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The Traveler

Spring 1995



Volume 88

Spring 1995

Number 1

**“TO STRENGTHEN THE TIES OF FRIENDSHIP,
ONE WITH ANOTHER;
TO PREPARE OURSELVES AS EDUCATED MEN
TO TAKE A MORE ACTIVE PART
AND TO HAVE A GREATER INFLUENCE IN THE
AFFAIRS OF THE COMMUNITY
IN WHICH WE MAY RESIDE;
AND, ABOVE ALL,
TO SEEK THE TRUTH AND KNOWING IT,
TO GIVE LIGHT TO THOSE WITH WHOM WE
MAY BE ASSOCIATED
AS WE TRAVEL ALONG LIFE’S PATHWAY.”**

The Traveler is published two times annually by the Cornell University Chapter of Acacia Fraternity. This newsletter is mailed to alumni, fellow chapters, friends, and family of active members of the Chapter. Correspondence regarding this publication (as well as all other concerns) should be addressed to: Acacia Fraternity, Cornell Chapter, c/o Publicity/Alumni Affairs, 318 Highland Road, Ithaca, NY 14850-2302. The House telephone number is (607) 257-7055.

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Publisher: Acacia Corporation Board
Alumni News Compiler: Andrew "Scoop" Brenner '90

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Senior Deans	Patara Yongvanich '97	(1006)
	William A. Kelly '96	(1000)
Junior Deans	Daniel E. Turinsky '97	(1004)
	Jason Q. McKee '97	(1005)
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	Christopher J. Race IC'95	(0990)
Assistant Pledge Educator	Matthew S. Hartman '97	(1008)
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A Letter from the Editors

A Renaissance

Patara Yongvanich (#1006) and William Kelly (#1000)

Over the past year, Cornell Acacia has undergone several major changes. A revised office structure has led to an increase in cooperation and communication between the brothers. No longer are the responsibilities of Homecoming or the Traveler or Intramurals or the Formal put upon one person. They are now shared by two officers working side by side. A few years ago, a major change like this would be unheard of. However due to the growing size of the Chapter, not only was it necessary but also extremely beneficial to the continued growth of the Chapter.

In the beginning of the semester, there was also a great deal of tension between the older and younger brothers of the house. While the older brothers of the house clung to tradition, the younger ones felt that it was time for change. As the two sides clashed in heated debates and arguments, the stubbornness of both sides led to a stalemate. However through the realization that this tension had no place in a brotherhood, a great deal of change in atti-

tudes resulted. Both sides came to understand and respect each other's views and opinions.

Until recently, not too many actives realized how important a role the Alumni Corporation Board played in our lives. Within the past few years, the Alumni Corporation Board has put in a new roof, repaired Northcote after the fire, upgraded our fire alarm system, **and** paid for the installation of a new kitchen range hood. They have done everything possible to help the active chapter live comfortably and safely. On behalf of the active chapter we would like to extend our sincere gratitude.

With eight brothers leaving us this May and only four incoming brothers next Fall, we hope that the continued support of our alumni and the Alumni Corporation Board will allow Acacia to continue its proud tradition at Cornell. Acacia has undergone a renaissance. We are changing for the better. We are changing for the future.



PYTHAGORAS
THE FIRST PHILOSOPHER

From The Pulpit

Brian R. Sivillo (#993)

What is my part of the Traveler supposed to be about? Is it supposed to be a state-of-the-fraternity address? Is it supposed to be a personal article? Is it supposed to be a lot of BS coming from someone who everyone thinks is the voice of Acacia?

Whatever the Venerable Dean is supposed to say does not matter to me. I could tell you how the Brotherhood is or how Northcote is, but that would be the same section that has appeared in the last million or so Travelers. I am writing my section about something that I feel is overlooked everyday by each one of us. I am writing about us.

I am a second-semester Junior now. I have seen the best times and the worst times of my life at Acacia. I have seen many problems that we as a House have had to overcome and many problems that we as individuals have had to overcome. I have held Brothers in my arms to comfort them, and I have been held by Brothers to be comforted.

We all overlook the importance of the Brothers and friends that we meet here at Acacia. It is never too late to tell someone how much they mean to you until they are gone.

I would like to take some time to do just that. I would like to acknowledge the class of 1995:

Brother David Banfield
#0985

Brother Marc Chimonas
#0999

Brother James Dunlap
#1002

Brother Christopher Hill
#0995

Brother Todd Peskin
#0994

Brother Christopher Race
#0990

Brother Kevin Slesinsky
#0987

Brother Peter Vinogradov
#0988

Brother Thomas Zimmerman
#0986

I would like to tell these nine gentlemen just how much they have meant to me and just how much

Patara Yongvanich '97 (1006)
Mechanical Engineering
Bangkok, Thailand

Thomas A. Harp '97 (1007)
Applied & Engineering Physics
Kenmore, NY

Matthew S. Hartman '97 (1008)
Chemistry
Hershey, PA

Raymond Wang '97 (1009)
Fine Arts
Stamford, CT

Peter Nguyen '97 (1010)
Biology & Society
West Orange, NJ

Todd Russell '95 (1011)
Hotel Administration
Stratton, VT

Daniel R. Davidson '97 (1012)
Operations Research
Potomac, MD

Derek P. Deich '97 (1013)
Agricultural Economics
Cupertino, CA



Spring 1995 **CHAPTER ROSTER**

David M. Banfield '95 (0985)Chemistry
East Liverpool, OH**Jon M. Poelma '96 (0996)**Agricultural Economics
Cuba, NY**Thomas G. Zimmerman '95 (0986)**Physiology & Anatomy
Deer Park, NY**Jason Wang '96 (0997)**Mechanical Engineering
Scranton, PA**Kevin V. Slesinsky '95 (0987)**Electrical Engineering
Binghamton, NY**Marc Chimonas '95 (0999)**Biology
Atlanta, GA**Peter Vinogradov '95 (0988)**Linguistics
Wappingers Falls, NY**William A. Kelly '96 (1000)**Hotel Administration
Cameron Park, CA**Christopher J. Race IC'95 (0990)**Accounting
Blossvale, NY**James Q. Dunlap '95 (1002)**Animal Science
Machias, NY**Brian R. Sivillo '96 (0993)**Hotel Management
Erie, PA**Marco A. Cabassi '96 (1003)**Applied & Engineering Physics
Rome, Italy**Todd E. Peskin '95 (0994)**Computer Science
Washington Crossing, PA**Daniel E. Turinsky '97 (1004)**Industrial & Labor Relations
Staten Island, NY**Christopher T. Hill '95 (0995)**Animal Science
North Stonington, CT**Jason Q. McGee '97 (1005)**Chemistry
Saratoga Springs, NY

they have meant to Acacia. Brotherhood can be seen throughout the class of 1995. Much time, dedication, and hard work was given by these Brothers. Without these nine Brothers, Acacia and my Acacia experience would not be the same. I can truly say that we will miss these eight Brothers (Brother Peskin is a career student, and will be attending grad school at Cornell).

What would my Acacia experience have been like if one of these men had never joined our Brotherhood? The answer is that each of us brings something unique and special to the halls of Acacia. Without each individual influence from these gentlemen, I may never have seen the best and worst days of my life at Acacia. I have these Brothers as well as the other active and alumni members to thank for my experiences.

I will be an active member for another year (assuming I pass this semester). I will not have to begin to look back over my active Acacia career yet. The class of 1995 now has that task. I ask these brothers to remember that they do not stop being an Acacian as they

move on to alumni status. Your memories and influences will always be remembered by your Brothers and by me. I thank you for your Brotherhood and your involvement in Acacia, and I ask you not to forget us nor your experiences with us.

It is not too late to tell the class of 1995 how much they mean to me and how much they mean to Acacia. They are not yet gone. However, I would like to take a minute and reflect upon someone who I never had a chance to tell this to. Brother David Lewandowski #0984 would have been graduating this spring with the other Brothers of his class. However, he has been gone for a year now. I never had a chance to tell my Big Brother how much he means to me and Acacia. I now extend that acknowledgment.

My Brothers, I extend to you and your families my gratefulness and best wishes. I also extend my gratitude to all alumnus members of our Chapter. None of you are forgotten.

By the way, is my term up yet??? Just kidding...

