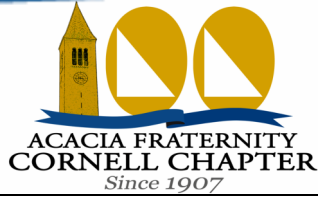



# THE CENTENNIAL SPIRIT



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

Volume 3, Number 2  Spring 2010

## REFLECTIONS AT HALFWAY

Tom Balcerski (#1063)  
Campaign Chairman

We are now at the halfway point of the Centennial Capital Campaign. We may profitably pause and take a moment to reflect on the accomplishments to date and the challenges ahead.

First, the achievements in donations. To date, the Centennial Capital Campaign has received contributions or pledges from 145 brothers and little sisters. They have generously pledged a total of **\$251,440** and have donated a total of \$224,065 in cash gifts, of which \$154,645 has been given to the corporation and \$69,420 to the Acacia Fraternity Foundation. As has been the case in the past, we have experienced healthy increases since the last issue of this newsletter, and we are progressing towards the campaign goal of **\$345,000**, of which we wish to raise \$245,000 for the corporation and \$100,000 for the AFF by 2012.

Second, the accomplishments in capital improvements. The first year of the capital campaign focused on the installation of a fire-suppressant sprinkler system. The resulting system ensured the safety of the residents and physical structure itself. In the second year of the campaign, we took on another major improvement: the removal of our fifty-year-old old steam heating system and the installation of a modern, hot water heating system. If the sprinkler system presented challenges in both funding and installation, the heating system seemed doubly so. The many unexpected expenses associated with the heating system's installation left the corporation board scrambling for funds to meet its many other operational expenses. We also installed new carpeting, curtains, and windows, replaced the wing roof, and obtained a new piano. In this, the third year of the campaign, we have necessarily focused on smaller capital improvements. The linoleum in the mailroom was tearing apart and needed replacement, which was accomplished in January. New lights were installed in the second floor hallway, as were additional electrical outlets along the wall outside the Center Room.

I want to inform the alumni about how the corporation has met the funding challenges of the recent months. First, I want to thank the generosity of our alumni, who have responded to requests for

donations at the critical hour when the corporation looked to be running low on funds. Second, and most importantly, we have accessed funds through our **Acacia Fraternity Foundation** chapter account. The corporation has requested a grant for nearly eleven thousand dollars on behalf of the chapter for expenses related to Internet usage, which qualifies as an educational expense. We have also asked for a grant to cover improvements made to our chapter room, specifically for windows, carpeting, and curtains. Finally, we are requesting funds related to the educational space in the house. This grant, which may be applied for each academic year, covers about four percent of the operating budget of the corporation. Totaling over thirty thousand dollars, these grants have met the critical need in the short run.

Finally, a word about the future. At this point in the campaign, we had hoped to have completed the improvement of our back parking lot. We have tabled this until at least 2011. We had hoped to replace all remaining old windows with modern, energy efficient ones. We have tabled this until the fall. A recent development, we will need to install a make-up air system in the kitchen to prevent the build up carbon monoxide that results from a back draft occurring in the boiler room when the kitchen exhaust fan is turned on. Estimates for this project near fourteen thousand. We need to replace our hot water tank and re-pipe the hot water maker to be more efficient. We'd still like to replace the forty-eight-year-old kitchen cabinets, too. And, of course, we are hoping to complete the improvements to the chapter room by installing a conference table, chairs, and a technology center. All this by 2012.

Our donation levels have passed \$250,000 in pledges, which I take to be a very positive sign. **How will we reach our campaign goal of \$345,000 by 2012?** It will take the continued support of our alumni, but I believe our alumni will come to the chapter's aid as they always have. I hope you will join me in celebrating our past accomplishments and meeting the challenges ahead. I am confident we will.

### Inside: Cornell-Syracuse Campaign Meeting

- Details on the Cornell-Syracuse meeting, p. 2
- Capital Campaign Liaison Report, p. 3
- Capital Campaign Honor Roll, p. 4



Brother Thomas Balcerski (Capital Campaign Chair, Cornell) discusses strategies and ideas with (from left to right) Steve Stein (Corporation Board President and Treasurer, Cornell), David Flagg (Corporation President, Syracuse), James Feng (VD Syracuse), and Joseph Peter (Capital Campaign Chair, Syracuse).

### **ACACIA CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS OF THE FUTURE**

Elie Bilmes (#1118)  
Dean of Alumni Affairs

Separated by four years between their respective charter dates, and 55 miles of easy driving, the Cornell and Syracuse chapters' histories have been often intertwined. On a Saturday last month, we welcomed six actives and alumni from Syracuse to discuss plans for their own centennial celebration and capital campaign.

