

The Gamma Gazette



Wednesday Jan 7th , 2025

Grad Gazette v6- Post Pig

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Phi Gamma Delta Gamma Kappa Chapter

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Family Tree

The family tree is actively being updated to be more web-friendly. Please take a look at it in your own time and contact us if you see any issues with it or have any updates to add. Many families are not on the main tree as they never got named or grew beyond a few members, however we would love to get to add them officially to the tree. If you are or know any of these brothers, please send Sam Wells (swells1@mines.edu) updated information. The tags next to the names can also be updated so please let us know if any changes need to be made there. The tree is a fantastic way to see this chapter's history and to see the new members of the chapter. Please take a minute to check it out and admire the growth of our chapter, member-by-member.



GK Archive

The new Gamma Kappa archive is proudly hosted by Phi Gam Archives through IHQ. This new site will hold all of the archives of the chapter including documents, composites, and items. If you have anything in your collection, we'd love to add it to the site! The site is still starting up so there is little content but stay tuned to read up on the chapter's 40 years of history from our Delta Colony days to today!



Stay Connected!



Instagram

The @minesfiji Instagram has been one of the greatest resources for brothers to show off all the work and play they get up to on and off campus. Members of the chapter are featured each week with Brother of the Week, which is awarded to new and old brothers who have shown great dedication to the chapter, and with the FIJI Friday posts which feature snapshots of the week and all of its activities. With initiatives to increase the variety of content produced for Instagram, brothers can't wait for all the new ways they can display their glorious chapter as far the posts will reach. Collaborating with other fraternities and sororities on posts following socials also helps to give any viewers a helluva look into Greek life at mines and all of the fun that can be had by members of any Greek organization (FIJI especially).

Scan the QR code below to follow us on Instagram!



Discord

The Discord is our communication for the chapter now. It serves several purposes. Firstly, Cabinet is able to easily inform the chapter about any meetings, events, or other information the chapter needs to know to all brothers, regardless of if they're around house or not. Secondly, brothers can easily coordinate casual hang-outs, game sessions, and other events. Thirdly, it serves as an easy way for committee heads to communicate with their committees, making it easy to plan events. Lastly, but certainly not least, it allows for undergrads to easily talk to graduate brothers that find themselves in the Discord server. Undergrads can easily find a graduate brother they want to talk to and send them a message, making it easy to connect with FIJI's from throughout this chapter's 40-year history.

Scan the QR code Below to join our Discord! It is one of the best ways to stay in contact with us all!



Bro Dates

Started by the recently revived

Grad Relations committee, Grad Bro Dates is a new trial initiative brought to you with countless hours of hard work from undergrads and grads alike! The Grad Bro Dates are a fantastic way to connect with some of the undergraduates of our chapter, and give them the priceless gift of a connection and insight on what life is like after college! It's an easy and enjoyable way to help out GK as the years progress, without spending as much as a dime, and it really goes the distance. Brothers can connect over lunch, Zoom, or any other medium and have a chance to talk about anything and everything, from memories of the chapter, all the way to life advice. We are calling out to every graduate brother here tonight to see if you could help us make this experimental new initiative take off!

Scan the QR code below to sign up for the next round of Grad Bro Dates for the coming semester! We will email you with more info!

Direct any other questions to rfreese@mines.edu



THE FRATERNITY OF PHI GAMMA DELTA: GAMMA KAPPA CHAPTER

The 40th Annual Pig Dinner

With the 40th Pig Dinner coming and going, its good to reflect on tradition, and how the chapter has grown since we all started this.

Last gazette we dove into all the changes we saw with the chapter, and how we have worked on improving the vision here at Phi Gam, but how did everything actually go for pig dinner itself?

The schedule stayed exactly the same, and that felt intentional even if it wasn't. Beau Jo's on Thursday kicked things off the way it always has, easing people back into the house and into each other's orbit. Wine and Whiskey on Friday followed, setting the tone for the weekend and giving grads, actives, and friends time to reconnect without anything feeling rushed. Casino Night that same Friday carried the energy forward, familiar in the best way, the kind of event where the conversations matter more than the activity itself. We had a lot of people over at house, not a single seat was really left open especially after Saturday and kickball.



The venue itself this year was classy and modern, and fit all of our extra attendees quite comfortably. Some important mentions were the vast amount of past presidents here, as well as the sheer volume of brothers, but what really stood out this year wasn't a new event or a surprise addition, but the turnout. Attendance was noticeably higher across the board, and it showed in every room and at every event as more grads made the trip back, more people stuck around for the full weekend, and the energy reflected that.



That spike in attendance wasn't just good for morale either, it meant we actually turned a profit off of sales, which is no small thing and speaks to how invested people were in being there.

