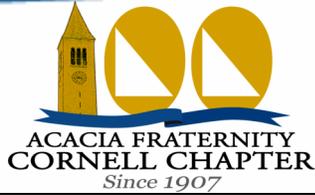


# THE CENTENNIAL SPIRIT



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

Volume 4, Number 2  Spring 2011  
Editor: Thomas Balcerski (#1063)

## It's not a reunion—it's a celebration!

Preston Shimer (#635)  
Centennial + 5 Co-Chairman

Pittsburgh, PA March 12, 2011 – Note the date. This is the day after the 8.9 magnitude earthquake near Japan and the deadly tsunami that followed it. Today is the explosion at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant. It is the week when the governor of Pennsylvania put forward a budget that, if adopted, does away with the notion of a state university system. Depending on where you are, you will have your own list.

I'm searching for something to celebrate. Is there anything to celebrate? How about

....

The Cornell Chapter of Acacia will be 105 years old next year and shows strong signs of continuing to provide the best fraternal experience at Cornell.

The "Centennial + 5" committee, which I co-chair with Paul Molnar, already has a strong plan of events that we hope will cause lots and lots of our brothers to celebrate 100+5 in Ithaca the weekend of August 24 - 26, 2012.

Cornell itself remains a beacon of rational, comprehensive, enlightened education and opportunity that we can celebrate.

Our brotherhood is very close to meeting the \$345,000 capital fund goal we established in 2007. Most of these funds have already been employed with significant safety and structural improvements to our chapter house, which you can see for yourself in August 2012.

Our corporation board in Ithaca has been expected to implement and serve as the general contractor for major re-construction projects at the house. These brothers, particularly Steve Stein, serve without any form of payment and far too little appreciation from the rest of us. Their everyday contributions are something to celebrate.

**SAVE THE DATE:**

***August 24—26, 2012***

***CENTENNIAL + 5***



And finally, there is our fraternal brotherhood: the combination of pledged commitment to each other and profound shared experiences as active members that stay with each of us forever. One of the things I celebrate is the opportunity provided by this committee to reconnect with my Acacia brothers. Very soon, we will be re-invigorating the CACO network. CACO stands for Cornell Acacia Class Officer. There is a CACO brother for most of the classes. You remember them as the brothers who contacted you about donating to the capital campaign.

This time they will be contacting you about celebration: celebration in Ithaca in August 2012 and, if that is not possible, in other ways.

It's more than a reunion, it's a celebration. The migration of Cornell Acacia brothers to Ithaca in August 2012 is to celebrate the completion of the largest and most effective financial re-investment in Acacia Cornell's history. It is, without question, an achievement none of us thought was possible when it began. It is an achievement that must be celebrated and we all need to be there to cheer "Well Done".

The profound benefit of being a part of Centennial +5 is to once again be an Acacia brother and a part of a community that changed our lives forever. Mark your calendars to be in Ithaca August 24 - 26, 2012 and watch for news and registration materials in the months ahead.

**Inside: News from Centennial + 5 Planning**

- Paul Molnar on visits to Ithaca, p. 2
- Rich Rothman on life as a Brother Alumnus, p. 2
- Tom Balcerski on the campaign horizon p. 3
- Campaign Honor Roll (+ new gifts), p. 4.

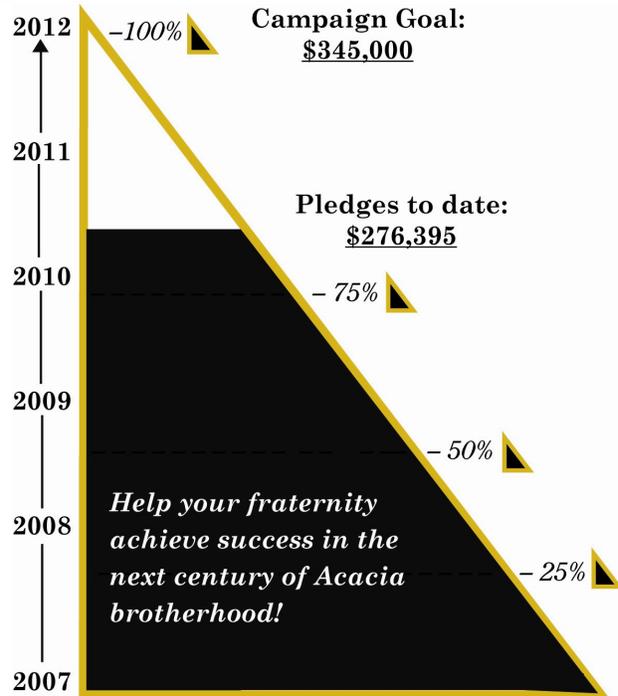
**ON THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN (+5) HORIZON**

Tom Balcerski (#1063)  
Centennial Capital Campaign Chairman

Greetings from page two! I have moved myself up a page, not because my message is any more or less important from the last edition, but because space allowed it. I am greatly pleased by the contributions in this edition from Brothers alumni Shimer, Molnar, and Rothman. The enthusiasm and excitement they bring to the Centennial + 5 planning effort shines through in their articles. I hope you will read them with as much enjoyment as I have.

