

October 17, 2019

# Help a Brother and his Family

Brother Alan Faber's daughter (baby) has been diagnosed with a very rare genetic SMC1Arelated disorder that causes uncontrolled seizures and a heart murmur. There is no cure and prognosis is impossible to predict. She'll have developmental delays and require lifelong care.

While they aren't asking for anything from anyone, if you feel like you want/need to do something for them, Freshly meal service credit would make things a little easier for eating healthy.

freshly.com/gifts



## From the Venerable Dean

The brothers of the Wisconsin Chapter of Acacia are ready and excited for another year! Our members have had rewarding summers during which they have gained invaluable experience from internships and work opportunities as well as memorable times with family and friends. Now, it is time to make strides while in Madison with our brothers.

We have already completed a successful rush; through our events and our brothers' hard work, we were able to form close relationships with many potential new members. From those relationships, we were able to induct 17 new members as pledges. This now brings our chapter to a size of 70 members, a number we are incredibly proud of. However, more importantly, we are proud of how close our brotherhood has been able to stay throughout our growth, and because of this brotherhood, we have been able to see sustained success.



A shot of the Rush Cookout in action

I would like to thank all of you for the support we have received in the last few years, and for the help, we will be given in the coming years. As Acacians, we know that there are always three components of a triangle that need to be working in harmony for it to be complete. I see those three components as the active chapter, the alumni, and the international fraternity. With support from our alumni and the international fraternity, and our honest share of effort from the active chapter, the triangle becomes complete, and that is shown through the success that we have seen over the last few semesters. So, thank you again to everyone, I look forward to seeing many of you at Homecoming this October. So Live.

Michael J. Luberto Venerable Dean (#1145)

## Philanthropy

This past spring 13 of our brothers presented "The Start of Something News" in the university's 2019 Humorology Showcase! In the end, we were ecstatic to receive 3rd place, raising over \$78,000 as a cast and \$405,000 as an organization! This money was all donated to the fabulous organization, the "Badger Childhood Cancer Network," which supports families whose children have been affected by cancer in the Madison area. This year, brothers Cooper Healy (#1164), Riley Wistrom (#1165), and Joe Hershey (#1170) have taken on roles as directors of our show! We are hoping that this year, with the help of our partners Alpha Epsilon Phi and Pi Kappa Alpha we will be able to raise over \$100,000 for this year's philanthropy, Blessings in a Backpack! Keep posted in the coming months for ways that you can support our cast and this incredible organization!

This semester our new Philanthropy Chair, Dylan DeMuth (#1171) has been working hard to keep going strong with our current philanthropic endeavors while also adding new opportunities. As a house we are collecting pop tabs to donate to the Ronald McDonald

House, we are in the midst of a food drive for the Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin!



 ${\it Humorology}\ {\it cast}\ {\it right}\ {\it before}\ {\it the}\ {\it final}\ {\it show}$ 

# Acacia Leadership Academy

In addition to preparing for a year of philanthropy, this summer brother Dylan Demuth also attended the ALA in Indiana. When asked about his experience, Dylan wrote:



"I had a fantastic experience this past summer at ALA. It was an exciting opportunity that allowed me to meet fellow brothers from several chapters and learn valuable leadership skills. ALA has motivated and leads me to make a positive difference for my chapter and for Acacia. Living under one room, we bonded quickly sharing stories about our chapters and personal lives. We shared what makes our chapters unique and what strategies work best for us. All of us came with questions and advice for each other. Everyone I met there was dedicated to improving their respective chapter and was ready to listen to others so that they could bring back valuable information. It really inspired me to talk to as many of my brothers as I could and take as many ideas as possible back to Wisconsin. As our philanthropy chair, I hope to provide our chapter with the best opportunity to live by our motto of human service and show the community the positive impacts of fraternal life. I'm fortunate that through ALA this drive to give back has been reinforced and ALA has given me lasting connections with brothers who I may have otherwise never even met."

#### **Newest Alumni**

We would like to recognize all of the active members who have transitioned into the next phase of their fraternal involvement. Listed below are the 13 members who became Alumni in the prior school year.

> Andrew Rosol Mitchell Haller George Sorrells

Andy David Cadell Van Den Heuvell Patrick Sandoval



Marshall Budin Joe Peplinski Ryan Michaelson Marcus Russell



Brothers for life!

