



# NORRIS FIJI

A Publication of the Delta Xi Chapter  
of Phi Gamma Delta

The University of California, Berkeley • Fall 2011

## FRANK NORRIS PIG DINNER – SAN FRANCISCO STYLE

It was unknown how this year's Pig Dinner would be received being held at John's Grill in San Francisco instead of the chapter house, but with roughly 60 graduates in attendance and the undergrads making the trip across the bay our private room was packed to the brim and this year's Pig was another great success! The doors opened at 6pm sharp but a few eager grads couldn't wait and shared a drink or two at the bar downstairs beforehand.

After an excellent cocktail hour, dinner was kicked off by the ceremonial "bringing in the pig". Though it took a good effort to make a path through the sea of Fijis huddled by the bar, the pig safely found its resting place and thereafter the man of the night, Bill Bittner '49, had the honor of being the most senior brother in attendance and made sure the pig was well appreciated. Ivan Chavez '15 had the distinct pleasure of being the most junior member and the rest of the crowd made sure he appreciated the pig as well. Shortly after everyone was seated Taylor Smith '04 once again gave his rendition of the Exile's Toast and glasses were raised to our Cal Bears and to those who were unable to attend.

The main portion of the program for the evening was recognizing and honoring this year's Delta Xi Hall of Fame inductee: Bill Bittner '49. Bill was introduced by his son Jed (Delta Xi '79) who shared a few anecdotes from his time in

the house involving his dad as well as how Fiji had helped influence Bill's life. Next, staying true to his conviction



*Jed Bittner '79 with his father and latest Hall of Fame inductee Bill Bittner '49, and Martin Smith '76*

of, "being a man of few words" Bill politely and succinctly thanked everyone for their support and attendance. Martin Smith '76 followed by sharing how much support Bill provided Delta Xi when the group in the late 70's was restarting the chapter. Support that he has continued to this day. Bill's program can be viewed online along with those of all previous Hall of Fame inductees.

The final piece of the evening's program consisted of recognizing our Delta Xi scholarship winners for both the Bell-Norris and

Tom Meyersieck awards. Congratulations to our winners, whose names are available on our website.

We posted several photos from the event on our website ([www.CalFiji.org](http://www.CalFiji.org)) but are always looking for more. If you were taking photos during the dinner please send copies to Taylor Smith ([taylor.smith@fmgtucson.com](mailto:taylor.smith@fmgtucson.com)) so he can post to the website.

Many thanks to those who joined us, it certainly was an evening to remember. Our goal is to get over 100 alumni in attendance on a consistent basis to the Pig. We hope that you will join us next year and also call a brother and get them to join you. This really is an event you don't want to miss.

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## 2011 Undergraduate Officers

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## Delta Xi

### Graduate Association

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*Mark Meredith - Cal '87*

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*Marty Appel - Kentucky '61*

*Steve Booth - Cal '64*

*Alan Donner - Cal '07*

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Directors Emeritus

*Ed Bartlett - Cal '52*

*Bill Ashton - Cal '56*

# UNDERGRAD REPORT

As my term comes to an end I find myself feeling a variety of emotions. This past year has been filled with many highs but also as any former president will likely attest to a few struggles for the chapter. However, I do not want the struggles to be the focus of my message as I am far more filled with excitement and pride for the chapter as there are many accomplishments that we can tout.

Our accomplishments cover many areas. Scholastics continues to be a major focus for us which is directly evident in our chapter GPA of 3.31 (which bests both the all-Greek and all-men's average). We also are leading force in the Greek community's push to "live greener". Our sustainability chair, Chris Ackman, started both a recycling and composting program at the house that has reduced the number of trash pick-ups needed from the city which not only reduces the amount of waste we produce, it saves the house \$3,500 per year in garbage collection costs. In addition, we hosted a free compact fluorescent light (CFL) exchange for anyone turning in their old incandescent bulbs. Finally, we also participated in the "Greening the Greeks" competition in which fraternities and sororities competed to lower their energy bills the most over a two month span for a \$2,000 prize to be used to help make the chapter house even more energy efficient. Results have yet to be announced, but we went to extreme lengths to win (the house was cold and dark for a while) and feel we have a great shot at taking home the prize.

