A Letter from the President

Dear Alumni,

I hope that this edition of The Ribbon finds you well. Currently, the Chamber is winding down after another great year. Our weekends have been filled with painting, banner-hanging, building campus décor, and more. These days are also filled with laughter and camaraderie as we tell stories of past events and create memories to share in the future. If you find yourself in town in the coming months, please stop by our office in the Student Union Building to share your stories of the past and impart some wisdom.

As for the rest of the spring semester, we’ve been keeping busy! Our opening act from Sing went well, and we’ve enjoyed serving our beloved Baylor through various other tasks asked of us. There hasn’t been a dull moment yet! The phrase “I’ll sleep when I’m dead,” has never felt truer, as I’m sure you remember from your days in college.

I hope you have the chance to visit campus and stop by, but if not, please contact us by email to say hello! We would love to hear from you.

Anything for Baylor,
Marianna Arana
President Spring 2016
New Kids: Fall ‘15

Martha Adams
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Middle Grade Mathematics
Hometown: Flower Mound, TX

Tim Lee
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Psychology
Hometown: Los Angeles, CA

Wesley Meier
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Management and Information Systems
Hometown: Sterling, CO

Kaitlynn Plaskett
Classification: Junior
Major: Speech Pathology
Hometown: Roseville, CA

Alex Plott
Classification: Junior
Major: Accounting/Finance
Hometown: Tomball, TX

Raphael Raganit
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Health Science Studies
Hometown: North Richland Hills, TX

Casen Swadley
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Management and Information Systems
Hometown: McKinney, TX

Parker Tadlock
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Health Science Studies
Hometown: South Lake, TX

Bear Program

The 2016 Bear Program is in full swing, with presentations for athletic recruits and trainings every other week! This year’s Lead Team has consisted of Rachel Stevenson, Braden Appel, Aaron Burchfield, Jackson Hornbeak, and Drew Alleman with Nick Lee and Cassidy McCoy as secondary feeders. As Lady and Joy are now middle-aged, we have teamed up with the Baylor Health Center to coordinate a meal plan that closely monitors the calories and nutritional content from feedings, trainings and presentations. Joy recently weighed in at 301 pounds and Lady at 284 pounds. All is well with the Bear Program, and we continue to strive for the best care for our bears!
Traditions Rally
Ryan Martin & Braden Appel

This year’s Traditions Rally was an incredible success. This was the third year the Chamber had the privilege of heading this event, and we showed no signs of slowing down.

Traditions Rally was hosted on Fountain Mall for the first time since Chamber has helped plan it. The festival-like event started with hearing from our President Judge Ken Starr, a performance from the Baylor Golden Wave Band and performances from our spirit teams. There were also various food trucks near Fountain Mall, including local favorites Xristos and Vitek’s. This year, the concert was taken up a notch with an amazing performance from three time Grammy winner, Brad Paisley. The night concluded with an incredible firework show, and a fired up Baylor community ready for the upcoming football season.
Family Weekend
2015: Marianna Arana & Drew Alleman

Upcoming 2016: Casey Sparkman & Casen Swadley

This year’s Family Weekend was one to remember. Many aspects of this weekend continued, such as families hearing from incredible professors at Last Lectures, walking through Baylor’s past during History Walks, and meeting with faculty for Parent-Faculty Coffee. As with any event, there were many changes. This year we decided to partner with the Texas Collection for History Walks. This allowed us to show off this amazing library to families and enabled them to see many Baylor artifacts, so that they not only heard about Baylor’s past through this event, but also saw a lot of it. Dessert Part was moved back to Founder’s Mall, where it was elegantly lit and even set the stage for a Baylor couple’s engagement. We also worked hard to build upon the success of last year’s Dinner at McLane Stadium. This year we had dinner at the historic Hippodrome Theatre, which provided families with a very unique opportunity to enjoy a time of fellowship, experience downtown Waco, and hear from Brandon Dickerson, a Baylor alumnus and film director. In hearing Brandon’s story, many were reminded of God’s faithfulness and what it truly means to be a part of the Baylor Family. This served as a great conclusion to the weekend. Like many of our events, Family Weekend 2015 truly displayed the Chamber’s value in doing “Anything for Baylor”.
Over 100 years of reunions, bonfires, parades and football games have called alumni, students, faculty and staff home to renew fellow associations and friendships and catch the Baylor Spirit again.

