

# THE BENCHMARK

CONNECTING UC TRIANGLE ALUMNI AROUND THE WORLD

December 2013

## An Update on the Colony

At the Cincinnati Colony of Triangle, we have been having a very busy fall. We moved into our new property on the first of August which was the culmination of eight months of hard work for our alumni board and active members. Then after six weeks of recruitment we brought in a class of 18 very qualified men to our colony. This fall pledge class is the largest class we have had since recolonizing at the University of Cincinnati. On a Friday night we hosted a bid dinner to celebrate the pinning of these 18 new members with our brothers and alumni. We had several alumni attend and a keynote speech was given by Teik Lim, the Dean of Engineering, who we have been building a strong relationship with on campus through a creditable scholastic record and increased campus involvement.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of October, we held a housing dedication to celebrate the purchase of our new house. The event was opened up to our alumni and the family of our members. Over 60 alumni made the trip to Cincinnati. Many parents came to the ceremony and were able to get a sense about what Triangle is truly about. -Max Inniger, cin13



Arvie Maynard, cin49, cutting the ribbon to dedicate the new Triangle House. The Alumni board and Active chapter are pictured behind them.

## The Path to Chapter-hood

When a group of men on a college campus express an interest in Triangle and are pinned as new members, they are deemed an Interest Group by National.

Once the Interest Group has 15 active members, it earns the distinction of becoming a Colony. The UC group became a Colony in February, 2012.

To become a full-fledged Chapter, the Colony has to have 30 Active members, apply to National, be inspected by a representative from National, then recommended and approved by the National Council.

The UC colony has surpassed 30 men after the fall rush, and has successfully applied for Chapter status in October. After successful inspections and recommendations, the group will become an official Chapter in January of 2014.

It will be great to be back!

-Gary Bodnar, pur76

## Fall 2013 – Triangle Eta Class

My name is Tyler Waryk and I am the current pledge president for the newly-pinned Cincinnati Chapter, Triangle Eta class. This semester has been one of immense growth for the Cincinnati chapter, as well as hard work & long, successful recruitment meetings. There is a total of 18 new members, each in the engineering field. This class has doubled the size of the chapter, and along with increasing membership, has also increased the chapter's impact on campus and in the Greek community. Many new and exciting doors are opening to us because of the Eta class' involvement with other campus extracurricular, as well as the number of members that can participate in campus and Greek events.

Among the many fine new gentlemen of the Eta class are students of Aerospace, Biomedical, Chemical, Electrical, & Mechanical Engineering.

### The Eta Class

Anang Dadhich

Benjamin Sherman

Brad DeBildt

Christopher Carroll

Daniel Nolan

Jacob Wells

Jakob Cole

James Gately

Jared Wood

Joe-Willie Frees

Marc Paustian

Matt Gaines

Midhun Shanmuganathan

Nick Walker

Ryan Huy

Spencer King

Tyler Waryk

Varun Nagarajan

## You're Invited!

### Rechartering Weekend

- Ritual starts at 8:30am on January 25<sup>th</sup>.
- A reception will follow at 6:00PM in Stratford Pavilion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor.
- Light food, dessert, and beverages will be provided.
- Park in Deaconess Garage of Stratford St.
- Tours will be available from 5:00-7:00pm on January 24<sup>th</sup>.

### Founders Day Celebration

- April 13<sup>th</sup>.
- More details to come.

## Are You on "The List"?

This issue of The Benchmark is the second issue to be sent by both the United States Postal Service and by email. If you didn't receive an email of this Benchmark, you aren't on The List yet.

Email allows us to stay in contact with all of you in a quicker and more efficient format. We don't plan on eliminating traditional mailings entirely, but email will allow us to send out special announcements and invitations to upcoming events more quickly.

**Make sure you are included!**

**Add your email to The List by visiting:**

**[www.uctriangle.org/alumni](http://www.uctriangle.org/alumni)**



The Eta class after their pinning ceremony, enjoying their first evening as a pledge class.

### Our Recruitment Ideology

You had a brilliant new idea, and decided to become an entrepreneur. While starting your new business you realize that you need a new employee. So to find your new worker you go out onto the street and start looking. After looking for fifteen minutes you find a guy who looks nice enough, so you give him the job. You bring him into the office, set up his desk with a nameplate, and welcome him to your company. Once he's been in the office for a week, you give him a secretary, set up his 401k, and then brief him on his responsibilities. Then you let him do his job for two months, and after those two months you give him a job interview. During the job interview it becomes apparent that your new hire isn't a good fit for your company you then either let him go or leave him in a position he is not suited for.

