

# THE OMICRON

CHAPTER OF PHI GAMMA DELTA - UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

WWW.UVAFIJI.ORG

## GREETINGS FROM THE TEMPLE

Nate Silvestri



Brothers,

It has been my absolute pleasure and honor to serve this Brotherhood in the capacity as Chapter President for the 2016 calendar year. My time spent as President of such an unbelievable group of undergraduates, whom I can attest are lifelong friends, and a dedicated group of graduate brothers, who are a group of men who I look up to fondly, has been a truly humbling and rewarding experience that I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

During the past year we have had another successful RAV, excelled inside the classroom and out, and made memories that I plan on telling my future family (God willing a woman will put up with me for that long). During the fall we held our first ever Parent's Formal (thanks to the help of Taylor Barr and Luke Shields),

which was a resounding success and will hopefully become a regular part of the Social Calendar. However, without the help of a dedicated Exec Board (Will Rinaldi '17, Shep Walker '18, Caleb Vineyard '18, and Peter Thompson '17) and phenomenal committee chairs, none of our dreams would have become a reality. Having an executive board which one can truly count on to run the day to day operations of 128 Mad Lane is a blessing, which is why I am so thrilled to welcome Shep-

pard Walker '18 as our new Chapter President. He is poised to do a phenomenal job and continue to march our house in a positive direction. While I will miss serving our Brotherhood as President, I will not miss the flood of emails and phone calls that come with the job. That being said, Good Luck Shep!

I am also pleased to announce that Brother Benjamin Schools '18 is in great health and spirits following a visit from many of our brothers over the recent break. Ben has had his fair share of trials and tribulations, but has continued to inspire everyone around him with his tenacious attitude and brotherly spirit. While the visit may have come as a surprise to Ben, it was no surprise that all of the brothers who made a road trip to Charleston, South Carolina seemed to pick up right where we left off when we saw Ben go home last semester, truly embodying the "Not for college days alone" slogan. Ben celebrated a belated 21st birthday surrounded by good friends, great food, and an impromptu beach day. Please keep Brother Schools in your thoughts and prayers as he has a long road to recovery, but we look forward to having him back in the Hook as soon as possible. His presence in our brotherhood continues to loom large, despite his laid back, surfer boy demeanor.

And with that, I look forward to handing the reins of this great Brotherhood to Shep and press on to graduation and the dreaded "real world". I hope to see you all before then and if not remember Omicron is Not For College Days Alone.

Sincerely,  
Nate Silvestri  
Chapter President 2016  
Perge!

## GRADUATE UPDATES!

LET YOUR PLEDGE BROTHERS  
KNOW WHAT'S NEW!

KEEP YOUR FELLOW OMICRON ALUMNI UP TO DATE WITH WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN DOING.

SUBMIT AN ALUMNI UPDATE AND  
MAKE SURE YOUR ADDRESS IS CURRENT AT UVAFIJI.ORG

The screenshot shows the 'ALUMNI 100' section of the website. It features a navigation menu with 'LEADERSHIP', 'PROMINENT', 'TEMPLE', 'EVENTS', and 'GRADUATES'. Below the menu, there is a form titled 'Submit your update'. The form instructions state: 'Please use the form below to submit graduate news and changes to your contact information. Each newsletter has at least one feature graduate article and a page of graduate blurbs. These 2-3 sentence updates really add a great deal to our newsletters.' It also notes: 'Please note, the following fields are required: Full Name, Grad Year, and Email.' The form fields are: 'Full Name', 'Grad Year', 'Email', and 'Grad Info'. A large text area for the update is at the bottom of the form.

# INTRODUCTION FROM INCOMING PRESIDENT

Shep Walker

Brothers,

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health. Us at 128 have enjoyed another successful fall semester and are blessed with a great start to our spring. Our fall was filled with revelry at tailgates and Pig Dinner. We are excitedly awaiting the rising of the 'Hoos (that was originally scheduled for 2016 under Bronco Mendenhall) which has unfortunately been delayed until 2017. The end of 2016 brought with it a remarkably successful Run Across Virginia, this year raising over \$21,000! We partnered with many local organizations and developed strong corporate backings which will aid our efforts in years to come. Our new executive board has taken office and is motivated to lead the House. The results of the election were as follows:

