

THE TRAVELER

ACACIA FRATERNITY, CORNELL CHAPTER

Spring 2015

Volume 108 | Number II

Views from the 607

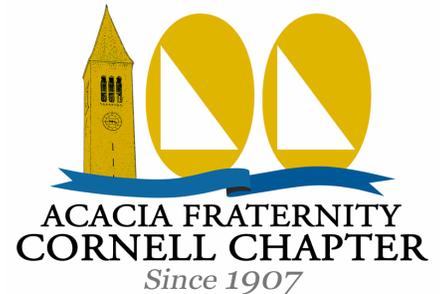
A Look into the Lives of the Actives of Cornell Acacia

Page 12-13

New Office

Brother Reid takes a Peek into the New Office Renovation, Fixing one of the Oldest Rooms in Northcote

Page 17



“You Say Goodbye, I Say Hello”



Cornell Acacia Senior's Bid Goodbye to Northcote:

Read the Senior's Farewells on Page 18 and 19

Cornell Acacia Welcomes 9 New Brothers:

Read the Newly Inducted Brother's Introductions on Pages 14, 15, and 16

Spring 2015 Chapter Roll

Jacob Fagliarone (1189)

Senior Dean

Chemistry

2016

Estero, FL

Sho Iketani (1175)

Venerable Dean

Biological Sciences, Economics

2014

Cupertino, CA

Chandeep Seth (1196)

Junior Dean

Fine Arts

2017

Dubai

Dana Stiefel (1191)

Rush Chair

Mechanical Engineering

2016

Wendell, MA

Scott Marison (1192)

Treasurer

Biological Sciences

2016

Honolulu, HI

Neil Parker (1176)

Technologist

Information Science

2015

Elmira, NY

Kevin Hua (1185)

Co-Philanthropy Chair

Biological Engineering

2015

Flushing, NY

Christopher Markantonis (1197)

Dean of Scholarship

Biological Sciences

2016

Larchmont, NY

Joshua Briscoe (1204)

Undecided,

College of Arts and Science

2018

Alexandria, VA

Andrew Park (1177)

Athletics Chair

Biological Engineering

2015

Chappaqua, NY

Edward Sharood (1190)

(abroad)

Environmental Engineering

2016

Kennebunk, ME

Jacob Padilla (1199)

Junior Steward

Computer Science and

Biological Sciences

2017

Denver, CO

Jackie Cheong (1205)

Chemical Engineering

2017

Brooklyn, NY

John Fan (1178)

Mechanical Engineering

2015

Shenzhen, China

Sid Nanda (1193)

Brotherhood Chair

Electrical and Computer

Engineering

2017

Gaithersburg, MD

Reuben Chen (1200)

Architecture

2018

Zhengzhou

Kamal Maher (1206)

Biological Sciences

2018

Phoenix, AZ

Michael Wang (1179)

Computer Science

2015

Reading, MA

Hunter Reid (1194)

Senior Steward

Health and Wellness Chair

Biological Sciences

(Genetics)

Entomology

2015

Tulsa, Oklahoma

Aaron Zimmerman (1201)

English

2017

West Long Branch, NJ

Jovan Kemp (1207)

Psychology

2017

Kutztown, PA

Thomas Schultz (1181)

Dean of Alumni Affairs

Mechanical Engineering

2015

Holtsville, NY

Cristian Umaña (1208)

Landscape Architecture

2018

Lakeville, CT

Timothy Smith (1184)

Co-Philanthropy Chair

Policy Analysis and Management

2014

Pawling, NY

Christian Choi (1195)

Technologist

Secretary

Chemical Engineering and

Computer Science

2016

Dallas, TX

José Covarrubias (1202)

Materials Science

Chemistry

2018

Veracruz, Mexico

Cristian Giron (1203)

Hotel Administration

2018

Las Vegas, NV

Lucas Warfield (1209)

Architecture

2019

Baltimore, MD

FROM THE EDITOR

Second Time is the Charm

I'm back again! I loved making the Traveler so much last semester that I am back with my second rendition! I have kept much of the layout the same in an attempt of continuity, and I hope the next Dean of Alumni Affairs follows suit.

The new semester has brought us nine new members into the fraternity, and I couldn't be more proud of the work that the entire organization put in. As I am graduating this May, I look to instill into the new members of Cornell Acacia a sense of pride, helpfulness, and respect that I have come to learn from my fellow brothers here. The bonds that I have formed with the members here will last a lifetime, and this has been confirmed by the support I have felt across the entire Cornell Acacia Alumni network.

I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for the alumni who have donated, both to the Acacia Alumni Corporation, Acacia Fraternity Foundation, and the actives themselves. I know as a graduating senior I will certainly be paying my dues, and I hope to convince you that it is worthwhile to do so. Remember the great memories and experiences you had at Northcote, and make sure to continue to make sure that those after us can experience the same.

I am extremely pleased with the response rate from the last Traveler. I have tried to personally connect to each and every one of you who sent in dues or notices because I, along with the active chapter, do appreciate the generosity. I also wanted to thank the alumni who came out to support the chapter during rush week on the various trips and during the Cornell Acacia networking event. After I complete my Master of Engineering this Fall, I will be joining the ranks of my fellow alumni. I look forward to the opportunity.

Fraternally,

Thomas W. Schultz

Thomas W. Schultz #1181

Dean of Alumni Affairs

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The Traveler is the official newsletter of the Cornell University Chapter of Acacia Fraternity. It is published semi-annually and mailed to alumni, fellow chapters, friends, and family of the active members of the Chapter.

The current and past issues of *The Traveler* can be found on our website: www.cornellacacia.org.

The statements made and the 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.

In this issue:

| | |
|--|----|
| A Message from our Corp. Board President | 4 |
| Venerably Speaking | 5 |
| The Social Scene | 6 |
| Treasurer Report | 7 |
| What's the Rush? | 8 |
| Senior Dean | 9 |
| Brotherhood | 9 |
| Human Service | 10 |
| Athletics | 11 |
| Scholarship | 11 |
| Acacia 2014-2015 | 12 |
| <u>Pledge Class 2015</u> | 14 |
| Senior Steward | 17 |
| Technology | 17 |
| <u>Farewell Seniors</u> | 18 |
| Alumni Mailbag | 20 |
| Honor Roll | 22 |

We welcome correspondence regarding this publication, as well as any other questions, comments, or concerns. They should be addressed to:

Acacia Fraternity
c/o Alumni Affairs
318 Highland Road
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 257-7055

Alternatively, we can be contacted via email: acacia@cornell.edu.