Philanthropy has also been a large focus for the chapter. This past spring we participated in Kappa Kappa Gamma's Jog for Jill charity, raising \$1,305 for cancer research (more than any other fraternity). This semester we established what we hope will become a marquee event for the chapter in the "Big Game Rivalry Run". Partnering with Kappa Alpha Theta at Stanford, on the day before the Big Game activities ran a football from Memorial Stadium all the way down to Stanford Stadium in Palo Alto. It took an immense amount of planning and full chapter participation but it was a great success and we raised over \$2,000 for our local CASA chapter which provides advocates for abused and abandoned children.

There are many other great things taking place with the chapter and I am excited for what lies ahead for the newly elected officers. Moving forward we hope to organize more alumni events so that you can see firsthand the quality of character in all of the brothers carrying the torch for Cal Fiji. The members of Delta Xi are committed to upholding the values of our Fraternity and are working ardently to fulfill our true potential.

Fraternally,

Max Ronci '12



# GRADUATE REPORT

## CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF DELTA XI

The 125th Anniversary for Delta Xi – founded October 23rd 1886 – was celebrated this October 21st with great festivity at our Pig Dinner at John's Grill. Over those 125 years, Delta Xi has initiated over 1,400 brothers and held many pig dinners, and as with all pigs we had a lot of fun. If you didn't receive the email re-cap please visit our website at [www.calfiji.org](http://www.calfiji.org) to view the pictures and articles. Seeing your lifelong friends, even if only for a few hours, always warms the heart. For me, it was the 35th anniversary of my class. We had a great gathering and extended the fun through the rest of the weekend.

I think you could ask any Graduate Brother and they would confirm that staying in touch is hugely important, yet most feel they could do a better job at it. To that end, Taylor Smith ('04) has worked diligently to develop and improve a consistent and invaluable Graduate Relations program. This is the 14th newsletter since 2004. We have a current database that helps us find lost brothers and allows you to update your information so you don't become "lost". Our e-mail system gets notices and information out quickly and efficiently and our web page has recently improved dramatically. The website's homepage offers a brief outline of the site's content, but more importantly it offers links for you to register to receive e-mails from us and to update your profile. Additionally, there are links to nominate a brother to the Hall of Fame or offer up a rush nominee – all greatly appreciated! The "About Us" tab has our history, Hall of Fame members, and Past Presidents (if you go to the IHQ's website you can see Cal history). The "Graduates" tab has our Member Directory which lists all the contact information we have for every grad. The login to access the directory is PERGE and the password is perge. Separately we also have lists of Brothers we no longer have a way of communicating with. Please check out those lists, you may know someone on it and get him back in touch. The "Undergraduate" tab lists the current members, current officers, and Chapter achievements. The "Parents" tab allows Parents to register to receive

newsletters and to stay in touch. The "Media" tab routes you to our photo library of past classes and events. We will be adding a photo journal of the 2001 renovation as well as some of the past scrapbooks. The "Scholarship" tab lists all the past scholarship winners who have benefitted from your donations. The "Donation" tab provides the ability to donate online. Combining our newsletters, e-mail updates, invites, and website Taylor has done quite a successful job. A resounding round of clicks well deserved.

We will be sending out our Graduate Board calendar in the near future so any of you who wish to participate in an event are welcome. Please simply let us know.

A brief summary of our status: throughout 2011 we continued to execute the Grad Board Business Plan for the House. We also continue to preserve the house as close to original as we can. We are maintaining our capital reserve while holding zero debt. We completed \$10,000 in capital improvements YTD and \$25,000 in repairs. All corporate and tax filings are current, and we are reviewing and updating our by-laws thanks to Board member Steve Booth '64.

*Hi aile you Grads, you lucky Grads - I know der blace,* Once again, thank you to all the Board members who have helped with project management, council, event organization, and maintaining the spirit of our 125 year old Chapter and 83 year old House. If you see any of them please take a moment to thank them for their efforts.

