



# The Gamma Eye

Alumni Newsletter for the Gamma Iota Chapter of The Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity

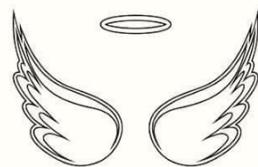
**ΔΣΦ** / **DELTA SIGMA PHI**  
BETTER MEN. BETTER LIVES.

University of Idaho

DELTA SIGMA PHI • MOSCOW, IDAHO • FALL 2022 • 14<sup>th</sup> EDITION



Kaylee Goncalves



Xana Kernodle  
Madison Mogen



Ethan Chapin



University of Idaho



Gamma Iota stands with the families of these students, the sisters of Alpha Phi, Pi Beta Phi, the brothers of Sigma Chi, our entire Greek community, and the greater Vandal family.



YITBOS

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW ACB



Michael Bivens PC 15  
President



Sean Michael Foster PC 07  
Vice President



Michael Penn PC 17  
Treasurer



Hayden Carr PC 12  
Secretary

As a local to Lewiston, the University of Idaho had always seemed like the obvious choice for me and it took no time at all for Delta Sig to be the obvious choice when joining a fraternity. My college years were exceptionally busy as I worked with others to rebuild the chapter and establish a new foundation in conjunction with ACB members like Brendan Boyle and Eric Pickett. These experiences contributed greatly to the success I have found post-college. Since graduating from college I have pursued a number of different pathways that benefited from skills like organizational management, leadership, and strategic planning that were built from my experience leading the undergraduate chapter. I've worked on the University of Idaho campus in the Fraternity & Sorority Life Office and managed project groups at two large universities in Texas. Today, I am a freelance web developer working with teams across the globe, building different products and visions. In my free time, I am usually already working with undergraduate members on different projects, hiking national parks, or creating podcasts.

YITBOS

I am proud to be serving as your new ACB Vice President. I joined Delta Sigma Phi in the fall of 2007. I considered another house, but once I visited 503 University, I knew that was where I belonged. As an undergrad I served as Pledge Educator (and never missed a question on a pledge test). I still regard joining Gamma Iota as one of the most positive and meaningful decisions I have ever made.

Since graduating in 2012 I have worked in politics and education. Currently in my 10th year of teaching high school which began in Mountain Home before moving to Sumner, WA. Throughout my teaching career I have served in positions both social and professional. I am on the executive committee of local, regional, and state level National Education Association affiliates where I help direct the actions of the country's largest labor union. I enjoy serving as an elected representative for my local union and for the Puget Sound region in state-level and national organizing groups in the support cadre known as a UniServ Council. I'm looking forward to using my experience I've gained to make meaningful gains in organizing alumni engagement with the chapter and with our greater alumni networks throughout the country.

I enjoy hiking, mountaineering, cooking, travel, coaching soccer, and supporting the Seattle Sounders.

YITBOS

Originally from Coeur d'Alene, the University of Idaho was actually not my first school of choice. I attended BSU for my first semester of college, and the experience there almost led me to drop out my freshman year. I decided to see it through for another semester at the University of Idaho, and I am extremely grateful I did. I met the Delta Sigs in the spring semester and had never felt more at home. I pledged in the fall semester the following year, and the rest is history. Also had the honor of serving as Chapter President in 2019.

Since graduation, I have moved around a bit and have most recently settled in Arizona. I have held a couple positions since graduating, and they have all contributed to my understanding of management, leadership, mentorship, and budgeting. Today I am working as a substitute teacher while working towards obtaining my teaching certificate in Arizona. These experiences make me feel as if I will be of value on the ACB. I cannot express how grateful I am to be able to help the undergraduate brothers have the same experience that I did. I am committed as Treasurer to help the undergrads responsibly manage the chapter's finances and carefully oversee any alumni donations.

YITBOS

My name is Hayden Carr from Boise, ID. and I will be serving as ACB Secretary for Gamma Iota. I went to the University of Idaho from 2012 until 2016 graduating in December with a bachelors degree in Geography with a minor in Climate Change and Geology. I held the positions of Head Hasher, Sergeant at Arms, and Vice-President during my undergrad tenure. I am currently a Land Surveyor and working on obtaining an Idaho State license. Working as a Land Surveyor allows me to apply the knowledge I learned at school while contributing my skill set to my employer, Mason and Associates in Nampa, ID. The experience I had at the U of I and at Delta Sig has impacted the way I conduct myself with leadership and organization management. Without that experience, I would not be the person I am today. My goal as ACB Secretary is to build upon the work of previous ACB Secretary, Eric Pickett. He has done a phenomenal job with documentation and organizing of information that has been recorded between the undergrads, ACB, HQ, and alumni. My personal goals are as follows:

- Ensure meetings are documented via minutes.
- Maintaining effective records and organizing those through our Google Drive.
- Send communications and correspondence between ACB, alumni, undergrads, and HQ.

YITBOS

## SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY APRIL 1, 2023. 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF BIKE TO BOISE - ALUMNI DINNER. DETAILS COMING IN LATE JANUARY.

