

ALPHA ARTERY

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI OF OKLAHOMA ALPHA ♦ SIGMA PHI EPSILON



FALL 2017

CONSTRUCTION ON NEW CHAPTER HOUSE HAS BEGUN

Show Your Support by Donating Today!

That's right, a new house is underway in Stillwater! The old house was demolished on June 26 and dirt started to move just two weeks later. The construction firm of Miller-Tippens is striving to have the house completed by June 15, 2018. The house will have a maximum capacity of 80 men and will be nearly 23,000 square feet in size, which is double the size of the previous house. During construction, many of the undergraduate members are living in the Kerr-Drummond dormitory. They leased an entire floor from the University for the 2017-2018 school year.

With construction underway, the Building Committee held a construction/groundbreaking ceremony on Saturday, September 23, which was the weekend we played TCU.

On the fundraising front, we have pledges of nearly \$1.6 million. Our goal is still \$2 million by the time we go to a permanent loan, which will be in June 2019. Thank you to those that have given! We do need additional funds in order to have the most manageable mortgage as possible and to establish reasonable room and board costs for the undergraduates. If

you have not given, please do so now. The tax deductibility level has been lowered from \$25,000 to \$10,000. If you have already given, but it was less than \$10,000, please consider reaching the \$10,000 level. For instance, if you have given \$2,500 and step up to \$10,000 the \$7,500 increase will be tax deductible. Please use the pledge form included in this *Alpha Artery* to make a new or increased pledge. Construction has begun and the dream of many is a reality. Make a donation today to ensure the dream lives on!

A ribbon cutting/dedication ceremony is being planned for the fall semester of 2018. We will celebrate the opening of the new chapter house and recognize the many alumni that made it a reality. Details for this event will be provided in late spring 2018.

Fraternally,

Mike Reddout '85

Building Committee Chairman
(580) 380-6565



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Oklahoma Alpha would like to invite you to back to Boone Pickens Stadium to cheer on the Cowboys. If you were unable to attend the TCU tailgate and groundbreaking ceremony feel free to stop by the Kansas State tailgate on November 18.

Tailgate times are approximately 2 hours prior to kick-off. Location is the courtyard directly north of Edmond Low Library. Search "Sigma Phi Epsilon - Oklahoma Alpha Chapter Alumni" on Facebook for additional information about tailgates, read additional alumni news, and learn about other events.



CREATE A LASTING LEGACY

IMPACT OKLAHOMA ALPHA BY CONTRIBUTING TO THE CAMPAIGN TODAY

We are truly thankful to the dedicated alumni and friends who have committed \$1,548,745 to *Pride in Our Past, Ensuring Our Future: The Campaign for Oklahoma Alpha*. These brothers recognize the importance of our campaign in securing the future of Oklahoma Alpha. There is still time for you to join your brothers and make your contribution today. Commitments are needed from all of our alumni in order to achieve our goal and complete this major project. If an error has been made in recording your gift, we sincerely apologize. Please notify our campaign coordinator at (785) 856-9583.

THE 1920 FOUNDERS SOCIETY (\$100,000 AND ABOVE)

Oklahoma Alpha AVC
Oklahoma Alpha
Undergraduate Chapter
Mike Dillard '74
J. Michael Reddout '85
Thomas A. Morley Jr. '87

THE GOLDEN HEART SOCIETY (\$50,000 TO \$99,999)

Kim Rolston
In honor and memory of
Joe S. Rolston IV '86
Si E. Fentress II '72
Mary Ellen and
Gary Bridwell '74
Michael G. Daniel '85
Todd Donovan '86
In memory of
Brad Jackson '88

THE STAR AND SWORD SOCIETY (\$25,000 TO \$49,999)

David R. Dickey '57
Tom Winslow '58
Edward J. Holland '59
Jack W. Dickey Sr. '60
Thomas W. Tatum '61
H. Smith Wycoff '61
Neal T. Seidle '62
Jim McKellar '67
Steven M. Dickey '69
Michael D. Bolick '70
Charles J. Devlin '70
In memory of
Ray Murphy '68
Terry L. Stewart '71
Clint M. Ward '83
Darrell K. Pulliam '84
Jerry A. Dow '86

