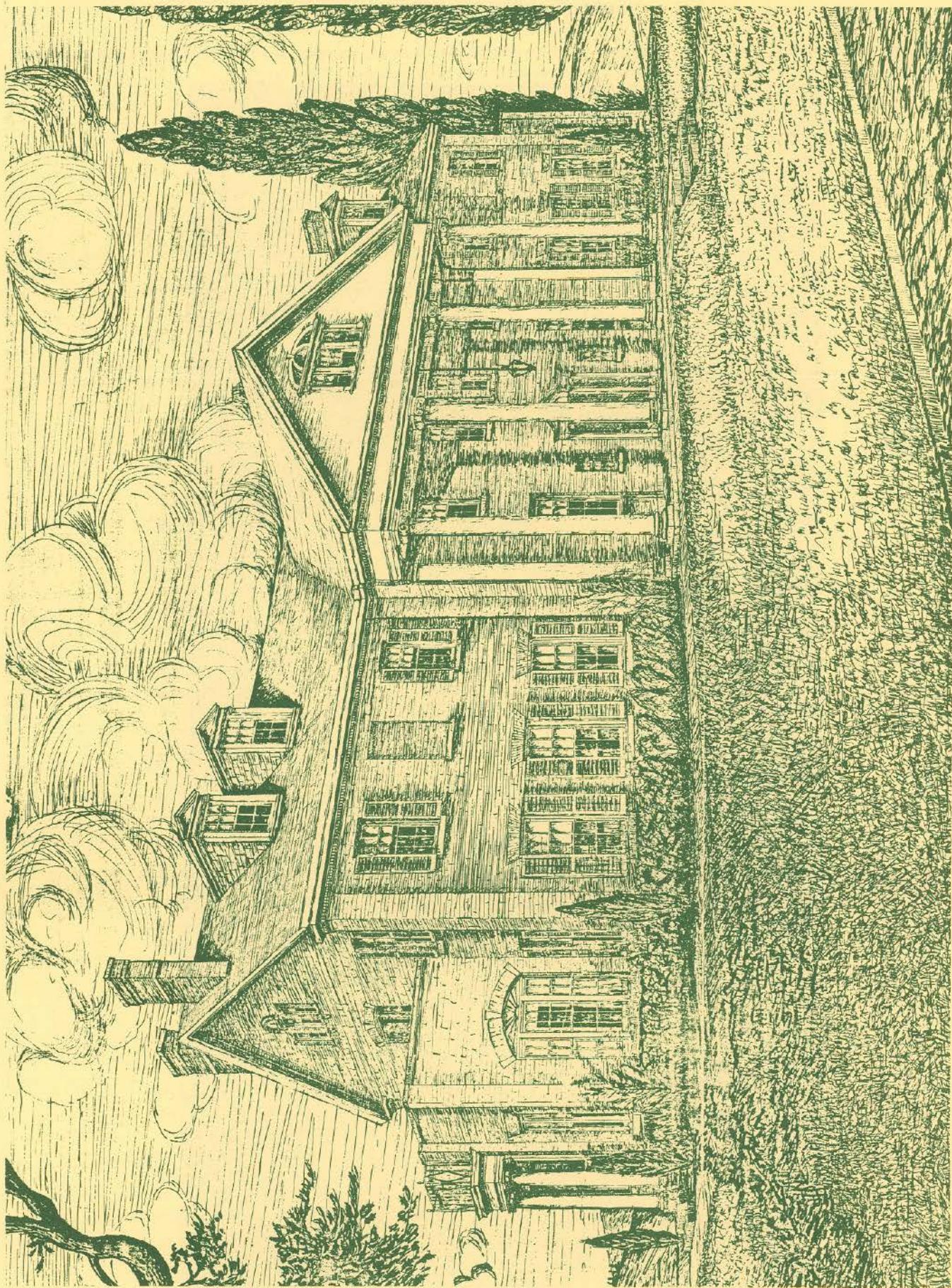
Before leaving this subject, "Is John Woodford color-blind?" Tune in next week folks, we don't know.

