

“Landscaping Will Make a Big Difference”

Class pledges key to clearing final hurdle

by **Doug Mitchell '70 | Capital Campaign Chair**

The Lambda chapter house is preparing for the final push to unify its property and enhance its curb appeal.

The message is simple: we need the graduate brothers' classes—especially those between 1970 and 1999—to help!

Although we've gotten some very meaningful donations from members of these classes, our current receipts for each of these decades is the following:

- 1970s: \$87,605 (aside from one major gift)
- 1980s: \$54,529
- 1990s: \$9,765

This is a \$300,000 effort, which is a little more than a quarter of the total contributions already raised by the other classes

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The alley is to become a sidewalk and a low wall will unify the property. And paved rear parking!



Before.



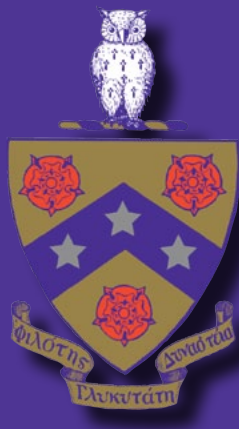
After.



Before.



After.



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President Lauds Lambda's Diversity and Acceptance

by Da'Jeal '20 | Chapter President



Dear brothers,

My name is Da'Jeal and it is my honor to introduce myself as the newly elected president of the Lambda chapter of Phi Gamma Delta. As I write this address, I can not help but take a deep breath and

reflect on the fact that around this time last year, I was unable to participate in elections, and looking forward to the initiation of myself and my fellow brothers in the 2017 fall pledge class. I have the honor of saying that my first ever election resulted in me becoming an elected cabinet member.

I am currently in my junior year and majoring in neuroscience on the pre-med track. As a Bonner Service Scholar, I have established a strong relationship between FIJI and Mental Health America of Putnam County, where I currently work as an assistant/event coordinator. This relationship was established during my sophomore year while I held the house position of philanthropy chair. Community outreach through service was and will continue to be of great importance to me. While holding the position of external relations chair, I established the gentlemen of FIJI as the

main male participants of the TZ buddies program. Through the TZ buddies program, my brothers and I serve as role models for the youth of a local Greencastle elementary school.

The current climate of the house is one of acceptance. The Lambda chapter of FIJI serves as haven where all who hold positivity and love in their hearts are unconditionally welcome. This acceptance has brought about a diversity to which the name FIJI is consistently associated with on campus. This diversity can be seen in our brothers. We are not limited by nationality, economic status, or race. Our guests serve as even more evidence of the diversity our acceptance has fostered. Our home is frequented by students of color, international students, and even students who chose to maintain their independence of the Greek system.

As president, I plan to prove that FIJI is the exception for all that is problematic with Greek life. I am not a person to make grand declarations like this without putting a plan in action. To counteract the negative norms that Greek life has become associated with, such as rape culture and binge drinking, I will ensure that my cabinet is trained in situation intervention, such as the Green Dot program. Internal and external communication will be maintained to ensure that we are doing all that we can to continue growing as a house, as well as leaders on campus.

"BUDDY SYSTEM" AIMS TO FOSTER ACADEMIC SUCCESS

by Aaron Worley '21

The Lambda chapter of Phi Gamma Delta is proud of its ability to pursue knowledge and achieve scholarship. We strive to make academics the utmost priority of our daily lives. In the first semester, the scholarship committee has implemented policies that are designed to encourage, support, and mentor each brother in the house. Nicknamed "The Buddy System," pairs of brothers are now working together in order to boost our scholastic efforts. This policy has been enacted not as a punishment for struggling or underachieving brothers, but to establish consistent and helpful communication regarding academics within the

Lambda chapter.

In addition to our first policy, the scholarship committee has reached out to graduate brother Avery Archer '11 in order to receive further guidance and foster academic success. Brother Archer is currently a physics professor in the Percy L. Julian Science and Mathematics Center, and is dedicated to growing and developing an attitude of scholarship as well as being an academic liaison between our brothers and other academic outlets at DePauw University. He plans to become an academic advisor for the Lambda chapter in the near future.