# SAILORS SPOTLIGHT

DR. COOPER MITCHELL DDS PC O2



Dr Mitchell At His Dental Practice

**C**ooper Mitchell (Coop) was raised in Helena, Montana and went to the University of Idaho to pole vault on the track team in 2001. It was during his freshman year that he learned how strong the Greek system was and luckily there were some Delta Sigs on the U of I track team that helped bring him and his good friend Nick Duda (PC '02) to Delta Sig. He said it was the energy from members and fellow pledges that really drew him to pledge in the fall of 2002 with 21 others. We were very a tight-knit and proud class, with nearly everyone earning a nickname through our first year of shenanigans.

Coop majored in engineering but shifted his focus in his second year. Even given the engineering skills that lead him to build a tuna fish can strainer for the house that might have catapulted him into George Forman-esque stardom. Or his other hope of becoming an Olympic swimmer would only take him so far as to almost single-handedly win a sorority swimming philanthropy for the Chapter. After shadowing various medical professions, including his father who was a dentist. He mentions watching his father provide such a positive impact on his patients' lives and slowly found himself gravitating toward the profession. Maybe it was just in his blood all along and he accepted his destiny, after all, both his father and grandfather had been successful dentists.

He recalls that December day very well when the acceptance call from the Minnesota School of Dentistry came to the 2nd-floor phone booth. As he quotes this led him to the most "carefree semester of my life." Even given the carefree semester, he ended up graduating Summa Cum Laude with a Biological Systems Engineering degree.

Upon entering dental school his philosophy on becoming a dentist was different from his prior 4 years. No longer focusing on getting the highest grade but rather choosing to focus on truly learning how to become the best dentist he could be for his future patients. While quickly learning that dental school was far more intense than he anticipated, studying for countless exams and practicals took most, if not all, his free time for the first three years. By his fourth year, it was time to decide what to do next after graduation. With help from his father, he was encouraged to complete a dental residency to further develop more advanced skills while still being guided by specialists. After applying to five different programs from as many different states, he was lucky enough to go to Idaho State's residency program in 2009. ISU had a terrific reputation for advanced and complex skill development for its residents. It also gave him the ability to come back to Idaho, close to other D Sigs, and closer to home. He says that he learned more in that one year than he did in the four years back in dental school.

After completing his residency, it was time for another

big decision, which would have a rooting effect for the rest of his life, where to practice dentistry. After a long time looking in Boise and across Montana, he had the opportunity to purchase a dental practice in Helena which was something he ultimately couldn't pass up. This was also at a pivotal time when his father's health was starting to decline which offered him more quality time with his father and family. During the first couple of years of practice, his father was a pivotal guide and provided a sound foundation to grow his own practice. With having little to no personal experience running a practice, it was a huge challenge to run the business, practice dentistry, and keep all the bills paid. What helped move him forward was reiterating one of his pillars to success: to keep his head down, set goals, and work hard. He now feels by doing that, he has made his practice successful and unique while providing a positive impact on his patients' lives. Just as his father did for over 30 years at the VA.

During the second year of owning his practice, he approached his favorite high school science teacher with the idea of developing a scholarship for the science seminar class. Coop was looking to pay it back and reward those students that were well-rounded but also were developing their goal-setting skills. For twelve years this scholarship has allowed him to meet some wonderful students that have set out and achieved the things that were important to them in athletics, academics, and business.

In true Coop fashion and wanting to continue to be able to make the biggest impact on his patients' lives and his community, he continues to learn and has completed over 1,400 hours of continuing education. Earning his Fellowship in the Academy of General Dentistry in 2017. It's a big step that many other dentists don't make (only 6% of dentists earn theirs). In July of 2023, he will receive his Mastership in the Academy of General Dentistry and be a part of only 2% of dentists who are able to earn this distinction.



Brother Mitchell - Commencement 2005 with family

Recalling some of his favorite memories over the years included "room improvements" during work week, Sailor's Ball, camping trips, and hearing the chapter collectively groan when extending chapter meetings with "Cheers and Jeers". Coop was nominated for chapter president in his second year in the house and took the challenge head-on. While easily a very successful chapter on campus by social comparison, he quickly helped grow the house academically and organizationally as well.

Everything changed on September 19, 2004 when Jason Yearout and Jack Shannon started their journey to the Bond Eternal after a motorcycle accident. Many of us felt broken by their passing and some of us are still healing. Cooper still searches to find the words that describe those couple of months. Mostly he felt completely unprepared and overwhelmed with the responsibility of acting president but did his best to get the chapter through it all in one piece.

Moving past tragedy is a journey that takes many paths. As heartbreak returns to campus once again, he reflects that their loss made him realize how precious and fragile life really can be. For him, he wishes he would have spent more time processing their loss and supporting those closest to them. Most importantly he feels we should appreciate the time and memories made with those who cross our path and make it brighter as both Jack and Jason surely did for us.

"Looking back, I'm really impressed with Coop's ability to balance both his academic and social life. He was able to meet the high standards he set for himself



Cooper, wife Jessie and the kids

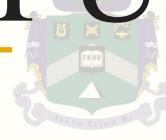
while still being a great friend/brother. Being a leader, he often had to bear the burden of being the voice of reason, which isn't easy in that environment. Everyone respected and trusted him, which made him the perfect person to guide us through the tough times as well as the good times. A lot of my best memories from college include Coop and I'll always be grateful for everything he did for me and also the house," Streeter Johnson PC 02.

