



THE SOONER DELT

Delta Alpha Chapter | Delta Tau Delta Fraternity | University of Oklahoma | Spring 2018

Dedication and Perseverance Are Making a Difference

Alumni, Delta Alpha Needs Your Help

On February 22, the men of Delta Tau Delta celebrated another successful year with a Founders' Day dinner at the Shelter. This is truly remarkable, because Delta Alpha Chapter has now had a continuous presence on the OU campus for 96 years! We all should be proud of the chapter's success. It would not have happened without the hard work of many dedicated Delt brothers. I would like to express my sincere thanks to **Matt Akins '13** and to all of the members of the Alumni Supervisory Committee (ASC) who have worked closely with the undergraduate members during the last year to put the chapter on the proper path to self-governance. These dedicated alumni brothers on the ASC have been role models and mentors; outstanding examples of the principles and values of our fraternity. Without their hard work, our chapter would not be where it is today: poised for even greater success as we approach our centennial year.

We also should be very proud of the new chapter officers and executive committee members. These young Delt exemplify the core values of Delta Tau Delta, and they are building a new sense of brotherhood in the chapter. These energetic chapter leaders are working hard to conduct a successful summer recruitment campaign. They are focusing their efforts on men of good character with strong academic backgrounds. In particular, they want to make every effort possible this year to recruit Delt legacies. **Here's how you can help:**

Recruitment of Legacies

Please send me an email with the names and contact information for all Delt legacies and potential recruits who are high school graduates and interested in going through recruitment at OU. We will make sure that the recruitment team gets the information, but you need to send it to me

ASAP! We also would appreciate you sending a donation to support the recruitment team. As usual, the budget will be very tight, and recruitment is the lifeblood of the fraternity. Send me your check today!

Alumni Advisory Committee

In addition to working on recruitment, the chapter officers are organizing for next semester, when the ASC will transition from a governing body to an Alumni Advisory Committee. This team of alumni advisors will be assisting the chapter in all phases of the chapter's operations. Please join our team! Being a member of this group is the best way for you to give back to the fraternity, and it will allow you to become personally involved in the success of the chapter. Shoot me an email and we will put you to work.

Housing Corporation

As long as I am asking for volunteers, Housing Corporation is looking to add to its roster as well. **Paul Jackson '91** is joining the team and taking over the treasurer responsibilities from **Justin Manning, Delta Omicron '04**. I would personally like to thank Justin for his endless efforts at Delta Alpha, both as chapter advisor and as the House Corporation treasurer. We would not be here today if it were not for Justin's leadership. Thank you, Justin!

The House Corporation and its board members have been very active in organizing alumni events, which have brought our brothers together and rekindled many great memories. In the fall, we hosted a very successful tailgate party at the Shelter prior to one of the football games. After a great Founders' Day celebratory dinner, we held an Alumni Golf Tournament in April at the Golf Club in Edmond, Oklahoma. Although the Oklahoma weather was not the best, we had 22 foursomes of Delt brothers who thoroughly enjoyed getting

together with their brothers. Many came from as far away as California to join the fun. Please make it a point to play golf with us next year! We will be sending new email notices about more alumni events that we are planning for the fall. We need to remind everyone that we are Delt brothers for life.

The ASC is particularly proud of the Professional Development Day it organized for the chapter in April. Several Delt alumni made presentations about their careers in finance, medicine, engineering, oil and gas exploration and energy management. The undergraduates really enjoyed the opportunity to meet our successful brothers and to learn more about their outstanding careers. In addition, several alumni have offered to host recruitment barbecues this summer, which will provide additional opportunities for the old Delt brothers to meet the next generation of Delt leaders.

Lastly, I want to give you a quick update regarding our ongoing efforts to renovate or replace our beloved, but aging, Shelter. Our House Corporation Board, along with several alumni and real estate experts, is working on a plan that will best suit the needs of our fraternity. We've sought out an experienced professional engineering firm to evaluate the site and to develop drawings and plans. We will continue to work with a national consulting company to strategize the next steps. As you know, many new Greek houses now surround us, so we hope that you will be willing when we ask for your help. Delta Alpha's next century at OU should be its very best, but it will require the support of all of our brothers. As always, More Delt, Less Self!