The 40th anniversary aspect added weight without adding pressure, and we would like to thank all the graduate brothers for coming by to say hello to us for this special occasion :)

Below are some of my favorite photos from the venue:

PIG BOOK



FALL Recruitment



If Friday was animated and loud, Saturday showed another side of the group entirely as thirteen prospective members arrived early for the 6th Ave Trail Cleanup, a two hour service project supported by the City of Golden. The group covered more than four miles, collecting trash, talking as they walked, and proving in a very straightforward way that they were willing to show up for something bigger than themselves. It was a tremendously good sign to us to see such a turnout, and I am happy to say that almost every member of that event is a FIJI now. Sunday took things in a completely different direction after a thought given form organized into over six distinct cars to Bucee's. While this might have just been an excuse to drive for a while, the result was a strangely entertaining mix of snacks (such as beaver nuggets), ICEEs, and spontaneous purchases. Several FIJIs returned with decorations that looked like they came straight from an elderly woman's guest bathroom. It was a welcome break from order and a good way for us to talk during the long car rides.

Rush this fall unfolded into one of Phi Gamma Delta's strongest and most memorable recruitment cycles in recent years; the kind of week that doesn't feel like a schedule of events but more like a story you were lucky to even witness. The entire operation was planned and executed by Andrew Cunningham, our current recruitment chair, with the help of Ryan Freese, Will Spaeth and TJ, who spent a frantic few days untangling logistics, troubleshooting last minute issues, and shaping a program that balanced personality, structure, and genuine connection while budgeting for food and events.

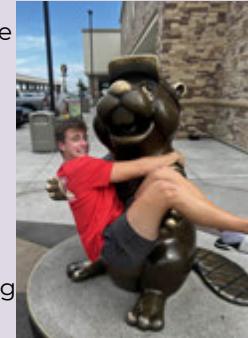
The opening cookout on Friday was the first sign that the chapter was in for a busy week, as it far exceeded our expectations by the first hour. While several brothers contributed, the backbone of the event rested on the planning trio, with cooking led by Luke Trotter who stayed up overnight tending brisket to feed what we thought would be a reasonable crowd. That assumption did not survive contact with reality when *more than a hundred people showed up*, and had the line stretched out the door. The food disappeared so quickly that we actually had to send a few brothers on an emergency run to *literally go get more*. Between the Western theme, the smell of smoked meat drifting across the yard, and the duel stations run by the brothers, the scene felt lively and genuinely welcoming, the kind of event where conversations last longer than the plates of food, and I believe served as a great start for our week



The week picked up speed again on Monday with the Anything But a Paddle Ping Pong tournament. People arrived carrying objects that raised our eyebrows, including a Coldplay shirt, a sword, a slice of cheese, and at one point, Connor Kopel being used as a paddle (finally he found use). Somehow, out of that chaos, TJ Moore and Tyler managed to win the entire thing and walked off with a miniature custom ping pong table that will probably get a full five minutes of use. The entire event was forwarded with good ol' fashioned Canes, which is a universal love here in Colorado, and I believe we had a lot of people show up for that alone!

The Legendary Casino Night returned on Tuesday, drawing a strong group of alumni who contributed both gameplay and real guidance. Graduates like Jake Wharton, Chris Pederton, Will Spaeth, Vinnay Shaw, and Umberto took the time to share advice on majors, careers, and the transition from FIJI to professional life. Between roulette, marble racing, and a fully stocked baked potato and mac bar, finely dressed FIJIS and new potential members shared a classy laugh as they practiced the only real skill of gambling. For the first time in recent memory, Connor did not rig the marble race, which the chapter accepted as a sign of maturity or at least restraint, and manned the Roulette table, which so far has been his greatest challenge here at Mines.

Wednesday's Pie and Die served as the midweek reset everyone needed. Brothers made their own pizzas, settled into long board game sessions, and let the pace drop for a night. A full game of Catan played out slowly in the corner while a round of UNO No Mercy devolved into one of the funniest moments of the week, with Evan Reeves holding a staggering fifty six cards at once. It was simple, quiet, and exactly the kind of event where people actually get to know each other, with plenty of good conversation and character building in my eyes.



Thursday brought the biggest surprise of the week when the chapter rented out the entirety of Skyzone for a private two hour session. Trampoline dodgeball, basketball courts, and jump pits all ran at once, filling the space with enough energy to make it feel like chaos, and while no one had a catastrophic wipeout, dodgeball left a few people walking with a little more caution than usual. For a first time event, it blended athletic chaos with effortless camaraderie, and it quickly became a favorite. We even had some brothers teaching a backflip class, and if not for the price, we might actually consider this again!

By the time the group met for dinner at Cinzzetti's on Friday, the week had already made its impact as conversations were easier, the atmosphere felt earned rather than forced, and the incoming class had begun to show its character. The buffet, as always, was a reward for the hardworking FIJIS and a welcome to our new class, and nobody went home with an empty stomach that night.

