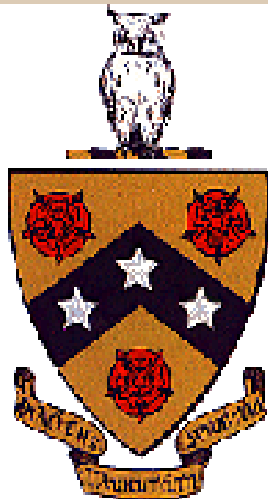


omicron times

December 1st, 2005

Rick Swift – One of Omicron’s Finest - Jeremy Hogg '03



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To some he's known as Swifty, to others he's just Rick, but one thing is sure, if you're an Omicron you know Rick Swift. Rick has been involved with Omicron for over twenty years and through it all has been a leader that has helped keep the house together. Recently, Rick stepped down from the Housing Corporation and relocated from the Charlottesville area to Stamford, Connecticut, where he accepted the General Sales Manager position for White Birch Paper. Although we are sad to see him go, we are all thankful for the many years of service he has given to the Fraternity.

Rick graduated from the U. in 1974 having served as Treasurer and President of the house and captain of the UVa men's tennis team. Rick returned to Charlottesville in 1984 for work and began helping out with the BCA shortly after. He has been actively involved since serving in various capacities within the Fraternity including Purple Legionnaire

and BCA member for 6 years and over 14 years on the Housing Corporation. Rick's service hasn't been limited to the Fraternity alone. Rick led the fund raising efforts for the UVa tennis court new construction and was a Board Member of Farmington Country Club chairing the new membership committee. Furthermore, Rick is an involved father raising two children in the Charlottesville area, his daughter a graduate of the University in 2005 and his son currently in college at Salisbury School.



Although we are sad to see Rick leave Charlottesville, his impact on Omicron is one that will not be forgotten. Whether it was planning graduate events, advising the undergraduate chapter, donating financially to the house, or using local connections to secure financing for the renovations, Rick has consistently

"Go strong or go home!" Says IM Chairman

-Dan Laufer '06

This year, Phi Gams hope to move into the upper echelon of IM standings. Into the second Intramural season of the year, Fiji has had a strong showing in multiple sports. Last year Fiji finished with 200 IM points, ranking a respectable 14th out of the 25 competing fraternities. This year, after the first season, Phi Gam teams have earned an impressive 165 points, putting the House on pace to easily finish in the top 3 of all fraternities. Two of our first season teams, softball and ultimate Frisbee, finished in the final four of the fraternity playoffs. It's no wonder that with the motto "go strong or go home," our teams are met with such success.

Building brotherhood and fraternity relations, intramurals have been a great outlet for Fijis to get involved in the house. The competitive spirit and the desire to be the best come out more than ever on the intramural courts and fields.

This season competitions have been 3v3 basketball, softball, ultimate frisbee, and 7v7 flag football. Next season, we will undertake 5v5 basketball, indoor soccer, volleyball, and co-rec inner-tube water polo.

Words from the Brotherhood Chair

-Ryan Hickox '06

Another exciting semester has arrived and along with the psych of coming back to the Hook comes the psych of seeing your fellow Phi Gams after a summer of creating detes. This semester the Brotherhood Committee has decided that almost every Friday, weather permitting, should be declared "Fiji Friday." With the addition of the horseshoe pits to the front yard, Fiji Fridays have one more activity brothers can enjoy while grilling chow, scoping, and spilling sick detes. Graduate Brothers are always invited to roll back to the Temple for Fiji Fridays and find a house bustling with brotherhood activity. Always a great weekend kickoff, coming out to a Fiji Friday allows



for a relaxed setting to meet the current undergrads and regale them with Chapter history. So remember, almost every week you'll find us out front with music playing and sun shining. Get psyched and come visit often!

