



THE COMET FIJI

Phi Gamma Delta at The University of Texas-Dallas | Est. 2010

April 2015

Chapter President

Will Moorman
(2017)

Treasurer

Josh Manning
(2017)

Recording Secretary

Jason Ngyuen
(2016)

Corresponding Secretary

Robert Walker V
(2016)

Historian

Dalton Moore
(2015)

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[@gmail.com](mailto:utdfiji@gmail.com)



Tau Delta's 1st Annual Pig Dinner - March 22, 2014 @ Embassy Suites

2ND ANNUAL NORRIS PIG DINNER APPROACHING FAST

Brothers, Tau Delta's 2nd annual Frank Norris Pig Dinner is less than a month away! On Saturday April 18th at the Hilton Garden Inn on UTD's campus, brothers and friends will come back once again to celebrate our friendships that we have forged, and honor those before us for their dedication to the values of our fraternity. There is still time to RSVP! Go to www.utdfiji.com/events to purchase your ticket to our Pig Dinner. The event is black tie, and graduate brothers are welcome and encouraged to bring a guest to share in the idea that Phi Gamma Delta is *Not For College Days Alone!*





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Tau Delta

BCA

Khris Harris (*Texas-Arlington 2003*)

Aaron Maestas
(*Texas-Arlington 2005*)

Charlie Barker
(*Emory 1967*)

Dave Harben (*Ball State 2004*)

Rhett Hicks III
(*Texas-Dallas 2013*)

Jai Sondhi (*Texas-Dallas 2011*)

Mitch Miller (*Texas-Dallas 2011*)

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FIJI's LEADING THE WAY

The following brothers and graduates listed here deserve a round of applause for their hard work and dedication:

Luiz Blumm (2017) - Hired as an assistant research intern at Locomotor Systems Laboratory for UTD. He is helping develop a 2nd generation prosthetic leg for amputees at the lab.

Rayyan Hingora (2016) - Elected President of the Biomedical Engineering Society.

Daniel del Rosario (2017) - Selected as Captain of the North Texas chapter for the AFSP *Walk All Night* event. Today the chapter has raised \$48,467, with a goal of \$100,000 before April 25th.

Charlie Barker (Emory, 1967) - After learning of brother Del Ro's story in the February issue, brother Barker has joined him to raise \$2,113 with a goal of \$2,250 to take his walk in the AFSP for his Marine friend, Freddie.

Tyler Ortega (2016) - Selected to present his research to the *International Conference for Business & Economics* at Harvard Medical School in May. His research has also been chosen for an opportunity to be published in the *International Journal of Arts & Sciences*. Tyler was also elected Senior Senator to UTD Student Government 2015-16.



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TAU DELTA CHARTERS THE SAM HOUSTON STATE & OKLAHOMA CITY DELTA COLONIES

Comet Fiji's made up a majority of the ritual teams this March to charter the Sam Houston State & Oklahoma City U. Delta Colonies. Here are the brothers who served in the prescribed roles:

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Sam Houston Ritual Team

CP: Will Moorman (2017)

CT: Josh Manning (2017)

RS: Rayyan Hingora (2016)

CS: Brendan Sullivan (North Texas 2017)

CH: Kenny Hardcastle (North Texas 2017)

Directors:

Phillip Plymell (2017)

Sanjay Umamahesh (2018)



Oklahoma City Ritual Team

CP: Andrew Sockwell (2015)

CT: Josh Manning (2017)

RS: Zach Baden (Oklahoma State 2016)

CS: Ryan Knam (Oklahoma State 2018)

CH: Dalton Moore (2015)

Directors:

Jonathan Baker (2018)

Christian de Lara (2018)

Danny Trevino (2017)

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1st Infantry Division soldiers push a Humvee during the “100 yards of Hell” task at Fort Benning, 2013

2nd ANNUAL FIJI HUMVEE PUSH

The Fiji Humvee Push will be happening on Friday April 10th from Noon to 6pm in the fields in front of the Jindal School of Management on UTD’s campus. Teams will consist of 10 total members, made of 7 men and 3 women. Entry to the contest is \$10 per person, or \$100 per team.

