



GAMMA-KAPPA CHAPTER OF KAPPA SIGMA

CUMULATIVE SUMMER NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2019 : UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

NEW MEMBERS OF KAPPA SIGMA



This fall, our fraternity initiated forty-two members. This pledge class showed promise through hard work and dedication to know the traditions of our great chapter.

This spring, our fraternity was able to initiate fourteen new members. These new members were able to show their worth by participating in our fraternities' activities and putting in their best effort. This proved to our chapter that they have the ambition to help our fraternity grow.

The Kappa Sigma fraternity has experienced a great year full of amazing memories. From the very beginning of the year to the very end the name Kappa Sigma was heard across campus. Whenever there was an opportunity to have a positive impact at our university, we took that as a moment to help our community and to spread our colors across campus.

Overall, our fraternity showed great signs of improvement and progression throughout the year.

EVAN RABB

Our contributions to homecoming this year turned out great but the greatest thing to happen for us was one of our brothers becoming homecoming king. As a fraternity, we wish to congratulate our brother Evan Rabb on his amazing accomplishment. Evan has been involved with several organizations on campus such as Campus Activities Council (CAC), Interfraternity Council (IFC), and Camp Crimson. He was nominated by IFC to run for homecoming king. His favorite part of homecoming was the Medallion Lunch-in with Alumni. His final thoughts on homecoming were, "It was a unique experience to see the other side of homecoming and is something that he will always."

The University of Oklahoma's homecoming tradition is a week of festive activities (This year it was October 21-27) that students, alumni, and parents can get involved with. This year, we were paired with Alpha Gamma Delta for homecoming and our theme was Gotham City. The events that we were involved in were the parade and the dance. Trent Robertson (Homecoming Chair) said, "Homecoming went well, we accomplished what we wanted to, and I was glad to get involved." Trent played a crucial part in making our float this year.



SOONERTHON

One of the most impactful programs that the University of Oklahoma has is Soonerthon. Soonerthon is a student lead philanthropy that helps the university raise money for the Children's Hospital Foundation. It is a year long fundraising campaign that leads up to March 2. On that day, all the people that are involved go to the Sarkeys Fitness Center where they all stand for 12 hours in support of the children who typically spend about 12 hours a week in dialysis or chemotherapy and the doctors and nurses who typically spend 12 hours on their feet during their shifts. While at the event there are many fun activities that are set up to help raise as much money as possible. At the end of the event, there is a reveal for how much money was raised throughout the year. This year the university raised \$900,226.19. One of the most involved members we have in Soonerthon is Braydn Hall. Braydn was part of the Soonerthon Executive Committee. He is also involved in Sooner Scandals, CAC Dad's Day, Crimson Wishes Foundation, Student Guide Leader at Camp Crimson, served as a past philanthropy chair for the chapter, and was the first ever house boy for Alpha Phi. His involvement around campus and in the Gamma-Kappa chapter has inspired many other members to want to get more involved. On the day of Soonerthon, Braydn was doing everything he could to make members work their hardest to do help raise as much money as we could. His involvement was extremely helpful for the event and helped our chapter become more recognized across campus.



BIG EVENT

One of the largest events that is hosted by the University of Oklahoma is the Big Event. On April 13, 2019, many students come out to do voluntary work for those in need. All students place themselves in a certain group that will be assigned to go to a location to volunteer. Our chapter was assigned to volunteer at OKC Metro Alliance's Men's First step. This organization was designed to help men with problems with the law get back on their feet and help conform with the rest of society. While our chapter was there, we helped repaint the wall of their housing and learned how fortunate we are to have the life we have. It was a great experience for all of us and was a great way for our chapter to be heard.



UNIVERSITY SING FALL 2018



This year we were paired with Delta Gamma for University Sing. Our show, called the Great Escape, was a magician-based show about Harry Houdini. Every year, a new group of our brothers have a great time performing and competing against the other shows. We performed four times at the Reynolds Performing Arts Center during “Holmberg Week” or in other words the week of competition and had to prepare all semester for our performances. One of our brothers, Zac Cowger (Parents Chair, next year’s University sing and Scandals director), said, “University sing was a lot of fun because of how we were able to get closer with our brothers and the Delta Gamma girls.” With the amount of time and effort that we put in; we were able to make the show truly exceptional. None of this would’ve been done without the help of our directors (Ryan Jones, Evan Rabb, Carson Pressgrove, Harris Neuens, Olivia Diel, Kaylee Gillespie, Nicole Jerome, and Rebecca Koltun). Their dedication for our show was extremely inspiration and our performance wouldn’t have been what it was without their passion and determination. In the end, we received awards for best costumes and best supporting actress (Jayden Knight). Though both ourselves and others outside of our show felt as though we should have won more, we nonetheless were happy with our performance and made memories that will last a lifetime.