Also, our annual Upper Gauley River rafting trip was a great success. Over the fall break reading days, October 1-3, at least 28 percent of the Brotherhood journeyed to Fayetteville, West Virginia to brave class-5 rapids on the second-hardest stretch of whitewater in the United States. Another addition to the Brotherhood Committee agenda is the inaugural semester of the Unathletic Games. During the weekly events, brothers compete in several battles of manly fortitude, including horseshoes, bowling, pool, fozz, video games, 'bee golf and more. Monetary prizes

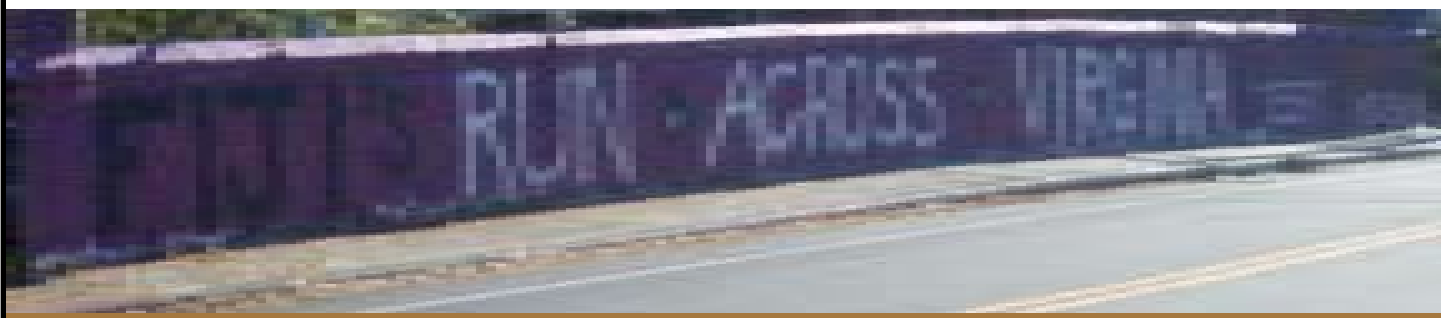
Phi Gams Fighting Cancer

On November 18th, the lanes of Highway 29 bled purple with the commencement of the third annual *Fiji's Run Across Virginia*. Brothers from both Virginia and Virginia Tech ran the game ball from Blacksburg to Scott Stadium, covering a span of 157 miles. This collaborative philanthropy between UVA and Virginia Tech Phi Gams has brought our chapters closer together and helped us to combine resources, creating a truly stellar event. As a result, The Run has raised over \$100,000 for the Jimmy V Foundation for Cancer Research with donations from businesses, family, and friends. The Jimmy V Foundation has been so impressed by our efforts that they named a \$100,000 research grant in the Fraternity's name last year.



The chapters has collected over \$32428 this year, and money is still arriving. Business participation in the Run is at an all-time high and our annual a cappella benefit concert, *Fiji's Sing For a Cure*, brought in an additional \$800. No matter the denomination, every donation made a difference and we are grateful for the generosity of our donors. In order to continue to raise our standard of excellence, we encourage you, our Graduate Brothers, to give to the best of your abilities. You can donate with a check payable to the Jimmy V Foundation, or online with credit card at: www.footballrun.uvafiji.org/donate/html. Remember, all donations are tax deductible!

The success of the Run has not gone unnoticed on Grounds and beyond. We report with pride, The Run was featured on national television during the UVA Tech Game. Also, Omicron Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta was awarded the Best Philanthropy Event from the Inter-Fraternity Council in 2004. Fiji was also recognized by non-Greek CIO's, winning 2005's Best Philanthropy Award at the University. With your help, this annual event will continue to be a success and will inspire others to do their part in the fight against cancer.



Alumni Perspective: *A Perfect Day in The Hook*

-BK '80 via email

Woke up Saturday morning with a nasty hangover from a late night out in DC. Got on the road to the Hook at 10:28 a.m. Midway through the drive, the Tylenol began working and the fall leaves started looking really good. Bagged rays on Murph's deck for an hour and a half, 75 degrees, sunny with a light breeze: perfect indian summer weather in the Hook.