Fraternally,
Mike Johnston '88
House Corporation President
mjohnston@gobaker.com

VISIT US ONLINE

WEBSITE - SOONERDELTA.COM
FACEBOOK - SEARCH: OKLAHOMA DELTA TAU DELTA

ΔΤΔ

INNOVATIVE BROTHER ACHIEVING HIS GOALS

*Scott Armstrong '89 Is a Role Model
in the Medical Field*

Scott Armstrong '89 was your average freshman and wanted to be a part of a community where he felt connected. His high school friends, **Barry Randle '89** and **Evan Reynolds '89**, pledged to Delta Tau Delta and Scott knew that was where he wanted to be too. "The tremendous memories reassure me of my decision to pledge. The furthered friendships and new bonds that were important to my early life, remain important to me now."



communities at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center conducting important research that has changed lives."

His current role as professor of pediatrics at Harvard Medical School and Chairman of the Department of Pediatric Oncology at Dana-Farber allows him to share his years of medical ex-

perience to impact the careers of young medical professionals. "It's gratifying to be able to share my knowledge with the men and women in the medical field. I am able to be part of research that has led to the creation of medications that are now available to patients. This has been and continues to be a goal of mine."

Scott says, "Walking into work it really doesn't feel like a job, I love my profession." Scott is as intense about his career as his care for his Delta Alpha brothers. He urges the young men of Delta Alpha to find the same eagerness in an occupation and to be taken over by that ambition. "Identify what inspires you and set a goal to be in that position. Don't let anyone limit your drive to reach that target."

In his spare time, Scott is with his family at home or traveling with them. He also enjoys NASCAR races and travels to see racing in action. He is a father to two young adults, a son in college and a daughter in high school. Scott and his family reside in Wayland, Mass. His brothers can reach out to him via email at scott_armstrong@dfci.harvard.edu.

For Scott, Delta Alpha cultivated a sense of teamwork and brotherhood that shaped him into a contributing member of society. It can be intense to visualize your life after graduation but for Scott, his Delta Alpha community fortified his passion to make a difference. "The most important part of the fraternity is learning how to interact with a large group of people on a consistent basis. You learn to compromise, listen, and navigate all types of opinions. I learned how to find common ground and come to an agreement on ideas that differed from my own."

After graduation, Scott studied medicine at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School and earned his M.D. and Ph.D. in 1996. Scott then headed north to Boston and did his residency and Fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. During a 12-year span in his medical career, Scott was dedicated to leukemia research as a pediatric oncologist. "A true highlight of my career has been being a part of the cancer research

Delta Alphas Recognize UNDERGRADUATES PLANNING



Jacob Oliphant '18 receives the Outstanding Greek Senior Award at the Fraternity, Sorority, & Student Life banquet.



Undergraduates and young alumni social at Top Golf.



Kevin Helm '19 receives the award for Mike Johnston '88 for Outstanding Alumni.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Ryan Andrews '21
Mckinney, Texas

Grant Calcaterra '21*
Canyon, Calif.
(Brother **Nick Calcaterra, Oregon'15**)

Simeon Salazar '21
Frisco, Texas

**Legacy; relation in parenthesis*



Grant Calcaterra '21 catching a touchdown against TCU.

Organized for Leadership Planning for the Future

It's been a busy semester and the Deltas have accomplished a lot in a mere four months. This past March at the annual FSSL (Fraternity, Sorority, & Student Life) banquet, we had two of our very own recognized for their leadership and achievements. **Jacob Oliphant '18**, the 2017 Delta Alpha president, was recognized as an Outstanding Senior in the 2018 graduating class. Also recognized for outstanding performance was **Mike Johnston '88**. Mike has committed countless hours to the success of our beloved fraternity and received the FSSL Outstanding Alumni award.

