

NORRIS FIJI

A Publication of the Delta Xi Chapter
of Phi Gamma Delta

The University of California, Berkeley • Fall 2008

SAVE THE FIJI PORCH – THE CAMPAIGN CONTINUES



Many Cal Fijis from the '50s and '60s have answered the call for help in financing a complete renovation of the landmark architectural and cultural feature of our chapter house. Over \$12,000 has been deposited to date in the Special Porch Fund Bank Account. The porch has not been attended to since the house was built, and regular rents and House Corporation reserves are not sufficient to cover the job. The goal of the campaign is to raise \$50,000 and to have the work done next summer.

Contributors have expressed fond memories of almost mystical time spent on the porch pondering the eternal verities while gazing on Fiji Circle on Piedmont Ave. Dick Dale '62 asked that his

check be used to preserve the indentation on the porch rail that he created by sitting in the same spot for many hours over the years he was resident at the house. Contributors to date include:

Donald V. Peters '42
 Thomas E. Bowman '47
 Manford Funsten '48
 William R. Prindle '48
 William E. Bittner '49
 John B. Bowker '49
 Richard D. Brooding '49
 George Alan Purchase '49
 Dudley S. Fagan '50
 Paul R. Fisher '50
 Herbert A. Magnuson '50
 John D. Vohs '50
 Lawson Adams '51
 Donald J. Ludwig '51

Walter P. Strycker '51
 Edmund G. Bartlett '52
 Ralph R. Bennett '52
 Jess S. Jackson '52
 Richard Northon '52
 Thomas Rieger '53
 William G. Demas '54
 John G. Haase '54
 Daniel M. Guggenheim '60
 Timothy M. Muller '60
 Fred W. Gilbert '61
 William H. Purcell '61
 Thomas J. Colton '62
 Richard D. Dale '62

Thomas C. Nagle '62
 Nicholas J. Bizony '63
 Robert D. Cresap '63
 G. M. Leiser '63
 Stephen C. Lyon '63
 Stephen H. Booth '64
 Tony J. Ivelich '64
 David B. Urrea '65
 Craig T. Clifford '66
 Rex A. Dzura '66
 Peter Alan Crosby '67
 Don R. Guest, DDS '67
 Paul E. Macy '67

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UNDERGRAD REPORT

Greetings Graduate Brothers,

This past spring was another strong semester for Delta Xi as we recruited an excellent pledge class, reinstated the Fiji Islander Party after a 15-year absence, and continued our overall supremacy of the Greek scene on the UC Berkeley campus through participation in philanthropy and intramural sports.

Perhaps our proudest achievement though is the initiation of eight new brothers in the Xi Pledge Class—all of whom are intimately involved in other parts of the Cal community. The new crop of men includes two offensive linemen on the Cal Football team, a member of the Cal Lacrosse team, the editor-in-chief of the California Patriot, and participants of several club sports teams and academic societies. Their dedication this past semester to Delta Xi has been instrumental in furthering our standing as the premier fraternity on campus.

Since our rechartering in 2003, we have promised to reintroduce the Fiji Islander Party to Berkeley. This spring, we finally made good on that vow and undertook the months of preparation required to pull off such an extravaganza. The last weekend of April saw our beautiful chapter house transformed into a tropical paradise. The front deck was covered with grass and outlined with bamboo fencing, while two waterfalls cascaded from the roof. The inside of the house continued this islander theme with cargo nets and Fijian masks adorning the walls. However, the decorations would not have been complete without the sand covered backyard and 20' tiki hut. The party lasted the course of two days and most—if not all—of the campus regards it as the best of the year.

Our social exploits were not limited to just the Islander though. Thanks in large part to Social Chairmen Jeff Howard ('10) and Jon Parkinson ('10), we have enjoyed a full social calendar, as sororities literally threw money our way to share our company for a night of entertainment.