SCANDALS SPRING 2019

This year our chapter is paired with Alpha Chi Omega for Sooner Scandals. For those who don’t know, Scandals is a 15-minute show that is performed by many organizations around campus. Each organization is paired with another organization on campus with which they compete for first place together. From our chapter, the directors are Zac Cowger, Ryan Jones, Evan Rabb, and Braydn Hall. The directors from Alpha Chi Omega are Malachie Rodgers, Tyler O’Donnell, Casey Lewis, Karlee Butler, and Courtney Slay. The theme of the show is “House of Memories”. The storyline centers around a young couple who purchases a mansion that turns out to be haunted by all the previous owners of the house. When the ghost of the house finds out that the current owners want to destroy the house, they make it their obligation to save the house. Our brothers involved have been working very hard (9 hours a week) all semester to make the show as good as they can. Zac Cowger (Parents Chair, Scandals Director, and University Sing) said, “Sooner Scandals was an extremely fun thing to be involved in. I had a great time with the women of Alpha Chi Omega both inside and outside of practice and they are extremely talented.” Zac is a well involved member and has worked hard to make this a good show. The performances of this show were presented April 4- April 6 at the Reynolds Performing Arts Center.

A brother of ours that should be recognized is Eric Gallegos. He is a freshman here at the University of Oklahoma that was welcomed into our chapter last semester. He is a hard-working member of our fraternity who has just received the honor of walking on the Universities football team. Eric played high school football at Heritage High in Fresno, Texas. While there, some of his accomplishments included leading the team in turnovers and interceptions as well as being one of the top 5 in tacklers on his team. When asked what gave him the drive to keep playing, he said, "I had many small schools offers but I really wanted to go to a better school. Also, I really wanted to play Division 1 football. That's why I thought going to my dream school and walking on was the best plan for me to have." During the annual Spring Game on April 12th, Eric received significant playing time at Safety with the White defense, making several tackles and pass breakups against a Jalen Hurts-led offense. Our fraternity couldn't be prouder of him.



The Gamma-Kappa Chapter will be hosting its bi-annual Hall of Fame ceremony on Friday, October 18th, or the day before the Sooners play West Virginia in the annual Homecoming game. Hall of Fame inductees are chosen based on success in their careers, and/or service to the community, fraternity, and/or university. Our prior inductees can be found [Here](#).

Please email [Jack Bache](#) or call him at 620-249-2687 with nominations for the Hall of Fame. Nominations and/or other questions regarding the chapter or the ceremony can also be sent to Chapter Alumni Chair [Will Walton](#).





This year, our chapter lost our brother Nick Leslie in surgery on May 14th. Nick was a great brother and an even better friend. For anyone to truly understand Nick as a person, they need to know his story.

Nick was born on September 22, 1998 to Robert Ted Leslie and Lydia Mae Leslie in Oklahoma City. He had an older sister (Lauren Leslie) and a younger brother (Mitchell Leslie). From ages three to ten, Nick battled Stage IV Neuroblastoma. When he was at the age of ten, he had a surgery in New York that was able to get rid of 98% of tumor that was inside him. Later that year, Nick was tumor free and was able to flourish in life.

He went to Crossing Christian School through 6th grade. After that, he moved to Edmond, Oklahoma where he attended Deer Creek High School and graduated in 2016. In this time, he played soccer, basketball, football, tennis, and baseball. Nick was also a leader on Student Council and was passionate about raising money for others. He then attended the University of Oklahoma where he majored in pre-biology/ pre-med. He dreamed of becoming a Pediatric Oncologist where he would be able to help others like him. In 2017, Nick was an official member of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity and was happy to have lived in house.

Another big part of Nick's life was going outdoors and having creative ideas. Some of his favorite activities were wake boarding and snowboarding. He loved to wake board at Lake Tenkiller and snowboard in Colorado. When it came to his creative side, he loved woodworking and cooking. With these skills, he was able to make two tables, a ramp for a shed, and meals of his own creation for the family.

Unfortunately, Nick started suffering digestion problems seven years after he was made cancer free. These problems steamed from the scar tissue that was made from all the previous surgeries that he had. This caused a large sum of problems. The biggest one of them was that he couldn't digest his medication. This almost caused him to overdose but luckily the doctors were able to revive him.

After some time, Nick had to go back to the hospital for his worsening conditions. He was in the hospital from November 2018 to January 2019. He was then in good enough condition to go home and be with his family. A few months later, Nick passed away during a transplant surgery.

Everyone who knew Nick will forever cherish the memories that they made with him. Throughout his childhood, he was always said "NO REGRETS." Nick was a true warrior that would fight with nothing held back. He once said, "What comes to one's mind when they hear the word 'cancer' is usually hospitals, chemo, and death. However, I see the warrior going his all. I see doctors, nurses, and family members supporting a warrior. Most of all I see how grateful the warrior is for their life. Perseverance, gratefulness, and a glass half full have been taught to me through my war with cancer." His life is the living example of those words. He lived a passionate life with nothing held back. In the end, I believe that we can all say that Nick lived with absolutely "NO REGRETS."

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACT INFORMATION

Grand Master

Trent Robertson

Trent.e.robertson-1@ou.edu

Grand Procurator

Cole Miller

williamcolemiller@outlook.com

Grand Treasurer

Drew Brown

drew_g_brown@icloud.com

Grand Scribe

Braden Demuth

bradendemuth@ou.edu

Grand Master of Ceremonies

Carson Pressgrove

carsonpressgrove1@gmail.com

