

THE BAJA OKLAHOMAN

Newsletter of the OU Club of Austin

1905 Shadow Brook Circle, Round Rock, Texas 78681 • 512-431-2069 / 512-255-6402 • January 2011

Board considers increasing \$\$\$ amount of some scholarship aid

Deadline is April 1 for applications

As recipients are being sought for the scholarships granted each year by the OU Club of Austin, the group's board of directors is considering a significant change.

At their called meeting this month, directors discussed the possibility of making one or more of the grants for a larger amount.

In past years, the club has conferred two or three partial scholarships to attend OU. The amount of each grant has been \$2,000, half of that from the University, half from the club.

The thinking of club directors is that if one or more of the scholarships the OU Club of Austin issues each year could be made for a larger amount that would be of even more help.

The deadline for area high school

students to apply this year is April 1. An application form is on the club website.

Directors continue work on revising club bylaws

Also at their January meeting, the club's board continued work on updating the bylaws.

No significant changes are being discussed but a review of the regulations was deemed a good idea by directors.

Final adoption of the revised bylaws is possible at the board's next meeting, in March.

Club membership growth showing renewed vigor

The club added 21 new memberships during 2010, Janet Atwood, membership chair, reported to the board this month.

And two new members have been added so far this year.

Membership stands at 117 now, comprised of 169 individuals, Janet said.

"That's more than we've been having in recent years," she added.

Second watch-party site still being considered

Directors still are checking out possibilities for a second watch-party site.

Several ideas are being pursued and an announcement is due soon.

Can you help? Three officers needed now

If you think you might have a bit of time to help out, the OU Club of Austin is in need of some of that.

Three vacancies still exist in the ranks of our officers.

Needed are a secretary, a student-recruitment chair and an events coordinator.

If you might like to consider one of these positions, please phone Fred Dupy, president, at 431-2069 or 255-6402.

Or you can send an email to: austin-club@ouclubofaustin.com

"These are very important jobs," Fred said.

"We need to fill them just as soon as possible."

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OU Club sites now featured on Twitter and Facebook

The OU Club of Austin has pages on both Twitter and Facebook now.

Type in "OU Club of Austin" in the "search" box at the top of either of the two social networks' home pages.

That will bring you another way to keep up with our doings and the thoughts of local Sooners. And we hope you'll be heard from, too.

This is in addition, of course, to our regular internet website at <http://www.ouclubofaustin.com>

'NEATH A WESTERN SKY: Items from the original O'Connell's sold at auction after 42 years in business

Many fond memories, some perhaps a bit fuzzy, were recalled this month when a public auction disposed of furniture and other items that long have been part of O'Connell's Irish Pub & Grille at 120 E. Lindsey, just south-east of Owen Field in Norman.

One former customer at the location summed things up best, telling *The Daily Oklahoman* she began coming to O'Connell's since the early 1970s.

"Mainly, for football games and St. Paddy's Day," she said. "And if OU was whippin' 'em, we'd leave 'em and come over here. We spent the second half of a lot of football games in O'Connell's."

Hundreds of people showed up for the auction, either to buy a chunk of memorabilia or merely to watch the scene.

O'Connell's co-owner Jeff Stewart told *The Oklahoman* that proceeds of the auction will benefit a new endowed

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OU scholarship fund that he will establish for undergraduates in the Price College of Business Division of Marketing and Supply Chain Management.

O'Connell's will continue to exist in a recently established new location at 769 Asp Ave., just across Boyd north of the OU campus.

Sherri Coale wins UN honor OU's women's basketball coach was named the first winner of an award conferred by the United Nations.

The announcement this month cited her as the recipient of the U.N. Positive Peace Award in the sports-coach category.

Her leadership in having a number of her teammates and fellow coaches do volunteer work in Haiti last year was noted, as were Coach Coale's

wide-ranging activism in community service in Norman and elsewhere.

In Haiti last May the Sooner contingent worked particularly in an orphanage and a hospital. A return is planned this May.

Coale, her players and staff members have impacted a number of causes and groups under her leadership. Among these are Oklahoma City Children's Hospital, Food and Shelter for Friends, Race for the Cure, Meals on Wheels, Children's Miracle Network, Habitat for Humanity, Norman Women's Resource Center and the J.D. McCarthy Center for Children with Developmental Disabilities.

Boren's tenure now no. 2 David Boren's tenure as OU president hit a milestone Tuesday of this week. He became the University's second longest-serving president, behind only George Lynn Cross, who was president for 25 years, from 1943 to 1968.

Dr. Boren was named OU's 14th president in April 1994.

The Baja Oklahoman is a publication of the OU Club of Austin, a non-profit organization of University of Oklahoma alumni and friends of the University in Austin and Central Texas • Members are encouraged to submit material for publication. • An application for club membership appears on the club's website. Membership is \$25 a year; \$35 for a family.

Club officers — 2010-11

President	Fred Dupy
Vice president	Dan Hodges
Secretary	(vacant)
Treasurer	Jessica Benedict
Membership	Janet Atwood
Watch parties	Lee Lanham
Events coord.	(vacant)
Scholarship chair	Alisa Macy
Student recruitment chair	(vacant)

Club website:

<http://www.ouclubofaustin.com>

Webmaster: Craig Likes

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—Photo by *The Daily Oklahoman*

U.N. HONOR FOR OU COACH — Sherri Coale is congratulated by Adam Barnett, her pastor of Journey Church, Norman, who nominated her for a United Nations Positive Peace Award. The presentation was made before the OU-Kansas State game this month.