Working for Change

Tom Harp (#1007)

Last semester Mike Wilhelm and I were having a discussion over a game of pool. The conversation included differences in the house, and strayed to the apparent ineffectiveness of the offices and ways to help the house. I expanded on the suggestions Mike offered to make the offices function better and I went to work with Patara Yongvanich in drawing up a new office structure.

Describing the whole structure would be difficult for this article, but I will try to mention the major points. Basically, the larger offices were split into two co-offices and dissolved the smaller offices. For example, the Senior Dean doubled and dissolved the Publicity Chair's and Secretary's duties. The Venerable Dean remained a single office (for obvious reasons) and now takes care of Risk Management. Also, the Junior Dean doubled and dissolved the Athletic Chair and Philanthropy Chair. We now have two Pledge Educators - both responsible for rush and pledge education. The Treasurer remained a single office, but an "apprentice" who has future interest in the office may be elected to learn the office. Last, but not least, the two Stewards remained single with the same responsibilities. Executive Council now consists of the Venerable Dean, the two Senior Deans, two Junior Deans, Treasurer, and the two Pledge Educators. Each person gets a separate vote in exec. council (apprentice Treasure has no vote). Elections are held each semester - one person gets

elected in the fall and one in the spring (so there is always someone with a semester's experience in the office).

This new structure provides a number of opportunities that we didn't have before. I must emphasize that each person in the office is a co-officer (except for the apprentice Treasurer). Each has equal power and they are forced to work as a team. This allows for a system of checks and balances; for instance, more ideas and opinions get considered, and there is an automatic monitoring of each other's progress. Granted, there will be a natural rookie/veteran relationship, which I consider necessary and healthy. The "veteran" will have more experience to offer, yet the "rookie" is not inferior. Another advantage is that this system gives the officers flexibility. We, as college students, obviously have certain weeks with prelims, or health problems, etc. when we can't concentrate on house activities so much. In such a case, the other Pledge Educator can run the weekly pledge meeting, or the other Senior Dean can make those phone calls to Anderson Rental for homecoming weekend, etc.

Since the proposal calls for an amendment to our Constitution, the discussion to pass the office changes took quite a while. Naturally there was opposition. One of the main concerns was of potential gridlock between two co-officers and that cooperation would be rare. Also, people voiced concern that there were only two single semester offices left (the two Stewards), and that

MARY MYERS PASQUINO '85 (L024) PL '84

STANLEY R NIMAN '73 (0783) PL'70

JOHN R PAKAN '53 (0524) PL'50

ALAN T PASQUINO '84 (0916) PL'81

WILLIAM PENDARVIS JR. '47 (0440) PL'46

CHESTER L POHL '51 (0495) PL'49

ROBERT T REID '39 (0346) PL'35

MICHAEL L ROSENTHAL '90 (0955) PL'87

DAVID J SANGREE '84 (0917) PL'81

ERNEST F SCHAUFLE '48 (0500) PL'49

BRUCE G SCHNEIDER '78 (0842) PL'75

G. MARTIN SCUTT '92 (0971) PL'

JAMES C SHOWACRE '50 (0447) PL'47

ROBERT H SNIDER '48 (0455) PL'47

ROBERT T SNOWDON '39 (0364) PL'37

ROGER D SOLOWAY '57 (0589) PL'54

JEFFERY D SPIRO MD '78 (0859) PL'76

STEVEN L STEIN '73 (0787) PL'70

WILLIAM L STEVENS JR. '55 (0553) PL'52

RONALD F TESARIK '59 (0615) PL'56

FREDERICK W TIERNEY JR. '71 (0763) PL'68

DAVID A TROST '71 (0764) PL'68

WILLIAM A UTIC P.E.; A.I.C.P. '77 (0836) PL'74

DEVIN T VAN ZANDT '90 (0962) PL'89

KENNETH M WEISS '83 (0902) PL'80

EARL A WESTERVELT '40 (0373) PL'37

WILLIAM WICKHAM '51 (0450) PL'47

MICHAEL A WILHELM '94 (0982) PL'91

CHARLES O WILLITS '25 (0261) PL'25

ALBERT S WOODFORD '45 (0436) PL'42

JOHN P WOODFORD '47 (0435) PL'42

ROBERT L GARDNER '57 (0605) PL'55
 EARLE F GINTER JR. '53 (0536) PL'51
 PAUL B GOLDBERG '71 (0755) PL'68
 WILLIAM B HAIRSTON III '80 (0873) PL'77
 STUART S HANTMAN MD '71 (0756) PL'68
 PAUL HAYRE '91 (0970) PL'
 CARL H HERZOG '66 (0711) PL'65
 HENRY L HOOD '43 (0407) PL'40
 STEVEN R HOROWITZ '92 (0966) PL'89
 DAVID J HOWER '51 (0526) PL'50
 CHARLES W HUFFINE III '86 (0931) PL'83
 F. MICHAEL HUGO '62 (0597) PL'54
 BURTON F INGLIS '40 (0385) PL'38
 JONATHAN JACOBY '92 (0967) PL'89
 PAUL C JAMES '56 (0606) PL'55
 ALAN L JETTE '82 (0895) PL'79
 LAFAYETTE W. "PETE" KNAPP JR. '51 (0509) PL'49
 A. LEE KNIGHT '71 (0757) PL'68
 THOMAS E KOCOVSKY JR. '69 (0730) PL'66
 JOHN L KRAKAUER '62 (0642) PL'59
 JERRY W KREIDER '68 (0720) PL'65
 WAYNE E KUHN 'GR (0288) PL'26
 RALPH E LAMAR III '58 (0599) PL'55
 JOHN E LUTZ '64 (0676) PL'62
 ALLEN M MALE '62 (0643) PL'59
 JOHN S MALLERY JR. '52 (0545) PL'51
 MARK F MALTENFORT '77 (0831) PL'74
 DANIEL R MERRILL '83 (0907) PL'80
 ROBERT C MERRITT '75 (0807) PL'73
 DWIGHT S MILLER '51 (0472) PL'48
 SAMUEL C MORRIE '81 (0833) PL'74

we may have a shortage of candidates running for offices because the responsibilities of each office might be too much (for instance - someone interested in pledge education may not want to do rush). The proposal has not been officially incorporated into our Constitution. Instead, there will be a discussion on its effectiveness next fall and a vote will then be made about whether or not to keep it.

So far I think the new structure has worked well. We had a fantastic rush (even if the numbers don't reflect that), there are two Senior Deans both putting together this edition of the Traveler, and two Junior Deans work-

ing on possibly our first (joint) mixer with a Cornell sorority in years. So far I haven't seen any of the "gridlock" that was feared - instead cooperation seems to work - because things are getting done.

I am proud of the new system for its effectiveness, and the house for its desire to change for the better. The system has a great number of advantages, and little (if any) disadvantages. Unfortunately, I don't plan on being here next fall for the discussion and vote (I will be doing co-op, hopefully), but I feel confident that the changes will continue to show improvement and we will decide to stick with them.

What is Brotherhood?

Patara Yongvanich (#1006)

When asked why I'm in a fraternity, a lot of things come into mind. My most common answer is the brotherhood. But what is brotherhood? There are an infinite number of answers to this very ordinary question. Some people might say that it is when you take a study break to go down stairs and have a drink with a friend? Others might say that brotherhood is when you don't go to that Pearl Jam concert to take care of a sick friend. What do I say? I think the best way to describe brotherhood is through an example.

Last autumn as I walked home from classes, I decided that it was time to start raking the front lawn since

there was already a six inch carpet of leaves covering it. I got out a rake and started raking not realizing what I have gotten myself into. After forty-five minutes, I had finished only a small corner of the lawn. As I was about to give up, David Banfield stuck his head out of a window and asked me if I needed any help. After a half a second of thought, I accepted his offer and we continued to rake. Two hours later, the front lawn was finished. We went inside to get a drink and sat and talked a little in the bar room. At that moment I realized what brotherhood was because I had been witnessing it for the past two hours.

Autumn Without School

Jason Wang (#997)

For as long as I can remember, autumn has meant school. Being a junior, that makes seventeen autumns in a row. Every year, the changing of the leaves is a cue to buy school supplies and school clothes. But this past autumn was different. Instead of buying school supplies and school clothes, I spent my money on things like plane tickets and apartment deposits. This semester, I was doing something different, I was doing Co-op.

For those of you who aren't familiar with the engineering co-operative program, it means that you go to work the fall semester of your junior year and again in the summer after. The classes you would have taken during the semester away are taken in an intensive summer session before your first work session. So, after my 18 credit summer in hell, I started packing for my job in sunny Livermore, California.