Of course we have talent along other lines. Jack Tilley is a natural artist on his fife on which he can play any song by ear. Our "Wee Willey" Wickham isn't so bad on his "squeeze-box" either. "Em" Hibbard pounds the piano with the best of them, and Don Berens knows three beautiful chords which he repeats over and over. Then too, some of the more brilliant men, like Bill Gibson and Al Woodford are now able, after years of hard work and practice, to play the radio with complete mastery.

The driveway of the house is the resting place and recuperating station for a herd of hard-working autos. One of the most prominent of these is Beren's Plymouth Pick-up, which, by virtue of its white sidewalls, is in a class by itself. That Plymouth has been to Stewart Park so many times that now it finds its way alone. (Most convenient). It's a military secret, but those sidewalls are really round life-preservers in case of an accident down at Stewart Park.

Then there is the faithful "Galloping Ghost", the abused (both inside and out) means of transportation of the Woodford Bros. Inc. I'm afraid though that before long they will have to take the poor old "Ghost" out in the country and shoot her to end her misery.

This may all sound exaggerated to you, but if you don't believe it come around and see for yourself. Better be sure your Life Insurance premiums are paid up though!



THE FAÇADE OF "THE DREAM HOUSE"

ACACIA'S DREAM HOUSE

How would you liked to have lived in a house with 39 rooms, seven staircases, five bathrooms, four fireplaces, and two telephone booths? Well, that's what would have happened if the "Dream House" had been built. There's quite an interesting history behind this house that never was, and the house plans are quite amazing.

Toward the beginning of the 1920's, the brothers of Acacia were feeling the need to find a home they could call their own. Their rented home at 614 East Buffalo Street was in bad shape and getting worse every year. The brothers felt it would be better to buy a home of their own, rather than try to refurbish their present home, or rent somewhere else.

To this end, the June 1925 Traveller proudly announced the acquisition that Spring of 4 1/2 acres of land from the old municipal golf course. This land was along Triphammer Road, where Pi Beta Phi sorority is now. The land cost \$8,000, and was considered a prime spot for the chapter's yet-to-be conceived home.

So, in the June 1926 issue of the Traveller, there appeared a complete set of blueprints for the Acacia Dream Home. They were drawn up by Joseph Campbell and R. Smith, both alumni of Cornell Acacia. The plans were their contribution to the building fund, which was having trouble raising money for the new chapter house.

The house was to be a stately, three-story, fireproof red brick mansion, with a full basement. It measured 140 feet by 60 feet, which is quite large indeed. By comparison, the present chapter house is 95 feet by 35 feet, excluding the wing. The house was designed to be an ideal fraternity house, and the plans are still in the Library of the present Chapter House.

Starting in the basement, the house had a four-car garage opening to the back, a huge den with a fireplace, and a billiard room with space for two tables. There were also three studies, a bath, a kitchen, a boiler room, and wood and coal storage areas.

But the most interesting feature of the basement was the Chapter Room. Its dimensions were 24 feet by 32 feet by 40 feet, and for those of you who are slowing down a bit in your math skills, that room was in the shape of a 3-4-5 triangle. This would be an appropriate place for pledging, initiation ceremonies, etc. There was also a nearby "preparation room," probably to be used for the same purposes.

On one end of the first floor was a sun room, with its own fireplace. Also on this floor was a huge lounge for dancing, parties, etc. There was a card room, music room, library, and a guest bedroom big enough for two beds.

The dining room, with its fireplace, was on the other end of the first floor, along with a pantry and a porch. Food was moved from the kitchen downstairs to the pantry by means of two dumbwaiters, and from there to the dining room.

On the second floor there were 13 study rooms, two bathrooms, and a telephone booth directly above the one on the first floor. There were balconies on each end over the first floor porches.

The third floor consisted of one large study room, a storage area, and two big dormitory areas. This is similar to the third floor of the present House.