A Message from Our Corporation Board President

It has been quite a winter here in Ithaca. The temperatures just reached the high 40's during the second week of March for the first time since early January and we might even see something other than snow in the yard by week's end. The 2014-2015 Fiscal Year is three-quarters over, and as usual, our old house has needed some maintenance projects. We undertook the long overdue renovation of the 2nd floor office which was without doubt the worst looking room in Acacia. The room, which houses a router, cable modem, server, and printer, was completely rewired, with 2 new circuits installed. The plaster ceiling was repaired and resurfaced, some new drywall installed, the old floor tile removed, the subfloor repaired and leveled, and a beautiful Bellawood white oak hardwood floor installed. The Actives gave the room a fresh coat of paint and the 2 new desks, chairs, and storage drawers helped transform the room into a room we can all be proud of. We're hoping to get reimbursed from our Acacia Fraternity Foundation (AFF) account (the project totaled \$11,300).

For safety concerns, panic bars were installed on the two fire doors on the 2nd floor landing. The other noteworthy upgrade we undertook was replacing the 2 fluorescent light fixtures in the Commons with beautiful 4-bulb fixtures that match those installed in the Foyer and Chapter Room. The 3-way switches were replaced with electronic dimmers that work with the LED bulbs. Northcote (or was it Murphy?) presented a surprise when I removed the old fixtures and discovered there were no ceiling boxes for the electrical connections. The contractor and I had to install them just hours before the first Rush function.

Fortunately, Acacia has not needed much in the way of emergency repairs yet this year. We've had to replace a

few toilet seats, unclog a sink or two, and repair a leaking sink, but nothing too expensive or time consuming.

The Actives are doing a great job keep Northcote clean and presentable at all times. The Corporation continues to invest both time and money in Acacia's upkeep and is grateful to all of those who financially support our great Fraternity. For those of you looking for a tax deductible contribution, please consider donating to the AFF (and help pay for the 2nd floor office renovation).

We still have a fairly extensive list of capital improvements we hope to complete in the next few years, including remodeling the 55 year old kitchen. This spring we will begin replacing the flooring in the 8 Wing rooms and hallway and, next year, in the hallways on the 2nd and 3rd floors. We hope the generosity of our Alumni will continue and allow us to undertake these much needed improvements.

Please email or call me if you have comments, concerns, suggestions, want to get involved, or simply want to say hello. We print all the "news" you tell us about, but this and recent Travelers have had very little news to share because Brothers aren't providing us with any.

Finally, if you are able, please join us at our Annual Corporation Meeting on 5/9/2015 @1:00 pm. All are welcome!

Fraternally,



Steven L. Stein 1973 (787)
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607-277-3125; cell 607-351-3901; sls8@cornell.edu]

Annual Corporation Board Meeting Saturday, May 9, 2015

The Annual Meeting of the Cornell Chapter of Acacia Fraternity, Inc. will be Saturday, May 9, 2015 at 1:00 pm, at Acacia Fraternity, 318 Highland Road, Ithaca, NY 14850 (607-257-7055)

Refreshments and lunch will be provided.

VENERABLY SPEAKING

Retrospectives



Sho Iketani
si75@cornell.edu

I have had the unique opportunity to serve as Venerable Dean as a senior, due to changes in election timings that we implemented last year. This allows me the fortune of viewing the present state of the fraternity not just in the present context, but in relation to the past. As I prepare to leave college life, I truly believe that the fraternity is in the best state it has ever been in my time here.

Recruitment. We have initiated nine members into our ranks this spring, which marks the largest pledge class since my own pledge class. Though we had some difficulty at first, we have adjusted to Cornell's changing environment and are back on track. I have high expectations for the results we will have next year.

New Member Education. Cornell severely altered the rules surrounding new member education, and now the education period only lasts four weeks. We have evolved our educational model to fit the requirements, and I am pleased to report that no members dropped during the last two most recent new member periods, compared to several before in which some members chose to drop.

Finances. When I was a freshman, I learned that the finances of the fraternity were not doing very well. We had very little in savings, something that we decided we needed to strongly work on for the future. Three years later, our budgets are balanced and our savings account holds over \$20,000.

Risk Management. When I joined the fraternity, we were on social probation. We were again on social probation the following semester. However, we have learned from our mistakes and have adapted to follow the necessary guidelines and regulations in hosting social events. We have not

been on probation for two years now, and I believe that we will continue to enforce adequate risk management.

House Management. The standard for the cleanliness and maintenance of Northcote has drastically improved over the years, which I hope alums that have visited can attest to. We maintain a rigorous cleaning schedule and strongly enforce rules and regulations to ensure that Northcote retains its beauty.

International Recognition. We have attended all international events (Conclave, ALA, Venerable Dean Summit) throughout all of my years here. At the 2012 Conclave, we failed to acquire any awards for Chapter Excellence, which is in stark contrast to the three awards we won in 2014.

These are just some of the aspects of the chapter that have developed and changed over the years. It is amazing how much this chapter has achieved and I am saddened that I am leaving when it is on a tremendous upswing. There is so much more that this chapter can grow into, and I am definitely looking forward to being able to return to this house.

I would note, as a look into the future, that it is important for the actives to not get complacent or careless. It is essential to plan and pursue a safe course. Though we are doing well, all it takes is one action to lose our momentum. I have good faith that the current actives will easily meet and exceed my expectations, but it is difficult to not worry as a Venerable Dean, even as one that is retiring.

Again, I look forward to returning in the near future. To all alums, I encourage you to stop by Northcote when you get the chance – the chapter really has grown into an amazing entity.

THE SOCIAL SCENE

A Night on the Town



Chandeeep Seth
cs889@cornell.edu

The year of 2015 has brought with it great social opportunities for Cornell Acacia. I have immense faith in our newly inducted pledge class, who are actively involved in various pursuits at Cornell, bringing with them perspectives and ideas that will guide Northcote through a rich period of social interaction and involvement.

Included in this period are efforts to initiate at least a half a dozen sweethearts; most of these are sisters in the various sororities at Cornell. This form of networking is vital not only to sustain the positive relationship we have with these sororities, but also to enrich the brotherhood with connections that will last a lifetime.

The NIBs of Cornell Acacia recently had a fantastic experience with the Panhellenic organizations on campus; In keeping with the traditions of Northcote, these newly inducted brothers had the opportunity to serenade the ladies of all sororities on campus on Valentine's Day. I am proud to say that these brothers put in the kind of effort and time that demonstrates a genuine interest to develop and expand not only the social web of Cornell Acacia, but also that of Greek life at Cornell in general.

The house also recently co-hosted a philanthropy event with AKDPhi, who are eager to co-host such events in the near future.