California is quite a bit different from what I'm used to in the Northeast. The roads are not eroded by salt, ice, and studded tires. Even the older cars have no signs of rust, and everything is yellow or brown in the warm

season. They are windmill fields scattered about the hill sides too. Besides that, it really isn't too much different... except it's a lot warmer and dryer of course. But the people are pretty much the same... except they actually stop for you at crosswalks. But the entertainment is about the same... except that they have San Francisco, the 49ers, Oakland, Lake Tahoe, Yosemite National Park, and wonderful beach sunsets... of course. Ok, so maybe it is really different. But hey, besides all that, what good is California! They have O.J.T.V., earthquakes, floods, bankrupt counties, L.A. smog, the San Diego Chargers, 8.25% sales tax, Tori Spelling, and some guy who thinks he can buy his way into congress. Anyway, needless to say, I experienced a lot of new things in California.

Of course, one of the most substantial experiences was working at Sandia National Labs. As part of the Combustion Research Facility my project pretty much boiled down to laser and optical diagnostics of basic oxygen furnace steelmaking. I'll spare you the details. But it was a welcome change to work during the fall instead

HONOR ROLL (1994 - 1995)

LANE J ABRAMS '84 (0915) PL'81
 RICHARD B AHLFELD '68 (0713) PL'65
 DAVID B ASTER '77 (0884) PL'79
 ROBERT L BADDERS '73 (0777) PL'70
 WILLIAM A BEISCHER '56 (0564) PL'53
 CLARENCE F BENT DVM '39 (0334) PL'33
 ROBERT J BERGREN '50 (0443) PL'47
 ANDREW S BRENNER '90 (0953) PL'87
 MICHAEL BUDRESKI '94 (0978) PL'91
 MARTIN S CARDINALI '84 (0918) PL'81
 DAVID L CHAMPLIN '55 (0546) PL'52
 ROY S CLARKE JR '49 (0441) PL'47
 JOHN M CLARKSON 'GR (0309) PL'29
 ETHAN H COSGRIFF '82 (0889) PL'79
 WALTER E COX JR. '52 (0491) PL'49
 JOHN R CURTISS '51 (0504) PL'49
 MICHAEL I CVIJANOVICH '94 (0981) PL'91
 CHARLES W DEAKYNE '50 (0446) PL'47
 BRUCE W DEAN '57 (0576) PL'54
 CHRISTOPHER P DEANE '83 (0908) PL'80
 SCOTT H DULMAN '83 (0899) PL'80
 JEFFERY A EARICKSON '77 (0823) PL'74
 PHILIP ENGLER '70 (0739) PL'67
 WILLIAM R EVANS '66 (0672) PL'62
 ROBERT S FASH '59 (0594) PL'55
 JOHN F FELDSTED '77 (0824) PL'74
 DAVID R FISCHELL '75 (0800) PL'72
 DONALD C FISH '58 (0595) PL'55
 CAREY W FLETCHER '58 (0596) PL'55
 JOHN C GAMMEL '77 (0826) PL'74

1949

Roy S. Clarke, Jr. 0441 [8333 Verona Drive, New Carrollton, MD 20784, 301-577-6891] writes that he "retired officially at the end of 1993 after 36 years as a planetary scientist at [the National Museum of Natural History] at the Smithsonian, but continue my research on meteorite metal and many of my curatorial activities as an emeritus staff member." Roy reports that his three daughters and their eight grandchildren continue to provide us with vigorous stimulation. Roy's youngest daughter had quintuplets in April 1993, and although one of the girls lived only 10 days, the other two boys and two girls are great fun to be with, but a lot of work for the care-givers, including grandmother Grace.

1948

Ernest F. Schaufler 0500 [101 Turkey Hill Road, Ithaca, NY 14850-2938, 607-273-0280] writes that his son, Doug, recently received his Ph.D. from Penn State. Ernie's other son, Don, is managing Cornell's Arnot Forest, and his daughter Kathy is back in Ithaca after 8 years at USA Today.

1942

John P. Woodford 0435 [4364 Greenwood Drive, Okemos, MI 48864, 517-349-4593] wrote in late November that he and his wife were awaiting the birth of their 15th grandchild. John, write the Traveler with details!

Clarence F. Benny Bent, DVM 0334 [Embassy MH Park, 16416 US-19 North, Lots 1704, Clearwater, FL 34624, 813-536-0735] writes that "Our financial situation deteriorated markedly as of last July. But my affection for Cornell Acacia supersedes about everything but our church. So in your adversity, I feel compelled to send the enclosed check!"

John M. Clarkson 0309 [Presbyterian Home C-213, 801 Musgrove Street, Clinton, SC 29325, 803-833-4342] celebrated his 92nd birthday on October 14, 1994! John writes that he just returned from a 15-day trip to the British Isles.

Wayne E. WEK Kuhn 0288 [12705 Southeast River Road, Mann Terrace #107-T, Portland, OR 97222, 503-652-6780] wrote that he hopes the recent Traveler will result in an increase in the Alumni sending in their dues. Wayne remembers that we had rough times when we were on Buffalo Street, but it was a great house. Pledges at that time were required to be Master Masons. It probably accounted for the larger number of Graduate Students in the Fraternity at the time. I trust all of you will remember Acacia when you become Alumni. Wayne's generous fraternityship continues to help financially-needy members of the active chapter each semester.

of study. I learned a lot about the endless possibilities of the real world, and now have a more, "informed confusion," about my own future. I guess that is what co-op is all about. After spending a semester away, I have come to realize what college does and does not do for you. I now realize that college really prepares you well for the, "real world," but it doesn't really tell you what you're prepared for. It's kinda like teaching a child to swing a bat, but when you show him/her the ball, he/she says, "What's that for?" (How about that analogy Mr. Regenbaum?)

Naturally, having no homework to do after work afforded plenty of opportunity to go sight-seeing and

road-tripping. So the thirteen of us from Cornell had weekly trips to everywhere. (Wow, imagine thirteen engineers out loose in California. Scary isn't it?) We saw Yosemite, many parts of San Francisco, quite a few miles of beach, a couple Lake Tahoe ski resorts, and some even ventured to southern California by way of San Diego. Of course, we didn't get to see everything, but we're going back this summer. As a matter of fact, Bill Kelly and I are driving cross country at the end of May. So, we are going to try to stop by some chapters along the way, as well as National Headquarters. (Don't say I didn't warn you.) Well, hope to see some of you soon!



Our Air

Marco Cabassi (#1.003x10³)

I was going to write an article concerning the progressive loss of humanity we are subject to in today's society, spurred on by a rather hyper polite waitress who asked me how I was as she poured me a cup of muddy coffee. I think I replied, but that is not very important at the moment. A more pressing question regarding windows has entered my mind and prevented anything else from even thinking about entering my consciousness.

A window happens to be a hole in the wall, through which you can see: rain, sleet, snow, and sometimes some other stuff that only raises vague memories. An obvious problem raised by this 'need' to look outside involves heat transfer, since windows tend to cause steep temperature gradients very inconvenient for furless mammals such as I sometimes try to be. We also have convective heat loss helped along by drafts. So, necessity being the mother of invention, a brother down the hall has insulated his window with saran wrap. I decided that it would suffice to close my storm windows, and temporarily replace the window latch with duct tape. This is also extremely useful if we were ever subjected to a nerve gas

attack. In which case I'd get to see the mayhem from the comfort of my own little window. I wonder whether such an attack would cause the fire alarm to go off... everything else does, from steam to a few parts per million of alcohol molecules drifting along what is supposed to be our common air. Which means I'd have to go outside and melt or whatever.

Following my stream of conscious I arrive to the wing bathroom fan. If this is a logical progression that is immediate to all readers, good. If not, no harm done since I have just warned you. Anyway, kudos to the man who was able to understand the fan switch. The House Manager and I spent a couple of hours wondering why the switch manufacturer would bother to tell us how to turn the switch on and off. Then we tried all possible connection permutations. Then someone came along and read the instructions. I now know that reset does not mean on/off (I apologize for the barbaric slash, but when discussing switches it is rather hard to resist the temptation). This will prevent us from suffering a mildewy death at the hands of mutant strains of shower variety plants. It also prevents us from us-

1953

Earle F. Ginter, Jr. 0536 [15 South Columbia Street, Woodbury, NJ 08096-2102] is currently retired from his job at Mobil R&D Corporation. Earle and his wife Evelyn 53 are enjoying their three grown children and five grandchildren. John R. Pagan 0524 [13 Hemlock Drive, Clifton Knolls, Clifton Park, NY 12065-4841, 518-371-8395] writes that he had dinner with brothers John Mallery, Lloyd Hayner, Al Hoyt, Bob Cipperly, Wally Rich, and their wives. John reports that all were well and in good health. John tells us he has been keeping busy by helping the Air Sciences Museum at the Schenectady Airport, travelling to visit his parents' home town in Europe, and following the other usual retiree pursuits with his wife, Marge.

