



ALPHA ARTERY

Oklahoma Alpha | Oklahoma State University | Spring 2024

A Strong Spring Semester

OKLAHOMA ALPHA INVOLVEMENT

After coming back from a restful winter break and a great Golden Heart formal in Nashville, on-campus members (a couple are studying abroad in France) started spring strong by inviting guests to speak to the chapter about a variety of topics such as finances, professionalism, accountability, and how to handle alcohol responsibly.

Multiple brothers were invited to participate in this year's Carlson Leadership Academy in Oklahoma City to grow in their involvement, leadership, and impact of their specific roles and beyond. They wrapped up a strong Varsity Revue performance with the women of Alpha Delta Pi and participated in Spring Sing with the women of Zeta Tau Alpha as well as celebrated mothers with a denim and diamond-themed Mom's Day. The chapter announced it will be a part of America's Greatest Homecoming with the wonderful women of Gamma Phi Beta.

Not only are the members serving the community and being a part of so many great causes, but they also just finished volunteering with the women of Alpha Chi Omega with "Into the Streets," helping clean, mow, paint, and serve dozens of Stillwater residents.

Throughout the rest of the semester, the members prepared for the final Greek Discovery Day, where they welcomed incoming freshmen and potential new members, as well as geared up for Safari Week, which consisted of a car wash, volleyball tournament, and concert with proceeds going to our non-profit partner, Boys and Girls Club.

Finally, our recruitment team will be hitting the ground running this summer meeting with potential new members and welcoming the new member class of 2024 while we see our president, **Jake Broom '26**, and freshman, **Jackson Hays '27**, represent the chapter at the Ruck Leadership Institute in Virginia.

It was a great semester with the men having their priorities straight and finishing well academically. They continue to be balanced men of virtue, diligence, and brotherly love.

Fraternally,
Erik Williams '18
Chapter Counselor



On March 25, we had the pleasure of hosting representatives from Beers Aren't Bad, who gave a presentation on alcohol awareness to our chapter. Beers Aren't Bad is an organization that promotes a positive and responsible relationship with alcohol. The presentation advocated for a balanced perspective on alcohol, encouraging responsible consumption and appreciation for the cultural and social aspects of enjoying drinks.

OKLAHOMA ALPHA TO HOST

ANTI-HAZING

SEMINAR

Increasing Awareness and Being Leaders

With recent events across the Greek community, Oklahoma Alpha has decided to host an event to increase awareness of the problems with hazing. Oklahoma Alpha will be co-hosting this event with the ladies of Alpha Delta Pi and are looking to bring Rae Ann Gruver and Evelyn Piazza, who both lost a child due to hazing incidents, to campus in the fall. They regularly speak on campuses, including Kansas State last year and at our leadership training at the SigEp Ruck Leadership Institute in Richmond, Virginia.

All Greek chapters as well as the members of athletics and the band will be invited to attend the event, since several hazing incidents across the nation have involved athletes and band members. By hosting this event, our men are demonstrating their leadership across campus. The event is scheduled for August 27 at 6:30 p.m. at the Wes Watkins Center.

A LIFE SHAPED BY BROTHERHOOD

Dr. Steven Giles '87 on Fraternal Values, Legacy Connections

When Dr. Steven Giles '87 first began learning about Greek life, he began to see past the letters and recognize core values that resonated with his own. Steve pledged SigEp at the start of his sophomore year and joined a brotherhood that continues to shape his personal development.

Fraternal Roots

SigEp had a profound impact on Steve's social growth as a young man. While following his path to becoming a veterinarian, Steve found opportunities to serve as chaplain on the chapter's executive board and as a senator in the Student Government Association. His fraternal development shaped him for success beyond college through crucial communication skills.

Steve met his wife, Diana, at Oklahoma State, where she served as chaplain for Alpha Chi Omega. Diana became a Goldenheart at Oklahoma Alpha, and their sons, Blake '19 and Dillon '21 would continue the family legacy in SigEp. Steve and Diana didn't pressure their sons into Greek life but enjoyed seeing them make meaningful connections through SigEp events.

"Both sons were on the executive board, with Blake also serving as president. They, too, met their wives through the OSU Greek community."



Steve and his family.

Veterinary Success

Steve was accepted into the Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine alongside close friend Lincoln Ward '87. After what he considers the most challenging four years of his life, Steve became a licensed veterinarian in five states when he graduated in 1991.

Three years later, Steve bought Village Animal Hospital in Oklahoma City. He became heavily involved with the Oklahoma Veterinary Medical Association, eventually serving on the executive committee for OVMA and OVMA Foundation. Steve's career work earned him the honor of Companion Animal Practitioner of the Year in 2001, becoming the youngest recipient of the award.

"Everyone must find their passion," Steve said. "That doesn't mean it has to be immediate, but we all must continue to find where our hearts lead us. Leaning on others and the friendships developed from college can help direct us toward our goals."

Looking back, Steve is grateful for the SigEp experience that influenced him as a professional and provided so many connections through shared values. You can connect with Steve at stevendgiles@outlook.com.



"I feel very fortunate to have been at the right place and time to join SigEp and wouldn't trade a moment. SigEp was, and continues to be, a blessing in my life."

CONGRATULATIONS, SENIORS!

