

The Oracle

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated



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THIS EDITION

Fraternity Marches

Summer 2015 / Spring 2016



UNDERGRAD NEWS
Internship Information

A FOUNDER'S SON
Growing up with Love

FATHERHOOD PANEL
Omega at the
Congressional Black
Caucus

SEE MORE INSIDE!



**OMEGA PSI PHI
FRATERNITY, INC.**

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Decatur, GA 30035
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The Oracle

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40th Grand Basileus

Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr.

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Young Omega men attended the 2016 International Undergraduate Summit.

The conference was held in Atlanta, GA during January 2016.

Photo by Brother James Witherspoon, IHQ

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FOUNDERS of Omega Psi Phi fraternity, Inc.



FOUNDER
Dr. Ernest E. Just
1883-1941



FOUNDER
Dr. Oscar J. Cooper
1888-1972



FOUNDER
Professor Frank
Coleman
1890-1967



FOUNDER
Bishop Edgar A.
Love
1891-1974

Members of the Supreme Council



Antonio F. Knox, Sr.
40th Grand Basileus



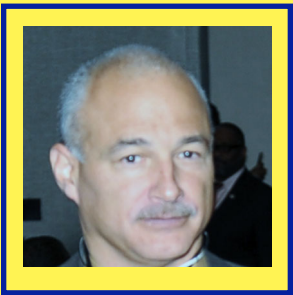
Dr. David Marion
1st Vice Grand Basileus



Anthony Kadri
2nd Vice Grand Basileus



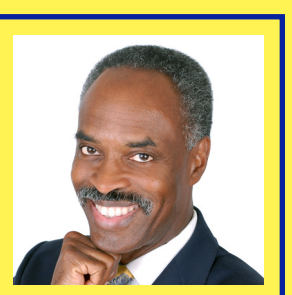
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Grand KRS



W. Kelly Shannon
Grand KF



D. Michael Lyles, Esq.
Grand Counselor



Rev. Dr. Staccato Powell
Grand Chaplain



Leon Pearson
Grand Marshal



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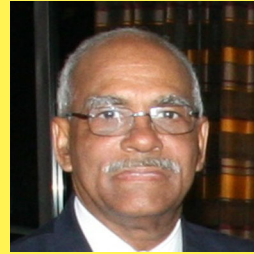
Omega's Past Grand Basilei



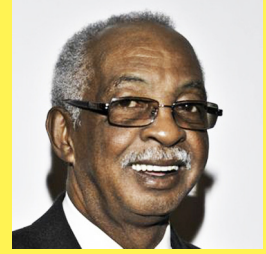
Dr. Edward J. Braynon
30th Grand Basileus



Burnel E. Coulon
31th Grand Basileus



Dr. Moses C. Norman
33th Grand Basileus



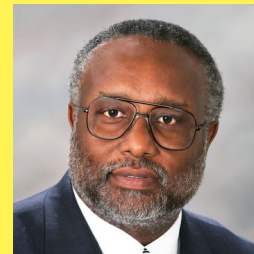
Dr. C. Tyrone Gilmore
34th Grand Basileus



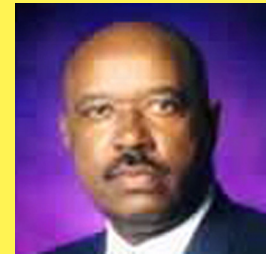
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Message from the Grand Basileus



[Giving Honor to God and my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

To my beloved brethren in Omega, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to lead the greatest organization in the world, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Brothers, I continue to be humbled by the faith and trust that has been bestowed upon me. Our Founders envisioned us binding ourselves together to have a greater impact on our communities and we are doing that. By working together as one, we are making a difference.

Our communities continue to face social, political and educational challenges. While we are making progress, there is still much that needs to be done. There continues to be concerns within our community for the safety of young black men when being confronted by police. Along with other organizations, we are working to change this troubling trend. The Council of Presidents have sent letters to our US Representatives supporting wearing body cameras. Third District Representative, Zeke Dennison is leading a team of brothers in petitioning and walking the halls of Congress to support this issue. Our hope is to create Federal Legislation that will require the body cameras to be worn by any agency receiving federal funds. I have signed a joint letter with the Council of President to create a bill requiring Criminal Justice Reform. Young black men have received more severe sentences than others for similar crimes. We need legislation to correct that situation and level the playing field. We will continue to identify the injustices that are taking place around the country. We were there in numbers at the Million Man March and Honorable Fathers Rally and we let it be known we will be there for our communities.

My brothers there are many challenges, but I say to you the most important challenge ahead of us today is the upcoming election in November 2016. We must elect a President and we must elect legislators to change the face of the current legislature. We must have a legislature that will work with the President to address the needs of all people and not just a segment of the population. Our President has done an outstanding job, but has had to fight congress for everything that matters to those who have the least. We will educate, provide transportation to the poles and work the voting precincts to protect our seniors and other voters from those who may attempt to use intimidation tactics to stop people from voting. We cannot allow that to happen. We must stand united in this effort with the Divine 9 and others that believe in equality for all people.

We have underperforming schools and poor graduation rates by our black male high school students. Funding for higher education is being cut and many of our HBCUs are struggling to survive. We must hold our legislatures accountable for funding our public schools and supporting educational initiatives. We must continue to mentor and work directly with the schools when opportunities are there for us. Walking our young men to school, going on campus and reading to students, and volunteering in underperforming schools are making a difference and we must continue our efforts. It is very important for us to share our resources and partner with other agencies like UNCF to assist HBCUs. We must also support legislation that will provide aide to HBCUs.

