

THE BENCHMARK

July, 2016

CONNECTING UC TRIANGLE ALUMNI AROUND THE WORLD

UC Triangle Receives Fifth Legacy Donation

Ken and Jean Stevenson became the fifth Legacy donor by making a very generous gift to the Park W. Gast Jr. Education Foundation. A bedroom on the second floor will be named in their honor. This donation will help support academic excellence initiatives including numerous scholarships. Many thanks to Ken and Jean for their generosity. To learn more about the many options for making a donation visit www.uctriangle.org/donate.



Jean and Ken Stevenson

Big Improvement in Chapter's Spring GPA

The Spring semester saw a jump in the Chapter GPA from last Fall's 3.099 to 3.211. The Chapter moved up one spot to become 11th among UC fraternities. The recent focus on this area seems to be generating results.

For this upcoming year, there are several new directions that the academic program is taking to help increase connections with brothers who are struggling academically. We will be working closely with Purdue alumnus Fred Stave to set up an academic program that will help make Triangle a more grade focused chapter that strives for success in the classroom. This includes continually working with Phi Sigma Rho for our study sessions to help freshman with their academics, as well as creating a program to help current brothers who are in bad standings or seek academic assistance in classes of their choosing. This includes continuing developing the test bank, the study buddy data base, as well as setting up a program to help current brothers struggling in classes get the assistance and resources they need to help them succeed.



Nick Stelzer
Cin '14
Secretary, Active
Chapter

Chapter Adopts-A-Highway

Sometimes it can be a struggle to come up with new ways to market Triangle, showing everyone who we are and the values we stand for.

At the Cincinnati Chapter we believe one of those values is giving back to the local community, and our newest step towards that goal is our involvement in the Adopt-a-Highway Program.

As of May 2016 the Cincinnati Chapter of Triangle Fraternity has "adopted" the section of I-71 from mile marker 13.8 to 15.8, and we are proud to keep it clean. This program not only provides us an avenue to share the name Triangle Fraternity with all who drive on I-71 but it also gives a glimpse into the character of the fraternity and its willingness to give back to the community.

We always welcome alumni participation in our cleanups so if you are interested please email uctrianglepr@gmail.com for more information, and remember to look for our sign in the future.



Spencer King
Cin '14
Public Relations Director,
Active Chapter

A Message From The Active President

This past semester, our Executive Board worked diligently to make meaningful changes to the way we operate in order to more actively engage our members and keep them excited. We hosted new and unique events that are highly engaging for our members, such as a Bob Ross themed painting party that was a smashing success. We've even been working on organizing a date-night for our members, where we go and take dance lessons together. Events like these have helped us to shake things up a bit and prevent us from just recycling old ideas, and I look forward to continually expanding our repertoire this upcoming academic year.

Additionally, our Executive Board has taken a long, hard look at how our academic, member education, community service and risk management programs have been performing. Through a painstaking process, we've identified numerous pitfalls in our current operations that we will be actively working to remedy. As a result, I believe that this upcoming fall semester holds many great things in store for our chapter – changes to programming and initiatives that will benefit all of our members and continue to make the Cincinnati chapter of Triangle better year after year.

Our chapter's growth slowed down this past year, but I believe that our current Executive Board is showing the dedication necessary to return us to rapid growth. Our pre-recruitment planning should pay off this fall, resulting in another large pledge class for our chapter. Drastic changes to our academic programming will help us to better the academic performance of our entire chapter, which already rose this past spring semester, compared to the 2015 calendar year.

It continues to amaze me how we are always able to find better ways of coming together as brothers, and I wholeheartedly encourage any and all Triangle alumni to come and be involved in the experience!



Derek Busdiecker
Cin '12
President, Active
Chapter

Alumni Spouse Awarded Honorary PhD

Jean Wedbush, wife of Ed Wedbush (Cin '50) received an honorary PhD from UC's School of Nursing at the April 29th commencement ceremonies.

Ed and Jean made a special effort to visit the Chapter after commencement which prompted the Chapter to hold a surprise graduation party.

Everyone had great fun, and Jean assured all of us that we only needed to call her Dr. Wedbush for that one day - "just Jean" will be fine after that.



Chapter Adds Six Members

We welcomed six new Brothers from our spring class into our Fraternity in April: Tommy Dzierzak, Ben Geldien, Chris Huynh, Michael Laughlin, Nick Pool, and Matt Steinkirchner.

With the spring new member class, new education ideas were attempted. The pledge class had the amazing opportunity to bond through the shared experience of Breakout Cincinnati, an escape the room activity, breaking out in under 53 minutes.



The pledges hosted a grill out for us where they showcased the new member project: a backlit Delta-T in the dining room, whose lights can change colors. We look forward to see what these men can do in the next four years.



Dan Nolan
Cin '14
Vice President,
Active Chapter

5in5 Campaign Update

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

As of July 1st, about 60% into the 5 year campaign, the effort has achieved 30% of its \$500,000 goal.

Donations have had a huge impact. They have provided scholarships, training, and supported academic success; they have helped furnish the house and keep it in good repair.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed!



Pledges Install Flag Pole

As you may know, we require every pledge class to complete a project to improve or add something to the chapter house. This pledge project is a requirement for every future member as a part of the pledging process as it allows for them to gain experience planning and executing a project. This past school year, both our fall and spring pledge classes erected a flag pole and built a new "Delta-T" for our dining room.

The fall 2015 pledge class erected a flag pole in front of the chapter house to the right of the letters on our house. This project had been discussed for the past couple years among the actives, and it is nice to finally see it in place.

The spring 2016 pledge class created a new "Delta-T" that is now hanging in our dining room. This new "Delta-T" is lit with LED lights which can be several different colors. This project looks really nice once plugged in.



Alex Hoyle
Cin '15
Interim House
Manager



Second Annual Formal Enjoyed By All

This March marked the second annual Triangle Formal. We traveled once again to Red River Gorge and rented out 4 cabins that surrounded a small lake. It rained most of the day on Saturday, but that did not stop groups of brothers and dates from going hiking throughout the gorge and surrounding areas. The favorite hike for most was Indian Staircase, a very long and treacherous hike, but well worth it for the amazing views. After all the groups arrived back at the cabins, we had a large grill out at the biggest cabin that encompassed all who were in attendance. It was a very memorable time for all of the about 50 brothers and dates in attendance, and we all are looking forward to next year's Formal.



Nick Oslin
Cin '15
Social Director,
Active Chapter

"Let's Have Lunch"

Don't forget that all Triangle Alumni and Actives 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. Everyone orders from the menu, pays their own way, enjoys seeing old friends and making new ones. Please join us!

Lost Brothers

Please help. We have lost touch with numerous 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.

<u>Brother</u>	<u>Initiated</u>	<u>Brother</u>	<u>Initiated</u>
Chester Rogers	3/1/1958	Jeffrey Matthews	2/1/1985
Max Worthington	3/24/1963	Jonathan Clark	2/3/1985
Larry Foster	7/1/1969	Michael Cohen	2/18/1990
Oliver Thompson	2/12/1973	Chad Taylor	1/15/1995
John Blyth	5/18/1975	Timothy Mach	5/28/1995
Greg Hopton	11/1/1979	Ryan Meyer	1/14/1996
Chad Hagedorn	2/1/1980	Lawrence Rawe	1/14/1996
Michael Zehender	2/17/1980	Joshua Marotti	6/1/1997
Steven Shedroff	2/1/1981	Wayne Trotter	2/4/2001
Mark Israelitt	5/1/1981	Josh Rinaldi	1/20/2002
Richard Helton	2/1/1985	Daniel Dominique	2/12/2011