



**University of Cincinnati Triangle Actives at the Chapter House, April 2022**

**Summer Events**

**Cookout July 16, 2022**

On Saturday, July 16 at 4:00 PM, the Alumni Board and Active Chapter will hold a cookout at the Chapter house prior to the Alumni Board meeting. If you are in the area and interested in joining us, please contact Dave Skeels for the details.  
(davidwskeels@outlook.com)  
Hope to see you there!

**Alumni Work Session August 13**

A Summer Alumni Work Session prior to school starting has been scheduled. Team leaders have been appointed, and the Actives are excited. We request all available Alumni to participate. We will meet at the Chapter house on August 13 at 9:00 AM.

**Chapter Centennial Celebration**

UC Triangle was formed on August 6, 1921, but due to the pandemic, we were unable to celebrate our Centennial Anniversary. The Alumni Board is planning a celebration for Fall 2022, with the date and details to follow. Stay tuned!

**Are You on Our Email List?**

The Benchmark is delivered via both US Mail and email. If you did not receive an email copy, then you are not on our email list, or perhaps your email went to your junk mail folder.

While the Alumni Board does not plan to eliminate postal mailings, email has become the primary and fastest method for communicating with Alumni.

Don't miss out on The Benchmark, special announcements, and invitations to upcoming events. Make sure you are included! Add us to your approved address list or:

**Update your email address at:**  
[www.uctriangle.org/alumni](http://www.uctriangle.org/alumni)

**Alumni Board Annual Meeting**

The Alumni Board held its annual meeting on November 15, 2021, via video conference. Special recognition was given to Brothers Bill Hillner, Chad Kallmeyer, Kevin Kohmescher, and Dean Leathers for participating in the meeting. Update reports were read into the minutes, and 13 Board members were elected, including Gary Bodnar, John Phillips, and Robert Folz, continuing as President, Secretary, and Treasurer, respectively.



**Help – We Need a New Freezer!**

Can you help keep our Brothers healthy and well-fed when the new school year starts? After years of faithful service, the kitchen freezer is kaput. The cost of the replacement freezer is \$3,500. We need 35 donations of \$100 to cover this unplanned expense.

**Donations can be made online at:**  
<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/ccotfi>

**or mail check donations to:**  
Cincinnati Chapter of Triangle Inc.  
PO Box 42232  
Cincinnati OH 45242-0232

**Chapter Year in Review**

The 2021-2022 academic year has been completed, and our Active Brothers are proud of their accomplishments! The pandemic has abated, the Brotherhood is strong, membership is growing, and our house scholastics have been bolstered by our new members. In this issue of The Benchmark, featuring a new format, we look back at the year and preview events for summer and fall.

**Upstairs Bathroom Renovation**

During the past year, we started a complete renovation of the upstairs bathroom in the Chapter house. We have made great progress but still have work to complete. With the help of several Alumni, we finished the demolition of the old bathroom. After that, we repainted the dividers from dull pink to bright red, added decorative backsplashes, and replaced the vanities. Then, four Brothers completed painting the entire bathroom. Additional upgrades remaining include new tiling around the vanities and installing new light fixtures throughout the bathroom.



**Active Executive Board Reports**



**Matthew McGowan, Treasurer**

This semester has been a great learning experience for me, and I think the new E-Board is making good progress. We finalized the budget early and have remained on budget thanks to timely logging of receipts and monitoring in QuickBooks, which allows budget projections and tracking through the end of the semester. A few Brothers have signed promissory notes for house payments, but we are forecasting complete payment of these notes.

**Shane Gladysz, PR Director**

So far this year, we have sponsored one philanthropic event and are planning additional events. In March, we were finally able to resume our volunteer work that had been curtailed because of to Covid restrictions. I have increased our social media presence via weekly Instagram posts.



**Board Game Night**

**Kelly Padgett, President**

The fall '21 semester ended with changes to the university's Covid-19 guidelines that allowed renewed Chapter growth plans. The E-Board transition went smoothly with Gary Bodnar, our Alumni Board President. We are off to a good start in 2022 with a pledge class of 5 guys with 2 additional indicating interest in pledging next fall. Going into the summer, the E-Board is working on several exciting projects such as renovating the upstairs bathroom, hosting the Semi-Formal at the Newport Syndicate, and planning for fall scholarship and pledge recruitment. The rest of the E-Board and I will be diligent in strengthening the Chapter during our tenure.

**Addison Hanni, Recruitment Director**

During the two weeks of the 2022 spring rush term, we hosted more than 10 events and had 6 men pledge our fraternity. Highlights of recruiting events included attending a Cincinnati Cyclones hockey game and experiencing an "escape room" at Breakout Games. I look forward to the fall semester to host even bigger events, get more people involved, and recruit more great men.

**Adam Noriega, Vice President**

As the semester started, my first step was to reformat key documents such as new-member education materials and required IFC forms and enter them on the Chapter Google Drive for easy future access. I conducted a search and selected a wonderful location for our pledge retreat. Our pledges and I will be traveling to the Louisville Chapter of Triangle, which will form some great memories and relationships among the pledges of both Chapters. This year has moved very quickly, and I am grateful to be an E-Board member. The memories and experiences that I've gained will last a lifetime. I cannot wait to experience the exciting opportunities that await our chapter next year!



