



THE CREST

An ePublication for the Brothers and Friends of Acacia Fraternity

August 16, 2012

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Greetings!

Brothers arrived in St. Louis on August 1, 2012 for four days of business and brotherhood at Acacia Fraternity's 57th Biennial Conclave and Leadership Academy -- conducting the business of the fraternity, learning new skills to benefit our members and chapters, and strengthening the ties of friendship.



[Get a full recap of Conclave, including official business, featured programs, and awards.](#)
[View the Conclave 2012 photo album on Facebook.](#)

Official Business

Membership Growth

The preceding biennium marked strong growth, with active membership of 1000+ men equaling our highest numbers in over a decade.

Financial Health

The financial health of the fraternity improved greatly in the last biennium. Our accounts receivable diminished greatly, with many chapters working hard to address the debt saddled upon them by their predecessors.

Membership Education

Cornerstones, the Membership Development Program of Acacia Fraternity, still a relatively young program at six years, continues to evolve and have a greater impact on our active members, chapters, and alumni. Learn more at AcaciaCornerstones.org



Communications

An area that the fraternity looks to improve over the next biennium is communications. The staff has added a full-time Director of Communications to the staff -- Michael Pastko, *Purdue* \hat{A} '04 -- to help lead this effort.

Elections

Acacia welcomes new International First Vice President Scott H. Meyer, *St. Cloud State* \hat{A} '89, to the Council and congratulates Jeremy N. Davis, *Iowa State* \hat{A} '00, on his re-election as International Second Vice President. Newly elected as Undergraduate Counselors are George "Chip" A. Ray, *Penn State* \hat{A} '10, and Joel A. Zeni, *Oregon State* \hat{A} '10.



[Read more about the official business of the 57th Conclave.](#)

Featured Programs and Entertainment

Conclave attendees enjoyed numerous featured programs and events this year:

Brother Doug G. MacCraw, *Nebraska* \hat{A} '86 performed his famed [comedy hypnosis show](#) and had Acacians laughing non-stop and set the stage for a great week.

Featured in the John F. Hoffner Leadership Series was, "[The Young and the Restless: A Millennial's Guide to Success.](#)" presented by Jeffrey Hiller of Job Bound.

In supporting our motto of Human Service, dozens of Acacians donated blood to support the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center on Friday afternoon. Our donations to the blood center will help almost 100 people in need of blood this year.



"How Do You Want to be Remembered?" was the question posed by Friday's speaker, [Kent Stock](#).

Friday evening, dozens of Acacians braved the intense heat and humidity at Busch Stadium to watch the St. Louis Cardinals take on division rival Milwaukee Brewers, while a second group of brothers chose to visit the the City Museum. We also welcomed alumni to join us for the George F. Patterson Society alumni reception.



On Saturday, featured speaker Andrew McCrea presented, "[Losing to Win: The Leadership Paradox](#)" as part of the speaking program sponsored by the International Council of Acacia Fraternity.

[Get the full story on this year's featured programs and entertainment.](#)

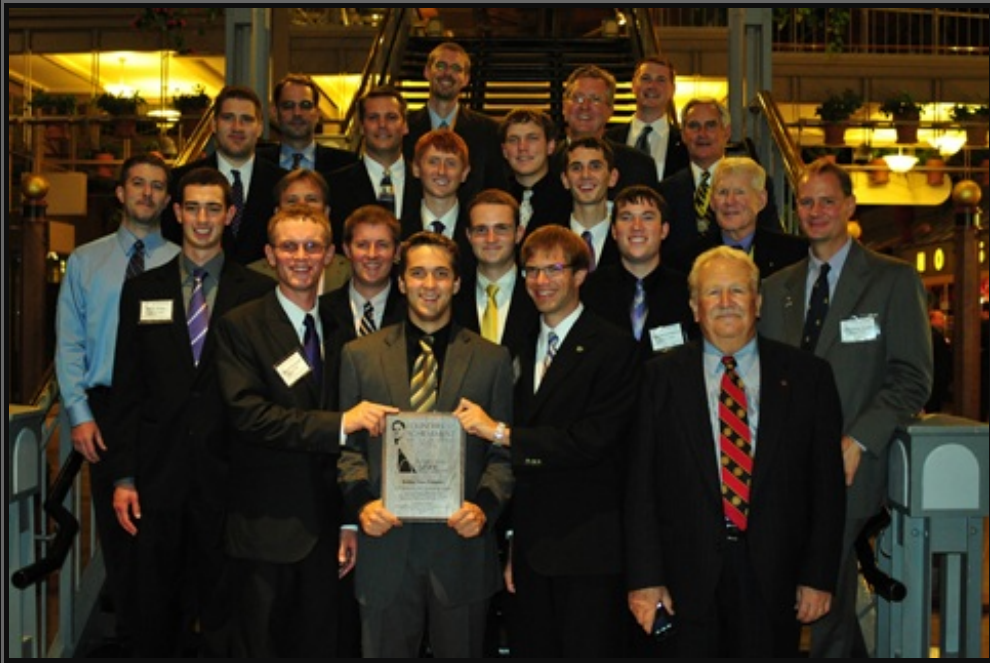
Banquets, Scholarships, and Awards

On Friday, August 3, 2012, the entire delegation enjoyed the William A. Utic Acacia Fraternity Foundation Scholarship Banquet, where numerous scholarships were awarded to deserving undergraduate members. The chapter Spirit of Excellence award winners were also announced at the banquet.

[Learn which chapters received awards in various areas of chapter operations.](#)

The 57th Biennial Conclave Final Banquet was held on Saturday, August 4, 2012. The fraternity awarded high individual honors, additional chapter recognitions, and our highest chapter awards.

Founders' Achievement Awards



Malcolm Award (best chapter of the biennium) - Kansas State



Superior Chapter - Iowa State



Outstanding Chapter - Penn State

George F. Patterson Outstanding Alumnus Award

Melvin W. Rapp, Illinois Â´49

Ronald T. Hopkins, Syracuse Â´69

Award of Merit

Jeremy N. Davis, Iowa State Â´00

Robert W. Mickam, Texas Â´85

Lucas D. Shivers, Kansas State Â´01

[Read the full list of award winners and view more pictures.](#)

Contribute

"To whom much is given, of him shall much be required."

Do you recall these words from our Ritual? Do you support the laudable undertakings of Acacia Fraternity?

Events like our biennial Conclave can only happen with your support and the gracious gifts of our donors. If you'd like to help ensure our members have access to invaluable programs like the ones listed above, please visit our [AFF donations page](#) to make a contribution. Consider giving to the Area of Greatest Need, Acacia Annual Fund, or Cornerstones Program, and your gift will make a real impact.

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to keep us and your fellow Acacians informed.

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