

THE OMICRON

CHAPTER OF PHI GAMMA DELTA - UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
WWW.UVAFIJI.ORG



Chapter Update

Hello Brothers,

It has been an incredibly rewarding experience serving as President of our historic 128. As we have moved into our “new normal,” things around the house have returned to their previous glory, all from the help of the current executive team, endless brotherhood support, and engagement.

While the majority of my term has been spent navigating the challenges of COVID, both the current and previous executive team were able to continually ensure high brotherhood morale. Having this incredible group of people during the pandemic is something that I, and my fellow brothers, leaned upon heavily. We are so grateful for this brotherhood and all the laughs we have been able to share, even in a virtual world. Now we have transitioned back to a mostly normal semester, making brotherhood meals in the Chow, lazy afternoons on the porch, and watching tube that much sweeter. This historic brotherhood has withstood the test of time—and now a pandemic—and grows in strength and support with each new Phi Gam.

We have been busy with new projects around 128. It is incredible how each pledge class has left their mark on the house; from repainting the house walls, restoring the diamond in the basement, to fantastic new floors, picnic tables in the yard, and much more. We look to the horizon, and the incoming exec team, to tackle even greater goals and Capital Campaigns.

One addition that we are most proud of is our newly founded accessibility scholarship. Brothers will be able to apply for financial support regarding dues and large events like Parents’ Formal. This is an important step in making our brotherhood as supportive and accessible as possible. We are also continuing our “Run Across Virginia” philanthropy event in the coming weeks in support of the Jimmy V Foundation. In a recent philanthropy event hosted in tandem with UVA Club Hoothon, we raised over \$5,000 for UVA Children’s Hospital. As always, Gameday tailgates have been a fantastic opportunity to not only hear some great local bands, but also meet you all, our alumni. The Chapter has enjoyed being able to trade stories and chats with our graduate brothers.

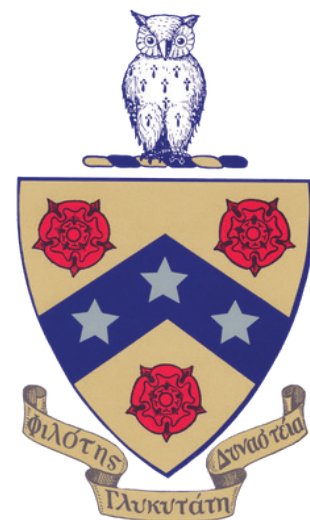
I believe we all learned something from the pandemic, but a common theme here at 128 is how important our brothers are to us. It is a testament that this group can do anything and works hard to serve as leaders in the community. We remain inspired by all of you who have walked these halls before us, in our traditions and engagement across Grounds. 2021 has left us a year wiser and overwhelmingly excited for the future of the house, and all of the great things to come.

Fraternally,
Tyler Kimble ’23
Chapter President
tnk7gm@virginia.edu
[Perge!](#)



Welcome to 128 Madison Lane

On May 1, 2021, we initiated our newest pledge class into the ranks of Phi Gamma Delta and 128 Madison Lane. The new class is composed of 18 outstanding young men who are ready to carry on the legacy of the brotherhood. The new brothers hail from a variety of different places across the country including: Virginia, North Carolina, Florida, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Illinois, Colorado, Washington, and California. Our current brotherhood is a highly motivated and involved group and this new PC is no exception. Two of our newest brothers are recipients of the Jefferson Scholarship, one of the most prestigious awards at UVA recognizing excellence inside and outside of the classroom. In the classroom, this fine group of men is studying Commerce, Economics, Pre-Med, Engineering, Kinesiology, and Psychology. New members are active in clubs and organizations around Grounds. They are members of club sports teams, namely baseball, basketball, tennis, and golf, and are involved with Green Bandana Project, Madison House, MII, MOVE, Alpha Kappa Psi Business Fraternity, and other student-run organizations at UVA. We are very pleased to welcome this impressive new group of brothers into 128.