Cooper lives in Helena with his wife Jessie, an instructional coach for the school district, and their two young children. They love spending time together in the beautiful outdoors that Montana has to offer. When asked what advice Cooper would give to any current undergrads, he said "Set goals, work hard, and be persistent. These are the keys to success in academia and business."

YITBOS

Anthony "AJ" Little PC 02

# YOUTH UPDATE



## LETTER FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT



Brothers,

It has been another semester full of great accomplishments for everybody at Gamma Iota. Returning from the summer we saw a handful of members finishing their internships leading into a hectic rush week. After recruitment, we dove straight into pledge education, teaching our new members what it means to be a Delta Sig. Which was an easy task now with all the seniors we have in our house. But all through the school year the key thing that was consistent was the amount of focus shown with members.

When I first came into the position there was an overwhelming sense of duty to help everybody in the house develop into men to better our campus. In the blink of an eye I'm now coming to the end of my term and I couldn't be more proud of the men we recruited and their ability to commit themselves to this house and their own educational growth. No freshman class that I've seen has shown such unity, teamwork and integrity. The future is in good hands and I'm excited to see more work done as we enter a new semester, with a new Chapter President and a new ACB president and board.

Looking into the future, our new Executive Board looks to be full of capable individuals. Many of these being previous members of the Executive Board looking to progress forward and to give back. It seems to be a theme of the types that we recruit, seeking out leadership opportunities at every grasp, a healthy competition of individuals wanting to present themselves at their best.

As always we continue to push through any setbacks thrown our way, unforeseen things in our community that no one could plan for or predict. It truly is a blessing to be able to take a step back in my life and have the endless support for my brothers as they constantly do for me. In this short college experience there is nothing else I could ask for.

YITBOS,

Bernardo Bautista PC 19  
Chapter President

## NEWLY ELECTED 2023 EXEC BOARD



L to R; Javier Cardoza (Secretary) , Cole Barrett (New Member Educator), Josh Rardon (Sgt- At- Arms), Ryan Malone (President) , Will Murray (VP), Benjamin Jones (Rush Chairman) , Nathan Tinno (Treasurer)

## RUSH REPORT

Formal recruitment in the Fall brought in a couple of new faces and more opportunities to get our name out there. At the end of the week, we ended up giving out 19 bids. Of the 19, we only had 4 signs, with us being the second choice for the rest of the PNMs. Although the formal rush didn't turn out exactly how we hoped, we ended up with some freshmen that would be imperative for recruitment throughout the rest of the Fall semester.

Over the next few weeks, our newest pledge class doubled due to more active participation in recruitment from new members and older members. Along with this, we also had members from previous years come back raising membership levels. Out of all the new initiates, there have been a couple that seems to excel in certain areas of recruitment. Andrew Wood is one who has actively brought more stand-up guys to the house.

Overall, at the end of the fall semester, we ended up with 6 new members who will be essential to the upcoming spring semester. As we move forward, I will be introducing recruitment

strategies that have been lost over time as well as brand new ideas that might help to bring in more upstanding men. As we enter 2023 I'm excited to serve a second term with the knowledge of the previous year. If you have any information on a potential future Delta Sig feel free to reach out to me.

YITBOS,

Benjamin Jones '21  
Recruitment Director  
Jenjybones@gmail.com



## FALL 2022 INITIATES



L to R; Javier Cardoza, Seth Rahe, Andrew Wood, Nathan Tinno, Andrew Sims

# MESSAGE FROM THE ACB



Michael Bivens PC 15 ACB President

With the conclusion of the Fall 2022 semester and I am happy to report on the health and success of the Gamma Iota chapter. This semester presented a number of impactful events including the election of a new ACB and the deaths of multiple students.

Following the election of the new board, I made efforts to review the status and condition of the chapter facility, the current members, ongoing initiatives and projects, as well as the financial status of our undergraduate and alumni accounts. There are a considerable number of these initiatives and projects that my board has taken over as well as beginning new ones as a result of this review.

We are looking to build on the foundation we have inherited from the previous leadership and the devoted service of every past alumni that have dedicated time and treasure to the fraternity by way of work parties, elected and appointed leadership roles, supporting undergraduates, and giving attention to our communications. We are looking to work with local alumni from various regions to begin conducting bi-monthly alumni events with a core focus on brotherhood and community. We are reviewing current fiscal management practices and updating policies and procedures to ensure the future financial health of our organization. We are further engaging with local contractors to repair damage to the chapter facility that has occurred as a result of time, in the most immediate future we are working to resolve the gradual failure of a retaining wall and cracks in the foundation that has resulted in some minor flooding.

Shortly following the election of the new ACB board, one of the greatest tragedies to befall the

community in campus history occurred. We lost four students in a case that has left our community shaken to its core. Those students were Ethan Chapin (Sigma Chi), Madison Mogen (Pi Beta Phi), Xana Kernodle (Pi Beta Phi), and Kaylee Goncalves (Alpha Phi). In the wake of this event, I immediately began working with the undergraduate president to verify that all members were safe and accounted for. Once this fact

was known, I then spoke with each member in their homes to assess their physical and mental health and understand what needs they may have going forward. After these discussions were held, I worked with campus and alumni leaders to provide additional support and resources as they were requested.