Brothers also had a great time at our annual Spring Formal, held this year with the theme of Saint Patrick's Day in mind. This year, we had the formal at the Hilton Inn, with catered food and drinks. This formal is only one of the various events that occupies what looks to be a busy but

v e r y
p r o m i s i n g
S p r i n g
s o c i a l
c a l e n d a r
f o r
C o r n e l l
A c a c i a .



Brother Choi, Brother Fagliarone, and Brother Wang pose for a picture



Brothers and their dates pose for a picture before heading to St. Patricks Day Formal

TRESURER REPORT

Scot Free



Scott Marison
srm268@cornell.ed

It is quite shocking to think that my time as Treasurer is coming to a close. When I made the decision to run for Treasurer, I had not known that I would be exposed to such a unique aspect of our beloved chapter. The things I have learned and experienced have matured me in surprising ways, and I'm glad to say all is well with the chapter's finances. I have worked diligently with the officers to ensure they can perform their duties to the best of their ability while remaining within budget. We have made significant strides over the past year, and I have great hopes that we will continue to excel in our financial endeavors. I worked with **Brother Soriano** and **Brother Choi** to fund a video surveillance project in light of a recent rise of robberies and break-ins in areas very near to Northcote. I have also closely worked

with **Brother Padilla** to ensure our food purchases meet the satisfaction of all brothers.

As I mentioned in my previous article for The Traveler, I sincerely believe that our chapter's financial success is closely entangled with, and dependent on the chapter's rush efforts. Since then, I have worked closely with **Brother Steifel** to budget for a successful Rush Week. I'm very proud to say that we now have nine new brothers. With rush week over I directed my efforts toward a variety of other financial endeavors such as working with **Brother Hua** and **Brother Smith** to purchase paint and other supplies for our black light philanthropy party. I've been working hard to make sure we stay in the black and don't dip into our savings. In fact, this past semester we were able to increase our savings by 25% thanks to all of the officers

staying within budget and having a conscious mind about house purchases.

I would like to thank all of the alumni who have made donations to the active chapter. Our efforts as a fraternity could not stand as tall without your aid. Such donations, which can easily be made by choosing to donate directly to the active chapter when paying one's dues, truly help us achieve our goals. I look forward to the coming months in my position, and I am truly excited to see our chapter grow over the next year; it is a great time to be an Acacian. Thank you for reading this article, and I encourage you to browse through the rest of this edition of The Traveler and learn more about what's happening at Northcote.

WHAT'S THE RUSH?

Mad Rush



Dana Steifel
dcs237@cornell.edu

I want to start by saying that I am proud of the Fraternity's rush efforts and results this academic year. By the time Rush week was fully underway we had 19 actives and many viewed this year as one of particular importance. For the majority of Rush week only three members of E-board were present due to unforeseen circumstances and a few of the 19 brothers had other pressing engagements to attend to, leaving the house largely short staffed. However, our brothers pulled through in the end. We finished with nine fantastic new brothers that I am fully confident will not only continue Acacia's presence and legacy on campus, but will grow the house to new heights. Truly, our brothers stepped up when it mattered most and I am thankful and impressed with how well they performed.

As far as Rush week goes, everything went off without a hitch (except maybe when I spilled a gallon of hot chocolate in the kitchen). At a number of our events we had more rushees than brothers which occasionally presented challenges but is indicative of how well our brothers were rushing. In addition to time-tested smoker

events, I added a few novel ideas that I hope to see continued in the future. Before rush week began **Brother Alumnus Rich Rothman** reached out to me and asked if he and the alumni could help with rush in any way. After some dialogue, I decided to include an alumni networking event where the focus was on how fraternity life and more specifically Cornell Acacia could help the rushees with their career and scholarly aspirations. I felt that this factor, which has proved to be very helpful to me in my short time as a brother, was underrepresented in the rush process and therefore added the event. I want to thank the Alumni that came back and helped through rush week and particularly that event as I am sure that exposing rushees to your knowledge and success helped enamor them with our Fraternity. I am sure that seeing that you all cared enough to come back helped impress upon the rushes how meaningful your time in Acacia was to you.

Despite how well Rush week went, much of our success can also be attributed to our work last semester. This year we focused on spring rush and it paid dividends. At the start of each smoker, when normally a

few rushees who we do not know well would wander to the house to meet the brothers, we already had a number of very enthusiastic and keen on joining rushees who helped create the atmosphere that appealed to the rest. In this way, our work in the fall paid off twofold. One unfortunate occurrence this year was that a majority of the house was hit by the flu right at the end of rush week, largely disabling us from seriously pursuing late rush.

I hope to see the strategic improvements implemented this year continued, and I am confident that as the house has grown in size and morale with this incoming class that we can expect greatness from next year. Our incoming pledge class is extremely strong; they are quite involved on campus and have already made it clear that they will be involved in the house. They are more diverse in field of study than in recent years, counting Architecture and Hotel Administration School students among our more frequent Engineering and Arts and Sciences brethren. I do not know who my successor will be, but I believe that we have made their job easier than it was for me. I look forward to a bright future at Northcote.

"A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in."—Greek proverb

SENIOR DEAN

New Member Education in a New Era



Jacob Fagiarone
jjf256@cornell.edu

Each year, fraternities are faced with the challenge of conducting their New Member Education programs in just a few short weeks. This year, February break was in the middle of the period, cutting down our time even more to around 4 weeks total. After a lot of work in a short time, Acacia proudly initiated nine fantastic new members who I am certain will develop into productive Acacians.

During the prior New Member Education period, **Brother Parker** remodeled the program to fit into the new restricted time frame. This year, a few tweaks were made to accommodate the schedules of all potential new members. Unfortunately, the team building ropes course was removed from the program due to multiple scheduling conflicts with Cornell Outdoor Education. However, the four weeks were still extremely productive and allowed the pledge class to foster strong bonds with each other.

The first major event during the program was the Valentine's Day Serenade. The new members composed a

BROTHERHOOD

The State of the Brotherhood: Harder, Faster, Better, Stronger



Sid Ninda
sn435@cornell.edu

How does one go about strengthening the ties of friendship? Creating unique memories with each other is important, as these memories help brothers get to know each other at a more personal level. But it is just as significant to help each other grow and mature, mentally and physically. As a result, I have tried to make sure that the brotherhood events we have had and have planned this semester combine both of these facets.

We have planned many friendly competitions within the fraternity regarding activities that brothers love to pursue including a Big-Little Pong tourney, a FIFA tourney, as well as Super Smash brothers tourney. Yes, they may be a little silly but each of these activities has a special place in our hearts. What is perhaps more laudable is the recent culture of becoming more healthy that has taken the brotherhood.

medley of three songs, led by vocalist **Brother Zimmerman** and guitarist **Brother Maher**. In addition, they masterfully crafted and delivered cards to each sorority. All of the sororities received the singing performance and Valentine's Cards extremely positively and praised our newly initiated brothers.