However, the social aspect of our lives does not define what makes us truly proud to be Fijis. Philanthropy is a central part of Delta Xi's activity on the Berkeley campus, exemplifying the chapter's ability and desire to do more than just dominate the social sphere at Cal. As such, it is not surprising to see that through the hard work of over ten brothers, we won Pi Beta Phi's Arrowbands Lip Sync for Charity Competition for the second year in a row. Our Philanthropy Chair Rob Nelson ('10) took the money we won from this and added it to the money brothers had raised for the annual Relay for Life, a 24-hour walk-a-thon meant to raise money for cancer research. He also coordinated Delta Xi in its semesterly blood drive where over 80 units of blood were collected.

(Continued on page 6)



GRADUATE REPORT

Looking forward to the Fall

It is a time with lots of activity around the campus and Fiji House. Cal should have a very exciting football team, assuming they are able to develop some wide receivers quickly. They have a lot of great returning players and many are anxious to step up and make a name for themselves.

Classes have had lots of fun planning reunions around tailgates at the house. We are happy to help out and can make food and beverage easy. It is the five year reunion of the class of 2003 who re-chartered the chapter. There were 22 guys initiated in 1991 and 1992 – where are these guys? It is 20 years for the class of '88 and silver owls for the class of '83. Last year the classes of '67, '77, and '87 all had tailgate reunions.

The Fiji House is becoming a fun place for graduate parties. Over the past couple of years, we have had families use the dining room table for their Thanksgiving Feast, the YPO group used the house for their annual banquet catered by Wentz Vineyards, and a few graduates from '87 used it for a school fundraiser to host a “Toga” Party. So it appears we are truly making “Not For College Days Alone” a reality.

Over the past several years I've written about “Making it Last, Sustaining the Effort, Completing the Goal, and Friendship the Sweetest Influence.” I am very pleased to say that you all have listened and responded. I believe we have a management structure in place to secure the future of the fraternity; we are financially sound, we are maintaining the property, continuing to make annual improvements, maintaining the continuity of the chapter, and the graduates are staying involved. All good things.

We are completing the kitchen improvements required to comply with new code requirements (stove hood, fire suppression, etc.). We have already done \$18,000 of repairs this year: repainting the kitchen and bathrooms, cabinet repairs, plumbing repairs, front door restoration, painting exterior woodwork, and the removal of the old water storage tank. We are working with the city on approving the plans for the library balcony reconstruction. Currently, we are having problems engaging a willing contractor to do the work. Any Fiji volunteers?

The undergraduates are doing their part by maintaining the live-in level at 30 members, a total membership over 50, a Top 10 GPA, and obviously an active social schedule.

The House Corporation meets four times per year. Twice at the house for dinner to interact with the active members and twice at Trader Vic's for lunch. Once in the summer and once for the holidays. Please contact us if you are interested in taking part or have any comments or suggestions.

Look forward to seeing you this year.

Martin Smith '76
President – Phi Gamma Delta Graduate Board



FIJI ISLANDER IS BACK!

After years of hearing tales about the epic Islander Parties of the past, we finally heeded the sage advice of our alumni and had one of our own. Under the direction of our Islander Chairman, Will Harris ('10), brothers spent months in preparation for the event laying sod, dumping sand, covering the house in bamboo, constructing a gigantic Tiki Hut, and building two waterfalls on either side of the house. As the pictures can demonstrate, our house was severely altered to provide our guests with the illusion of escaping the Berkeley urban jungle for a Fijian tropical paradise.



Except for a minor hiccup where we were forced to take down the 20' tiki hut (apparently a permit is required to have something of that height on your property!), everything was set for a blow-out.

Friday night started with a bang as some alumni brothers came to participate in a formal date party. Alumni and current students mingled and then broke loose on the dance floor in the living-room-turned-jungle. After a restful night of sleep, brothers woke up to a beautiful day of temperatures in the 70s, women in bikinis, and live music. Hours passed with people milling around the house, playing volleyball in the backyard, or just leisurely soaking up the rays. With the night looming, the house was cleared and prepared for the party that night. Music was provided by a locally famous rapper upstairs, and a DJ in the basement. Despite being shut down early by Berkeley police due to a "noise complaint", the weekend was a great success! Many thanks to all the alumni that helped out with decorations and other forms of support!