1952

Walter E. Cox, Jr. 0491 [Alte Landstrasse 95, CH-8803 Ruschlikon, Switzerland, phone 01-211-0636, or US: SRI, 333 Ravenswood Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025] tells us that he will retire from his position as the Manager of Market Research-Europe for SRI International at the end of 1995. Walter is busy starting his new business in Foundry Supplies.

1951

David J. Hower 0526 [187 Lookout Lane, Willow Grove, PA 19090, 215-659-5203] is retired from Richardson-Vicks, but is still doing consulting work part-time as a Management Quality Consultant. David writes that "Your issue of the Traveler is one of if not the best. Good luck."

Dwight S. Miller 0472 [Schultzville Road, RR 2 Box 207, Clinton Corners, NY 12514-9619, 914-266-5880] is still a cattle appraiser, and hopes to hear from others who were in the house when he was.

1950

Robert J. Bergren 0443 [120 Porter Street Easton, PA 18042] leads a busy retirement life with his wife. Robert is also planning to return for his 45th Reunion, and writes that he hopes to see Jack Carpenter and Charlie Deakyne there. We hope so, too!

Charles W. Deakyne 0446 [16 Severn River Road, Severna Park, MD 21146-4658, 410-647-6674] reports that he is still working and enjoying it. Charles can be found cruising or racing his sailboat on Chesapeake Bay on most weekends. He recently saw Robert Bergren 0443, and he frequently visits Lloyd Wagner. Charles expects to return to Cornell and to Northcote for his 45th Reunion. We'll see you there, Charles!

AKAKIA

1959

Ronald F. Tesarik 0615 [1080 Havenwood Lane, Lake Forest, IL 60045, 312-295-3367] conveyed best wishes to Cornell Acacia as you bounce back from adversity. Ronald tells us that his youngest child is off to college at SMU, allowing him and his wife to travel more frequently. Ronald has traveled to France, Greece, Turkey, Mexico, and Eastern Europe over the past year.

1958

Donald C. Fish 0595 [4405 Holter Ct., Jefferson, MD 21755, 301-371-6561] now has 5 children and 7 grandchildren so far. Donald writes that he now does research on cancer at the NCI-Frederick Cancer Research and Development Center. He and his wife travelled to Russia this summer for 15 days. St. Petersburg, Moscow, Kiev. Donald tells us he had a wonderful time and saw the beautiful churches and museums which hold the treasures of Russia and the spirit of the people there. Aside from travel and his grandchildren, Donald keeps himself busy gardening, playing tennis, and faceting gemstones.

Carey W. Fletcher 0596 [1624 Dole St #1101, Honolulu, HI 96822] traveled last summer to Austria, Switzerland, and England where he tells the Traveler that he saw 8 plays in 5 days in London.

Robert L. Gardner 0605 [15650 Bull Mountain Road, Tigard OR 97224, 503-590-4966] writes that "I love the spirit of the brothers that is evident in your newsletters. I wish that I might live closer to occasionally be present. Keep the faith, continue to seek the truth. God bless!!"

1957

Ed Conroy 0592 [820 Forbes Drive, Ligonier, PA 15658, 412-238-4368] tells us that he retired after 37 years in hospital lab sales. He is currently setting up a new business in consumer product sales and thinks he will probably work harder in retirement than he did in his working career. Ed was excited to get back to Homecoming Celebration and Princeton Game.

Roger D. Soloway, M.D. [2926 Dominique, Galveston, TX 77551, 409-744-9619] is currently the Director of the Division of Gastroenterology, for the University of Texas Medical Branch Hospital, Galveston. Roger writes that the Traveler news last year allowed him "to get back in touch with my Acacia pledge brother and roommate Paul James '56. Marooned on an off-shore island like Galveston forces me to write to keep in contact." Roger and his wife have been enjoying their first grandchild. Dr. Soloway lectured on gallstones, liver and biliary tract disease (yuck!) in Japan and Brazil last year, and plans to go to Israel, Italy, and Germany soon. He writes that he hopes to hear soon from Jack Cooper and John Mole.

ing the shower as a sauna which, contrary to popular belief, does not actually have that many drawbacks.

Speaking of fans (the logical progression here is perfectly in tune with the stream of consciousness), we now have a new fan in the kitchen. I'm particularly happy about this, not because it is now less likely we blow ourselves up, but for a simpler, self centered reason. I have the room directly above the fan. This meant that when the old kitchen fan was in use, I could use my room as an observation point for the formation of extremely interesting standing wave forms. I tried to move my furniture around so as to

decrease the floor's impedance, but I could never locate the wave nodes accurately enough. I then also tried to establish if there was a relationship between what was being cooked and the average displacement angle of the top bunk of my bed. Strange as it may seem, no such relationship exists. Thanks to the new fan, I now have more free time to do other interesting things, like for example devising new ways to keep my windows shut.

Perhaps now I'll turn my mind to finding a cure to humanity's loss of humanity (sorry about the catch phrase). Perhaps I'll start by telling that waitress to stop being polite, if she hasn't done so already.

Junior Steward's Report

Todd Russell (#1011)

Many of you are probably not aware of the fact that Marshall Boles, long time chef and friend of Acacia, has left us to follow other dreams. His wake has left us with the challenge of searching for a new chef that can live up to his standards. Being a hotel major I was faced with an interesting challenge. Not only to find a new chef but to be able to develop a different style of menu. To often many of us in the past few years have joked about the amount

of grease in the food. Among the old items like Salisbury steaks and chili, I will try to integrate fresh vegetables and ingredients to create eggplant parmesan, fresh fish and chicken stir-fry. Hopefully, the active brothers will like this change and see it as a positive change for the house. I feel that if I can provide both healthy and popular meals for the brotherhood and stay well within budget.

SAFETY FIRST...

Peter Vinogradov (#0988)

It was a Saturday night - well, okay, to be technical it was Sunday at about 3 am. I didn't really care because at that moment, in the inconceivable cold of Ithaca night, the only thing in my head was the thought of me, in my bed, warm and fast asleep in a puddle of my own drool.

It had been a tiring first week of classes, and as I turned out the light and began crawling under the shelter of my blanket, and as Morpheus (or whatever Greek god is in charge of throwing sand around and bringing blissful slumber etc.) began to do his thing, I was delighted to be done. And then, of course, there was a fire drill.

Could it be someone taking a really hot shower? Without the fan on? At three a.m....? On a weekend...? This scenario seemed less and less probable. No, I decided, this was a bona fide fire drill. I had no choice but to follow the rules, put on my shoes and bathrobe, head out into the freezing cold, and give someone a good thrashing when it was all over.

Within a few minutes, all Acacians were outside in their shorts and slippers - the chatter of

teeth beginning to drown out the din of our new alarm system. The brothers in charge of the drill behaved like absolute professionals. Taking care not to aggravate their disgruntled brothers, they calmly ushered us outside, checked the building, turned off the alarm, and thanked us for our patience.

I must say that despite my preoccupation with the temperature, I had to take a moment to appreciate the work of my brethren. Although clearly the drill had been planned well in advance, we were all taken by surprise. And yet, people were sober and cooperative, and no voices were raised. Before long, we were happily back in the comfort of our heated rooms.

By the time the drill was over, my initial annoyance and desire to thrash someone were gone. I returned to my room, which almost one year ago had been destroyed by fire, and I decided to simply be glad it wasn't the real thing. I also realized, perhaps for the first time, how lucky I was to have joined a house with thoughtful, responsible brothers, and with generous and supportive alumni - Acacians, who put safety first.

1977

Mark F. Maltenfort 0831 [12076 Mereview, Creve Coeur, MO 63146, 314-991-3918] tells us that he is still in St. Louis as a Director of Business Operations for McDonnell Douglas. Mark writes that my son and daughter are now 9 and 6 years old. It is hard to believe that 20 years ago I moved into Acacia. Time really does fly.