The week following February break was Fraternity Appreciation Week. This week proved to be an extremely exhausting and busy week for brothers and potential new members, but it was very successful. As part of the Interfraternity Council's new initiative for total membership development, the new brothers will continue to have educational meetings and goals regarding Acacia. Under Scholarship Chairman **Brother Markantonis**, the new brothers will learn Northcote's history and the comprehensive history of the Cornell Acacia Chapter. Additionally, the new brothers will construct paddles for the annual paddle night at Acacia.

New Member Education is always an exciting and stressful time at Acacia, and this year I feel that our efforts were very successful. Our new member class is extremely motivated and ambitious, and I'm excited to see their future impacts on our chapter.

Thanks largely to the efforts of **Brother Padilla**, who is quick to urge any brother lazing around to hit the gym, almost all brothers in the fraternity now go to the gym regularly. They go with the colloquial motivation being "getting big for Slope Day." I have also brought back Ab-ripper Thursdays, that **Brother Alumnus de Vries** started years ago, whereupon we follow a 30-minute ab-workout video. Skiing and snowboarding at Greek Peak has become a regular activity. We also have the annual AKAK cup approaching where we shall have various intra-fraternity sports competitions.

Despite this brutal winter and stressful prelim season, the brotherhood has managed to stay as strong and cohesive as ever. The new pledge class and their remarkable musical talent has already brought so much to the brotherhood. Their regular jam sessions are a blast to participate in, and **Brother Seth** has recently brought in a jazz pianist to teach himself and other brothers. I just can't wait to see what this brings forth in the future.

HUMAN SERVICE

For the Good of the Fraternity



Timothy Smith
tes73@cornell.edu



Kevin Hua
kzh3@cornell.edu

The Spring 2015 philanthropy season is off to a strong start. Co-philanthropy chairs **Brother Hua** and **Brother Smith** are planning some exciting events. The organizations the chapter has voted to support this semester are: **Red Cross, Save the Children and Prevent Childhood Abuse America.**

The house hosted a philanthropy event in February to benefit the Red Cross. The event

was a backlight inspired neon-paint party. In preparing for the event, brothers reached out to their friends and

social circles in promoting the cause. Special thanks is given to **Brother Christian Choi** for DJing for the event. Overall, the night was a success raising over \$400 through the combined efforts of the brotherhood.

The event for March will benefit Prevent Childhood Abuse America where donations go to promoting childhood health and awareness to address childhood abuse. The event will include two large glass jars filled with five liters worth of juicy gummy bears. Participants will have the opportunity to guess the amount of gummy bears. The closest guess wins the jar!

Save the Children will be the organization we support for our late spring activities. Our goal is to raise \$360 to sponsor a child for one full year. Sponsoring a child through Save the Children will provide life saving nutrition, education and support for children in need around the world. The event will be called, "Save the Children" where a jar filled with sour patch kids is hidden around campus, and participants will place numbered pins on a map

to guess where they are. Activities will be stationed around campus for several days collecting participants guesses and

the closest pin wins the prize.

In addition to our specific activities, the goal of the co-philanthropy chairs this year is to continue building the house to meet and exceed our motto of human service. Working with the house and new pledge class, we are excited to see what new developments will come from the energy and creativity of PC '15.



ATHLETICS

Push Towards the Playoffs



Andrew Park
ap485@cornell.edu

This is not my first time writing an article for The Traveler as Athletics Chair. My first term in this position was fairly uneventful in terms of intramural sports. In fact, one of the most talked about events of my term was the purchase of FIFA and Madden video games for the house Xbox. However, my primary purpose as Athletics Chair is to encourage participation in real-life intramural sports so that we may assert our athletic dominance over other fraternity houses.

Luckily for me, a lot has changed in our house for my second term. We are slated to participate in many more intramural sports than we did in my last term, even dabbling in sports like disc golf and badminton. This is not necessarily due to the fact that we are recruiting varsity athletes as brothers, but rather that the brotherhood is as tight-knit as ever. I mean, who wouldn't want to go out and throw a disc with fellow brothers?

So far we have fielded teams for both basketball and bowling. Our basketball team showed great potential, as recently initiated **Brothers Maher** and **Kemp** brought height and experience to

the squad, while other members like **Brother Iketani** bring an unmatched basketball IQ and motor to the court. However, as with any elite athletic team, we were hampered by illnesses and prelims and missed the playoffs. Additionally, our bowling team is projected to finish in a top spot for the regular season and is already preparing for the postseason. We look forward to trying to take home the 'ship.

Besides intramural sports, we are looking forward to a brotherhood March Madness bracket pool and AKAK Cup, an all-out athletics competition amongst the brotherhood. I hope to see some alumni there participating during Slope Day Weekend.

SCHOLARSHIP

Most Outstanding Brother of the Chapter



Chris Markantonis
cgm98@cornell.edu

These days, new brother education entails the continued education of the newly inducted brothers past the formal pledging period. I have administered the "Northcote" manuals to these new brothers. For those unaware, the booklet contains historical facts specifically about our house here at Cornell Acacia. Guidelines for chapter

meetings and instructions for things such as the sanitizer in the kitchen are also included.

As a means of maintaining the helpfulness of the brothers in the house, a "Brother of the Chapter" is awarded each month to a brother deemed most extraordinary. His accomplishments and good deeds are posted in the mailroom hallway for guests and brothers alike to see. Each candidate is carefully selected by a committee consisting of the Rush Chair, Junior Dean, Senior Dean,

and both Junior and Senior Stewards.

Likewise, Brothers are encouraged to excel in their academics. At the end of the semester, a gift card will be given to the Brother that shows the most improvement in their academic GPA. Overall, I am really looking to increasing the studies of our chapter. The house overall GPA has increased over the last semester, and I am looking to continue that trend with the newest pledge class.