The Fatherhood Initiative was recognized by the President and members of the Black Caucus at the CBC. Our mentoring programs from the East Coast Boys Camps, to the West Coast Youth Leadership Camps, continue to host record numbers. We are changing the focus for young black boys. Partnerships are being developed with both corporations and government. We are improving our image through strong social action programing; raising funds for the St Jude Children's Hospital and honoring a \$1,000,000 commitment to the Smithsonian African American Museum. We have invested in our communities to assist in leveraging community development grants, such as in Baltimore.

Through building partnerships and working together our Leadership Conference and Undergraduate Summits are of the highest quality programing wise and we are also successful financially. At the Undergraduate Summit there were management jobs offered on the spot by Walmart Corporation and we have other companies ready to do that at upcoming district meetings. I received an enormous amount of positive feedback from college and university graduate schools and corporate and government Human Resource recruiters present, regarding our undergraduates. This is a testimony to the Undergraduates for being prepared and to the Career Development and College and Advanced Degree Committees for the preparation in ensuring that our undergraduates were prepared.

I thank Brother David Marion, First Vice Grand Basileus and all the Committee Chairs for an outstanding job. I thank Brother Thaibiti Boone, White House Liaison, who has been keeping our efforts known to President Obama and ensuring that he and his staff know what Omega is doing regarding Fatherhood, Criminal Justice Reform, Affordable Care Act, and Brother You Are on My Mind. Brothers, there are many exciting things going on within Omega. As we continue to build partnerships and work together with the Divine Nine, and other organizations that believe in equality for all people, we will continue to tackle issues that matter to our communities.

Brothers, as I have said before, as the chosen ones, we must continue to lead with a spirit to serve and make a difference. We are servant leaders and we recognize it's not important who gets the credit. Our desire is simply to get the job done! We are one my brothers and we will continue to make this a better world in which to live!

Fraternally,

Tony Knox, Sr.
40th Grand Basileus
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Message from the 1st Vice Grand Basileus



Brothers of Omega Psi Phi,

It is my pleasure to extend fraternal greetings to you in the spirit of brotherhood and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let me first thank all of you for your continued support as we move forward to make our beloved Fraternity even stronger.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity is proud to uphold a rich legacy of service to our communities. Our various programs make a lasting impact in the lives of citizens and communities near and far. By implementing and executing local service programs and community service projects we are committed to making a difference in the communities where we live and work. Beyond our involvement with fraternal affairs, our members play a significant role in the economic, political, and social fabric in our communities. To name a few, our Social Action committee has successfully completed another year of our Game Day Give Back program with St. Jude that makes a difference in the lives of children fighting illnesses. The Omega 1911 project and other fundraisers such as our National Luxury Car Raffle are in support of St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, the Smithsonian Institution, and other Omega Psi Phi National community action programs thanks to the Economic Development, Marketing, and Ways and Means committees.

Committees such as Achievement Week, Fatherhood Initiatives and Mentoring, and Medical and Health Initiatives and our White House Liaison, recently received a request from the White House to encourage African American men, through our local chapters to enroll in insurance plans offered through the Affordable Care Act. Our Fatherhood Initiatives and Mentoring, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and Youth Leadership committees have joined together and successfully developed toolkits for group mentoring, one-on-one mentoring and fatherhood programs that are now available on our official website. Omega is constantly evolving. We recently updated our Reclamation and Retention manual (online). We are updating the MSP Manual to better serve you and to ensure that you receive up-to-date information. We have also posted a protocol presentation online for your benefit. The Chapter Advisors Committee is now requiring undergraduates across the country to complete a GPA Verification Form twice a year. These are just a few examples that exemplify our Fraternity's cardinal principals.

I thank the International Committee Chairmen for producing six periodic reports since the 2014 Grand Conclave. All reports are online along with the chairmen's contact information. I also express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Supreme Council, First Vice DRs, International Committees and IHQ Staff for your commitment and hard work to ensure the 80th Grand Conclave is a success. Brothers, as we approach another Conclave, I ask each of you to register and encourage other Brothers to register and reserve rooms in Omega's Room Block. For those of you who have already registered and committed to attending the Conclave in Las Vegas, thank you. Our goal is to make Omega the best it can be and for it to live up to the high ideals set forth at its founding. I am excited and full of eager anticipation of what is to come during our time together.

As Brother Walter Mazyck stated, "the value of our Fraternity is not in numbers, but in men, in real brotherhood." As a brotherhood, we remain ever mindful of the task of upholding the four cardinal principles of our beloved fraternity which continue to be a guiding light for the Men of Omega and for the communities in which we serve.

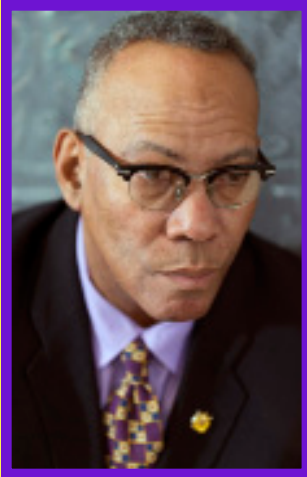
Long live the Omega Psi Phi, Fraternity and God bless you all!

Faternally,

David Marion, Ph.D.
1st Vice Grand Basileus
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Message from the

Editor of The Oracle



Dear Brothers,

Omega Psi Phi continues to play a major role in my life. Each day, I pass by the site where the Fraternity was established. Without failure, my eyes rise upward to the Science Building where the Founders met long ago.

