



The Golden Eagle Fiji



WINTER 2004

THETA TAU

VOLUME 25

A Note From The President

By Mo Elbeitam

Distinguished brothers of Phi Gamma Delta, I can not thank you enough for what you have done for the Theta Tau chapter here at Tennessee Tech. I look back at the path you cleared through Fijiland and can only admire the foundation you laid for us. Without your persistence and faith in this chapter I could not write how proud I am to be a Phi Gam.

Phi Gamma Delta has held prestigious recognition of being the model fraternity on campus; proving ourselves through academics, campus involvement, and being a positive influence on society. There has to be a foundation to start such great works and without you it would have been futile. I hope that you take great interest in the well being of the fraternity and remember that Phi Gamma Delta is not for college days alone.



Our current President behind the House Marker. (What is not seen is the new brother he's standing on!)



Important TFI Info

To most graduates, the cancellation of the Frank Norris Pig Dinner has been on the forefront of your minds. However, read inside (Page 5) for more information on the TFI sponsored graduate dinner this summer. Be sure and thank Brent Ellis for all his hard work.

25 Years Later: Delta Theta Chi to Fiji

Much like the Beatles sang in Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band "It was 20 years ago today, Sgt. Pepper told his band to play." We too can look to this time of year and say:



*"T'was 25 years ago this time
Delta Theta Chi started to shine."* *The original paper
with various names
for the new local
fraternity.*

And literally that is the case. It was the Spring of 1979 when the hopes and dreams of 15 young like-minded men came to fruition in the forming of Delta Theta Chi.

So how did the founders of Delta Theta Chi meet? The account heard by the writer of this article goes like this: Russ Bradley and Carl Martin were roommates at Tech and knew one another from Overton High School. Russ and Carl knew Randy Wilmore as well as Jeff Garr, from Father Ryan, and Jack Sutherland. Much like many of us today, several of these men were all friends before forming the fraternity. Lee Wray was from Cookeville and had a class with 2 girls who were a part of the Baptist Student Union. It was through these girls Lee met Russ and became friends with them as well.

The founders, as many will recall, ate lunch everyday at the table by the exit doors of the cafeteria. It never ceases to amaze new-comers to our fraternity that we as Fiji's have been eating at the same table for 25 years! Apparently our founders were good at meeting ladies, because they ate lunch with many Kappa Deltas (my how things never change). Some of the KDs jokingly told this group of non-affiliated men to start their own fraternity. What started as a somewhat serious off-hand comment would start the ball rolling in what would become Delta Theta Chi.

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ΘT News



Black Diamond Auto Show

Saturday April 3rd Brother Adam Etheridge put together, with the help of the chapter, a car show benefiting the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation.

Forty-five vehicles, from monster trucks to “souped up” Honda Civics blanketed the parking lot outside the Hooper-Eblen center. The show included a sound competition ran by MECA, which drew excitement and busted the eardrums of those present.

When all was said and done, the Black Diamond Auto Show raised \$1745 to go to our noble cause of finding a cure for MS.

The car show’s success is just another shining example of the chapter giving back to the community.



One of the entrees at the Black Diamond Auto Show

Other Community Service News

- Volunteering with Habitat for Humanity
- MS Walk
- St Jude’s Radiothon
- Roadside cleanup on 10th Street

We are always looking for more ways to help the Cookeville community. If you know of anything that the undergraduate chapter can help with please let our Community Service chairman Dustin Finn know by emailing him at drfinn21@tntech.edu



Scholarship

The reason many of us attend or attended Tennessee Tech was to pursue an education so that we may further advance ourselves in society. Phi Gamma Delta promotes the pursuit of knowledge to achieve these means. Currently the scholarship committee is creatively finding ways to positively reinforce those brothers who are making good grades or striving to make good grades.

There is a “Brag Board” in the study room where brothers write their weekly scholastic accomplishments. At the end of every week one brother is selected by the scholarship committee to receive a free sandwich from Chick-Fil-A (which is managed by Brother Neal Thompson, University of Georgia).

In attempt to give brothers with low GPAs an incentive to bring up their grades, the scholarship committee has created an award for the most improved GPA in the chapter, to be given out the following semester. The award includes meals donated by local restaurants to Phi Gamma Delta.

For all brothers making a 3.0 or better the scholarship committee has a steak dinner for them.

It is these reasons stated above that helps keep Theta Tau among the very best fraternity chapters in the nation.

Graduate Spotlight: Bill Scott



Brother Scott with his very own Fiji Sweetheart, daughter Chloe (4 1/2). Watch out future Phi Gams!

“...Not For College Days Alone...”



If you liked the article on Bill Scott and would be interested in letting your brothers know what course your life has taken, please write to the Grad Relations chairman at graduate@ttufiji.com. We hope to have more Spotlights in the future!

Biography since Theta Tau:

Over the past 12 years, Brother Bill Scott has directed the marketing function for companies with a technology-oriented product or service. One of those companies was CNN where he ran marketing for CNN.com. Scott said, “That was a fun place to work because you always knew everything that was going on in the world before anyone else did. I also worked directly with Ted Turner on a product launch, and he got so fired up at one point he punched me in the shoulder.”

What is Bill Scott doing now? He’s a marketing communications consultant with domain expertise in visual design (advertising / collateral), presentations and multimedia, and event marketing. He works with companies on both strategy and execution.

