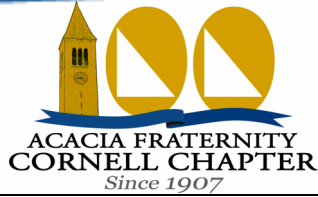



# THE CENTENNIAL SPIRIT



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

Volume 4, Number 1  Fall 2010

## **CENTENNIAL + 5 ANNOUNCED**

Preston Shimer  
Centennial + 5 Co-Chairman

In August 2007, you joined with your fraternity brothers in achieving a major milestone. We celebrated Acacia Fraternity's 100 years on the Cornell Campus. In one way or another, the organizers of that Centennial Reunion reached out to every living brother that could be found. Hundreds of you were found, contacted and encouraged (some might say, hounded) to come to Ithaca. Many came and it was a great celebration, fully enjoyed by everyone who participated.

As we were celebrating 100 years, many of us noticed that our beloved chapter house was showing its age and needed major investments to its infrastructure if it was to continue to support an active chapter and perhaps survive to its bi-centennial. A five year major project to raise \$345,000 for house projects and an endowment began at the Centennial. (You can read more about this campaign elsewhere in the *Traveler*.) With less than two years to go, we are getting very close to victory. We're sure that in the end, the \$345K goal will be achieved because *Acacians always come through*.

Whenever you achieve a goal of this size, you have to celebrate the victory. So, of course, we've started planning the Centennial + 5 reunion. These are the highlights to date.

We have a committee! Meet the Centennial + 5 team:

- Co-chairs - Preston Shimer '61 and Paul Molnar '99
- Committee: Steve Stein '73, Tom Balcerski '05, Richard Rothman '09, Noah Santorello '09 and Bill Zeligson '12. This core team will grow as more program elements are determined. If you are interested in having an active role in plan-

ning, please contact the co-chairs: Preston Shimer, [pwshimer@comcast.net](mailto:pwshimer@comcast.net), or Paul Molnar, [pgm1014@optonline.net](mailto:pgm1014@optonline.net).

- Centennial + 5 dates: Friday August 24, 2012 through Sunday August 26, 2012.

## **SAVE THE DATE:**

**August 24—26, 2012**

**CENTENNIAL + 5**



- Location: Acacia Fraternity and several locations on campus. The committee is researching hotel accommodations and options.

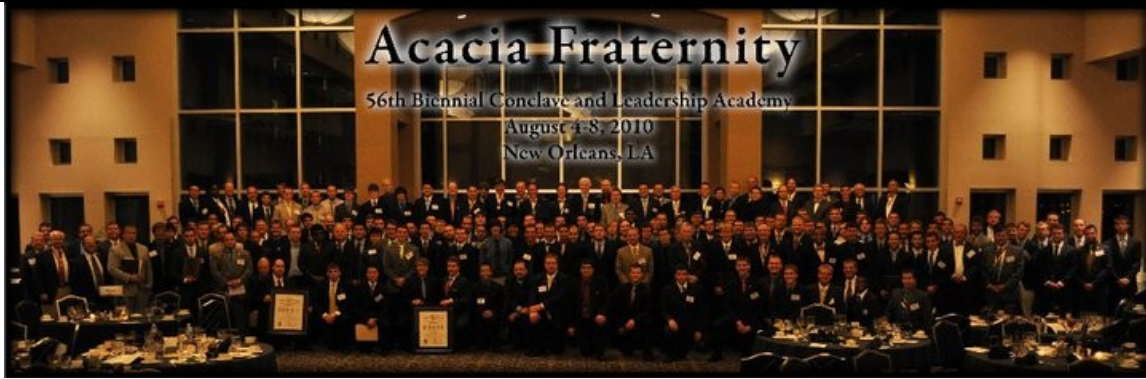
- Reunion Goals: The goals are in the early stages of development, but one is to provide lots of opportunities for conversation with brothers you know from your days on the Hill and even more opportunities to meet and really get to know the current active brothers and alumni brothers from other years. Looking back to the Centennial, both co-chairs regret that they didn't get to spend time with brothers from other years.

If anyone has suggestions to help make this happen, please let us know. Another goal is to show the contributing brothers where their donations were spent. Even if you don't want to explore the new heating system and trace the sprinkler heads in your room, we believe that you will be happy with the end result. And maybe a final goal is to set the stage for regular reunions for the brothers, maybe every five years and maybe with an organization prepared to make it happen.

Paul and I are very interested in hearing from you, for ideas and comments. Don't be shy! And watch for news on a regular basis until we all meet in Ithaca.

## **Inside: News from Conclave 2010 and Beyond!**

- Paul Molnar shares Conclave experiences, p. 2
- Capital Campaign Liaison Report, p. 3
- Tom Balcerski's Optimistic Take, p. 3
- Campaign Honor Roll (+ new gifts), p. 4.