BK2 and Billy-O came by. Billy engaged in histrionics while we besmirched the Seminoles. Cab actually arrived on time; roll to house, roll to tailgate for a solid 2 1/2 hours of crushing before saving spots on the hill. Great gang of beans back and in town. I know I can't remember them all...Silk, McGee, Shauyer, Jeets, Rock and Kerri, Woody and Kara, Big Ed, LJeanne, Smeds/Thea/Stephon, Dano and Pamo, Pete Neal, Stain, Stein, Martha and Erik, Undergrads, and many others. Rock's doctor friend Peyton set up a grille and the chow was awesome... many thanks to Peyton and his family and the Kisas.

Game starts... Silk gets an early police escort out of the stadium, crushes outside for 2 quarters, enters time warp, thinks game is over, smooths back into stadium for awesome 4th qtr. Incredible game; we win!!! More tailgating, last call at Coupes, over to Pace's place to ... Billy O passes out cold on sofa... Pace, BK, BK2 order up 6 gusburgers. Cab back to Murph's for 4 am rack.

A perfect day in the hook.



Pledge Education, Above and Beyond

-Jonathan Hilliard '07

We are very excited to be working with our six new pledges. We have been preparing for this semester since May, and we plan to continue our tradition of ensuring that this process is beneficial to both pledge and chapter. Our long-term goal is to completely organize our program so that ultimately, the pledge experience is similar for each generation of pledges that enters our Fraternity. We are currently using a newly designed pledge handbook that will be modified over the course of the semester and finalized before we educate the larger pledge class in the spring.

We have a lot of fun activities planned, including an outdoor teams' course, a camping retreat in the mountains, a roll to another Phi Gam chapter, and potentially a pilgrimage



back to our origins in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania. One of our primary focuses is on academics, and we

are committed to helping pledges take advantage of the scholastic resources available in the House.

Overall, we plan to instill in these pledges an appreciation for the history of our Fraternity and for the sacrifices that have been made by many brothers to elevate our chapter to the admirable position it occupies today. The future initiates of this class will be devoted brothers who embody the ethics of true Fiji gentlemen: dedicated to academic achievement, devoted to the pursuit of excellence, and ensuring the prosperity of Omicron for years to come.

P. Thomas Barthelemy – Williamsburg, VA – 2nd Year

Peter Frazier – Annandale, VA – 2nd Year

David Gundlach – Virginia Beach, VA – 2nd Year

Eric Howlett – Richmond, VA – 2nd Year

Alexander Lubin – Trumbull, CT – 2nd Year

Another bloodless coup d'etat

...at the temple

Brent Bullock '07 - President

Ted Schnuck '07 - Treasurer

Matthew Allman '06 - Recording Secretary

Tim Burns '06 - Corresponding Secretary

Jonathan Hilliard '07 - Historian

...and snaps all around to the outgoing executive

it's coming soon...

Announcements

Events

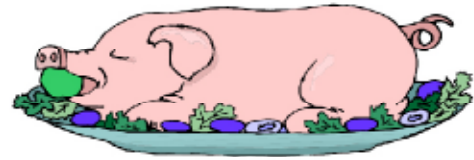
graduate website

Directory

Forum

...January First, Two Thousand Six

Mark Your Calendars!



Omicron's Annual
Norris Pig Dinner

March Twenty Fifth, Two Thousand Six

Rotunda Dome Room

Expect Formal Invitation Soon



University of Virginia
128 Madison Lane
Charlottesville, VA 22903

The Omicron Chapter of
Phi Gamma Delta

...not for college days alone

IHQ has spoken

Omicron is on her way up the International Headquarters ladder as shown by the most recent Annual Awards.



Cheney Cup - 3rd Place

Highest distinction a chapter can receive. Most efficient in the conduct of its affairs as evidenced by scholarship, campus activities, and fraternity relationships.

Baker Cup - 2nd Place

Most excelled in religious, ethical, and social services.

Jordan Bowl - Honorable Mention

Highest comparative scholarship in the Fraternity.

Zerman Trophy - 2nd Place

Excelled the most in extra-curricular activities.