Acacia



ACACIA Rush Week 2015

Wednesday, 1/14
6:00 PM Meet the Greeks

Thursday, 1/15
6:00 PM Flavor Trippin' & House Tours

Friday, 1/16
11:00 AM Brunch
12:00 PM RC Hockey
9:00 PM Contacts

Sunday, 1/18
2:00 PM NFL Playoffs & Alumni Networking
9:00 PM Contacts

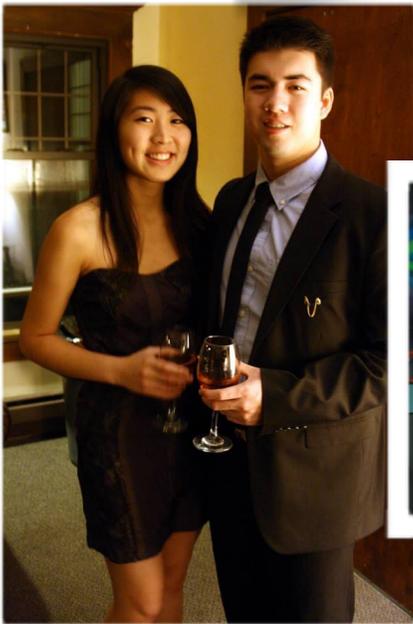
Tuesday, 1/20
9:00 PM Final Contacts

Wednesday, 1/21
7:00 PM Dinner at Madeline's Restaurant
(Invitation Only)

Questions? Need a ride?
Contact Dana Stiefel at
413-563-4047



2015



PLEDGE CLASS 2015

Strengthen the Ties of Friendship, One with Another

Aaron Zimmerman (“Robert Crump”)

West Long Branch, NJ

English (Pre-Law)

Aaron is a sophomore in Cornell University's College of Arts and Sciences, majoring in English with a concentration in creative writing. Apart from his fraternal duties, Aaron currently is an Information Specialist (tour guide) for Campus Information and Visitor Relations, a Cornell Ambassador on behalf of University Admissions, a Residential Advisor in Mews Hall, and an attorney and witness for the Cornell Mock Trial Association. In the past, he has spent two semesters in *Anything Goes*, Cornell's Original Musical Theater group. Shameless singing, sushi binging, and Super Smash Bros mark his favorite pastimes. Aaron is very excited to both benefit from and give back to the Acacia Fraternity in the coming semesters, years, and future phases of his life.



Kamal Maher (“T.T.”)

Phoenix, AZ

Biological Sciences

Kamal is an anomaly. He is Icelandic and Sudanese at the same time. His name is Jamal with a K, but it is not pronounced like Jamal with a K. Rather, it is pronounced like “Kamalbert” or “Kamal is your pal” or “Kamal Roker”. Such diction renders him a contradiction. Though some may call him a moron, one should call him an oxymoron. He went to arts school to play classical guitar, but he now majors in biological sciences. He was raised in Phoenix, Arizona, but he moved to Ithaca, New York. But if there is one thing that makes sense about Kamal, it is that he strives to contribute all that he can to Acacia.



Joshua Briscoe (“Chancellor”)

Alexandria, VA

Undecided (Arts and Sciences)

Joshua Briscoe is a 1st year undecided undergrad in the College of Arts and Sciences. He has lived in all states of cultural significance on the east coast on his path to seek the truth in those around him. He enjoys taking long walks through the forest, placing flowers in his beard hairs, examining culinary displays, and competitive sleeping. While undecided in major he is certain in seeking knowledge through all means and hopes for a strong fraternal experience with his brothers in the lives to come.



PLEDGE CLASS 2015

Strengthen the Ties of Friendship, One with Another

Jovan Kemp (“Marxist Ditto”)

Kutztown, PA

Psychology

Jovan Kemp is a boy that grew up mostly in the rolling cornfields of Pennsylvania and decided to move up a more hilly place in frigid New York to commence his studies. He is now Sophomore majoring in Psychology in the College of Arts and Sciences.



This guy likes to play basketball and practice a martial art called Kendo on his free time. On campus, he is the Vice-President of the Kendo Club and the co-secretary of the Students Onto Scholars organization. He is eager for the memorable times to be had with the brothers of Acacia.

Cristian Giron (“Hercule Poirot”)

Las Vegas, NV

Hotel Administration

Cristian Giron hails from the land of sin. Born and raised in Las Vegas Nevada, in true Hotelie fashion. Moving to Ithaca to study hotel administration at the School of Hotel Administration is one stone in a path of many. As a Freshman, with high hopes and dreams, Cristian strives to one day study business at the graduate level, pursue law, and maybe even start his own hotel company. Cristian enjoys the finer things in life, as he often quotes “I have the simplest tastes. I am always satisfied with the best.”

Cristian hopes that being a part of Acacia will give him amazing memories and great friendships.



José Covarrubias (“Equus”)

Veracruz, Mexico

Materials Science and Engineering and Chemistry

José Covarrubias is a Freshman in the College of Engineering pursuing a dual degree in Materials Science and Engineering and Chemistry. With 28 characters, his full name is probably the longest one you will ever see (not today). During his free time, José enjoys watching mind-bending movies and exploring different musical genres with his M5ox/Fiio combo. He also likes swimming and going to the gym to get swole. José wishes to contribute positively to the fraternity and to share good moments with his brothers at Acacia. Turn Up!



PLEDGE CLASS 2015

Strengthen the Ties of Friendship, One with Another

Cristian Umaña (“Bañaña”)

Lakeville, CT

Landscape Architecture

Cristian Umaña is originally from El Salvador, but has spent most of his life in rural Connecticut. From a young age he explored the tropical surroundings of his native lands, growing to love the natural environment. It is for this reason that he is majoring in Landscape Architecture and minoring in Environmental Science in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. In his free time, Cristian indulges in a variety of hobbies including photography, playing assorted musical instruments, and smiling. Cristian is looking forward to his life long association with Acacia and is excited to contribute all that he can to the fraternity.



Lucas Warfield (“Dr. Puff”)

Baltimore, MD

Architecture



Lucas Warfield is a freshman architecture student. He hails from Baltimore, Maryland. He enjoys short walks on the beach, ice cream, and bananas (unrelated to his fellow pledge brother). When he is not in the studio, Lucas enjoys writing and sees himself writing an autobiography in the distant future. He is currently slaving away on a dragon which will be paraded through campus on Dragon Day. Lucas is looking forward to his five years here at Cornell.

Jackie Cheong (“Benedict”)

Brooklyn, NY

Chemical Engineering

Jackie is a sophomore studying Chemical Engineering in the College of Engineering. He is an avid practitioner of kendo (Japanese fencing) and the culinary arts. His interests also include politics, building models, and bicycling. Although he dreams of making it big in the chemical industry, he secretly dreams of owning his own restaurant.



SENIOR STEWARD

House Facelift and Renovation



Hunter Reid
hfr25@cornell.edu

Alumnus Steve Stein, our Corporation Board President. Improvements include: new wooden flooring, installation of shelves to hold our server and other electronic

programs or even earmark the donation for the Cornell Chapter.

As this semester draws on, our priority is house maintenance as we

As part of our ongoing efforts to keep Northcote looking and functioning like the beautiful home we are accustomed to, the actives spent the better part of three days on home improvements prior to rush week. From deeply scrubbing the high-traffic areas to dusting those which typically receive little attention, the brothers bonded through giving our house a once over (in some cases a twice or thrice over!). Specifically, the Commons received a facelift in the form of new paint on the walls and ceiling and new lighting fixtures to match the living room.