Phi Gamma Delta welcomed twenty four new members, with Mason joining two weeks later to round out the class as a late but welcome wildcard. This group brings a wide range of strengths, from athleticism and climbing talent to strong academics and easy humor. They are not a class of identical freshmen but a mix of personalities that fit well into the momentum the chapter built. None of this would have been possible without the support of alumni, especially those who attended Casino Night and those like Will Spaeth who provided essential guidance to Andrew as he stepped into the recruitment chair role with almost no preparation time. The chapter also extends thanks to the Fall 2025 Cabinet for their steady presence and to everyone who helped create a week that felt both structured and genuinely enjoyable. It was a long and stressful, but high energy week, and it clearly paid off :)

E-days



Brothers



Howd-E-Days 2025 were an absolute blast! FIJI had a hand in just about every activity around campus, from pie in the face to the great boat race. The FIJI boat was expertly constructed from stacks upon stacks of cardboard collected from around department stores in the area. With a few rides to scavenge the supplies, we built the boat in the middle of the house (a mistake soon realized when we had to get the boat out of the house), and walked it all the way down to Clear Creek. From there, the FIJI boat made it onto the official E-Days promotional video by Mines (They loved our banana boxes!), into the creek, and immediately against the rocks where it got stuck and sank. We'll get 'em next year!

Fume Hood

That is all. Only took us like 20 or so years right?





As the evening fell on October 26th, we gathered around the house for the seventh annual Extra Life Charity event, a time where brothers gracefully lounged around heroically playing video games for 25 hours straight, all in the name of not touching grass and charity for childrens' healthcare!

The stream was a great way for us Fijis to give back and to help those in need, specifically through stream donations from the users watching on Twitch. People watching could donate to the stream for the cause, but also to give brothers fun punishments. People could pay to have brothers drink hot sauce and pickle juice, send brothers to the closet, or have them sing a funny song. This would give people incentives to donate to the stream on top of the brothers playing games for 25 hours and led to an astonishing \$4,899 being raised right before, during, and after the stream- a new Gamma Kappa record. Every brother would like to thank ANYONE who tuned in, spread the word, and donated any sum of money to the charity, as even a dollar sent to the stream is going towards a great cause.



Study with Buddies

FIJI has continued to elevate its position on campus, partially through academic activities such as study with buddies. Study with buddies is hosted every week on Monday in the Green Center, where brothers will gather and do homework together. Brothers and non brothers alike are encouraged to come and seek help on their homework from experienced brothers. I personally have attended many times, getting one on one help for my physics homework. Others outside of FIJI have come as well, however their numbers have not been as high as desired, and we will continue to push the event around campus.

You may be asking yourself now, what could have possibly gone down during 25 whole hours of streaming? Don't worry, I'm here to give you the highlights. While the start of the stream was a bit rocky and started a couple minutes late, we had a strong start with many donations coming in getting brothers to write some haikus, stand on one foot, and even have them do rows on the famous Gamma Kappa Rowing Machine. As brothers got into a rhythm playing games like Super Smash Bros Ultimate, Black Ops Gun game, Halo Reach, and Minecraft; they had to keep up with the constant stream of donations, and of course, take plenty of laps around Greek Row! As night began to fall, we received an important message from grad Paul McElligott about another Delta challenge this year, promising 20 dollars for every brother who was on stream at 1 in the morning singing to Good ol' Delta, and ended up being the top donator of the stream. After that, we took a calmer break as it was extremely late (early in the morning) so we could chill out and recover (big shoutout to Jacob for staying up all night). We spent most of the morning continuing our games, and punishments of course, as we trucked on to the 24 hour mark. Finally, as the stream came to a close, the brothers had to fulfill many milestone promises they set for the stream. They had to jump in Clear Creek, get dunked by an ice bucket, climb up South Table, and paint their nails purple. If you want to see any of the brothers do any of these additional goals, check out the Gamma Kappa Instagram page.

As a final note before I sign off, if anything I said sounds interesting to you, feel free to join in! We would love to have more people tune in, have a couple laughs, and help us raise money for a great cause. As a last thing, I know I mentioned it earlier, but I would love to thank anyone who donated to the stream, whether it was to make a brother take a shot of hot sauce or to send the whole frat around Greek Row, it was all valuable to us, and at the end of the day, we couldn't have done anything without the many people donating to the chapter, so thank you very much!

For more info about extra life: <https://www.extra-life.org/home>

The Press

Brody Mittelstadt: Interviews from the Soul of the Fraternity

Its ya boy, back at it again with another round of the interviews.

With finals coming to a close and many of us surviving by the skin of our teeth, those who are done with our classes can finally rest. A perfect time to see what the brothers of our chapter have in store!

Starting from the oldest, **Matthew Lucero**, a fall 2025 graduate, has a few tips and tricks for the younger brothers. As an avid fan of the chapter due to its ability to bring people together that may never have met otherwise, his biggest takeaway from this engineering college is that **you have to meet your professors, rather than just take their classes**. While many brothers have done what you're doing now, they can only take you so far.

