

Subject: The Argos: September 2016

From: Wisconsin Acacia <communications@acacia.org>

To: mpfoy@wisc.edu

Date Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2016 5:30:08 AM GMT-05:00

Date Received: Thursday, September 22, 2016 5:30:47 AM GMT-05:00



September 22, 2016

Dear Brother Foy,

From the Venerable Dean

The brothers from The Wisconsin Chapter of Acacia are moved in and excited to begin another year! The Wisconsin Acacians have accomplished much this summer. From interning in Kansas City to being a camp counselor in upstate New York, our members have gained worthy experience and knowledge that we will be bringing this Fall. On top of that, Acacia Wisconsin had 11 active members and alumni come out to Louisville this past July for the Biennial Conclave, **winning the award for Largest Delegation**. Since coming back from Conclave, we're prepared to use the tools and help we gained there to make for an excellent semester.

This fall, we plan on hitting the ground running for rush. **Through events such as our**

Scholarship Dinner to Chik-Fil-A and Game Night, we aim to continue bringing in outstanding leaders that make this fraternity as great as it is. Come November, we hope to have at least **15 new brothers initiating at our local Masonic Lodge.** On top of rush, our philanthropy is growing this semester. We will be volunteering weekly at the Second Harvest Food Bank which packs food to children of need in Southern Wisconsin. We also aim to make our Toys-4-Tots this year our best one yet through pairing with a sorority for a bake sale and collecting toys at local department stores. Finally, **our chapter is looking to further our GPA ranking this semester; we attained a 3.35 average GPA last semester, which put us as the 5th best in the IFC.** As a whole, Acacia will be making leaps and bounds this year and we can't wait to see where we stand at the end of the year!

We look forward to seeing you all this fall for **Dads Weekend and Homecoming!**

So Live,

Jacob Nelson, Venerable Dean #1076

Philanthropy

My name is Saisharan Chimbili, and I will be the Philanthropy Chair for this upcoming fall semester. First off, I would like to thank the chapter for electing me as Philanthropy Chair since philanthropy is an important aspect of each fraternity and sorority in Greek Life. Also, I would like to recognize Adam Rowe-Johnson, Caleb Boldt, and Cullen Ross who will be assisting me with events and planning. Here is a little preview of our fall semester for philanthropy. During the Fall, we will be working with two organizations and host two events ourselves. One of our organizations is **Second Harvest Food Bank.** Second Harvest Food Bank is located in Madison, and their main goal is to provide healthy food to families that may not be able to afford it. We will be volunteering at their facility almost every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Our job is to box as much food as we can in our three-hour shift. Our second organization is **She's The First.** She's the First is a nationwide organization that strives to provide scholarships to girls in low-income countries. We will be attending their events and fundraisers.

On top of this, we will host two philanthropic events this fall. We will have a bake sale this October and most likely with a sorority. All proceeds will be going to Second Harvest Food Bank. Also, we will be doing **Acacia Claus December 9.** Acacia Claus is where we go to Walmart and Toys-R-Us and ask people to buy toys and donate money. **All proceeds will be going to Toys for Tots** for this event, and we will be pairing up with Delta Delta Delta sorority.

So Live,

Saisharan Chimbili

Notes from Conclave

I think the most helpful part of Conclave was talking to the other chapters' leadership. I have never been more reassured that we have the right caliber of guys in our chapter. I think the most valuable thing I learned is some adjustments we can make to our new member program.

It was outstanding to see a large amount of brothers willing to network and improve their Chapters. Breakaway Alumni / Chapter Advisor sessions really allowed a glimpse into how other Chapters are run and what they do well, as well as what they do poorly. Group discussion was able to facilitate ways for these Alumni to help their Chapters succeed and improve. I had many takeaways for the Wisconsin Chapter and you can expect to hear about great things happening this Fall. It was a great chance to meet the leadership of the International Fraternity.