Lambda Chapter Stands Out on Campus

by Farukh Sarkulov '20

The Lambda chapter of Phi Gamma Delta has experienced a busy yet fun fall semester at DePauw University. The year began on a high note with the BCA housing retreat, which helped provide some structure and lay out a plan for rush and dealing with house matters. Chapter meetings have become more efficient and the overall warmth that brothers radiate toward each other has been evident in all facets of living together. When any brother needs a helping hand there is always someone there to provide that hand—whether it be just a listening ear or a small favor, brothers are willing to help one another. The warmth that brothers radiate has been extended toward many freshmen who have become comfortable in the environment cultivated in the house. What makes FIJI different amongst all the other fraternities is our willingness to get to know new faces and try and support

them in their endeavors. Freshman year is a strange and exciting time where first years can be pulled in many different directions, but here at FIJI we try to provide a space for people where they can be themselves and not put on an act to fit in.

Greek life at DePauw has been changing and less freshmen are willing to be sold on the idea of fraternity life. The negative image of drinking and recklessness that is associated with Greek life has made it harder, and in some ways easier, for freshmen to figure out



2018 spring pledges.

where they belong. Much of the fraternity scene at DePauw revolves around drinking and partying heavily, but with the changing times there are more freshmen who are simply searching for a comfortable place with close friends and confidantes.

The changing image of fraternities has played well into rush at FIJI since we are considered the counterculture house on campus. We have a diverse house, full of people from all over the United States and the entire world. In any space at FIJI you will be exposed to various languages, differing cultural backgrounds, and a wide range of perspectives on life. FIJI does not emulate a cookie cutter mold that other houses place their strength in. The men at FIJI are individuals living under the same roof trying to work together for the betterment of themselves and those around them. The strong individual nature and diverse persona the house puts forth keeps things interesting and makes FIJI a wholly different space than most social spaces on campus.

As the recruitment chair for this school year, I am forced to analyze the strengths and weaknesses of Lambda FIJI. But throughout the process I optimistically await to see the next class of men who choose to be immersed in something greater than the stereotypical notion of what a fraternity is. What keeps me motivated during this recruitment process is the fact that FIJI is made of all types of people and as a house we are clear on the fact that we are all individuals who care for each other, not boys fitting into the crowd. Although it may be tough sometimes, I think what FIJI offers is far better than what other houses provide, and in the long run make strong men out of fully capable young adults.

FIJI WELCOMES NEW MEMBER BLAKE MILLER '21

by Aaron Worley '21

The Lambda chapter of Phi Gamma Delta is proud to introduce Blake Miller '21 as our fall 2018 recruit! Blake is a computer science and Italian double major from McCordsville, Indiana. He is a member of the track and field team specializing in pole vault and sprint medleys. Blake enjoys mixing, producing, and recording music in his spare time. He recently traveled to Italy over the summer of 2018. Blake is excited to be part of the house and will be welcomed to the house as a full brother soon.



Fall recruit Blake Miller '21.

BROTHERS HELP HOUNDS BY HAWKING DOGS

by Trip Apley '21

As gentlemen of Phi Gamma Delta, we strive to display our five values proudly and always. One of those values is service. Over the past semester, we have contributed to many other Greek chapters' philanthropies, such as Alpha Phi's HeartThrob, Kappa Alpha Theta's Kickball Tournament, Delta Gamma's Cider for Sight, and many more.

The Lambda chapter of Phi Gamma Delta, in cooperation with the Alpha chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta, hosted

a barbecue in early October: a combined philanthropy raising money for the Humane Society of Greencastle. Brothers Gerald Pineda '20 and Farukh Sarkulov '20 grilled over 100 hot dogs and hamburgers for donors. House Mom Heather Williams brought many of her dogs to the event. Brothers also played music, volleyball, and cornhole while socializing with potential new members. Altogether, Bark-B-Q raised nearly \$400 for the Humane Society.

Little 5 Wows Again in '18

by **Evan Grathwohl '20**

Little 5 2018 was an electric weekend on DePauw's campus. Last year, the FIJI team, headed by myself, as a sophomore, had a strong showing on the track. I was the top finisher for FIJI, placing 12th in the criterium race and 16th for the street sprints out of 25 racers. We also had the great opportunity to get new uniforms.

Moving forward, Aaron Worley '21, last year's steering committee chairman, will be the co-chair for Little 5 for all of DePauw, as FIJI continues to press our members to take more active roles in the university and the community.

Unfortunately, I will be absent this coming spring semester for my management fellows internship; however, I am confident that our team will have a strong showing again, headed by senior Richard Brainerd '19.