The latest update on the story is that an arrest was made against the suspect for the murders but that the investigation continues to be underway. This has ultimately revealed the need for a more robust crisis and risk management policy to provide clearer guidance and safety measures in case of future events. I am looking at expanding our policies and procedures while exploring additional security measures including the addition of cameras, requiring new safety training, and utilizing new resources made available to us by the University following this tragic event. If you would like to explore potential opportunities to be involved and connect regarding any of these initiatives and more, I encourage you to reach out to me directly. As we look to evolve our Fraternity and transition into a more robust and strong organization the need for additional volunteers rises. Your contributions will have a significant and real impact on the lives of the current and future undergraduates and would not go undervalued.

YITBOS,

Michael Bivens PC'15  
ACB President  
[mikebiv95@gmail.com](mailto:mikebiv95@gmail.com)

## GOAL STATEMENT

**“As the ACB President, I am looking to pursue goals that will propel us into the future and establish our organization as one that will persist by overcoming the challenges facing the fraternity system. We already have the foundation needed to pursue these goals, I believe what we need now is to identify exactly what these goals and initiatives should look like.”**

- To develop a shared vision and strategic plan for the future of Gamma Iota
- Identify and develop potential future volunteers through increased communication efforts and one-off opportunities that build a culture of engagement and volunteerism
- Improve relationships with stakeholders, including alumni and campus partners as well as headquarters and local communities
- Foster and educate on responsible stewardship of the chapter facility & chapter finances.

# UAB UPDATE



## INTEL FROM THE UNDER- GRADUATE ADVISORY BOARD

My name is John Schisel and I am PC' 06. I grew up in Boise, Idaho where I graduated from Capital High School. I had the awesome experience of joining our fraternity with five of my best friends from high school. Of the six of us, five graduated from the University of Idaho- and all six of us are members. I was a freshman when Mil Desilva was a junior and during our time in the fraternity together, Mil and I got along. We weren't super close until I became Sergeant-At-Arms my junior year; he told me I should put him on my J-Board. It turned out to be a good idea as we worked really well together. Years later Mil is one of my best friends, such is the framework of the fraternity. When he came to me and told me about the Undergraduate Advisory Board (UAB) I said yes and it has been an awesome experience.

With Michael Bivens being elected to ACB President, Mil asked me to co-lead the UAB with him, again, I said yes and I am looking forward to working with Mil to continue to improve our fraternity. We recently visited our house and met with the current undergraduates. The time we spent with them was focused on communication and getting to know them. That is what I see as the purpose of UAB and what we want to continue striving for. Better communication will help us make a difference in the undergraduate experience and continue moving our fraternity forward. My personal goals are to improve communication and through that improve undergraduate experience and in the long run construct a framework for improving the GPA of our house. In the near future we will be setting up more dates to travel to Moscow and continue our work.

YITBOS,

John Schisel PC 06  
UAB Co-Lead Advisor  
schisell@gmail.com



Brother Schisel enjoying one of his pastimes

## VANDAL PARKING



Cheers to Brother Rick Sparks PC '76 for connecting us with the Athletic Department to earn \$1350 for the chapter by helping park cars during Vandal home games.



Cheers to the outgoing ACB members and Michael Bivens for chipping in to help feed those members who did not go home for Thanksgiving break.

## LETTER TO THE 70TH COMMITTEE

Dear 70th committee,

The chapter has received the extra funds from the 70th + 2 celebration which the committee unanimously voted to be given to the undergrad chapter. We the men of Delta Sigma Phi would like to thank you for your generosity and donation of time in putting this historic event together.

A total of \$2926 was left over after all of the expenses were paid thanks in large part to the great work of the University Events Office. When we were asked to allocate those funds in a way that would support the chapter the most we thought of a few key points. It has been a constant goal of our chapter to recruit members of all backgrounds and to not let finances hold back the attainment of potential new members. It has also been a goal to incentivise those who have achieved academic excellence in the fraternity.

With that in mind out of the nearly \$3,000 given to the house, \$1500 will go to scholarships for incoming freshmen. One \$500 scholarship for academic merit based on first year gpa. \$250 for the two runner up academic scholars. Additionally two \$250 scholarships based on a financial aid based need, most likely will be used to help a new member move in. \$1426 will go to things around the house. \$626 will be used to get started on, \$400 will be added to increase our spring recruitment budget, \$300 will be added to the Bike to Boise budget.

YITBOS,

The Gamma Iota Chapter of Delta Sigma Phi

## 2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

- |     |                                   |                       |
|-----|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1ST | PAUL PEDERSON - 4.0 GPA<br>PC '22 | ARCHITECTURE          |
| 2ND | ANDREW WOOD - 4.0 GPA<br>PC '22   | ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE |
| 3RD | AIDEN MOYES - 4.0 GPA<br>PC '20   | CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT |

# INTEL FROM HQ

## MESSAGE FROM OUR REGIONAL COMMISSIONER

Let's begin this Roundup with a focus on the Gamma Iota Alumni Control Board. As most of you know, elections were held recently. While we all know how challenging it can be to replace a legend like Past President Brendon Boyle, and all the previous ACB members, we should have no doubt that we are in GREAT hands under the leadership of Michael Bivens. We all need to support Michael as we face the many challenges related to the undergraduates and to The Castle.