The new cabinet has taken charge, and with it, a new historian! **Braden Hines** has a few things to say, such as how he likes being surrounded by a group of wonderful people who are trying to better themselves and others. Even if brothers make mistakes, Braden finds the **forgiveness of brotherhood comforting**. Forgiving those who forgive and grow with us is the core of who we are.

Next up, our new recruitment head, who brought us one of the largest groups of new initiates, **Andrew!** He knows that at house, there is always someone able to help you with whatever you need, a **core part of the brotherhood of FIJI**. His advice to the youths of the chapter is that you shouldn't come to house solely for fun; we are so much more than that. **Come for the brotherhood, for the school help, for the personal help, and to become a better brother to all.**

With such a new class, it would be a shame if I didn't cover some of them. So, without further ado, **Parker Young and Andrew Sagel!** Parker himself loves having a place to rest on campus without needing to walk up a hill. The person who got one of our sweetest Nu members to join was our very own Mu, **Dylan Brocksmith!** As for Andrew Sagel, his favorite part is the brotherhood. It must be quite popular, considering how many people have flocked to us for it. He first wanted to join due to **Study with Buddies**; it was run by FIJI brothers, and he wanted more. As a woodshop TA, Andrew is one of the few people who have access to the wealth of woodshop tools and knowledge. With that knowledge, he aims to build more items for the whole chapter, such as a new die table.

Anyways, that's all that's happening with these new and old brothers of FIJI. Come back to the next gazette at Pig Dinner. Until then, take care! I can't wait to see what the future holds for this chapter.

Semi formal

The brothers took a venture this semester into the heart of darkness (Downtown Denver), to partake in a semi-formal event where we rented out a gymnasium. We enjoyed games such as volleyball, pickleball, and basketball. The venue supplied us with Monster energy drinks, which sped up the timeline on my caffeine induced death, but also was a great surprise and helped give us energy as we participated in these activities. It's important to note that although we all had fun with these activities, some brothers are actually really bad at these, and the ones that participate in Intramural and other sports were able to show off for the rest of us. A few brothers brought along dates to the semi-formal as well, allowing some of our brother's friends and loved ones to participate with us.



Although the night was fun overall, there was a terrible tragedy as some brothers left: someone's car got broken into (mine). Despite it being late and at the end of a busy evening, many of the brothers stayed behind to help take care of the car and wait for the police to arrive. The solidarity of our brotherhood shone through this moment as those staying behind showed their care while giving up their own free time to help others out, setting an exemplary example of our core principle of friendship.

-Joshua Fiddler

KICKBACKS



Recently, the chapter has reopened house for a non-Rush event for the first time in a long time. This was in the form of a new social event dubbed a “kickback,” named for the chill, laid-back nature of the event, without the connotations (and the drinks) of a typical frat party.

We beta tested the kickback with a “Root Beer Float Kickback,” inviting friends to house to enjoy delicious root beer and the company of FIJs in their own home. There were roughly 30 non-brothers in attendance, and the event was successful in preparing the boys to set up, clean up, and host an event in our own cozy cabana.

This semester, we threw it down with our first full-scale kickback, the “70s Vs. 80s Kickback,” which was a resounding success. The party started slowly, but soon enough the entire house was full of brothers and non-brothers from around the Mines campus alike. Roughly 125 non-brothers filled the house, enjoying and engaging in Just Dance, good food, glow-in-the-dark die table, and plenty to talk about. Every brother in attendance dressed up in their best 70s or 80s garbs, which really showed solidarity and our celebration of the theme.

Beyond being filled with people, the house was filled up with plenty of 70s and 80s tunes, hits, and one-hit wonders, which added a ton to the atmosphere and energy. There was also Twister, hula hoops, and a photo booth with 80s themed props, which let all those in attendance celebrate and connect with the time periods in question. The cooks also provided some 80s themed delights, such as Jell-O cakes, pigs in a blanket, and mini pizza bagels, which paired nicely alongside the provided mocktails.

This event was massively successful, especially with how it was the first real run of a Fiji kickback and was running concurrently with other Mines events. Besides just the numbers, it was also just a fun time for us Phi Gams and the other Mines students we brought along on the ride with us, and taught us what to expect for future kickbacks in terms of size, vibe, and retention.

This was followed up by “Fiji’s Haunted Halloween Kickback,” hosted on Halloween night. Despite many other Halloween events and parties going on, attendance still remained strong with roughly 125 non-brothers attending again. It was extremely impressive that we were able to net another large group of attendees, especially without any alcohol involved, and compete with the other boys on frat row.