So, it would've been quite a house. It had a lot of similarities to the present house, but it was certainly unique in its own way. Its cost was estimated at \$90,000 then, which today would probably be at least a half million dollars. The active chapter felt it would need at least \$50,000 cash to build the house, and when it couldn't raise the money, the plans had to be abandoned. The Triphammer Road land was eventually sold, and in 1934 the Chapter bought the present house, at 318 Highland Road. This ended the search for a new home, but not the memories of the Acacia "Dream House."

Paul C. Herrington '81

SENIORS GRADUATE

The following Brothers will end their Cornell careers when graduation rolls around this May. Each leaves with our congratulations and best wishes for a prosperous future:

Stuart Thomas Cain, Indianapolis, IN. College of Engineering Bachelor of Science in Applied and Engineering Physics.
 James William Kehe, Pleasantville, N.Y. College of Engineering. Bachelor of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering.
 Norman LaLancette, Plainview, N.Y. College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Bachelor of Science in Plant Physiology.
 Bradley John Meyer, Fairport, N.Y. College of Arts and Sciences. Bachelor of Arts in Economics.
 George Ramos, St. Leominster, MA. College of Architecture. Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts.
 Frederick Norman Skiff, Castleton, N.Y. College of Engineering. Bachelor of Science in Applied and Engineering Physics.

HOUSE OFFICERS ELECTED

At the house meeting of March 4, 1979, the following Brothers were elected officers for the upcoming Fall semester:

Venerable Dean: William H. F. Bethke, Agr. '80
 Rush Chairman: William R. Ward, Agr. '80
 Senior Dean: R. Gary Hay, Engr. '80
 Junior Dean: Paul C. Herrington, Agr. '81
 Treasurer: John M. Graham, Arts '81
 House Manager: James M. Skiff, Arts '81
 Steward: David D. Nolte, Arts '81
 Dean of Little Sisters: John T. Friedlander, Arts '81
 Recording Secretary: Andy S. Finkel, Engr. '80
 Corresponding Secretary: Christopher T. Wong, Agr. '81

ANNUAL CORPORATION MEETING

The annual corporation meeting for all Acacia Fraternity members, alumni, and actives, will be held on Saturday, April 28, 1979 at 2 P.M. at the house, 318 Highland Road. Refreshments will be served and we hope to see you there!

BROTHERS 5th IN CHARITY CHUG

Last Spring, Brother Jim Manfredi '78 introduced the concept of "canoe races" to the Cornell Chapter. A canoe race is a type of team relay beer chugging race which is immensely popular at Penn State Acacia, where it was first observed by Brother Manfredi and others. The practice has since been a fixture at Friday night beer nights. On Friday March 2, Delta Chi Fraternity sponsored a campus-wide chugging contest. The Acacia team raised more than a few eyebrows by placing fifth out of 32 teams in the fraternity division. A five-man Acacia team downed five 12 oz. beers in twenty seconds to achieve that ranking.



BROTHERS CHUG FOR CHARITY

ALUMNI NEWS

BERTRAM Y. KINZEY, '18, writes, "I stopped by the house when I was in Ithaca for my 60th reunion in June. A young man cutting the grass offered to show me through but I disliked to interrupt such an industry. I expect we will be back for Mrs. Kinzey's 60th next June."

AUGUST W. RITTERSHAUSEN, '21, tells us that Rockland County has a very active Cornell Club. AUGUST enjoys working with them in their various activities. In November the Club had a successful phonathon and raised \$8,000 in an hour and half for the University.

CYRIL F. CAMPBELL, '25, retired from the State of Pennsylvania back in 1968. He had been employed by the Department of Agriculture Bureau of Plant Industry as a Senior Entomologist (42 years). CYRIL has a daughter and a son living in Lansdale, PA, and Mechanicsburg, PA, respectively. After visiting Boca Raton, Florida for a short time during the winter season at the Bibletown Community Church, he decided to sell his property in Harrisburg in June of 1976 and move to Florida. He and his wife, Renee, are active in various phases of church work in Boca Raton. CYRIL reached his 79th birthday last October 19th—"that puts me pretty close to being an octogenarian."

A. C. FREDERICK, '27, has four grandchildren, the oldest of which started college last September. The next one starts in 1979, in 1980 the third one, and finally in 1982 the fourth." All my contributions from now on will be for their college expenses. Sorry I am unable to do more."

