

THE CENTENNIAL SPIRIT



"An alumni newsletter dedicated to continuing the spirit of brotherhood created by the Centennial."

Volume 3, Number 1  Fall 2009

THE CENTENNIAL SPIRIT LIVES ON!

Tom Balcerski (#1063)
Campaign Chairman

When I last wrote to you in this newsletter, the nation was in the midst of the toughest economic times of the past several decades. Seven months later, the American economy appears to be moving along the path to a slight recovery; the stock market, by way of example, has improved to the previous year's levels. But, truly, no one knows what lies ahead.

Cornell University has taken impressive steps to reduce its operating costs. With the help of Bain consultants and an internal evaluation by top administrators, Cornell stands to save \$90 million in operating costs in the coming years. Once again, President Skorton has led with integrity and made tough decisions for the betterment of Cornell. I can say with confidence that President Skorton continues to work extremely hard to keep the community informed and the university's mission alive and well. Thank you, President Skorton!

At Cornell Acacia, a full two years have passed since our chapter celebrated one hundred years at Cornell. To date, the Centennial Capital Campaign has received contributions or pledges from 136 alumni brothers and little sisters. They have generously **pledged a total of \$233,765** and have donated a total of **\$188,795** in cash gifts, of which **\$133,375** has been given to the corporation and **\$55,420** to the Acacia Fraternity Foundation. We have thus seen healthy increases since the last issue of this newsletter, and we are progressing towards the **campaign goal of \$345,000**, of which we wish to raise **\$245,000** for the corporation and **\$100,000** for the AFF.



The remnants of the old steam system (left). A new heating system was installed in the house (right). New baseboard radiators replaced steam units, serving the older parts of the house. Heating was also installed in the third floor dormitory.

The corporation board has been extremely busy these past several months. Since the last issue, we have completed a number of projects. A new membrane roof was installed over the wing and windows were replaced. But the major renovation to the chapter house was replacing our forty-year-old steam furnace with a modern hot water heating system. Throughout the older part of the house, the steam radiators were torn out and replaced with baseboard units. The resulting damage done to ceilings and walls required extensive repairs by carpenters. Although the heating system project took longer to complete than anticipated, through its completion, we have realized now the second major capital improvement in two years. When we consider that two years ago many felt both the heating system and the sprinkler system to be prohibitively

expensive, we may now look at these accomplishments with just pride.

But, we must also remember that the capital campaign is not over! Still remaining in the campaign are upgrading our kitchen facilities, replacing more windows and flooring, and renovating the chapter library. **Estimates for the remaining capital improvement projects total \$85,000.**



Our alumni have responded with generosity, as always. Those brothers who have made pledges have mostly fulfilled them, and many brothers have given second and third times beyond initial gifts. Thank you for this! The Centennial spirit lives on!

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Actives, alumni, and guests celebrate Cornell Homecoming, Saturday, October 17, 2009, at the Greek tailgate in the parking lot outside Bartels Hall. Fifteen alumni brothers attended the various events.

HOMECOMING 2009—PAST AND PRESENT MEET

Winston Feng (#1144)
Dean of Alumni Affairs

Homecoming 2009 brought together many Acacia alumni and actives. As the Dean of Alumni Affairs, I had the pleasure of organizing the festivities to connect with the legacy of our past and allow for brothers across the generations to share the fraternity experience.

It was not long after the fire was lit to start the Friday Brotherhood BBQ when alumni from recent classes began arriving by convoy. The warm mixing and well-wishing among all the Acacians led to a night of celebration. Actives and alums were engaged in a variety of activities, from recalling stories and memorable moments to enjoying each other's company playing console games.

The next morning was the official Homecoming day, and Acacians braved the cold in the morning to enjoy the tailgate. What welcomed them were warm, fresh hot dogs and hamburgers. The ironic part was that while other fraternities had brought near commercial-grade BBQ grills, the small camper that we invested in this year cooked through the frozen meat faster and cleaner.

At the Homecoming tailgate, more Acacia alumni returned and joined in the cooking and fun.

As lunch wrapped up and the marching band signaled the start of the Homecoming game against Fordham, everyone gathered for a group photo to preserve the moment. Although Cornell lost the game 39 - 27, the mood was not dampened as the festivities continued at Northcote.

In the evening, we headed to Rogue's Harbor Inn for the Homecoming Feast. This year, we were seated in private banquet room in the top floor of the inn with our own powder room and dance floor. Although the alumni did not make use of the latter, we all indulged in the fresh appetizers and warm bread. The main entrees presented us a choice of salmon, mushroom ravioli, and prime rib, which proved to be the most popular choice. Pledge Class President John Ertl delivered the toast, thanking the alums for their support and presence.

After enjoying a warm plate of apple strudel, we jumped into our cars and drove through the cold night back to the warm lights of Northcote. The night wrapped up with actives, alums, and guests celebrating through the early hours of Sunday.