Chapter President: Shep Walker (previously Recording Secretary—Class of 2018)  
Chapter Treasurer: Tate DeVito (Class of 2019)  
Recording Secretary: Rob Morelli (Class of 2018)  
Corresponding Secretary: Brian Andris (Class of 2019)  
Chapter Historian: Derek Smith (Class of 2019)

Tate, Derek, and I had the opportunity to attend Fiji Academy over the winter holiday, and were eager to bring acquired skills back to the House prior to the formal rush period. Our recruitment, led by Luke Shields and KJ Grubiak (both Class of 2018), was a resounding success. We extended 20 bids, and all 20 were accepted by the following 1st year students:



Muhammad Ahmad; Melbourne, Australia  
John Barron; Denver, Colorado  
Ben Carper; Williamsburg, Virginia  
Tucker Colerick; Memphis, Tennessee  
John Downey; Wall Township, New Jersey  
Jack Dunkenberger; Roanoke, Virginia  
Patrick Forster; Fredericksburg, Virginia  
Justin Fox; Leesburg, Virginia  
Nash Griffin; Indianapolis, Indiana  
Gabriel Himelfarb; Middleburg, Virginia  
Josh Hurwitz; Vero Beach, Florida  
Grant Kersey; Charlottesville, Virginia  
Bryce McGlothlin; Charlottesville, Virginia  
Corey Nolan; Gulf Breeze, Florida  
Thomas Paganucci; Manhasset, New York  
James Parkerson; Kansas City, Missouri  
Matt Ruland; Portsmouth, Virginia  
Adam Spector; Brookville, New York  
Joseph Upchurch; Charlottesville, Virginia  
Chris Woodfolk; Keswick, Virginia

While I write of our successes, it is a quality of life that our loved ones have experienced hardship. I urge each of you to embody our true beauty on a daily basis. Support those around you, and when weary, return to 128 to be welcomed with a bed and a drink.

Until next time or Pig Dinner, whichever is sooner;

*Health and long life to you, Land without rent to you, A child every year to you, And may you die in Ireland... (or) the Deck.  
Cron 1:28*

Fraternally,  
Shep Walker  
Perge!

## HOUSE CORPORATION

Stephen Nauss '72	Jeremy Hogg '03
Ray Humiston '74	Chris Anderson '05
Rick Swift '74	Nick Feakins '05
Steve Surprenant '78	Nate Silvestri
Jonathan Fraser '88	Will Rinaldi
Scott Medvetz '83	Peter Thompson

## BOARD OF CHAPTER ADVISORS

Chris Cole '03	Kevin Dowlen '10
Steve Driskill '06	Ross Jacobson '11
Mitch Roessing '06	Rick Forshaw '12
Robert Carlisle '08	Clark O'Bannon '13
Tommy Hayne '09	Troy Kirwin '15
Scott Driskill '10	John Moore '15

# GRADUATE ANNUAL GIVING 2016

## Brother,

You'll see that over **128** graduates and friends gave to support Omicron in 2016. Thanks to many of these donations, a scholarship was established in the name of Ken Gore '53 who passed Ad Astra on August 29th 2016. Ken was a longtime supporter of Phi Gamma Delta and his presence will be greatly missed, but his legacy forever appreciated by the brothers who he cared so much about. His long time support of Omicron was felt across many generations of Brothers.

Those Brothers who gave to support Omicron in 2016 are listed below and their generosity is very much appreciated. Please be sure to contact us if you feel your name is missing or if you would like your gift earmarked for Ken's scholarship.

## PERGE!

### Nick Feakins '05

President, Omicron Chapter House Society

## GRADUATE DONORS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016

### 500 +

Wade H. Hover '50  
Guy T. Tripp III '62  
Jack William Burkart '68  
Charles W. Randall '68  
Edwin L. Underwood '69  
Donald T. Zimmerman, Jr. '75  
James S. Ryan '76  
John A. Poulson, Jr. '78  
Gregory L. Baird '81  
Mark D. Hayes '82  
Roger E. Scott '82  
Harrison R. Murphy '86  
Michael L. Woosley, Jr. '91