We’re already working on making 2016’s Homecoming the best one yet! Due to heavy rain and flooding, last year’s Homecoming had some last minute revisions. With student and alumni safety in mind, we were forced to cancel both the Parade and Bonfire. Extravaganza was moved from Fountain Mall to the Waco Convention Center in downtown Waco. Despite the changes, Homecoming was executed well and students and alumni enjoyed the experience. Weather allowing, Parade and Bonfire will both happen this year! Our new Baylor Line Jersey Balloon will make its official debut in the 2016 Parade. The new Immortal Flame will also make appearances in the Parade as well as at our other Homecoming events. Mass Meeting will commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Immortal Ten. Along with those events, we will also host Dr Pepper hour, Wednesday Chapel, and Extravaganza. The Baylor Bears will play Kansas on October 15th and hopefully beat the Jayhawks as badly as they beat the Kansas State Wildcats in 2015! We hope you can make the trip back to campus to experience this time-honored tradition once again. If you have any fond memories or pictures of past homecomings, please share those with us! Email them to Homecoming@baylor.edu.

While in Chamber, Chris took on the roles of Diadeloso Chairman his junior year and President for the fall of his senior year. His favorite memory from Chamber begins in a tree, hanging a banner near 5th Street. It was the spring semester, and he had just finished pledging. As he and Richie Scott got that banner up, a young lady passed by that Richie knew. On the ride to the next banner location, Chris asked Richie who she was. Soon they were set up on a blind date, and the rest is history, now Chris and his wife Dawn Ridley. Chris is still doing anything for Baylor through his job as an Associate General Council Member at Baylor University and by teaching U1000 courses, which several current Chambermen have had the pleasure of taking. To current Chambermen, Chris noted that lessons learned in Chamber often apply to many things in life. He highlighted the value of service and dedication to something bigger than oneself as being relevant in Chamber, but also in the local community, church, and family. His other piece of advice to us is to enjoy every moment of college and not take anything for granted. To his fellow Chamber alumni, Chris says, “If you’re on campus I’d love to see you come by!”
This year, for Sing 2016, the Baylor Chamber of Commerce had the pleasure of bringing back the tradition of opening Sing. As our first jump back into Sing after a few years away we wanted to get our feet wet without stretching ourselves too thin. We kept our act short and fun by performing the Sing Anthem. Practices in our workspace got a bit tight at times, but we had fun bumping into each other as we practiced our new moves. Chambermen would break into laughter as they saw their pledge brothers wearing their best Sing faces. The Chamber face does not typically include eye liner and blush, but during Sing season it's a necessary evil. Since we typically work behind the scenes, doing Sing was a bit out of our comfort zone at first; however, we showed ourselves that we can be successful as long as we band together and remember that we do anything for Baylor.
DiaDelOso
Drew Alleman, Aaron Burchfield & Elizabeth Sherman

To celebrate this year’s Diadeloso, we had an array of new and exciting things, as well as activities and traditions from the past. The biggest change Baylor saw at the annual event is the addition of “NocheDelOso” to the festivities. This brand new event took place on the night preceding Dia, consisted of a crawfish boil, a country music headliner, and a movie night showing the newest Star Wars at McLane Stadium. We’ve had a blast planning this new shindig and can’t wait to bring it back in years to come!

On the day of Dia, the events kicked off with a fun run in the morning, followed by a campus-wide Zumba class on our stage. Following this, there were camel rides, a petting zoo, archery tag, a student-run carnival, and much more. Food trucks local to Waco and the surrounding areas made an appearance for lunch and dinner. Those not wishing to spend money had the option to eat at the classic Noon Meal, topped off with a cookie from our world-record breaking cookie mural. That’s right – we broke a world record at Dia! We placed 44,600 cookies into a giant mural in the SUB Barfield Drawing Room, which together formed the BU logo. The evening capped off with EDM artist, Elephante, on Fountain Mall for our headline act. We purchased 100 beach balls and 10,000 glow sticks for the concert, and received an overwhelmingly positive response from the students!
2015 John Clifton Memorial Scholarship Recipients

As many of you know, the John Clifton scholarship was established to commemorate the ideals of Christian manhood expressed in the life of John Clifton, to encourage leadership on campus, in the classroom and in the Christian community, and to aid in the education of young men and women who will take their places as Christian leaders in business and professional fields. This year the Baylor Chamber of Commerce had the honor of selecting two recipients: Jody Lee & Staylen Roach.

**Jody Lee** is a Junior Business Fellows and Marketing Major from Eugene, Oregon. She is extremely grateful for this scholarship and one day hopes to work for a company like Nike, helping athletes build their name through partnerships, and creating a brand for them.

**Staylen Roach** is a Junior Accounting Major from Marshall, Texas. He plans to use this scholarship to further his education in Business and invest for his future. He hopes to become an Accountant for a Big 4 Accounting firm, and then pursue a job as the CFO of the Texas Rangers.

Looking to Next Semester...

Chamber is extremely excited for a packed Fall 2016 semester! We are happy to announce that Homecoming 2016 will take place from October 12th – October 15th, Family Weekend on September 16th and 17th, and the Baylor Line continuing at all home football games. We would love to see our Chamber alumni come out to all our events!

Feel free to contact us at...

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