THE BROTHERLY LOVE SOCIETY (\$15,000 TO \$24,999)

Mark L. Dickerson '75
Patrick J. Brierley '88

THE COWBOY SOCIETY (\$10,000 TO \$14,999)

Donald E. Bugh '53
Ronald E. Carlson '54
James N. Blazer Jr. '67
M. Dick Teis Jr. '68
Bruce Shirck '72

Fred W. Ettner '81
Bill G. Fruedenrich '83
David J. Griffin '85
Brent L. Foster '97
Roger "R.J." Lipert '98
Brian "Shane" Crawford '99

THE OKLAHOMA ALPHA SOCIETY (\$5,000 TO \$9,999)

Herbert G. Davis '53
Norman W. Foster '61
Jon H. Bayouth '70
Terry and Don Dupree '70
Lyn and James A. Livingston '70
David L. Warden '71
John H. Wynne '71
Tim H. Cleverdon '73
Karig P. Culver '80
Jon M. Eckel '80
Jack T. Gregory '82
Thomas E. Simmons Jr. '83
Stephen R. Diehl '84
John P. Fiebig '87
Timothy K. Reddout '87
Brent M. Suchy '98
Jason B. Weintraub '98
W. Robert Hargrave '11

THE BALANCED MAN SOCIETY (\$2,500 TO \$4,999)

Robert E. Harrison '52
In memory of
Benjamin F. Harrison Sr. 1914,
J. Robert Harrison '42,
Charles F. Harrison '49,
and Benjamin F. Harrison Jr. '50
Keith L. Casner '53
W. Randall Lindsey '55
In honor of
the Class of 1955
Robert A. Wright '58
John R. Deming '63
Charlie O. Riddle '74
Alexander Croci '81
Mike L. Dreyer '81
Mark S. Erickson '81
Brad D. Leverett '82
Trey Deupree '85
Brian Mitchell
Steven D. Giles '87
Billy Barnett '88
Mark H. Connell '90
Lance M. Miller '95
Trey Lewis '08

THE RED DOOR SOCIETY (\$1,000 TO \$2,499)

William L. Brooks
Todd D. Krieger
J. William Love Jr. '49
In memory of
Dr. Jack Fuquay '48
W. Gene Speece '50
Paul Seeley '51
Wight W. Jones '53
Jim L. Anderson '54
Jerry R. Tyson '58
Jack I. Seidle '59
Thomas L. Stafford '59
In memory of
Roy L. Stafford
Guy P. Clark '62
Jerry D. Mallonee '63
Forrest "Bud" Ward '63
Tim Armstrong '64
Larry A. Simpson '66
Robert A. Breedlove, M.D. '69
James R. Davis Jr. '73
Wade W. Edmundson '73
Robert A. Eskridge '79
In honor of
the Pledge Class of 1975
Brian M. Diffin '81
William H. Cormany Jr. '82
D. Mike Mullen Jr. '84
Charles A. Phillips '84
Brad A. Jobe '88
In memory of
Grego Miano '90
Charles C. Caldwell '90
In memory of
Greg Miano '90
Ryan B. Tate '98
Brent Williamson '98
Mike C. Mitchell '01
Matt B. Burckhalter '07
William D. Findlay '09
Jesse J. Hollingsworth '10
Ty L. Ketchum '12
Cory B. Riddle '12
Aaron C. Cromer '16

CAMPAIGN DONOR (UP TO \$999)

Joseph R. Williams '51
Glenn A. Leonhart '53
George G. Hunt '54
Philip E. Viseur '54
Jerry E. Burson '55

**Help us reach
our \$2 million goal
by donating today!**

CAMPAIGN STATUS AT-A-GLANCE *As of August 21, 2017*

**Goal
\$2 Million**

**Total Committed
\$1,548,745**

**Number of
Contributors
150**

Dr. Joe F. Welch '56
William D. Williams '56
Donald Ledbetter '57
Bob L. Greenhaw '58
Jimmy J. McGraw '58
Larry D. Ferree '59
Joe T. Bailey '64
William E. Dieker, M.D. '64
James R. Elder '64
Philip H. Myles '65
Gary H. Price '68
Randy L. Barton '80
Buck L. Davis '81
Alan J. Morton '83
Alan J. Morton '83
Christopher C. Olson '88
Michael S. Chesley '91
Timothy T. Forman '08
Brad S. Siahmakoun '09
Adam B. Greer '10
Kolin J. K. Jones '13
Grant P. Martin '13
Jake Minnis '13
Jake Minnis '13
Trevor S. Davenport '14
Sean A. Boggs '15
Hunter Easterling
Abe Gjura
Ben Hutto
Larry Whatley