Zach Anderson

McLean, VA

Jackson Arnberg

Fort Lauderdale, FL

Alec Balasny

Hackensack, NJ

Graham Bauer

Arlington, VA

Charlie Burton

Pittsburgh, PA

Nick Ebner

Vail, CO

Henry Evans

Seattle, WA

Nick Feritta

Gastonia, NC

Luke Hampton

Virginia Beach, VA

Nolan Kata

Bay Shore, NY

Ryan Nelson

Santa Barbara, CA

Tom Odutola

Leesburg, VA

Evan Prendergast

Chicago, IL

Jack Ramsay

Darien, CT

Ty Reichard

Leesburg, VA

Andy Ricketts

Vienna, VA

Rob Wegmueller

Falls Church, VA

Alex Yu

Fairfax, VA

Accessibility Fund

We are excited to announce the foundation of the House Scholarship Fund. This idea was brought to life by brothers Matt Walsh '22 and Jacob Anish '22 with the goal of making the house a more inclusive and accessible place for anyone we deem to have the characteristics of a member of our Chapter. There is very little currently available at the university in terms of financial assistance for Greek Life dues and other expenses, discouraging rushing and joining houses for students experiencing financial hardships. President Tyler Kimble '23 and Treasurer Jack Baldwin '23 have been working diligently to get the accounts set up so that we can implement need-based scholarships for potential new members starting during rush next spring. Logistically, the fund will be created from donations small and large from brothers, families, and friends of the house. More information on how to support the fund will be sent out in the near future. We hope that other Greek organizations will consider following in our footsteps in trying to make Greek Life at UVA available to all.



RAV

One of the many things that COVID put a halt to for the past year-and-a-half is the house's philanthropic and service efforts. We have used this downtime to prepare for the return of these events. Philanthropy Committee Chair Will Littlejohn '23 has been working in conjunction with his counterpart at the Fiji chapter at Virginia Tech to plan our Run Across Virginia event on November 21 to support the Jimmy V Foundation for Cancer Research. We will be meeting the Rho Alpha chapter at Tech halfway between Blacksburg and Charlottesville to grab the game ball and a bite of lunch, and then running the ball the remainder of the way into Scott Stadium ahead of the matchup against Virginia Tech on November 27. We have set a goal of raising \$20,000 for the Jimmy V foundation and want to thank all of you who have donated this year or previously.

Parent's Formal

On November 5, we hosted our annual Parents' Formal at Verulam Farm. It was an amazing night with a buffet prepared by our own Chef, Nathan, and a live performance from Virginia Beach band, "Better by Tuesday." It was the first event for the parents of both the 2020 and 2021 pledge classes following the pandemic. Everyone had a fantastic time and spent the following day at King Family Vineyards, Pro Re Nata, and a nightcap at Crozet Pizza with a live performance by "First Lady Band". It was the perfect setting for parents to meet their sons' best friends and get a taste of a weekend in the life of a Phi Gam. We are so excited for next year!



First Lady Band



Fiji's own "First Lady Band" has been on a tear this fall, playing weekly gigs at the house, local bars like Coupe's and Crozet Pizza, and other Greek Life and university events. Band members include Matt Parsons '22 (Guitar and Vocals), Patrick Welch '22 (Bass Guitar), Jack Sherwood '22 (Drums), and Tara Moon '23 (Vocals) who is a member of Delta Delta Delta Sorority. They have an extensive setlist of mainly alternative rock, classic rock, and pop music. Anytime they are playing, you are sure to find the majority of the house there enjoying their music and supporting their brothers. For updates on the band, you can follow them on Instagram @firstladyband.

Madhaus

Eric Schlawin '23 and Will Pemble '23, better known as DJ duo, "Madhaus," have been playing the majority of our social events this semester. Beyond the confines of 128, they are making a name for themselves on the corner playing at Trinity and other fraternity parties around Grounds.



Athletics

2021 has been a great year for the house on an athletics front. Congratulations are in order for the 2021 Pledge Class 3v3 Intramural Basketball Team for winning the university-wide League Championship. Fijis have also been active in IM soccer, volleyball, and flag football this fall. We are looking forward to the upcoming 5v5 IM basketball season this winter and IM softball in the spring. On the club sports front, brothers Aditya Hari '23 and Ty Reichard '24 made the highly competitive club basketball team, and Mitchell Hummel '23 and Peter Coholan '23 are headed down to Hilton Head, SC, to represent the club golf team at the National Championships.