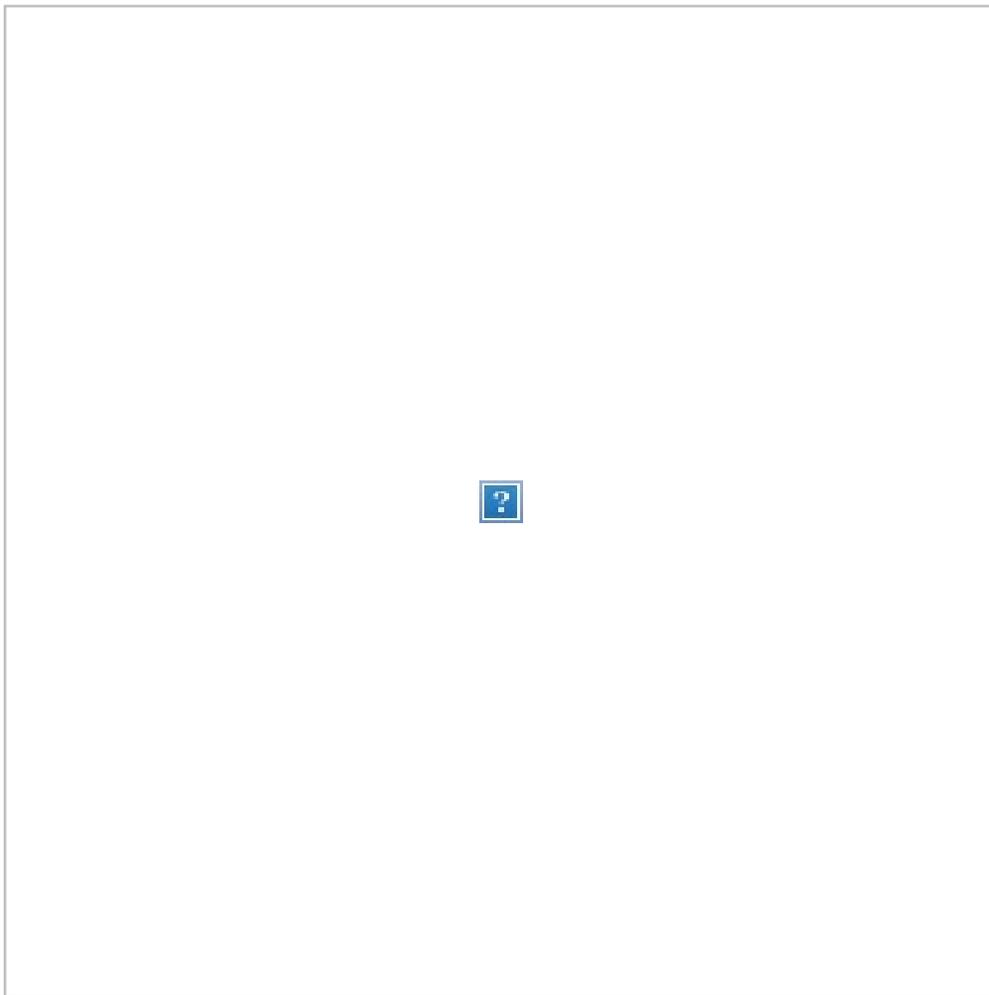
2016 Conclave at the Famous Brown Hotel in Louisville, KY was once again a great opportunity to rekindle brotherly friendships, gain insights into current fraternal issues, learn new techniques and have a little bourbon... The Wisconsin contingent was extremely well represented this year with both Alumni and Actives - in fact we won the award for LARGEST delegation at the Conclave - A First for Wisconsin I am sure! As a member of the AFF board, my conclave attendance is limited as our days are filled with Foundation Board matters. For those that may not be aware, the results of your donations to AFF are critical to the operations of the fraternity at large. Each year an educational grant to the fraternity provides significant operating funds that drive the successes and programs we see from our great Fraternity. If are not donating to the [general fund of the Foundation](#) - please consider this in your annual contribution planning.

So live,

Brother Durst #746



*Active
Member
George
Sorrells
and
Executive
Director
of the
Acacia
Fraternity
Foundation*



Venerable Dean Jake Nelson, Senior Dean Brandon Buchholtz, Junior Dean Mike Foy, Brother Rowe-Johnson, and Brother Sorrells were able to gain invaluable knowledge to become better leaders.

Seventeen years after college graduation I attended my first Acacia Conclave. Yes, you read that right. A "real" job, a wife, two kids, and community responsibilities later... I attended my first conclave and it was an incredible experience! While it was awesome spending time with some of the real people who owned the names I had to memorize from my Pythagoras in 1996, the highlight of my weekend was getting to know the people whose names I didn't know going in.

I spend a lot of time at work focused on millennials. How do we market to them? Hire them?

Motivate them to achieve? We've all heard so many stereotypes about unmotivated, entitled millennials that it isn't even worth repeating. Imagine how refreshing it was to spend a weekend with gentlemen from all over the country who proved those stereotypes false... young men who are leaders in their communities while balancing scholarship, work, and fraternal responsibilities. Young men who could have easily spent their extended weekend living it up in their area's version of the Dells, but instead chose to attend leadership and financial seminars and spend their downtime learning how others are making their campuses better places to live, work, and study. It was impossible to leave Louisville and not feel like our Fraternity and Schools, and eventually, our Companies and World, are in capable hands.