Once again, all the brothers really embraced our theme and donned our best costumes, with some special appearances by the Three Stooges, Anakin Skywalker, Doctor Doom, characters from K-Pop Demon Hunters, and the elusive “Hatman.” Our humble house was transformed into a haunted carnival, combining spooky elements of Halloween with fun carnival style games, such as a pumpkin ring toss, candy corn bowling, and the traditional frat cup pong, giving attendees plenty of activities to participate in. Much like the first, this kickback’s vibes were greatly supported by a Halloween-themed playlist, and Halloween-themed snacks and our “Witch’s Brew Mocktails.” The lack of space in the house, most notably upstairs, showed how successful this event was, as a sea of brothers and non-brothers overtook the entire house. Overall, our “haunted carnival” seemed to be a necessary first stop for plenty of people as they got their scares on the 31st, and allowed our own brothers to have good fun in a safe and creative way.

Game Weekends

As night fell on the first weekend in October, both current and graduated students gathered together on the Mines campus to celebrate for Homecoming and it was an eventful couple of days indeed. The Ballroom dance club hosted a dance event in Green Center, and if you were lucky, you might've even been able to see the occasional Fiji out on the dance floor. Right next door there was a casino night being hosted by CASA, so those who wanted a break from dancing could instead put it all on black at the Roulette table.

But of course, all of these events were just preparation for the giant football game and associated tailgate the next day. It was a fun and chaotic game with many brothers showing up, and many memories made.

Speaking of football, another great game and Fiji hosted tailgate was during the parents weekend. Many brothers were able to spend time with their families and watch a great game. Not only that, but brothers and their families could also enjoy a wonderful brunch and catch up with one another.

The tailgate after was where most of the weekend really happened. People started showing up early, dragging coolers out of trunks, setting up tables, and figuring out food on the fly. It didn't take long before the lot filled in and it turned into one big crowd of brothers, alumni, and random friends bouncing between conversations. Music was playing, people were grilling, and was overall a great time to celebrate our school :)

Next semester, we are excited to continue hosting kickbacks, and we hope they only gain more traction around campus and improve on what we've already built. Take a fierce notice of the purple shaded pillars at our next event, as we invite the students of Mines into our home to take a break from studies and stress, and enjoy a laid-back party that doesn't rely on alcohol to carry the weight. My brothers have made me proud with these kickbacks, and I am so excited to see where we'll take this event next semester, and hopefully into many semesters after that.



BEAU

Tos

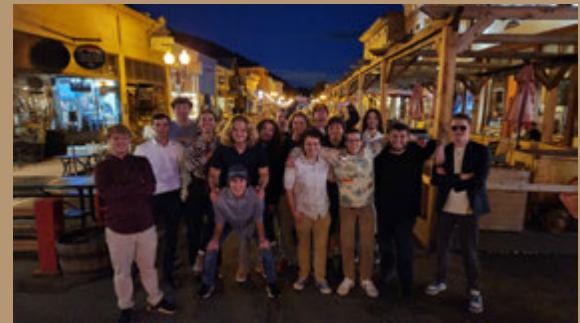
And may it continue evermore...

Beaujos this year was excellent, as it always is.



Brothers, may we always find love in each other's hearts to celebrate sweet tradition with our families in this chapter! May we always find heart to see our older brothers and celebrate at this lovely pizza parlor!

We had a LOT of us here this year, with the new initiate class and all, but it was such a strapping fine time regardless!



SOCIALS

Socials this year here at Phi Gam have been plentiful and fruitful as brothers bridged the gap between fraternity and sorority and sorority as well. Notable socials this semester have been with Sigma Kappa, Sig Ep, Aphi, DU FIJI, and Sig

Nu, not forgetting our tradition with Pi Phi. The SK social was a trivia night, in which brothers and SKs teamed up and competed with each other, as well as enjoyed some FIJI-made snacks. Brothers and sisters all gathered in the main living room and shared some history between the two organizations, enjoying the food and drink.

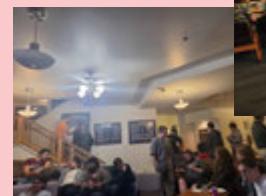
Brothers of FIJI and SigNu enjoyed tasty kebabs, Smash Brothers, conversation, and general fellowship between the two fraternities. The name of the event was Men and Meat, certainly an eyebrow raiser of a name but still something at least memorable. The entire chapter of SigNu showed face, which led to a pretty great event overall.

The brothers connected with the Denver University chapter of FIJI, enjoying a pre-Thanksgiving meal with our other brothers, while participating in a steamy game of Smash Bros Ultimate in the family room. To be fair the event went quite well with a lot of us making new friends in new places, or even seeing old friends, and even being able to divulge the deep dark evil secrets of our fraternity, because these were our brothers after all! Notable attendees include Alex Terhakopian, brother of our own member David Terhakopian, reuniting them after months of separation at their respective schools.



Following up the event was Aphi Kafadar Volleyball where brothers brought fruits and refreshing beverages to Kafadar fields with spikeball, and volleyball nets. Eventually a game of Nuke Em started and was utterly demolished by the women and men who actually played volleyball and had a vertical over a foot.

