

# The Golden Eagle



# FIJI



THETA TAU CHAPTER OF  
PHI GAMMA DELTA

VOLUME 34, No.1  
Fall 2011-Spring 2012



PIG DINNER—  
APRIL 21ST

GRAD  
SPOLIGHT:  
KYLE BUSH

# Tech Fiji, Inc. & Tech Fiji Alumni Association

## www.techfijiinc.com

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### TFI is proud to introduce the 2011-12 Lineup of Online Donation Programs.

TFI's Online Donation Programs are powered by PayPal and are completely secure. All you need to get started is an Email Address and a Credit or Debit Card.



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#### Why PayPal?

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#### Why Donate?

**Foundations for the Future:** Your monthly donations will help lay the foundation to form a capital campaign committee and successfully launch a campaign. So, while these monthly donations will not directly allow us to build a new house, portions of your donations will be earmarked for campaign expenses. This will help ensure that our capital campaign committee will have the funds to move forward with all due diligence.

**For the Betterment of the Chapter:** a secondary goal of the Online Donation Programs is to support the Chapter's Graduate Relations efforts. The ability to "raise the bar" in the area of Graduate Relations and Graduate support is paramount to both the Chapter's goal of one day winning the coveted "Cheney Cup" and TFI's goal of one day providing them a new chapter house.

**Benefits for Donors:** Beyond the knowledge that you are "giving back" to the organization that gave so much to you during your college years, you will receive other rewards as well. Currently, donors receive gift certificates redeemable at Pig Dinner weekends. We are also exploring a variety of other ways to recognize Club members.

#### Questions or Comments:

please contact John Solis at **donations@TTUFIJI.COM**



# *The* **Golden Eagle Fiji**



Fall 2011

THETA TAU

VOLUME 33 No. 3

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Brothers,

This semester has become one of the defining moments in my college career, as I feel it has been with a lot of the Chapter right now. The obstacles that we are facing now have never been seen at Theta Tau, but we are doing everything we can to overcome them. We are trying to not only survive, but to remain the great chapter that we have always been.

So far, this semester has had the strongest brotherhood that I have seen in the Chapter in the time that I have been at Tech. Winston Churchill once said, "If you're going through hell, keep going." I believe that the Chapter has realized the struggles that we're facing, and is

pushing through them with great strength and understanding. Staying optimistic is the only option; failure doesn't exist for Phi Gams.

This spring, Theta Tau has increased the Community Service requirement of each brother from 12 hours to 25 hours, to great success. We have also attempted to revitalize the Golden Eagles Basketball teams cheering sections by attending every game and having the largest and loudest group cheering for every game. We've won basketball games, softball games, bowling tournaments, and placed in philanthropies. We plan on ending the semester with another 5 Star Chapter Award, and possibly another Fraternity of the Year

Award.

The Beta Psi Pledge Class has been hard at work learning what it means to be a Phi Gam. The nine pledge brothers have done fundraisers, helped in philanthropies, and even helped put on a Pig Dinner for the Chattanooga Graduate Chapter. Three pledges, along with our Pig Dinner Chairman, Tyler Cosby, and myself went to Chattanooga to meet the Graduate Chapter there, and to show more and more that this fraternity is not for college days alone. The pledges are excited to cook our own pig, however, and look forward to meeting more of our own Graduate Brothers at Pig Dinner on April 21<sup>st</sup>.



Fraternally.

**Nathan D. Brown**

*"Remember that the hardest thing to acquire is the faculty of being unselfish. As a quality it is one of the finest attributes of manliness." - Sir Frederick Treves*

## INTRODUCING THE 2012 CABINET



President—Brother Nathan Brown is serving his second year on cabinet (Historian 2011) and before that serving as the Pig Dinner Chair for two years. Nathan is a senior Electrical Engineering major from Dickson, TN and a member of the Beta Pi pledge class.



Treasurer—Brother Jesse Lillgren will serve as this year treasurer after previously serving as the Fundraising Chair. Jesse is a junior Accounting major from Sparta, TN and is a member of the Beta Upsilon pledge class.



Recording Secretary— Brother Will Scheibe will serve as this year Rec. Sec. after previously serving as the Graduate Relations Chair and Pledge Education. TJ is a junior Manufacturing and Industrial Technology major from Gallatin, TN and is a member of the Beta Sigma pledge class.



Corresponding Secretary— Brother Steven Brockman will serve as this year Cor. Sec. after previously serving as the Scholarship Chair. Steven is a senior Accounting and has just begun pursuing a Mechanical Engineering degree from Nashville, TN and is a member of the Beta Upsilon pledge class.



Historian—Brother Dustin Smith will serve as this year Historian after previously serving as the Brotherhood Chair. Dustin is a junior Business major from Nashville, TN and is a member of the Beta Sigma pledge class.

