

# THE BAJA OKLAHOMAN

*Newsletter of the OU Club of Austin*

1905 Shadow Brook Circle, Round Rock, Texas 78681 • 512.431.2069 • October 2013

## Club's membership tops 200 now

*Attendance at watch parties at good levels*

For the first time in its quarter-century history, membership in the OU Club of Austin has topped the 200 mark.

That's a significant increase for the club, whose membership had climbed above 100 in recent years.

The increase came from both renewals from members who had drifted away, as well as 34 individuals or couples who have joined our ranks for the first time this year.

Nearly \$1,000 in dues was generated at the football kickoff party in late August, president Graham Kenney told the club's board of directors at its meeting this month.

During discussion of other club matters, board members also learned that:

- The online auction for four Oklahoma-Texas

football game tickets produced \$685 for the club's scholarship fund.

- The three football watch parties being conducted weekly this fall by the club are all drawing well.

Blackfinn Irish Pub in the Domain is usually drawing the most OU fans, with crowds of more than 40 people for most games.

Downtown, our parties at Fado's Irish Pub usually have 30 or so, and the Round Rock Marriott, around 20.

"We continue to look for new volunteers to help with the parties," Graham said.

- Some minor changes were approved in the club's scholarship application form, as proposed by Amy Rader Kice, scholarship chair, and will be in effect next year.

## More membership meetings due in the club's future

Plans for two social gatherings of club members early next year were proposed at the October board meeting of the OU Club of Austin.

Graham Kenney, president, suggested that a happy hour be held in February and, perhaps, a family party later in the spring, possibly in April or May.

The club plans to contact the President's Associates office in Norman to see if that group's leadership might be interested in co-sponsoring such events occasionally in Austin.

What is in mind at this point is a social event downtown at a bar or

restaurant, with free drinks and appetizers.

If you think you might be able to volunteer to handle arrangements for this, or help out otherwise, please contact Graham by emailing him at [gkenney@ydklaw.com](mailto:gkenney@ydklaw.com).

As for a family party in the spring, board members were asked if they think there is sufficient interest in such an event.

Also, people to handle arrangements would be needed. Again, if you think you might be able to help with this, please email Graham.

He and other board members also discussed bringing in members of the

University faculty now and then to address the club. A few similar gatherings in recent years drew well and were well received here.

### *Inside . . .*

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# 'NEATH A WESTERN SKY: Flat-rate tuition credited for heavier course loads this semester

The advent of flat-rate tuition charges at the University of Oklahoma is producing the desired results, an OU official said recently.

This fall, students taking 12 to 21 semester hours were charged the same as a student taking 15 hours during 2012-13.

As a result, 1,000 more students are signed up for 15 or more hours this fall than was the case a year ago.

In announcing the increase, Nick Hathaway, OU's vice-president of administration and finance, estimated that the new policy might produce a five per cent increase in the University's graduation rate and mean that more students graduate in four years rather than five or six.

The new setup includes an appeals

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process wherein students who can't take at least 12 hours in a semester because of having to work, or for other personal reasons, are permitted to make up extra credit hours during the summer without paying more.

The effect of that, based on a poll of students may be a 30 per cent enrollment increase in the summers.

In Navajo: "Star Wars IV" OU's Sam Noble Museum of Natural History presented a showing of "Star Wars: An Episode of New Hope" dubbed in the Navajo language.

This version of the *Star Wars* films was commissioned by the Navajo Nation and is being seen at a number of U.S. venues where Native American population is the highest.

But people of all backgrounds are enjoying this distinctive edition of the film, according to early reports.

Private giving: \$194 million The University reports having received a little more than \$194 million from private sources during its current fiscal year.

President David Boren said this is the second-highest such figure in OU history. He added that it's fortunate

that private donors have been so generous of late, since state funding now lags behind OU's operating expenses.

The latest figures show the University's endowment now stands at a bit more than \$1.24 billion, Boren told OU regents at a recent meeting.

Campus storm shelters eyed Also at their recent meeting, regents discussed the possibility of building storm shelters in student-housing areas of the Norman campus.

President Boren noted that two severe tornadoes have recently struck within 10 miles of the campus.

A study already is in progress to determine what wind speeds Norman campus buildings can withstand.