As a Howard University professor, my 2nd-floor office in the School of Communications is less than 500 feet from the building where Cooper, Coleman, Just, and Love once stood. At Howard, I now walk in the professorial footsteps of Frank Coleman and Ernest E. Just.

Some days when I walk across campus, I pass by Alpha Chapter's historical sundial often greeted by young undergraduate brothers with great respect and relevance. I witness their love for Omega as they assemble.

Almost forty years ago, I arrived at Howard as a visiting undergraduate brother from Indiana's Ball State University. I had received a Reader's Digest Fellowship to study Congressional and Public Affairs Reporting in Washington, D.C., during my spring break.

After completing some of my stories, I put on a yellow frat shirt and rushed to Howard University. I remember how excited I was that day. It was a day that I will never forget. I had only been a Que for less than a year, and I was going to visit the birthplace of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

I asked someone to take a picture of me seated at the Founders Memorial Monument in Spring 1977. In later years, I would often visit the Alpha Omega's Fraternity House. During my visits to the house, I would run into two Omega fixtures, the late Brother Frankie Patterson, and Brother Kenneth Brown. Brothers Patterson and Brown with Brother Sampson P. Boozer helped to spearhead the construction of the Founders Memorial Monument.

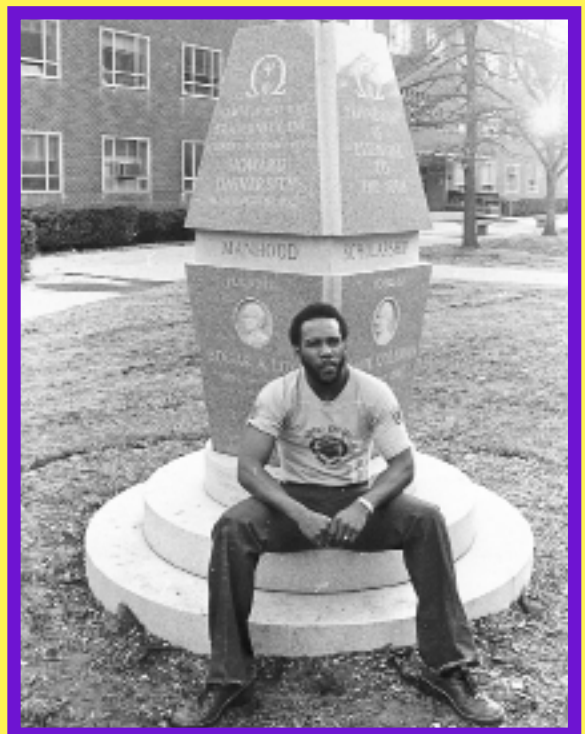
I also stopped at Omega's National Headquarters on Georgia Avenue. It was a small building, but for me, it was like a castle. At the headquarters, I recall a person came to the front desk. His name was Brother Samuel R. Shepard.

He served dual roles as the Assistant National Executive Secretary and the Oracle Editor. It was destiny that I met Brother Shepard, and years later I would inherit his seat as the Editor of The Oracle.

Picture: Bro. Brown during his 1977 visit to Howard as an undergraduate journalism student.

Fraternally,

Milbert O. Brown, Jr.
Editor of The Oracle
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.



Training Days

Skills Enhanced at Leadership Conference



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity held their International Leadership Conference in Jacksonville, Florida. The four-day event was hosted by Theta Psi Chapter in July 2015.

Nearly 1,000 members attended the Leadership Conference and participated in various sessions that emphasize Omega Psi Phi's global mission of community service, philanthropy, healthy living, youth mentoring, political activism and career resiliency. Efforts to erase the stigma of mental illness as well as accessing the value of African-American males were among the array topics discussed during the conference.

"The Leadership Conference is designed to give our membership the opportunity to explore, define, and enhance their leadership skills, personal integrity and growth and Fraternity commitment," said Dr. David Marion, Omega's First Vice Grand Basileus. Elected leaders, activists, scholars and others participated in a variety of panel discussions that ran the gamut about race, health initiatives, caring for the elderly, electoral politics, civic engagement as well as the relationship between the minority communities and law enforcement.

"The feelings of frustration that's playing out in communities like Baltimore, Ferguson and other areas across this country," Brother Marion said.



Brother Steven G. Watkins, the 10th District Representative (left) moderated the "What's the Value of a Black Male in American," panel discussion.

A highlight of the conference included the session titled, "What the value of a black male in America?" and focused on the number of African-Americans killed by law enforcement officers and others.

"Our communities can never be what they will be until black lives are respected," Grand Basileus Antonio F. Knox Sr. said. We can't stop until that demand is met."

The panel included TV personality A.J. Calloway, attorney Benjamin Crump and the fathers of Jordan Davis, Trayvon Martin and Tamir Rice who were slain by white men.

"We're in danger," said Ron Davis, Jordan's father, in response to the question of the value of black lives in America. "We have fear for our sons and fear for our daughters."

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2015



Brother Bernard Kinsey, a Los Angeles philanthropist and entrepreneur, said during the session that it was important to collect data on police shooting incidents by race. Alerting lawmakers is also another critical step.

“Our elected officials have to hear from the people, they have to hear from the leaders in the community, the stakeholders,” said Brother Benjamin Crump, an attorney who is representing the families of several Black males killed in recent shootings.

Knox said the change may take a long time to happen, but we are determined it will happen. “We shall overcome,” he said. “We’ll never stop, we’ll never stop until that time happens. We hope it will be sooner rather than later.”

