



*Brothers and dates in the Commons during the Valentine's Day Formal before leaving for the Rose Inn*

## Fraternity Life

- by Tom Balcerski '05, #1063

The Social Committee has been active these past few months. As last year, we held our Valentine's Day Formal on Saturday, February 15 at the Rose Inn in Lansing, New York. Nestled among ten acres of orchards and gardens, this Italianate mansion is a real architectural gem.

The evening started with a wine and cheese reception at Northcote in

front of the fireplace in the Commons lit for the occasion. Everyone posed for a group photograph which The House Historian framed this picture and hung on the stairwell rising to the second floor from the mailroom. This is the first photo of the brotherhood with dates since 1985.

The highlight of the Valentine's Formal was the pledges performance who sang, among others, "For the Longest Time" and "I Will Survive". Needless to say, the food was not like our usual.

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*The statements made and opinions expressed in this publication are independent of the University and Interfraternity Council (IFC). The Chapter is solely responsible for the contents of this publication.*

## Spring 2003 Chapter Roster



Dave Rimshnick '05 (1062)  
Op.Research & Industrial Eng.  
Sandyston, NJ  
[Venerable Dean]

Peter Rimshnick '05(1060)  
Op.Research & Industrial Eng.  
Sandyston, NJ  
[Senior Dean]

Thomas Balcerski '05(1063)  
American Studies & Economics  
Ramsey, NJ  
[Junior Dean]

Anthony Nemoto '04(1059)  
Computer Science,  
Op.Research & Industrial Eng.  
Port Washington, NY  
[Treasurer]

Zachary Weinstein '05  
(1067), Psychology & French  
Forest Hills, NY  
[Recruitment]

Michael Nasatka '04  
(1045), Operations.Research  
& Industrial Engineering.  
Westminster, MA

Eric Wursthorn '03 (1046)  
Chemical Engineering  
Middle Village, NY

Randy Clark '03 (1047)  
Agricultural &  
Biological Engineering  
Homer, NY

Yujin Chung '03 (1048)  
Electrical Engineering  
Irvine, CA

Josh Roth '03 (1049)  
Government  
Eastchester, NY

Scott McQuade '03 (1050)  
Applied & Engineering Physics  
Annandale, VA

Tom Ricketts '03 (1051)  
Chemical Engineering  
Halifax, MA

Jay Ayres '04 (1052)  
Computer Science  
Rockville, MD

Andrew Hur '04 (1053)  
Economics  
Glendale, CA

Stephen Lowe '04 (1054)  
Electrical Engineering  
Jackson, NJ

Gamelin Telesfort '04 (1055)  
Psychology  
Kings Park, NJ

Brian Kwoba '04 (1056)  
Philosophy  
Longmont, CO

Alfred Pena '04 (1057)  
Mathematics  
Bronx, NY

Ilya Cherepakhin '03 (1058)

Hotel Management  
Geneva, Switzerland

Mike Colyle '05 (1061)  
Biology  
DeWitt, NY

Greg Chulsky '03 (1064)  
Physics  
Swampcott, MA

Tarek Banaja '05 (1065)  
Applied & Engineering Physics  
San Diego, CA

Charles Kalter '05 (1066)  
Mechanical Engineering  
New York, NY

Igor Dorkalev '09 (1068)  
Biology  
Virginia Beach, VA

Zachary Samuels '05 (1069)  
Material Science  
Philadelphia, PA

### PLEDGES

Bradley Ayres '06  
Elie (EJ) Track '06  
Hanny Carp-Martinovici '06  
Jared Davis '06  
Jeffrey Ballyns '06  
Noe Bautista '06  
Roman Markh '06  
Whoosun Song '06

# A Message from our Corporation Board President

Brethren,

Greetings! For the most part, things are going quite well for Cornell Acacia. The 2002-2003 Academic year started off with the first double-digit initiated pledge class in decades, and is ending with a new pledge class of nine. The Corporation Board, together with the Actives, is preparing a detailed, prioritized five-year maintenance plan that will be presented at the Annual Corporation Board Meeting in May.

We will be dedicating the Pearl Murray Memorial Dining Room during Reunion Weekend (June 6-8, 2003). Please see the announcement elsewhere in this issue of **The Traveler**.

Acacia's insurance premiums have gone up dramatically (much of the increase attributed to the events of 9/11/01). In addition, we just had to repair the dishwasher, and the 3-1/2 year old commercial hot water heater has sprung a leak and must be replaced. We have opted to go with a new hot water system (instead of a pair of hot water heaters), and this is scheduled for installation on 3/17/03 (at a cost of almost \$3,000). So, as always, we need your financial support.

I am puzzled by the lack of contributors (for 2002-2003, there have been only 39, but thanks to two extremely generous Alumni [Bill Burnett '53 and Al Woodford '45], we have raised almost \$5,200!). Note that this lack of responsiveness (about 10%) isn't new, and, quite frankly, is getting quite old. So, I'm going to "challenge" the rest of the Alumni to either contribute financially or look for a new Corporation Board President after next year. That's right, I'm stating right now that if we don't have at least 100 dues paying contributors both this academic year and next, I'll be convinced that the majority of Acacians simply don't care about our wonderful fraternity. And, if that is the case, I will abandon ship and let someone else head the Corporation beginning in the 2004-2005 Academic Year, because obviously I will have failed in my leadership role.

I look forward to hearing from you and certainly hope that I don't have to hand over the reins to someone else. The choice is yours.