## **WELCOME YOUR NEW BROTHERS- THE BETA CHI PLEDGE CLASS**

Bo Allen- Electrical Engineering

Matt Mercer- Nursing

Baylor Arrants- Mechanical Engineering

Akash Patel- Business

Alex Bear- Electrical Engineering

Jonathan Rochelle- Wildlife Science

Jacob Byer- Exercise Science

Ryan Sullivan- Business

Connor Doyle- Undecided

Mark Umbehagen- Mechanical Engineering

Logan Engler- Chemical Engineering

Jared Woodward- Chemical Engineering

Ben Kimball- Mechanical Engineering



## TFI UPDATE— IMPORTANT!!!

Tech FIJI Inc. is currently looking to fill the currently vacant office of TFI President. This position is very important and needs to be filled as soon as possible. A description of the position is as followed, also found on the TFI website ([www.ttufiji.com/tfi/](http://www.ttufiji.com/tfi/)).

President- is the chief executive officer of the Corporation. He presides at all meetings and is an ex-officio member of all standing and temporary committees of the corporation. He executes all contracts and other instruments of writing authorized by the board as a whole; and subject always to the direction of the board as a whole; he exercises such other authority and performs other duties as the board as a whole prescribes. He shall assist in the solicitation of donors. He shall give aid and direction to the vice-presidents when needed and serve as the oversight person for the vice-presidencies. In the event of a vacancy of a vice-presidency or the treasurer, he shall either assume all responsibilities of said vacant position(s) until the vacancy is filled or appoint someone Interim VP/Interim Treasurer for a period of time not to exceed one year or until a new vice president/treasurer is confirmed by the board as a whole; shall be responsible for the recruitment of vacant vice-presidencies/treasurer position(s) and recommend willing and qualified candidates to the board for confirmation.

If interested, please contact Kyle Bush, Purple Legionnaire at (931)260-9898 or [kmbush21@gmail.com](mailto:kmbush21@gmail.com). This is a great way to help give back to the fraternity that has given so much to you.

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## GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT— KYLE BUSH '09



### **What are you doing now?**

I currently live in Baxter, TN on my family's farm. I am a project manager for Bush Construction Co. Inc. located in Cookeville, TN and serve as the Purple Legionnaire for the Theta Tau Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta. I am engaged to Laura McGregor(TTU 2008) and we will be married on June 30, 2012. Our plan is to stay in the Cookeville area, where I will continue to work for the family business and Laura will continue to work for the accounting firm LBMC out of Brentwood, TN.

### **What were your favorite experiences as an Undergrad?**

There are so many, I cannot recollect them all. I would have to say that my pledge semester was probably one of my fondest experiences as an undergrad, as well as, living in the 520 house across from the fraternity house and the frequent visits to Crawdaddy's and the Cadillac Ranch.

### **Why did you decide to become Purple Legionnaire?**

My decision to become Purple Legionnaire was not a quick one. I spent a couple of months determining if I would be able to handle the role of PL for the Theta Tau chapter. I knew I wanted to give back to the fraternity and after great debate, I decided this would be an enjoyable way to do that. So far, it has been a great experience!

## GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT— CONTINUED

**Where would you like to see the Chapter go?**

I would like to see the chapter continue to grow by promoting the importance of scholarship and brotherhood. I would also like to see the chapter involved in more community outreach programs in order to promote the good name of the Theta Tau Chapter and the International Fraternity of Phi Gamma Delta.

**Briefly describe your duties as Purple Legionnaire?**

As Purple Legionnaire, I am the graduate advisor for the chapter and the Chairman of the Board of Chapter Advisors. It is my job to

offer advice when necessary and to ensure that the chapter is following all policies and guidelines set forth by the Board of Chapter Advisors, Tech Fiji Inc., and International Headquarters.

**How do you think Phi Gamma Delta has molded you since becoming a brother?**

I owe so much to Phi Gamma Delta and am forever in debt to her. This fraternity has help mold me into the man I am today. I can honestly say, without the Theta Tau Chapter, I would not have graduated from college. The chapter molded me into the leader that I am today and taught

me how to deal with people not only in a social setting, but also in a business one.

**Do you have any advice for graduates, brothers, and pledges?**

The best advice I can offer the graduates, is to stay involved with the chapter at some capacity. I realize that all of you may not have time, but it is imperative that a chapter has a strong graduate base to support it in order to be successful. To the brothers, continue in excellence in all that you do. You are the face of Phi Gamma Delta at Tennessee Tech and it is important that you preserve our reputation as gentlemen. Re-

member, you only get out of the fraternity, what you put in. Stay involved and watch over your brothers. Make the most of your time as an undergraduate, it goes by way too fast! Finally to the pledges, stay strong on the course to brotherhood. It may not seem like it now, but your pledge semester will be your most memorable one! Do not lose focus on your purpose for attending the university. You are here to obtain knowledge and the fraternity will help you in reaching your goals.