1971

David A Trost 0764 [RR 1 Box 155-A, Vermontville, NY 12989-9801, 518-891-2896] sends congratulations to Rick Birkland on his recent wedding! I'm still single and enjoying the outdoor life - hunting, fishing, golfing, etc. Best of luck in your rebuilding program (both the physical plant and the brotherhood).

Stuart S. Hantman, M.D. 0756 [382 N.W. 112 Ave., Coral Springs, FL 33071, 305-755-1565] reports that he recently attended the meeting of the Southeast Chapter of the Nuclear Medicine Society in Savannah, Georgia, and that his wife, Carol Fox Hantman '73 was recently elected to the Board of Trustees at Temple Beth Orr. He continues, my daughter Melissa, 15, spent three weeks at Duke studying oratory this past summer. My son, Mark 11, plays Little League baseball.

Paul B. Goldberg, M.D. 0755 [47 Bay Pointe Dr., Ormond Beach, FL 32174, 904-677-2421] wrote "Thanks to all the brothers for making the recent visit of my daughter Deb and I a memorable experience."

1970

Philip Engler 0739 [11350 Terwilligers Valley Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45249-2743] and his family recently moved to Cincinnati, where Phillip began a new job as Manager of Analytical Services for James River Corporation's packaging business.

1968

Jerry W. Kreider 0720 [9 Norbrook Park, Narberth, PA 19072, 215-667-4759] wrote that he visited Rich Ahlfeld at his 70 year-old Culver Lake, NJ summer cottage in late October and later hosted David Gorelick for an afternoon at our home in mid-November while David was visiting his son Daniel, a sophomore at the University of Pennsylvania. Jerry also wrote to thank Steve Stein for all his work in helping the brotherhood of Acacia, and explained that he sent in his dues and also added a building fund contribution (just enough to get those couple of zeros you asked about!). Thanks Jerry!

Richard B. Ahlfeld 0713 [1175 Wychwood Rd., Mountainside, NJ 07092, 201-654-4677] reports that his daughter Laura, is now a freshman at SUNY Elmira.

Michael L. Rosenthal 0955 [2950 Van Ness St., N.W., Apt #216, Washington, D.C. 20008, e-mail mrosenthal@cov.com] is now employed as an attorney for the Washington firm of Covington & Burling. Mike reports that he moved to Washington, D.C. so now I get to see David Rickerby and his fiancée, Michelle. Dave reports that Ripley [Acacia's house dog from roughly 1988-91] is alive and well Dave's moving out of D.C. and into Virginia so Ripley can have a yard to play in.

Andrew S. Scoop Brenner 0953 [1400 North Lakeshore Drive #6-O, Chicago, IL 60610, 312-649-9402, e-mail abrenner@interaccess.com] is in his second year as an associate specializing in intellectual property, technology law, and litigation at the law firm of Kirkland & Ellis in Chicago. In January, Andy attended the wedding reception held in Houston for Paul Hayre and his bride, Jeanette; also attending were Brother John Carpenter and his wife, Margaret. Andy also hangs out from time to time with Bill Spam Cammuso, who is in Chicago allegedly working on an engineering project for Fleur Daniel.

1984

Martin S. Cardinali 0918 [45 Morning Glory Road, Warren, NJ 07059, 908-356-6432] reports that he and his wife Holly had a beautiful baby boy named Matthew Ryan on June 6, 1995.

Lane J Abrams 0915 [28 Locust Street, Falmouth, MA 02540-2657, 508-540-5062] reports that his job as a Research and Electrical Engineer at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Alvin Group is going well. Lane had another cruise this summer: 5 weeks in the mid-Atlantic 2,000 miles from anything. Lane's son Ivan turned 2 years old this fall, and Lane and his wife Lysbeth were expecting another child in December 1994.

1983

Christopher P. Deane 0908 [14622 South Abbot Road West, Lockport, IL 60441-9233, 708-301-2730] writes that he changed jobs and now work for The Clorox Company. Barbi is working for a law firm in Chicago and we have two daughters: Elizabeth (4) and Samantha (2). Chris says that he doesn't see as many alumni now that his family doesn't live on the East Coast, but we enjoy the Traveler.

Kenneth M. Weiss 0902 [27 Vose Hill Road, Westford, MA 01886-4527, 508-392-0370] explains that After 10 years, Julie and I finally did it. Alanna Marie was born 8/9/94. She's great!

1978

Jeffrey D Spiro, M.D. 0859 [14 Lincoln Lane, Simsbury, CT 06089] was recently promoted to the position of Associate Professor of Surgery at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine.

Bruce G. Schneider 0842 [7 Hilly Field Lane, Westport, CT 06880, 203-226-0173] remains a Vice President for Citibank and writes that son Michael is four and is a really good negotiator. He has won some arguments with his dad.

Social Report

Dan Turinsky (#1004)

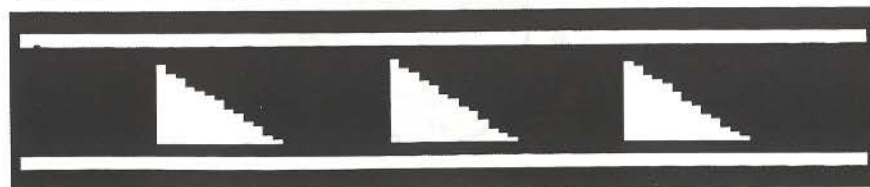
This is my first semester as Co-Junior Dean for the fraternity. Last semester I was the editor of The Traveler. Before I begin describing the social program I would like to extend my thanks to all of the alumni, active brothers, family and friends who took time out of their busy schedules to read the previous edition. Their support made The Traveler such a big success.

The first social event I'd like to discuss is one that many of the recent alumni are very familiar with. That event is the new and improved ACACIA KNOWLEDGE AND KINSHIP CUP, otherwise known as the AKAK CUP. It is a semester long competition consisting of a variety of different activities designed to foster camaraderie, friendship and, of course, brotherhood. Some of the events are simply popular sports among the brothers, like basketball and pool. However, events like the scavenger hunt and the best original joke competition will require a little more ingenuity to win. No

matter who eventually emerges as the winner of the AKAK CUP it will definitely be a rewarding experience for all.

We are also having our annual Valentines semi-formal, as well as a formal which will consist of a dinner cruise around Cayuga Lake. Those events are always popular with the brothers, and this year should be no exception. Finally, the mixers and bar nights we will be having throughout the semester should round out the social program.

None of the social events this semester would be possible without active support from our alumni. I am extremely pleased to say that last semester's Traveler invoked a very positive response. However, it is imperative that you continue to pay your alumni dues. As I stressed in the last edition, think about all of the terrific memories you have of your time as an active brother, and be sure not to deny those experiences to Acacians of the present and the future due to a lack of interest.



Treasurer's Report on the Internet

Todd Peskin (#0994)

Instead of boring all of you with a nice long discussion on the houses finances, I am going to keep my report brief. NYSEG will have all ready been paid off in full by the time you receive this Traveler. Last semester we were able to dissolve almost all of the debt that we owed and we entered this semester with only a small burden. As long as we receive all of the dues that we are expecting from the brothers then we should be in good shape by this summer. I am hoping that we will be able to take all of the summer income from boarders, approximately \$2000, and place it into our reserve account. I would like to thank all of the actives and alumni who have helped the house in solving this problem. If it had not been for your generosity and the ability of the officers to keep their budgets to a minimum then I would not be giving such a positive report now.

Okay, well enough with the financial stuff, now onto some information about Acacia and the Internet. We are up and running! The mailing list is active and we currently have approximately thirty people on the list already. This includes actives and alumni from the Cornell chapter as well as actives from other chapters and Darold Larson from the National Headquarters. Currently the discussion has been pretty limited, but I am hoping that this semester we will be able to use the list as a better way for this chapter to keep in touch with our alumni and many of the other chapters.

I would really like to thank Andrew Brenner (953) for all of his help in starting this mailing list. If you would like to become a part of this mailing list then please send me an e-mail message at tep1@cornell.edu. Please include your Name, Chapter, Roll Number, and E-mail address.



to do so!

Finally, a hearty thanks to those alumni who have shown their concern for the Cornell Chapter by donating their time, money and interest to their fraternity since last fall. I know many of us had the same thoughts as Brother Bent, who donated despite his financial adversity because he felt compelled to do so.

