

ALPHA ARTERY

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI OF OKLAHOMA ALPHA ♦ SIGMA PHI EPSILON



FALL 2012

ALUMNI PROUD OF UNDERGRADUATE ACHIEVEMENTS

Chapter Places Second in Grades

Sigma Phi Epsilon was founded upon three basic principles: virtue, diligence and brotherly love. SigEp is the nation's largest fraternity, with more than 14,000 undergraduate brothers. The Balanced Man program has fundamental attributes that set it apart from the rest. SigEp replaces the pledging model with a continuous development program aimed at retaining members throughout their undergraduate years.

Scholastically, the Oklahoma Alpha Chapter has finished with at least a 3.0 GPA the last eight semesters. Last spring's 3.32 GPA was just as impressive. There were 111 active members, we were the fourth largest chapter on campus, and we placed second in grades by only two-tenths. These undergraduates are committed to their goals of improving academic success. This academic excellence was topped with winning first place in the Homecoming Overall Sweepstakes and House Decoration Competition.

I want to thank and welcome back Mom Vicky Brown and chapter counselor Kay Robinson. These two women were extremely valuable this year in helping the chapter and assisting the alumni board and have agreed to continue on for 2012-13. If you have not met them, please drop by and introduce yourself to them; you will be glad you did.

Our actives are a group of young men that you can be very proud of. **Bryce Crawford '13** and the other executive board officers have done a tremendous job of leading Oklahoma Alpha. Please visit this fall and check it out for yourself.

Fraternally,
Gary Bridwell '74
Alumni Corporation
President
gbridwell@ditchwitchok.com

Oklahoma Alpha at SigEp's Carlson Leadership Academy.



Undergraduates Committed to Academic Excellence

Chapter GPA Above All-Greek Average

Recently, the spring 2012 grade rankings were released. As **Gary Bridwell '74** mentioned, SigEp finished in second place behind ATΩ with a 3.32. Farmhouse finished third with a 3.30. There were several statistics included in the grade ranking that were very interesting.

It is important for alumni to voice the positive side of fraternity life, especially since the media tends to focus on the negative stories. As we all know, there are many positive aspects of being in a fraternity; so let's focus on grades and take a closer look at the OSU spring 2012 grade rankings. Below you will see how Greeks stack up academically versus non-Greeks. The numbers speak for themselves. Go Greek!

All-Greek GPA-3.18
Non-Greek GPA-2.83

All-Fraternity GPA- 3.08
Non-Greek Men's GPA- 2.74

All-Sorority GPA-3.25
Non-Greek Women's GPA- 2.94

OKLAHOMA ALPHA THRIVES AT OKLAHOMA STATE

Undergraduates Excel in Academics, Leadership Organizations

As my final term as president of Oklahoma Alpha comes to a close at the end of this semester, I find myself reflecting upon the past four years I've spent as an undergraduate member of SigEp at Oklahoma State. In these mere four years, our chapter has accomplished some remarkable feats. The tireless work, effort, and dedication of undergraduate members and alumni volunteers alike have allowed Oklahoma Alpha to experience growth and success.

This has allowed us to establish a lofty tradition of success, and it has been an absolute privilege to be part of. I take a great deal of pride in knowing that I was able to be a part of something great. I am humbled by the outstanding things that our chapter members accomplish, both individually and as a whole.

(Continued on page 2)



(Above) Oklahoma Alpha looks to sweep Homecoming 2012 after winning first place last year. (Right) SigEp brothers celebrated at the wedding of Chance Kuehn '11 (third from right).



OKLAHOMA ALPHA THRIVES

(Continued from page 1)

Collegians Obtain Highest GPA in Chapter History

After obtaining the highest fall semester GPA in chapter history last year, Oklahoma Alpha refused complacency by following it up with an even greater feat—obtaining the highest spring GPA in Oklahoma Alpha history. Posting a 3.3 GPA in the spring semester with 111 members, SigEp was only to be outdone by one other fraternity, ATΩ, who boasted a slightly higher 3.335 spring semester GPA with 40 members. The undergraduates were able to boast the highest grade point average of all OSU fraternities for the 2011–2012 academic year. The chapter was able to accomplish this while also maintaining one of the largest memberships at Oklahoma State, with slightly more than 140 members.