Our biggest achievement was the complete renovation of the Office. Following a design created by **Brother Alumnus Hanny Martinovici**, the work was contracted by Gorges Building and helped immeasurably by **Brother**



The new office complete with two new desks and new drawers

equipment, better wire management through new conduits, ductwork to vent heat pollution from the server to outside, fresh paint, and new furniture. The Office now sees double the amount of use that it did previously and we were happy to show it off as a highlight during rush week house tours. Projects such as this are assisted through grants from the **Acacia Fraternity Foundation**. When donating, you can support specific

are all busy with classes. However, it is never too early to start thinking about upcoming projects for the summer! Right now, I am working on a proposal for a landscape design and would be happy to receive alumni input. As landscaping is a continuous process, I would be happy to receive suggestions as they are conceived, even when this summer has come and passed.

TECHNOLOGY

Eye-Spy



Christian Choi
cyc47@cornell.edu

In the past year as I have called Northcote my home, I have really grown to love this house and all of its residents, as I am sure all of you have in the past. In order to reduce any risk of intrusion or damage to our beloved house, we as an active chapter have decided to install security camera in strategic locations in the house. We have had many discussions as to the necessity of such cameras and in order to address any concerns regarding invasion of privacy, we have come up with guidelines for access to any recorded footage. We hope that these cameras will help deter any intrusions or damage and let us take a more active role in our own safety and security. If you have any suggestions as to how we may improve on these measures, please feel free to reach out to me. I would love to hear your suggestions.

FAREWELL TO OUR SENIORS

Not Four Years But For Life

Sho “Hideki” Iketani



I graduated last December from Cornell, one semester early and with honors, majoring in Biological Sciences and Economics. I decided to remain in Ithaca for the spring, continuing my research that I began as an undergrad and to continue to be involved with Acacia. I have been accepted to ETH Zurich in Switzerland and I plan to continue my studies as a graduate student in biology there.

Since stumbling upon Acacia three years ago and making the decision to join, I have had the fortune of being very involved with the internal workings of the fraternity. It has been a great ride all along and I will truly miss life at Northcote. I look forward to returning as an alumnus!

Thomas “Alan Sader” Schultz

Sitting down to write my Senior Farewell has forced me to look back over what has been perhaps the most interesting years of my life. From meeting some Acacians on Freshman Move-In Day to sitting here today four years experienced, I am honored to have been a part of an organization that will forever be ingrained in me. I had no idea I would join an organization such as this one when I first arrived at Cornell, but it is safe to say that I am glad I did. I would not be in the position I am today, nor the man that I have become, without the guidance and direction of a group of men I am proud to call my brothers. Whenever I have needed someone the most, my brothers were always there for me.



Although I am sad to be graduating this May, I am happy to be coming back for one more semester to finish up a Master of Engineering Degree in Mechanical Engineering that I am currently starting. My brother will be attending Cornell University next year, and I am extremely happy to be able to have one semester here with him.

There are times throughout the college experience, especially here at an environment like Cornell, where it seems like the end goal is too far out of reach. I hope the actives who come after me realize what this organization can do to help reach these goals, and how the bonds one makes will last a lifetime. I know that I will continue to come back to visit Northcote and of course pay my Alumni Dues. I am an Acacian, and I am proud of it.

Andrew “Red Solo Cup” Park



It has been an absolutely wild four years as a brother in the Cornell Chapter of Acacia. There have been countless highs and lows: times when I was sure I belonged in this fraternity and times when I asked myself if I would be better off debrothering. In the end, I am still here. And I am damn glad I stuck with it.

The most important thing that I have realized over the years is that we are on our own level in terms of brotherhood. The things I have seen guys do for their fellow Acacians, Cornellians or not, simply amaze me. It is now, thinking about those acts of brotherhood in retrospect, that I realize the fraternity has been there for me even when I thought about pushing it away.

I am thrilled to be coming back to Cornell to pursue a Master of Engineering in Engineering Management in the fall. I am not yet ready to leave Ithaca, and I am definitely not ready to leave this crazy group of guys I am proud to call my brothers.

Michael “Richard Nixon” Wang



Joining a fraternity wasn't on my agenda when I came Cornell. Neither was spending some of the finest years of my life with this group of genuine and hilarious guys, for whose friendship and respect I will forever be grateful. Acacia gave me a home at Cornell, a ship to sail through Ithaca's icy storms, a warm fire to light the dark nights, and wine tours. It has opened my eyes to different perspectives, interests, and experiences that I would never have thought to be a part of, such as getting into a car accident. It has shown me the worst of people, and the best of people. One could say that Acacia has played an invaluable role in shaping me into the charming, attractive, capable man I am today. It even gave me an excuse to invite girls to parties, one of whom is now my girlfriend.

Honestly, I didn't need Acacia. I chose it, for the good brothers who have never failed to bail me out when my car explodes, the unforgettable times fighting over girls, and the beautiful legacy that will still be standing long after I graduate. Acacia has strengthened the ties of friendship, one with another, and prepared me as an educated man to, despite being hungover, take a more active part and to have a greater influence in the affairs of the community in which I may reside. I will seek the truth, and knowing it, give light to those with whom I may be associated as I travel along life's single, solitary, ever evolving pathway. I am proud to be an Acacian.

Neil “Dr. Feelgood” Parker

It's hard to believe that my time at Acacia has passed so fast. I remember my first few weeks at Cornell where my friend, Santiago Cruz, whom I had known before coming to Cornell spoke to me about something called a fraternity that he had joined. I never realized the impact it would have for me until I had met the amazing brothers and eventually became one myself. I was met with happiness, but also sadness as time passed and I saw brothers leave, including Santiago himself. The fraternity superseded me, however, by producing a new set of young men to fill the spots of those who had left and letting me be part of that. And as I leave, I can proudly say that every brother here has left impacts on myself and more importantly, Acacia itself.



Kevin “Julian Assange” Hua



I have grown a lot in my years at Acacia. As philanthropy chair for four semesters, I have dutifully benefited organizations small and large, local and global, from the Bekondo Foundation to local food banks to the Red Cross. This role has taught me organizational and management skills. Furthermore, there are brotherly bonds I made here that would not have been possible without a fraternal experience. They are brothers that I would rejoice in times of plenty and help in need, and vice versa. They are brothers I can call up two years from now and still talk to as if we had seen each other the day before. I will miss everyone.

Alumni Mail Bag

William Pendarvis Jr. 1947 (440) [11781 SE 162 Ave, Clackamas, OR 97086-6776] is still keeping very busy in his vineyard, winery, and wine bar business and is producing Oregon Pinot Noir.