## GRADUATE SNAPSHOTS



Brother Eric Wiens '10 was married to Callie Klien in the summer of 2011. (Left)

Brother Matt Brocato '11 is currently engaged to former Sweetheart Tiffany Palmer. (Right)



## FUNDRAISING UPDATE

There are some pretty big fundraising ideas being tossed around here at Phi Gam. There have been mentions of a possible basketball tournament and pancake dinners. The biggest fundraiser we have had this semester so far has been both the men's and women's basketball games. The athletic department had a contest at every game, the most spirited group would win one-hundred dollars and a free meal before the next home game. With the support of our brothers and their strong school spirit we raised \$650.00 over seven men and women's home games. These games brought together our brothers about twice a week and provided some strong and much needed brotherhood. The biggest game of the year, against Murray State, was preceded by an overnight camp out in front of the Hoop and an all-day tailgate on game day. That game was the biggest turn out for Phi Gam, and the school. The hoop was packed all the way into the upper bowl seats. Currently the fundraising committee is looking for ways to harness Phi Gam's school spirit and raise money at the same time, and there will most defiantly be more events like this to come!



## SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

IFC (284)	Active GPA	Actives >3.0	Dean's List	Actives 4.0
1. Phi Gamma Delta	(51) 3.010	30 59%	25 49%	5 10%
2. Pi Kappa Alpha	(14) 2.963	9 64%	5 36%	0 0%
3. Sigma Chi	(39) 2.870	20 51%	15 38%	3 8%
4. Alpha Gamma Sigma	(10) 2.829	4 40%	4 40%	0 0%
5. Sigma Phi Epsilon	(29) 2.744	17 59%	11 38%	1 3%
6. Phi Delta Theta	(22) 2.636	9 41%	7 32%	3 14%
7. Kappa Alpha	(15) 2.624	5 33%	5 33%	0 0%
8. Tau Kappa Epsilon	(20) 2.502	8 40%	5 25%	0 0%
9. Kappa Sigma	(40) 2.496	14 35%	10 25%	2 5%
10. Sigma Alpha Epsilon	(32) 2.471	14 44%	11 34%	1 3%
11. Pi Kappa Phi	(12) 2.348	4 33%	4 33%	0 0%

Scholarship as one of our five values and on top of our priorities, stays very important of the brothers of the Theta Tau chapter beating out all the other Fraternities on campus in GPA, Actives above 3.0, Dean's List, and actives with a 4.0. With the amount of brothers making a 3.0 and higher growing every year shows how much Theta Tau really cares about scholarship.

### Notable Percentages:

Theta Tau 3.010

Greek 2.880

All Campus 2.847

All Men 2.671

All IFC 2.571





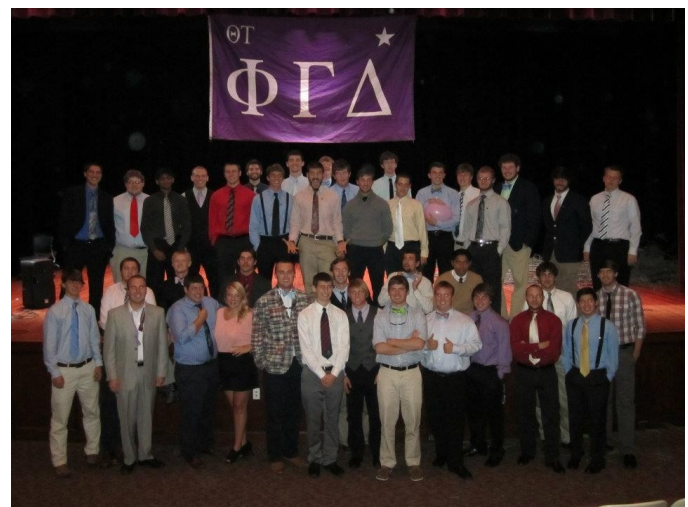
## M.S. ISLAND WEEK FALL 2011

Every year Theta Tau hosts its M.S. Island philanthropy event to benefit the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. This year was no exception with it being held on October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. It was however an exceptional year in that an aggressive goal of \$10,000 was set and thanks to donations and participation of Kappa Delta, Alpha Delta Pi, Phi Mu, and Sigma Chi we managed to raise almost \$8,000.

It kicked off on Monday night with Island night. Competitions were tug of war, best island costume,

rap competition, Q&A about Multiple Sclerosis and Phi Gamma Delta, and a hidden owl contest. It continued into the second night with a brother date auction. At the end of the two day event Kappa Delta came out in first.