Brother Tom Balcerski '05, who organized the event, began by describing the preparations made by the Cornell Chapter for our centennial and the launch of the capital campaign in August 2007. This presentation was beneficial both for the Syracuse brothers and for younger Cornell Acacians such as myself, Erik Burkhalter '10, and Tory Farney '11, who were not present for the planning stages of our centennial. Corporation Board president Steve Stein '77 also attended the meeting.

After describing our centennial weekend, we transitioned to an evaluation of our own progress since then, with recommendations for the Syracuse brothers about what they should attempt to achieve for their own centennial. The Syracuse delegation, which was led by alumni Dave Flagg and Joseph Peter, also enjoyed lunch at Northcote and received a house tour.

While our chapter's capital campaign has fo-

cused on making improvements to our existing home, the Syracuse chapter hopes to use funds from their campaign to purchase a new house. After a steady increase in membership over the last couple of years, they are looking for a permanent home near the university. Unfortunately, few properties in that neighborhood are for sale, and real estate is expensive.

Brother Balcerski admitted that the Syracuse Chapter faces a difficult challenge ahead, but believes that a well-attended centennial will get them off to the right start. "We agree that a key aspect of their capital campaign will be a strong centennial reunion event," he said. Brother Balcerski also suggested that the Syracuse brothers compile a chapter history to be presented at the centennial event.

Unlike the Cornell Chapter, Syracuse does not have a sizable chapter account with the Acacia Fraternity Foundation, nor do they remain in contact with their alumni through a regular newsletter such as the *Traveler*. While we began planning for our centennial several years in advance, the Syracuse chapter hopes to hold their event during the next academic year.

Despite these challenges, the Syracuse brothers seem motivated to succeed and we expect them to do great things. Brother Balcerski will be attending the annual meeting for the Syracuse Chapter corporation, and we will continue to assist them as they prepare for this historic celebration.

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN LIAISON REPORT**

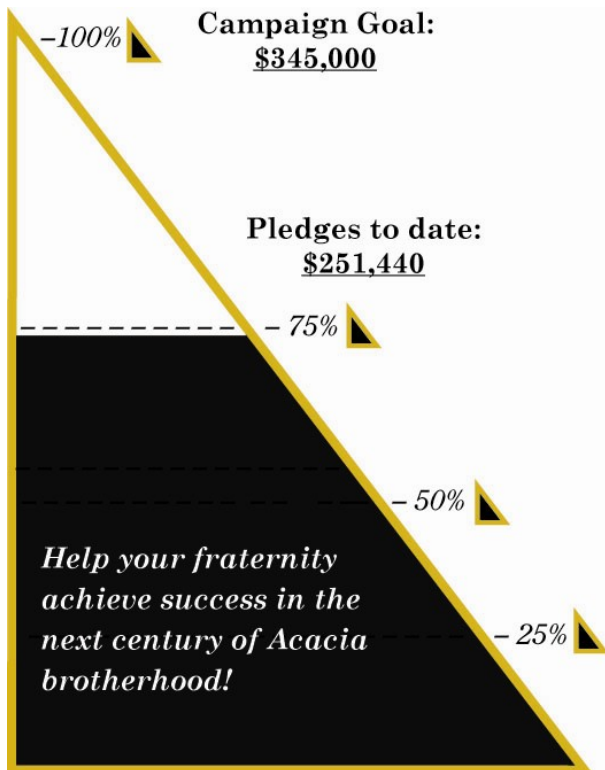
Winston Feng (#1144)

When the brotherhood elected to me as the chapter's liaison to the Centennial Capital Campaign in the fall of 2009, I was honored to once again have the opportunity to serve my fraternity by reaching out to our alumni. Although the economic recession has been one of the most violent on record, our alumni's generosity has left Tom, Steve, and me in awe. You may have already received a thank-you letter from us, but my brothers and I assure you that words cannot express the extent of our appreciation.

The brothers have been enjoying all the improvements at Northcote, where we are proud to live and show off to our friends and dates. There is always someone on the piano to give everybody a good tune or two. Although most the current improvements have been in place since last fall, the

new heating system has proven its worth in the Ithaca winter. The house is now a very cozy place; there are days when the brothers stay in all day to enjoy the new furnishings including new sofas in the common room and stone coffee table. We will also install a new internet service that will assist active brothers in their academic pursuits. The chapter is exercising great care to ensure the durability of your donations.

Through my experience as the liaison to the Capital Campaign, I learned about the extensive alumni network who still go out their way to help the chapter. I also came to appreciate the hard work of Steve and Tom, who sit in on our meetings and make sure that the chapter's best interests are expressed to the Cornell community and among our alumni. It only goes to show that even as we travel along life's pathway, good brothers never forget who they are or where they come from.



Pledges to date: \$251,440, about 73% of our goal. Help us reach our target of \$345,000.