What is the status of the rest of the Northwest Region? As a reminder, the region includes chapters at the U. of Idaho, Washington State (Gamma Delta), Boise State (Iota Theta), U. of Oregon (Theta Rho), and our colony at Oregon State (Beta Epsilon – a dormant chapter).

In general, the Northwest Region is strong and getting stronger. We have focused on grades, recruitment, and the true leadership experience of Delta Sigma Phi, and we are reaping the rewards. Of special note is the U. of Oregon. Their retention and initiation membership numbers are a positive 12 over the same time last year. Congratulations!

On the other hand, our neighbor to the West, (Gamma Delta) needs our support. They have campus administration issues to sort through that have affected them and all Greeks.

So, what can we do? Odds are that many of us know of outstanding young men that may be or will be attending Washington State. Let them know about Delta Sigma Phi. Share your life-changing experiences with them and make sure they contact Gamma Delta.

In addition, Gamma Iota needs you to consider these same actions. Many of us know of relatives, neighbors, coworkers, friends, etc. that may be or are attending the U. of Idaho. A referral from a respected friend, neighbor, or relative, like yourself, may be all that is needed to have that man consider Delta Sigma Phi.

Recruitment of outstanding young men can be the most challenging and rewarding experience as a member of Delta Sigma Phi. All of us need to reach out to our "sphere of influence," so we can help the chapter to grow and to prosper with men that we will be proud to call brothers. As a call to action, all of us should make a list of young men that we know that are attending the U. of Idaho, now or in the future, and should be in the brotherhood. You could contact the high

school that you attended as well.

To further emphasize the point, a New York Times article recently stated that Fall enrollments for all four-year degree schools has declined again for the fourth straight year. One in three American men are projected to only achieve a high school diploma. The men that do attend college are looking for a quality experience from organizations that they join. (Sounds like Delta Sigma Phi). We must all consider that higher education will look much differently in the coming generations.

Moving on to a project that means a lot to me, is the Parents Newsletter. Our first ever Parents Newsletter was emailed on or about October 10 of this year. The HQ staff will send more information to parents (once they opt-in) that will provide insight into the brotherhood. I firmly believe that when parents truly understand the "sincerity of our purpose," they will be our biggest asset.

Finally, it will soon be time for the National Convention. The dates are July 20 – 22, 2023 and the location is Austin, TX. Without a doubt, one of the most significant events in your fraternity life is a national convention. You will experience what brotherhood is like on a national scale. You

will participate in the highly emotional Pilgrim's Degree. You will select the Grand Council, debate, and decide on future policies of the fraternity, meet with HQ staff, participate in the awards ceremony, and form bonds with members, from all over the country, that may last a lifetime.

Of all the ceremonies that we perform as a fraternity, the most memorable is the Bond Eternal. We, as a national fraternity, call out all the brothers that have recently passed and honor them with a carnation. We do this at each national convention and, once you experience this, you will truly understand the meaning of lifelong brotherhood.

In summation, the fraternity faces many challenges, just like we always have. And we will face those challenges and succeed, just like we always have.

YITBOS,

Terry Buttchen  
Northwest Regional Commissioner  
NorthWest@deltasig.org

## NATIONAL CONVENTION

Delta Sigma Phi will host its national convention in Austin, TX Thursday, July 20th through July 22nd. Follow the link below to get emails for registration!

[HTTPS://CONVENTION.DELTASIG.ORG/](https://convention.deltasig.org/)



# LEAD WEEKEND 2022

DELTA SIGMA PHI WESTERN REGIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



This summer, the Executive Board was privileged to be able to visit Los Angeles, CA for LEAD Weekend. However, this year's LEAD Weekend was unfortunately delayed until August due to the COVID-19 protocols that were in effect at the beginning of the year, but the experience was well worth the wait. Delta Sigma Phi Nationals flew out brothers from across the West to meet with each other for leadership training, brainstorming and various other learning activities. During our three days of training, we were assigned to different tracks based on our positions and were able to meet with brothers from over 20 different chapters. It was incredible to see how brothers that had never met before were able to become fast friends and share personal stories of their lives just by bonding over the Fraternity.

Aside from the advice and training for our positions that we received from advisors from Nationals, the most valuable thing that I took away from the event was sharing experiences with fellow Delta Sig undergrads about chapter operations and issues we were facing, along with brotherhood development. Through the majority of the track that I experienced, we discussed the different ways that our chapters operated and what did and didn't work. We also shared different challenges that we experienced, and it was relieving to hear that other chapters were facing or have faced similar issues that we have. It was also exciting to hear the different ways that they had solved these problems and how we could implement them at Gamma Iota.

This was the first LEAD Weekend that I was able to attend in person and it was truly a showcase of brotherhood that I wish everyone could experience. The next LEAD Weekend will be in January 2023 and held in Chicago and I'm sure it will be the biggest one yet, attempting to host every Delta Sigma Phi chapter. That particular weekend is shaping up to be a real spectacle, and I hope the future Executive Board can enjoy it as much as possible.