Over 125 young men from the Jacksonville area and surrounding communities attended a youth leadership conference that was held at Edward Waters College, a private, historically black college in Jacksonville.

The YLC theme was “Leveraging Our Collective Resources for Impact...Saving young men’s lives, one at a time.” It was held in conjunction with the leadership conference.

Facilitated by 25 Fraternity members, workshops included personal hygiene and dressing for success, STEM/College Prep, good study habits, goal-setting and achievement, social and personal responsibility, the legal system and conflict resolution.

Service and achievement awards were also presented during the leadership conference.

“You have been more than contributors; you have made a commitment to the Omega way of life. I thank you for all the times that you have made a difference in your community and the lives of others,” said Grand Basileus Knox.

A special salute was given to the Dr. Edward J. Braynon, 30th Grand Basileus and Burnel E. Coulon, 31st Grand Basileus for their years of years of service and leadership.



Members of Delta Sigma Theta (left/in red) and Alpha Kappa Alpha (right/green) sororities listen during the “Quesfication of Fraternities and Sororities” session.

During the session titled, “The Quesfication of Fraternities and Sororities,” Walter Kimbrough, president of Dillard University, provided an in-depth and historic look into the pledge process, citing several incidents of hazing.

Kimbrough encouraged the fraternity to continue taking the lead in creating a climate of leadership that rejects violence within and outside of the black fraternities and sororities. He emphasized that historically, all other Greek-letter organizations tend to follow Omega men in behavior and other acts of recognition and distinction.

For the first time, the Fraternity’s international Talent Hunt Demonstration was held during a leadership conference. Twelve high school students representing each of the Fraternity’s districts throughout the United States and abroad advanced from local and state competitions in order to qualify to participate in the International Talent Hunt Demonstration. Each student received a plaque, a medallion and a \$1,000 check from the Omega Life Membership Foundation, Inc.



LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2015



Oracle Photographs:

LEFT/Center: Brother Fred Gray receives an Omega Lifetime Award.

LEFT/Bottom: Brother David Satcher, the former Surgeon General with Moses C. Norman, the 33rd Grand Basileus.

TOP: Omega undergraduate leader, Brother Seth Roberson.

BOTTOM: Brother Melvin Slater of Iota Chapter asking questions at the Life Membership Meeting

Omega Lifetime Achievement awards were presented to Brothers Herb Douglas and Fred Gray. Douglas is a corporate executive and Olympic medalist. Gray is an iconic trial and civil rights attorney who represented Rosa Parks, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Gray's also cases included: the Montgomery Bus Boycott; Freedom Riders; 1965 Selma to Montgomery March, and the Tuskegee Syphilis Study.

During the session on mental health, Brother David Satcher said African-American men have been traditionally slow to accept and to seek care that could effectively treat them. "We are less likely to seek care because of the stigma associated with mental illness in our community," said Satcher, who served as the nation's 16th Surgeon General.

Satcher was the keynote speaker during the session, "Brother, You're On My Mind: Changing the National Dialogue Regarding Mental Health Among African-American Men."

"(But) you shouldn't be embarrassed about having a mental disorder. You should be embarrassed if you don't seek care for it. That's really what should be embarrassing to you," said Brother Satcher.



C HAPTER ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Undergraduate Chapter of the Year: Omicron Delta
Graduate Chapter of the Year (Small): Kappa Alpha
Graduate Chapter of the Year (Large): Nu Chi
Social Action Graduate Chapter of the Year (Small): Iota
Social Action Graduate Chapter of the Year (Large): Pi
Omega

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Founders Award: Charles Shelton, Upsilon Omega
Undergraduate Omega Man of the Year: Branden Berry, Lambda
Undergraduate Omega Man of the Year: Charles E. Young, Chi Gamma
Graduate Omega Man of the Year: Tony Bullock, Pi Lambda Lambda
Citizen of the year: Brandon Logan, Psi Alpha
Colonel Charles E. Young Award: Voris Burnette, Iota Iota
Undergraduate Advisor Award: Mike Boykin, Iota Iota
Superior Service Award: DeJuan Lockhart, Nu Chi

Scholarships - Omega Life Membership Foundation

Brandon T. Woods -1st District Scholar of the Year
Federico Ghelli-2nd District Scholar of the Year
Wayne Pollard III-3rd District Scholar of the Year
Carlos Louis-4th District Scholar of the Year

JaMahl R. McDanie-5th District Scholar of the Year
Ralan Wardlaw-6th District Scholar of the Year
Tawn-Tyba Takeli-7th District Scholar of the Year
Anthony West II-8th District Scholar of the Year
Phillip Grant -9th District Scholar of the Year
Anthony Williams, Jr.-10th District Scholar of the Year
Theron Smith-12th District Scholar of the Year
Andre Anderson-13th District Scholar of the Year

Andre Anderson-International Scholar of the Year
Justin Wimberly-Founders' Memorial Award
Christopher Graham-Founders' Memorial Award
JeQua Halliburton-Founders' Memorial Award
Gerald Dugas-Founders' Memorial Award

Ian Cruickshank-Grand Basileus Award
Eugene DeLoach, Jr.-Ronald McNair Scientific Award
Khari Cyrus-Herman Dreer Award
Daniel Harris-George Mears Award
Paul Brown-H. Carl Moultrie I Legal Award
Garred Miller-Undergraduate Scholarship Grant
Kenneth Evans-Graduate Scholarship Grant

Information for this report was complied from various published news reports. Also from the 2015 International Leadership Conference Report presented by Brother Dr. George D. Taylor, Chairman, Fatherhood & Mentoring and his committee.