We would love to entertain decoration/party ideas that past alumni may have. It can only get better from here, so we hope to see you at next spring's Alumni Islander Date Party!

- James Zackler '10



ANNUAL FUND 2008

Delta Xi continues to excel in academics, campus involvement, and service. Your support is a large part of this success. Many thanks to the large number of brothers who have already contributed either to the Porch Fund or Annual Fund (or in several cases both!).

Our goal is to help the undergraduate chapter achieve and maintain a level of excellence. To do this, we need to raise at least \$15,000 annually to meet the expenses associated with newsletters, our 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. In 2007, we were able to award over \$10,000 in scholarships to our members. We want to make sure that number is even higher this year. Our two scholarships are:

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

Tom Meyersieck Award – Given to the member who most contributes to the success of the chapter while working behind the scenes.

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.

2008 Annual Fund Committee:

William E. Bittner '49, Ed Bartlett '52, Bill Ashton '54, Dick Kelso '59, Daniel M. Guggenheim '60, Dick Hughes '60, Craig T. Clifford '66, Peter A. Crosby '67, Jim Fetherston '68, Mark Carter '76, Martin C. Smith '76, Manny Gonzalez '77, Jed Bittner '79, Tim Lien '79, Don James '85, Mark Meredith '87, Tom Power '89, Steve Peterson '90, Buddy Rowell '90, Taylor C. Smith '04

2008 DONORS – THANK YOU!

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Donald V. Peters '44
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Floyd Wilkins '46
Thomas E. Bowman '47
Manford Funsten '48
William E. Bittner '49
John B. Bowker '49
Richard D. Brooding '49
George Alan Purchase '49
Dudley S. Fagan '50
Paul R. Fisher '50
Herbert A. Magnuson '50
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Richard C. Ronald '85
Steven B. Peterson '90
David R. Woodward '92
Kevin B. Zaletsky '92
L. Robert Martin III '94
Taylor Conway Smith '04

Undergrad Report Cont

Another event we proudly hold is our annual Mom's Day. Cool event is always a great break from the normal event cycle. This time the house consisted of lobster ravioli, pear vinaigrette salad, and the sons enjoyed mingling throughout the morning before heading

With the end of the semester looming, Howard organized one last Send-off. The night started with a brotherhood event at 5:00. The dates arrived at 6:00 to enjoy cocktails before piling onto a bus at Jack London Square for dinner and dancing. It was an amazing night where everyone was present but can only represent a fraction of the fun and camaraderie. All 11 graduating brothers have given to Delta Xi. They will be missed but graduate brothers young and old are always welcome and encouraged by the house at anytime. In this spirit, we hope for a great turn of events. Dinner on Friday, October 24th before the UCLA football game. We will well with you and yours. Go Bears!

Fraternally,
James Zackler '10
President – Delta Xi

Perge!

Fiji Porch Continued...

The campaign now turns its focus on alums from the '70s, '80s, and beyond, while continuing to seek help from those from earlier years who have not yet been contacted. Mark Meredith '87 has been designated to be a focal point for the group from his era. The Campaign continues to seek a "major donor" at a level that would accompany the same passion and dedication in the donor's name. Contact us if you're interested.

Special thanks are in order to Ed Bartlett '52 who has been so supportive from Fiji's of his era.