This recruitment method doesn't seem to be effective for a company, because of all the energy and resources put into an employee that may not end up being a good permanent hire. This also applies to fraternities. Many fraternities will meet potentials at rush week, hang out with them once or twice, and give them a bid without actually knowing them. In our experience at the Cincinnati colony we have seen a low pledge retention rate when we recruit with this method. We have decided to only give bids to men that we have gotten to know well through rush, which avoids pouring resources into pledges that end up dropping from membership, or sticking it out in a chapter they don't fit well in.

By making sure that potentials are good fits for the chapter before giving them a bid we recruited eighteen young men this fall and have only had one man leave. We are ecstatic about the results we have gotten from recruiting this way, and we will continue to follow this method for the coming years.

-Max Inniger cin13

### 5in5 Campaign Receives First Legacy Donor

The 5in5 campaign, which seeks to raise \$500,000 in the next 5 years is honored to announce that Doug and Betty Dechert ('50) have become the first legacy donors. The dining room in the new house will be named in their honor, and they have chosen to add the phrase "Dedicated to the memory of Triangle's tradition of special Sunday dinners" to the commemorative plaque being installed in the doorway. Many thanks to Doug and Betty for their very generous gift.

As of this writing, the 5in5 campaign has reached just over 12% of its goal, having raised \$61,601 in donations and pledges from 28 donors. There has been one Legacy donation, 8 Benchmark donations (\$1000 or more), and 17 Solid Rock donations (\$100 or more). The next issue of the Benchmark will include pictures of the permanent plaques now being installed in the Living Room to commemorate each of these gifts. Thanks to all who have participated!

If you would like to participate, use the enclosed envelope or visit [www.uctriangle.org/donate](http://www.uctriangle.org/donate) to make a donation via credit card or electronic check or to contact us about naming other rooms in the house through a legacy donation.



**Doug and Betty Dechert ('50)**

### We're Social Now!

"Triangle Fraternity is a social fraternity for engineers, architects, and scientists." The most interesting word in that sentence to me, is "social". Engineers aren't known to be social. We have a hard time talking to other guys, let alone girls, or so I thought. Last year I was appointed Social Director for UC Triangle. I was a little hesitant at first, because in the past we never had a venue to hold big social events, so they were few and far between.

This year we have seen a complete 180. Some of the highlights of the fall semester alone include Homecoming with Phi Sigma Rho, a new tradition called "The Family Olympics" where "families" compete against each other in a new challenge every week, and tons of other events that are too plentiful to list. The friendship between the Brothers and pledges has become very strong. But we are not slowing down after this first semester success. We are pairing up with Alpha Epsilon Pi for Homecoming next year, along with planning other big events like a formal. I can't wait to see what my successor can do with this ever growing position.

-Andrew Welch, cin13

### Our Mindset Going Into Rechartering

It has become that time of year again. The time where new member education is wrapping up, pledge exams are being finished and brothers are in a scurry to memorize their lines. The only difference about this year is that we will no longer have to travel to University of Kentucky, Ohio State University or University of Toledo to welcome the new members into the organization... We will be hosting our own initiation as we have recently been approved to be officially re-chartered as a chapter of Triangle! It has been a long three years for the brothers involved in this pursuit. In the confirmation email we received from National Headquarters, I read aloud, "CONGRATULATIONS!..." and the entire room of men jumped out of their seats into a huddle of celebration. All the hard work and investing into the fraternity had finally paid off.

It is important, and I speak for every-man of the Cincinnati Chapter, to continue to be focused in our goals and maintain the high level of achievement we've been able to accomplish. We intend to raise the bar of what a chapter of Triangle should look like, how they should act, and who they should be. We have a unique opportunity to prove our stability by being a role model to our brothers and friends nationally. This will be the mind-set going into this year's initiation and re-chartering – and will carry on into every aspect of the chapter. From this point on, the active members will have no choice but to translate the above words "Congratulations!" into "I dare you to do it better."

-Abe Boyles, cin12