### 250 +

A. Colquitt Shackelford, Jr. '51  
James G. Hunter, Jr., M.D. '55  
James Henry McGrath III '57  
John T. Mickle '64  
Herbert P. Soles '68  
R. Michael Sorensen '70  
George E. Cramer, Jr. '71  
John J. Perkins '75  
C. Steven Surprenant '78  
Duff A. Scudder '78  
Matthew K. Swingle '79  
Ian S. Lawton '80  
Steven K. Souders '83  
Kevin L. Beicke '01  
Justin J. Bonner '04  
Nicholas P. Feakins '05  
Michael C. Outten '05  
Terry E. Schnuck, Jr. '07  
Troy B. Kirwin '16  
Robert M. Morelli '18  
Richard M. Patterson  
Virginia C. Patterson

### 128 +

David M. Wakelee '51  
Thomas B. Slade III '53  
H. Winston Holt III '53  
John A. Koenig '53  
James F. McCabe, Jr. '55  
J. Lawrence Grim, Jr. '55  
Samuel R. Marney, Jr., M.D. '55  
Charles Breckenridge Arrington, Jr. '55

Robert M. Hoover '58  
Posey B. Howell, Jr. '58  
Gordon L. Gentry, Jr. '59  
Wayne Louis Whelan, EdD '60  
Michael A. Dougherty '61  
John F. Pattie '61  
Edward T. Bedford '64  
Stephen M. Hoster '64  
William R. Easton '65  
John M. Stewart '65  
James M. McDiarmid, Ph.D. '66  
George H. Gromel, Jr. '68  
John R. English '70  
Edgar D. McKean, III '70  
John Jacob Kenworthy '73  
Frederick D. Iselin '73  
Christopher K. Henningsen '74  
Richard P. Swift '74  
William W. Harrison, Jr. '75  
Jeffrey L. Brown '76  
George E. Holland '76  
David R. Verklin '78  
G. Chandler Fox, Jr. '78  
Jeffrey S. Bunch '79  
Richard D. Holden '80  
Robert K. Krout '80  
W. Grant Scott II '83  
Steven G. Vittorio '84  
Frank F. Petz '84  
Daniel B. Mason '85  
Charles Moore Shriver '89  
James M. McGee '91  
James Y. Cho '96  
Taylor Meredith Grout '98  
Jeremy D. Hogg '03  
Jared P. Cooper '03  
Steven A. Driskill '06  
Kyle S. Fuschetti '06  
Jonathan R. Hilliard '07  
Andrew J. Straitman '09  
Joseph T. Vergara '10  
David C. Backer '10  
Ross A. Jacobson '11  
Richard P. Gean '15  
John K. Ellis III '16

### 28 +

Bruce A. Talmadge, M.D. '53  
E. Morgan Loane, Jr. '54  
Capt. James H. Levasseur '62  
R. Peter Smith, II '65  
Robert B. Goss '73  
COL Christopher E. Holzworth '79  
Nicholas M. Kristoff '06  
Matthew J. Allman '08  
John Q. Schisler III '09  
Kevin Simmons Dowlen '10  
Stuart C. Keech '11  
Matthew T. Aronson '11  
Gregory C. MacDonald '13  
Patrick J. Callaghan '16  
Nathaniel Joseph Silvestri '17  
Rajendra Prasad Das '17  
James Andrew Vahey V '17  
Timothy J. Casavant '17  
William Hunter Hewlett '17  
Spencer T. Long '17  
Tate C. DeVito '19  
Susan M. Bancroft  
Craig J. Bancroft  
Mary N. Close  
Jennifer A. Lynch  
Diana Russell Dean  
Patricia E. Dodge  
Eleanor Z. Weaver  
Alva P Weaver, III  
Margaret Lynn Vonderhorst  
Mary Ellen Thomsen  
George Thomsen  
Baldwin B. Tuttle  
Mrs. Sara W. Tuttle  
Dorothy S. Goldsborough  
Eleanor J. Hearn  
Jonathan E. Farber  
Bonnie S. Farber  
Jan D. Hallahan  
Sally S. Anthony  
Richard W. Sunderland  
Gerald Diaz  
Beverly Vawter Diaz  
Irvin Greif  
Nanette M. Greif  
William H. Engel, III  
Madolyn G. Engel

*If we have mistakenly forgotten your name, please contact us at [giving@uwafji.org](mailto:giving@uwafji.org).*

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



# GRADUATE ANNUAL GIVING 2017

## Brother,

You'll see that a number of graduates have already given this year to support Omicron.

As we wrap up another successful rush, I hope you will join me in showing your support by making a donation to show Omicron is Not Just For College Days Alone. Those Brothers who have already pledged their support this year are listed below and their generosity is very much appreciated.