Faternally,  
Martin Smith '76  
President, Delta Xi Graduate Board



# FIJIS TRAVEL TO KENTUCKY DERBY

With a hankering for mint juleps, southern hospitality, and some Fiji history, Dan Elbert '08, Nicholas Bea '08 and Alan Donner '07 headed to Louisville in May for an epic week-long trip to the Kentucky Derby—and of course made a detour through Lexington for a visit to Phi Gamma Delta International Headquarters. As we pulled up to 1201 Red Mile Road to see IHQ for ourselves, we were greeted with a heavy dose of wonderful southern hospitality. “Y’all came all the way from California?” exclaimed Kitty Brown, IHQ’s receptionist, before she hurried off to bring us bags of Fiji swag to take back to the west coast.

We toured the building, met the rest of IHQ staff, and dusted off several boxes of Delta Xi archives, which included pictures and letters dating back to the 1800s, along with other random artifacts, like Frank Norris’ banjo. I didn’t know Frank was a crooner, but I love the idea of him serenading Pi Phi’s while plucking folk tunes. Nick even located his grandfather Al Ruby’s signature from when he was initiated more than 60 years ago! Director of Chapter Services JB Goll and



*Alan Donner '07, Dan Elbert '08, Nick Bea '08  
enjoying mint juleps in the infield at the Derby*

outgoing Director of Expansion Jesse Hitt graciously treated us to some delicious Kentucky barbecue and gave us some insider tips for the rest of the trip.

After IHQ, we spent several days touring the Bourbon Trail between Louisville and Lexington and exploring the bluegrass region. We hit five distilleries, highlighted by Maker’s

Mark, where we got to dip our bottles in their classic red wax seal after touring the postcard-perfect grounds.

Next we hopped in the car bound for Nashville for a couple of days to soak in the nightlife, Country Music Hall of Fame, and the Grand Ole Opry. Finally, we drove back to Louisville for the Derby itself. We dressed the part, replete with seersucker and pastel everything, but instead of the grandstands, we opted for the younger atmosphere of the infield where we drank our share of mint juleps with 100,000 other Derby-goers. We even managed to catch a glimpse of one or two horses. All in all, a great Fiji week. Pergé!

- Alan Donner '07

## GRADUATE BROTHER NEWS

**Fred Nicholas '64** has been happily married for Married 47 years to his wife Shirley. He is now retired, living in San Francisco and is the proud father of 3 kids, and grandfather to 8 grandchildren.

**Rod Porter '93** was recently promoted to Department Chair of Exercise Science, Health, Nutrition and Athletics at Miramar College. He currently lives in San Diego with his wife Emily.

**Jordan Pease '08** continues to expand WebGreek, a venture founded with his pledge brother Pat Allen '08. The two live and work in San Francisco. Erik Bro '08 (another pledge brother) has also been an integral part of WebGreek’s development.

**Garett Gorlitsky '10** is in his second year at Columbia Law School and spent last summer working for a federal judge on the Southern District of New York. Other than that as he puts it, “everything’s pretty much the same”.

# ANNUAL FUND 2011

There is still time to donate to our 2011 Annual Fund. Unfortunately the number of donors this year is down considerably from 2010 so we ask that you please consider supporting Delta Xi. Our ongoing goal is to help the undergraduate chapter achieve and maintain a level of excellence. To do this, we have set a goal of raising at least \$15,000 annually to meet the expenses associated with our newsletters, website, and events. We also need to plan for necessary capital improvements, while increasing funds to support educational and scholarship programs.

Delta Xi is proud to offer two scholarships specific to Cal Fijis (see 2010 winners within this publication). Our members are not only achieving great academic success, but also making a great impact in the local community and we want help support and reward their efforts. Our two scholarships are:

**Bell-Norris Scholarship Award** – Given to those members who excel in scholastic achievement, fraternity service, and community involvement.

**Tom Meyersieck Award** – Given to the member who most contributes to the success of the chapter while working behind the scenes (voted on by the undergraduate chapter).

Whether it be our Housing Fund or one of our Scholarships Funds, your support will make a significant difference for Delta Xi. We thank you for your loyal and continued support.