Omega's Leadership with young men from Richard Wright Public Charter School.

Omega Heads Fatherhood Panel

Omega's James E. Clyburn, a member of the United States House of Representatives spoke at the "Fatherhood in the African American Community" panel discussion.

Brother Clyburn and other panelists were part of the Congressional Black Caucus' (CBC) 45th Annual Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C.

The Friday morning forum hosted by Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., was led by Brother Thabita Boone, the Fraternity's International Representative for Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative. Boone is also a strong supporter of President Obama's White House Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative.

"I was blessed to be a guest at the United Nations in June as they discussed the

importance of fatherhood. Their research mentioned that over 75 percent of men in the world will become biological fathers at some point in their lives, and virtually all men have some connection to children," said Brother Boone.

Boone also mentioned that fathers should be on the forefront as providers of their children. "We cannot discuss anything that matters to us without having everybody included in the conversation," added Boone.

Other panelists included Brother Earl Wilson, Lt Colonel, (ret) U.S. Air Force, and former Omega Executive Director; Dr Marvin T. Thompson, President/CEO of Lighthouse Education Foundation; Dr. Wizdom A. Powell, Associate Professor at the University of North Carolina;

OTHER FATHERHOOD AND MENTORING NEWS

Brothers Thabiti Boone and Robert Fairchild represented the Fraternity at the President's White House Affordable Care Act Open Enrollment Leadership Roundtable. The special White House meeting was held on September 15, 2015.

PRINCETON, NJ--On June 2015, Delta Upsilon Chapter's Social Action and Fatherhood Initiative Committee presented a Presidential award to Karen Andrade-Sims and the staff of the Union Industrial Home of New Jersey's annual Robert E. Alston Platinum Dad's Award Program.

The Platinum Dad's program recognizes men in the community who exemplify the highest ideals of fatherhood.

PHOENIX, AZ--On December 5, 2015, Phi Iota Chapter and Omega Youth Leadership Academy held a financial literacy seminar entitled *Act Your Wage*.

The event held at Sierra Linda High School highlighted personal budget strategies for young men. The workshop also included information about credit counseling, budgeting and saving.



Brother Thabiti Boone

The panelists' discussed how male role models influenced their lives.growing up.

"Every one of us are role models. We should not ever forget that. The world is starting to lose its way, and our boys and girls are looking to their fathers, and male figures to lead them as role models," said the South Carolina Congressman Brother Clyburn.

GROUP PICTURE (On previous page): *Omega's International Grand and District Officers with male students from Washington, D.C.'s Richard Wright Public Charter School.*

(L to R): Brother Rickey Lewis, Executive Director of the Omega Educational Foundation, Inc; Brother Ezekiel Dennison, 3rd District Representative; Brother Antonio F. Knox, 40th Grand Basileus; Brother David Marion, 1st Vice Grand Basileus, and Brother Andrew A. Ray, the Immediate Past Grand Basileus.

TOP PICTURE: *Brother U.S. Congressman James E. Clyburn greets Omega men at the morning panel discussion.*

PHOTOGRAPHS BY **BROTHER JAMES** **WITHERSPOON,**

INTERNATIONAL
PHOTOGRAPHER (CHIEF)
AND DIRECTOR OF
PHOTOGRAPHY

Rededication at Howard



Grand officers at the Founders Day Ceremony include Bro. Kenneth Rogers, Grand Keeper of Records and Seal; Bro. Andrew Ray, the 39th Grand Basileus; Bro. D. Michael Lyles, Grand Counselor, and Bro. Lloyd Jordan, the 36th Grand Basileus. Oracle photograph by Brother James G. Witherspoon, IHQ photographer.

In Washington, D.C. over 1000 Omegas came together on Founders Day, November 17th to celebrate Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's 104th birthday of the Fraternity. The Founders Day Rededication Ceremony was held at Cramton Auditorium on the campus of Howard University.

The foundation was set in 1911, when three undergraduate students joined their advisor, a Howard University faculty member to form a unique organization of men. The organization, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity was created in the office of Professor Ernest E. Just by three brilliant young students: Edgar A. Love, Oscar J. Cooper, and Frank Coleman.

Omega's 40th Grand Basileus, Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr., was the keynote speaker at the ceremony. **Brother Knox said** "My brothers, as we celebrate 104 years, I think the founders are sitting in the greatest Omega chapel.

I think the Founders are sitting in the halls of glory looking down. I hope they're pleased to see the organization that they founded. I hope that they are happy in the way we celebrate them.

You see, our Founders-the visionaries put together a foundation that will allow us to last forever. They gave us a mission that will always be true. Their mission will take care of our people and make their lives better.

My beloved brothers, our Founders from the very beginning, were there to provide and protect, to use their resources, to make sure right here on this campus and this campus community is taken care of. The Founders expanded their footprints.

They selected men of character, men of faith, men who understood sacrifice and men who understood friendship to ensure that this foundation would be strong."



TOP PICTURE: Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr., the 40th Grand Basileus of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., presented the keynote address for the 2015 Founders Day Rededication Ceremony.

BOTTOM: Omega men listening to the evening program

PHOTOGRAPHS BY

BROTHER JAMES G. WITHERSPOON,
INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER, CHIEF AND
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

The Grand Basileus also added, “isn’t it great that we have an opportunity 104 years later, standing here and celebrating. We all understand the meaning of friendship and that was a part of the Founders’ vision, that as friends we could maintain our organization.