Pictured is the championship-winning 3v3 IM basketball team (from left to right): Nick Fertitta '23, Ty Reichard '24, Jack Ramsay '24, Luke Hampton '23, Jackson Arnberg '24.

House Corporation

Bob Goss '73

Chris Anderson '05, *Treasurer*

Rick Swift '74

Nick Feakins '05, *President*

Steve Surprenant '78

Graham Williams '12

Scott Medvetz '83

Rick Forshaw '12

Jonathan Fraser '88

Tyler Kimble '23

Jeremy Hogg '03

Jack Baldwin '23

Steve Driskill '06, *Chairman*

Matt Parsons '22

House Corporation and Graduate Support

Brother,

As always, I hope this finds you and your family doing well and in good health. I have the pleasure of writing to you this year with lots of good news about Omicron!

I recently spoke with Peter Coholan '23, Corresponding Secretary, about the state of the Chapter, and I was pleasantly surprised to hear him speak of Omicron and the University as getting back to normal.

The Chapter is holding in person chapter meetings, enjoying a full social calendar, and excited to be hosting the Run Across VA again. The brothers I talk to are passionate and energized, and the Chapter is thriving as a result. I don't know why that surprised me so much – being a fraternity that focuses so much on PERSISTENCE - but it has been a difficult two years for sure. I was expecting to hear that fraternities were in disarray; that rush hadn't gone well for anyone; that chapter operations were struggling having been hampered by COVID for so long – but that hasn't been the case. Since day one when COVID hit, our brothers have stepped up to the challenge.

In the middle of COVID, and the challenges of social distancing, we took a large pledge class of 18. I couldn't believe it when I heard. It just goes to show how strong our Chapter is and much Omicron has to offer, that incoming students want to be a part it. Now that things are returning to normal, though, the Brotherhood is focused on next year's goals. In talking with Exec, we heard about the brotherhood's desire to continue improving the chapter house, expand service and philanthropy, and improve graduate relations.

During COVID, 128 took on additional importance as a home, not just a house, and the brothers have a lot of improvements in mind. Many of the smaller improvements the brotherhood is handling on their own, but House Corp will be coordinating the planning and fundraising for the larger capital improvements, such as:

1. Replacing the first floor wood floors
2. Expanding HVAC to common areas
3. Renovating the basement
4. Redesigning the back patio

To make these plans a reality, though, I ask you to consider joining the list of Brothers below who have already given this year. As we quickly approach the end of our fiscal year (December 31, 2021), please consider joining me in showing your support of Omicron. With your help, we can continue the important work of ensuring Omicron remains a source of Courageous Leaders for years to come.

PERGE!

Nick Feakins '05

President, Omicron Chapter House Society

(804) 869-2758

invausa@yahoo.com

Purple Legionnaire: Update and Ask

"The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shove of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker." - Helen Keller

Brothers, you have checked your email or your mailbox and I ask you to consider the following:

Do you resonate with Nick and Tyler, that the current brotherhood is strong? I do! In my experience, serving the last six years as a Purple Legionnaire (son attended UVA '16-'20) our UVA community recognizes FIJI as leaders on Grounds. Now I ask you to consider doing one of the following:



Become anything you believe in
Calvin & Hobbes
Transmogrifier Box

I. Call us or write - we need more, not less communication from graduates!

- a. Confirm your contact information with alumni hall online or via the attached giving form - include areas of business, study, interests and location(s).
- b. Share with me (fraserjb@gmail.com) what was best about FIJI Omicron | UVA and what could be better (then and now) and
- c. Indicate your vote to:
 - 1) Continue to maintain a physical fraternity at 128 Madison Lane
-or-
 - 2) Consider negotiations with UVA for a 128-year lease where each of us receives ~\$2,000 or whatever scholarship, athletic access | VSAF and other opportunities to enhance our collective and continued experiences within the UVA community.

My point here is, do you still value Omicron?

II. Donate by the end of 2021.

If you value Omicron, and I hope you do, use the included giving form or go online at uvafiji.org to donate online. Whether you are giving \$20, \$128 or \$1000, understand that your support is going directly to ensuring the longevity of the chapter and the chapter house. I encourage you to accompany your donation with a specific ask of our graduate officers and undergraduates. What do you want to see done with the Chapter or Chapter House?