Little 5. Rider Evan Grathwohl '20, House Little 5 Representative Aaron Worley '21, and brother Rick Brainerd '19.



Summer Retreat: Clayton Cooperider '19, Chuck Behr '19, Nick Spencer '19, and Bob Berwanger '19.



Monon Bell Tailgate with Wabash FIJI. Brothers pictured: Bob Berwanger '19, Chuck Behr '19, Bijay Ranabhat '19, Rick Brainerd '19, and Nick Spencer '19.

Football is a Family Affair for John Pasch '21

After retiring from playing football after 15 seasons, sophomore brother John Pasch has found his calling in coaching. In his first year as an assistant high school football coach, the Indianapolis Lutheran Saints are preparing to play in their fourth semi-state game in five years and eying that elusive state championship appearance.

Coaching for him is a family affair. His grandfather, Dick Pasch, is an assistant coach, and his father, Dave Pasch, is in his 11th year as the head coach of the team. His brothers Jackson, a junior, and Jake, a

freshman, are also members of this highly successful team.

"Football isn't just a game. For me, and for my family, it is a lifestyle. I loved playing the game, but my true calling is being able to coach. I have always watched and learned under my dad, and now it is my turn to be able to give back to these young men, teaching them everything I know. It is truly a blessing to be able to do this at such a young age, and I know, even as I grow old, I will never be able to live without this sport."



Landscaping Will Make a Difference

(continued from page one)

so far, and actually less than the amount contributed by the class of 1966. We CAN do this, and it will transform the outward appearance of the entire FIJI property. But we do need your help.

To make a pledge, just mail in the enclosed pledge form. And include a check if you like!

Recent and Planned FIJI House Improvements and Repairs

by **Kit Lortz** | starwood@one.net |
Lambda FIJI House Corporation

The FIJI House Corporation has been working on several smaller improvements and fixes to the house while we continue to work on the larger capital campaign items.

Items that have just been completed are:

- Replaced all FIJI-owned clothes washers and dryers with rental units.
- Replaced garbage disposal.
- Repaired bathroom drain problem.
- Installed new door security badge readers.

In addition, we are working on plans to:

- Repair roof gutter problems over the front porch.
- Replace missing roof soffit panel.
- Close Pine Street to all traffic.
- Add small landscaping features around the new FIJI patio.
- Relocate FIJI parking spaces currently along Pine Street.

In the 2018-2019 school year, we will have a limited budget for any major improvements and repairs that are not already included in the capital campaign budget.

We are hoping that having just completed the renovation of floors one through three will reduce the usual number of repair items we have experienced in past years.

FIJI Welcomes New House Mom

by **Nicholas Williams '21**

Our new house mom this fall is Heather Williams, a native of Indiana. She, along with her dog Brylie, stay at our house here at Lambda chapter of FIJI. It's been great getting to know her this year since it is her first year here at the house.

I'm sure all of us brothers here would agree that she is a great woman and fun to be around, but I've had a great opportunity over the course of this first semester of getting to know her on a more personal level. She has truly acted as a source of help and guidance not only to me but to all brothers who come to her seeking some sort of advice. Although she is aware of our shortcomings, she looks past them and offers a helping hand whenever one of us needs it.

For me personally, she has always been there whenever I have questions about academics, relationships, or family problems. She's also always receptive to any sort of conversation. We've had great conversations about religion, philosophy, music, and just life in general. Honestly, I do not think there could have been any better matchup for a house mom to a chapter on this campus.



Heather loves us, and we all love her, and I am looking forward to seeing how this relationship develops over the next few years.

GRADUATE BROTHER NEWS

Robert E. "Bob" Cox '49 writes, "I have been saddened the past 12 months by *ad astra* of several brothers who I was privileged to be with at Lambda in 1948 and 1949. In addition to being great brothers, I considered them to be my friends. Rest in peace **Brent Wadsworth '51**, **Al Stocking '51**, **Joe Carney '50**, **Tom Carter '50**, and **George Spradling '51**. (18538 Spring Mist Ct., South Bend, IN 46637)

J. Dennis "Denny" Marek '64 wrote in June, "Just to let you know that I finished my first and perhaps last book this year. It is entitled *The Ultimate Survivor* and is about a man whom I have met. He is 95, Polish-born, forced in 1940 to work as a painter at Auschwitz. Drafted into the German army and sent to Italian guard for the winter of 1942, he survived there and for the next 15 years. It is a

remarkable story that had to be written. It is available on Amazon and Barnes & Noble online." (394 W 7000 S Rd., Chebanse, IL 60922 or llamalaw@aol.com)

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Jim Force '61 and Jim Knapp '63 meet annually for baseball spring training in Florida. Both played baseball for DePauw.