2011 Annual Fund Committee:

William E. Bittner '49 • Ed Bartlett '52 • Bill Ashton '54 • Dick Kelso '59 • Dan M. Guggenheim '60  
Stephen H. Booth '64 • Craig T. Clifford '66 • Paul E. Macy '67 • Jim Fetherston '68 • Mark Carter '76  
Martin C. Smith '76 • Manny Gonzalez '77 • Jed Bittner '79 • Don James '85 • Mark Meredith '87  
Thomas H. Power '89 • Steven B. Peterson '90 • Buddy Rowell '90 • Taylor C. Smith '04 • Alan J. Donner '07

## 2011 DONORS – THANK YOU!

Donald V. Peters '44	Norm Pressley '50	Craig T. Clifford '66	Michael B. Chinn '80
Loy A. Dickinson '48	Ralph R. Bennett '52	Michael A. Gridley '66	James R. Kroger '84
William R. Prindle '48	Robert W. Rowell '52	Peter Alan Crosby '67	Kevin B. Zaletsky '92
Lester L. Stoakes '48	John G. Haase '54	Paul E. Macy '67	L. Robert Martin III '94
William E. Bittner '49	T. Thomas Mott '54	James S. Fetherston '68	Taylor Conway Smith '04
Richard D. Brooding '49	Richard W. Kelso '59	Dennis M. Drew '75	Nicholas Bea '08
John Gilcrest '49	William H. Purcell '61	Martin C. Smith '76	Stephen Saribalis '10
	Stephen H. Booth '64	Timothy S. Lien '79	

Please use the enclosed envelope to send in your 2011 annual fund donation or visit [www.CalFiji.org](http://www.CalFiji.org) to donate.

If you sent in a donation but your name does not appear above, please let us know at [CalFiji@CalFiji.org](mailto:CalFiji@CalFiji.org)

## HOUSE CORP PLANS BY-LAW REVISION

The Phi Gamma Delta House Corporation Board is planning to amend the corporate By-laws and Articles of Incorporation by the end of the year in order to better reflect how the Board has been functioning in recent years. The By-laws and Articles have not been broadly amended in over 100 years. Projected amendments include reducing

the number of Board members to seven and eliminating archaic references to shares of stock in the corporation which no longer exist. The House Corporation functions as the owner of the Chapter House and landlord for the Chapter/lessee. Graduates who may have comments on the By-law amendment process are invited to contact Martin Smith.

# SENIOR BIOS

**Jared Brett** graduated in May 2011 with a degree in Psychology. During his time at Berkeley, Jared captained the Cal Men's Lacrosse team both his junior and senior years, and worked as a research assistant studying insomnia and then human emotion. He acted on the executive board of the Psi Chi National Honor Society, the Order of Omega, and of Phi Gamma Delta. Jared was an active member who proudly strove to instill a driving bond between his brothers to build a strong foundation for successful collective action. He did this through service as Pledge Educator with two pledge classes, Rush Chair, and as Historian. In 2010 Jared won the Bell Norris Award for his service and dedication to the house. He describes his experience as unique and stimulating on many levels, and believes Phi Gamma Delta truly shaped the man he has become.



Jared's future plans include a position with the Teach For America 2011 Corps in Nashville, Tennessee, teaching high school mathematics. He has also obtained a research position in the psychology department at Vanderbilt University where he will be researching emotional expression, vocalizations, and emotional intelligence, with the aim of one day obtaining a PhD in psychology.



**Spencer Crowley** graduated in May 2011 with a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies and a focus on "Contemporary International Conflict". A member of the chapter since his sophomore year (2009), he also was a member of the men's crew team; rowing all 4 years at the varsity level and earning 2 national championships (Freshman 8+ and Varsity 8+). He looks back on joining Fiji as one of the

best decisions he made during his time in college and the friendships he gained through it. Next year Spencer will return to California to write a thesis paper on the topic of private security contracting and ethics before most likely returning home to Canada.