BUILDING THE BROTHERHOOD

Jerry Dow '86 Supports Oklahoma Alpha's New Beginning

Upon joining Oklahoma Alpha, **Jerry Dow '86** appreciated how a “redneck” from Perry, Okla., like himself could mesh so well with a group of brothers from all over the country. “Oklahoma Alpha gave me a kick in the pants and the motivation to step up my game. Suddenly, I found myself surrounded by competitive folks who represented a new world outside Perry, Oklahoma,” he said. When Jerry was asked to donate to Oklahoma

“

I'm excited about the new chapter house. Houses don't build themselves. Brothers builds houses. We all need to help. Any amount will help us reach our goal and we are now closer than ever before.

”

Alpha's capital campaign, he was happy to participate, knowing how much a new chapter

house would have meant to him when he was an undergraduate. As the long-awaited chapter house becomes a reality, Jerry was excited to see Oklahoma Alpha break ground this summer. “I'm excited about the new chapter house,” he said. “Houses don't build themselves. Brothers builds houses. We all need to help. Any amount will help us reach our goal and we are now closer than ever before.”



All of Jerry's favorite memories during his time at 1121 West 4th Avenue involved his pledge brothers and how well they gelled together: brothers like **Jeff Sharp '86**, **Scott Smith '86**, **Thomas Morley '87**, **Mark Grimes '84**, **Joe Rolston '86**, **Todd Donovan '78**, **Lincoln Ward '87**, and **Gregg Delozier '85**, just to name a few. All had a positive impression on Jerry's undergraduate years. “Some of the friendships I made last to this day and the sense of belonging will last forever,” he said.

Jerry went on to get his master's degree from Northwestern University in Chicago and has had a great career, working at some of the world's largest marketing organizations like Leo Burnett. Jerry has also managed some of the world's best brands such as Maytag, Jenn-air, Kraft, and Pella, led global marketing for United Airlines, and was chief marketing officer for National and Alamo car rental and, most recently, Suddenlink Communications.

Earning a degree in advertising, he shared classes with Garth Brooks. “I'm sure Garth remembers me,” Jerry said. “Luck plays a big role in your ultimate success, but luck will not find you if you don't put yourself where luck can find you.”

Jerry and his wife, Sarah, have triplet sons: Grant, Parker, and Elliott. He likes all things mechanical and his latest project was a bobbed BMW motorcycle. Jerry lives in St. Louis, Mo., and can be reached at jdnorthwestern@gmail.com.

A DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH

Robert Breedlove, M.D. '69 on Alumni Impact and the Future of OK Alpha

Growing up in Stillwater, attending OSU seemed like the natural thing to do for **Robert Breedlove, M.D. '69**. In high school, he was invited to several SigEp functions and grew to like the group of men in Oklahoma Alpha. When it came time to pledge, the choice was easy. Robert knew Oklahoma Alpha was the group of men he wanted to be a part of. “We had some great bonding experiences at athletic events, initiations, and rituals,” he said. “You get to know your brothers as well as you know your family. Experiencing everything with them is priceless. I wouldn't trade my years there for anything.”



Robert has owned a private dermatology practice for nearly 40 years and his Stillwater office is half a mile from the chapter house. Being so close to campus, Robert has seen the multi-million-dollar mansions other fraternities are building and believes Oklahoma Alpha needs alumni support to accomplish the same feat. “I know the active brothers are in need,” he said. “I am who I am today partially thanks to Sigma Phi Epsilon, and I think it's my duty to pay it forward.”

