Subject: The Argos: The Official Newsletter of Wisconsin Acacia
From: Wisconsin Acacia <communications@acacia.org>
To: mpfoy@wisc.edu
Date Sent: Monday, March 21, 2016 10:45:08 AM GMT-05:00
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March 21, 2016

Spring 2016 Housing Corporation Board Update

From the Desk of the President -

Greetings Wisconsin Brothers of Acacia! As we near our Annual Founder's Day celebration it is an appropriate time to reflect on the past year of Housing Corporation and alumni efforts.

First - let me acknowledge the dedication and hard work that your board does for the house and chapter on a regular and continuous basis. A job that deserves a THANK YOU from all of us.

Alan Scher, Kevin May, Bill Andrae, Jim McFarland, Matt Dunning, David Engeldinger, Blake Hutchison, Eric Bingen, Alec Repasy and Mike Steininger - all great Brothers and dedicated fraternity men. We all participate on quarterly conference calls, various committee meetings with some bi-weekly calls and an annual pilgrimage to Madison for our in-person meeting held on the

Friday prior to Founder's Day. It is a commitment. An effort of love of fraternity. LOVE for ACACIA.

Secondly, a quick update on the House itself: we continue to proceed on our path of new ownership under the joint venture with Alexander Company. As we get closer to the conversion of our ownership position back to its 99% equity stake (should be official this year), we continue to develop sophisticated future scenario modeling, which is being undertaken by our futures committee - headed up by Bill Andrae. These efforts help us feel confident in our predictions of future success as we proceed through the next five years of the partnership. Our treasurer (Kevin May) has continued to make positive strides on a variety of collections and lease solutions - helping us with our account balances and cash flow situation. Of course - we could always use surplus funds from donations....

Which brings me to a great topic - fundraising. It should be noted that our most successful fundraising effort to date has been the Michael S. Hannes memorial scholarship fund. It should also be noted that most of the funds donated to this account come from the same men that sit on the board. While we accept the challenge to contribute - we ask you, our brothers to consider starting, upping and annualizing your pledge to our fine fraternity. Acacia means something to you. I know it. Dig a little deeper and make that pledge today. It is simple - acacia.org is the website. Foundation is the link (top right), slide down to giving programs and click chapter funds (go directly to the page by navigating to acacia.org/donate). Or, mail me (briandurst@me.com) or Darold Larson (dlarson@acacia.org) or send money the old fashioned way:

Acacia Fraternity Foundation
8777 Purdue Road, Suite #225
Indianapolis, IN 46268

We are excited by the future. At this year's Founder's Day Annual Meeting we expect to induct three additional members onto our Board of Directors. This is exciting! New blood, enthusiasm and reaffirmation of the Acacia spirit! We have come a long way since 1906/1987....our two Chartering Years. Let's continue to strengthen the ties of friendship as we travel life's pathways...

I am an Acacian... I am PROUD of IT!

So live,

Brother Durst (12.0746)
briandurst@me.com
770-349-9095

Special Request from Gwen Hannes

Acacia Alumni, I've got a request. Henry is 7 now and Michael has been gone for more than 3 years. I feel like everyone's memories are fading and I don't want to let the opportunity pass. If you could take a few moments to share a story about Michael, I'd like to collect them for Henry. Long or short, funny, completely plain, or maddening, G-rated or not (I'll save the "nots" for an older age), it doesn't matter. I think the everyday stuff is what we forget and in a way the most important. You can post on facebook, facebook message, or email me, depending on if you want to share publicly or not.

Thanks!!! Gwen. Gshannes@aol.com

Founders Reminder

Come join your brothers to celebrate the fraternity, meet the current members, and share stories from the past.

When: Saturday April 16th 6:00pm

Where: The Harvest 21 N Pickney St Madison, WI

RSVP to mcdunning83@gmail.com by April 1

Special note: The undergraduate Activation ceremony will be held on Friday, April 15th, details will be forthcoming.

Active Chapter Update

Greetings from Acacia!

Our chapter started this spring with 28 strong, coming off an excellent pledge class of 9 men from fall. We went into spring rush with a fiery attitude and came out successful with 6 pledges, an extraordinary feat for a spring class. With rush events like Chil-fil-a night and poker night, the brotherhood between actives was strengthened while at the same time we showed potential new members what it means to be an Acacian.

We have a couple future events coming up that the brothers are ecstatic for. From formal at the Kalahari to founders with the large showing of Acacia Alumni, the brothers have a wonderful semester to look forward to. We can't wait to initiate our six new members and show them what our brotherhood has to offer!

Sincerely,

Jacob Nelson

Venerable Dean

#1076

Board Member and Alumni Profile

Name: Alan Scher Roll #: 890

Position: Vice President Pledge Class: Sigma (Spring 1996)

Life is busy. 17 years after graduation I wear a lot of hats. I'm the Pittsburgh Regional Manager for Ford Motor Company, husband to Frances, and father of 2 boys – one with Special Needs. I serve on 4 post-secondary school Employer Advisory Boards, including through the UW-Madison School of Business. I recently completed my term as a Cub Scout Den Leader only to move on to a Boy Scout Assistant Scout Master role while serving on a Council-wide Special Needs Scouting committee. The absolute last thing I need in my life is another time commitment. So why do I continue to serve on the Housing Corporation Board when it would be so much easier not to? The short answer is gratitude.

Everything I have and am today began at 222 Langdon Street. When I found Acacia I was an insecure 18 year old kid from West Virginia trying, unsuccessfully, to fit in in Madison. Like many, I joined the house for all the wrong reasons… girls and parties. It didn't take long; however, for me to discover the true value of the fraternity. Because of the house I found myself and learned how to be a friend, brother and leader. It was an Acacian who first suggested I take a class in the business school, an Acacian educated me on engagement rings, and Acacia that presented my first opportunity to lead others through a challenge. Twenty years after pledging, I often ponder where I would be if my answer to the question "Wanna play laser tag and grab a pizza" the night I was introduced to Acacia had been "no." The path not taken is not a pretty one.

So a few years ago, shortly after completing a complicated real estate transaction for Ford, when Blake Hutchison asked if I was willing to take a look at some real estate paperwork for Acacia the answer was an unqualified "yes." Acacia and its Brothers had always been there when I needed them. It is an honor and a privilege to be able to give back to those who come after me to ensure they are in a position to do the same for future generations. The skills that create value for Acacia were honed at 222 Langdon St. it is only fitting that Acacia continue to benefit from those skills.

I definitely had my share of both good and bad experiences as an active... many more good than bad. But as time passes, the bad memories fade and I still love the looks I get when I tell people about some of my college adventures. Most importantly, my board service gives me a convenient excuse to return to Madison a few times a year to add to those memories. Wherever I am and whatever I do, I am an Acacian. I am proud of it.

So Live,

Alan Scher (#890)

Donate Online

Acacia needs your support. Make a contribution to Acacia Fraternity today. Your gift makes a lasting impact and may be tax-deductible.

Update your Membership

Change of address? New email? Family or career news? Update your info to keep us and your fellow Acacians informed.

Order Acacia Gear

Order Acacia gear online, from apparel to jewelry to gifts. Your purchase directly benefits Acacia Fraternity.

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www.acacia.org

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