Robert B. Squires 1952 (496) [41 Churchill Ave, Massena, NY 13662-1630] was so pleased Acacia met our Capital Campaign goal.

Wallace M. Rich 1951 (523) [12904 County Hwy 18, Hobart, NY 13788-2014; dwrich@hughes.net] me Dave Hower 1951 (526) at last year's Homecoming Game. The Rich's daughter, Eleanor Jensen 1984 was also with them.

James M. Symons 1954 (534) [Rosedale Golf & Country Club, 4942 88th St. East, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34211-3730; dr.water@alum.mit.edu] has been travelling extensively with wife Joan since 1966. He has posted the pictures from their more than 50 trips (both professional and personal) on a Travel Pictures Home Page with links to You Tube (http://dr-water.us/symonstravel/Trip_Destinations.html) / (http://dr-water.us/symonsfamily/Family_Programs.html) and movies (<http://youtu.be/304HXSTWyAQ>) and slides (<http://youtu.be/uCBbwyRXwbI>) he took while at Cornell are posted on You Tube. For the past several years, they have met Bill Burnett 1953 (490) for lunch each spring to catch up on news and are looking forward to this again this spring.

R. Marvin Townsend 1955 (555) [8008 Isaac Pryor Dr., Austin, TX 78749-1862; rtown54193@aol.com] retired in 2012 and is serving as interim city manager in small cities and as a local government consultant.

Robert S. Fash 1958 (594) [417 Montebello Oaks Dr., Paso Robles, CA 93446; traveler675@hotmail.com] keeps in contact with John Male 1958 (600), Roger Soloway 1957 (589), and Marty Offenberger 1956 (568).

Robert T. Franson 1961 (636) [216 National St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060-6519; rfranson@cruzio.com] is in regular on-line contact with Bill Keltz 1961 (632) and less regularly with Art Hart 1961 (629), Preston Shimer 1961 (635), and Dick Heine 1961 (630). The go back and forth between Santa Cruz and Fall City, WA where their son and his family live. The Franson's now have 3 grandchildren: Gary (12), Grace (10), and Giles (1).

Dr. John E. Lutz 1964 (676) [52 Hickory Park Rd., Cortland, NY 13045-1433; jel28@cornell.edu] was proud that the Cornell Glee Club performed the premier of his song, "The Spirit of Cornell" at their Reunion Concert last June. John finally won the elusive Blue Ribbon at the NY State Fair for his oil painting in the Wildlife Art category. This year, he and Una celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, 50th Cornell Reunion, and Una's 50th Nursing School reunion – quite a year!

Richard E. Brewer 1965 (687) [17740 State Hwy 16N, Medina, TX 78055; ricbrew7@frontier.com] sold their home in Illinois last year and are spending summers at camp in the Adirondacks and winters in Texas (they are now officially Texans). They stay in touch with Dave Owens 1965 (678) and would like to find Bob Gates 1965 (675) (Cornell and Acacia have also lost touch with Bob).

Dr. David A Gorelick 1968 (717) [3316 Old Forest Rd, Baltimore, MD 21208-3101; DavidGorelick1@gmail.com] writes that 2014 was a year of ups and downs. Grandson Akina Tal was born in January to daughter Judy and son-in-law Josh Rosenbloom. In October, Dave's mother passed away 2 weeks shy of her 93rd birthday. In between, Naomi and Dave enjoyed a 2 week vacation in northern Italy.

THE TRAVELER

Jerry W. Kreider 1968 (720) [9 Narbrook Park, Narberth, PA 19072-2123; jerrys2k@comcast.net] keeps in touch with Dave Gorelick 1968 (717), Rich Ahlfeld 1968 (713), and the elusive Sam Roberts 1968 (722) by email. It is fun to keep in touch. Travelled to Turkey for 16 days in September – an eye-opening trip to this “bulwark” between Europe and the Middle East. Jerry would like to see more FINANCIAL SUPPORT of Cornell Acacia from his era!

Stuart S. Hantman MD 1971 (756) [28 Founders Green, Pittsford, NY 14534-2165; StuHantman@aol.com] and wife Carol 1973 like to travel with their local grandchildren, Abby and Sam. Recent destinations include Hershey Park, Cooperstown, Toronto, NYC, South Florida, and, of course, Ithaca. Daughter Melissa 2001 is a freelance writer for Rochester Magazine.

William A. Utic 1977 (836) [95 Viento Dr, Fremont, CA 94536-4456; waur@sbcglobal.net] retired in October after 35 years managing corporate real estate for Pacific Gas and Electric Company. He’s enjoying new found freedom from schedules and the daily commute. Bill remains involved in Acacia as a Foundation director and with the local chapter in Berkeley.

Alan T. Pasquino 1984 (916) [6 High Ridge Rd., Randolph, NJ 07869-4566; alanpasquino@sbcglobal.net] enjoys their new home in New Jersey. Al’s coping with his “killer commute” (working from home). Wife, Mary Myers Pasquino 1985 (L24), is an outpatient therapist. Daughter, Jill, is in 6th grade, very social, and works hard at school.

David J Sangree 1984 (917) [1052 Maple Cliff Dr, Lakewood, OH 44107-1252; dsangree@hladvisors.com] tells us that son, Paul, is applying to Cornell this year but has other choices, as well. All is well and work stays very busy.

Thomas L. Ricketts 2003 (1051) [26 Keith St., West Roxbury, MA 02132; tlricketts@gmail.com] truly enjoyed the Fall 2014 Traveler and writes it’s great to see the house in such good hands. Tom is working as a pharmaceutical/medical device consultant and generally living the dream. He recently enjoyed a few brotherhood sessions in Boston with recent alumni Ian de Vries 2014 (1164), Matt Miller 2014 (1162), and Alex Yu 2014 (1153).

Thomas J. Balcerski 2005 (1063) [850 N Lake Shore Dr., Apt 1808, Chicago, IL 60611; tjb36@cornell.edu ; tbalcerski@gmail.com] attended the 58th Biennial Conclave in Nashville, TN where he saw Hanny Martinovici 2006 (1071) and Chip Brueckman 1978 (844) each receive the Order of Pythagoras and the Cornell Chapter receive 3 awards, and he could not have been prouder!). Tom is serving on a working group for alumni engagement through Acacia Fraternity International Council. He is making an effort to obtain copies of other chapters’ centennial histories and donate them to the Cornell Chapter library. Great job to Brother Thomas Schultz 2015 (1181) on the Traveler.