Fraternally,

Steven L. Stein '73 (0787)

[339 E. Miller Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850; 607-277-3125; [sls8@cornell.edu](mailto:sls8@cornell.edu)]

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## Annual Corporation Board Meeting Saturday, May 3, 2003

The Annual Meeting of the Cornell Chapter of Acacia Fraternity, Inc. will be held on **Saturday, May 3, 2003 at 11:00 am**, at Acacia Fraternity, 318 Highland Road, Ithaca, NY 14850 (607-257-7055)

Refreshments and lunch will be provided.

## **I am an Acacian. I am Proud of It: A Pledge's Journey**

- by Peter Rimshnick '05, # 1060

Each Sunday our spring 2003 pledge class made the short walk from North Campus, through the ecology house yard, through the church parking lot, and finally across Highland Road to the front door of their beloved new home away from home, Northcote. Most came early to grab brunch and study a bit before their weekly quiz, while others scurried in just a few minutes before the quiz started and begin to cram like the Cornellians they are.

The point is, however, not that some came later than others, or that some did better on the quizzes than others, but that everyone was there, on time, every Sunday. They weren't just 8 guys wanting to join a fraternity – no, they were much more than that. They were a pledge class.

Although we couldn't quite match last year's number of 10 pledges, the quality of this year's pledge class is hard to surpass. Each has already demonstrated qualities which are the calling card of strong Acacians – leadership, enthusiasm, patience, and intelligence.

To foster these qualities, the actives came up with a slew of activities based on three main principles which we decided were essential for a strong pledge class: unity, commitment, and respect. Despite the infamous Ithaca weather, the pledges took part in a scavenger hunt throughout the entire

and intramurals, the pledges also did a major house improvement project (the renovation of the weight room). Thus, all pledges had a chance to better know each other and showed their willingness to learn allowing us to make them into better men.

By the time you will be reading this, these men will hopefully no longer be pledges, but they will always remain a pledge class – the ties that they strengthened during this brief two months shall ever bind their hearts in love, and bind their spirit to their beloved Acacia.. And even if they forget the names of all 20 founding fathers of Cornell Acacia, or who the first fraternity was at Cornell, I hope they'll never forget those walks through the eco-house backyard they made each Sunday, through the church parking lot, across Highland, toward Northcote. For that walk was just the first step of the larger journey they will be making these next few years, and the rest of their lives, as brothers..... As men..... As ACACIANS.

## **Alumni Elected as Cornell's New President**

- By Josh Roth '03, # 1049

On Saturday, December, 14, I attended a welcome luncheon at the Statler Hotel for Cornell's new president, Jeffrey Lehman '77. President Rawlings, the tenth president of Cornell University, announced his intent to step down from the presidency on March, 15 2002. President Rawlings will remain at Cornell s a professor in the Classics

Department. Mr. Lehman, the first Cornellian to serve as president of Cornell University, will assume his new duties in July, 2003.

After graduating from Cornell in 1977, Mr. Lehman moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan to earn a law degree and a graduate degree in public policy from the University of Michigan. Mr. Lehman currently serves as the Dean of the University of Michigan Law School, a position he will be leaving sometime this summer.

In his remarks to those gathered at the welcome luncheon, Mr. Lehman offered a glimpse of his goals as president. Mr. Lehman stressed the importance of supporting cutting edge scientific exploration, particularly within the fields of nano-technology and genomics. Mr. Lehman also supported continuing efforts to bridge the gaps between departments and colleges at Cornell, allowing students and scholars from across the university to learn and collaborate with each other.

In addition, Mr. Lehman addressed the importance of remaining accessible to students, faculty, and staff (he demonstrated his commitment to this final point by inviting students, faculty, and staff to meet with him prior to the luncheon). Mr. Lehman spoke about Cornell with true pride and with a sense of awe and respect that could only have come from spending four years on the hill.

Shortly after the news of his appointment was announced, the Cornell Daily Sun published a special issue on the President-Elect. Among other things, we learned that

According to The Sun, Jacob Lehman is not sure what to expect when his father becomes president, but thinks that it will not be “terribly awkward.” “I think there will be aspects that will be nice,” Jacob said. “A lot of people know me for myself. There’s not an issue of people stereotyping me based on him.”

I wish Mr. Lehman the best of luck and look forward to returning as an alumnus to an even greater Cornell.

## Check Mates

- by Elie Joseph (EJ) Track '06, Pledge Spring 2003 & Zachary Samuels '05, #1069

When one walks into the Commons, it is not unusual to find a chess match is at the center of the action. People have chess strategy books sprawled out on their desks. Brothers discuss their favorite openings over dinner. The recent highly publicized match between Gary Kasparov and supercomputer Deep Junior has definitely stirred interest.

No one remembers exactly how the chess-mania started.

After only a month into the semester, a surprising number of skillful players emerged, and now it is not uncommon to see guys playing chess in the evenings. Interestingly, we quickly found two chess sets at the house that we were patiently waiting for their call to duty for many years. Perhaps the interest of the house has been sparked by two of our pledges, E.J. Track and Whoosun Song who particularly enjoy the game. As a pledge task, Brother Peter Rimschnick challenged pledge Track to run an Acacian chess tournament who has enthusiastically taken on this challenge.

We have eight very skilled participants, and being one of the contestants myself, I look forward to playing against the

The Qualifying Competition will take place over 3 weeks, 4 games each week, most likely on Sundays. Each player will have between 15 and 30 minutes to complete each game. The players with the four highest records move on. If a player happens to win all three of his first matches, he will be allowed to choose who he will face in the Quarterfinal round. The chosen opponent must be a player who has made it to the Quarterfinal round. The prize this year will be a black and gold certificate mentioning the winner’s victories and ties, signed by the Venerable Dean and Recruitment Chair, not to mention the associated bragging rights.