In April, we hosted a Professional Development Day at the Shelter and dedicated a few hours to talk about plans after college. OU Career Services presented first and provided the members with guidance on acquiring internships and preparing for interviews. We had alumni in attendance with backgrounds in finance and banking, engineering, and medicine. Members sat down in groups with similar disciplines and had the opportunity to ask questions and get honest advice they normally couldn't get from instructors. The feedback was good and we plan to make this an annual event for the members.

The Deltas have hosted and attended various other events this semester, including the Wester Plains Division Conference that was hosted in Oklahoma City, Okla., the annual Delt Dogs philanthropy in the Delt courtyard, a social event between the freshmen and young alumni of the OKC area at Top Golf, and lastly a destination themed date party. The Deltas brought dates along with them to the Winstar World Casino in Thackerville, Okla., and had a great time.

We look forward to summer recruitment and another great pledge class! Please reach out if you'd like to get involved. We're in the middle of an exciting time as Deltas.

Fraternally,
Matthew Akins '13
Alumni Supervisory Committee
akinsmr@gmail.com

DELTA ALPHA GIVES BACK

Undergraduates Focus on Philanthropy and Academics

It is my pleasure to announce that we gained three new members during spring recruitment. One of these members is **Grant Calcaterra '21**, the soon-to-be starting tight end of the Oklahoma Sooners football team. We are excited to watch these new members grow as brothers.

As a chapter we are focused on improving our academic standings. Last fall, 14 members earned a 4.0 grade point average, helping us gain an overall chapter GPA of 3.04. This moved our chapter up to eighth out of 17 chapters on campus, which is up three spots from spring 2017.

In addition to our academic success, we hosted our annual spring philanthropy, Delt Dogs, to raise money for Second Chance Animal Sanctuary and JDRF. Last year, we raised roughly \$4,000 in just a few hours. We also participated in university-sponsored events such as Soonerthon, benefiting Children's Hospital Foundation in Oklahoma City, The Big Event, UO's official day of community service, and Relay for Life.

Delta Alpha has stayed busy this semester. We hosted our Mom's Weekend Casino Day on April 7. Our moms brought gifts for a raffle, and the brothers and their families gambled for raffle tickets in hopes of randomly being selected to win the gifts. We also hosted an alumni golf tournament, which **Mike Johnston '88** facilitated. Unfortunately, the weather did not turn out in our favor, but we had about 70 alumni sign



From left: Holden Mckee '20, Parker Thompson '20, and Kyle Summerville '20 enjoy the tailgate at the Shelter.



Delta Alphas attend The Big Event 2018.

up for the tournament. Lastly, our chapter is preparing for the University Sing in the fall 2018 semester with Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

Each day, the men of Delta Alpha are growing stronger on campus and internally. Between our improving GPA, our philanthropic participation, steak dinners with alumni, trips to Oklahoma City Dodgers baseball games, and golf tournaments, our chapter is moving in a great direction. We are continually grateful for alumni support and are always looking forward to meeting new alumni. We hope to see some alumni at the house in the future.



Fraternally,
Kevin Helm '19
Chapter President
(210) 542-5663
kevhsatx@gmail.com



Undergraduates gather for a meal during winter 2017 finals week.

ALUMNI UPDATE

CHAPTER ETERNAL

John Thomas Forsythe '56, a resident of Tulsa, Okla., passed away on April 4, 2017. John graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in sociology. He earned his M.D. from the University of Tennessee, and became a radiologist intern- ing at St. John's Hospital.



He was a founder of Doc- tors' Hospital in Tulsa. John enjoyed time with his family, traveling, football, listening to Frank Sinatra, and Wii ping pong in his later years af- ter surviving a rare cancer related to radiology. His son, Alex, shared, "We got to go to a game last year and it was epic for both of us." He will be greatly missed.

ALUMNI NEWS

George M. Parker '50 lives in Yarmouth Port, Mass., with his wife, Jane. "It's so good to hear the Delts in Norman are getting good things go- ing again. Thanks for the updates and keep up the good work!"