With the model of friendship being essential to the soul, it gives us every reason to make sure that you and I take care of this organization.

This world has been built by those who are game changers. Every organization has the game changers. We’ve had game changers we can talk about. We can go back for many years as we’ve been through the civil rights struggle and we stood up and we were there. We were there for them and there now.

We can go back and we can talk about Brothers like Fred Gray, Jesse Jackson, Vernon Jordan, Carter G. Woodson and many others. But now is time. Now is time, my brothers, for there to be some new game changers.”

What does Founders Day mean to you?

Q
A

Omega Leaders provide their opinion on the importance of Founders Day.

**BRO. LLOYD J. JORDAN,
36TH GRAND BASILEUS**

"Founders Day should mean the same thing to all the members. It should be a re-dedication and a reference back to the reverent days and times of the founding of this Fraternity. That means people really should be digging within themselves and making sure that they are recommitted to that which they promised many, many years ago, or whenever they crossed, to be dedicated to this organization. Otherwise without that, who are we?"

**BRO. ANDREW A. RAY, 39TH
GRAND BASILEUS**

"I think of our Founders walking on these hallowed grounds here at Howard University, and the vision that they had, not only to see in to the future, but also to meet the challenges of their present. When you consider that they stepped out on the promise, the four corner principles, and they moved forward to deliver to this nation and the world, a very prestigious organization of intelligent, strong, black men to be role models for the future, that's what I think about Founders Day. We who are here must carry on that legacy".



**BRO. ANTHONY KADRI
2ND VICE GRAND BASILEUS**
"What Founders Day means to me is that we are making history."

**BRO. EZEKIEL DENNISON, JR.
3rd DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE**
"This day is the greatest day in the world, because it means that you're bringing the brotherhood together. That's what it's all about making things move in a forward direction. More importantly this the greatest organization in this world."

**BRO. MILTON G. HARRISON
2ND DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE**
"What I think about on this occasion is how fortunate we are to have this great Fraternity."

**BRO. ESAU WHITE,
Alpha Chapter,
Third District's
2ND VICE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE**
"I feel enthused to dedicate another year to Omega. We need to stand up and lead the way for our fraternity and for our brothers all over this great country."

**BRO. ROBERT C. WARREN, JR.
IMMEDIATE PAST 3RD
DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE**

"November 17th means a lot to me, especially as I get older. I never really grasped the full importance of what it meant to walk where the Founders walked, until I would see visiting brothers come and look at the monument and Thirkield Hall then start crying."

**BRO. KENNETH BROWN,
FORMER GRAND MARSHAL
AND PAST 3RD DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE**

"This is a commemoration we've been doing here at Howard for several years. We are fortunate to come back to the actual place where we were founded. We want Brothers to rededicate themselves to the oath they took on their initiation date. We'll have about 1,000 brothers here, as we do every year, so it's very special to us. We'll commemorate the founding of the Fraternity, then we will sing the hymn at the Founders' Monument right after the ceremony."

After work, it is often customary for Brother Kenneth Calvin to get a cold drink and flop on the sofa, simultaneously hitting the button on the remote of his flat-screen TV. On an April day last year as he landed on the couch, his TV flashed an eruption of chaos and violence.



An emotional man talks about the problems with policing in Baltimore, as he points to a line of Baltimore Police on North Ave during the first night of the curfew.

*Photographs & Story by Bro. Milbert O. Brown, Jr.,
Editor of *The Oracle**

The Baltimore Riots

OMEGA STANDS IN THE

GAP



TOP: Brother Kenneth Calvin, (far right), the lead organizer of the “Omegas Standing in the Gap: A silent prayer,” joins other Omega men as they are escorted to the riot site by Baltimore police. BOTTOM: Organizers of the event included (left to right) Omega Brothers: Todd Beazer, Kenneth Calvin, Joe Woods and Derrick Smith.



There were young brothers--and sisters--running, throwing, turning over cars and burning areas of their community. The Internet quickly moved pictures that went viral and circled the globe with the speed of thought.

In Baltimore on the East Coast, a revolt was under way. The community unrest was caused by the death a young black man, Freddie Gray, who died in police custody.

Calvin sat in his suburban Maryland home in amazement, witnessing the beginning of what would come to be known as the 2015 Baltimore Riots. The revolution was televised.

Brother Calvin was disturbed by the images. Years before, after leaving the military, Calvin and his family had settled in the Baltimore area in the early 1990s.

