

THE BENCHMARK

September, 2015

CONNECTING UC TRIANGLE ALUMNI AROUND THE WORLD

UC Triangle Receives Fourth Legacy Donation

Park and Ethel Gast, became the fourth Legacy donor by making a very generous gift to the Park W. Gast Jr. Education Foundation. This donation will help support academic excellence initiatives including numerous scholarships. Many thanks to Park and Ethel for their recent generosity and all that he has done for the Chapter since he was initiated in 1949. Learn more about the many options for making a donation to the Chapter by visiting www.uctriangle.org/donate.



Park and Ethel Gast

Brother Darryl Young (cin 99) Designs, Builds and Installs Sign!



Photo: Tina

After nearly two years of living at 2809 Swiss Chalet Court, UC Triangle finally has a sign on the front to proclaim it as ours. Thanks to the efforts of Br Darryl Young cin99, the house is beginning to feel more like a home. The sign is made out of aluminum box tubing and was welded together in Darryl's home shop. In addition to fabricating the sign, Darryl took a Saturday to come down and make sure that it was properly installed.

Using the existing spotlight in the front yard, the Delta T is able to be illuminated at night and seemingly "pops" off of the house. Hanging the sign is just one part of a larger exterior improvement effort that is planned to include new exterior lights and landscaping.

A Message From The Active President

It's hard to believe that the 2014-15 academic year has already come to an end. It seems like only yesterday that we were in the middle of Fall Recruitment and welcoming new men into our organization. On May 2nd, we congratulated five actives and one alumni on achieving the ultimate goal of graduation. These men have worked hard to achieve their goals, both academic and non. In the coming weeks, they will be moving across the country to start positions with Frito-Lay, Gulfstream Aerospace, Toyota, Epic Systems Corporation, and Triangle National Headquarters. One will be returning to the University of Cincinnati to complete coursework to earn his Masters of Business Administration.

This semester was another great one for UC Triangle. We were able to welcome seven new men into our organization this Spring. We held our first out of town formal at Red River Gorge in early March and we also had the opportunity to name our first Sweetheart, more affectionately known as the Tri-Angel. We also had a chance to continue to develop our philanthropic side, raising nearly \$4,000 for philanthropic causes in the Spring Semester alone.

Triangles continue to be involved across campus, holding leadership positions in the College of Engineering and Applied Science Tribunal, American Institute of Chemical Engineering, Order of Omega, American Society for Quality, Fraternal Values Society, and many more.

If you're ever in the area, we would love for you to stop by the house, see what's changed, and share stories of when you were an active.



Sean Gleason
Cin '12
President,
Active Chapter

Great Turnout For Founder's Day

On a warm, sunny Sunday in April, the Active Chapter held a festive banquet in honor of Founder's day. It was all about brotherhood, proving to be a great opportunity to renew old acquaintances and make new friends. The event was very well attended by Alumni and significant others. We were honored to have Brother Doug Dechert ('50) and his lovely wife Betty drive in all the way from Cleveland to join us and to have Past National President Jeff Cottrell travel from Indianapolis to give our keynote address on the topic of 'recruiting up'. This is becoming the Chapter's don't-miss-it event each spring.



Photo: Ben Haller

Academics Continue To Improve

The Spring semester saw the Chapter improve its GPA from the Fall's 3.095 to 3.19. The Chapter remained 10th among UC fraternities. A big effort is underway to make sure the GPA continues to climb, including discussion of additional scholarships from the Park W. Gast Educational Foundation. We're expecting great thing in the fall!



Ben Sherman
Cin '14
Secretary
UC Triangle
Active Chapter

"Let's Have Lunch"

Don't forget that all Triangle Alumni are invited to gather for lunch the **third Monday** of each month at noon at the Montgomery Inn Boathouse, 925 Riverside Dr. in Cincinnati. It's an informal gathering where everyone orders from the menu, pays their own way, enjoys renewing old acquaintances and building new ones. We look forward to seeing you there!

Lost Brothers – Can You Help?

Please help. We have lost touch with several alumni. If anyone has a "snail mail" or email address for any of the following Brothers, please notify the Benchmark editor at:

benchmark@uctriangle.org.

Richard Adams
Jason Cantin
Harold Cheney
Michael Englebrecht
James Gormley
Sean Howard
Andrew Keckler
Greg Palumbo
Jim Valentine

Thanks in advance for your help! Please remember to notify either National or the local Alumni whenever you change addresses.

5in5 Campaign Update

Alumni continue to show their generous support by contributing to the 5in5 fundraising campaign.

As of September 1, 26 months into the 5 year campaign, the effort has achieved 32% of its \$500,000 goal.

Campaign funds have had a huge impact on the Chapter and the house. Funds helped us get thorough our start-up year. They have been used for scholarships, training, and various items that support academic success, like computer networking equipment and study desks. They have helped buy beds, mattresses and dressers. They have helped with numerous house repairs and improvements.

A heart felt THANK YOU to all contributors! You are changing lives. To become a contributor, visit:

www.uctriangle.org/5in5



Park W. Gast, Jr. Educational Foundation – What Is It?

The Cincinnati Chapter is unique in having our own, locally-managed foundation: the Park W. Gast, Jr. Education Foundation (PWGJEF). (Although the missions are similar, please note that PWGJEF is independent of and not affiliated with the National Triangle Education Foundation.)

PWGJEF was established on April 15, 1994, and named in honor of Park W. Gast, Jr. (Cin'49), a Triangle National Service Key recipient who sets the standard for giving back to Triangle. PWGJEF supports the academic efforts of UC Triangle Brothers only. It funds students attending educational events offered by National, brings in guest speakers, and purchases educational items that support academic success for the fraternity house, like the recent purchase of a whiteboard for the library. However, by far its most important task is providing scholarships to UC Triangles. With college tuition higher than ever and students graduating with unprecedented levels of debt, PWGJEF scholarships are the most appreciated thing that Alumni do for the Chapter, and a testimony to the value that Alumni place on academic success.

The IRS classifies PWGJEF as a 501c(3), making contributions fully tax deductible (contact your tax advisor). If you would like to know more about making a cash or stock contribution to PWGJEF, or for more information on how to include a bequest to PWGJEF in your estate planning, please contact Brother John H. Phillips, President of the PWGJEF Board, at Phillips Law Firm, Inc., Phone (513) 985-2500 or email JHP@PhillipsLawFirm.com.

Donation by Brother Dirk Richards (cin'80) Furnishes The Formal Room

Over the past 2 years one of the main goals of the chapter was to finish and furnish a formal room in the house, and with the help from one fraternity, a 26 foot U-Haul, and gracious alumni that dream was met and then surpassed.

Thanks to the generosity of Brother Dirk Richards Cin'80 we were able to acquire a beautiful set of donated furniture from Ameritas Life Insurance, where he works. After much communication, Brother Dirk was able to work out the transfer of a set of leather couches, wingback chairs, a formal table and chair set, a glass coffee table, and a custom wood cabinet. All of this was loaded onto a truck and brought back to the house by brothers.

Along with the furniture one of the main center pieces of the room is the granite Triangle Benchmark Donor plaques, which are lit up and polished to a shine.

The combination of the Donor plaques and the furniture creates an atmosphere we only dreamed of. This room can now be used as originally planned, a place for actives and alumni to sit together and bond in brotherhood. With the past Member and Cincinnati books it allows alumni to reminisce and remember stories of their days back at the University along with making new ones we make daily.

None of this could have been possible though without the amazing help of Brother Dirk Richards and our Alumni.

Thank You!



Spencer King
Cin '14
House Manager
UC Triangle
Active Chapter



Photo: Ben Haller