YITBOS  
Ryan Malone PC 20  
Vice President  
RyanMaloneID@gmail.com



(L TO R) TOP: Benjamin Jones (Rush Chair), Ryan Malone (VP), William Murray (Treasurer)

BOTTOM: Devan Naes (Former Chapter President), Aidan Moyes (Sgt- At- Arms), Josh Rardon (Secretary), Bernardo Bautista (President)

## PHILANTHROPY REPORT

Continuing off of the swell of support we provided across campus last year, our charity and generosity was provided to every single sorority and even a few fraternities, when available. We wanted to have more campus involvement and that meant taking part in all of Greek life's philanthropies, not just the sororities. Sororities were our major focus though as we participated in six of their philanthropies across the 2022 fall semester. Those philanthropies being:

Alpha Phi's "Take it to Heart Week" supporting cardiac health  
Kappa Delta's Shamrock supporting prevention of child abuse in America  
Delta Zeta's Starkey Hearing Foundation which provides the gift of hearing to those in need around the world.  
Gamma Phi Beta's Power of She Week supporting Girls on the Run and Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse

Kappa Alpha Theta's Rock the CASA supporting volunteer advocate training nationwide to aid children going through the judicial or foster system.

Kappa Kappa Gamma's Kappa Klassic supporting mental health and wellbeing.

For the seventh year in a row we came in first for Kappa Delta's Shamrock. Across all philanthropies, brothers donated over \$2,500 to support these causes. As the fall semester ends, brothers are looking forward to the 60th anniversary of Bike to Boise, raising money to support the Hope House, and the alumni dinner fast approaching in the spring.

Thank you to all brothers, undergraduates and alumni, for your generosity and support towards philanthropy that donate to these charities and good causes.

YITBOS  
Josh Rardon PC 21  
Chapter Secretary and Philanthropy Chair

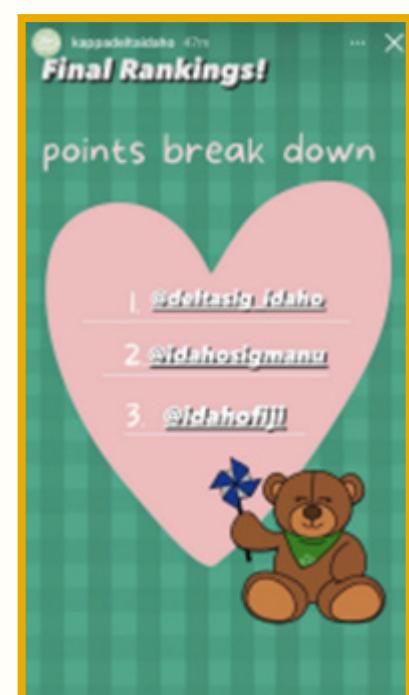
## INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

Named after Tom Cycyota, Illinois '77 and his wife Cyndy, who value the role and development of volunteers in Delta Sigma Phi, the new Cycyota Volunteer Institute seeks to prepare new and seasoned volunteers to successfully advise undergraduate chapters. Attendees will learn about advising philosophies, current trends in student development and engagement, mental health, and Fraternity resources that exist to support them in their role.

CONTACT LEAD UAB ADVISORS FOR INFORMATION

JOHN SCHISEL  
MIL DESILVA

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Final point breakdown for Shamrock philanthropy

# Gamma Iota History

## INAUGURAL BIKE TO BOISE 1963

The genesis of one of Gamma Iota's oldest and best traditions started at the National Convention in Miami, Florida. HQ was asking chapters to do more charitable work for local communities. The leadership returned home and came up with the idea of riding a tandem bicycle from Moscow to Boise. Their philanthropy would be called "Two Wheels For Easter Seals." According to Don Fry PC '62, "The idea was Steve Arnt's, but since he was Chapter President at the time, he was reluctant to propose the idea himself. He persuaded me to propose the trip in chapter." Arnt got the ACB to approve the funds for a tandem bicycle and two man teams. The inaugural ride started from the Student Union Bldg. (Now called The Pitman Center) and University President Dr. D.R. Theophilus came out to send the brothers off at the beginning of spring break in 1963.

BOISE, IDAHO, TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 9, 1963

### Easter Seal Promoters Due Today

The Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity bicycle team is scheduled to arrive at the Statehouse about 2:30 p.m., today after traveling 367 miles for the Easter Seal campaign. The 12-man team, riding a bicycle built-for-two, left the University of Idaho Friday. "Neither rain, snow nor hail has deterred the efforts of the group," an official reported. There was heavy rain between Moscow and McCall, with snow at McCall.

Steve Arnt, the fraternity president, said, "We have had a lot of fun and I'm sure that we have materially contributed to the Easter Seal publicity. We believe that this will be a world's long distance record for riding a tandem bicycle cross country. We've pedaled every inch of the way with no assistance and the Goose Creek Grade between New Meadows and McCall nearly got the better of us."

The team and caravan will go through Middleton, Caldwell, Nampa, and Meridian today, arriving in Boise, at the Statehouse at 2:30 p.m.

Subcommittee on Education on board with Democratic members Ward Hechtner, Lapwal; Harold Rich, Reps. Compton I. White and Blackfoot.