OMEGA STANDS WITH BALTIMORE

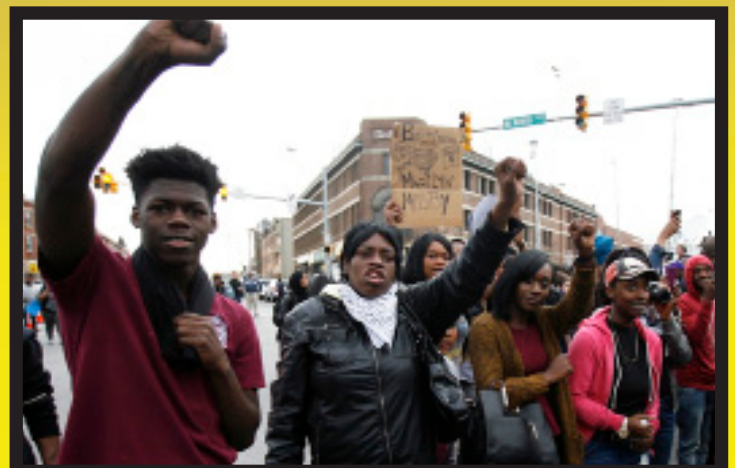
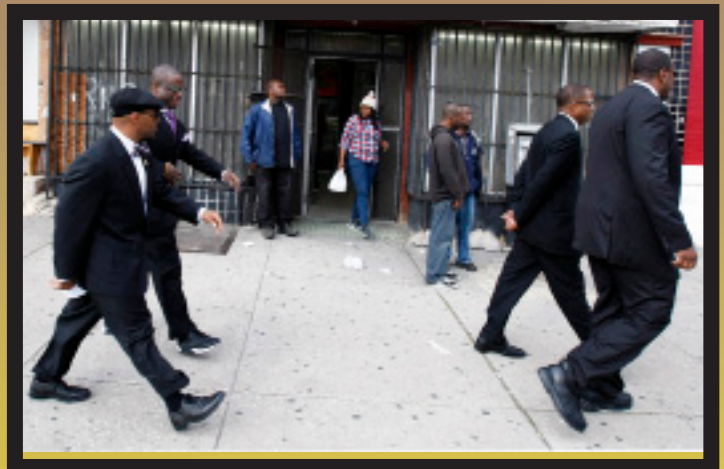


Calvin became part of the community as he fraternized with the Brotherhood at the Pi Omega House only blocks from the hot spot on North Avenue. In his younger days, he was known for his jump shot in basketball tournaments. Even today, the former U.S. Army officer is known to the world, his community and the brothers as simply “K.C.”

“We have to do something,” Calvin said. “Omega men must now stand in the gap to help fill the holes in our communities.” He got on the phone and contacted three of his most trusted Omega Brothers: Todd Beazer, Derrick Smith and Joe Woods.

The group contacted Brother D. Lyles, Grand Counselor, for approval to hold a silent prayer at the site of the riot. The approval was granted with the blessings of the 40th Grand Basileus, Antonio F. Knox.

“My heart goes out to the family of Freddie Gray, and I pray that they will be uplifted in prayer and supported by friends, family, and others who have witnessed yet another senseless tragedy and apparent lack of respect for another black life,” Knox said.



OMEGA STANDS WITH BALTIMORE

"This must change. We must stay the course, persevere and continue to work with those that are trying to eradicate this problem. As difficult as it is, we must remain calm and follow our principles to help this community overcome this madness."

Drawing on his military training, Brother Calvin mobilized the troops. He and the other organizers used social media to promote an evening activity called "Omega Standing the Gap: A silent prayer."

More than 100 Omega men from the Second and Third District chapters marched two-by-two through the Baltimore community. City police officers escorted the regiment of Ques.

Some of the welcoming crowd cried and cheered as the men of Omega stood at the site of the riot dressed in black suits. The group would have been larger, but the 2nd District Meeting has just begun, and several brothers were out of town.

During the first night of rioting, Brother Darryl Green, a Baltimore native was walking around ground zero of the riot trying quell some of the crowd's misplaced aggression. After Gray's death, the cry of the community was "Enough is enough!"

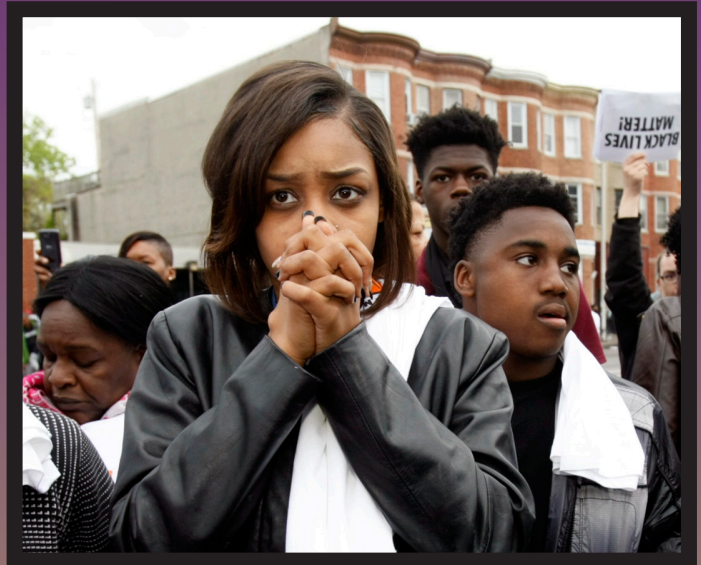
During that heated night, CNN reporters interviewed Brother Green asking, 'What is the problem? Green said: "It was like the city was crying out for social justice. Treat us the way we need to be treated." He also noted that "hurt people channel their pain in different ways."

BROTHERS ON THE FRONT LINES

Brother Kenneth Calvin is a Washington, D.C. area high school principal. He works quietly behind the scenes in support of his chapter, Lambda Gamma Gamma's educational and social action projects. The 2nd District's Citizen of the Year lends his efforts to community awareness activities throughout the Baltimore-Washington corridor. He was initiated through Tau Sigma, University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff.

Brother Darryl Green, a member of Pi Omega Chapter, is a Baltimore community activist, and works extensively with troubled African-American males. He activates the first alarm when trouble happens in the City of Baltimore.

Brother Milbert O. Brown, Jr., *The Editor of The Oracle* provided reporting from ground zero of the riots for the Oracle Magazine.



Oracle Photographs

PREVIOUS PAGE:

After the silent prayer, Omega's sing hymn.

Brothers walk in line two-by-two through Baltimore's Black community.