In 1994 Bill married Kathy, an Alpha Chi Omega sister from the University of Florida. They reside in Atlanta Georgia with their 4 and a half year old daughter Chloe, who is pictured to the left.

Hobbies and Interests:

Music, Vols and Lady Vols, skateboarding, computers and tech gadgets.

(Say Bill, how does that work out being a Vol fan married to a Florida graduate???)

Groups Involved With:

Charter Member of TFI’s 1848 Club

Technology Association of Georgia

Association of Strategic Alliance Professionals

Anecdotes from School:

I could relate some stories, but they would all seem pretty tame compared to what I heard during the S___e award ceremony at the last Pig Dinner I attended!

The chapter should be aware that we graduates are tremendously gratified at the positive news we continue to receive from you undergrads, and even more proud of the great brotherhood that must fuel your success. Every time I see that you’ve added a new trophy, or have wrapped up another great Island week, I’m always reminded of specific exploits during my own time at Theta Tau. Whether it was meeting the new freshmen on the mall before Rush, accepting homecoming or fraternity of the year trophies, bailing out the tent after a hurricane on Fiji Island, or remembering the camaraderie of Sunday meetings, the couches, intramural games, singing the sweetheart song, or just hanging out at one of the off-campus Phi Gam brothers’ houses, your continued success helps keep those memories alive. So for that – thanks – and keep fighting the good fight.



Phi Gam Athletics



The Spring semester for Fiji athletics was full of ups and downs.

On the basketball court we managed one win, against Ag Sig. We all gave thanks that Alpha Gamma Sigma was in our bracket, or the season would have been miserable! We long for the days when LeMarbre, Kenney and DT would light up the scoreboards.

However, out on the softball diamond Phi Gam was undefeated, beating everyone by the "mercy rule". However, due to our probation, we were not admitted in the IFC tournament, where we would have most likely continued our domination. It felt good gibing the SAE's as we proceeded to drill them.

In wrestling we came in 2nd overall. Edging out Pike, which as we all know, they hated. SAE won this year's IFC wrestling, continuing their win streak. Next year, as part of our Pledge Education/Intramurals program, we are going to put our pledges on a strict wrestling diet in order to ensure a Phi Gam victory in 2005 IFC wrestling and beyond. *Disclaimer: Above paragraph was written entirely in a joking manner. There will be no strict dieting for the pledges or any other brother for aforementioned reasons.*

7 Straight Years Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity of the Year!

For the 7th straight year, your Theta Tau chapter has taken home the Fraternity of the Year trophy. While it is a boost to our morale to continue this trend, it is also a good time to remember what brother. Calvin Coolidge said that this good fortune "is only an instrument to be used, not a deity to be worshipped." May we remember these words and apply them to our chapter. Let us not relish in our accomplishments, but rather use them to make better everything around us.

25 Years Later (cont'd)

There was much discussion concerning the founding of a local fraternity, but nothing materialized until the founders met in Carl and Russ' room to form their new fraternity: Much like the *Immortal Six* meeting in John Templeton McCarty's dorm room to establish what would become one of the premier Greek letter societies, the Theta Tau founders met in Carl and Russ' room to form what would become one of the most respected Fiji chapters in the nation. The first order of business was to select Greek letters by which they would be known. After writing several ideas down, Delta Theta Chi became their choice. As seen on the front page, they circled the one that looked most Greek. It could be said that there was nothing esoteric about their decision to decide on Delta Theta Chi.

The next important step in our founding was for a Constitution to be drawn up and to petition the Dean of Men's office to be officially recognized by the University. Once the Constitution was written, containing the ideals of this group of young men, we were recognized by the University on May 3, 1979. Two weeks after our recognition on campus, the Pikes were established. They have been chasing us ever since, unfortunately for them, they will never be a Phi Gamma Delta!

It is important for all of us to remember that great things can arise from even the most humble of beginnings. Theta Tau's ascension to the top of Tech's campus and on the international level, came from the dorm room of men like the rest of us.

Attention: Brothers in Nashville

Visit www.nashvillefiji.com to keep in touch with local brothers. This website has been setup by Brother Ross Jones as a way to post messages and read news concerning Nashville-area Fijis.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

If there are any stories you would like to write or see written in the next issue of the Golden Eagle Fiji, or if you would like to complain about the current issue, please feel free to e-mail me at jrgillette21@tntech.edu

Your 2004 Graduate Relations Chairman
J.R. Gillette
Perge'

TFI Graduate Weekend

Saturday June 19

Event Schedule

**9 Hole – 4 Man Scramble at Southern Hills Golf Club:
7:30AM**



**Afternoon Luncheon at Cane Creek Park Shelter 2:
11:00AM-3:00PM**



Cane Creek Park is a 260 acre park with a 56 acre lake, owned by the City of Cookeville. City Lake Natural Area, a 40 acre natural park bordering Old City Cave.

**Formal Dinner & Business Meeting at Cookeville Town Center:
6:00-9:00PM**



One West 1st Street

To register for this event, please go to www.techfijiinc.4t.com and click on "EVENTS" on the sidebar. You can pay on the website by credit card or download a registration format in PDF format and mail it with a personal check. If you have any questions contact Brent Ellis at ttufiji-grad@hotmail.com