Hanny A. Martinovici 2006 (1071) [8101 Sumter Ave, Rosedale, MD 21237-2743; hacarpm@gmail.com] joined the excitement at Conclave in Nashville this past year. It was his first and was an amazing time in a great city. Looking forward to the next one

Justin W. Burden 2012 (1140) [527 Coliseum St., Apt. 22206, Orlando, FL 32828; jwb279@cornell.edu] is currently enjoying all the fun stuff to do in Orlando. Jovanny Fuentes 2014 (1168) now works at the same Lockheed Martin Mission Systems and Training office as Justin.

John M Ertl 2011 (1148) [142 Whitney St, Hartford, CT 06015; jme86@cornell.edu] reports that life is very busy between work, school, the girlfriend, and rugby but is still getting by and having a great time! He recently picked up home brewing as a recreation and has made plenty of good beer already.

Chapter Eternal

Jarman G. Kennard 1943 (400) – 06/25/2014

Alumni Honor Roll 2014-2015



| Donor | Roll | Class | Pledge Year |
|----------------------------|--------|-------|-------------|
| Bradley J Ayres * | (1070) | 2006 | PL 2003 |
| Thomas J Balcerski Ph.D. * | (1063) | 2005 | PL 2002 |
| Elie Yakov Bilmes | (1118) | 2010 | PL 2007 |
| Richard E Brewer * | (687) | 1965 | PL 1963 |
| Justin William Burden | (1140) | 2012 | PL 2009 |
| Stewart L Burger * | (738) | 1970 | PL 1967 |
| Erik Keith Burkhalter | (1123) | 2010 | PL 2007 |
| Martin S Cardinali | (918) | 1984 | PL 1981 |
| Edward A Conroy | (592) | 1957 | PL 1955 |
| Michael I Cvijanovich * | (981) | 1994 | PL 1991 |
| John Mathias Ertl | (1148) | 2011 | PL 2009 |
| Robert S Fash * | (594) | 1958 | PL 1954 |
| David R Fischell * | (800) | 1975 | PL 1972 |
| Robert T Franson | (636) | 1961 | PL 1959 |
| Paul B Goldberg * | (755) | 1971 | PL 1968 |
| David A Gorelick | (717) | 1968 | PL 1965 |
| Andrew Wintress Gross | (1113) | 2009 | PL 2006 |
| William B Hairston III * | (873) | 1980 | PL 1977 |
| Stuart S Hantman MD * | (756) | 1971 | PL 1968 |
| Matthew S Harris | (1042) | 2002 | PL 2000 |
| Charles S Hong | (1043) | 2001 | PL 2000 |
| Scott F Inglis * | (1019) | 1999 | PL 1996 |
| Benjamin Lawrence Jacoby | (1103) | 2009 | PL 2006 |
| Alan L Jette | (895) | 1982 | PL 1979 |
| William L Keltz | (632) | 1961 | PL 1958 |
| John D Koethe M.D. * | (829) | 1977 | PL 1974 |
| Jerry W Kreider * | (720) | 1968 | PL 1965 |
| Mark F Maltenfort | (831) | 1977 | PL 1974 |
| Hanny A Martinovici | (1071) | 2006 | PL 2003 |
| Harlan M Meinwald | (789) | 1974 | PL 1971 |

Cornell Acacia Endowment Donations

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 \$460,000. Our money grows based on the performance of the endowment portfolio. The amount that the brothers receive is roughly equivalent to the gain on the investment of 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 sound judgment. This past year, all Active brothers on financial aid received \$1,100 in grants each





THE TRAVELER

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|------|---------|
| Daniel R Merrill PhD | (907) | 1983 | PL 1980 |
| Robert C Merritt * | (807) | 1975 | PL 1973 |
| Stanley R Niman * | (783) | 1973 | PL 1970 |
| David A Odegaard * | (743) | 1970 | PL 1967 |
| Alan T Pasquino * | (916) | 1984 | PL 1981 |
| William Pendarvis Jr. | (440) | 1947 | PL 1946 |
| Todd Peskin * | (994) | 1995 | PL 1993 |
| Wallace M Rich | (523) | 1951 | PL 1950 |
| Thomas L Ricketts * | (1051) | 2003 | PL 2000 |
| Peter M Rimshnick * | (1060) | 2005 | PL 2002 |
| Nathan 'Tommy' Thomson Roth | (1115) | 2009 | PL 2006 |
| David J Sangree | (917) | 1984 | PL 1981 |
| Bruce G Schneider * | (842) | 1978 | PL 1975 |
| Shu Song | (1122) | 2009 | PL 2007 |
| Jeffrey D Spiro MD * | (859) | 1979 | PL 1976 |
| R. Marvin Townsend | (555) | 1955 | PL 1952 |
| William A Utic * | (836) | 1977 | PL 1974 |
| Howard S Zwiefel III * | (734) | 1969 | PL 1966 |

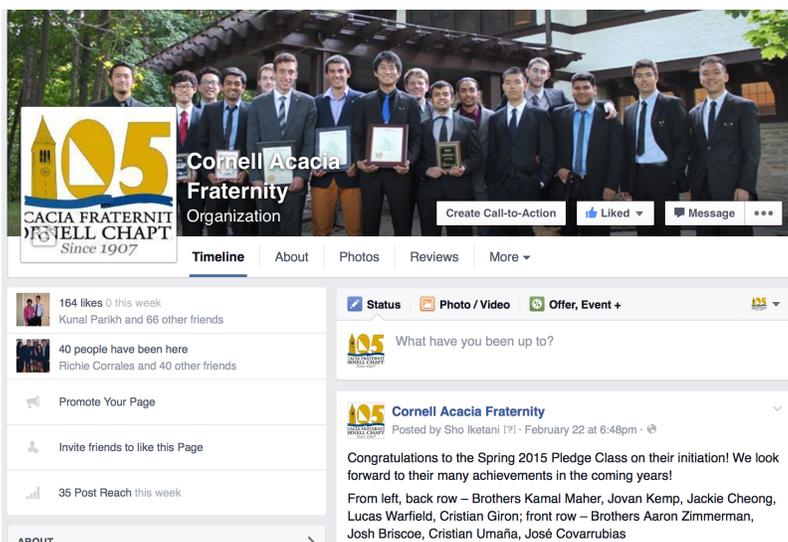
48 Donors 24 Brother Tree Leaf recognitions
 * after name indicates Brother Tree leaf recognition

**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:

**Acacia Fraternity
 Foundation,
 8777 Purdue Road,
 Suite 130
 Indianapolis, IN
 46268**

Checks should be made payable to "Acacia Fraternity Foundation". Use of the chapter's Foundation is limited to scholarships and qualified educational expenses.





Acacia Fraternity
Cornell Chapter
318 Highland Road
Ithaca, NY 14850-2302

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A view of Northcote's back entrance taken by Brother Alumnus Shane Soh