The first leg down Lewiston Hill was memorable for Leland Benner PC '61, "Steve Arnt and I hit 45 mph until we hit a corner with loose rock." He also remembers the bike was a single speed which made uphill riding difficult and the trip log showed only a 1 minute and 24 second leg by his team on a Palouse hill. That leg inspired the first part of the official ballad of the trip. "They were leaving merry Moscow and as they hit the road, Arnt and Benner took on a mighty load.

For a minute twenty-four, their behinds were mighty sore, it was great to see those wheels go around. Oh it was great, oh it was great, it was great to see those wheels go around, etc..." Credit for the ballad we believe goes to Wally Swan PC '60.

Patrick Noonan PC '62 remembers, "Fighting over the ride down Lewiston grade and all being less eager at the climb up Winchester grade. Beer stops were many." After visiting Iver Longeiteig PC '58 in Craigmont for adult beverages, the brothers rode on to Grangville.

Up next was the old Whitebird Hill which required multiple stops so each team could have a chance on the famous road with its 270 degree banked curves. McCall was the final destination of the day. Jerry Timm's, PC '60, family provided lodging for the night. On to Horseshoe Bend the following day where they turned west and headed to Emmett. Freeze Out Hill was the last big climb before heading to Boise and the Capitol steps where Governor Robert E. Smylie congratulated the brothers. The Idaho Statesman ran a story and picture the following day. Estimated length of the ride was 367 miles. Brother Benner recalls, "What a week we had. Still can't believe the weather."

Today the trip is done in two days and covers 300 miles. Our philanthropy is Hope House in Marsing. Last year we raised over \$5500 for them. Other things have changed over the years like the name which is now referred to as just "Bike To Boise" but the mission and spirit of this ride lives on, started by those brothers 60 years ago next spring. In working with the alumni who were on this inaugural ride, I was overjoyed to read how Whitebird Hill was still an event to behold.

We cordially invite you to attend the 60th Anniversary Bike to Boise dinner in Boise on Saturday evening April 1, 2023. Details will be available sometime in January.

Cheers to the chapter for keeping this tradition alive. And may it go on for another sixty years!

YITBOS,

Lucas Moreno PC '18  
Chapter Historian

**BULLETIN**

Several teams of men from Gamma Iota will be riding a bicycle—built for two—to Boise over Spring Vacation to publicize the annual Easter Seals Campaign. The following teams will make the 367-mile trip from the Student Union Building in Moscow to the State House in Boise:

1. Steve Arnt, Caldwell — Lee Benner, Nampa
2. Bob Catherman, Lewiston — Ted Burke, Moscow
3. Bob Johnston, Jim LeBoeuf, Grangeville
4. Mike Smith, Boise — Dale DeFrancesco, McCall
5. Gerald Huettig, Hazelton — Bruce Russell, Harrison
6. Dave Cahill, Pete Lattig, Payette

By alternating teams, it is hoped that the average speed will be 10 M.P.H. The trip will be made in 5 days.

Article in the Spring 1963 Gamma Eye



THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO fraternity men pedaled into Boise Tuesday after a five-367-mile team-trip from Moscow to Boise to publicize the sale of Easter Seals. They front row, left to right: Dale DeFrancesco, Mike Smith, Bruce Russel, Pete Lattig, Dave L., Gerald Huettig and Ted Burke. Back row, left to right: Don F. Fry of Horseshoe Bend, drove the car; Bill Blenapfl of Meridian, advance agent; Lee Benner, Steve Arnt, Bob Johnston, Jim LeBoeuf and Bob Catherman.

Picture in the Idaho Statesman, April 10, 1963.

## BIKE TO BOISE 2023



# BOND ETERNAL

IN LOVING MEMORY



Jerry R. Timm PC '60



Danny C. Rich PC '69



Nicholas R. Brown PC '84



Rabon Peterson PC '11

I met Brother Timm when we were both 9 years old. My father was a wholesale hardware salesperson and Jerry's father was a client at Timm Electric in McCall. Shelly Timm would release his son from the arduous duties of operating a shovel, to spend time with me in less strenuous activities during the summer when I often traveled with my dad. My wife (Judy) of 58 years was a classmate of Jerry at the small McCall High School.

Skip forward to 1960 when Jerry and I both pledged the Gamma Iota chapter of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity at the University of Idaho. Our pledge class of 23, boiled down to about 19 after the first year. During this period, we spent much of our free time anonymously pranking the members. The house study table for pledges made certain our grades were high enough to be initiated at the beginning of the 2nd semester. Most of our initiation took place in a dirt dug out under the house. As initiates we were unaware of this space and in our introduction, we were blindfolded. In those days the facility was dry and alcohol was strictly prohibited during any ritual. Jerry was a large man and I slowly followed him blindfolded through the tunnel into that space. Brother Timm bitched the whole way about how tight and musty this short trip turned out to be.

Fast forward to Christmas break 1963. Jerry accompanied me home to Caldwell. He had a woman in mind who lived in Nampa. I lent him my car and expected that the woman's parents would require him to bring her home at a reasonable hour. Over breakfast he informed me that the car had broken down and he and the young lady had hitched a ride back to Nampa. My dad jumped up from the table and said to Jerry, "Well, let's go find it." 3 hours later the car appeared down in the trees at Lake Lowell where the water had receded for the winter. It started immediately. Jerry and I renewed our friendship upon my return to Boise in 1992. We played a bit of golf finishing dead last in his member guest tournament. Enjoyed each other's company touring China and Tibet and seeking the illusive Steelhead on the Salmon River. He entered the Bond Eternal on September 15, 2022. Rest in Peace Brother Timm.