## PERGE!

### Nick Feakins '05

President, Omicron Chapter House Society

## GRADUATE DONORS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017 THROUGH MARCH 1

### 500 +

Richard R. Andrews '70  
Jack William Burkart '68

### 250 +

Kevin L. Beicke '01  
Justin J. Bonner '04  
Nicholas P. Feakins '05

### 128 +

James D. Wilson '74  
CAPT William R. Albertolli '67  
Herbert P. Soles '68  
Thomas R. Hayne '09

### 28 +

H. Winston Holt III '53  
Michael C. Outten '05  
John Q. Schisler III '09  
Thomas B. Slade III '53  
Jonathan R. Hilliard '07  
Kyle S. Fuschetti '06  
Joseph T. Vergara '10  
Steven A. Driskill '06

*If we have mistakenly forgotten your name, please contact us at [giving@uvafiji.org](mailto:giving@uvafiji.org).*

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



"Scucci," as his friends called him, was hard to miss. He was big. His laugh was big. His heart was big. Within minutes of meeting him, he was your friend. Fun came first with Mike. And he brought you along for the ride.

If you didn't know Mike, you knew someone like him: a person who reminded you to enjoy the moment and gave more than they took. We all know someone, who like Mike, was taken too soon by cancer.

A born New Yorker, Mike spent his time in the South, including the Carolinas, Texas, and ultimately Virginia. He was an Omicron and played football at the University of Virginia – playing as a 1st year and going to the Peach Bowl in '84. After UVA, he went on to a career in sales and in summer of 2006

## SCUCCIFEST

Michael Robert Pascucci ('88)

he married the love of his life, Amy. Soon after, he was diagnosed with non-smoking, non-small-cell lung cancer.

Mike died in May 2007 at the age of 40 after a fierce 9-month fight.

Today, the Larger than Life Michael Pascucci Lung Cancer Association (MPLCA) is devoted to the relentless pursuit of eradicating lung cancer. The MPLCA, formed by friends, family, and fraternity brothers, is committed to helping the medical community in the quest to develop a cure for lung cancer, through fundraising and advocacy efforts. Acknowledging this is potentially a long-term pursuit, we will also focus on helping extend and improve the lives of individuals fighting this disease. As is Mike's spirit, this battle is Larger than Life.

As part of their efforts, the MPLCA hosts a fundraiser they know Scucci would really enjoy – listening to music on the banks of the James River.

ScucciFest, which will be celebrating its 10th consecutive year, pays tribute to the

memory of Michael by offering a family friendly day of music, fun, food and friends along the James River at an American Legion facility in Chesterfield County, Virginia. Tent sites and camping overnight are available Friday and Saturday nights. Games for all ages are on hand, with food, beer, wine, and other merchandise available. MPLCA welcomes music lovers to fight lung cancer celebrating music, fun, food and life, in Mike's honor.

ScucciFest is open to everyone, and we are hoping more Fijis will join us for this special event. As this year's dates become finalized, we will be posting them on the [uvafiji.org](http://uvafiji.org) website and our Omicron Chapter facebook page. We hope to see many of you there. PERGE!



# OMICRON CHAPTER HOUSE SOCIETY UPDATE

Brothers,

OCHS operates with three objectives in mind: the safety of our Brothers and guests, the longevity of the Omicron Chapter at UVA, and the preservation of the Chapter House. OCHS views the Chapter House as our brothers' most valuable possession. It provides a home for all brothers to return to even after their undergraduate days are over.

As part of the annual Chapter Officer Transition led by our BCA, we put together an Overview of OCHS for the undergraduate officers. In that presentation we talk about the importance of managing both our income and expenses. On the income side, we encourage the chapter to understand the impact of having a full chapter house each year. At 72% of our income, rent is the primary contributor to our operations. On the expense side, we focus on Maintenance and Repairs, which is our second biggest expense after our mortgage and something the brothers can make a direct impact on.

As graduates, we want you to understand the importance of your support in ensuring that 128 Madison Lane remains a temple for generations of Fijis to come. The recent Kitchen Renovation could not have been completed without the strong support of our graduates; graduates who saw the value of bringing our brothers together every day. We appreciate your support; the chapter appreciates your support; and we hope you appreciate just how much your support means to the individual brothers who come after you.