75% of the proceeds will be donated to our national philanthropy The USO, and 25% will be awarded to the winning team to be donated to their charity of choice. Shirts will be made and sponsors are being acquired. If you would like your business or company to sponsor the 2nd annual Fiji Humvee Push, please let our philanthropy chair Joe Badgen (2018) know!

His email is joabadgen@gmail.com. We hope to see some of you out there!



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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

COOPER BURKE (2011)

Cooper is quite the character. Straight to the point, no BS, and has some wise wisdom to pass on. Many of you know him from the beginnings of the colony, and all of the new brothers know him only because they memorized the names of our chapter's founders. Either way, he doesn't care. Cooper got stuff to see. Cooper got stuff to do.

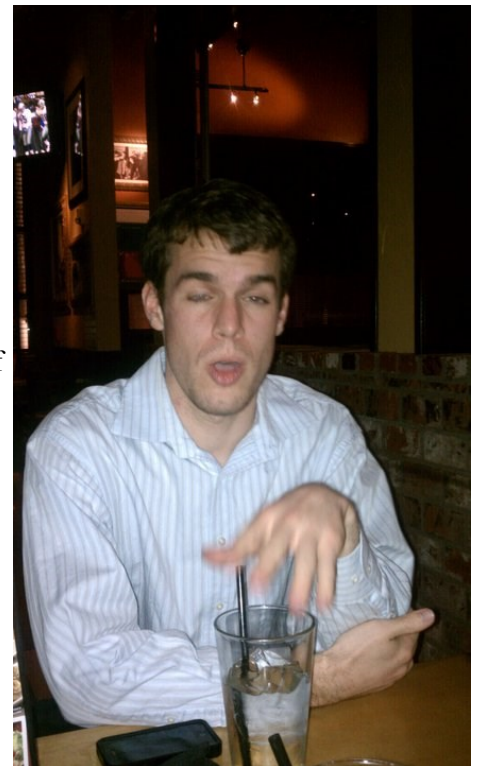
He currently lives in the McKinney area, working for Hie Electronics. It's a data storage company that deals with enterprise class storage. With his smarts, Cooper builds robotics systems for their machines and is currently contracted with Airbus at the moment, specifically to design satellite communications. The big project he's working on now is figuring how to build truck-mounted satellite antennas, so that truckers can watch the latest Nascar championship in the middle of the desert in Nevada. Or for the NSA so they can monitor your internet & cable browsing around the street corner posed as an ice cream truck. No matter the problem, brother Burke takes the interpersonal communication skills that were vital to his undergrad time with Fiji to tackle complex problems and make sure everyone at his company and team are on the same page. He claims "the skills that Fiji provides and hones are things found in all aspects of life including work, but not limited to it." Quite a testament to the good that greek life provides young men about to enter the real world.

In his off time, Cooper has been traveling around the US playing golf at beautiful courses, the most recent being at the Torrey Pines course in San Diego, CA. "The view was great and the golf was some of the best (and hardest) conditions I've ever played," he claimed.

With such a busy schedule, Cooper would like to leave some words of wisdom to the undergraduates at Tau Delta, as he is constantly building his satellites with no breaks to visit. "Keep your head on straight," he says. "Remember to stop and smell the roses, but to stop *on the way to somewhere!*" He suggests whiskey if you're looking for something new to try, and not to get in trouble with the law. Meet lots of ladies, and have fun. "If you find yourself in a fight, you've done something wrong. If you've done something wrong, then kick their ass." Words of a true poet, they are.

On that note, brother Cooper Burke asked me to share not a photo of him, but of something better. Sorry Rhett, but this is too good.

Pergé!



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