With all of our continued efforts, we can continue to strengthen the ties of friendship and preserve the Cornell Acacia experience for future generations of young men.

[1400 North Lakeshore Drive #6-O, Chicago, IL 60610, e-mail abrenner@interaccess.com]



1994

Michael I. Cvijanovich 0981 [5901-13 Tattersall Dr., Durham, NC 27713-9050, 919-544-3048] writes that he, Mike Budreski, and Ari Haq all wound up around Raleigh, NC. I live across the street from Mike and see Ari every week or so. It's been a lot of fun having these guys around! Mike C. is a Clinical laboratory Technologist for Roche Biomedical.

1992

Steven R. Hagar the Horowitz 0966 [753 Caroline Ave., Elmont, NY 11003, 516-561-6242] wishes [c]ongratulations to all of the Acacians getting engaged and married (too many to list!)

1990

Devin T. Van Zandt 0962 [17 Shippy St., Glens Falls, NY 12801-2716, 518-761-6050, e-mail dvanzand@fel.sch.ge.com] is still working as a Design Engineer for General Electric. He writes that he [m]arried the wonderful Julia Sproul on May 29, 1994. Several Acacia Alumni attended the wedding: Brothers Chris Nolan, Gary Boone, Bill Cammuso, Andy Brenner, John Carpenter, and Paul Hayre. Both my wife and I are working very hard and looking forward to spending a belated honeymoon in Europe sometime next year. I continue to pursue a masters degree in Electric Power engineering at RPI and have bumped into Brother Andy Deetz, who is pursuing an MBA also at RPI. Any alumni who needs a good well-rounded electrical engineer, please give me a call. As mentioned elsewhere, Devin has volunteered to coordinate a reception at Northcote during the Alumni Reunion weekend, June 8-11, 1995.

Alumni News

Andrew "Scoop" Brenner '90 (#0953)

To date, returns from the fall Traveler topped \$7,000, by far the largest from any single issue in history! Our sincerest thanks to all alumni who contributed for their generosity.

Of the sizable number who contributed, many wrote some news about their lives. None, however, was as touching to me as the note accompanying a sizable donation from Clarence F. Bent, graduate of the class of 1939 [Embassy MH Park, 16416 US-19 N, Lot 1704, Clearwater, Florida 34624]. Brother Bent wrote that "Our financial situation deteriorated markedly as of last July. But my affection for Cornell Acacia supersedes about everything but our church."

As many of you know, the actives went through a tough time in academic year 1993-94, which, in part, resulted in financial ramifications for the corporation board. Essentially, the corporation is facing significantly increased expenses from insurance, taxes, and expected maintenance.

Even with the encouraging increase in returns from this fall's Traveler, the house still faces a serious financial crunch. Please rest assured that any funds you contribute go directly to fund the day-to-day expenses necessary to maintain Northcote and our Brotherhood; every alumni contribution really does make a difference. And when you contribute, drop us a line! Your Brethren would enjoy hearing what is new in your life!

Over the past year, the house has taken a major step to increase com-

munication with and among our actives and alumni by plugging into the internet. The house was able to convince Cornell to grant it an internet mailing list for any Acacian with an e-mail address. Already the list periodically carries reports from each monthly Corporation Board meeting, new job listings from Acacians and even Acacia National Director Darrold Larson is a subscriber. If you belong to any on-line service (e.g., Prodigy, America On-Line, CompuServe, Delphi) or otherwise have access to an internet e-mail address, such as through your employer, tell us! Send an e-mail to Todd Peskin at tep1@cornell.edu or call the house at 607-257-7055 with your e-mail address and a request to get hooked in! Once you are, you can send e-mail to all Acacians on the list by sending a message to acaciacul@cornell.edu.

Less high-tech, but also in the works is a suggested alumni advisory board for the Active Chapter officers. The idea: to offer guidance on a one-to-one basis to the current officers. If you'd like to help in any way, please contact me.

Cornell's Alumni Reunion weekend is June 8-11, 1995, and you are invited! Even if it is not a proper reunion year for your class, we want to see you back at Northcote! Devin Van Zandt '90 has graciously volunteered to organize an event for all returning Brothers. Please consider joining us in returning to Ithaca and to Acacia, and contact Devin if you plan

The Composite

William Kelly (#1000)

It's representative of our fraternity. It is more than merely a bunch of pictures of every brother in our fraternity. It highlights every individual that makes up the whole that is Acacia Fraternity at Cornell. This is what makes Acacia so special. We, as a fraternity, "outline" the individuals and realize that it is everyone's own personal contribution to the group that makes us successful as a fraternity.

By merely looking at the composite one can immediately see that the Cornell chapter of Acacia has a very diverse group of men. This diversity enables every brother to have a fine fraternal opportunity and enhances our overall college experience as well. We learn how to deal with others that may have other ideas and attitudes towards certain situations. This diversity will, naturally, bring some conflict. But being able to work through these conflicts is one of our strengths as a fraternity and will make us better men in the future.

The composite also serves as the historian of Acacia. Just by walking through the chapter house I can see

all of my brothers from throughout the years. I can look at people like Paul Goldberg, Richard Ahlfeld and Robert Merritt and know that they experienced the same things that I am experiencing now. Even though their years as actives are removed from mine, we still have at least one thing in common . . . Acacia. This is the bond we have and it can be seen by looking at the composite and seeing a story in every face. And I know that they'll be my brother no matter where I am. I can know that if I meet them in a mall, at a football game, or where ever, we will always have Acacia, and our experiences here, in common.

So as you can see, the composite reveals a lot more than just the faces of the men that are brothers of Acacia. It is full of stories of excitement, disappointment, fun, and of course brotherhood. All things that go into being a brother of Acacia and a student at Cornell. As a result of our years at Acacia we have extracted great wisdom, even after our face no longer continues to appear on composites.



Deep Thoughts

Todd Russell (#1012)

As I sit here at my computer thinking that this is officially my first article in the Traveler, I keep trying to think about life as an alumni. As an undergraduate, active member of Acacia, I can honestly say that I am having some of the best times of my life. This, too many of you, may not seem that uncommon. Too often growing up in our adolescent lives we have heard that, "college is the best years of our lives." However, I am here to say that that is not necessarily true, at least for me. College alone for some people (*most often GDI's: God Damned Independents*) may be all that they need. Unfortunately, for those outgoing, adventure bound, thrill seeking junkies like myself, there is a greater need; almost an urge for more. Some find it in sports and others in music. Personally, I thought that I was content being a world class flirt.

Then it happened! The "it" that I refer to is not necessarily just a small word used in charades, but rather a person. Who would have known that this person would turn out to be such an influence on my life at Cornell. Flirting one day and on a plane to Texas the next, "it" introduced me to something I thought I had experienced, but never really had. The suspense has gone on long enough. Would Mike Budreski please step forward. "No applause just throw money." For those of you that know Mike, congratulations on understanding the passion for which he had towards Acacia and his fellow brothers. For those of you that do not know

Mike, listen closely, for what follows is the epitome of not only a model Acacia brother, but of a gentleman who will undoubtedly succeed in all aspects of life.

First, let me say, that he is my big brother, so any biases that I have I will try not to include. Mike was always the guy that went out of his way to benefit others. I recall the time there was a flat of construction material on the lawn that was there for weeks, slowly destroying the grass. Mike decided not only to go move it but also to mow the lawn afterwards. This act was to help the house, however he also helped the brothers. My 21st B-day was one of the greatest nights of my life. Several of us celebrated and who graciously supported the cash flow; of course, my good buddy Mike. He is also one of those people who can make every experience positive even if it is drastically negative. For Spring Break 94, Mike, Myself and another went to South Padre Island in Texas. The second day of seven, Mike broke his ankle. Instead of pouting and turning into a party pooper, he held on and made the most out of it. (Remember the red hot sports car, rocket fuel LIIT's and the obstacle course. Thanks for the T-shirt)

Although I only knew Mike for one semester, I can honestly say that I developed a strong trust and incredible respect for him above and beyond the demands of Brotherhood. There are too many other memories for me to go into, and I certainly do not want to offend any other brother with my praise

From the Corp Board President

Steven L. Stein '73 (#0787)

In January 1995, the Corporation was forced to spend nearly \$9,000 for a new kitchen range hood and fire suppression system in order to comply with current fire/safety codes. It is hoped that our Fire Insurance premiums, which about doubled in the last year, will now be significantly reduced. We are still waiting to hear from the Insurance Company. We took out a small loan (\$6,000) in September to cover our major expenses (taxes and insurance), but now face the reality of having to borrow a significant sum (at least \$25,000) to keep pace with other necessary expenses. As I mentioned in the Fall Traveler, we need your help!