*Preparing  
Tomorrow's  
Leaders*

**ACACIA  
FRATERNITY  
FOUNDATION**

The chapter's AFF account has been critical to the corporation's ability to meet its financial responsibilities in the last several months. The AFF chapter account also pays for the printing costs of this newsletter. Thank you!

## CENTENNIAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN HONOR ROLL

**Chapter Founders' Society**

\$50,000 and above

**Corporation President's Society**

\$25,000 - \$49,999

#800 David Fischell, 1975

#807 Robert Merritt, 1975

**Chapter President's Society**

\$10,000 - \$24,999

The Actives of Cornell Chapter

#434 Robert Flickinger, 1947

#635 Preston Shimer, 1961

#738 Stewart Burger, 1970

**Centennial Benefactor Society**

\$5,000 - \$9,999

#403 R. Stephen Hawley, 1943

#492 Bill Burnett, 1953

#743 Dave Odegaard, 1970

#783 Stanley Niman, 1973

#788 Eden Sleg, 1973

#836 Bill Utic, 1977

#946 James Carlson, 1988

**Centennial Society**

\$2,500 - \$4,999

#534 James Symons, 1954

#565 Tom Burrows, 1956

#600 John Male, 1958

#607 David Richard McDougal, 1958

#649 John Ahlfeld, 1963

#720 Jerry Kreider, 1968

#842 Bruce Schneider, 1978

#1014 Paul Molnar, 1998

#1037 David Klesh, 2002

#1040 Byron Hing, 2002

#1063 Thomas Balcerski, 2005

#1066 Charles Kalter, 2005

#1070 Bradley Ayres, 2006

#1124 Noah Santorello, 2009

Anonymous

**Campaign Supporter**

\$1,000 - \$2,499

#334 Clarence Bent, 1939

#450 William Wickham, 1951

#523 Wallace Rich, 1951

#554 Frank Tetz, 1955

#594 Robert Fash, 1958

#596 Carey Fletcher, 1958

#597 Francis Hugo, 1962

#603 John Walsh, 1958

#614 Charles Field, 1959

#620 Bill Easton, 1960

#625 Ivan Szanto, GR

#630 Richard Heine, 1961

#636 Robert Franson, 1961

#637 Laurence Hoard, 1961

#734 Howard Zwiefel, 1969

#796 John Abeles, 1975

#959 John Carpenter, 1991

#960 David Rickerby, 1991

#965 William Cammuso, 1992

#970 Paul Hayre, 1991

#973 Andrew Regenbaum, 1993

#981 Michael Cvijanovich, 1994

#983 Arif Haq, 1994

#994 Todd Peskin, 1995

#1045 Michael Nasatka, 2003

#1049 Joshua Roth, 2003

#1050 Scott McQuade, 2003

#1053 Andrew Hur, 2004

#1060 Peter Rimshnick, 2005

#1062 David Rimshnick, 2005

#1065 Tarek Banaja, 2005

#1069 Zachary Samuels, 2005

#1081 Mark Elliot, 2007

LS1 Patricia Warner Kehe, 1979

**Campaign Contributor**

\$25 - \$999

#407 Henry Hood, 1943

#431 Frederick Sheldon, 1948

#437 William Gibson, 1948

#440 William Pendarvis, 1947

#443 Robert Bergren, 1950

#492 Scott DePalma, 1953

#496 Robert Squires, 1952

#497 Joe Wilford, 1952

#500 Ernest Schaufler, 1948

#504 John Curtiss, 1951

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

#524 John Pakan, 1953

#529 Robert Cipperly, 1952

#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

#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

#964 James Waxmonsky, 1992

#966 Steven Horowitz, 1992

#969 Andrew Nolan, 1991

#993 Brian Sivillo, 1993

#1017 Barclay Hershey, 1998

#1039 John Abrehamson, 2002

#1043 Charles Hong, 2001

#1046 Eric Wursthorn, 2003

#1047 Randy Clark, 2003

#1051 Tom Ricketts, 2003

#1052 Jay Ayres, 2004

#1056 Brian Kwoba, 2004

#1064 Gregory Chulsky, 2005

#1067 Zachary Weinstein, 2005

#1068 Igor Dolgalev, 2005

#1071 Hanny Carp-Martinovici, 2006

#1075 Jeffrey Balllyns, 2005

#1076 Jared Davis, 2006

**#1077 Elie J. Track, 2006****#1079 Evan Helmsorig, 2007**

#1092 Seth Jacobson, 2008

#1100 Brian Clapp, 2009

Anonymous (3)

**Bolded names = new donation or increased pledge since last newsletter***As of 03/17/10***TOTAL FUNDS PLEDGED TO DATE:****\$251,440 FROM 145 DONORS****THANK YOU!**