Cancer center upgrade Renovations to the third floor of OU's Stephenson Cancer Center at Oklahoma City have been approved.

The work will enable more work to proceed on clinical trials. The center is a national leader in such trials.

Zombies race in Norman As Halloween approached, the fourth annual zombie run was conducted by the Oklahoma Memorial Union to raise money to help local homeless high school students graduate.

The run attracted several dozen people dressed as zombies. The rest of the runners appeared to be humans.

**The Baja Oklahoman** is a publication of the OU Club of Austin, a non-profit organization of University of Oklahoma alumni and other 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, as well as on the back page of this newsletter. Membership is \$25 a year; \$35 for a family.

### Club officers — 2012-13

President	Graham Kenney
Vice-president	Dan Hodges
VP-development	Fred Dupy
Secretary	Adam Kice
Treasurer	Jessica Benedict
Membership	Janet Atwood
<u>Watch parties:</u>	
Round Rock	Manuel Garcia
Fado's	Jessica Benedict
Blackfinn	Ellis Goodwin
Communications coordinator	Ellis Goodwin
Scholarship chair	Amy Rader Kice
College Fair chair	Amy Rader Kice

#### Club website:

<http://www.ouclubofaustin.com>  
Webmaster: Craig Likes

#### Club email:

[austin-club@ouclubofaustin.com](mailto:austin-club@ouclubofaustin.com)

#### Club newsletter:

Greg Olds, editor  
email: [gold@s@austin.rr.com](mailto:gold@s@austin.rr.com)  
2811 Inridge Dr., Austin 78745  
phone: 512.891.0078

## Three letters from Norman

Thank you so much for the generous scholarship, OU Club of Austin! Without y'all's help coming to school here would have been extremely difficult.

I promise to make you guys proud and exceed everyone's expectations.

ZACK STOLIS

Graduate of Round Rock HS

Thank you so much for the generous scholarship! I am so excited to start my freshman year at OU and y'all have made the experience far more affordable.

I feel so welcomed on campus and look forward to the next four years as

a Sooner!

Thank you so much for making this possible.

AUBREY PAWELKA

Graduate of Regents  
School of Austin

Thanks so much for the opportunity you have provided me by giving me the alumni scholarship. It is such a help to me and I probably couldn't be here otherwise.

I'm already having the best time here in Norman!

COURTNEY FLORES

Graduate of Brentwood  
Christian School, Austin

# Heupel's foundation still helping people

Josh Heupel's #14 Foundation conducted its annual fund raiser at the Texas Tech football game last week.

It was anticipated that this year's effort would finance some 35,000 meals for families in need in several Oklahoma cities.

The foundation has been involved in this work since 2000, when Heupel, now serving as OU co-offensive coordinator, led the Sooners to a national title.

Vols to Norman in '14 Tennessee will visit Memorial Stadium next fall for the first time, OU officials have announced. The game will be played on Sept. 13. The Sooners will play in

## Sports notes

Knoxville the year after that.

Other 2014 non-league football games will be against Louisiana Tech (Aug. 30) and at Tulsa (Sept. 20).

Tulsa gets 2nd Bedlam game OU and Oklahoma St. officials have decided to try reversing the usual schedule for the annual baseball series between the two schools.

For the first time, two of the games will be played in Tulsa and one in Oklahoma City. That's the reverse of

the usual scheduling.

In recent years attendance -at the games in Tulsa has been better than that in OKC.

Basketball schedules set OU's women's basketball team has non-conference games set this season with Stetson, UT-Arlington, UCLA, Creighton, Western Illinois, Duke, Maryland-Eastern Shore, Fairfield, Marist and Samford

The men's non-conference schedule lists Alabama, North Texas, Idaho, Seton Hall, Michigan St. or Virginia Tech, Arkansas-Little Rock, Mercer, A&M-Corpus Christi, George Mason, Tulsa and UT-Arlington.

## 7-year-old and her Schooner a hit at Tucson watch parties

By LINDA JOHNSON

OU Club of South Arizona

Sooner born. Sooner bred.

That statement could not be more true for this 7-year-old residing in Marana, Ariz. Lily Elizabeth Waite, daughter of Sloan Rebecca (Clapham) Waite and Jason Waite, seems to be the fan favorite and personal mascot of the OU Club of Southern Arizona.