**Jasper Drisko** graduated in May 2011 with a degree in Physics and a 3.92 GPA. As a consistently active member of the fraternity for four years, he held the positions of Recording Secretary, Recruitment Chairman, House Manager, and Fundraising Chairman. His fraternal service and academic achievements also earned him a great deal of recognition, including the ATO Foundation Leadership Award, the 2008, 2009, and 2010 Bell-Norris Award, and membership in the Order of Omega and Phi Beta Kappa honor societies. Jasper was heavily involved in a physics and materials science research group at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, where he investigated electric and magnetic properties of high-temperature superconducting materials. Due to his accomplishments in the lab, he was named a Berkeley Physics Undergraduate Research Scholar and was awarded a grant to travel to the 2011 American Physical Society's March Meeting to present his work to other physicists. He was also a member of the Cal Men's Club



Soccer team for three years and won the 2008 Collegiate Club Soccer National Championship while being named to the All-Tournament Team and receiving the tournament's Most Outstanding Goalkeeper Award. Jasper began his work in the Physics Ph.D. program at the University of Maryland this fall.

**Trevor Fulp** graduated with a B.A. in Political Economy. During his years in the house, Trevor has been Rush Chair twice, Brotherhood Chair, and Pledge Educator. Trevor was also on the Cal Club Tennis team for two years, as well as participating in Intramural Basketball. Trevor remembers his years at Cal as a completely unique and eye-opening experience, forging life-long friendships with his brother in Fiji. Trevor spent his 2008 summer in Alaska working with a reclamation crew in a coal mine, and 2010 Spring semester abroad in Argentina studying Latin American Political Economies. Trevor fell in love with Argentina, and returned there this summer in an intern position consulting for an International Winery in Buenos Aires. His future plans include applying and attending a graduate school studying International Affairs and Business on the West Coast, aspiring to one day create his own international business.



**Matthew Kury** graduated in May of 2011 with a degree in Biological Engineering and a minor in Mechanical Engineering. As a member of the chapter he spent some of his time as house manager. Matthew spent the last two years at Cal performing research for an orthopedic device research lab. After graduation, Matthew will begin work as a scientist in a research group on the UC Berkeley campus. his long term goal is to get a PhD in mechanical engineering.

**Eric Tompkins** graduated in May 2011 with a degree in Political Economy and a minor in Spanish Language and Literature. He's been active in the house serving as Pledge Class Treasurer, Rush Chair, and Scholarship Chair. Throughout his three years in the house Eric has been awarded the AAA Scholarship and the Bell-Norris Scholarship. In addition, he was a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, the Order of Omega, and the Gamma Sigma Alpha Honors Society. After graduating Eric moved to San Francisco to begin work at Fisher Investments. He looks forward to seeing his fraternity brothers at future Cal football games and Fiji events.

**Karl Andersson** graduated in August 2011 with a degree in Business, after having transferred to Cal from Santa Monica College in 2009. Originally from Sweden, he has held the position of Pledge Educator during his time in the house, as well as co-founding a music production collective - specializing in Fraternity and Sorority events - with two fellow Fijis. After graduating, Karl will move to San Francisco where he will pursue his passion for music for a year before ultimately going back home to his native Sweden.





**Mark Cinque** will be graduating in December 2011 with a degree in Integrative Biology. Mark is proud to have served his brothers and helped shape the direction of the chapter as Corresponding Secretary. Mark received the Bell-Norris for three semesters and received the Tom Meyersieck award for behind the scenes service to the chapter.

In addition to pursuing an undergraduate degree Mark was extremely active in biomedical research. His research initially focused on respiratory biology and helped to develop and

execute a study published in the American Journal of Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology. He continued his research in a clinical setting and has a pending publication regarding orthopedic surgery outcomes focusing on total joint arthroplasties.

Mark was also a co-founder and current president and editor-in-chief of the Journal of Ethics at Berkeley, originally founded by another Delta Xi brother, Garret Gorilitsky (2010). Mark and his staff have recruited several leaders in fields including but not limited to biomedicine, law, policy, philosophy, business and environmental economics to submit articles for the Journal. The pilot publication was published in May 2011.

## 2010 TOM MEYERSIECK AWARD

The Tom Meyersieck Award is given once a year to the Delta Xi Fijis who most contributes to the success of the chapter while working behind the scenes. The award is voted on by the actives and is a true honor to receive.