Best of Luck in Your Endeavors

Pete Alonso
Tulsa, Okla.

Pearson Clapp
Keller, Texas

Riley Jackson
Jenks, Okla.

Connor Romeike
Edmond, Okla.

Brayden Bain
Lubbock, Texas

Parker Darnell
Broken Arrow, Okla.

Tim James
Tulsa, Okla.

Will Rooks
Edmond, Okla.

Kale Baker
Duncan, Okla.

Caden Duvall
Edmond, Okla.

Matt Nogalski
Tulsa, Okla.

Corbin Steele
Bixby, Okla.

Gavin Bender
Edmond, Okla.

Zach Engelken
Newton, Kan.

Dominick Paluso
Dallas, Texas

Jacob Surber
Broken Arrow, Okla.

Charlie Cannon
Lenexa, Kan.

Jeffrey Gaetjen
Plano, Texas

Ben Rice
Edmond, Okla.

Davis Worley
Des Peres, Mo.

Rising Leaders Prepare for 2024 at Carlson Leadership Academy

Executive Officers Gain New Skills

This January, eight Oklahoma Alpha chapter officers and two AVC members traveled to Oklahoma City to attend Carlson Leadership Academy. Beginning in 2023, all eight executive officers are given the opportunity to attend with a specialized track for their position.

This program, held in multiple cities across the country, gives new officers a boost of personal leadership development. It focuses on teaching the skills to help them inspire brothers, manage a committee, and follow through on those goals. Officers build a supportive cohort of brothers in their roles to network with throughout the year. This is a great opportunity for our rising leaders to grow and thrive for the year ahead.

List of attendees:

Todd Donovan '86
Aaron Cromer '16
Blake Brenek '26
Jake Broom '26
Eli Dunn '26

Matthew Hartig '26
Matt McAhren '26
Justin Pittman '26
Ty Scott '26
Jackson Hays '27



It is our honor to introduce to you our executive board. Top row, from left: Eli Dunn '26 (VP member development), Ty Scott '26 (chaplain), Matthew Hartig '26 (VP SigEp learning community), and Blake Brenek '26 (VP recruitment). Bottom: Justin Pittman '26 (VP programming), Jake Broom '26 (chapter president), Matthew McAhren '26 (VP finance), and Caden Dunlap '27 (VP communications).

LEARNING LIFE SKILLS



Brothers listening to Jason Ray, a former Oklahoma State football player, speak. Jason now works for Synergy and travels to many college campuses to speak about financial management. He shared a ton of wisdom with the chapter and provided us with practical skills we can use in our personal lives.

Support Oklahoma Alpha

THANK YOU TO OUR BROTHERS FOR THEIR COMMITMENT

You can help our brothers today by scanning the QR code or visiting give.sigep.org/give/212555/#!/donation/checkout to donate online. Use the drop-down menu under "What would you like your donation to support?" and choose your entity. Thank you for your support!



SCAN ME!

You can make a one-time donation or schedule recurring monthly payments that fit within your budget.

Thank you to the brothers, listed below, who have given in 2023 and so far in 2024. We hope to see many more names on the list this year!

Bill Love '49
Jerry Cooper '63
Forrest Ward '63
Robert Breedlove '69
Sterett Robertson '72

Mark McMichael '76
Michael Dreyer '81
Robert England '84
Robert Mitchell '85
Todd Donovan '86



**SATURDAY,
JULY 27**



ALPHA ARTERY

Oklahoma Alpha | Oklahoma State University

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Save the Date

We invite you to attend our annual T. Bone McDonald Golf Tournament, which benefits undergraduates with scholarship money.

This is a great event to reconnect with your fellow SigEp brothers and to tell the same old lies you told us before. The tournament will be held Saturday, July 27, at 1:30 p.m. at Battle Creek Golf Club in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. Dinner and raffle winners will be announced after the round.

Tickets can be purchased at EventBrite. Scan the QR code or visit [tinyurl.com/OKAlphaGolfTournament](https://www.eventbrite.com/OKAlphaGolfTournament).



Welcome, **NEW** Members

Tyler Beauvais '27
Bartlesville, Okla.

Ethan Bennett '27
Guthrie, Okla.

Ethan Krilic '27
Frisco, Texas

Luke Mazza '26
East Longmeadow, Mass.

Jack Patterson '27
Hot Springs, Ark.

Camden Propest '27
Duncan, Okla.

Mark Seeholtz '27
Edmond, Okla.

Julius Talley '27
Stillwater, Okla.

SigEp Experience Provides Valuable Support for College Men at Oklahoma State University

REFER A POTENTIAL MEMBER TODAY

College men spend 90 percent of their time outside the classroom. This means the majority of their college experience has nothing to do with what they are learning behind a desk and everything to do with what they are learning in the world around them. Mental health, academic performance, relationships, and professional preparedness are all common issues men face when they step foot on campus. These are issues that no one is meant to face alone. From lifelong friendships to professional preparedness and from developing us as leaders to fostering a mindset for service, SigEp is providing a member experience focused on changing the lives of the young men who choose to spend their 90 percent with SigEp.

**Do you know a young man attending Oklahoma State
who would be a great addition to SigEp?**

Submit a recruitment referral at:
okstate.sigep.org/support-our-chapter/refer