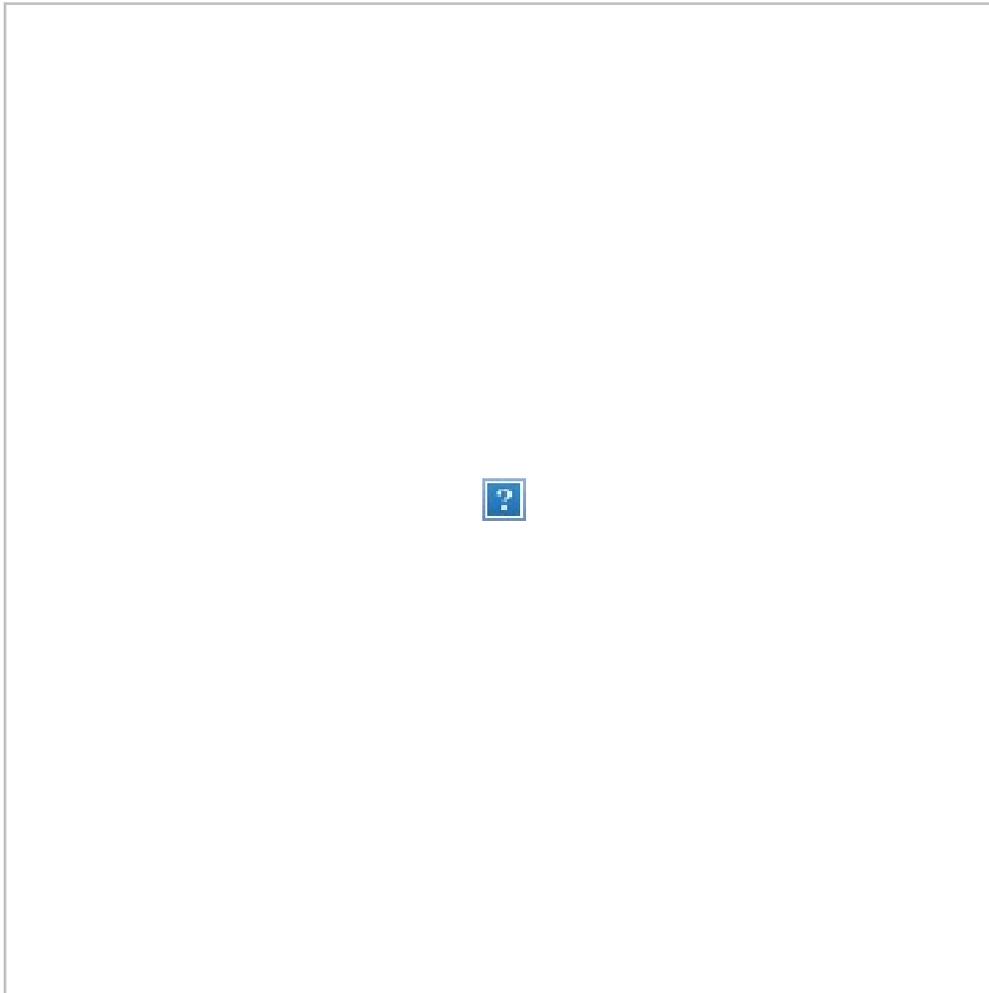
It took 17 years for me to attend my first Conclave, but I don't expect it to take that long to get to my second. **2018 Conclave is in one of my all-time favorite cities, New Orleans**, and the young Acacians I got to know at Conclave 2016 have me convinced that our fraternity's best days are ahead of us. I can't wait to see what they accomplish over the next 2 years and beyond.

So Live,

Alan Scher #890

Rush

The Chapter's goal is to have 15 new active members this semester. The first rush event of the semester had 60 young men in attendance. As of right now the Chapter plans on handing bids out to 31 young men. Hopefully, this number will go up!



This is a picture from Thanksgiving Dinner last year. It exemplifies one of the great aspects of brotherhood.

If you are on Facebook, please visit and like the Chapter's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/LikeACACIA/>.

Upcoming Events:

Friday, October 21st - Dad's Weekend

- Welcome and steak dinner at the Chapter House at 6 p.m.

Saturday, October 22nd

- Philanthropy event at Second Harvest at 9 a.m. (signup forthcoming).
- Watch Party (Iowa Football game) and tailgate at ACACIA house time TBD.

Sunday, October 23rd

- Brother Tim's "Flapjack Brekkie" (pancake breakfast) at the house at 9 a.m.

Saturday, November 12th - Homecoming

- Planning has not started yet but will be the usual tailgate at the house.
 - Look for an invite some time in the next few weeks.
-

Connect with us online!

- **Website:** wiscacacia.acaciaconnect.org/
- **Facebook:** facebook.com/LikeACACIA/

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E: communications@acacia.org

P: 317-872-8210

M: 8777 Purdue Road, Suite 225, Indianapolis, IN 46268

www.acacia.org

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