Danny was a twin born on April 23, 1951. He was a good student at Payette High School and excelled in science. Because of his size, Danny played football for 4 years but was soft spoken and a gentle soul. After graduation, Danny headed to Moscow where he joined Gamma Iota, following several others from Payette. He played intramural football when we were one of the top teams on campus. He excelled as a student and was active in fraternity life. He graduated with a Degree in Physics in 1973. He then attended Virginia Tech where he earned a Master's Degree in Physics in 1977. Danny met his wife while there, Phyllis Phillips. They were married on August 16, 1975. Danny and Phyllis then moved to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in NY. where he earned a Ph.D. in Color Science. His career began at Sherwin Williams Paint Company in 1980, then Applied Color Systems and finally Sun Chemical Corporation in 1998. He became one of the most renowned researchers in the field of Color Science. Danny holds 15 US patents, 11 world patents, and has 21 applications pending. He has also received 7 national industry awards recognizing his work. He retired from Sun Chemical in 2021. Danny and Phyllis had three children. Amanda and twin sons, Brandon and Bryan. Danny served faithfully as an elder at the Princeton Church of Christ in New Jersey for 21 years. Danny was planning on attending the 70th Anniversary Celebration in 2020 before it was postponed due to Covid. He was always proud of his time at the University Of Idaho and his membership in our chapter. It had a significant impact on his early life. After retiring, he and Phyllis moved to Memphis, TN. He was involved in an auto accident there that left him paralyzed from the neck down. He made the decision to be taken off life support but waited until all family members could travel to say goodbye including his twin brother David. Danny entered the Bond Eternal on July 3, 2022. Danny left a legacy as a son, brother, husband, father, colleague, and set a standard we can all be proud to try and duplicate. RIP Brother Rich.

YITBOS  
Ray Wickersham PC '67

We first met Nick Brown when we all were third graders, and Nick's family moved from Nebraska to our hometown, Payette, Idaho. He always embraced being in Idaho, especially if it involved hunting & fishing. Nick was an outstanding 3-sport athlete at Payette High as a starter on the football, basketball & baseball teams. The three of us pledged Delta Sigma Phi together in August 1984. Nick made friends everywhere he went & kept up lifelong friendships with many Delta Sigs from the U of I. Graduating with a degree in Recreation, he was the rare person who combined his passions and his degree for a lifestyle career, eventually owning & operating Rocky Run Outfitters in Northern Idaho. He was happiest helping his clients when they caught "the big one that didn't get away!" He entered the Bond Eternal on July 25, 2022. Nick is survived by his parents, Dr. David & Mrs. Agnes Brown of Payette, & sister, Laura Brown Connolly, and her family of Kansas City, MO, and his former wife, Ann Hoste, who was his best friend. Multiple Delta Sigs and PHS Classmates attended his celebration of life at his funeral in August to honor Nick & support his family. Rest in Peace Brother Nick.

YITBOS  
Kevin Hanigan & Mike Stoneman, PC '84

Gamma Iota pledged one of its best recruiters in 2011 when Rabon Peterson joined. A double legacy to Rio PC 07, and Radley PC 10, he brought in 6 members of his senior class with stories about GI and had us giddy about heading to Moscow vs Donkey State. Members of PC 11 and 12 followed him to Moscow because of these stories and his magnetic self. This is just the beginning of his story of loyalty and pride in our chapter.

Despite coming from a senior class of just 28, he thrived socially in the larger environment at Idaho, particularly at the Pi Phi's. He excelled at intramurals and loved the pledge bowl, skiing, and basketball, especially driveway hoops at the house. One of my most vivid memories of Rabon was our first sorority social event where he and Mitch Hales provided the main entertainment with a "Chippendales" theme. It makes me smile every time I think about it. After serving as rush chairman in 2012 and 2013, Rabon transferred to Boise State to complete his nursing degree following in his mothers and Rios footsteps. He graduated in 2017 and started his career in Council, ID. The following year his brother Rio suffered a tragic skiing accident and without hesitation Rabon left his job, sold most of his possessions, and moved to Denver to serve as Rio's caregiver while he rehabbed in a Denver hospital. Rios' story was featured in the Fall 2019 edition of the Gamma Eye. Rabon also went back to school during this time receiving a Masters of Science in Nursing. Following his graduation he returned to Denver to work in COVID clinics and then behavioral health which he truly loved. Many of his patients were in tears when they found out of his passing. He entered the Bond Eternal on April, 24, 2022.

His memorial service was equal parts Delta Sig reunion, memorial, and party. A send off worthy of someone who touched so many. Photos resurfaced of our original charter-school group on the green front steps of Delta Sig and ready to begin our college adventure together.

YITBOS  
Tyler Delay PC '11

If you have any questions or comments about this edition of the Fall 2022 Gamma Eye, please contact our Alumni Editor at eric.pickett59@gmail.com