Those who are interested the Pledge Chess Cup Tournament can see how it progresses at the Cornell website: <http://www.people.cornell.edu/pages/ejt24/> . We will do our best to update it as often possible with rules, schedules, scores and any changes. If I have the honor of becoming a brother in this prestigious fraternity, I plan on giving my pledge task to a pledge next year. I plan on continuing to do so until my time at Acacia as an active ends. At that point, the tradition

*Pete Rimschnick dodging yet another attack from  
Brian Kwoba .*



Brothers had a choice of entrées which of Cornell Acacia – a small contribution to the rich history of Acacia which will further this fine fraternity's record. With eight brothers and pledges signed up, preliminary qualify rounds are set to begin the second week of March. With several brothers claiming to be the best, soon we will know for sure.

*Below: Pledges performing at the formal.*

*Bottom: Enjoying the fine dining.*

## Fraternity Life

(continued from page 1)

included Pesto Rubbed Beef Tenderloin with Sauce Borderlaise, Thai Barbecued Salmon Filet, Parmesan Encrusted Chicken Breast with Shoestring Vegetables and a vegetarian dish. More recently, we also had a party run by the new pledge class.

The outstanding group of pledges brought new ideas to the party – not

to mention more guests than we ever had – making it a night all shall remember. The pledges decorated the bar room with “black” lights and lighted up considerably the pool table giving the place quite a makeover.

Rounding out the calendar is an upcoming mixer with a sorority, and our huge party of the year, Acacia's own Night on the Nile. Set in the hot sands of the desert, Night on the Nile will combine some of the Egyptian themes of our fraternity with the student body to make it the biggest party on campus. With party favors and decorations on the list of things to buy, the social committee has been tight-pressed to fit all of the items into our budget. This is our first shot at Nile in three years, and we hope it is a big success.

That's all until the Spring Formal which will be a boat cruise around Lake Cayuga. We all thoroughly enjoyed the last formal and look forward to May's warmer weather and lovely lakeside views.



## Technologist's Update

- by Jay Ayres '03, #1052

Hello everyone! I hope you've had the chance to view our website, <http://www.cornellacacia.org> within the past few months. We are trying to frequently update our site. Some of the updates include the biographies and pictures of our pledges, pictures from our formals, and updated member biographies and photos. One of our pledges, Roman Markh, redesigned the site layout for his pledge officer project.

One area of the website I'd like to improve upon is the alumni email database. I know there are many of you alums who would like your email listed in this directory. If you would like me to add you to this directory, please email me at [kja9@cornell.edu](mailto:kja9@cornell.edu), and I will add you. Hopefully this feature will help you keep in touch with long-lost members of your pledge class! Also, this would allow the actives and pledges to see what alums live close to where they are from.

In other house technology news, we have recently installed a DSL connection at Northcote. Previously, we had a cable modem, but the speeds were starting to become really slow as the number of people living in our house increased. With 25+ people constantly accessing the network, this started to become an important issue. Combined with our housewide wireless network, this DSL connection will help Northcote provide great Internet access to all of its residents!

Please feel free to email me if you have any other suggestions for the website.

## On the State of the Chapter

- by David Rimshnick '05, # 1062

To all who read this, rest assured — Cornell Acacia is as strong as ever. The faces of our executive board have changed, the face of our character has not. We continue to strive despite the unfortunate

to continue our strong momentum as a chapter and uphold our ever strengthened pride as a fraternity. Our hospitality is as fantastic as ever, with Connie continuing to provide us with delicious and wholesome meals. Our social scene continues to improve, with Acacia now holding a reputation as having some of the best social events on campus. From all exterior perspectives, we continue to strive as an excellent fraternity.

But the most heartening part of Acacia's success recently and always is the strong bond of its brotherhood. From Tyson matches to "flaming boxheads", from Valentine's Day Formals to sneaking in 16 guys to the hockey game, the most important part of the brotherhood of Cornell Acacia is the brotherhood of Cornell Acacia. It keeps us sane, it keeps us happy, it keeps us enthusiastic, and, through the long hard winter, it keeps us going. The tie of friendship continues to be strengthened, and the light, as bright as ever, continues to be given. The truth, as we have sought it, is that the heart of Cornell Acacia beats ever on.

## Looking for the Pledge Class of '79

- by Ilya Cherepakhin '03, # 1058

Designed and Constructed by the Pledge Class of 1979. These words caught my attention when I was looking through the abundant memorabilia of our Chapter Room. They appear on a round plaque that lists the names of the pledges

to R. Gary Hay and James M. Skiff. Despite our attempts to guess what it is referring to, no one seems to know for sure. Even Brad Schmidt (#1025, currently a Ph.D. candidate in Nanobiotechnology) who knows every imaginable trivia about Northcote was puzzled about the plaque's origin. Please let us know in writing or by e-mail if you know what these pledges built. It's been a while since a pledge class did something of such large scale, and we would like to put the plaque

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*The new crest in the dining room.*

## Restoring the Glow and Glory

- by Igor Dolgalev '05, #1068

As the students of Cornell University, the brothers of Cornell Acacia are never left with much extra time. In our busy lives, it is possible that between classes, sleep, and studying, the only time on any given day that we all come together is for dinner. Such a situation makes the dining room as perhaps the most important part of Northcote. During its many years of use, the area experienced more than its fair share of wear and tear. Recognizing the importance of a beautiful and comfortable place to eat, last year's pledge class agreed to make improving the dining room

project.

Over the summer, the corporation board repaired the plaster on the walls. Then, the newly initiated brothers came back early and began covering the room with a fresh coats of paint with assistance of some of the more senior members. These were hard times for all house residents. Walking through the dining room meant facing the fumes while dodging the paint cans and brushes. The painting efforts continued for several weeks into the fall semester.

