



# Norris FIJI

A Publication of the Delta Xi Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta

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## FRANK NORRIS PIG DINNER A SUCCESS

Last April 24th undergraduate and graduate brothers of the Delta Xi chapter gathered together to partake in what is perhaps the most widespread and popular of all Phi Gamma Delta traditions: the Pig Dinner.

Despite slightly disappointing graduate attendance, the dinner was a great success and everyone in attendance was reminded of just how special it can be to take time out of a busy schedule in order to revel in the joys of friendship and brotherhood.

The chapterhouse itself was the venue of choice for last year's dinner, truly showcasing the beauty and elegance of the facility that has been the home to Berkeley Fijis for nearly a century.

Brothers began to gather together at 5 o'clock, where old friends were reunited and undergraduates were given a chance to meet their predecessors.

Many stories were told over cocktails and all the brothers were particularly captivated by the tales of John C. Dittmer II D.D.S, (Class of 1960) who had the privilege of flying Fiji flag over the South Pole while he was stationed in Antarctica.

Conversation was so intense that it took almost twenty minutes to finally get all the brothers seated for dinner.

With the stunning Norris Window

as a backdrop, the brothers sat down for an incredible dinner catered by the house's talented cook, Brandon Young.

The spring Pledge Class (Zeta Class) brought in the pig with gusto and freshmen Sam Desa (Class of 2007), as the youngest pledge brother, had the honor of chomping the apple from its sacred resting place. After a hilarious rendition of the Exiles Toast by Taylor Smith (Class of 2004), everyone sat down to enjoy delicious coconut shrimp, pot stickers, teriyaki chicken, steamed vegetables, and steamed rice. This was perhaps the only time the house was quiet as every brother focused on the feast set before them.

Shortly after dinner, brother Martin Smith (Class of 1976), made the announcement that a new scholarship in memory of the sorely missed Tom Meyerseck (Class of 1976) was to be given to the brother who was the behind-the-scenes backbone of the house.

Everyone was thrilled to learn that Jacques Wilson (Class of 2004), senior and member of the Cal Rugby team, was to be the first-ever recipient of this generous \$1,500 scholarship.

The sweetness of this moment was made even sweeter by an amazing strawberry cake that was served

immediately following the presentation.

After dessert, the casual conversation was done away with and several brothers settled down for the really serious event of the evening: the undergraduate/graduate poker tournament.

Texas Hold 'Em was the game of choice and after nearly two hours of intense action, three victors emerged to divide up the winnings. Dave Funkhouser (Class of '76) won first prize, closely followed by Marty "This is my first time playing Hold 'Em" Appel (Class of '63) and the sole undergraduate winner, James Owens (Class of 2005).

Everyone parted with a smile on their face and a stomach full of great food.

The rooms echoed with stories of the "old days" of Fiji and the laughter of new and old friends.

Looking ahead, we hope you are all available to join us for this year's Pig Dinner on Friday November 18th, the weekend of the Big Game.



# Norris Fiji

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## 2005 Undergraduate Officers

**President:**

Alan Donner '07

**Treasurer:**

Andrew Kim '06

**Recording Secretary:**

James Hogan '07

**Corresponding Secretary:**

Cal Martin '07

**Historian:**

Matt Todd '05

**Rush Chairmen:**

Will Ramos '06 & Kenneth Green '05

**Social Chairman:**

Cal Martin '07

## 2005 Delta Xi Graduate Association

**President:**

Martin Smith – Cal '76

**Secretary – Purple Legionaire:**

Marty Appel – Kentucky '61

**Directors:**

Ed Bartlett – Cal '52

Bill Ashton – Cal '56

Steve Lyon – Cal '63

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**Director - Recruitment Chair:**

Steve Peterson – Cal '90

**Director, Pig Dinner and Graduate Relations Chair:**

Bill DeMar – Riverside '99

# THE NORRIS

## RUSH REPORT - FALL RUSH A HUGE SUCCESS

Headed up by Rush Chairs Allen Donner '07 and Cal Martin '07, Fiji wrapped up the Fall Rush cycle with 11 outstanding new pledges.

With daily barbeques and night time events ranging from bowling to poker, the house was able to come away with one of its strongest pledge classes yet.

"This year we really focused on recruitment," Donner said. "We had some big shoes to fill with the graduation of the majority of the Alpha class."

Donner's statement was no exaggeration as the loss of nearly 15 members of the Alpha class left the house at under-capacity for the first time since its rebirth on campus three years ago.