Seven SigEps Selected for Order of Omega

Order of Omega is a national fraternity organization that has established chapters on college campuses throughout the United States. Their selection process and membership criteria evaluate Greeks on a basis that allows their organization to only extend invitations of membership to the top 3% of the Greek community. Oklahoma Alpha members of Order of Omega are **Ty Ketchum '13**, **Bryce Crawford '13**, **Logan Scott '14**,

Mitchell Hanson '14, **Christian Cowart '14**, **Eric Gilbert '14**, and **Matthew Henson '13**.

Undergraduates Prepare for Homecoming 2012

Paired with the women of Gamma Phi Beta sorority, the men of Oklahoma Alpha look to repeat our first place sweep of last year's Homecoming with Chi Omega. I encourage everyone to stop by the SigEp house during Walkarounds Friday evening or before Saturday's Homecoming football game to check out this year's house decoration.

Oklahoma Alpha has raised the bar of success and has irrefutably established itself among the top organizations, both on campus and around the nation.



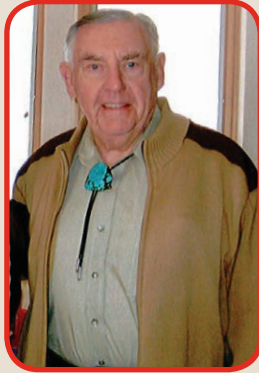
Fraternally,
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Alumnus Recalls Fond Memories of Oklahoma Alpha

Spotlight on Herb Davis '53

The journey with Sigma Phi Epsilon began for **Herb Davis '53** when he arrived on the Oklahoma A&M College campus in 1948 as a freshman from Buffalo, New York. At the college, which is now Oklahoma State University, he connected with several friends from Perry, Oklahoma, that were members of the Oklahoma Alpha Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon. "I ran with the A&M track team," he said. "They really wanted me for my ability to run. I was very active in college with many organizations, not only Sigma Phi Epsilon, but an honorary military fraternity, an honorary geology fraternity, and Blue Key."



Herb played on the championship intramural football teams in 1951 and 1952. He fondly remembers working as a houseboy at the Pi Beta Phi sorority house and of being the president of the pep club. "I enjoyed the friendships I developed during college," he said. "SigEp had 100 members at the time. We were one of the larger fraternities on campus and there was always lots of competition between fraternities. I was glad I could be a leader and I could be there whenever they needed me."

In 1952, Herb served as the vice president of the Oklahoma Alpha Chapter. "I think the experience of living in a fraternity house is much more productive than being an independent," he said. "You have to compromise and learn to get along with lots of very different types of people. I've been a member of many organizations and I think SigEp taught me how to be a good member."

After serving on active duty in the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1955, Herb worked for Standard Oil of Indiana as an exploration geologist and then in 1967 he became a consultant and relied on his fraternity brother, **Sam Hunsaker '50**, to do the accounting. "My friendship with Sam and other guys means so much to me," Herb said. "I look back on my days in the house as some of the best days of my life."

Herb and his wife of 59 years, Shirley, have two daughters and four grandchildren. The couple lives in Edmond, Oklahoma, and enjoys traveling and staying involved with Oklahoma State University. E-mail Herb at hgdavis@cox.net.

OKLAHOMA ALPHA AWARDS

2011 AWARDS

- ◆ 1st Place Homecoming Sweepstakes
- ◆ Three SigEp Brothers Chosen as Top Ten Freshmen at OSU
- ◆ Top 3 in OSU Intramural Sports
- ◆ Interfraternity Council Exemplary Chapter
- ◆ Interfraternity Council Chapter Quality Achievement Award
- ◆ 2nd Place Member GPA of 3.26 – Spring 2011
- ◆ 2nd Place Pledge Class GPA of 3.27 – Fall 2011
- ◆ 2nd Place Member GPA of 3.30 – Fall 2011
- ◆ 45-Member Fall 2011 Pledge Class – 2011
- ◆ Three SigEp Brothers Inducted into Order of Omega Greek Honor Society (Top 3% of OSU Greeks)
- ◆ Largest Philanthropic Contributions of all Organizations at OSU
- ◆ Buchanan Cup Outstanding Chapter
- ◆ SigEp Tragos Quest to Greece Scholar - **Bryce Crawford '13**
- ◆ SigEp National Volunteer of the Year Award - **Joe Rolston '86**
- ◆ SigEp National Membership Development Excellence Award
- ◆ Pi Beta Kappa Wheelhouse GPA Award