Of course, everyone was delighted with the improvements when the job was completed. It was certainly a monumental accomplishment. Everything was wonderful as far as the dining room was concerned, but there was an uneasy feeling. It was as if something was missing. Then, the horror of realization struck the Northcote inhabitants. The large Acacia crest that looked down from the wall was missing.

Then, the horror of realization struck the Northcote inhabitants. The large Acacia crest that looked down from the wall was missing. It disappeared for eternity under several coats of paint.

When all hope seemed lost, one man stepped up to the rescue. Brother Dolgalev (1068) volunteered to paint

Thanksgiving, and, in the following months, Igor Dolgalev slaved away on numerous occasions, for hours at a time to complete the masterpiece. It was to become the best Acacia crest this dining room has ever seen.

Unfortunately, the original deadline could not be met. During rush week, the crest was still incomplete, but this did not mean that it would remain that way. The labor on the crest continued. As the brothers were getting ready for spring break, the work was finally finished. The finished product was received with much applaud. "I am impressed," commented Josh Roth (1049).

The artist declined to comment on the result, leaving the evaluation up to the rest of the actives. He was very appreciative of the opportunity presented to him and is looking forward to future projects. "Go Acacia!" he added.

## Rush Week of Spring 2003

- By Zach Weinstein '05, # 1067

This year's Rush week was quite eventful. It marked my first experience with formal Rush from a brother's perspective and as Recruitment Chairman. We had a lot of exciting events planned for the week that went really well. The week started off with dinner at the Chinese Buffet on Monday night. Despite the modest turnout for this event, a good time was had by all. As formal rush kicked off the next day, we had over 40 people come over to the house for our annual car bash.

As usual, the event was a big hit, with rushees demolishing a beat up Honda Accord we acquired from the Auto salvage yard. Sledgehammers, pickaxes, and baseball bats were among the preferred weapons of choice for the event. We ended the day in hilarious fashion playing broom ball at Cass Park. Rushees and brothers were flying everywhere and landing hard on the ice while scrambling for the ball. In the end, it was the under classmen who were victorious over their older counterparts.

The next night was a little more low-key, as we had a poker night at the house. This was a time for the brothers get to know the rushees better. The poker night was a good prelude to the next full day of events. Besides going "Go-Karting", in the evening some of the actives and rushees took a trip to the Turningstone casino in Syracuse. Needless to say, the rushees enjoyed gambling.

We ended the week with a skiing trip to Greek Peak. Despite being one of the coldest days on the slopes ever, it was a lot of fun. Contacts throughout the week went well as we strived to give all of the rushees "something to think about." In the end, I am happy to say that we ended up with 8 quality pledges during a year when rush was very meager at Cornell.

**We Are All Good Pledges**

And here are the bios of this semester's pledge class, a great, diverse bunch

**Noe Bautista,**  
Fresh Meadows, NY,  
Arts & Sciences '06

I am Noe Bautista and I am a freshman in the College of Arts and Sciences here at Cornell. I come to the "gorges" city of Ithaca from Queens, NY, and although I miss my home I have found a very welcoming home in Acacia. I am very excited about what the next three years will hold for me both as a Cornellian and Acacian.



**Whoosun Song**  
Dallas, TX,  
Arts & Sciences  
'06

I'm a freshman looking at accounting, philosophy, economics, or all three. My studies are motivated by a desire to understand the meaning of life. I want to learn what success or happiness is. Is a good life a zealous difficult search for logic and rationality, or is it having a beautiful wife and good kids? Is it money, women, religion, or a combination of all three? What is the essence of human happiness? Furthermore, how do I find out the answers when everyone has a different reply? I'm pledging because the goals and desires of Acacia and its members appear to parallel or maybe even match my own. They seem like nice guys and a lot of them understand how I feel. Outside my studies, I like watching



**Jeff Ballyns,**  
Oswego, NY,  
Engineering '06

I am a sophomore pursuing a degree in mechanical engineering. Originally I am from Kingstone, Ontario in Canada. I now live in Oswego, New York. I play soccer for the Cornell club team Mundial. I look forward to being a part of the Acacia brotherhood. Also, on a more serious note, I like long walks on the beach and my number is 555.... ladies feel free to call me.



**Hanny Carp-Martinovici**  
Astoria, NY  
Engineering '06

You can just call me Hanny. Do not fret over how to pronounce my last name. I blame it on my parents' indecision to pick just one. I live in the greatest city in the United States: New York City. Currently enrolled in the school of Engineering, I am studying for an Electrical and Computer Engineering degree with a likely minor in Mechanical Engineering. I row on Cornell's Lightweight Crew team, and I play a variety of sports. I also play guitar and am learning to play the piano, in between homework.



I currently reside in Columbia, Maryland which is a suburb of both Baltimore and Washington D.C. but have lived in many other places including Texas, Mississippi, and even Tennessee. I am a freshman majoring in Chemistry in the college of Arts and Sciences and my ultimate goal is to become a surgeon. In my spare time, I enjoy working out, playing video and computer games, and playing sports, especially basketball.



**Roman Markh**  
Brooklyn, NY,  
Agriculture &  
Life Sciences '06

My name is Roman Markh, and I was born in Gomel, Belarus (moving to America when I was 6). A pre-med major in the Ag school, I am part of the elite few who dare venture out into the cold environment of Ithaca from the temperate environment of Brooklyn to explore educational options. Coming from a culturally and socially rich environment like Brooklyn, I feel lucky in finding such a diverse group of guys to share the best and worst time of college. Apart from academic activities, I am a big fan of lacrosse, soccer, football, and rugby; participating in them as often as possible. I currently own a Brazilian-Pink tarantula named Vipe and hope that one day he can become Acacia's mascot; after all, rarity counts. I am excited to be a part of Acacia and can only hope for many more great memories."