During his undergraduate years, Robert lived in the chapter house across the street that now homes members of Alpha Tau Omega. Although his roots are not planted at 1121 West 4th Avenue, Robert visited the chapter house for meetings during his time as alumni board president and occasionally throughout the years. “In the last 10 years, half a dozen \$8-10 million chapter houses have been built and they look incredible,” Robert said. “Come to find out, most are done from one huge donor and I think that Oklahoma Alpha has yet to find that diamond in the rough. I'm sure someone out there could be that one special donor.”

As Oklahoma Alpha broke ground this summer, contributions of all sizes can still help the chapter reach its \$2 million goal. Like many campuses across the U.S., Greek houses are not the only competitive housing options undergraduate students have to choose from and OSU has also built their own student living facilities. “In order to compete and get the 18- and 19-year-old students to live in your structure, you have to be attractive,” Robert said. “OSU has built

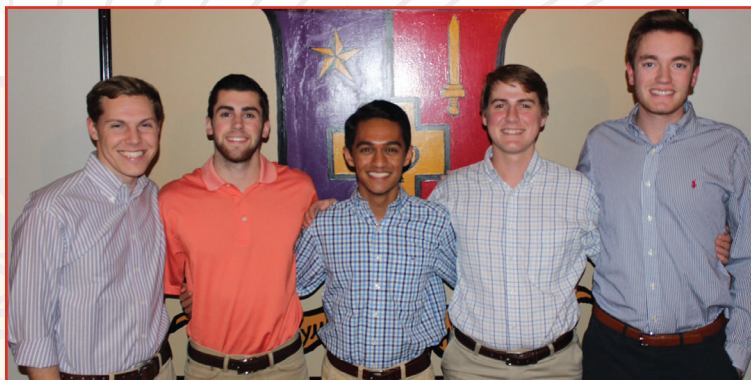
their own housing with amenities and it's like staying at a hotel.”

To Robert, life is a social experience and college offers people the chance to find their place in the world, learn how to get along with others, and grow independence. Add in Greek membership, and the opportunities for growth are multiplied. Robert's own years at OSU and Oklahoma Alpha helped teach him about the real world and he continues to use these skills as a dermatologist, writer, traveler, and sporting official. “I'm a strong believer that college is a socialization process more than an education process,” Robert said.

Each week, Robert submits a column for the *Stillwater News*, and this year, he enters his 51st year as an athletic official, making him Oklahoma's record holder for longest officiating career. Robert and his wife, Debbie, have three children, Michelle, Allan, and Robbie, and one grandchild. Throughout the years, Robert and Debbie have traveled to 88 countries, with hopes of making it to 100. The couple lives in Stillwater, and Robert can be reached at dermrefmd@aol.com.



SigEp dominated the Spring Sing competition. Four members of the group were Hayden Fredrickson '20, Jeremiah Nicholson '20, Josh Galdamez '20, and Dylan Walker '19.



Five of our great leaders of Oklahoma Alpha include Jake Pulliam '19, Carson Taber '19, Vishnu Patel '19, Cardin Hart '19, and Blake Giles '19.

OKLAHOMA ALPHA LEADS OSU GREEK COMMUNITY

SIGMA PHI EPSILON ATTAINS FIFTH HIGHEST GPA IN IFC

This past spring, Oklahoma Alpha was running on all cylinders. With construction of a new chapter house on the horizon we have been planning ahead to create a concrete foundation for the future of Oklahoma Alpha. As we continue our success on campus, we are competitive and consistently set the bar higher for ourselves and those around us.

The chapter placed 5th in grades out of the 24 Interfraternity Council recognized fraternities with a 3.36 GPA—our highest ever. At 130 men strong, Oklahoma Alpha held the third-highest membership on campus. As academics play an incredible role in our success we have implemented an academic mentor program to continue to excel in the classroom.

UNDERGRADUATES RAISE \$1,000 FOR BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

We introduced a new philanthropy to the OSU community at the end of March. We hosted a Powder Puff football tournament where sororities competed against each other in a flag football competition. The men of Oklahoma Alpha served as coaches, referees, and score keepers throughout the event. We raised \$1,000 from team registration and all contributions benefited Big Brothers Big Sisters of Stillwater.