## Income

	% Budget
Rent	72%
Parlor Fees	14%
Graduate Donations	14%
TOTAL	100%



## Expenditures

	% Budget
Mortgage	34%
Repairs and Maintenance	30%
Utilities	18%
Real Estate Taxes	7%
Graduate Relations	4%
Property Insurance	3%
Academy/Ekklesia	1%
Professional Services	1%
Misc. Other	2%
TOTAL	100%



## GRADUATE NEWS

1. **Jack Burkart ('68)** is looking forward to a yearly reunion in late March – this year convening in Charleston, S.C. – of 20-25 brothers and their wives and significant others. This reunion includes various members of the classes from 1966 through 1973 (plus or minus a few years). This yearly, 3-4 day gathering has jumped around through the years from Phoenix to Vegas to Ft. Lauderdale. Jack wanted to give snaps to this year's host – **Jeff Anderson ('69)** – for scheduling an impressive agenda of events, including the obligatory excuse for this event – a few rounds of golf.

2. **Edgar 'Ted' McKean ('70)** enjoyed the annual summer excursion he shares with fellow Deckmen **Peter Drake ('70)**, **Fred Brady ('70)** and their wives at Edgar's summer cottage on Mark Island, Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire. **Mike 'Stump' Sorensen ('70)** is their faithful fourth. Ted noted that this has been an ongoing event for many years, and the only real change is that they tend to party a little less and get to bed a little earlier. Now that everyone is retired, there is no more Headmaster Pete, Dr. Fred, Lawyer Ted, and Real Estate Developer Mike. Still, there is no shortage of tales about the life and times at 128. **Jack Burkart ('68)**, **Terry Gromel ('68)**, and **Duck Wilson ('68)** have also found their way to Mark Island over the years. Ted hopes that the current undergrads and recent graduates enjoy the life-long bonds that "us old timers" have experienced over the years!

3. **Tim Zimmerman ('75)** reports that his son, Ty, got married in late 2015 to a fabulous woman named Anna. Tim's daughter Liza will soon be married in Vail, Colorado to a terrific guy named Bill. Tim's wife



Noah Sherz ('11), Tommy Hayne ('09), Joe Stoots ('11), Nick Lee, Scott Ankers ('09), Scott Driskill ('10), Andrew Straitman ('09), and Jay Farris ('09) celebrate Straitman's 30th Birthday/Bro-Mitzvah in Philadelphia while attending the UVA vs. Villanova basketball game in January.

Tamela (UVA '78) is still the love of his life after 35 years of marriage. The Zimmerman's still reside in Cincinnati, but they regularly visit both Denver and Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

4. **Frank Petz ('84)** and wife Abbie, had their third child – Thomas J. Petz – in November. TJ joins little Frankie (4) and Susan (2). Frank

*continued on page 6*



## GRADUATE NEWS

asked fellow Fiji brother and classmate **Steven Vittorio ('84)** to be TJ's Godfather – a task Steven gratefully accepted.

6. In early November, the Omicron chapter welcomed another true Fiji wife into its family when **Joe Vergara ('10)** made an honest woman out of his beautiful bride, Cherie, in a picturesque setting at the Rosebrook Inn in Stanardsville, VA. Fellow Phi Gams **Harrison Powell, Kevin Russell, and Eric Scofield (All '10)** had the honor of sharing in the celebration as some of Joe's Groomsmen. The ceremony was extra deteful on account of Joe issuing a unique and involved handshake to each of the Groomsmen after they completed their walk down the aisle. Best Man Harrison Powell gave a speech that was sure to please the Fiji Gods while Joe and Cherie channeled their Temple basement vibe by leading the crowd on the dance floor the entire night.

7. **Tommy Hayne ('09), Kevin Dowlen ('10), Brad Howlett ('11), Dr. Alex Loeb ('12), Wyatt Hill ('12), Taylor Scholz ('12), and Bill Sutton ('12)** rang in the New Year in the moutains of Pennsylvania. The Phi Gams skiied at the Blue Knob Ski Resort, impressed posettas with their ability to make a fire, and conquered numerous countries during a mara-thon game of landmines.



Eric Scofield, Harrison Powell, Kevin Russell, and Joe Vergara (All '10) with other groomsmen before Joe's wedding in November.



Dr. Alex Loeb ('12), Wyatt Hill ('12), Kevin Dowlen ('10), Taylor Scholz ('12), and Tommy Hayne ('09) at Blue Knob Ski Resort in Claysburg, Pennsylvania over New Year's.