Finally, the brothers teamed up for a charity social event with SigEp, raising money for Big Brothers Big Sisters, an organization which pairs mentors with underprivileged youth in Colorado communities. The two fraternities sold cheap hot chocolate and baked goods during a cold winter day in the middle of campus, catching many passersby between classes who wanted a snack, a warm drink, or merely to support a good cause.



Next, we brought back the yearly tradition of Thanksgiving with the Pi Phis, witnessing the grad brothers and sisters of both organizations cook for hours to prepare a tremendous feast for us. We had over 45 Pi Phis in our house, and with everyone dressed nicely, enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving meal after singing the Doxology perfectly for the first time in seventeen billion years for the lovely ladies. Brothers and sisters enjoyed casual banter, spilled the tea, and had good conversations about finals and this school we go to.





The chapter retreat this semester took place at Luke Trotter's property, a quiet stretch of land that gave everyone enough space to think, talk, and actually map out the months ahead without the usual campus noise cutting in. Most of the afternoon was spent planning the semester in detail, lining up goals, events, and expectations until the entire schedule finally made sense on paper. At one point, Ryan was stung by a bee, which briefly interrupted the flow, but thankfully everyone moved on. The retreat wrapped with a slow walk on a large hill to catch the sunset, a calm ending that made the whole trip feel less like a meeting and more like a reset before everything begins again.



Here at Mines, getting through classes is definitely a grind. It's easy to get lost in the sauce and the unwavering flow of assignments making you go insane, and I found that the best coping mechanism is to be physically active. This is made especially easy by joining one of the many sports teams here at Mines. I personally have joined the Mines Lacrosse Club, and even though I have only been on the team for one semester, it has been a great experience. I was able to have a great and healthy distraction from the copious schoolwork of Mines, while also getting to meet some great people and make new friends and memories. I highly recommend all brothers give any club or Intramural sport a try, whether it's to meet new people, get active, or become a bigger part of the Mines community, it is a great way to get involved and have fun.

The White Elephant was where the night really stretched its legs for as usual, the range of gifts made absolutely no sense, which was kind of the point. There were genuinely useful things mixed in with completely unserious ones: Nerf guns, calendars, food, miniature shopping carts, shot-glass roulette wheels, and even straight-up Bitcoin. Some gifts came with history, like the bead foot spa making its annual reappearance, while others were just confusing on sight, including rotisserie chickens and Chris Chan amulets. I think what made it work wasn't the gifts themselves so much as the reactions though!

Merry Christmas Bros!

FUJI Christmas!

Finals are just around the corner, and with it comes our annual Christmas party!

The tree went up without much chaos, Lights went up around the house, and the stairs were decorated top to bottom, which ended up being one of the first things people noticed when they walked in. It wasn't overdone, but it was enough to make the house feel different in a good way, like the semester had officially slowed down and it was okay to just exist there for a bit, and a good kickback right before our finals.

The food is where everyone naturally gravitated first as we had quite a spread laid out from the start: molten peppermint hot chocolate, the house's famous hot cider, trays of truffles and pastries, and more. Most of the night started with people standing around the kitchen or living room with food in hand, talking, catching up, and dreading finals, but not worrying in that moment, and the festive house and hats certainly helped.



Grad Spotlight: Geoff McIntyre

Graduated: 2024 May

Beta Tetartor

Electrical Engineering

Originally from Carverdale, Kansas, the kind of place where there isn't much to do and even less handed to you, Geoff grew up poor, was aware of it early, and learned quickly that if he wanted forward motion, he'd have to generate it himself. At sixteen, he moved out of his house and started figuring things out on his own. That meant entrepreneurship, web development, video editing, anything that paid and taught him something useful.

Before Mines, Geoff went through trade school in mechatronics and worked at Garmin International, building robots for assembly lines. He was involved with a high school robotics team while helping run a makerspace tied to a real company. **At one point, he built a robot so advanced that competition officials didn't believe a student could have made it and disqualified him.**

He came to Mines on a full application fee waiver with a probable acceptance. Then COVID hit during his freshman year. Campus emptied out, classes went remote, and the experience became isolating fast. During that time, he lost his roommate. Between the shutdowns and the loss, he seriously considered leaving school altogether.

He joined FIJI almost on a whim (because of our chillmon rolls as well) and found stability in the house that gave him people, routine, and support at a point when very little else was working. He's open about the fact that without FIJI, he likely wouldn't have stayed at Mines. The food, the check-ins, the simple presence of others mattered more than anything formal.

Because of COVID complications, Geoff spent an extended period essentially alone in the house. That experience pushed him to run for House Manager. He ended up holding the role for three years, along with serving as Pledge Educator for a year. During that time, he led the transition away from traditional pledging to a direct initiation model, rebuilding the process from the ground up without a template to follow.

Academically, Geoff's path took longer than most. He was entirely self-funded and worked full time as an engineer while finishing his degree. He's worked across startups, government-adjacent projects, and large companies, gravitating toward environments where building mattered more than titles or structure.



