

## R&D Council – Session #18

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

**Combined Quant NAV:** \$3,825,122.72 (+91.3% from \$2M seed) **Model A:** \$2,377,245.44 | **Model B:** \$1,447,877.28 **Alpaca Live Account:** \$100K transfer in transit — expected to settle today/tomorrow **Hormuz Blockade:** Day 3 — energy thesis intact, agricultural commodities emerging as second-order play **Ocala Portfolio:** 76-77 houses | ~\$22K/mo revenue at risk from vacancies

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### □ ATLAS – Macro Strategist

**“The blockade is no longer a shock trade — it’s becoming a regime. Position for duration, not spike.”**

We’re past the initial fear premium. Day 3 of Hormuz means insurance markets are repricing shipping lanes, ag importers in MENA are scrambling for alternatives, and the second-order effects are starting to cascade. The quant models are already seeing it — Model B loaded WEAT, CORN, DBA, and CF yesterday. This isn’t just an energy story anymore; it’s a **food security story**.

Key macro observations: - **Oil above \$100 is now baseline, not ceiling.** The next leg is \$115-120 if blockade extends to Day 7+. But the alpha has shifted from crude to refined products and ag. - **Model B’s energy rotation is smart:** sold COP/MPC/OXY upstream and reloaded SLB/VLO/USO — moving from “who pumps it” to “who processes and transports it.” Services and refining margins explode when supply is constrained but demand is inelastic. - **The ag commodity signal is the freshest edge.** Egypt imports 60% of its wheat through Suez-adjacent routes. Turkey, Pakistan, Bangladesh — all affected. WEAT and CORN positions are early but directionally correct. - **Defensive rotation accelerating:** Both models bought JNJ, GILD, MRK, DUK, NEE, KO yesterday. The models are hedging themselves — telling us they see downside risk in broad equities even as energy rips.

**ATLAS Recommendation:** When Alpaca funds land, the first deployment should mirror Model B’s ag/commodity basket (WEAT, CORN, DBA, CF) at 8-10% of capital. This is the trade nobody is talking about yet. Energy is consensus; food inflation is the sleeper.

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### □ CIPHER – Risk & Quantitative Analyst

**“Model A made \$4K on exits. Model B lost \$14.5K. That divergence demands attention before we deploy real capital.”**

Let me dissect the numbers that matter for Alpaca deployment:

## Performance Divergence Analysis

- **Model A realized +\$4,056** on 8 exits. The NBIS exit (+\$21,258) masked weaker trades — without it, Model A exits were actually -\$17,202.
- **Model B realized -\$14,501** on 7 exits. COP/MPC/OXY were all losers despite being energy names in an energy bull market. These were **late entries that got shaken out on intraday volatility**. The model bought high, conviction dropped, it sold low.
- **Critical insight:** The models are better at picking *what* to own than *when* to exit. Entry timing is strong (SU at 84.75 score topping both models), but exit discipline needs guardrails.

## Alpaca Deployment Framework — CIPHER's Risk Parameters

The \$100K is real money in a live account with 4x margin. Here's what I'd enforce:

1. **Day 1 deployment cap: \$40K invested, \$60K cash reserve.** Don't deploy full capital into a blockade that could resolve overnight with one diplomatic phone call.
2. **Position sizing: max 8% per name (\$8K).** Model A's current largest position (KLAC at \$75K) is 3.2% of NAV — reasonable for a \$2.4M book but equivalent to 75% of a \$100K book. Scale accordingly.
3. **No margin for first 2 weeks.** Paper-trade the margin discipline first. The \$8K daily loss circuit breaker Carlos approved is 8% of capital — one bad leveraged day could trigger it.
4. **Correlation cap: max 30% in any single sector.** Both models are 40%+ energy right now. That's fine at \$2M+ NAV with diversification. At \$100K, a 3-day energy reversal wipes you.