### **CAUGHT IN THE MOMENT**

Paul Molnar (#1014)

Conclave 2010 Chapter Adviser

I was blessed with the opportunity to once again serve as our Alumni Delegate at the 2010 Conclave in New Orleans. It was a great chance for me to meet many of the Actives (and there were many of them; fourteen of our Actives attended!) It was also an opportunity to build and renew relationships with our Brethren from other Acacia chapters.

I would like to report on my experiences as your Alumni delegate. It was my duty to participate in all Conclave business sessions alongside our Venerable Dean and to vote on any matters that were brought before the Conclave. I also attended a series of breakout sessions for Alumni, many of whom were Chapter Advisors and Corporation Board Presidents. Not bound to an agenda, we had very productive discussions about why we are still involved in our Fraternity and how we can help our Chapters help themselves. It was abundantly clear that the Chapters that maintain a healthy relationship with their Alumni are doing quite well.

I have started to develop contacts with Alumni of other Chapters with the goal of locating brothers in the New York Metropolitan area. I would like to make an event open to all local Acacians happen. A longer term goal would be to organize into an Alumni Chapter. An Alumni Chapter can be formed with a mission as simple as hosting a few brotherhood events per year. I do not look for such an organization to replace any kind of informal activities we all share with brothers in our own Chapters, but I feel that an Alumni Chapter could give us a vehicle in which to strengthen Acacia International Fraternity and ultimately our own Chapters.

I don't often wear my emotions on my sleeve but I felt truly caught in the moment at the closing banquet reflecting upon what our Chapter has accomplished in the past decade. Our actives are now bringing in an average of ten brothers a year. We celebrated our Centennial three years ago with over

150 of our Brothers and their families. Many other Chapters have already or are currently following our model for planning their Centennial festivities and Capital campaigns. Our alumni have already come through with over \$250,000 towards our Capital Campaign. The Conclave week alone was surreal. With fourteen of our Actives in attendance, our Chapter took home five awards including Outstanding Chapter. Five of our Brothers were awarded the Order of Pythagoras. Our own Bill Utic, was honored for his two decades of continuous work for the Acacia Fraternity Foundation. Brother Darold Larson, our Executive Director, pulled me aside to commend our success and asked me what is our secret? I cannot think of the words to articulate what I felt when all these thoughts of pride in our Chapter converged in my mind but it took a lot to hold my emotions back. (Of course, a few select beverages in Room 917 and out on Bourbon Street while celebrating with the Brothers helped relieve the intensity of my emotions.

Of course the Actives of the last decade have held the spotlight in bringing the Chapter back to prominence, but I need to say a huge Thank You to all my fellow Alumni who have been the backbone of our success. If you have contributed to and/or participated in our Centennial Campaign in any way, you own a share of the awards that came our way! Obviously, our Acacia Chapter had enough of an impact on your life that you chose to give forward to the next generation of Acacians. After spending four days at Conclave with them, I can tell you they know what to do with the gifts you've given them!

I will always remember the Conclave of 2010 in New Orleans. I am thankful on so many levels that I had this opportunity to reconnect with Acacia at both the Chapter and International level. I am an Acacian. I am proud of it.

*[Editor's Note: Brother Molnar recently raised his Centennial Capital Campaign pledge from \$2,500 to \$5,000—thank you for your generous contribution and your service to our fraternity!]*

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN LIAISON REPORT**

Jared Leventhal (#1145)

I am very excited to hold the officer position of Liaison to the Capital Campaign. This semester, I have gone through extensive training with Tom Balcerski about the Capital Campaign and have learned a great deal. My greatest contribution to the campaign is the correspondence between my-

self and those who have donated. This has taken the form of thank you letters, pledge reminder letters, and donation request letters. The experience has been very rewarding for me, as this is the first officer position I have held as a brother. I personally want to thank all the alumni who have donated to the Capital Campaign and/or to the Acacia Fraternity Cornell Chapter. Your support makes all the difference to the active chapter!

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN—AN OPTIMIST’S TAKE**

Tom Balcerski (#1063)

Centennial Capital Campaign Chairman

For the first time in years, it seems, my report on the Centennial Capital Campaign has been pushed out of page one! As the reason for this move is to announce the “Centennial + 5” event, I feel little, if any, concern. Indeed, I am quite excited for the prospect of reuniting brothers far and wide in August 2012, to see the new and improved house, to meet actives current and those yet to be found, and to catch up on the last five years. Much will have happened by then, and much about which we can indeed be proud.

As has been my custom in this column, I will report on the campaign’s progress to date. We have received pledges or gifts from **155** separate donors, totaling **\$259,765** of our total campaign goal of \$345,000. In terms of actual gifts, we have taken in **\$163,120** to the Corporation and **\$72,845** to our chapter’s Acacia Fraternity Foundation account. That leaves us about **\$85,000 short** for the campaign and with **less than two years** to reach it. How will we meet this challenge?