OKLAHOMA ALPHA TO COMPETE IN HOMECOMING TRADITIONS

As we all know, Homecoming is a tradition unlike any other here at Oklahoma State. With a facility no longer available to us where we

could build a house decoration, we spent much time looking for a way to compete in the time-honored tradition without a facility. After extensive research into alternatives, we have decided to pair with the women of Alpha Xi Delta and compete in the 2017 Homecoming Parade Float Competition. This allows us to compete in Sweepstakes. We are grateful for this opportunity and excited to get started come fall!

CHAPTER WINS EXCELSIOR AWARD FOR ACADEMICS AND BUCHANAN CUP

In February, Oklahoma Alpha sent 20 members to the Carlson Leadership Academy in Oklahoma City. While there, our Executive Board and rising leaders were given further education in their respective position, strategic planning and goal setting for the chapter, and enriching chapter leadership. Oklahoma Alpha walked away with an Excelsior Award for Academics, an award for highest participation for the Hoop of Steel Society in our region, and our AVC Treasurer **Kay Robinson** walked away as a Sigma Phi Epsilon Distinguished Volunteer.

In August, we had the chance to take 10 men to the 55th Grand Chapter Conclave in Orlando, Florida. This was a historic Conclave for Oklahoma Alpha as we received another Buchanan Cup. I worked all summer on a committee to help pass legislation to eliminate alcohol in all SigEp chapters around the nation. **Vishnu Patel '19** ran for the national student director position and making it to the final round of interviews. **Brian Rosebrook '15** received the Clayton-Doud Award for his participation in helping to pass the Balanced

Man Alignment legislation at the 54th Grand Chapter Conclave.

CAMPUS LEADERSHIP SHINES IN GREEK COMMUNITY

In April, the Interfraternity Council hosted their annual awards banquet. **Ridge Howell '17** was a finalist for Greek Man of the Year, **Blake Giles '19** and **Cardin Hart '19** were finalists for IFC Outstanding Sophomore of the Year, and **Brent Cunningham '20** was awarded the IFC Outstanding New Member of the Year.

FIRST PLACE WIN FOR SPRING SING COMPETITION

The men of Oklahoma Alpha were paired with the women of Kappa Delta for the 2017 Spring Sing competition. We walked away with the first place trophy, best vocals, and best choreography.

OKLAHOMA ALPHA WELCOMES 42 NEW MEMBERS

With recruitment ever so important to us this year, I am happy to report we had a very successful summer and signed 42 men. Our new class is the third-largest new member class on campus.

We cannot thank you all enough for your continued support to our success. The red door will forever and always be open.

Fraternally,
Alex Pfeifer '18
Chapter President
(918) 810-0199
alex.pfeifer@okstate.edu



OKLAHOMA ALPHA CONTINUES TO SUCCEED!

Chapter Awarded Buchanan Cup at 2017 Conclave

After leaving Stillwater, we often lose track of the daily activities of the Oklahoma Alpha men. In recent years, the men have won four Buchanan Cup trophies over five national Conclaves. This is the highest honor our national fraternity bestows upon a chapter. Only 27 of our 221 (12%) SigEp chapters won a Buchanan Cup at the 2017 Conclave in Orlando, which is a testament to the quality of our Oklahoma Alpha men.

Part of winning this award is due to their success in the classroom and in campus activities. The chapter averaged a GPA of 3.21 over the past four semesters. This past spring semester was even more impressive as the chapter earned its highest GPA ever at 3.36. This compares nicely to the all-men's average of 2.83. Over the past 11 years, SigEp has won Freshman Follies five times and Homecoming Sweepstakes in 2011.

Several men rose to the top of awards on campus. Since 2011, eleven men have been named Top Twenty Freshmen from our chapter:

- **Max Wiebrecht '11**
- **Logan Scott '11**
- **Eric Gilbert '11**
- **Ridge Howell '14**
- **Aaron Cromer '13**
- **Eric Williams '15**

Five men were named in fall 2016:

- **Jake Pulliam '19**
- **Vishnu Patel '19**
- **Blake Giles '19**
- **Cardin Hart '19**
- **Carson Taber '19**

Additionally, **Wes Hallof '19** placed eighth in the Big Twelve track and field javelin competition as a freshman in 2016.

