

Xi Deuteron History by Dates

- Thursday, February 1, 2007 – Fiji Informational Meeting in the Spartan Room
Field Secretaries Casey Gatz and Marcus Hitt conducted an informational meeting for the prospective students on the Fraternity of Phi Gamma Delta.
- Tuesday, February 6, 2007 – Dodgeball at Adelbert Gymnasium Recruitment Event
- Thursday, February 8, 2007 – Social Dinner at Mama Santa’s Recruitment Event
- Monday, February 12, 2007 – Service Event with Phi Mu at Wade Fireside
The Sorority of Phi Mu invited the Fiji recruits to an evening of making Valentine Cards for the Rainbow Babies Foundation.
- Thursday, February 15, 2007 – Etiquette Dinner with Alpha Phi at A-Phi
- Friday, February 16, 2007 – Fiji Open House
A tour of the Xi Deuteron house was given by its Graduate Brothers.
- Sunday, February 18, 2007 – Fiji Graduate Reception Dinner at That Place
An invitation-only dinner for the Graduate Brothers of Xi Deuteron to meet the new recruits
- Thursday, February 22, 2007 – Fiji Formal Pledging Ceremony
27 students of Case Western Reserve University were officially pledged into The Fraternity of Phi Gamma Delta by Graduate Brothers of the Xi Deuteron Chapter. 2 students, who were not given bids based upon their GPA, were deemed Fiji Social Members.
- Thursday, February 22, 2007 – Meet the Fijis Reception at the Cleveland College Club
A formal event to introduce the new pledges of Phi Gamma Delta to the Case Western Reserve University community. (“Evening With the Fijis” program in Chapter Archives)
- Sunday, February 25, 2007 – Xi Deuteron Chapter Retreat at Wade Fireside
The Xi Deuteron Chapter met together as pledges for the time. They elected their officers: Kevin Carney, President; Matt Patton, Treasurer; Nick Psulkowski, Recording Secretary; Mallory Factor, Corresponding Secretary; Chris Jennewein, Historian. Also elected were Recruitment Chair Matt Shaughnessy and Social Co-Chairs Konrad Karasek and Hunter Vincent.
- Sunday, March 4, 2007 – Chapter Meeting
The Xi Deuteron Chapter planned to meet every Friday for lunch at the local restaurant on campus, Wackadoo’s, to promote the new image of Fiji. Dues were set at \$70 a semester.
- Friday, March 9, 2007 – Lunch at Wackadoo’s
- Monday, March 19, 2007 – Chapter Meeting
- Friday, March 23, 2007 – Lunch at Wackadoo’s
- Saturday, March 24, 2007 – Pyramid Practice with Phi Mu
- [Sunday, March 25 – Sunday, April 1] Greek Week
The Xi Deuteron Chapter of Fiji, having only two weeks to prepare for Greek Week, placed 14th place out of 15 fraternities. They did not participate in the events of Banner Making, Variety Show, and Rope Pull for lack of time.
- Sunday, March 25, 2007 – Greek Speaker (Greek Week Event)
- Sunday, March 25, 2007 – Chapter Meeting
- Monday, March 26, 2007 – Pyramid Practice with Phi Mu

Tuesday, March 27, 2007 – Pyramid Practice with Phi Mu

Wednesday, March 28, 2007 – Greek Sing

Pledges Hunter Vincent, Presto Baliga, Stephen Cabrera, Salil Rao, Christopher Szell, Konrad Karasek, Matt Shaughnessy, Nick Psulkowski, Chris Jennewein, and Mallory Factor participated in the Greek Sing event, singing “Marching Fiji Men”.

Wednesday, March 28, 2007 – Root Beer Chug

Pledges Matt Patton, Hunter Vincent, Konrad Karasek, and Brent Bobsein participated in the Greek Week Root Beer Chug

Thursday, March 29, 2007 – Greek Letter Check-In

Thursday, March 29, 2007 – Greek Life/Faculty Luncheon

Friday, March 30, 2007 – Greek Spot Shot

Pledges Matt Patton, Matt Shaughnessy, Kyle Bednar, Bobby Szatkowski, and Jordan Cottington participated in the Greek Week Spot Shot event placing third in the event.

Friday, March 30, 2007 – Greek Beach Ball Relay/ Raft Race

Pledges Kyle Bednar, Bobby Szatkowski, Preston Baliga, and Brent Bobsein participated in the Greek Week Beach Ball Relay and Raft Race event.

Saturday, March 31, 2007 – Greek Can Castle

Pledges Chris Jennewein, Nick Psulkowski, Eduardo Somoza, Brian Jones, Matt Briancon, David McCauley, Kevin Carney, and Matt Patton participated in the Greek Week Can Castle event.