## Model A Short Book Concern

The SMR cover cost \$9,594 — that's a **nuclear short in a nuclear bull market during an energy crisis**. DUST and GROY (gold miner shorts) are also fighting the tape with gold near all-time highs. The short book needs a quality filter before replicating in Alpaca: - **Good shorts:** TEAM (59.71, SaaS deceleration), AREC (speculative micro-cap) - **Dangerous shorts:** DUST, GROY (inverse gold conviction in a geopolitical crisis), AXON (low score but strong defense spending tailwind)

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## □ SPARK — Innovation & Growth Catalyst

**“The ag-commodity signal + Alpaca live = your first real content proof point. Ship the story while the trade is fresh.”**

Forget the generic “Hormuz crisis” content angle — Sessions #16 and #17 already covered that. Here's what's *new* and publishable:

## **Content Angle #1: “My AI Bought Wheat Before the Shortage”**

Model B’s WEAT/CORN/DBA/CF purchases on April 14 are a **predictive signal** that most retail investors haven’t processed yet. The model saw agricultural commodity momentum *before* mainstream media connected Hormuz → food supply chains. This is the content Carlos should ship: - **Format:** 90-second TikTok/Reel showing the actual model output, the positions, and the thesis - **Hook:** “My AI trading system just loaded up on wheat and corn futures. Here’s why.” - **Publish window:** Today or tomorrow, before the food inflation narrative becomes consensus

## **Content Angle #2: “Day 1 of Live Autonomous AI Trading”**

When the \$100K settles, the first live trade is content gold. Document everything: - Screenshot of the Alpaca dashboard - First trade notification hitting Telegram - The emotional experience of watching an AI trade real money - **Series potential:** Daily 60-second updates → “Week 1 of letting AI trade \$100K”

## **The Ruslan/\$34M Dallas Angle**

This keeps slipping. It’s Day 8+ of being overdue. SPARK’s take: **text Ruslan today, not because the deal demands it, but because the relationship demands it.** The \$34M Copernico deal is the single largest liquidity event in Carlos’s pipeline. A 30-second text (“Hey brother, been thinking about the Dallas deal — where are we?”) costs nothing and keeps the line warm.

## **Innovation Pipeline Status**

- **Genviral + Postiz stack:** Connected but unused. The blockade content window is closing — every day without publishing is alpha left on the table.
- **Napkin AI visuals:** Perfect for infographics about the ag-commodity thesis. Generate a visual showing Hormuz → shipping disruption → MENA food imports → wheat/corn price cascade.

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## **□ FORGE — Execution & Ops**

**“7 vacancies, 3 departures, 4 new closings, and \$22K/month at risk. The vacancy recovery plan exists. Now execute it.”**

## **Ocala Execution Priorities (in order)**

**1. TIER 1 — Close the 4 contracts expected THIS WEEK** The vacancy recovery plan shows 4 units with contracts “expected today/tomorrow”: - 6969 SW 128th St - 8304 SW 42 Circle - 8294 SW 1st Terrace - 6663 SW 89th Ln

**Revenue at stake: ~\$8,800/month.** Carlos needs to text/call Celeste TODAY for status. These are the lowest-effort, highest-return actions available. One text message = potentially \$105K/year in secured revenue.

**2. TIER 2 — April 30 departures need marketing velocity** - 8924 SW 67th Ave (Pioneer Ranch, \$2,500): Listed April 13 but only has 1 photo. Upload 10+ photos TODAY. This is a 5-bed at \$2,500 — it should lease fast at that price point, but not with 1 photo. - 19436 SW 78th Pl (Dunnellon, \$2,200): Photo upload blocked. Unblock and list. - 4183 SW 82nd Ln (Marion Ranch, \$2,300): Active on MLS. Comp data shows 3/2s going for \$2,000-2,300. Pricing is at the top — if no apps by April 22, drop to \$2,150.

**3. Ocala Preserve Reality Check** The comp data is brutal: 30+ active rental listings in one community, with multiple price reductions. This is a **seasonal/equestrian market**, not year-round SFR demand. Any Preserve units should be marketed for summer occupancy with WEC events as the hook, not competing on price with the 30 other listings.

### Alpaca Ops Checklist

When the \$100K lands: - [ ] Verify balance in Alpaca dashboard via API - [ ] Run executor.py in dry-run mode with first signal batch - [ ] Execute first live trade batch (CIPHER's 40% deployment cap) - [ ] Confirm Telegram notifications firing for each trade - [ ] Confirm circuit breaker logic is armed (\$8K daily loss halt)

### Health Execution (Non-Negotiable)

- **Dr. Shawn Cole call: DAY 8.** LDL at 192.7 with active TRT is a cardiovascular risk that compounds daily. This is more important than any trade or vacancy. 5-minute phone call.
- **Apple Health Export: 23+ days stale.** Open the Health Auto Export app on iPhone, confirm Google Drive sync is running. 30-second task.
- **Sleep note:** 7.5h with 24% deep and 25% REM is solid architecture. But heavy snoring increase in late sleep suggests possible positional apnea. Worth mentioning to Dr. Cole when he calls.