The last few semesters yielded an average of five pledges each, a number that was not up to expectations. Over the summer the house decided to make the upcoming Fall recruitment a major priority.

Donner and Martin stepped up in a big way and spearheaded a major effort to reach out to incoming freshman and junior transfers.

"Word of mouth still gets us most of our guys," Martin explained, "but this year we really made a push to go out and find young men who were above and beyond. I think that effort really paid off."

In order to accomplish this, the brothers of the house took the initiative and made several visits to the dorms in order to get the word out about Fiji.

This paid off as some incoming Freshman were unaware of

the opportunities and incentives of becoming Greek and it gave them a chance to meet some of the brothers individually before making their first trip to the chapter house.

Using more aggressive tactics also had some unexpected benefits.

"Getting to meet guys on their turf really made it easier to break the ice," President Phil Zackler said. "I feel like we were better able to get a feel for each individual and could really tell if they were Fiji caliber or not."

After a long week of rush and many grueling meetings spent determining which of the many gentleman that came through the doors were Fiji material, bids were passed out Thursday night.

Relief and excitement were the common emotions felt by many of the new pledges who knew that Fiji was the right place for them, but were unsure if the highly coveted bid would be extended.

"I definitely had some butterflies on Bid night," pledge Alex Straussman said. "But in the end it was all worth it and I'm ready to start this new journey with the rest of my pledge brothers."

This sentiment was shared by the entire house as the Eta Pledge class is a great balance of personalities, interests, and abilities.

Full of leadership and enthusiasm, the Eta class will no doubt contribute to Fiji in amazing ways in the years to come and will keep alive the spirit of excellence that continues defines this Fraternity.

## — A word from our Housing Corp. President —

**B**rothers – it has almost been four years since more than 100 of us met at the Claremont CC to enthusiastically press on to return our Chapter to Cal . WE have had some great experiences along the way, accomplished much and had some outstanding contributions from several Graduate Brothers.

Our hope is to keep you all actively involved and informed. We hope these newsletters will keep you abreast of the activities, active members and goings on at the Chapter.

We also are further developing our web page [www.calfiji.org](http://www.calfiji.org) and the graduate website [www.calfiji2.org](http://www.calfiji2.org) to include Graduate events and contact information.

Please visit these sites and update us with your information. WE are hoping to develop e-mail contacts and mailings and have the web page serve as the central source for information regarding the chapter.

Our challenge now is to sustain the effort. Operationally, I believe we have installed systems that will allow the house to be maintained in good order. We are on solid footing toward our goals of operating the house debt free with a solid capital base to fund future maintenance and structural issues.

That is the easy part, the challenge is in providing the consistent leadership in a few key areas of the chapter.

Over the past three years, many of you have made significant contributions that have shaped the chapter in to what it is today.

Ryan Walsh '91 & Steve Ramos '94 dedicated every Wednesday to interact and “train” the Fall '01/ Spring '02 Colony members. I think

if you have talked with either of them, they would tell you how much they enjoyed bonding and interacting with Active members.

I know that initial group of Actives remember those days as some of their favorite Fiji experiences.

Steve Peterson '90 has helped organize several events from rush functions to game days. Tom Power '89 has stepped up to help with the formal pledging ceremonies – initiation – charter day – and Pig Dinners. Mark Meredith '87 has consistently been involved with the Board – overseeing the Bell – Norris scholarship and helping with all the formal activities from Pig Dinners to Initiations.

Kent and Scott Hill, Buddy Rowell, and Sean Hoover have also been consistently involved in events and post games. We have also received significant contributions from Bill Demar (UCR '99) who is helping with the Pig Dinner and Marty Appel (KY '63) who organized and administered our fund raising campaign and is currently serving as Purple Legionnaire. Ron Pengilly (UCLA '56) has served on the Board as Secretary for 10 years.

Not to mention the Stalwarts that have served on the Board for over 25 years – Ed Bartlett '52 – Bill Ashton '54 – Steve Lyon '63 I believe all of these Brothers hold in high regard the relationships they have been able to establish with the active members and their fellow graduate brothers.

The key now is to get more of us involved in key areas that make a tremendous difference in the future of the chapter.

One of our goals is to have two formal dinners a semester where we



have a few graduates come and talk about their “Fiji Days “ – Cal Connections – and their careers . The actives really look forward to getting to know more of the Graduates for lots of reasons, and they found sitting down at the dining room table and having a meal served to be a great experience.