Saturday, March 31, 2007 – Greek Obstacle Course

Pledges Max Chernyavskiy, Jordan Cottington, Matt Patton, and Matt Shaughnessy participated in the Greek Week Obstacle Course event.

Saturday, March 31, 2007 – Greek Egg Toss

Pledges Kevin Carney, Matt Patton, Preston Baliga, and Brian Jones participated in the Greek Week Egg Toss event.

Saturday, March 31, 2007 – Greek Unity Event

Pledges Max Chernyavskiy and Preston Baliga participated in the Greek Week Unity Event.

Saturday, March 31, 2007 – Greek Pyramid

Pledges James Ochsendorf, Nick Psulkowski, Matt Patton, Kevin Carney, Kyle Bednar, Brent Bobsein, Brian Jones, Matt Shaughnessy, Ryan Kulp, Matt Briancon, Eric Bram, Mallory Factor, Josh Hollabaugh, Bobby Szatkowski, and Jordan Cottington participated in the Greek Week Pyramid event coached by Pledge Josh Richards.

Sunday, April 1, 2007 – Chapter Meeting

Pledges Nick Psulkowski, Hunter Vincent, Josh Richards, Brian Jones, and Matt Patton of the Xi Deuteron Chapter traveled to Akron to see their chapter meeting and learn how they run their chapter.

Friday, April 6, 2007 – Lunch at Wackadoo’s

The University of Akron’s Alpha Omega Chapter President attended lunch with the Xi Deuteron Chapter.

Tuesday, April 10, 2007 – Chapter Meeting

Friday, April 13, 2007 – Lunch at Wackadoo’s

Sunday, April 15, 2007 – Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, April 18, 2007 – Field Secretary Lee Souter arrives

Thursday, April 19, 2007 – Chapter/ Alcohol Risk Meeting

Pledge Brothers Kyle Bednar and Jordan Cottington were awarded the Jim Jones Ballin' Certificate for Exceptional Brotherly Behavior by Recording Secretary Nick Psulkowski. (Jim Jones Awards in Chapter Archives)

Friday, April 20, 2007 – Lunch at Wackadoo's

Sunday, April 22, 2007 – Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, April 24, 2007 – Recruitment Committee Meeting

Friday, April 27, 2007 – Lunch at Wackadoo's

Friday, April 27, 2007 – Recruitment Event (Indians Baseball Game)

Sunday, April 29, 2007 – Hugh-B-Que with Phi Mu at Phi Mu

The Hugh-B-Que made its return with the new pledges of Xi Deuteron. Started in 1997, Graduate Brother Hugh Marshall, Case Equipment Manager, has been barbecuing with the Phi Mu girls and the Xi Deuteron Chapter. Fiji-Phi Mu barbecues began in 1992.

Sunday, April 29, 2007 – Chapter Meeting

Pledge Brothers Preston Baliga and Matt Shaughnessy were awarded the Jim Jones Ballin' Certificate for Exceptional Brotherly Behavior by Recording Secretary Nick Psulkowski. (Jim Jones Awards in Chapter Archives)

Saturday, May 5, 2007 – Phi-esta with Sigma Psi at Sigma Psi

The Sorority of Sigma Psi invited Fiji to a social event for Cinco de Mayo.

Saturday, May 12, 2007 – Initiation

19 Pledge Brothers were initiated at the Masonic Temple in Cleveland, OH. Preston Baliga, Eric Bram, Stephen Cabrera, Kevin Carney, Max Chernyavskiy, Mallory Factor, Chris Jennewein, Konrad Karasek, Ryan Kulp, David McCauley, James Ochsendorf, Matt Patton, Nick Psulkowski, Salil Rao, Josh Richards, Bennett Rummel, Matt Shaughnessy, Eduardo Somoza, and Hunter Vincent were initiated by Executive Director Bill Martin, Archon President Buddy Cotê, and Graduate Brothers of the Xi Deuteron Chapter.

Saturday, May 12, 2007 – Norris Pig Dinner

The newly initiated Brothers of Xi Deuteron invited Graduate Brothers to the Norris Pig Dinner held at the Farm of Case Western Reserve University. Brother Stephen Cabrera read "An Exile's Toast". (Pig Dinner Program and "An Exile's Toast" in Chapter Archives)

Sunday, May 13, 2007 – Chapter Meeting to extend bids to Social Members

The Brothers of the Xi Deuteron Chapter gave a bid to Fiji Social Member JJ Henn.

Xi Deuteron the Fourth

On February 22, 2007, twenty-seven students of Case Western Reserve University were formally pledged into The Fraternity of Phi Gamma Delta as Founding Fathers of the Xi Deuteron Chapter. Their pledging marked the beginning stages for the resurrection of the Xi Deuteron Chapter for the third time.