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### ☐ CONSENSUS MATRIX

#	Recommendation	ATLAS	CIPHER	SPARK	FORGE	Consensus
1	Deploy Alpaca: 40% Day 1, ag-commodity tilt (WEAT/CORN/DBA/CF)	☐	☐ (with caps)	☐	☐	<b>UNANIMOUS</b>
2	Call Dr. Cole TODAY — LDL Day 8, non-negotiable	☐	☐	☐	☐	<b>UNANIMOUS</b>

#	Recommendation	ATLAS	CIPHER	SPARK	FORGE	Consensus
3	Text Celeste for 4 pending contracts (\$8,800/mo revenue)	☐	☐	☐	☐	<b>UNANIMOUS</b>
4	Publish ag-commodity content within 48h (TikTok/Reel)	—	—	☐	☐	<b>SPARK+FORGE</b>
5	No margin on Alpaca for first 2 weeks	—	☐	—	☐	<b>CIPHER+FORGE</b>
6	Text Ruslan re: Dallas \$34M Copernico deal	☐	—	☐	☐	<b>3 of 4</b>
7	Upload 10+ photos to 8924 SW 67th Ave listing	—	—	—	☐	<b>FORGE</b>

## ☐ TOP 3 RECOMMENDATIONS

### #1 — ALPACA FIRST DEPLOYMENT: 40% Capital, Ag-Commodity Tilt

**Owner:** CLAW (automated) + Carlos (oversight) **Deadline:** When \$100K settles (today/tomorrow) **Action:** Deploy \$40K across 8-10 positions mirroring top-scored names from both models. Overweight the ag-commodity basket (WEAT, CORN, DBA, CF at ~\$8-10K combined). Max 8% per position (\$8K). Hold \$60K cash reserve. No margin for 14 days. Circuit breaker armed at \$8K daily loss. **Why now:** Funds are landing into the strongest conviction environment both models have seen — SU at 84.75 topping both universes, ag commodities emerging as the second-order Hormuz play that consensus hasn't priced. **Next steps:** Verify settlement → dry-run executor.py → deploy first batch → confirm Telegram alerts

### #2 — HEALTH TRIFECTA: Dr. Cole + Apple Health + Snoring Note

**Owner:** Carlos **Deadline:** TODAY — no more delays **Action:** (a) Call Dr. Shawn Cole about LDL 192.7 on TRT — this is Day 8 overdue and a real cardiovascular risk. (b) Open Health Auto Export on iPhone and verify Google Drive sync (23+ days stale). (c) Mention late-sleep heavy snoring to Dr. Cole — possible positional apnea worth screening. **Why now:** Every day without addressing LDL on TRT increases arterial plaque risk. The trading systems run themselves. Carlos's health doesn't. **Next steps:** Call Cole → get statin/protocol adjustment → sync Health Export → update health baseline

### #3 — VACANCY REVENUE RECOVERY: 4 Contracts + Photo Blitz

**Owner:** Carlos → Celeste (property manager) **Deadline:** TODAY for contract status, this week for photos **Action:** (a) Text/call Celeste for status on 4 pending contracts (6969 SW 128th, 8304 SW 42 Cir, 8294 SW 1st Ter, 6663 SW 89th Ln) — these represent \$8,800/mo (\$105K/yr). (b) Upload 10+ photos to 8924 SW 67th Ave Pioneer Ranch listing (currently 1 photo for a \$2,500/mo 5-bed). (c) Unblock photo upload for 19436 SW 78th Pl Dunnellon. **Why now:** The vacancy recovery plan was built last night. The data is fresh, the actions are clear, and every day a unit sits empty costs ~\$73-83/day per house. **Next steps:** Text Celeste → confirm contract signatures → upload photos → monitor TurboTenant application flow

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#### ☐ QUICK WINS (< 15 min each)

1. **Text Ruslan about Dallas \$34M** — 30 seconds. “Hey brother, checking in on the Copernico deal. Where are things?” Day 8+ overdue. Relationship maintenance on Carlos’s largest pipeline deal.
  2. **Sync Apple Health Export** — Open app on iPhone, tap sync. 30 seconds. We’re flying blind on 23 days of health data.
  3. **Check Alpaca balance via API** — CLAW can do this automatically. One API call to confirm if \$100K has settled. If yes, trigger deployment sequence.
  4. **Generate Napkin AI infographic** — Hormuz → food supply chain disruption visual for the ag-commodity content piece. 5 minutes with the API.
  5. **Review Ocala Preserve pricing strategy** — 30+ competing listings means our units need differentiation, not price cuts. Add “WEC proximity” and “equestrian lifestyle” keywords to listings. 10 minutes.
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#### ☐ PIPELINE TRACKER