**Brad Ayres**  
Rockville, MD  
Engineering '06

My name is Brad Ayres and I'm currently a freshman Operations Research major in the College of Engineering. Like my older brother Jay, I come from Rockville, MD, which is close to DC. When I'm not busy cranking out problem sets or studying, I enjoy listening to various types of music, going skiing, watching movies, and following sports, especially football and basketball. Unfortunately, I'm not supposed to play sports anymore since I injured my back during high school, but I'm still a huge fan of the Washington Redskins and the Maryland Terrapins (especially Terps basketball). Although I'm not currently very involved in campus activities, I hope to become active in a community service organization and might join a musical group.



Trumbull, CT  
Engineering, '06

My name is Elie Joseph Track, you can call me E.J., and I'm from Connecticut. I am a freshman in the college of Engineering and I will major in Electrical and Computer

experience has been one of exciting events and adjustment. I am looking forward to enhancing my time here with the addition of membership in Acacia. I am both excited and honored to be pledging to such a prestigious fraternity. I look forward to the new friends and memories that will be created and experienced with this brotherhood.

## Score !

- by Charles Kalter '05, # 1066

The spring athletic semester so far has been a time for firsts: first appearances, first victories. Two seasons were just completed, each having its up and downs. Acacia made an appearance in the Fraternity Intramural Basketball League for the first time in several years, and did fairly well for a young squad. The team played several competitive games and came within one victory of a playoff appearance: they will be a force to be reckoned with next semester.

Acacia also created a Bowling team that stormed out of the gate to win eleven of its first twelve games! To say the least, no one at the house could have imagined such an outcome. In the end, we faced stiff competition down the stretch and fell just short of a division title. The victories from this first half of the spring semester are sure to jump-start the other Acacia teams that are to start playing after spring break.

Softball, indoor soccer, floor hockey, table tennis, and horseshoes are the

momentum of bowling and basketball to bring home some championship trophies for Acacia!

## Human Service

- by Mike Nasatka '03, #1045

I became Service Chairman for the 2nd semester of my senior year on the notion that I would make strides in fulfilling Acacia's motto of Human Service. In the recent past, we have done a few large service projects, like Books for Africa and Seven Days of Service. Yet, we never put forth a semester long effort in doing any weekly service. It was my goal to change that upon taking office and to set a lasting precedent for continual service in our chapter. As an officer, I felt a high obligation to make improvements in the office to which I have had the privilege of being elected.

When I thought about what the chapter could do for weekly service, volunteering at a retirement home immediately came to mind. After having walked past the new Bridges Cornell Heights home on Wyckoff Ave. – 5 minute walk from Northcote – for the past year, I figured we ought to see what service opportunities might exist there. In that regard, I scheduled a meeting with the activities director and went to the Bridges house for a visit.

The retirement home was quite elegant inside and out with the tenants and staff were all very friendly. Bridges is the retirement home of 7 fairly well-to-do people

I took my experience back to the chapter, told the brothers of the opportunities, and got about nine brothers and pledges interested in volunteering. Since mid-February, all of us have been to an orientation event at Bridges, and we each volunteer there once a week for a couple of hours. Generally, we play games with the seniors, read to them, engage in various crafts and help setting up the dinners. In the coming months, we hope to be

able to take the folks swimming at the YMCA and take them out to meals at local restaurants.

At Bridge, we get to see the direct impact of our human service, and we truly realize the difference we are making in the lives of those we serve. The ongoing project has brought us closer to realizing our human service obligation, and I hope our service to Bridges can help us to continue this pursuit well into the future.

### Chapter Eternal

Edwin Millard '50 (0432) *January 8, 2003*

Robert Strong '50 (0467) *October 24, 2002*

Lee Edwards '54 (0540) *June 23, 2002*

### Acacia Fraternity Foundation Donations

Tax-deductible contributions to the Cornell Chapter Account of the Acacia Fraternity Foundation can be made at any time and should be mailed to the Acacia Fraternity Foundation at 8777 Purdue Road, Suite 130, Indianapolis, IN 46268. Checks should be made payable to "Acacia Fraternity Foundation".

Use of the chapter's Foundation account is limited to scholarships and qualified educational expenses.

### Donations to Acacia's Cornell Endowment

Donations to the Cornell University Endowment can be directed to the Cornell Acacia Fraternity portion of the endowment through specifying the "Arthur Lee Thompson III Memorial Scholarship Endowment" when donating.

Our current Cornell University endowment share value is approximately \$450,000. Our money grows based on the performance of the endowment portfolio. The amount that brothers receive is roughly equivalent to the gain on investment for the year divided by the number of brothers on financial aid. The financial aid office administers the funds to brothers on financial aid based on the fraternity president's advisement, provided the dispersal is in sound judgement. This past year all Active brothers on financial aid received \$2700 grants.

## The Mailbag - Alumni News

Owen L. French '38 (0344) [PO Box 333, 79 Park Ave., Contoocook, NH 03229-0333; [ofrench@conknet.com](mailto:ofrench@conknet.com)] retired after 41 years as Treasurer of Town of Hopkinton and from Merrimack County Telephone Co. after 24 years as employee, treasurer, and director.

Robert T. Snowdon '39 (0364) [3435 Fox Run Rd., Apt. 166, Sarasota, FL 34231-7382] has moved to a lovely retirement home.