I have limited space for the capital campaign report this time around. I would encourage you to read carefully Steve Stein's article in the *Traveler* for an update on recent house improvements. I will report on the progress of the campaign. We have received pledges or gifts from **174** separate donors, totaling **\$276,295** of our total campaign goal of \$345,000. In terms of actual gifts, we have taken in **\$176,735** to the Corporation and **\$85,820** to our chapter's Acacia Fraternity Foundation account. That leaves us about **\$69,000 short** for the campaign and with **less than 16 months** to reach it!

I could throw out a hypothetical statement, such as, "if every living brother contributed \$115, we would reach our goal." But I am a realist. I am amazed by the generosity of the 174 contributors and equally dismayed that, after three and a half years of trying, over 400 brothers still have not contributed to the capital campaign. It's not for a lack



of trying. Repeated mailings and phone calls, in some cases, have yielded nothing. So, instead, I ask every brother who has not given to **MAKE A DONATION TODAY!** You will not regret it, I assure you.

For the 174 past contributors, I must ask for your continued support. Consider making one more gift in the to help us reach our goal. You are the reason my job is such a pleasure—thank you!

**GET EXCITED ABOUT LIFE AS AN ACACIAN!**

Richard Rothman (#1107)  
Centennial + 5 Planning Committee

Over the past six months I have taken a more active role in the fraternity's affairs. I became the Cornell Acacia Class Officer for 2009. I planned a rush workshop with former Chapter Advisor Tommy Roth. We both participated in rush events, including this year's trip to Syracuse Acacia. I joined the Centennial + 5 planning committee. More unofficially, I have had countless conversations with actives about the progress of the house, including a lengthy conversation with Active John Ertl until 9AM one Saturday night. I have also visited the house as often as I could, including watching the Super Bowl and spending one night with them while I was recruiting at Cornell for my company.

I continue to increase my involvement because of the attitude I see from the Actives. A good example of this was the rush workshop. When Tommy and I were planning it, I was worried that its esti-

mated length of 2.5 hours would test the Actives' patience. At the end of the workshop, which ended up running 3 hours, an overwhelming majority of the Actives were still engaged and participating.

Besides wholesome endeavors like the workshop, I have spent countless hours socializing with the Actives. It is easy to see that they have formed a strong brotherhood and love for our fraternity.

They are also succeeding in areas where the house struggled during my time as an Active. For instance, there are currently 12 pledges, a very impressive number. Also, attendance at parties has been phenomenal, which helps the fraternity grow in membership and reputation.

Recently I informed Venerable Dean Matt Johnson that I joined an organization to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. He quickly discussed this with the Exec. Board, then with the brotherhood at Chapter, and they are now organizing a philanthropy event to raise money for my cause.

(Continued on page 3)

**LOOKING FORWARD TO 2012**

Paul Molnar (#1014)  
Centennial + 5 Co-Chairman

Our Centennial+5 committee is hard at work planning early for our next celebration in August 2012. We are planning early so that we may reserve the best event locations and to use the time to encourage attendance. We are looking to build upon the success of the Centennial in 2007. Many of you who are reading this made the Centennial celebration and capital campaign a success and will make our future events just as successful.

I have had the opportunity to visit potential sites for the Centennial+5 events. We'll once again hold the Saturday evening banquet at the Statler Ballroom, after a reception in the Beck Center. We'd also like to use the Centennial+5 weekend to introduce you to two of Cornell's newest buildings: the Physical Sciences Building and the Brian C. Nevin Plantations Welcome Center. Plans are underway to secure reservations at these locations.

The Physical Sciences building, opened last fall, was built on the circle between Baker, Clark, and Rockefeller halls. It houses programs for the Departments of Chemistry, Chemical Biology, Physics, and Applied & Engineering Physics. There is an atrium that occupies the entire perimeter of the building that could be used for an informal gathering. The Cornell Board of Trustees held a dinner and reception in this building this past March.