These brothers will be dearly missed by the active chapter, but we wish them well in their future endeavors and hope that they live up to the motto of Human Service in everything they do for the rest of their lives.

#### Brotherhood



Brother Andrew Blomfeldt (#1158) has taken great pride in his new role as Brotherhood Chair, organizing weekly events that allow our chapter to come together as brothers and relax. For example, he held a bonfire on our porch the week we got back from school to allow everyone to catch up on each others summer! Andrew also frequently lets the chapter know about good deals going on at restaurants so people can get groups together to grab dinner together. Andrew has been a leading component in pushing for brotherhood events to be a less formally planned thing and more of just an impromptu norm. Andrew has been a significant component in advocating for our intramural teams as well, and he is in the process of setting up teams for the year in hockey, football, basketball, and more! In addition, we also had our annual brotherhood lock-in, where we split ourselves up into teams and competed in different games all night. It is shaping up to be a great semester brotherhood-wise, our boys are closer than ever!



Intramural Football

#### Meet Blake Hutchison, our new Alumni Relations Chair!

"I was initiated in the spring of 1997 with the Upsilon pledge class, roll number 905. As an undergrad, I served as Junior Dean and Treasurer and served on various other committees. I was a four-time Humorology final show alum (2nd place all four times...boo) and enjoyed every minute of being an undergrad. After undergrad, I served as a Leadership Consultant for Acacia and helped create the NWOSU chapter. I currently live in Madison after living for 10 years in Milwaukee. It's good to be back!

I've been a member of the Housing Corporation Board for over 10 years now and was recently elected to the position of Alumni Relations Chair. It's our goal as a Board to make sure that the chapter house on Langdon Street continues to be ours, continues to be improved and is 100% full of Acacians. Our other goal is to make sure that the current and future undergraduate Brothers can live there and enjoy a fine fraternal opportunity for many years to come. We are able to do this through the generosity of our alumni Brothers and their gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Thank you to all of you who continue to give to Acacia!

It has been an extremely rewarding experience to continue to work with and be around the undergraduate Brothers. They are a fantastic group of young men who are really making a positive impact on campus. If you haven't been back to the chapter house in a while, I would recommend doing so! You will be impressed!"

We are so grateful to have Blake working with our chapter and together we are working to make this year's Homecoming the best one yet!

## **Special Recognition**

We would like to take a moment to recognize some excellent members of our chapter who

have received awards this summer.

First up is brother Jack Rouleau. Jack is the epitome of a fine Acacian man. He strives for success in his studies in Kinesiology, he is a member of the Nationally Ranked UW Club Baseball team, he has been Junior Dean and is now our chapter's Senior Dean. Jack loves doing what he can to better our great fraternity. If you don't believe me, he was also a recipient of our chapter's Acacian of the Year award.

This summer, Jack received the "Acacia Fraternity Foundation Scholarship." This award could not have gone to a more deserving man like Jack, and we wish him best of luck as he finishes up his last year at UW Madison.

Next, we have brother Brennan Flaherty. Brennan is a sophomore studying Finance & Real Estate, and our chapter Treasurer. This summer Brennan received the "George F. Patterson Scholarship." For those unaware, this scholarship is given out nationally to an Acacia undergrad who "most nearly exemplify the outstanding attributes of Brother George F. Patterson." As stated best by an excerpt from the description of the award, "Generations of Acacians have come to know George as "Mr. Acacia." Brother Patterson would have been the first to eschew such attention, but his lasting legacy of dedication, loyalty, and leadership is unsurpassed in the annals of our beloved organization."

We are so proud to have such an excellent, intelligent, loyal member of our chapter such as Brennan!

#### **Upcoming Events and Key Dates:**

A brotherhood walkout to the University of Illinois campus when the Badgers are taking on the Fighting Illini in Champaign will happen the weekend of October 19th. Dad's Weekend will consist of a casino night at the house and a group dinner at HopCat the first weekend of November. Formal will be November 16th to November 17th at the Spring Brook Villas in the Wisconsin Dells! We are very excited for all the events this semester! So live!

**24 April, 2020:** Housing Corporation Annual Meeting **25 April, 2020:** Founder's Day

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- Find chapter brothers
- Access resources
- Register for events
- Receive Fraternity notifications
- Update your own Acacia Fraternity member record

latest Fraternity news. Undergraduates, alumni, and volunteers can even link their OmegaFi page to <u>myAcacia</u>!

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