**Flying Pig Marathon All-Nighter**

**Alex Turner, Secretary**

Last year, we hosted many philanthropy events, such as our classic "Delta T Mac 'n' Cheese" and our Charity Smash Tournament, which both yielded great results. However, these successes were eclipsed by the results generated from our participation in the "Flying Pig Marathon" event. Nine of our Brothers pulled an all-nighter on Halloween to help set up for the event. It was a fun event, with some Brothers saying it was the best philanthropy event of the year. For our help, we received \$800 to donate to our philanthropy, FIRST Robotics.



**Triangle Spring Formal**

**Gary Bodnar, President**  
gbodnar@coloursavvy.com

**John Phillips, Secretary**  
JHP@PhillipsLawFirm.com

**Robert Folz, Treasurer**  
RobertFolz@aol.com

**Spencer King, Chair  
House Management**  
spencer.d.king@outlook.com

**Dave Skeels, Chair  
Alumni Engagement**  
davidwskeels@outlook.com

**Gary Bodnar, Interim Chair  
Active Chapter Support**  
gbodnar@coloursavvy.com

ACTIVE CONTACTS

**Kelly Padgett, President**  
uctrianglehouse@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Triangle National  
Convention, Orlando, FL**  
July 7-10, 2022

**Summer Cookout**  
July 16, 2022

**House Work Session**  
August 13, 2022

**Alumni Board President's Report**

**Restructuring - Your Alumni Board has undergone big changes in the last two years!**

**Recruiting.** Board members have often been serving for decades, placing an unreasonable burden on them, but at the same time scaring away new people who could replace them. Three things happened to break that cycle. First, the Board committed itself to adhere rigidly to the requirements in our By-Laws that all terms would last one year and that elections would be held annually. Second, thanks to Covid, the Board realized that it could make virtual meetings work, eliminating the constraint that Board members had to be local. Finally, starting in the fall of 2020, Board members (of which there were four) put significant effort into recruiting. As a result, the Board had 14 members in 2021 and has 13 this year, and about 25% are out-of-town Brothers.

**Committees.** The new, larger Board opted to organize itself into three committees, allowing each Board Member to focus his efforts in the area he enjoys the most. The committees have made it less time consuming and more fun to serve on the Board and at the same time have dramatically increased the ways in which we can

serve the Chapter. The three committees are: Active Chapter Support; Alumni Engagement; and House Management. All of the committees are looking for "guest" members: people who have an interest and willingness to help with a project now and then, but who don't have the time or inclination to commit to officially joining the Board. If this sounds like you, please contact me:

**gbodnar@coloursavvy.com**

I'd love to learn more about your interests, see if any of the projects on our very long list are of interest, and if so, put you in touch with the appropriate committee chairman, and perhaps arrange for you to sit in on an upcoming committee meeting as a guest.

As a Board, we're looking forward to an exciting and productive year!



**-Gary Bodnar, President UC Triangle Alumni Board**

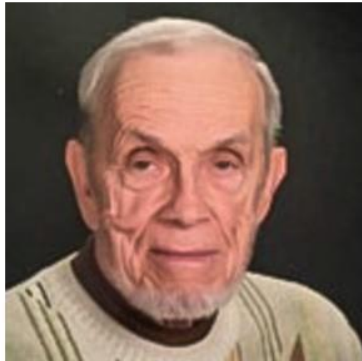
**2022 Triangle National Convention**

From reunions to Ritual, the 2022 Convention has it all. Triangle National Conventions are attended by Triangles of all ages. Approximately half of all attendees are voting delegates of Alumni and undergraduate Chapters. Dave Skeels will be representing the UC alumni. However, many other attendees include Chapter advisory board members, visiting Alumni and undergraduates, friends of Triangle, spouses, children, or guests. Your role at Convention, as well as your registration fee and schedule of activities, will vary depending on your registration classification. Register at:

<https://www.triangle.org//nationalconvention/>



**Rosen Plaza Hotel & Convention Center**



### **Park W. Gast Jr. Enters Chapter Eternal**

Brother Park W. Gast Jr. was initiated into Triangle fraternity in 1948 and made lifetime contributions to help build and support the UC Chapter. He was the founding benefactor of the Park W. Gast Jr. Education Foundation. Brother Park entered Chapter Eternal on August 14, 2020, at the age of 91.

Brother Park graduated from the University of Cincinnati in 1952 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He had a successful career at Long-Stanton Manufacturing, eventually serving as president. He and his wife, Ethel, established Redwing Farm. On the farm, they raised grapes, which they supplied to Fountain Wine Cellars in Cincinnati, of which the Gast's were part owners.

### **The Foundation Lives On**

Thanks to Brother Gast and the generosity of Alumni and their families, the Park W. Gast Jr. Education Foundation helps our Active Chapter recruit new members and offers academic scholarships to our Actives to excel via credit-hour A awards and the coveted credit-hour challenge coins.



### **Foundation Helps Maintain Academic Excellence**

Maintaining a creditable scholastic record is one of the ten tenets set forth in Triangle Fraternity's Code of Ethics. This year the Actives achieved a 3.21 GPA, while our New Member Class scored a 3.48!

### **Donate to PWG Education Foundation online:**

<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/ccotfi>

### **or mail check donations to:**

Park W. Gast Jr. Education Foundation  
PO Box 42232  
Cincinnati OH 45242-0232