Although twenty-nine bids were given out by Field Secretaries Casey Gatz and Marcus Hitt, two were later named invalid for scholarship reasons. These two recruits, JJ Henn and Jacob Stauber, were deemed Fiji Social Members and were allowed to follow the journey of the pledges to brothers. Upon their initiation, if they should choose to pledge the following semester, they would join their brothers as Founding Fathers.

That same evening, the Case Western Reserve campus was invited to meet the Founding Fathers of Xi Deuteron at the Cleveland College Club. Field Secretaries Casey Gatz and Marcus Hitt introduced each of the pledges with some of their activities and accomplishments. The dialogue can be found in the Chapter Archives (“Evening with the Fijis”). This formal event was filled with a handful of the Greek community and enjoyed a nice night of introductions and desserts.

On February 25th, the Xi Deuteron Pledges held a Chapter Retreat at Wade Fireside in the North Residential Village. This was the first time the Chapter met altogether in an informal setting. The split into small factions according to acquaintances was slightly noticeable. With the soccer players sitting together, the baseball players, and classmates, it seemed not many pledges knew the rest of their pledge class. Despite this unfamiliarity, much consideration and debate followed as they chose their officers: Kevin Carney, President; Matt Patton, Treasurer; Nick Psulkowski, Recording Secretary; Mallory Factor, Corresponding Secretary; and Chris Jennewein, Historian. And feeling the need to get ahead with fraternity functions, also elected were Recruitment Chair Matt Shaughnessy and Social Co-Chairs Konrad Karasek and Hunter Vincent.

Chapter Meetings at the beginning lacked a business-like atmosphere for obvious reasons. As time went on, however, the Cabinet became more and more successful in conducting productive meetings. During the Sunday, March 4th Chapter, Xi Deuteron agreed to meet at the local restaurant on campus, Wackadoo’s, every Friday during lunchtime to promote the image of Fiji. Dues were set at \$70 per semester. Each pledge was also given the responsibility of creating one slide of personal information in order for pledges to learn more about each other.

Sunday, March 25th marked the start of Greek Week. Xi Deuteron, as a new fraternity without initiated brothers, was not able to win Greek Week, but the pledges decided to participate in as many events as they could prepare for in two weeks notice. By the end, Fiji placed 14th out of 15 Fraternities. They did not participate in Banner Making, Variety Show, or Rope Pull, but they wanted to show the rest of the Greek community that they were ready for the competition in the future by practicing extra hard for Pyramid.

To show their pride, the Fiji pledges invested in two shirts for Greek Week. The first shirt was a simple 'Fiji' shirt. And following with the Greek Week theme, Heroes, the Greek Week shirt had a 'Heroes' theme, from the popular new TV series at the time, with the phrases "Fiji Heroes" and "Save the Fraternity, Save the World." Because of the Greek Week shirt being an original concept art from metrogreeek.com, the shirts cost the fraternity an unanticipated amount of money.

For the Greek Sing event, Pledges Hunter Vincent, Presto Baliga, Stephen Cabrera, Salil Rao, Christopher Szell, Konrad Karasek, Matt Shaughnessy, Nick Psulkowski, Chris Jennewein, and Mallory Factor sang "Marching Fiji Men." Brother Ken Kovach conducted the chapter prior to the event with many Fiji songs.

Pledges Matt Patton, Hunter Vincent, Konrad Karasek, and Brent Bobsein participated in the Root Beer Chug. Pledges Matt Patton, Matt Shaughnessy, Kyle Bednar, Bobby Szatkowski, and Jordan Cottington participated in the Spot Shot event, placing third. Pledges Kyle Bednar, Bobby Szatkowski, Preston Baliga, and Brent Bobsein participated in the Beach Ball Relay and Raft Race events sporting a nice collection of Speedos provided by Bobby.

Pledges Max Chernyavskiy, Jordan Cottington, Matt Patton, and Matt Shaughnessy participated in the Obstacle Course event. For their first time effort, Fiji was not too far behind in time with the leading fraternities. Pledges Chris Jennewein, Nick Psulkowski, Eduardo Somoza, Brian Jones, Matt Briancon, David McCauley, Kevin Carney, and Matt Patton participated in the Can Castle event. They built a skyline of Gotham City while spelling 'Fiji' with the can's labels. The expired cans of veggies were soon after donated to charity.

Pledges Kevin Carney, Matt Patton, Preston Baliga, and Brian Jones participated in the Egg Toss event. Both teams advanced very far; Kevin and Matt were very close to the end. Pledges Max Chernyavskiy and Preston Baliga participated in the Unity Event. And in the much anticipated event, Pledges James Ochsendorf, Nick Psulkowski, Matt Patton, Kevin Carney, Kyle Bednar, Brent Bobsein, Brian Jones, Matt Shaughnessy, Ryan Kulp, Matt Briancon, Eric Bram, Mallory Factor, Josh Hollabaugh, Bobby Szatkowski, and Jordan Cottington participated in the Pyramid event coached by Pledge Josh Richards. Although there were a few penalties on the Fiji team, they were successful in showing the campus how determined they were in their endeavors.