After enjoying a full breakfast, alums got on the road to their respective communities in which they reside (and thrive), eager for the next Homecoming, when they will once again return to their fraternity and college years. Acacia looks forward to open the doors of Northcote to all good brothers, each one the other's friend.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN LIAISON REPORT

Teddy Ni (#1138)

Last spring the capital campaign helped bring to Northcote a myriad of improvements, including new carpets, a new piano, and a new sprinkler system. Today, the piano still looks new, despite being played more and more often. Even brothers who claim they are unable to play have been seen at the bench trying out a simple tune or two. Indeed, more than merely benefiting the musicians of the house, our piano has introduced music into the lives of all the brothers.

This is just one example of how Northcote's renovations have enriched the lives of the active brotherhood. An even more important effect they have had, perhaps, is displaying to the world why the brothers are so proud of their house. I have had many people come up and tell me how impressed they were with our commons and our house. The generous donations from those who pledged to the Acacia capital campaign have made this possible.

But more has happened since the spring. Over the summer, campaign funds have been used for the installation of a more efficient heating system. Parts of the house that used to freeze in the Ithaca winter will now be warm and cozy. As a resident of the newly heated dormer, I personally am grateful, but I speak for the entire active brotherhood when I express my heartfelt thanks to all the donors. Without everyone's help and support, such a large pro-

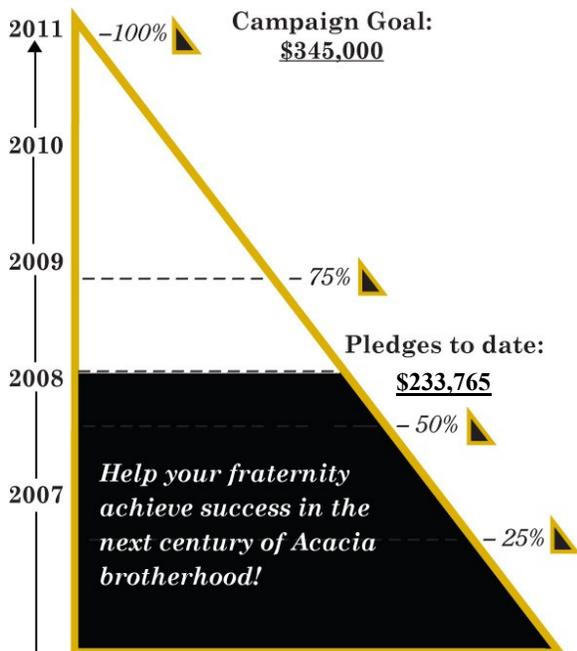


Active brother Michael Spanier '11 speaks with brother alumnus Joshua Roth '03 at the Homecoming banquet at Rogue's Harbor.

ject, no matter how necessary, would never have been completed.

Before learning about the capital campaign, I would never have imagined it possible that so many huge improvements could occur in so short a time. What makes it especially

remarkable is that this was accomplished during hard economic times. Therefore, it should come as no surprise that the active brotherhood is optimistic that Northcote will continue to look as great as it does or, maybe, even better. We are forever indebted to those of you who made this a reality, and we eagerly await any further changes that may come in the future.



Pledges to date: \$235,765, about 68% of our goal. Help us reach our target of \$345,000.



New baseboard heating units were installed along the walls of the living room (and throughout the house). The new bay windows and new Mason & Hamlin piano complement the room. All improvements were made possible by capital campaign contributions from brothers like you!

Your contribution will ensure Acacia's future as a leading fraternity on campus! Thank you!

CENTENNIAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN HONOR ROLL

Chapter Founders' Society

\$50,000 and above

Corporation President's Society

\$25,000 - \$49,999

#800 David Fischell, 1975

#807 Robert Merritt, 1975

Chapter President's Society

\$10,000 - \$24,999

The Actives of Cornell Chapter

#434 Robert Flickinger, 1947

#635 Preston Shimer, 1961

#738 Stewart Burger, 1970

Centennial Benefactor Society

\$5,000 - \$9,999

#492 Bill Burnett, 1953

#783 Stanley Niman, 1973

#788 Eden Slegr, 1973

#836 Bill Utic, 1977

#946 James Carlson, 1988

Centennial Society

\$2,500 - \$4,999

#450 William Wickham, 1951

#565 Tom Burrows, 1956

#600 John Male, 1958

#607 David Richard McDougal, 1958

#649 John Ahlfeld, 1963

#720 Jerry Kreider, 1968

#842 Bruce Schneider, 1978

#1014 Paul Molnar, 1998

#1037 David Klesh, 2002

#1040 Byron Hing, 2002

#1063 Thomas Balcerski, 2005

#1066 Charles Kalter, 2005

#1070 Bradley Ayres, 2006

#1124 Noah Santorello, 2009

Anonymous

Campaign Supporter

\$1,000 - \$2,499

#334 Clarence Bent, 1939

#403 R. Stephen Hawley, 1943

#523 Wallace Rich, 1951

#534 James Symons, 1954

#554 Frank Tetz, 1955

#594 Robert Fash, 1958

#596 Carey Fletcher, 1958

#597 Francis Hugo, 1962

#603 John Walsh, 1958

#614 Charles Field, 1959

#620 Bill Easton, 1960

#625 Ivan Szanto, GR

#630 Richard Heine, 1961

#636 Robert Franson, 1961

#637 Laurence Hoard, 1961

#734 Howard Zwiefel, 1969

#796 John Abeles, 1975

#959 John Carpenter, 1991

#960 David Rickerby, 1991

#965 William Cammuso, 1992

#970 Paul Hayre, 1991

#973 Andrew Regenbaum, 1993

#981 Michael Cvijanovich, 1994

#983 Arif Haq, 1994

#994 Todd Peskin, 1995

#1045 Michael Nasatka, 2003

#1049 Joshua Roth, 2003

#1050 Scott McQuade, 2003

#1053 Andrew Hur, 2004

#1060 Peter Rimshnick, 2005

#1062 David Rimshnick, 2005

#1065 Tarek Banaja, 2005

#1069 Zachary Samuels, 2005

#1081 Mark Elliot, 2007

LS1 Patricia Warner Kehe, 1979

Campaign Contributor

\$25 - \$999

#407 Henry Hood, 1943

#431 Frederick Sheldon, 1948

#437 William Gibson, 1948

#440 William Pendarvis, 1947

#443 Robert Bergren, 1950

#492 Scott DePalma, 1953

#496 Robert Squires, 1952

#497 Joe Wilford, 1952

#500 Ernest Schaufler, 1948

#504 John Curtiss, 1951

#509 L.W. "Pete" Knapp, 1951

#524 John Pakan, 1953

#529 Robert Cipperly, 1952

#545 John Mallery, 1952

#555 R. Marvin Townsend 1955

#560 Neil Sharp, 1955

#590 David Bills, 1958

#592 Edward Conroy 1957

#599 Ralph Lamar 1958

#632 William Keltz, 1961

#642 John Krakauer, 1962

#648 William Dearcop, 1962

#673 Edgar Francis, 1965

#674 Timothy Fullam, 1965

#701 Richard McMurtry, 1967

#713 Richard Ahlfeld, 1968

#715 Bill Amon, 1968

#717 David Gorelick, 1968

#722 Sam Roberts, 1968

#723 Daniel Smith, 1968

#730 Thomas Kocovsky, 1969

#755 Paul Goldberg, 1971

#756 Stuart Hantman, 1971

#763 Fred Tierney, 1971

#772 Lars Lundeen, 1972

#789 Harlan Meinwald, 1974

#793 Bruce Korf, 1974

#795 James Greig, 1974

#804 Robert Rudolph, 1975

#859 Jeffrey Spiro, 1979

#871 Michael Pliss, 1980

#880 Christopher Wong, 1981

#887 Timothy Thom, 1982

#890 Andrew Mercer, 1982

#895 Alan Jette, 1982

#899 Scott Dulman, 1983

#907 Dan Merrill, 1983

#916 Alan Pasquino, 1984

#917 David Sangree, 1984

#924 David Mazaika, 1985

#931 Charles Huffine, 1986

#964 James Waxmonsky, 1992

#966 Steven Horowitz, 1992

#969 Andrew Nolan, 1991

#993 Brian Sivillo, 1993

#1017 Barclay Hershey, 1998

#1039 John Abrehamson, 2002

#1043 Charles Hong, 2001

#1046 Eric Wursthorn, 2003

#1047 Randy Clark, 2003

#1051 Tom Ricketts, 2003

#1052 Jay Ayres, 2004

#1056 Brian Kwoba, 2004

#1064 Gregory Chulsky, 2005

#1067 Zachary Weinstein, 2005

#1068 Igor Dolgalev, 2005

#1071 Hanny Carp-Martinovici, 2006

#1075 Jeffrey Balllyns, 2005

#1076 Jared Davis, 2006

#1092 Seth Jacobson, 2008

#1100 Brian Clapp, 2009

Anonymous (3)

As of 10/18/09

Cornell Class Year:	# of Donors	# Possible	% Participating
Classes 1935-1950	10	33	30%
Classes 1951-1960	28	99	28%
Classes 1961-1970	23	103	22%
Classes 1971-1980	19	112	17%
Classes 1981-1990	12	76	16%
Classes 1991-2000	14	59	24%
Classes 2001-2010	31	81	38%
Totals:	137	563	24%



** Figures based on number of living brothers and little sisters with known mailing addresses.*

TOTAL FUNDS

PLEGGED TO DATE:

\$233,765

FROM 137 DONORS

THANK YOU!