GRADUATE BROTHER NEWS

Jim Knapp '63 writes, "A group of Lambda Phi Gams has been reuniting in Naples, Florida, biannually for six years. This year's gathering occurred May 7-10, 2018, at the Bayfront Inn 5th Avenue in Naples. This is the third time we have reunited as a group. Activities included a first-night reception followed by boating, sightseeing, sailing, a visit to the botanical gardens and zoo, enjoying the hop-on

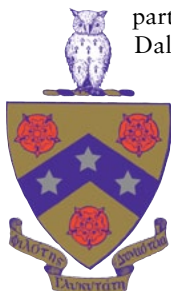
hop-off trolley and boat taxi, plus lunch at Tin City. During a dinner at Stoney's Stone Crab, we celebrated the life of **Fred "Buck" Thornburg** with his wife, Pat, and the other 12 wives in attendance and got an update on Lambda's new house in Greencastle, Indiana. **Bob "Tut" Merriam '61** was also recognized for his invaluable contribution to Lambda's video archives dating back to 1959."



From left to right, starting with front row: **Dave Dirks '63** and **Jim Knapp '63**, **Jim Force '61**, **Jim Ross '62**, and **Bill Morrison '61**, **Bill Graham '62**, **John Hederick '62**, and **Don Goodwillie '61**, **Joe Hirtzer '63**, **Jim Zerface (Honorary FIJI '62)**, **Wally Foltz '62**, **Tod Dawson '62**, **Kit Lortz '62**, and **Terry McCoy '62**. (Not pictured: **Bert Hybels '62** and **Jac Kendall '63**.)

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Eric J. Vale '81 writes, "Fully self-employed as of October 2017, owner of Vale Tax & Accounting Services. Married since 1987 to Ruth. Four kids: Bryan (married to Samantha, living in San Francisco), Max (living in San Francisco), Daniel (married to Sophia, living in Garden Grove, California), and Elisa (third year nursing student at Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego). I still bicycle since riding in the Little 500 in 1981! I golf regularly. I attended part of last year's Ekklesia in Dallas to honor Billy Martin's upcoming retirement." (3747 Chaparral Ct., Concord, CA 94519 or ericvale_ea@yahoo.com)



Matthew L. Welch '11 wrote over the summer that he "recently started a new job as senior program manager at Wolff Olins, a creative consultancy in Manhattan, working with some of the world's largest companies on brand strategy and marketing work." He lives in Brooklyn, New York, with his wife, Christine (DePauw '11) and their dog, Marvin. "I'd love to hear from graduate brothers in and around New York (or those visiting) and would love to chat with any undergraduate brothers interested in marketing, advertising, branding, or media." (mattwelch4@gmail.com or 317-201-7858)

David A. "Dave" Gordon '15 writes, "Thanks for the good luck wishes in the spring 2018 *Tiger FIJI*! I'm happy to report

AD ASTRA

Richard D. Kattell '51
July 22, 2018

Joseph A. Rueff '51
October 30, 2014

Brenton H. Wadsworth '51
February 6, 2018

David M. Dirks '63
November 28, 2018

Michael J. Bleck '72
June 28, 2015

Remembering Brother David Dirks '63

ad astra November 28, 2018



David
McCormick
Dirks '63

Dave was truly "a brother in Phi Gamma Delta." Any of his classmates would agree that Dirksie made sure that all bases were covered, whether it was supplies for a party or just to make sure

that everyone was included, or in the case of his accounting work for a client.

He included you as a brother, not just as an acquaintance. That's how he related, and that's why others admired him. David means "beloved," and that's who he was.

Let's hope that we can fill this now empty place, to keep everyone included, as he did.

I'm attending Syracuse University in the fall of 2018 for a master's in orchestral conducting. Glad to hear about the successful Pig Dinner and the ever-improving renovation. Also, really happy to see such strong undergraduates. Keep up the good work all around!" (1319 Madison St., Syracuse, NY 13210 or dgordon650@gmail.com)

www.depauwfiji.com

TIGER FIJI

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