After working with four different SigEp chapter since graduating, Oklahoma Alpha is by far the most outstanding. Working with such a great group of young men has allowed us to preserve the legacy of this chapter for future generations.

Fraternally,

Todd Donovan '86

AVC President | todd.donavan@colostate.edu

Aaron Cromer '16

aaron.cromer@yahoo.com



Front row from left: Todd Donovan '86, Matt Donovan '19, Cardin Hart '19, Alex Pfeifer '18, Vishnu Patel '19, Carson Taber '19, Trevor Davenport '14. Back row: TJ St. John '18, Aaron Cromer '19, JR Rogers '14, Jake Wycoff '16, Brooks Robinson '19, Daniel Eckenfels '19, and Kay Robinson.



Oklahoma Alpha leaders attending Carlson Leadership Academy in February. Front row from left: Mason Kinnaird '20, Kase White '20, Dylan Sommerfelt '20, Dylan Harden '20, Erik Williams '18, Carson Taber '19, Blake Nofziger '20. Back row: Anson Brady '19, Mason Ponder '18, Zach Youngblood '20, Alex Pfeifer '18, Hayden Fredrickson '20, Vishnu Patel '19, Kay Robinson, Landon Lowe '20, TJ St. John '18, Cardin Hart '19, Bryce Nelson '20, Carter Wilson '20, Dylan Walker '19, and Garrett Saunders '19.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

President

Alex Pfeifer '18

(918) 810-0199

alex.pfeifer@okstate.edu

VP of Programming

Vishnu Patel '19

VP of Finance

Carson Taber '19

VP of Recruitment

Cardin Hart '19

(405) 550-3635

cardin.hart@okstate.edu

VP of Membership Development

Anson Brady '19

VP of Communication

Mason Ponder '20

Chaplain

Erik Williams '20

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Sigma Phi Epsilon

Oklahoma Alpha

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ALUMNI UPDATE

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Edmond Synar '48 entered Chapter Eternal on October 28, 2016, in Muskogee, Okla. Edmond was a lifelong OSU fan and was buried in his favorite OSU tie.

Frank Steen '54 entered Chapter Eternal on February 19, 2016, in Columbus, Ohio. Frank was a pilot for 20 years and a retired colonel of the U.S. Air Force.

Larry L. Eitelman '59 entered Chapter Eternal on April 22, 2016. Larry lived in Tulsa, Okla., and was always proud of his affiliation with SigEp.

ALUMNI NEWS

W. Gene Speece '50 is leading a very quiet life in a small Arkansas town. Gene recently spent three weeks in north Texas visiting his oldest daughter. E-mail: gspeece@centurytel.net

William D. Williams '56 has three grandchildren enrolled at OSU and involved in Greek life: **Will Bramblett '17** is a member of Oklahoma Alpha, and his sisters, Coco and Kelly, are Tri Deltas. Bill lives in Edmond, Okla.

Thomas L. Stafford '59 is thankful he was not severely injured after being hit by a drunk driver in March. Thomas luckily was wearing his seat belt and walked away with bruises. "I'm here, thank God! Do not drive and drive, brothers!" Thomas lives in Village Mills, Texas.

Richard Daniels '68 retired in June 2016 as an insurance agent and now tutors second graders twice a week to build their reading skills. Dick also serves as treasurer of the homeowners association in Germantown, Tenn., and watches his grandchildren play a lot of basketball and soccer. E-mail: dickdaniels46@yahoo.com

John P. Fiebig '87 and his wife, Nancy, live in Southlake, Texas, where John works as a senior deputy director for PCAOB. Their daughter, Katie, is a Kappa at OSU, and their two sons, **Jack, Alabama '14**, and **Chris, Alabama '17**, are SigEps from the Alabama Beta chapter. John was recently inducted into the Oklahoma State University Wilson T. Anderson School of Accounting Hall of Fame. E-mail: fiebigj@pcaobus.org



WEBSITE

www.okstatesigep.com



TWITTER

@SigEpOKAlpha



INSTAGRAM

okstatesigep



ALUMNI FACEBOOK

Sigma Phi Epsilon—Oklahoma
Alpha Chapter Alumni