I am looking for some volunteers here. We have also discussed a graduate welcome event for the new pledges.

Some houses host a dinner at a restaurant others at the Chapter house. We have a great Fall pledge class it would be great to help out and plan this event. It is a fact that doing a respectful job with the ritual is linked to the long term success of a chapter. So if we have any ritual buffs let me know.

A pre-game prior to a basketball game has been talked about. And of course pig dinner planning and the annual Golf tournament are great events that should be well attended.

None of these activities are huge time commitments, but they all make a huge difference in bringing the chapter back to the vibrancy we all enjoyed and maybe even better, so help us build a great foundation so we have a great chapter for years to come

Fraternally -- Martin Smith '76

# Delta Xi Ekklesia Wrap Up

Last August, President Phil Zackler '06, James Hogan '07, and I traveled to Atlanta, Georgia for the 156th Ekklesia.

The atmosphere was full of anticipation and drenched with history. During our four-day stay, we met and exchanged stories and ideas with other undergraduate and graduate brothers from across Fijiland.

We participated in committee meetings, attended workshops on everything from recruitment to alumni relations,

and managed to make time to see the sights of Atlanta.

In general business, we approved four colonies for charter, amended and clarified new bylaws, elected a new Archonate, and heard committee reports and recommendations.

There is no doubt that Fiji is growing across the country in exciting ways. It also became clear that alumni support was one of the crucial factors in establishing and maintaining a successful house.

In other news, James and I were able to visit the Georgia Tech campus and the Gamma Tau chapter, where we traded ideas about recruitment, pledge education, and the Norris Pig Dinner.

Overall, my experience at Ekklesia was very positive; by being able to meet with brothers from across the country, we learned effective practices from other chapters, the history of our Fraternity from graduates, and set Phi Gamma Delta on a positive path into the future by approving four new chapters.

Heading into the 2005 Fall semester we plan on at least 30 brothers living in the house, with an active roster for the entire chapter above 50 members.

### ***Eta Class, Fall '04:***

Alex Strassman, Dansville, CA  
William Blucher, Sacramento, CA  
Kabir Ahmed, LaCanada, CA  
Jessie Dashe, Modesto, CA  
Chris Hulls, Marin, CA  
Ted Taylor, Salinas, CA  
Kevin Perkins, Brentwood, CA  
Jeremy Khalaf, Huntington Beach, CA  
JP Suddaby, Toronto, Canada



### ***Theta Class, Spring '05:***

Jeffrey Bauer, Bakersfield, CA  
Dan Elbert, Lafayette, CA  
Eric Bro, Capistrano Beach, CA  
Trevor Kennard, Hong Kong  
Matthew Eger, La Jolla, CA  
Nick Bea, San Francisco, CA  
Jonnathon Stadwick, Simi Valley, CA

## PHILANTHROPY UPDATE - A NIGHT OUT TRICK-OR-TREATING

On the Friday before Halloween, a group of Fijis teamed up with other Cal Greeks to lead over 250 underprivileged elementary school children from Berkeley and Oakland trick-or-treating at various sororities and fraternities. With the kids and Fijis alike decked out in everything from awesome ninja and rock star costumes to pirate and caveman attire, everyone marched from cookie-decorating and face-painting at sororities to haunted houses and handfuls of candy at fraternities, including the Fiji house.

The trick-or-treating is an annual tradition among Cal Greeks that provides a wonderful environment for kids from unsafe neighborhoods to have a happy Halloween. The event was perfectly suited for the Fiji men, many of which are majoring in Education and donate many hours a week mentoring kids at local elementary and middle schools.

"The turn out was good this year" said Allen Logue '05. "It's worth it every year to see the smiles on these kids faces as they see the big college kids that they

will one day grow up to be. It's definitely one of the favorite philanthropy events of the year because of the excitement we can bring to the children and because of the friendships we make in the process."

The event was just another great example of the impact that the Greek Community can have on the community at large. This year was no exception, and we're still not sure who has a better time - the kids or the Fijis!

By Sam Glaser, '06



Senior Send-Off Spring '04



## FIJI GRAD'S FROM THE 60'S STILL KNOW HOW TO HAVE FUN

Jim Fetherston '67 and his wife Barbara, extended a tremendous leap of faith by hosting more than 20 Fiji brothers and their significant others from the 60's to a fun day of golf, croquet, and tennis at Meadowood Country Club and then a FIJI Fiesta at their beautifully restored turn of the century Napa vineyard home. Pete Crosby '67 and his wife Stevie acted as Social Chair and diligently organized the event for the distinguished era.