DR. ROGER D. SOLOWAY, '57, writes, "I spent part of my sabbatical leave this year with my wife, Marilyn, and sons, Andy, 15, Davis, 13, and Russell, 8, in Kyoto, Japan. Although August and September were very hot, we enjoyed the people and the historical places."

CAREY W. FLETCHER, '63, writes, "Since this is the first time I have written, I include the following statistics: Jackie and I have three children—Debbie, 12, Christy, 9, and Chip, 5. I work as a physicist at the Kodak Research Labs dealing with mostly laser systems. I have recently retired as vice president of the Rochester Engineering Society and am now devoting my spare time to setting up an inventing business of my own." RICHARD informs us that JOHN LUTZ, '39, recently moved to Rochester where he is a professor at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf.

RAYMOND J. BRACALIELLO, '67, now owns Lutz Insurance Agency in Prattsville. RAY is looking to buy another agency in a neighboring town. Last winter RAY took up skiing—"it's a great sport since many ski areas are close to help pursue interest." RAY tells us that JOHN J. BROWN, '67, married Jane Steinkraus on October 7, 1978. They are now living in Bellevue, Washington.

DR. PAUL B. GOLDBERG, '71, is finishing a fellowship in Gastroenterology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. He and his wife, Harriet, have an 18 month-old daughter named Deborah. PAUL tells us that DR. STUART HANTMAN, '71, is finishing a fellowship in Radiology at Cornell Medical Center. He and his wife, Carol Lee, are expecting their first child in April. DR. ROGER SOLOWAY, '57, Associate Professor of Medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, has become world renowned as an expert in liver diseases and has recently completed a tour of Japan where he was invited to speak on his research.

RICHARD S. LYSLE, '69, visited the Republic of Cuba last summer during June and July. He stayed in Camaguey, Santiago, and Santa Clara.

J. ERIC HUMPHREYS, '71, writes, "Greetings, Brothers! You may have heard that Uncle Sam is requiring all new buildings to use less energy—guess who is analyzing the regulation? I have to show the Federal Government will not bankrupt the economy. Fortunately, it won't! Anybody that wants to find out more can call (800) 424-5168."

CLEVELAND M. JONES, '74, tells us to drop him a post card at his Brazilian address: C.P. 455, Salvador, BA, Brazil. He will be there at least half the time. Every other month he will be in Brazil.

JOSEPH T. EVANS, '75, is back working in Olean, N.Y. for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation after spending a year on the St. Lawrence River working on a research project. He has recently had two papers published on the "Biological Assessment of Fish in the St. Lawrence River" and "Winter Sampling Techniques of Fish." JOE hopes to make it up to Cornell and Acacia for Spring Weekend '79.

JERRY B. ALVERSON, '77, tells us, "I hear Brother RHETT HEBERLING, '76, found a girl he's willing to wash his hair for; in fact, he married Catherine in Boston last Thanksgiving weekend."

MATTHEW L. BROWN, '77, recently returned from a North Atlantic deployment aboard the USS Raleigh (LPD-1). After participating in combined operations with NATO navies in the Shetland Islands and off the coast of Jutland, MATT made port calls at Bergen, Norway; Copenhagen, Denmark; Gothenburg, Sweden; Edinburgh, Scotland; and Amsterdam, the Netherlands. MATT is back for a while and looks forward to visiting Ithaca in the Spring.

ROBERT S. KENNY, '78, writes, "Well, here it is mid-November and we've had snow for three weeks! In fact, the temperature has averaged -20°C for the last two weeks! Cold you ask—HELL NO! Local people say this will be considered warm come mid-winter (last year they had four weeks of temperatures -40°C or colder). I don't feel the cold will affect me too much—Joyce is here!!! Skiing in the Rockies started three weeks ago and hopefully we'll be there in a couple of weeks. Haven't heard too much from the Brothers except that I heard Brother CHIP, '78, slipped on some reject detergent and broke his writing arm—there were only minor fractures in the floor."