William E. Whitten '55 lives with his wife, Nancy, in Oklahoma City, Okla. They have been married 62 years! William was a U.S. Air Force fighter pilot for 26 years, directly in the cockpit for 21 of those years. He retired as a colonel. William worked as a contract instructor for the Federal Aviation Administration for 14 years at the University of Oklahoma. He then continued on his career path and owned his own business for 14 years before retiring in December of 1991. E-mail: biguglybill@gmail.com

John Holmes '57 resides in Midland, Texas, where he is active with a local Habitat for Hu- manity group and has built more than 125 homes with this organization. He has been a part of Habitat for Humanity for the past 18 years. E- mail: 42choya@att.net

James C. McSherry '58 retired from the air force as a military rocket scientist after 22 years of service. He then dedicated 19 years as a con- tractor on the NASA Space Shuttle. He is a father of four and has two grandchildren. He continues to sing with his church choir and works two days a week with Habitat for Humanity. James and his wife, Adrienne, like to travel and have been to all 50 states and a few foreign countries. He states, "Life is good." They reside in Houston, Texas.

William "Bill" A. Swan III '63 has many chil- dren and grandchildren. He and his wife are lov- ing Northern California. Bill golfs year-round with snow in Tahoe for good skiing. He wishes his brothers all the best. E-mail: swaniii@att.net

Harold E. Imke '68 has been enjoying life in Grand Lake, Okla., with his wife, Donna. Since retiring he has been playing golf, riding Harleys, and doing a little fishing. He spends his winters in Arizona. E-mail: heimke@msn.com



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Delta Alpha Chapter of Delta Tau Delta
University of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 442100
Lawrence, KS 66044-2100

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ATTENTION: This newsletter is intended for alumni, undergraduates, and parents. If your son is still attending the University of Oklahoma, he will receive a copy at the Shelter. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.

Chapter President
Kevin Helm '19
San Antonio, Texas
kevhsatx@gmail.com
(210) 542-5663

Internal Vice President
Kyle Summerville '20
Keller, Texas

External Vice President
Paul Kelley '20
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Treasurer
Josh Taylor '20
Mckinney, Texas

Sergeant-in-Arms
Blake Mason '20
Keller, Texas

Secretary
Joe Stanke '21
Frisco, Texas

Recruitment Chairman
Cole Stalcup '20
Edmond, Oklahoma
thomas.c.stalcup-1@ou.edu
(405) 808-5664

Alumni Relations Chairman
Reagan Johnson '20
Fort Worth, Texas

CHAPTER OFFICERS

Don L. Wilbur '72, M.D. lives in Edmond, Okla. He was chief of staff at the Midwest City Hospital for five years. Prior to being the chief of staff, he practiced pediatrics in Midwest City, Okla., for 36 years. Don was on the admissions board for OU College of Medicine for 15 years. He has been president of both Oklahoma County Medical Society and OU College of Medicine Alumni Association. He was awarded Teacher of the Year in 2012-2013 from the OU Department of Pediatrics. E-mail: drdonwill@aol.com

Robert "Bob" Davis Jr. '73 lives in Tulsa, Okla., with his family. He is doing well and is the CEO of Vesta Midstream Partners LLC. This oil and gas company is a new venture for Bob and his colleagues. E-mail: rdavisfly@aol.com

James I. Jean Jr. '74 retired in January 2017, after 41 years in medical equipment sales. He and his wife, Jana, enjoy living on Beaver Lake outside of Eureka Springs, Ark., and traveling in their motor home. He was able to meet up with two of his Delta Alpha brothers, **A. Daniel Woska '74** and **Richard P. Pralle '74**, on one of his recent trips to Oklahoma City, Okla. He says, "I always have a great time when I have the opportunity to see my brothers and share our memories of the fun times together in the Shelter at 1320 College." E-mail: jimjanajean@gmail.com

Donald "Robert" May Jr. '06 resides in Richmond, Texas. He married Leslie Hoffman on October 13, 2017. He has joined the Weatherford team as an oilfield specialist. E-mail: rob_ou@yahoo.com