Geoff founded a company called Prototypical, which was later absorbed into Agrigrase, where he worked on monitoring systems for livestock. After parting ways, he started his own venture again and gave himself twelve months to make it work.

That company is McIntyre-Reeves, or MR Industries. The focus is making electrical engineering hardware and software more accessible to college students. Its first product, TinyCore, has already sold one hundred kits, with several in use at the University of Colorado Boulder. The company has raised seventy-seven thousand dollars in capital and secured over thirteen thousand dollars in contracts, with a clear path toward profitability. Geoff is straightforward about what FIJI meant to him. It gave him stability during a period when he was close to walking away from school entirely. He credits the house with helping him graduate. Looking forward, he hopes to give back, potentially through renovating the house or becoming more involved with BCA when the timing is right. He also hopes Monday night dinners make a return.

Geoff currently works out of Boulder and can be reached at geoff@mr.industries. He closes with this: Gentlemen, get stronger, grow longer, work harder, and beyond all else, do great things.

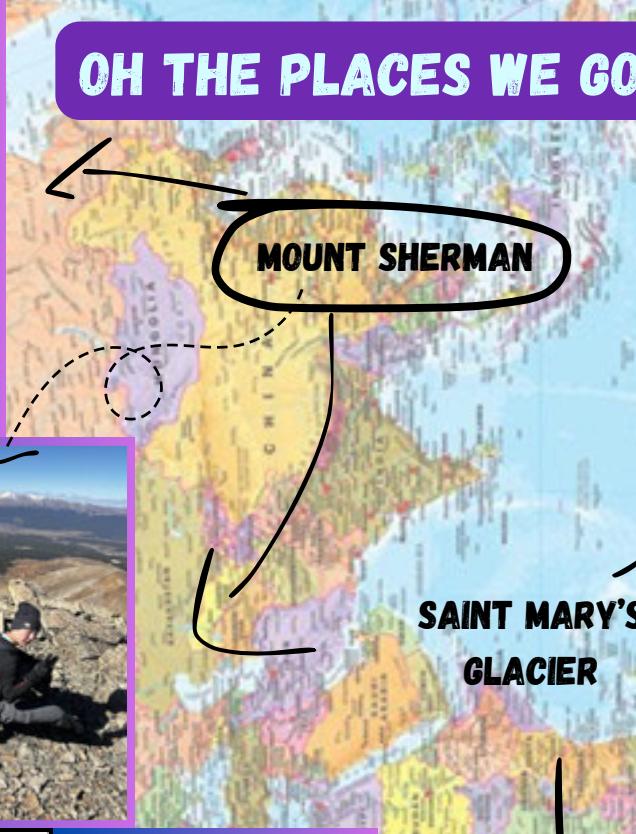


Archive Weekend

During the Spring 2025 semester, six brothers embarked on a cross-country road trip to Lexington Kentucky, where they participated in an archive weekend at Phi Gamma Delta's headquarters. These brothers drove overnight, non-stop, for 18 hours. It was at this event that our chapter's historical records began to become digitized. For two days straight, hours were spent organizing and scanning documents; however, the weekend was not all work and no play. The brothers got to meet employees at the international headquarters, including the executive director, archivist, and several field secretaries. Moreover, they shared several meals with other chapters participating in archive weekend, establishing fraternal connections to other chapters.



OH THE PLACES WE GO



Stats

Undergrad Brothers:

62

Newest Class:

NH (Nu Tetarteron)

New Brothers:

24

Graduating Brothers:

3



DELICATE ARCH UTAH



GREAT SAND DUNES



DENVER ZOO



WINTER PARK/COPPER MOUNTAIN

Committee Chairs

Evan Reeves	Jacob Bixler
Garrett Hoke	Jesse Paulsen
Jackson Neal	Liam Abell
Sam Wells	Liam Schoenleber
Ryan Freese	Mason Ngo
Andrew Cunningham	Nate Perkins
Connor Kopel	Ryan Tock
David Terhakopian	Tj Moore
Devin Miller	Issac McGuire
Ian Moody	Jackson Fleischauer
	Ryan Freese

New Brothers

David Terhakopian



"We are so back."

Nathan Tacchino



"Did you ever hear the tragedy of Darth Plagueis the Wise?"
-Sheev Palpatine

Isaac McGuire



"There is love enough in this world for everybody, if people will just look."
-Cat's Cradle

Garrett Hoke



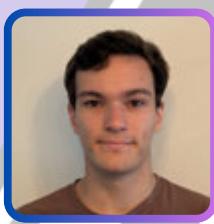
"Live your life with no regrets."

Eli Goris



"Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try."
-John F. Kennedy

Peyton Gammel



"Wouldn't the world be better off if we took nonsense more seriously?"

Jonas Jenks



"Just happy to be here."