Project	Status	Last Touched	Next Action
Alpaca Live Trading	☐ Funds in transit	Apr 14	Verify settlement, deploy
Ocala Vacancy Recovery	☐ Plan built	Apr 14	Execute Tier 1 contracts
Dallas Copernico \$34M	☐ Stale 8+ days	Apr 7	Text Ruslan
Content Publishing	☐ Stack ready, nothing shipped	Apr 13	Ship ag-commodity piece
LDL/Health Protocol	☐ Day 8 overdue	Apr 7	Call Dr. Cole

Project	Status	Last Touched	Next Action
BTR Lot JV (52 lots)	☐ Pending activation	Apr 9	Follow up with partner
Apple Health Sync	☐ 23+ days stale	Mar 23	Sync from iPhone

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## ☐ CONTRARIAN CORNER

### What if the Hormuz blockade ends tomorrow?

The consensus trade is long energy, long commodities, long defense. If Iran blinks or a diplomatic back-channel produces a de-escalation, oil could drop \$15-20 in 48 hours. Model A's energy concentration (SU, LNG, EIX) and Model B's commodity basket would take a synchronized hit.

**Hedge thought:** The defensive names both models are accumulating (JNJ, GILD, MRK, DUK, NEE, KO) are the natural hedge. These positions *gain* on crisis resolution because rate-cut expectations return and growth rotation reverses into safety. The models are already hedging themselves — the question is whether Alpaca's \$100K book needs an explicit hedge or if the 60% cash reserve *is* the hedge.

**CIPHER's answer:** At \$100K, the cash reserve IS the hedge. Don't overcomplicate it. Deploy 40%, keep 60% dry, and if blockade resolves, you have \$60K to buy the dip in whatever gets oversold.

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*Session #18 complete. Next session: Thursday, April 16, 2026. R&D Council — Protecting and growing Carlos Blanco's \$76.4M empire.*

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## ☐ ORACLE (Grok-Powered Contrarian)

*Model: grok-4-1-fast-reasoning | Generated: 2026-04-15 12:32 ET*

### 1. Blind Spots in Consensus: Blockade Overhype & Model Fragility

Advisors pile into ag-commodities (WEAT/CORN) as “sleeper,” but X sentiment screams fatigue: #Hormuz chatter peaked Day 1, now dominated by de-escalation rumors (US-Iran backchannels via Oman, 15K+ mentions yesterday). Oil \$102, but after-hours futures -2.5% on diplomat leaks. Model B's \$14.5K loss on energy entries exposes timing flaws—late buys in COP/OXY got whipsawed. Deploying \$40K live ignores this: one resolution tweet dumps 10-15%.

## **2. Missed Risk: Ocala Oversupply Trap**

Unanimous vacancy push ignores macro: Ocala SFR rents flat YoY (Zillow data), 30+ Preserve comps + equestrian seasonality = 45-day avg lease-up. \$22K/mo risk is floor—push pricing, fill slow, eroding NOI further amid Carlos’s \$88M debt load. X PropTech threads flag FL inland exodus reversing on insurance hikes.

**Contrarian Opportunity:** Sell 10-15 weakest Ocala houses (vacant/low-yield). Unlock \$2-3M equity at \$23M appraisal, delever \$15M mortgages. Cash-on-cash 17.9% sounds hot, but illiquid drag > yield in rising rate world (10Y @4.6%).

## **3. Anti-Consensus Action: Park Alpaca \$100K in 3-Month T-Bills @5.3%**

Skip 40% deploy—X quant traders mocking “AI black box” blowups post-blockade plays. Hold cash/T-bills: yields beat models’ volatility (NAV +91% but drawdowns 20%+). Verify settlement, buy VUSB or SGOV today. Frees Carlos for Ruslan text + Dr. Cole (Day 8 LDL risk real, but TRT tweaks won’t fix empire leverage).

**X Edge:** “Hormuz hedge funds covering shorts—retail FOMO top signal.” Wait for unwind dip.

(278 words)