At the close of Greek Week, the Xi Deuteron chapter grew closer together. They were supportive of each other in all events and they talked fervently about plans for Greek Week for the next year.

During the Thursday, April 19th Chapter/ Risk Management/ Alcohol Education meeting with Field Secretary Lee Souter, Recording Secretary Nick Psulkowski awarded Pledges Jordan Cottington and Kyle Bednar with the Jim Jones Ballin' Certificate for Exceptional Brotherly Behavior for providing a TV and DVD player for the meeting. This award was well received by the Chapter and is sure to continue for some time.

On Friday, April 27th, Xi Deuteron held their first recruitment event by inviting recruits to an Indians baseball game. During the game, a few of the pledges decided to split from the rest of the group to look for better seats. Other pledges and recruits decided to leave the game early. The conclusion made by the Chapter was to no longer use baseball games as a recruitment event; a conclusion best arrived at early in the Chapter's history.

The Hugh-B-Q made a triumphant return to Fiji life on Sunday, April 29th. Case Equipment Manager and Fiji Graduate Brother Hugh Marshall returned to barbecue for Fiji and Phi Mu in Xi Deuteron's first social event. Held at the Phi Mu house, the day included delicious chicken, s'mores, and a few games of Corn Hole. Barbecues with Fiji and Phi Mu began in 1992 and became Hugh-B-Qs in 1997.

During the Sunday, April 29th Chapter, Pledges Matt Shaughnessy and Preston Baliga were awarded the Jim Jones Ballin' Certificate for Exceptional Brotherly Behavior by Recording Secretary Nick Psulkowski. Pledge Christopher Szell was also acknowledged and received an award for his illustrious wardrobe.

Fiji held their second social event with Sigma Psi on May 5th. This Phi-esta, named so for the Cinco de Mayo holiday, included a piñata, a game of wiffleball, and tacos supplied by our very own master chef, Pledge Nick Psulkowski.

The initiation for the Xi Deuteron Chapter began on Saturday, May 12th. The campus officially closed May 11th, so most of the Chapter was on extended housing. In suits and ties, 19 pledges arrived at the North Residential Village at 11 am. They were greeted by a trolley that proceeded to take them on a brief tour of Cleveland before arriving at the Masonic Temple downtown. Here they were administered the rites of ritual and the installment of officers by Graduate Brothers of Xi Deuteron along with other visiting Graduate Brothers. In attendance were Executive Director Bill Martin and Archon President Buddy Cotê.

Preston Baliga, Eric Bram, Stephen Cabrera, Kevin Carney, Max Chernyavskiy, Mallory Factor, Chris Jennewein, Konrad Karasek, Ryan Kulp, David McCauley, James Ochsendorf, Matt Patton, Nick Psulkowski, Salil Rao, Josh Richards, Bennett Rummel, Matt Shaughnessy, Eduardo Somoza, and Hunter Vincent became the first initiated brothers of the Xi Deuteron Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta. Brothers Kevin Carney and Bennett Rummel were fortunate to receive their badges by their fathers, thus joining as legacies in Sires and Sons.

After initiation, the Fiji group made a quick stop at a local bar and grill for light appetizers, socializing, and a few games of pool. Following this, the group proceeded to the Farm of Case Western Reserve University where they awaited the festivities of the Norris Pig Dinner. Newly initiated Brother Stephen Cabrera read "An Exile's Toast" to an eager and diverse crowd. Brothers from graduating classes well before 1950 were in attendance. Shortly after 'Bringing in the Pig', Brother Preston Baliga, the youngest Brother, and, ironically, the only senior in Xi Deuteron, kissed the rear of the pig. Brother Russell Hansen, Xi Deuteron '58, kissed the snout of the pig.

The group heard speeches from Xi Deuteron President Kevin Carney, President of House Corporation Patrick Carney, Executive Director Bill Martin, and Archon President Buddy Coté. The rest of the night was full of socializing and pictures.

After the Pig Dinner, the Xi Deuteron Chapter met at Graduate Brother Dan Turner's house where they voted on the Fiji Social Members to extend bids. At this time, JJ Henn was given a bid. Plans to initiate the remaining neophytes were also considered at this time.

As the semester came to an end, Xi Deuteron was once again revitalized. With the history documented for the new Chapter, precautions will be taken to make sure Xi Deuteron will not have to be resurrected a fourth time. The leadership of the Chapter looks promising, and with the help of dedicated Graduate Brothers, Xi Deuteron will surely be directed to become a great influence in the lives of many.

Submitted May 31, 2007
by Christopher Jennewein
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