See if you can identify such notables as Mike Anderson '67, Rick Bennett '69, Steve Booth '64, Al Boot '67 Don Carmen '68, Craig Clifford '66, Ron Duckhorn '67, Joe Ducote '65, "Mr." Dzura '66 , Jim Fetherston '67, Don Guest '67, Bill Kadell '66, Jeff Lockwood '67, Paul Macy '67, Mike Moore '66, Gerry Murphy '67, Jerry Rekers '64, Rich Telegan '69, Bill Van Dyke '68 and Gerry Woods '69 among others. Better yet see if you can identify the brave Fiji Sweethearts who were once again willing to chance the unpredictable happenings when this vintage gathers.

Joe Ducote hosted a great Luau complete with roasted Pig , dancers and libations at his Silverado home in 2003, and it looks like an event is being planned for May 21st 2005 at Rancho Canada Golf Club, in Carmel. Contact Pete & Stevie Crosby, Corresponding Secretary & Event Treasurer, 310-230-9577 - 16652 Bienvenida Place, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272, CrosbyCGR@cs.com

# UNDERGRADUATE UPDATE

## FIJI'S LEAD AN INTRAMURAL DYNASTY

For years, Fiji's intramural football team has been almost as untouchable as the Rugby players that helped build this virtual dynasty. With no Rugby players left, this year's squad features only one D1 athlete: Cal Basketball Guard Alex Pribble. Pribble is a Warren Sapp in his Tampa Bay years-esq defensive rusher, and a sticky fingered wide-receiver to boot.

Another key player on this team is Cal Martin who was the #1 wide receiver on his undefeated California State Champion high school football team at Central Catholic H.S. Other former high school gridiron studs include quarterback Joe Bruzzone, and receivers Alan Donner, and Sam Glaser. Multi-sport high school athletes contributing their versatility are Peter Lennon, Stuart Jackson, Mike McNeil, Andrew Kosel and Taylor Smith.

The most unspoken heroes are Alan Logue and Phil Zackler. It's hard to explain their on-field genius, but in one word, brilliant. Think Terrell Owens' hands, with Ronnie Lott's guts, Deion Sanders' style, and all those attitudes combined. End-zone celebrations that would make sharpies and cell-phones look passé and boring. This combination has proved just as potent as the highly athletic squads of previous years, and the Fiji team has lost only one game in three consecutive seasons.

Only rival Fraternity Pi Kappa Phi can come close to this group and when the two teams battle it out on the field, one can only think of some of the greatest rivalries in sports history: Sox and Yankees, San Francisco and Dallas, and of course, Stanford and Cal. True intramural superstars, who have allegedly been courted by Jeff Tedford to walk on for Cal's football team next year, these guys are an amazing bunch. Congrats guys and good luck next season!

**"The Varsity Rugby Program announced five athletes were chosen for 2004 All-American honors.**

**Perennial All-American, Joel DiGiorgio was selected to the All-Americans for the second year in a row, having toured New Zealand in the summer of 2003 as a scrumhalf. And Tony Vontz, two time All-American was selected for the tour, but was unable to travel due to injury."**



Ryan Foltz  
2004 Pac-10 All-Academic Team  
Football (1st Team)



JD Cafaro  
2004 Pac-10 All-Academic Team  
Football - (Honorable Mention)



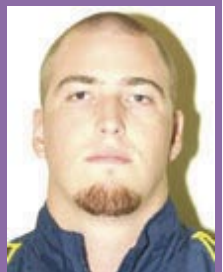
Joel DiGiorgio  
2004 All-American Team  
Rugby



Tony Vontz  
2004 All-American Team  
Rugby - (will not play due to injury)



Jacques Wilson  
2004 All-American Team  
Rugby - (Honorable Mention)



Andrew Blair  
2004 All-American Team  
Rugby - (Honorable Mention)

# INTRODUCING DELTA XI WEBSITE!

[www.calfiji2.org](http://www.calfiji2.org)

## Attention Fiji's

*If you haven't already seen the chapter's website, please take a moment to visit it at: [www.calfiji2.org](http://www.calfiji2.org).*

*The website provides an easy way for the entire Delta Xi community to stay in-touch and informed with the chapter. There is also an alumni directory to help you stay in contact with each other Delta Xi alumni.*



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