III. Consider donating your time.

If you value Omicron but can't make a donation right now, please consider one of the following:

- a. Speaking with an undergraduate.
- b. Calling a brother from whom you have not heard in a while.
- c. Consider becoming a mentor.
- d. Offering a recommendation to | referral for another brother.

In 1984 there were 55 fraternities and nearly 30 sororities on Grounds. Today there are half that many.

Purple Legionnaire: Update and Ask

Calls to cancel the Greek system entirely have been answered elsewhere, eliminating the Greek system at several institutions. Consequently, protests in August 2021 that led to significant damages at Nebraska's and Iowa's chapters instruct us to get ahead and get more involved. Phi Gamma Delta had addressed the above incidents a year prior - still, hundreds; thousands of students called for these Chapters' dismissal and lacking a response from their respective Universities and Investigators - gathered and stormed through these houses. We have established communications with UVA administrative leaders, including President Jim Ryan (since 2016). Unfortunately, events have pressured the University of Virginia to act harshly towards the Greek system. But we still have opportunities to build and invest in our brotherhood and Chapter, demonstrating what makes Omicron unique among fraternities. Our Courageous Leaders. Therefore, I ask us all to consider how and where we each can step up and contribute to leading ourselves forward.

Thank you for your attention and consideration,

Jonathan Fraser '88 (President; Inter-Fraternity Council Chairman; Purple Legionnaire; Father of Ian Fraser '20 UVA & James Fraser '22 VMI).

P!

PS -Thank you to all the brothers who have made recommendations (numerous) and referrals for my sons and Chun Mo Kim '93 for employing "Little Fraus".

2021 Graduate Giving

Special thanks to the following graduates and friends for their gifts to the Omicron Chapter's annual fund over the years. We hope you will continue to support Fiji and encourage your fellow brothers to join in the effort!

January 1, 2021 - November 2021

1,000+

Eric & Anne Sandlund '80
Ray & Stewart Humiston '74

500+

Larry Grim '55
John Purcell '64
Jack & Marianne Burkart '68
Richrd & Ingrid Andrews '70
Pete Delaney '76
Chun Mo & Julie Kim '93

250+

Charles Randall & Lisa
Mellencamp '68
Ted McKean '70
Michael & Nancy Sorenson '70
George Cramer '71
James Wilson '74
Mark & Jay Lux '77
Mr. Doug & Dr. Natalie Milman '87
Michael Woosley '91

250+

Continued

Albert & Shelley Huntington '00
Lary Beicke '01
Nick Feakins '05

128+

Breck & Jean Arrington '55
Gordon & Judy Gentry '59
Bruce Lipps '59
Ted Bedford '64
Bill Easton '65
John Stewart '65
Dr. Jim McDiarmid '66
Herbert Soles '68
Russell Clark '72
Derick & Sallie Islen '73
Jed & Sidney Holland '76
Chandler Fox '78
Duff Scudder '78
Richard Holden '80
Dr. Erik & Ms. Kerry Kisa '80

Steve & Laurie Vittorio '84
Dan & Pamela Mason '85
Jeffery White '85
Barry Bruckman '88
Tom & Julie Burtner '90
John Hamann '92
Andy Fuentes '93
Danny & Carolyn Brosnihan '97
Jamie Driver '99
David & Angela Kennedy '99
Dr. John Subasavage '00
Kyle Fuschetti '06
Jake Schisler '09
Taylor Scholz '12

28+

Thomas Slade '53
Dr. Bruce & Ms. Sue Talmadge '53
Pete & Carol Smith '65
Rick Coupe '72
Steve & Morgan Driskill '06
Jonathan Hilliard '07

Graduate Giving Since 2000

10+ Years of Giving

Colquitt & Mary Shackelford '51
Bruce & Sue Talmadge '53
Gordon & Judy Gentry '59
Ted Bedford '64
Steve Hoster '64
Bill Easton '65
John Stewart '65
Jack & Marianne Burkart '68
Terry & Nancy Gromel '68
Herbert Soles '68
Michael & Nancy Sorensen '70
George Cramer '71
Jeff Brown '76
Steve & Laurie Vittorio '84
Michael Woosley '91
Albert & Shelley Huntington '00
Larry Beicke '01
Jeremy Hogg '03
Nick & Allie Feakins '05
Kyle Fuschetti '06