Albert S. Woodford '45 (0436) [2024 Barlow St., Philadelphia, PA 19116-3908] congratulates the Brothers of Acacia on their achievements. Al retired after 54 years, 1 month, and 1 week of doing what he liked " building bridges, navigation locks and dams, one complete harbor, and many piers. He has 2 sons and 5 grandchildren. He was widowed after 46 years of marriage to his best buddy, friend, and wife.

Robert D. Flickinger '47 (0434) [161 Hidden Ridge Common, Williamsville, NY 14221-5765; [rdf7324@aol.com](mailto:rdf7324@aol.com)] celebrated 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary last July with family and friends at daughter Jo Ann Patross' home in Legionaire, PA. He and his wife are in good health and playing golf 3 times/week. Winter in Venice, FL and summer in Williamsville, NY is a great schedule. Robert writes "Sincere congratulations to the chapter upon receiving the 'OUTSTANDING CHAPTER' award. It makes me proud to say this was my house at Cornell."

William Burnett '53 (0490) [661 Brigantine Blvd., North FT Myers, FL 33917] recently (1/14/03) underwent hip replacement surgery, and feels better every day. Bill is actively recruiting classmates to return to Cornell and Acacia for their 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion in June. Please read Bill's open letter ("Why give to Acacia") in this issue of the Traveler.

Ernest F. Schaufler '48 (0500) [101 Turkey Hill Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850-2938; [efs4@cornell.edu](mailto:efs4@cornell.edu)] received one of two awards given last year to Outstanding Alumni Faculty/Staff Personnel by the Alumni Association of the College of Agriculture and Life Science. Ernie's son, Don, is still manager of Arnot Forest, daughter, Kathy, works for Cornell Information Technology as a graphic designer, and son, Doug, is with Penn State.

John S. Mallery Jr. '52 (0545) [P.O. Box 366, Long Lake, NY 12847-0366; [twtamc@telenet.net](mailto:twtamc@telenet.net)] has given the business (True Wheel Tours) over to a younger couple. They had breakfast in Schroon Lake last summer with Bill Stevens '55 (0553) and wife, Carol.

James L. Freeman '44 (0548) [188 Glengarnock Rd., Tryon, NC 28782-3523] laments that seeing some of his old pals departing this mortal coil and his own near retirement hit his hot button. Congratulations to Acacia for rising to #1! For Jim, any fraternity was confusing. He was a small town (Watkins Glen HS) graduate at 15, but a pretty good musician (trombone), and Acacia was a friendly place. Being "hip", he became Venerable Dean (although he voted for his roommate). After graduating, he served as officer in US Army and then earned MBA from Columbia. In 1973, he completed the program for management development at Harvard Graduate School of Business. He has had various jobs with major printing and publishing firms. Life has been good to Jim. Kids and grandchildren on the North Shore of Boston (Rockport). Lots of volunteer interests. God willing, he'll be at his 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion.

Dr. Roger D. Soloway '57 (0589) [2926 Dominique Dr., Galveston, TX 77551-1571] is on the faculty of Univ. of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston as Prof. Of Medicine and is a Gastroenterologist treating liver disease. Wife, Marilyn, is a commercial real estate attorney. Roger continues to teach and undertake research with colleges in Beijing, China. Son, Andrew, is finishing Psychiatric Residency at Penn, and married Erica (child psychologist). Son, David, is a lawyer and married Lyn (metal alloy researcher). Youngest son, Russell, is also a lawyer in Del Rio, TX where he is assistant US Attorney for West Texas.

Robert S. Fash '58 (0594) [1675 Ryder Cup Dr., Westlake Village, CA 91362-4325; [bobfash@earthlink.net](mailto:bobfash@earthlink.net)] has spoken several times to John Male '58 (0600) and Roger Soloway '57 (0589). Would love to hear from other classmates.

Dr. Allan F. Burns '58 (0616) [2140 Bayview Point Ln., Cape Charles, VA 23310-1994; [AllanBurns@usa.net](mailto:AllanBurns@usa.net)] is living on the eastern

## The Mailbag (continued)

shore of VA working out of their home on the beach. Travel plans for 2003 include Dominican Republic, Spain, Portugal, Russia, and Far East.

Warren E. Walker '63 (0681) [Gerrit Kasteinweg 2, 2597 NZ DEN HAAG, Netherlands; [warren@rand.org](mailto:warren@rand.org)] is Senior Policy Analyst at RAND Europe and Prof. of Policy Analysis at the Delft University of Technology. Daughter, Hannah, graduated last May from Wheaton College in Newton, MA. Warren hopes to attend 40<sup>th</sup> reunion this June and meet current Acacians and reconnect with Acacians of his era.

Richard K. Mc Murtry '67 (0701) [10880 Alba Rd., Ben Lomond, CA 95005-9255; [RichardMcMurtry@compuserve.com](mailto:RichardMcMurtry@compuserve.com)] has, during the past 6 years, gotten divorced and then married. He is madly in love with his new "partner" and often feels like a teenager. He's also on fairly good speaking terms with ex-wife with whom he spent 20 years and still shares love and caring for their two children (Jacob, 25, and Claire, 21). Although retirement is currently not in his future (due to divorce and other financial losses), he's thinking about a kind of semi-retirement that would free up time for something new, like working on political reforms.

Howard S. Zwiefel III '69 (0734) [328 Scottsdale Rd., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523; [hzwiefel@yahoo.com](mailto:hzwiefel@yahoo.com)] and wife, Mary Kay, have been living in CA for 3 years. Has seen Dave Odegaard '70 (0743) for theater in San Francisco. Currently unemployed, job market may require the Zweifels to relocate.