Spring sports, basketballers offering good news

Pre-season polls, current standings make nice reading for Sooner fans

Indications are that this spring will be a good one for Oklahoma sports, particularly on the baseball and softball diamonds.

The Sooner baseball team already is ranked 6th in a pre-season poll conducted by *Collegiate Baseball*. And OU quite possibly will top the Big 12 pre-season rankings.

In softball a pre-season poll has OU rated first in the Big 12, followed in order by Missouri, Texas and A&M.

Meanwhile, on the basketball court, OU is in a tight bunch at the top of the women's Big 12 standings and the men's team raised eyebrows this month with a couple of home-court conference wins in what is a rebuilding year.

2011 football schedule set Dates have been finalized now for the Sooners' football schedule this year. Up in the air until recently were the dates of the Tulsa, Ball St. and Missouri games.

The schedule:

Sept. 3, Tulsa; Sept 17, at Florida St.; Sept. 24, Missouri.

Oct. 1, Ball St.; Oct. 8, Texas (in Dallas); Oct. 15, at Kansas; Oct. 22, Texas Tech; Oct. 29, at Kansas St.

Nov. 5, Texas A&M; Nov. 12, Iowa St.; Nov. 19, at Baylor; Nov. 26, at Oklahoma St.

Spring football game date The annual spring football game will be held on Apr. 16. Kickoff time will be announced later.

Who will succeed Bob Barry? There is no word yet on the next voice of Sooner athletics.

With the retirement of Bob Barry after a half-century of calling OU football and basketball, his successor will have a tough act to follow.

Barry was at the microphone for nearly 550 football games and some 1,400 basketball games.

OU's compliance dept. A study by *The Tulsa World* of staffs and budgets established by NCAA member universities to comply with national standards governing recruiting of athletes revealed that Oklahoma is exerting

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more effort than most to follow the rules.

The *World* discovered that:

- From 2005 to 2010 OU's compliance staff doubled to about three times the national average.

- In 2008, OU spent more on compliance than it did on recruiting.

- The department's size and budget grew twice as much as the average Big 12 program did.

- The compliance budget more than doubled to more than \$846,000 — almost twice the conference average.

- OU changed the department's structure to eliminate bias and added more specialized employees,

Athletic director Joe Castiglione said "The experience we've had, the knowledge we've gained . . . has helped us become a better program."

He added that "Those were intentional steps we were taking to ultimately create what in time could become a model compliance program."

Jay Wilkinson interviewed Former Norman High School football standout Jay Wilkinson, who went on to All America honors at Duke, says he's considering publishing some of the letters his father wrote him during Jay's college years in the early 1960s.

Interviewed by Jason Kersey of *The Daily Oklahoman*, Wilkinson, son of former coaching great Bud Wilkinson, said "My dad was a consummate communicator. He was very eloquent. The letters he sent me while I was at Duke were filled with great lessons about life.

"I was homesick, and at times I was discouraged. It was tough for athletes at Duke to play ball and still take the course load that was required.

"The letters were extremely helpful to me. I hope to get these into a format to have them in a book someday. I'd like to share them."

Wilkinson said he was deeply impressed not only by the onfield accomplishments of his father's OU teams but "with the players always conducting themselves as gentlemen on and off the field." And, he added, more than 90 per cent of them graduated.



HOME ON THE RANGE — A reassuring sign for Sooner fans of football coach Bob Stoops is this house rising in northwest Norman on 36th Ave NW, just south of Indian Hills Road. The coach and his family will soon be moving into the place, whose construction cost some \$3.3 million to \$5 million (estimates vary).

OU Club of Austin
1905 Shadow Brook Circle
Round Rock TX 78681

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Two programs planned for future Centex Sooners

The OU Club of Austin will hold two programs later this year for Centex students contemplating entering the University later in 2011.

In conjunction with OU, a dinner and program is tentatively scheduled

for February for Sooner-Bound Texans.

Then, probably in May, we'll co-host with OU the Sooner Sendoff dinner for students who have decided to enter the University later this year.

Alisa Macy, our club's scholarship

chair, is doubling to coordinate local arrangements with University officials. She says the dates listed in the calendar on this page will be tentative until final word is received from Norman on the exact dates.

Such gatherings in previous years have been lots of fun and inspiring for OU exes in our neck of the woods. You might want to consider coming by on these two evenings and sampling a bit of Big Red Revelry.

Future students and their parents enjoy mixing with alums and learning more about what lies ahead during matriculation at OU.

You can contribute to that and have a good evening out, to boot.

Calendar of events

<u>Event/(TV channel)</u>	<u>Day/date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Where</u>
Sooner-Bound Texans dinner and program	Feb. 23 (date tent.)	TBA	Iron Cactus Inn 10001 Stonelake Blvd.
Board meeting (all club members welcome)	Mar. 10 Thurs.	6 p.m.	301 Congress Ave. ste. 2000
Deadline for Centex students to apply for OU scholarship	April 1 Friday		Application on OU Club of Austin website; mail to PO Box 2433, Wimberley 78676
Board meeting (all club members welcome)	Apr. 21 Thurs.	6 p.m.	301 Congress Ave. ste. 2000
Sooner Sendoff dinner and program	May 3 or 4 (date tent.)	TBA	TBA



CLUB OF AUSTIN

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Work No. _____

E-mail address _____ Fax _____

Areas of interest _____

Membership dues: \$25 a year • \$35 for a family NEW RENEWAL

O.U. Club of Austin • 1905 Shadow Brook Circle • Round Rock, TX 78681