2012 AWARDS

- ◆ Interfraternity Council Exemplary Chapter
- ◆ Interfraternity Council Chapter Quality Achievement Award
- ◆ 1st Place Pledge Class GPA of 3.36 – Spring 2012
- ◆ 2nd Place Member GPA of 3.33 – Spring 2012
- ◆ 40-Member Fall 2012 Pledge Class
- ◆ Four SigEp Brothers Inducted into Order of Omega Greek Honor Society (Top 3% of OSU Greeks)
- ◆ Buchanan Cup Outstanding Chapter
- ◆ SigEp National Membership Development Excellence Award
- ◆ Pi Beta Kappa Wheelhouse GPA Award
- ◆ SigEp Ruck Leadership Academy Scholarship Recipient - **Blake UMBERHAM '14**
- ◆ SigEp Ruck Leadership Academy Scholarship Recipient - **Jacob MINNIS '13**



Brothers of Oklahoma Alpha accepted the chapter's second consecutive Buchanan Cup at SigEp Conclave in Phoenix, Ariz.

WEBSITES

Oklahoma Alpha Chapter
www.okstatesigep.com

Sigma Phi Epsilon
www.sigep.org

Oklahoma Alpha Chapter Officers

President

Bryce T. Crawford '13

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VP of Programming

Charles Schoolcraft '14

VP of Finance

Eric Gilbert '14

VP of Recruitment

Mitchell Hanson '14

MMHanso@okstate.edu
(314)-974-4899

VP of Member Development

Blake Umberham '14

VP of Communications

David Skippis '13

Chaplin

Logan Scott '14

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Taha Ali '16

Austin, Texas
Industrial Engineering

Ryan Anthony '16

Yukon, Okla.
Biomedical Engineering

Coby Bailey '16

San Antonio, Texas
Business Marketing

Grant Bennett '15

Bartlesville, Okla.
Finance and Accounting

Hunter Boeken '16

Tulsa, Okla.
Business Management

Robert Confer '16

Flower Mound, Texas
Business

Aaron Cromer '16

Elk City, Okla.
Economics/Pre-Law

Nick Crow '16

Arnett, Okla.
Mechanical Engineering

Garret Davenport '16

Stillwater, Okla.
Business

Brennen Dinkel '16

Tulsa, Okla.
Entrepreneurship and
Marketing

Hunter Edwards '16

Sapulpa, Okla.
Entrepreneurship

Luke Fiser '16

Bixby, Okla.
Civil Engineering

Levi Garrett '16

Tulsa, Okla.
Sports Medicine

Forrest Harmon '16

Overland Park, Kan.
Finance

Sam Harrington '15

Hugo, Okla.
Agricultural Business

Logan Huff '16

Bixby, Okla.
Aerospace Engineering

Garrett Iverson '16

San Antonio, Texas
Management

Tanner Jackson '15

Elgin, Okla.
Business

Brendon Keffer '16

Ponca City, Okla.
Political Science

Connor Mack '16

Edmond, Okla.
Marketing

Jake McKay '16

Edmond, Okla.
Psychology

Cameron McMahan '16

Flower Mound, Texas
Biochemistry

Cole McReynolds '16

Stillwater, Okla.
Biochemistry

Taylor Meyers '16

Edmond, Okla.
Business

Dakota Murdock '15

Guthrie, Okla.
Biochemistry and
Molecular Biology

Tyler Ogden '15

Claremore, Okla.
International Business

Sterling Olive '16

Keller, Texas
Fire Protection

Ryan Ricks '16

Austin, Texas
English

Kyle Rogers '16

Stillwater, Okla.
Construction Management

Teddy Rose '16

Southlake, Texas
Recreation Management

Corbin Walters '16

Edmond, Okla.
Undeclared

Caleb Russell '16

Stillwater, Okla.
Business

Josh Shriner '16

Enid, Okla.
Computer Engineering

Trevor Thompson '16

Tulsa, Okla.
Strategic Communications

Corbin Thurman '16

Tulsa, Okla.
Business Management

Cooper Ward '16

Owasso, Okla.
Sociology

Dane Wind '16

Edmond, Okla.
Aerospace and
Mechanical Engineering

James Wood '16

Keller, Texas
Business

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**Sigma Phi Epsilon
Oklahoma Alpha**

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Attention: This newsletter is intended for Oklahoma Alpha alumni and parents.
If your son is still attending Oklahoma State University, he will receive a copy at the chapter house.
If he is no longer in school, please send us his permanent address, to update our records.