Checks should be made out to "Cal Fiji Porch Project" and mailed to:

Steve Booth
9 Brookside Ave.
Berkeley, Ca 94705

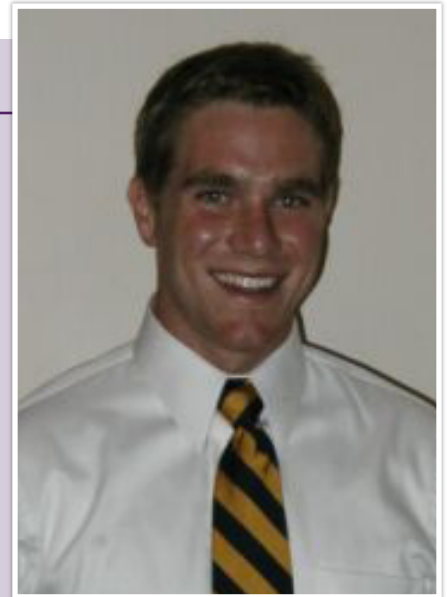
Contact Steve at sboothcal@att.net if you have any questions.



SENIOR BIOGRAPHIES

Jesse Dashe

Jesse Dashe just received his Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Chemical Biology in the College of Chemistry. An extremely active brother, Jesse held many positions including Corresponding Secretary, Health Worker, Summer House Manager, Philanthropy Chairman, and Scholarship Chairman. While at Cal, Jesse was a varsity athletic trainer for Woman's Lacrosse and Men's Football. He also spent much of his time in the laboratory doing cancer research and has been involved in three publications. He was recently awarded the Goldwater Scholarship for his accomplishments in research. Jesse's plans for the summer are to travel to Europe, China, and to see the rest of California. In the fall he will be attending University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine to get his MD. He eventually wants to teach and do medical research at a university.



Jordan Pease

Jordan Pease was a prominent leader in Fiji and on campus throughout his tenure at Cal. He was the chair for numerous recruitments, on Pledge Committee for a year, and was the Pledge Educator the following year. He taught a student-run class at Cal called "After Hours", which discussed sexual abuse, drug abuse, gender roles, healthy relationships, and eating disorders. He helped run the UCPD Community Safety Program. Jordan earned a degree in urban studies with a focus in city planning. He is currently the co-founder of the family social networking website, WebFam, that is planning to launch in September '08. After completing the development of WebFam, he plans to attend Columbia University to pursue a dual masters in business and urban studies.

CAL GOLDEN BEAR HOME GAMES

Come out and tailgate with us at the following home games:

Sept. 27 - Colorado St.



Oct. 4 - Arizona St.



Oct. 25 - UCLA



Nov. 1 - Oregon



Nov. 22 - Stanford



Dec. 6 - Washington

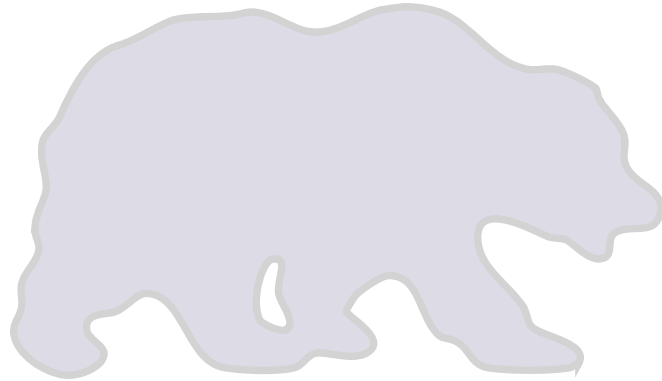


If you would like to host and sponsor a tailgate at the chapter house, please contact Taylor Smith '04 at: Taylor.Smith@fmgtucson.com

Let Your Brothers Know What You've Been Up To!

“Graduate Updates” is a section we like to include in each edition of the *Norris Fiji*, but we haven't had enough submissions from Graduate Brothers recently to include in the newsletter. We know that what you enjoy reading most is what your fellow graduate brothers are up to and sending in an update is a great way to keep your brothers up-to-date, as well as a great way to maintain communication. Whether it's a quick update on family, career, or hobbies, or an interesting story you have to tell, your submission for future newsletters is greatly appreciated. The easiest way to submit an update is through the chapter website (www.CalFiji2.org), but you can also mail your update to:

Delta-Xi Graduate Updates
c/o Fraternity Management Group
2660 North 1st Ave.
Tucson, AZ 85719



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