James Towle



"The rot takes, the rot consumes."

Liam McArthur



"Ice Age baby vs. the meteor that killed the dinosaurs."

Dahlaihuu Anderson



"All for one and one for all."

Andrew Sagel



"I am ready to face any challenges that might be foolish enough to face me"
-Dwight Schrute

Brendan Herman



"I need to go to class. I have bed in seven and a half hours."

Joshua Fiddler



"Yes, there is weakness. There is frailty. But there is courage also, and honor to be found in men."
-Boromir

Akhil Singh



"Money so hallucinogenic I been seeing six figures."

Mason Ngo



"You win some, you lose most."

Parker Young



"Problem exists between chair and keyboard."

CABINET

GIO ANDRADE

BRADEN HINES

JIAH SPECTOR

LUKE TROTTER

ROMAN BURNSIDE

COR SEC

HISTORIAN

PRESIDENT

TREASURER

REC SEC



MECH-E:
AUTOMATION AND
CONTROLS



ENGINEERING
PHYSICS



COMPUTER
SCIENCE



MECHANICAL
ENGINEERING



MECHANICAL
ENGINEERING

Andrew Yenne



"It is important to draw wisdom from many different places. If we take it from only one place, it becomes rigid and stale. Understanding others, the other elements, and the other nations, will help you to become whole."
-Uncle Iroh

Jesse Paulsen



"As long as the Earth, Sun, and Moon exist, everything will be alright."

Ash Fox-Smith



"You are bugs."
-Sophon

Keshav Darnule



"The paths of life are like a winding well traveled road through a field."

Thomas Weissert



"This world is amazing when you greet it with open arms."

Garrett Bohn



"I'm on the pursuit of awesomeness. Excellence is the bare minimum."
-Kanye West

Evan Moore



"What we do reflects who we are."



"I've always got tomorrow to redeem today."

Moving Forward



All good must come to an end eventually it seems! I am happy to announce that Nathan Tacchino will be carrying the flame from here on out!

Thank you to everyone who has kept the grad relations branch alive, and expect more gazettes in the future.

Grad bro dates will continue, as well as whatever Nathan cooks up FYI.

It has truly been an honor serving this community and connecting with all of you! Excited to see where my future lies especially with FIJI.

**Perge!
Ryan Freese- Exiting Grad Chair**

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Grad Relations Chair
Joshua Fiddler: Co-editor
The Writers of Histor
Phi Gamma Delta- Gamma
Kappa Chapter
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Gamma Gladiator

Andrew Cunningham

For this gazette we want to highlight Andrew Cunningham, our current recruitment chair!

Andrew demonstrated exemplary initiative by stepping up to replace the previous recruitment chair when he stepped down only three weeks before rush. Andrew was already in the process of being trained to run recruitment by the previous chair, so he was very prepared to take on this responsibility. It was still stressful to take on this task on such short notice before rush, however Andrew pulled it off and put on an amazing rush. He has already started planning fall rush so that there won't be such a crunch to get the events planned.

Andrew truly believes in the good that Fiji does as an organisation, and that it is beneficial to those who join, so he is the perfect person to be in charge of demonstrating that to potential new members.

In his free time Andrew spends his time bouldering or playing tabletop games like Magic the Gathering, Dungeons and Dragons, or Dark Tower. He is a sophomore in electrical engineering in the power and energy systems track. He plans to get a masters in advanced energy systems, and eventually wants to work with renewable or nuclear energy.



The Spector Spectacle



Hello Brothers! It's been a wild ride this semester.

It's hard to believe that I am here now, writing this article for the gazette. The chapter has been improving so much and it has been incredible to witness everyone's hard work pay off.

My journey in FIJI started with the golf kart, as it did for many. I initiated as part of the Lambda Tetarton class. I started out in the chapter as co-head of the social committee, where I had an incredible journey on learning event planning. As a committee head, I revived the campus events position that had been dormant. After serving as corresponding secretary in an emergency situation, I am now here in the president position. I am so incredibly honored to be able to serve our chapter as president.

As corresponding Secretary, I ran a brand-new philanthropy event called Phi Gamma Meltas, where we served grilled cheese to raise money for USO. For recruitment, my significant contributions to graphic design boosted publicity and helped in creating an incredible rush class that initiated 24 members, the biggest rush post-covid.

All of these new brothers are incredible additions to the chapter. They bring so much hype and excitement to being a brother of Gamma Kappa. In addition to this, we ran 2 spectacular parties that had a turnout of over 100 people while staying completely dry, redefining what we ever thought we could achieve with campus events.

Despite being at a new high of the chapter, I don't intend to take it easy at all or "ride the wave". I'm going to do my best to ensure that our chapter doesn't settle for great, but goes beyond and becomes exceeds what we thought was ever possible.

**Proud FIJI,
Pergé!
Jiah Spector, President**

SCRAPBOOK



SCRAPBOOK



SCRAPBOOK