The Cornell Plantations have been in place since Cornell University opened. The first Cornell President, Andrew Dickson White, wrote a friend saying the following about what a great University should include: "It must have the best of Libraries - collections in different departments - Laboratory - Observatory - Botanical Garden perhaps..." Just recently, the Brian C. Nevin Welcome Center opened in the heart of the Plantations. This two



*Cornell Physical Sciences Building.*

story building hosts a museum, gift shop, and a conference center. The conference center is on the second floor and has breathtaking views of the Plantation gardens.



*Brian C. Nevin Cornell Plantations Welcome Center*

Please send the committee any suggestions you may have and help us reach out to our fellow brothers. Remember, it is not the events or the location that will make our next gathering a success; it is your participation that will make the event memorable for all.

*(Continued from page 2)*

This attitude and these actions are why I continue my new level of involvement. This is an important time for our fraternity. The house is full of dedicated and active members. It is important for alumni to get involved and help foster this positive environment.

In my recent reading of Brother Alumnus Balcerski's book, I noticed a common criticism of the Cornell chapter by Acacia National. We do not have strong, broad, alumni support. This is critical to the success of a chapter. The Actives can learn valuable lessons from our experiences in fraternity life, work life, and personal life. I personally would have benefitted tremendously from some alumni per-

spective regarding choices I was made at Cornell. I am positive that I have repeated mistakes made by older alumni regarding my engineering studies, my career, my relationships, and definitely my hair-styles. We all have the blessing of membership to an organization with a rich history and an ever expanding membership of successful and talented men.

I urge all alumni to support the Active Chapter in any way you can. For our fraternity to achieve a new level of success, it will take strong support from the alumni. We are Acacians for life, and if we each contribute just a fraction of the effort that we did as undergrads, I know that it will be repaid many times over.

## CENTENNIAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN HONOR ROLL

**Chapter Founders' Society**

\$50,000 and above

#800 David Fischell, 1975

**Corporation President's Society**

\$25,000 - \$49,999

#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

#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

#788 Eden Sleg, 1973

#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

#488 Paul Warner, 1950

#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

#734 Howard Zwiefel, 1969

#796 John Abeles, 1975

#842 Bruce Schneider, 1978

#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

#1060 Peter Rimshnick, 2005

#1062 David Rimshnick, 2005

#1065 Tarek Banaja, 2005

#1069 Zachary Samuels, 2005

#1071 Hanny Carp-Martinovici, 2006

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

\$25 - \$999

#399 Richard Bonser, 1939

#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

#637 Laurence Hoad, 1961

#642 John Krakauer, 1962

#643 Allen Male, 1963

#648 William Dearcop, 1962

#673 Edgar Francis, 1965

#674 Timothy Fullam, 1965

#678 David Owens, 1965

#681 Warren Walker, 1963

#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

#831 Mark Maltentfort, 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****#918 Martin Cardinali, 1984**

#924 David Mazaika, 1985

#931 Charles Huffine, 1986

#946 James Carlson, 1988

#964 James Waxmonskey, 1992

#966 Steven Horowitz, 1992

**#969 Andrew Nolan, 1991**

#993 Brian Sivillo, 1993

#1017 Barclay Hershey, 1998

**#1025 Bradley Schmidt, 2000**

#1039 John Abrehamson, 2002

#1043 Charles Hong, 2001

#1046 Eric Wursthorn, 2003

#1047 Randy Clark, 2003

**#1051 Thomas Ricketts, 2003**

#1052 Jay Ayres, 2004

#1053 Andrew Hur, 2004

#1056 Brian Kwoba, 2004

#1067 Zachary Weinstein, 2005

#1068 Igor Dolgalev, 2005

#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

#1081 Mark Elliot, 2007

**#1082 Andrew Cox, 2007**

#1092 Seth Jacobson, 2008

**#1100 Brian Clapp, 2009****#1101 Chris Bostick, 2009****#1102 Max Kashdan, 2009****#1103 Ben Jacoby, 2009****#1104 Dmitry Migdalovich, 2009****#1105 Keith Yoder, 2009****#1106 Jason Turer, 2009****#1107 Richard Rothman, 2009****#1108 John Koltz, 2009****#1109 Fred Liguori, 2009****#1110 Kyle Small-Davis, 2009****#1111 Joe Kovacs, 2009****#1112 John Ryan, 2009****#1113 Andrew Gross, 2009**

#1115 Tommy Roth, 2009

**#1117 Nicholas Hoeter, 2009****#1122 Shu Song, 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 03/13/11

**TOTAL FUNDS PLEDGED TO DATE:****\$276,395 FROM 174 DONORS****THANK YOU!**