The winner for 2010 is Mark Cinque '11 (seen in his senior bio above). Mark is a former corresponding secretary and social chairman. Mark's energy and passion for the fraternity was a real inspiration for many other brothers and he helped put on a number of quite memorable events while working as an officer.

## 2010 BELL-NORRIS SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Congratulations to all of our Bell-Norris winners for 2010. The Bell-Norris Award is given to Cal Fijis who excel in scholastics, fraternity service, and community involvement. Many thanks to the graduate brothers who helped fund this award.

**Jasper Drisko '11** – Former Recording Secretary, Recruitment Chair; Club Soccer Team; Physics - GPA 3.897

**Eric Tompkins '11** – Prior Recruitment Chair; Political Economy – GPA 3.48

**Dorian Farhang '12** - Former Corresponding Secretary; Lacrosse Team; Political Economy – GPA 2.87

**Garrett Gomes '12** – Former Recording Secretary; Business Administration - GPA 3.97

**Conner Thomas '12** – Former President & Corresponding Secretary; Lacrosse Team; Applied Mathematics - 2.72 GPA

## FIJIS JOG FOR JILL – HELP FIGHT CANCER

On Sunday, February 6, the brothers of the Delta Xi chapter participated in the 2nd annual Jog For Jill run, a 5k run/walk philanthropy event to benefit lung cancer research. It was organized by the sorority of KKT and was sponsored by the Bonnie J. Addario Lung Cancer Foundation. 23 Brothers participated in the event, and the team included actives, pledges, and alumni. As a team Delta Xi raised \$1,305, the most of any fraternity and 5th most of all the groups participating in less than a week. This event was started in memory of Jill Costello,



a sister of KKT and a close personal friend of many of the brothers of our chapter, who was also involved in the Cal Women's Crew team and was very active in the Greek community. Jill Costello passed from lung cancer as a non-smoker after the 1st annual event, making this year's run through UC Berkeley's campus a powerful bonding experience for the Greek and athletic communities alike. The brothers look forward to participating in this event in the future, and have set higher fundraising goals for next year to be the top donating team



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Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity**  
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## NICK VELIOTES '52 INDUCTED INTO UC BERKELEY PHILIA SOCIETY

Last fall Ambassador Nicholas Veliotes was inducted into the UC Berkeley Philia Society. The Philia Society was established to honor those Cal Greeks who deserve the highest recognition for a lifetime of living the pillars of Cal fraternity and sorority life: leadership, scholarship, friendship, and service.

In addition to being a fine member of Delta Xi, Nick also was a member of the football and rugby teams and received the Glenn T. Seaborg Award from Cal Athletics. He was also a member of the Order of the Golden Bear and Skull and Keys.

After graduate school Nick joined the U.S. Foreign

Service and served in several positions throughout the Middle East, as Assistant Secretary of State for the Near East and South Asia, culminating in serving as ambassador to Egypt and Jordan. He retired in 1986. During his service he was awarded the State Department's Distinguished Honor Award and the Presidential Superior Service Award, as well as other international awards for his contributions toward peace in the Middle East.

We congratulate Nick for this most recent honor and of course for all of his great achievements throughout his illustrious career.



## MOMS' DAY

Delta Xi held its annual Moms' Day on Sunday, March 13th. The day started off with a delicious catered lunch featuring a selection of finger foods, sandwiches, and deserts. The brothers then carpooled with their mothers to the California Academy of Sciences situated in scenic Golden Gate Park. The venue boasted many incredible displays that the moms and sons enjoyed at their own pace and leisure. Most astounding was the breathtaking four story rainforest featuring exotic plants, insects, and other wildlife. A massive planetarium showcased an elaborate feature film of our universe,

starting from its infinite vastness down to the atomic particles that make up everything we know. The Academy also featured a natural history museum, large overhead aquariums of indigenous fish from Northern California, a display of an incredibly famous rare albino alligator, and much more. The photo attached is a snapshot of the Academy's "Living Roof" that helps to sustain it without wasting electricity and other resources. The sons and moms alike had an incredible time at the California Academy of Sciences, it was an entertaining educational experience for all.