This year's Island week was a great success with almost \$8,000 raised to benefit research into Multiple Sclerosis. We all look forward to improving and making next year's event even better.



## FIJI SPORTS IN THE LEAD ONCE AGAIN

Theta Tau is in great position to win all sports for another year. All of the athletes did very well this year placing first in flag football and soccer and second in volleyball and bowling.

### Flag Football:

We once again dominated flag football, flying through the schedule with ease. Only one game was even close and that was the championship against Sigma Chi in which Phi Gam came out on top 27-19.

### Soccer:

The story was much the same in soccer where we once again showed our dominance by not losing a game. We defeated Phi Delt 3-1 to hold the title of soccer champions.

### Volleyball:

The volleyball season looked very promising with Phi Gam reaching the championship game by winning every game 2-0. That last game against Sigma Chi was a heart-breaker and we took the loss to take second place in

the sport.

### Bowling:

We also did very well in bowling coming in a very close second to Sigma Chi 161.58 to 165.33.

### Wrestling:

This year, as always, Phi Gam was a big contender in wrestling, placing second overall behind Coach Brad Weakley. There were some great matches, with a few notable slams by brothers Travis Owens, and Bryce Arnold.

### Mid-Season Standings

**Fiji: 99 points**

**Sigma Chi: 88**

**Phi Delt: 72**

**SAE: 69**

**Sig Ep: 68**





## HOMECOMING 2011

**“The spirit, the will to win, and the will to excel are the things that endure. These qualities are so much more important than the events that occur.” – Vince Lombardi**

As Phi Gamma Delta approached homecoming this past fall, there was only one goal in mind: excellence. Paired up with Phi Mu, there was an excitement that resonated throughout the entire duration of homecoming. As a team, we attained the second place spot in the pep-rally competition with a truly stunning and nearly flawless routine. Throughout the entirety of the pep-rally, our brothers in crowd (both grad undergrad alike) remained standing to lend chants and cheers of their own, displaying our spirit and pride for this wonderful school and our chapter. As custom, many long nights were spent at float site and many hours spend making the Kazoo Band costumes for the morning run, in both we gave our finest efforts. As so eloquently described by Chris VanDeven '11, a graduate brother in the crowd, "Everything was calm and then all of a sudden, there was mass chaos for about 20 seconds with singing, yelling, and buzzing. Then as quickly as it begin, it was done, leaving my boss's daughter confused as to why we had thrown out hotdogs instead of candy. It was one of the best Kazoo Bands I have ever seen." The Tech tradition continues.

Although we did not find victory at the end of all the homecoming events, we were able to celebrate with Brother Patrick Wehby as he claimed the homecoming king title. At the tailgate following the parade, there was a great turn out with of graduate and undergraduate brothers showing once again that being a Phi Gam is not for just college days alone. Also, we must give credit to Tech's football team who not only won the homecoming game but went on to win the OVC championship for the first time in 35 years.



# 31th Anniversary

## PIG DINNER April 21, 2012

- Dinner: Leslie Town Center
- Key Note Address will be given by

More details to follow soon. Keep an eye on your email and the website ([www.ttufiji.com](http://www.ttufiji.com)) for updates & registration information. We hope that ALL of you will make plans to attend.

### YOUR THOUGHTS...

Please provide any feedback on the Golden Eagle Fiji and Graduate Relations you might have. Also, if there is anything you would like to see in future issues or if you would like to be the Graduate Spotlight, please let us know.

Quality of the articles?

- ☐ Good  
☐ Fair  
☐ Poor

Graduate Communication?

- ☐ Good  
☐ Fair  
☐ Poor

Topics covered?

- ☐ Good  
☐ Fair  
☐ Poor

Would you like to be featured  
as a Graduate Spotlight?

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

Additional Comments:

Name

Address

Email Address

Phone

Please detach and return to:

Phi Gamma Delta

Attn. Graduate Relations Chairman

527 N. Peachtree Ave

Cookeville, TN 38501

E-mail: [gradrelations@ttufiji.com](mailto:gradrelations@ttufiji.com)



If you have any comments or suggestions about the Golden Eagle Fiji or would like to be featured in an upcoming issue please contact:

Aaron Schaller & Ben Higgins  
Graduate Relations Chairmen  
amschaller21@students.tntech.edu  
615-995-5023 (Cell Phone)  
benjamiggins@gmail.com  
615-957-3854 (Cell Phone)

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

Greek Week: April 9-13

Relay For Life: April 13

Pig Dinner: April 21

Graduation: May 5

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[WWW.TTUFIJI.COM](http://WWW.TTUFIJI.COM)

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