8+ Years of Giving

David Wakelee '51
John Koenig '53
Breck & Jean Arrington '55
Jim & Nancy Hunter '55
Jim McDiarmid '66
Ed & Rebecca Underwood '69
Chip Helmetag '70
Rick Coupe '72
Stephen & Teresa Naus '72
Ray & Stewart Humiston '74
Richard Swift '74
James Wilson '74
Jim Ryan '76
Duff Scudder '78
Matt & Karen Swingle '79
Ian Lawton '80
Chris Anderson '05
Jake Schisler '09
Joe Vergara '10

5+ Years of Giving

Kenneth Gore '53
Winston & LuLee Holt '53
Jim McCabe '55
Thomas Slade '53
William Childress '58
Robert Hoover '58
J. Macdonald Radcliffe '60
Mike Dougherty '61
Guy & Helen Tripp '62
Tom & Caroline Mickle '64
John Purcell '64
Dave Livingston '65
Pete & Carol Smith '65
Charles & Lisa Randall '68
John English '70
Ted McKean '70

5+ Years of Giving

Continued

Bob & Carolyn Goss '73
Derick & Sallie Iselin '73
Kit & Caroline Henningsen '74
Jed & Sidney Holland '76
Chandler Fox '78
Jack & Noreen Poulson '78
Steve Surprenant '78
Richard Holden '80
Erik & Kerry Kisa '80
B. Krout '80
Dave Morris '80
Eric & Anne Sandlund '80
Steve Souders '83
Mike & Mary Dilon '84
Frank Petz '84
Dan & Pamela Mason '85
James & Whitney Sprinkle '86
Barry Bruckman '88
Tom & Julie Burtner '90
Gene Kennedy '90
Matt & Nadia Daniel '91
Mo & Julie Kim '93
Taylor Grout '98
Jamie Driver '99
Jared & Margo Cooper '03
Justin & Melinda Bonner '04
Kyle & Karyn Sturgeon '04
Andrew & Emily Garrahan '05
Mike & Christina Outten '05
David Walrath '05
Steve & Morgan Driskill '06
Dan & Molly Laufer '06
Jonathon Hilliard '07
Ted Schnuck '07
Matt Allman & Tanya Otsuka '08
Tommy Hayne '09
Andy Cooper '09
David Backer '10
Kevin Dowlen '10
Ross Jacobson '11
Stuart Keech & Lydia Pagliari '11

3+ Years of Giving

Wade Hover '50
Edwin Muhly '53
Samuel Marney '55
Charles Rohrer '55
Benjamin Michaelson '57
Posey & Betty Howell '58
Horace Smith '68
Jeff & Darlene Anderson '69
Richard & Ingrid Andrews '70
Dr. Benjamin LeCompte '71
John & Kathleen Pegues '71
Jon Butler '72
Jake Kenworthy '73

3+ Years of Giving

Continued

Bill Armistead '75
John Perkins '75
Pete Delaney '76
Mark & Jay Lux '77
David & Veronica Verklin '78
David & Kristin O'Donnell '80
Eric Stange '80
Christopher Valtin '80
Charles DeBardleben '81
Jeffery White '85
Bill Kenney '87
Mr. Doug & Dr. Natalie Milman '87
Greg & Wendy Scharer '94
James Cho '96
Danny & Carolyn Brosnihan '97
Dr. John Subasavage '00
Dr. Gregory Treharne '02
Adam Swann '03
Greg Dolinsky '04
Chris Walters '05
Jon Ziefle '05
Nick & Austin Kristoff '06
Chip Longenecker '09
Andrew Straitman '09
Dr. Tim Lancaster '14
Dr. Pearson Gean '15
Troy Kirwin '16

Fiji Financials



\$11k+

Donated to FIJI in 2021



372

Donors since 2000



20

Brothers have given
for over 10 years



55

Donors in 2021

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
SUPPORT!**

*If we have mistakenly forgotten your
name, please
contact us at giving@uvafiji.org.*