



EVENT HORIZON

***SUMMER 2023 – TRIANGLE FRATERNITY
OKLAHOMA CHAPTER***

FOREWORD

Cameron Devers, 229ok15

I hope this edition of ‘The Event Horizon’ finds each of you well. Many members have been eager to get this level of communication resumed to the chapter at large and I am happy that it is finally happening. First and foremost, I want this letter to be both informative and optimistic. That being said, I am going to discuss the elephant in the room first: the chapter suspension. As many of you know, two consecutive boards of directors supported a motion to suspend the active chapter charter and move it to the custody of the board of directors. The reasons included membership retention, graduation rate, GPA, recruitment, and more. The National Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion. I choose to believe that this course of action has allowed us, the *local* Oklahoma Chapter of Triangle, to maintain control of the organization for a much needed rebuild. To build the most successful Oklahoma Chapter of Triangle possible, we *need* a strong alumni chapter. This is where the current board has been focused. I hope you find in this edition of *The Event Horizon*, a showcase of the effort the individuals who have donated their time to making the best possible alumni chapter. It has been an absolute wonder working with not just the elected members of the board, but all of those who have stepped up to the plate to take their own swing at being part of this rebuild. In conclusion, I ask that as you read this, you too consider coming up to bat at the plate. We don’t need superheroes, angel donors, or miracle workers. We need Brothers.

In F, S, and C,
Br. Cameron Devers, 229ok15
Chairman

CHAPTER SUSPENSION

Effective January 4th, 2023, the undergraduate organization of the Oklahoma Chapter of Triangle has been suspended for a period of 4 years.

The National Council took this action following several semesters of poor performance, including sub-standard GPA, a failure to fill available beds in the Chapter house, and other symptoms that indicate a “chapter culture that must be corrected.” The Chapter’s charter remains in the hands of our alumni organization, and all undergraduate members as of January 4th have been moved to alumni status.

Over the past several months, the Board of Directors and many interested members of our alumni organization have begun work on a plan to prepare the Chapter for a return to campus. As part of this, we are hoping to increase alumni involvement in all areas. If you’re not currently involved, we encourage you to keep reading to learn more about upcoming events that may interest you, and we encourage you to attend some of the Board of Directors meetings over the next couple months. Advice and thoughts from our alumni are always welcome.

THE MANOR

Gregory Maddra, 250ok17

Triangle Building & Housing Corporation has arranged for a new tenant to take possession of Kirkpatrick Manor during our absence.

Thanks to the assistance of Br. Bluemlein (191ok) we were able to conduct a house inventory, and remove Chapter property during early May. The majority of items have gone to a storage unit procured by the Chapter, while several critical items

are being stored with Br. Slater (194ok12). If you had property in the Manor that you believe may have been swallowed up in the move-out, please don't hesitate to reach out via email or in-person at one of our meetings.

The new tenant, Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity, took possession of the property on July 1st, for a period of 2 years with options for 2 1-year extensions. Our remaining financial responsibility for the property has been alleviated.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED:

We strongly encourage all members of our alumni organization to get involved, and help us form a healthy organization for our eventual return to campus. You can keep involved by attending the various virtual and in-person alumni events planned for the next few months, as well as by attending our monthly board meetings.

ALUMNI EVENTS

Programming Committee

Br. Adam Aab (225ok15), Director of Alumni Programming, has been hard at work planning events for alumni both far and wide. The Programming committee currently plans to hold a number of virtual events, and at least 1 in-person event each quarter:

Previous Events:

March 17th – TokenCon Trip

April 22nd – Founders' Day @ Kirkpatrick Manor

May 13th – Virtual D&D Night

May 19th – Minecraft Night

Upcoming Events:

July 15th – Virtual D&D Night

July 28th – Minecraft Night

TBD – Commander Night

October 13th – Solar Eclipse Viewing

November 18th – Local Founders' Day

Keep an eye on the alumni mailing list for updates on these and other events!



Br. Marcos Stocco (74ok93) and family at TokenCon. Several brothers also joined at the convention.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Marcos Stocco, 74ok93

For Member Development we have to realize that the focus has shifted from Developing new brothers, and helping to usher them into their professional careers and prepare them for life after graduation, where we as Alumni might offer advice, counsel, mentoring, etc. – to a different paradigm with *only* Alumni members remaining currently. I have taken this “charge” to apply to us as personal and professional development, more

in a mutual way, trying to foster amongst us a culture that cultivates personal and professional growth and development helping each other. Our new focus is on resources that already exist and networking opportunities to share among the membership, as opposed to “creating” or organizing events. We haven’t been meeting as a separate “committee” per se, as much of this Member Development role overlaps with the “Programming Committee” (albeit targeted more to social events) and the “Publicity Committee” for spreading awareness.

I continue to remain engaged with social/professional Networking groups, like “Techlahoma”, “Network After Work”, the “Smithsonian Institute” and various Software Engineering groups like MS Tech News, .NET Foundation, CODE Magazine, ClearMeasure, etc, as well as Triangle’s own resources they provide for Alumni: Scobie Leadership School, National Convention, and events organized through CEL (the Council of Emerging Leaders). I also try to remain engaged with the University, our Alumni Association and Foundation, as well as Felgar Society and the College of Engineering, and the Jerry Holmes Leadership Program, and the Computer Science Advisory Board. When there are events I’m aware of on campus, I try to promote them to the members as opportunities for engagement and personal growth, as well as for broadening personal horizons, and developing skills and experience in mentoring and advising undergraduates and young Alumni. If there are any groups, resources, or events you’re aware of that would fall along these lines, please share them with me, and please give feedback on any you’ve participated in. Even as Alumni, there’s still GREAT potential for us all to gain from each other and continue to develop personally and professionally. We’re all life-long members, and our engagement and benefit need not cease at graduation.