Fred Tierney '71 (0763) [48740 Amarilla Ct., Fremont, CA 94539-7701; [fredtierney@attbi.com](mailto:fredtierney@attbi.com)] recently celebrated 15<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with wife Kay. Last year, they celebrated both their anniversary and the first anniversary of Kay's final chemotherapy by traveling to Ireland for 2 weeks. In June, they made their annual trip to Ashland for the Shakespeare Festival. On 7/4/02, they began a 28-day tour of East Africa.

Robert C. Merritt '75 (0807) [PO Box 279, Auburn, NY 13021; [bob@simplexco.com](mailto:bob@simplexco.com)] says to check out his website [www.simplexco.com](http://www.simplexco.com).

Alan T. Pasquino '84 (0916) and Mary Myers Pasquino '85 (L024) [496 Montauk Ave., New London, CT 06320-4615] have heard from Paul Harrington '81 (0882). The Harringtons recently adopted a son, Mike. The Pasquinos are expecting their first child in April.

Mark A. Schaten MD '84 (0923) [W4078 Parkview Ct., Fond Du Lac, WI 54935-7818; [mschatenmd@charter.net](mailto:mschatenmd@charter.net)] and his wife, Vicky, met David Sangree '84 (0917), wife, Laura, and their children Paul and Grace at the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago last October. The Schatens were traveling to Kauai, Hawaii for medical conference in February. Mark is glad to see Acacia is doing well, and says to say "hi" to the Bay Window room for him.

Andrew Brenner '90 (0953) [861 University Ave. #3, Palo Alto, CA 94301; [andy@scoopman.com](mailto:andy@scoopman.com)] just started doing business development at ACCESS Systems America. ACCESS is a public company in Japan, and is a global provider of integrated, next-generation data platforms and Internet access technologies for the mobile communications market. Andy's role will be to strengthen and develop relationships with North American partners in these markets.

David G. Rickerby '91 (0960) [144 Elmdale Rd., North Scituate, RI 02657-1309; [David@Rickerby.com](mailto:David@Rickerby.com)] is glad to see Acacia is doing well, and thinks that Acacia was successful in its own way in the early 90's, despite opinions to the contrary.

Adam Goldstein '93 (0974) [856 W. Nelson St., Apt. 907, Chicago, IL 60657; [dradam@rgoldstein.com](mailto:dradam@rgoldstein.com)] and wife, Anna, had their 3<sup>rd</sup> child, Jacob on 8/28/02. Adam will be starting a one-year fellowship in Minimally Invasive and Robotic Surgery at U. of IL in July. Recently paid a visit to Mike Budreski '94 (0978) while interviewing in Boston.

Arif Haq '94 (0983) [1503 Carnaby Ct., Dunwoody, GA 30338; [ahaq@sgrlaw.com](mailto:ahaq@sgrlaw.com)] was encouraged to see the progress that has been made by the Actives and the Corp. Board in recent years. Arif writes "The 'Outstanding Chapter' award is quite an accomplishment. Congratulations!"

## The Mailbag (continued)

Brian Sivillo '96 (0993) [5067 Williamstown Blvd, Lakeland, FL 33810-3708; [bsivillo@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:bsivillo@tampabay.rr.com)] married Lauren Olivia Harrison in his hometown of Erie, PA on 9/1/02. Attending the wedding were Christopher Race '96 (0990), Mike Wilhelm '94 (0982), Jason Wang '96 (0997), Tom Harp '97 (1007), and Paul Molnar '98 (1014). Spent Thanksgiving holiday with the Mike and Kristen Wilhelm family (Andrew and Mike's godson, Alex; 3<sup>rd</sup> child expected this summer). Brian spent weekend in October in Orlando, FL with fellow members of the Elite Investments Club (Andy Regenbaum '93 (0973), John Carpenter '91 (0959), Mike Wilhelm, Jason Wang, Paul Molnar, Kevin Slesinsky '95 (0987), Mike Cvijanovich '94 (0981), Todd Peskin '95 (0994)). Anyone visiting in the Orlando or Tampa areas please look up or call the Sivillos (863-816-8949). Brian congratulates the Active Chapter for all of their accomplishments.

Todd Peskin '95 (0994) [12657 Granite Ridge Dr., North Potomac, MD 20878; [tep1@cornell.edu](mailto:tep1@cornell.edu)] and wife, Robin, were in Ithaca for her reunion and his JGSM reunion. Were glad to see Dan Davidson '97 (1012) and Matt Hartman '97 (1008) and wife, Amy, as well as some Actives. Todd says the House looks great!

Marco A. Cabassi '97 (1003) [200 Highland Ave., Apt. 306, State College, PA 16801; [stenmark@concentric.net](mailto:stenmark@concentric.net)] is still doing hard time at the State Penn. Stop by and visit!

Thomas Harp '97 (1007) [2800 Barton's Bluff Lane, Apt. 1711, Austin, TX 78746; [Tom.Harp@motorola.com](mailto:Tom.Harp@motorola.com)] hopes all is going well in Ithaca. He was hospitalized last April (2002) for congestive heart failure. His recovery is going very well, and his heart function is almost back to normal, and is healthier than he has been in years. He is grateful for all of the calls and e-mails received from concerned Acacians. Tom is also happy to report he is engaged to be married sometime this year.

Paul G. Molnar '98 (1014) [5 Raybor Rd., Commack, NY 11725; [pqm1014@aol.com](mailto:pqm1014@aol.com)] is still working for Nortel Networks despite numerous

rounds of layoffs. Also still bowling, averaging 227 in one league. Paul writes that it is great to read wonderful news about Acacia, and offers congratulations to all the actives who made it the most outstanding chapter at Cornell, and especially to alumni Steve Stein '73 (0787) and Jim Showacre '50 (0447) who have been through everything at Acacia.