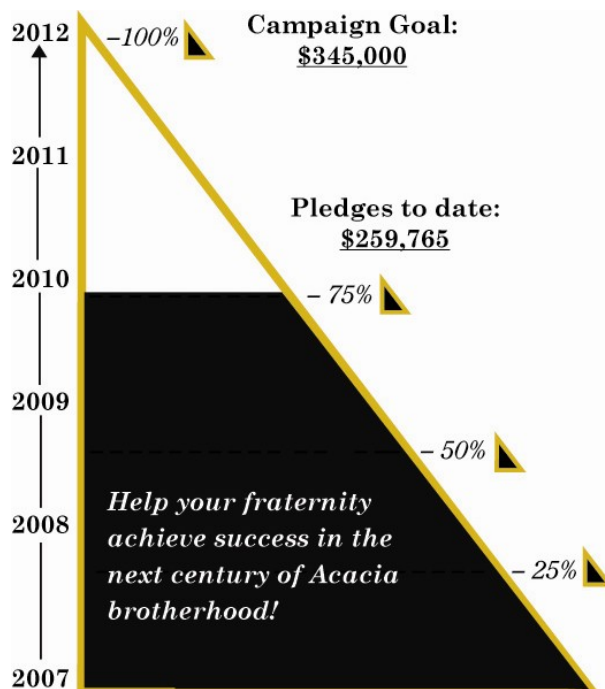
I guess you can call me an optimist. Why? Because I strongly believe that we will meet the challenges of the Centennial Capital Campaign and reach our goal of \$345,000 by 2012. Even though gifts have slowed considerably in the last year, I am hopeful that, with the economy improving once again, our brothers will respond generously as they always have to help us achieve our campaign goals. We are almost there—let’s not stop until we reach the finish line!

And there is really so much more that we want to do to make Acacia shine. In the last few months, the corporation replaced fifty-year-old windows in the dining room with heat-efficient aluminum units. We also replaced decades-old windows in the pantry, basement, and second floor. It is safe to say that EVERY window at Acacia has been replaced since the start of the capital campaign—a clear achievement.

We need to insulate the old part of the house, both to improve the quality of life for the actives in

residence and to save money on heating costs. The parking lot project is an open question among the members of the board and the active chapter. Our current thinking is to wait until we have sufficient reserves to move ahead with the project, but with total costs from excavation, expansion, electrical, and paving nearing \$50,000, this is a large expense item. Finally, we want to install a new conference table with matching chairs in the library for chapter meetings and quiet study. In the process we hope to raise more funds for our chapter’s AFF account to ensure that future generations of Acacians will be supported as they attend the Acacia Leadership Academy (ALA) and Conclaves.

All these projects will happen, over time. The question before us is will we be able to complete them to conclude the capital campaign in 2012? I can envision it now, the chapter’s actives and alumni all gathered together to celebrate the last five (and previous 100) years, and there, as we raise our glasses to Acacia, we will know that through this campaign we have secured her a better future. Looking forward to 2012!



## CENTENNIAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN HONOR ROLL

**Chapter Founders' Society**

\$50,000 and above

**Corporation President's Society**

\$25,000 - \$49,999

#800 David Fischell, 1975

#807 Robert Merritt, 1975

**Chapter President's Society**

\$10,000 - \$24,999

The Actives of Cornell Chapter

#434 Robert Flickinger, 1947

#635 Preston Shimer, 1961

#738 Stewart Burger, 1970

#783 Stanley Niman, 1973

**Centennial Benefactor Society**

\$5,000 - \$9,999

#490 Bill Burnett, 1953

#743 Dave Odegaard, 1970

#788 Eden Slegr, 1973

#836 Bill Utic, 1977

#1014 Paul Molnar, 1998

**Centennial Society**

\$2,500 - \$4,999

#534 James Symons, 1954

#565 Tom Burrows, 1956

#600 John Male, 1958

#607 David Richard McDougal, 1958

#614 Charles Field, 1959

#649 John Ahlfeld, 1963

#720 Jerry Kreider, 1968

#842 Bruce Schneider, 1978

#1037 David Klesh, 2002

#1040 Byron Hing, 2002

#1063 Thomas Balcerski, 2005

#1066 Charles Kalter, 2005

#1070 Bradley Ayres, 2006

#1124 Noah Santorello, 2009

**Anonymous****Campaign Supporter**

\$1,000 - \$2,499

#334 Clarence Bent, 1939

#403 R. Stephen Hawley, 1943

#450 William Wickham, 1951

#496 Robert Squires, 1952

#523 Wallace Rich, 1951

#554 Frank Tetz, 1955

#594 Robert Fash, 1958

#596 Carey Fletcher, 1958

#597 Francis Hugo, 1962

#603 John Walsh, 1958

#620 Bill Easton, 1960

#625 Ivan Szanto, GR

#630 Richard Heine, 1961

#636 Robert Franson, 1961

#637 Laurence Hoard, 1961

#734 Howard Zwiefel, 1969

#796 John Abeles, 1975

#959 John Carpenter, 1991

#960 David Rickerby, 1991

#965 William Cammuso, 1992

#970 Paul Hayre, 1991

#973 Andrew Regenbaum, 1993

#981 Michael Cvijanovich, 1994

#983 Arif Haq, 1994

#994 Todd Peskin, 1995

#1045 Michael Nasatka, 2003

#1049 Joshua Roth, 2003

#1050 Scott McQuade, 2003

#1053 Andrew Hur, 2004

#1060 Peter Rimshnick, 2005

#1062 David Rimshnick, 2005

#1065 Tarek Banaja, 2005

#1069 Zachary Samuels, 2005

#1081 Mark Elliot, 2007

**LS1 Patricia Warner Kehe, 1979****Campaign Contributor**

\$25 - \$999

#407 Henry Hood, 1943

#431 Frederick Sheldon, 1948

#437 William Gibson, 1948

#440 William Pendarvis, 1947

#443 Robert Bergren, 1950

#447 James Showacre, 1947

#492 Scott DePalma, 1953

#497 Joe Wilford, 1952

#500 Ernest Schaufler, 1948

#504 John Curtiss, 1951

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

#524 John Pakan, 1953

#529 Robert Cipperly, 1952

#537 Robert Baker, 1953

#545 John Mallery, 1952

#555 R. Marvin Townsend 1955

#560 Neil Sharp, 1955

#590 David Bills, 1958

#592 Edward Conroy 1957

#599 Ralph Lamar 1958

#632 William Keltz, 1961

#642 John Krakauer, 1962

#648 William Dearcop, 1962

#673 Edgar Francis, 1965

#674 Timothy Fullam, 1965

#678 David Owens, 1965

#687 Richard Brewer, 1965

#689 John Carlson, 1966

#701 Richard McMurtry, 1967

#713 Richard Ahlfeld, 1968

#715 Bill Amon, 1968

#717 David Gorelick, 1968

#722 Sam Roberts, 1968

#723 Daniel Smith, 1968

#730 Thomas Kocovsky, 1969

#755 Paul Goldberg, 1971

#756 Stuart Hantman, 1971

#763 Fred Tierney, 1971

#772 Lars Lundeen, 1972

#789 Harlan Meinwald, 1974

#790 Cleveland Jones, 1974

#793 Bruce Korf, 1974

#795 James Greig, 1974

#804 Robert Rudolph, 1975

#829 John Koethe, 1977

#859 Jeffrey Spiro, 1979

#871 Michael Pliss, 1980

#880 Christopher Wong, 1981

#881 David Nolte, 1981

#887 Timothy Thom, 1982

#890 Andrew Mercer, 1982

#895 Alan Jette, 1982

#899 Scott Dulman, 1983

#907 Dan Merrill, 1983

#908 Christopher Deane, 1983

#916 Alan Pasquino, 1984

#917 David Sangree, 1984

#924 David Mazaika, 1985

#931 Charles Huffine, 1986

#946 James Carlson, 1988

#964 James Waxmonsky, 1992

#966 Steven Horowitz, 1992

#969 Andrew Nolan, 1991

#993 Brian Sivillo, 1993

#1017 Barclay Hershey, 1998

#1039 John Abrehamson, 2002

#1043 Charles Hong, 2001

#1046 Eric Wursthorn, 2003

#1047 Randy Clark, 2003

#1051 Thomas Ricketts, 2003

#1052 Jay Ayres, 2004

#1056 Brian Kwoba, 2004

#1067 Zachary Weinstein, 2005

#1068 Igor Dolgalev, 2005

#1071 Hanny Carp-Martinovici, 2006

#1074 Jon Song, 2006

#1075 Jeffrey Ballyns, 2005

#1076 Jared Davis, 2006

#1077 Elie J. Track, 2006

#1078 Daniel Scharfman, 2005

#1079 Evan Helmsorig, 2007

#1092 Seth Jacobson, 2008

#1100 Brian Clapp, 2009

#1107 Richard Rothman, 2009

#1115 Tommy Roth, 2009

#1125 Tyler Huth, 2010

**LS12 Barbara Warner Deane, 1983**

Anonymous (3)

**Bolded names = new donation or increased pledge (or both) since last newsletter***As of 10/07/10***TOTAL FUNDS PLEDGED TO DATE:****\$259,765 FROM 155 DONORS****THANK YOU!**