The good news (for which all Cornell Acacians are grateful) is that over 90 of our alumni have found it possible to contribute by paying dues, building fund, or special contributions, totalling over \$7,000. Brother David Aster '77 (0884) topped our donor list with a check exceeding \$800! THANK YOU, Brother Aster, and all the rest of you who displayed whatever generosity you could afford. As for the *rest* of you (some 400+), PLEASE take a moment to reflect upon the good times each of you had during your Cornell Acacia days,

and picture how differently your life would have turned out if there had been no Acacia. Without your financial support, there might not be a future for our beloved Chapter. At minimum, we ask each of you to simply pay your annual dues. For those of you who can afford more, a Building Fund contribution of at least \$10 would be most welcome. And, for those of you who have been financially successful, surprise us with a donation with at least a couple of zeroes in the dollar amount! There are other Cornell Fraternities who have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars in only a few months. In my 10 or so years as Corporation President, I don't think we have collectively received a total of even \$100,000!

I've mentioned in other Traveler's that I'd like to personally hear from some of you, if for no other reason that to know those of us "running the show" in Ithaca are not alone in our love of Acacia. Please give me a call (607-277-3125), or write me [339 East Miller Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850].

Thanks. Keep those cards and letters coming! Have a great 1995, and we'll "see you" in the Fall.



Meet the Pledges

Jordan Flaste was born on August 31, 1976 in Fort Worth, Texas to Richard and Dale Flaste. Richard is a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist, who was at The New York Times for 28 years. He now does various freelance projects. Dale is a former school teacher who currently produces and directs videos for non-profit, AIDS organizations. Jordan spent most of his life in Brooklyn, New York, but vehemently denies that he has a "Brooklyn accent." After his graduation from high school, Jordan's parents moved to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, leaving Jordan in icy Ithaca and his older sister, Rebecca, in New York City.

Since the age of ten, Jordan wanted to teach Medieval and Renaissance European History, preferably at the college level. He has, therefore, decided to major in both history and Italian Literature here at Cornell. He plans to spend at least one semester studying in Italy. He also has a love for Art History, Latin, sailing, and photography. As a high school student, Jordan won several New York State photography contests with pictures he shot, developed, and printed himself, Jordan volunteers at the Undergraduate Admissions Office and serves as a representative to his residence hall government.

Paul Gary Molnar is a freshman in the Cornell University College of Engineering. He is a Long Island native and a graduate of Commack High School. He plans to major in Computer Science with a possible double major in Electrical Engineering. Paul is a member of the newly formed Cornell Bowling Club and is on the starting lineup of the traveling team. He also serves as treasurer of the club. Already with one perfect game under his belt, Paul will be an invaluable member on Acacia's bowling team. He also was the recipient of two \$1000

scholarship awards: the New York State Men's Bowling Association Scholarship and the New York State Professional Engineers Society Past Officers Scholarship. Paul hopes to be a valuable member of Acacia Fraternity and to enjoy the privileges of being a member of this honorable Fraternity.

One of the pledges is **Pep Chanrusanti**. He is a freshman in the College of Arts and Sciences. He is from Alameda, CA, which is across the bay from San Francisco and a hop, skip, and a jump from Oakland. Currently Pep is undeclared, but he is leaning toward majoring in either English so he can write nasty letters to people all over the world or chemistry so he can blow up the World Trade Center correctly. In his free time, Pep likes to swim because he.....well.....likes going back and forth, back and forth, back and forth between the two walls. He also enjoys volleyball, since since it is the onlky sport where you can legally pound another person in the face with the ball. Normally though, Pep is very HAPPY! He's a guy with a very distinct laugh, or so they say. HA HA HA!!!!

Barclay Hershey, freshman physics major in the Arts and Sciences college, born to Jacqueline and Colin Hershey. He has lived his enitre life in Sewickley, Pa, about eleven miles northwest of Pittsburgh. He was born on Feb. 22, 1976, and attended Quaker Valley Senior High School. Barclay has been involved with the Sewickley Valley YMCA Leaders Club, a community service organization, since the seventh grade, and has held several offices there ranging from director of the development committee to vice president. He has also been on the YMCA's swim team for two years, and the highschool team for two years.

to Mike.

In closing I just want to say that I miss the class of 94. I understand that I was a cocky, arrogant jerk. However, I have changed and a lot of that was due to your faith and belief in me.

I especially want to thank BUD. Your dedication to Acacia has inspired us all. I will always remember our times together and wish you luck in the future.

The Advantages and Disadvantages of Being an Out of House Brother

by Matthew S. Hartman (#1008)

At one point or another, every brother of Acacia has asked himself how he can best serve his house and brothers. Being an out of house brother, this question is even more difficult to answer. Let me briefly explain the circumstances. Having pledged last spring, my parents were not initially thrilled with the idea of my joining a fraternity (undoubtedly they conjured up images of Animal House). Moreover, they were concerned that fraternity living would distract me from my rigorous pre-med course work. I have therefore been living the past year in Mary Donlon residence hall.

Although I was uncertain and upset at first, this decision proved to be a good one. First, I was able to remain active in the

chapter by eating my meals at Northcote, being athletic and assistant rush chair, and attending various functions. I was also able to balance these activities with my tough schedule and actually ended up having my best semester. Moreover, by living in the dorms, I was able to spread the Acacia name to impressionable freshman, who had no idea what fraternity living was about. Thus I was able to encourage a lot of guys to visit Northcote during the semester and during rush. I even got my roommate, Derek Deich (1013), to pledge Acacia. Although dorm living is more expensive and is not as much fun as living at Northcote, I appreciate the wisdom of my parent's original decision.

Getting into Medical School

Marc Chimonas (#0999 last of the triple digits)

I'll never forget the cold afternoon last December when I returned from a difficult physical chemistry exam to find the beloved thick envelope in my mail box. The contents envelope told me two things. First, I need not take my remaining finals too seriously, and second, I had come to the end of a long difficult journey. I got into medical school!

And what a long, difficult journey it has been! As a freshman, I thought getting into medical school was a bit like getting into undergraduate college: You apply to four or five schools. One safety school and three or four ivy league/blue chip schools. You might not get your first choice, but everyone gets in some where.

I soon discovered I was quite wrong. For the entering class of 1995, roughly 45,000 college seniors are applying for 16,000 spots. To make things worse, every applicant applies to ten to twelve schools on average. Some apply to as few as five schools, but those with shaky GPA's (2.8 to 3.2) often apply to more than twenty. Most medical schools assume fifty percent of those accepted will matriculate, so they accept twice the desired class size. All this means that there are 450,000 applications for 32,000 spaces or a 7.1% acceptance rate. Fewer than 35.5% of this year's applicants will get into a single school. The rest have to apply again next year, pursue other studies, or work at Denny's. The stress is incredible.

Understandably, many pre-meds steal each others' notes and sabotage each others laboratory experiments. However, students with such mentalities usually end up as the unhappy 64.5%. Their treacherous acts being motivated by a well deserved sense of academic inadequacy.

For those who want to fill out applications their senior year, the decision to apply must be made by the beginning of one's sophomore year. Otherwise the majority of the pre-med courses (biology, chemistry, etc.) will not be completed by the end of one's junior year. The actual application process begins during the junior year by one's own college. Most undergraduate schools have their own Health Careers Evaluation Committee (HCEC) that evaluates and advises pre-med

students. The cost for such an evaluation is \$120 and is often required by most medical schools. Here at Cornell, one of the biggest pre-med schools, 65% of students who use HCEC get accepted to at least one school, while less than 50% students who do not use it are successful. Basically, HCEC writes the recommendation(s) that medical schools use to evaluate a candidate. After you pay the fee, you have to send them your transcript, write an essay, list all extra-curricular, and convince three faculty members to send letters of recommendation. HCEC grants the candidate two two-hour long interviews with volunteer professors



Derek, I successfully made it through that week and I hope he feels the same way. We are now brothers of Cornell Acacia and proud of it. I would like to thank the entire brotherhood for helping us get through pledging. In particular, I would like to thank Pete Vinogradov for our formal education and Marco Cabassi, Matt Hartman, and Pat Yongvanich for going well beyond

the call of duty with their advice and assistance. I personally would like to thank my big brother, Todd Peskin, for everything he did to help me through. But, most importantly I want to thank my pledge brothers Marc and Derek for all they did to make us a pledge class of which I am proud to say I have been a member. To you who are my brothers, I am an Acacian. I am proud of it.