### Why Give to Acacia?

Dear Cornell Acacia Alumni,

I'm emotionally attached to Acacia Fraternity at Cornell. This is easy for me to understand. The fraternity housed me, fed me, provided study partners, most of my friends, and social activities over five undergraduate years. After 50 years, I'm still in contact with several Acacians and, while we don't often use the word "Brother", the sentiments are there.

When I get an issue of the **Traveler**, I look first at "The Mailbag – Alumni News" and then read the general content. The chapter is to be congratulated on being Cornell's most improved fraternity in 2001. We all are proud of this honor. Personally, I'm not pleased by the lack of paid dues, or larger contributions from Alumni to keep the physical plant in good condition. It is simply the responsibility of us all to keep Cornell Acacia in good condition and we are very selfish if we expect men who live close by (Jim Showacre and Steve Stein) to spend all their free time working on the house. I knew Jimmy Showacre, his brother, and his Dad, too. I knew a lot of fine men who were associated with Acacia during the '45-'55 decade and, as long as my financial situation is adequate, I will try to make consistent and meaningful contributions rather than expect "local alumni" to do my work for me. I've been given a great deal, and I'm going to return a portion where it belongs.

In one of my recent Florida Manufactured Home Owners newsletters, the Section IV director states that American satirist Ambrose Bierce once wrote "achievement is the death of endeavor and the birth of disgust". He points out a sad truth about human nature: once we get where we want to be, we lose interest in, and perhaps come to scorn, the thing that .

got us there. We get apathetic. We become complacent. We don't care.

I think A. Bierce has read human nature very well, but like Ebenezer Scrooge, we are able to change. We can overcome our own inertia. I don't believe the people I knew at Cornell have chosen, almost to a man, not to support their Acacia chapter. If possible, pay the annual dues and, to the majority of alumni, I remind you of all you received from Cornell Acacia – it should prompt you to send a generous “free gift” now and again.

Fraternally,

Bill Burnett '53 (0490)

### **Pearl Murray Memorial Dining Room Dedication, Reunion Weekend, June 7, 2003**

The Pearl Murray Memorial Dining Room Dedication will be held on **Saturday, June 7, 2003 at 6:00 pm** during this year's Cornell Reunion Weekend, at Acacia



*The legendary Pearl Murray.*

### **Honor Roll (2002 - 2003)**

DAVID M BANFIELD '95 (0985) PL'92  
 STEWART L BURGER \* '70 (0738) PL'67  
 WILLIAM C BURNETT \* '53 (0490) PL'49  
 MARCO A CABASSI '97 (1003) PL'94  
 MARTIN S CARDINALI '84 (0918) PL'81  
 ROBERT S FASH \* '58 (0594) PL'54  
 DAVID R FISCHELL \* '75 (0800) PL'72  
 ROBERT D FLICKINGER \* '47 (0434) PL'42  
 JAMES L FREEMAN '55 (0548) PL'52  
 JOHN C GAMMEL '77 (0826) PL'74  
 ADAM GOLDSTEIN '93 (0974) PL'90  
 ARIF HAQ '94 (0983) PL'92  
 CARL H HERZOG \* '66 (0711) PL'65  
 ALAN L JETTE '82 (0895) PL'79  
 WILLIAM L KELTZ '61 (0632) PL'58  
 THOMAS E KOCOVSKY JR. \* '69 (0730) PL'66  
 JOHN D KOETHE M.D. \* '77 (0829) PL'74  
 JOHN S MALLERY JR. '52 (0545) PL'51  
 MARK F MALTENFORT '77 (0831) PL'74  
 RICHARD K MC MURTRY '67 (0701) PL'64  
 ROBERT C MERRITT \* '75 (0807) PL'73  
 PAUL G MOLNAR \* '98 (1014) PL'95  
 MARY MYERS PASQUINO \* '85 (L024) PL'84  
 STANLEY R NIMAN \* '73 (0783) PL'70  
 ALAN T PASQUINO \* '84 (0916) PL'81  
 WILLIAM PENDARVIS JR. '47 (0440) PL'46  
 DAVID G RICKERBY '91 (0960) PL'87  
 MARK A SCHATEN MD '84 (0923) PL'82  
 ERNEST F SCHAUFLEER '48 (0500) PL'49  
 JAMES C SHOWACRE '50 (0447) PL'47  
 BRIAN SIVILLO '96 (0993) PL'93  
 ROBERT T SNOWDON \* '39 (0364) PL'37  
 KEITH W STONE '71 (0775) PL'69  
 RONALD F TESARIK \* '59 (0615) PL'56  
 FREDERICK W TIERNEY JR. \* '71 (0763) PL'68  
 DANIEL E TURINSKY '97 (1004) PL'94  
 WILLIAM WICKHAM '51 (0450) PL'47  
 ALBERT S WOODFORD \* '45 (0436) PL'42  
 HOWARD S ZWIEFEL III \* '69 (0734) PL'66

39 Donors, 18 Brother Tree Leaf recognitions

\* after name indicates Brother Tree leaf recognition

The following contributors were inadvertently omitted from the Fall '2002 **Traveler**:

OWEN L FRENCH '38 (0344)  
 TODD PESKIN '95 (0994)  
 DR. ROGER D SOLOWAY '57 (0589)  
 WARREN E WALKER '63 (0681)



*Northcote still gets more than its fair share of snow, pictured here  
the week before this issue was printed (March 8th).*



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