Lily attends as many OU get-togethers as possible with her very own Sooner Schooner in tow. She'd like also to be able to take her American quarterhorse Boomer Sooner with her. However, the staff of the Tucson restaurant where the OU Club of Southern Arizona convenes probably wouldn't appreciate that.

Lily is a fifth-generation die-hard Sooner fan. It all began with her great-great-grandfather, Jasper Cornelius Clapham, an end and kicker for the first six OU football teams in 1895 through 1900.

And that's not all. There also was Lily's great-grandfather, Britt Edward Clapham, class of 1934 (mechanical engineering) and her grandfather, Brit Edward Clapham II, who attended graduate school at OU before taking the Oklahoma bar exam and who played for the OU rugby club in 1977-'81.

Moreover, Lily's great-uncle, Duane J. Clapham (business administration, 1938) and many other family



LILY WAITE

... Tucson Schooner pilot

members are OU alums — Jap Worth Blankenship, Duane Roy Blankenship, Cheryl Sue Blankenship, Helen Joy Bailey, Margie Ro Pence and J. Edward Portwood, among others.

Lily's high hopes are to become a firefighter/paramedic like her mother, but only after graduating with the OU Class of 2029.

To say Lily is a lifelong Sooner fan is an understatement. She left the hospital with an OU binky in her mouth after being born and has never

missed an Oklahoma-Texas football game.

She thinks the 57-year curse of Notre Dame was broken this fall due to her rollout of her very own Sooner Schooner at a Tucson watch party.

The Schooner was created when Lily's aunt and uncle, Dale and Amanda Smith, were delivering a load of steel to a gentleman who happened to have the kits from which the wagons and tricycles could be formed into one unit.

Of course, the wagon needed a canvas arch. Lily's grandmother, Shari Clapham, took care of fixing that. And Daddy finished it off by lettering "Sooner Schooner" on the sides.

Lily hopes one day soon, while she still fits into the Schooner, to take it to a game in Norman to tailgate. Regardless, the family is sure the rig will one day find its way home through family and friends, including the OU Rugby Club with P. David Jones and Michelle Corr, or with OU's executive associate athletic director, Larry Naifeh's grandchildren.

In the meantime, you can still catch Lily leading the cheers at the Tucson watch parties and other get-togethers.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** thanks to Janene Davis, former OU Club of Austin mainstay who now lives in Norman, for letting us know about this story.

**OU Club of Austin**  
**1905 ShadowBrook Cir.**  
**Round Rock TX 78681**

**Forwarding services requested**

## OU-Tulsa medical school plans altered

Plans for the universities of Oklahoma and Tulsa to unite in opening a Tulsa medical school that specializes in community medicine are moving ahead, officials say, despite the recent abandoning of plans to buy a

downtown building.

Cost of redeveloping the building would be around \$25 million, officials learned, a figure regarded as too high.

But plans for the school are still in full swing. Instead, instruction will be

conducted at both the OU and TU campuses in Tulsa. Students will be able to get all their medical education in the city.

More than \$300 million in private and public funds have been obtained for the new school.

When it opens in 2015, basic science will be taught at TU, while OU will continue training third- and fourth-year medical students and residents.

The school's primary mission will be to raise the number of physicians who will serve in the state's smaller towns. Students will be encouraged not only to treat individuals but also to address community health issues.

### Calendar of events

Event	Date	Time (tv)	Where
Football watch parties OU @ Baylor	Nov. 7 Thu.	6:30 p.m. (FS1)	Round Rock Marriott; Fado's (214 W. 4th); Blackfinn Irish Pub (11410 Century Oaks)
Football watch parties Iowa St. @ OU	Nov. 16 Sat.	TBA	Round Rock Marriott, Fado's, Blackfinn
Football watch parties OU @ Kansas St.	Nov. 23 Sat.	TBA	Round Rock Marriott, Fado's, Blackfinn
Football watch parties OU @ Oklahoma St.	Dec. 7 Sat.	TBA	Round Rock Marriott, Fado's, Blackfinn



## CLUB OF AUSTIN

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**Membership dues: \$25/year • \$35 family ... NEW ... RENEWAL**

*Mail this form to the address below or join/renew online: [www.ouclubofaustin.com](http://www.ouclubofaustin.com)*

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