ALUMNI COMMUNICATION

Gregory Maddra, 250ok17

As we’ve worked to update the Chapter on recent events, there have been a number of complaints regarding the quality of communication between the different elements of the Chapter. Many of our alumni felt that communications from both the active organization and the Board of Directors were quite lacking, if they were sent at all. The Publicity Committee has taken many of these complaints to heart, and we are actively working to revamp much of the Chapter’s communications. Several technical issues with the mailing lists have been resolved, greatly increasing the reliability of message delivery. We have also entered into a contract for a major redesign of the Chapter’s website and a revamping of our information management systems.

We hope to continue improving the quality (and frequency) of the Chapter’s communications to you. Shortly following the publication of this newsletter via email, it will be duplicated to our website and sent out to our social media pages. Your feedback on this method of communication is greatly appreciated.

FINANCES

Brandon Bagwell, 133ok04

The finance committee is responsible for ensuring the long term financial stability of the chapter. To do so, we have been focusing on ensuring that various sources of need are met with the best source of funds possible. In the past, we have accomplished this task by splitting expenses between both the alumni and active org, though without an active chapter, clearly our financial needs have evolved, and therefore, so has our strategy. We have now categorized major initiatives into three separate categories:

1. Operate efficiently “in the now” by focusing on programs our alumni actively want.
2. Gather financial resources for undergraduate recolonization. This will include advertising on campus, scholarships, and incentives to recruit a top quality undergraduate class.

3. Plant the seeds for our long term success, by establishing funds which outlast any one board, term, or fraternity member.

To make Triangle work, we need all three legs of this strategy to be viable. We feel these values have been reflected in our annual budget which we passed this year, and look forward to sharing more specific details with you on our website which we are in the middle of renovating.

For the first leg, expect to see more communications, and more events (both locally and in regions we have alumni). For the second leg, we have reallocated prior active funds for this purpose, and set aside 'savings' for the next generation. We anticipate part of our annual scholarship fund to be used for this purpose once recolonization begins in earnest. With these objectives met, and our new Permanent Fund rounding out the third leg, Triangle will have the foundation needed to grow and thrive, but to make them, we need *your help!*

If you believe that organizations like Triangle offer meaningful value to those, who like yourself, have attended university wanting to make an impact on the world, please donate today. If you feel that Triangle does *not* offer meaningful value, then please, get with a committee member and let's talk about how we can steer programs and funds in a way that does. While our new website is still in-the-works, donations can be started & managed via the legacy website at <http://oktriangle.org/donation-info/>.

Additionally, we are happy to announce that through the generosity of an anonymous brother, the first \$5,000 donated to the chapter will be matched dollar-for-dollar! With inflation on the rise, now is the perfect time to either renew your financial commitment to the fraternity, or to consider a new gift.

For those of you who would prefer to mail a physical check, our new mailing address is listed below:

Oklahoma Triangle

c/o Cameron Devers
201 N Westchester
Norman, OK 73069

And, lastly, we understand not every donation is denominated in dollars. If you have given products, goods, services, or other items which are worthy of such consideration (or would like to consider 'alternative contributions' of any kind), please let us know so we can ensure that such gifts are reflected in the fraternal accounting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brandon Bagwell, 133ok04

Below are some updates, announcements, and shout-outs from some of your brothers! If you have an update you'd like to share, email webmaster@outriangle.org and we'll include it with the next newsletter.

Brandon Bagwell (133ok04) – Moving to Austin, TX for a lower cost of living. Saw the solar eclipse in Australia this year.

Caleb Robertson (246ok17) – Proud new father to Laura Alexandra Robertson

Nick Huffmaster (153ok) – Working at ThermoFisher Scientific, training our sales team to support bioscience research.

Alexander Nikolaev (155ok06) – Started his own business, Kupsilla IT Consulting. Learn more at <https://kupsilla.com>.

Eric Hignite (180ok10) – Went sailing with Bagwell. He's a pussy who can't handle my Porsche.

Bob Roberson (145ok05) – Started a new job at Interpres Security. Still in Seattle.

Sean Williams (134ok04) – Relocated to Italy this year. Managing base communications, and happy to be in management now.

Tim Ashley (173ok09), Nils Schlupp (174ok09), & Randy Ray (55ok90) – Met with OU Alumni Association in California.

Josh Reynolds (199ok13), Austin Schmidt (197ok13), & Brandon Bagwell – Hosting a solar eclipse viewing in Albuquerque, NM from October 13 – 16th. RSVP on Facebook or by contacting Br. Bagwell through FB Messenger.

STAY IN TOUCH

Publicity Committee

Do you have photos or videos of an event? Have something you want to see published in a future newsletter? Or just want to chat with your fellow Triangles? Well, we want to hear from you as well! Please feel free to reach out at any time:

Email:

Alumni List – alumni@lists.outriangle.org

BoD List – bod@lists.outriangle.org

Newsletter Items – webmaster@outriangle.org

On The Web:

<https://oktriangle.org/contact-us/>

Through Slack

Contact Br. Tristan Hull to join –

tristan.a.hull@gmail.com

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