It's Been Great . . .

by Tom Zimmerman

So here it is, the last semester of a four-year struggle against the Big Red Bear. Dreaded organic chemistry prelims. Horrific ten-page calculus and genetic exams. Tuesday and Thursday nights through the semesters gnawing at your sanity, beginning to appear as hell-spawned specters of doom. Oh yes, and those countless Sunday nights putting the "finishing touches" on those relentless physiology labs — if those weren't all-night hell sessions, I don't know what is. And now, it all draws to an end.

Regardless, I have had a tremendously enjoyable time here. Being a legacy, graduating from Cornell means a lot to me. Although its reputation may not be as great as the other Ivies, I doubt that I would be any more prepared for

life's tumultuous pathway if I had not gone to Cornell. Acacia has been an integral part of my life, and I am sure that without it, my time here would have as much significance as it does. Since I was initiated in the Spring of 1992, I have experienced so much more than I could believe possible. I have been able to make friendships that know no boundaries, and know that if I ever need any sort of advice or assistance, I do not have far to search. I would like to thank the alumni and actives of Cornell Acacia for making my Cornell years so much more meaningful.

I owe so much to those Acacians who have helped me in the past and present; I can only hope that I may be able to give of my time, effort, and resources to help them in the future.

The Pledge Class Final Report:

The Adventure Is Over, But A New One Begins

Dan "G2" Davidson (#1012)

It all started out simply enough. Through informal rush, three of us decided to accept our invitations to become pledges. Following the pledging ceremony, my fellow pledges and peers, Derek Deich and Marc Duquella, chose to elect me as the pledge class president while Marc presided as the pledge class vice president. And so our experience began.

We had three big adversities to overcome from the beginning. The first adversity at first seemed like it could be both a positive and a negative. Due to miscellaneous circumstances, we only had the opportunity to have a six week pledge period, not including Fraternity Appreciation Week, which seemed good at the time in order to get through pledging quickly, but together with academic obligations it didn't allow us enough time to do all that we wanted. The second adversity was the size of the pledge class which limited our options. The third adversity, as a result of the small size of our pledge class, was our limited budget for our pledge class projects and activities.

However, we succeeded in overcoming these and other obstacles, coming out stronger and closer as a result. We threw a pledge class party which successfully entertained both brothers and guests. We constructed a bench at the bus stop in front of the house for the

brothers and our neighbors to utilize. We learned about Acacia and brotherhood while the brotherhood learned about us. We fulfilled our pledge obligations and developed a sense of brotherhood among ourselves during the six weeks.

Unfortunately, after the first night and morning of fraternity appreciation week, one of my pledge brothers, Marc, decided that the idea of brotherhood really wasn't for him. It was a real shock to see him walk into class that day without his pledge pin and to hear his story. I believe it took real strength of character to come to that decision when he was well on his way to becoming a brother rather than wait until after he was a brother and put everybody through the pain and trouble of deactivation. While others may believe he was a quitter, he was my pledge brother and he is still my friend and I still hold respect, perhaps even more than before this incident, for him and his decision. In fact, I still sit next to him in classes and have lunch with him on occasion. I am only disappointed that I can't call him a brother and that we lost somebody who would have been a good contribution to the house. This was the low point of my pledging and my entire experience with the house.

In spite of this serious setback there were still two of us left, Derek and myself. Thanks to

concerned about the future of health care in the United States. HCEC then writes one inclusive recommendation based primarily on the three faculty recommendations and the two interview results.

The next step in the application process is to take the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT). The test cost \$150 and is broken into four parts, verbal reasoning, physical science, biology, and written composition. The first three are scored on a scale of one to fifteen, with a cumulative score of 30 or more being desirable, an equivalent to a 1250 or 1300 on the SAT. The written composition section is not too important, being analogous to the TSWE of the SAT which is ignored by most schools. The exam lasts from 8 am to 5:30pm and leaves the applicant quite drained. Some students pay as much as \$600 to take an MCAT prep-course like the Princeton Review.

Candidates start filling out the actual application forms during the summer between Junior and Senior Year. Fortunately, 111 of the nation's 124 medical schools use the common application provided by the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS), but some medical schools (Harvard, Johns Hopkins, NYU) require the candidate to fill out their own applications which are similar to the AMCAS form only with more essay questions. Despite the fact that the AMCAS form includes little more than a place to write extracurricular activities, a list of grades from every college-level course taken, and a one page personal

statement, strict guidelines and a special code complicate the matter and turn the application into a twenty work hour ordeal. Once the application is submitted, the kindly AMCAS people verify your grades and forward the application to all the medical colleges you desire. The AMCAS fee is \$50 to \$290 dollars depending on the number of schools the applicant designates.

Once a medical school receives the AMCAS form, a secondary application or a rejection letter is sent to the applicant. Only those with severely deficient GPA's or MCAT scores are denied a secondary application. Most secondary application forms include a few more essay questions, inquire about the applicant's state of residency, and a \$60 fee. Most schools that accept applicant exclusively form one state or region are gracious enough not to cash the checks from "foreign students" that are immediately rejected.

The admissions committee grants interviews to a small percentage (22%) of those who complete a secondary application. Interviews vary school to school, but most stories of abuse are untrue. No one would ask you to open a window that was nailed shut or send you to the wrong room to see how you cope with frustration. However, Georgetown University School of Medicine with 11,000 applicants for 190 spaces does give applicants a rough time. Even the rude receptionist tells a room full of applicants "as far as probability is concerned, only one of you is going to get in." In general, interviews follow the same format of those given by



HCEC. Most applicants are interviewed by two or more people per a medical school. Some interviews are blind, the interviewer knowing nothing about the candidate. The interviewer asks questions about health care, and attacks even the most logical arguments to determine whether or not the applicant possess composure under pressure. Other interviews are less stressful and allow the applicant to emphasize any strong points or explain certain shortcomings present on the previously submitted material. All schools ask the same questions: "What happens if you do not get in" and "What events in your life have lead you to pursue a career in medicine?" The question "Why do you want to be a physician" is never asked, the admissions committees weary of the altruist's monologue "I want to help people..." An interviewer at the Medical College of Georgia even told me that "money, power, and prestige" are better reasons.

About one fourth to one third of applicants interviewed at a given school get the beloved thick envelope filled with praise and financial aid forms. The rest get a thin letter stating that the medical school admires the applicant but is denied admission.

Application fees can cost as much as a semester's tuition at a well priced state school. For example, take an average applicant that applies to ten schools. Fees include \$120 for HCEC, \$150 for the MCAT, \$240 for AMCAS, and \$600 for secondary applications. Now assume that the applicant is granted five interviews. It is more than likely that three of the interviews are sufficiently far away to warrant a plane ride (\$1000 for all three). Don't forget dinners, taxis and Hotels (\$300 for all five). Fortunately, most schools provide applicants with lunch (cafeteria cuisine at McGill, white wine and cheese cake at UAB). This gives us a grand total of \$2410.



Dude, I'm Not Joining a Fraternity

by Derek Deich (#1013)

Almost two years ago I rambled onto Cornell's campus from a netherworld: a state called California where it is uncouth to deviate from social norms. Of course, Californians make social deviation the norm. As a result, California shelters a hodgepodge of societies, groups, stereotypes and lifestyles. I recall my first days on Cornell's campus as troublesome. Surrounding me was a heterogenous cross section of society. It wasn't this jumble that astonished me, but one outlandish group that commanded my attention. Littered among this group were guys dressed in tattered jeans, plaid flannels and baseball caps.

Days after my first encounter with this group my roommate informed

me that these individuals were labeled "frat boys". To my dismay, the Greek system at Cornell consisted of homogeneous individuals. I immediately swore a personal oath not to conform to this baseball cap toting group. Fraternities were not me. "Frat boy" I was not...

Until my roommate, Matthew Hartman (1008), introduced me to these guys who called themselves Acacians. These Acacians impressed me with their eclectic interests and values. They reminded me of California: a hodgepodge of unique individuals. In no way did they match the "frat boy" image. A couple of months passed and I became known as "Mondo", the newest brother of Acacia.