A cheering crowd welcomes the men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

RIGHT PAGE:

TOP: A women prays for peace when the Omegas arrived at ground zero.

BOTTOM: Brother Darryl Green, a Baltimore community activist and member of Pi Omega Chapter.

WHY is *Omega Marching?*

*“..because we are
honorable men and
honorable fathers.”*

Antonio F. Knox, Sr.
40th Grand Basileus



Thousands gathered on October 10, 2015 for the Justice or Else March in Washington, D.C. The rally marked the 20th anniversary of the Million Man March.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Grand and District officers joined with other Omega members from across the nation at the Capitol building. Included are excerpts from Omega's Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr., the 40th Grand Basileus addressing *Why is Omega Marching?*

“As Omegas we firmly believe that our families are not complete without a father or a father figure within the household. Therefore, I thank every organization that tries to assist in this important cause. Although I love and respect all single-parent mothers I still

strongly believe that no one can teach a black boy how to become a black man except an honorable black Man. Accordingly, we will be represented in the 20,000 honorable fathers marching.

If the foregoing reason is not sufficient, then consider the cases involving: Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, Tamir Rice, Walter Scott, Eric Garner, and Sandra Bland. Yes, black lives matter as all lives matter, but for some reason there are some who do not understand that ALL lives include black lives. Our country will never be all that it can be, until young black men are given a chance to live to their fullest potential and share their talents and skills with our country.

The scales of justice are sometimes unbalanced. For example, consider when Eric Garner was choked to death and no charges were filed. Consider the case of an unarmed Jonathan Ferrell who was shot at

JUSTICE OR ELSE MARCH



Brother Antonio Carter of Epsilon Iota Iota Chapter and Brother Hugh Hunter of Delta Chi listen to speakers after arriving together on the bus from Omega's First District. Oracle 2015 Photographs.

least 12 times but the officer who shot him was not convicted because the jury was unable to reach an unanimous verdict which resulted in a mistrial. Or consider the case of a typical celebrity who commits a felony and is sentenced to five years probation while a teacher administering an assessment test is sentenced to 20 years in prison. Yes, we are marching for those reasons too.

And let us not forget James Austin and Shaun Gregory were both killed by young men who look just like them. And there are many others who have suffered the same fate. It is time to stop disrespecting and devaluing our own lives. We are marching against that too.

While we should celebrate the positive impact of the 50 years since the enactment of the historic Voting Rights Act unfortunately, this is not the time to celebrate because we continue to face numerous deliberate voter suppression efforts in many states using old and new tactics to take away this precious right and yes, that too is why we are marching.

We have schools that have become segregated and are not properly funded. Classroom sizes have increased, assistant teachers are eliminated and low pay for teachers remains at the bottom of the pay scale. Graduation rates have gone up significantly for everyone except black and brown males and we can't figure out why. Isn't this reason alone, a sufficient justification enough to march?

Countless dollars are paid to families where their civil rights have been violated by those that we entrust to protect us, but there is little or no money to help those in need. We are marching against that too.

As the economy improves and the unemployment rate continues to decline, we regret that the African-American unemployment rate is two times that of others. Social programs and nonprofits that keep children off the streets are closing and people wonder why the crime rate is going up.

That is why march."

Growing Up With Love



ABOVE: Brother Jon E. Love at Leadership Conference 2015.

Founder Love with his son, Jon. in the late 1940s (on left).

Story by

Brother

Milbert O. Brown

Oracle Editor

M

E and Dad had "a special kind of relationship. Our thing was playing badminton and horseshoes in the yard. I was always trying to beat my father at those games. As he got older, I would beat him at badminton. With a smile, he said, 'I'm not going to play that game with you anymore.' Dad's time was limited.

He had little time for games, but he always had time for me," said his son, Jon.

Jon E. Love was born into Omega royalty in 1939 and was the only child of Founder Edgar A. Love. His father, Edgar served as Omega Psi Phi's first Grand Basileus. His Uncle John W. Love was the Fraternity's 10th Grand Basileus. Several years after the death of his father, Jon Edgar Love, the son of a Founder, became an Omega man. He was selected as an honorary member during the 78th Grand Conclave in 2012. A Baltimore native, Brother Love is a member of Pi Omega Graduate Chapter.

“To be honest, Dad was a very busy individual. He was Baltimore’s African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Bishop. In the summertime, he would ask me if I wanted to go to the office with him. He would have me filing papers. I was about 9 or 10 years old at the time,” Love said.

“The Omegas respected him. As a preacher’s son, I did everything to keep from having any blemishes that would hurt him. That’s how much I loved him. My dad would bring me and my mother alone to certain Omega events,” added Brother Love.

The younger Love had a front row seat to Omega’s early history. He had the opportunity to have met Founders Cooper and Coleman. “Oscar Cooper and my father were like two brothers. Oscar lived in Washington at the time, and anytime my dad would be in D.C., he would stop and see Cooper,” Love recalled. He remembers when he was 8, his father took him to Howard University and introduced him to Professor Frank Coleman.

“As I remember, the Founders were very serious men,” Love said, and “when I got around them, I was kind of quiet. I had the impression that when I saw them it was time to get serious because maybe they were discussing something about Omega,” noted the Life Member.

According to Brother Love, his father and Cooper would often joke around, but “has far as their careers and fraternity business was concerned, they were very serious-minded. It wasn’t a matter of proving anything; it was a matter of accomplishing something.”

Founder Bishop Love served in World War I, as a U.S. Army officer stationed in France. Brother Love said his father was going to stay in France, but others convinced him that he was needed back home in America to strengthen the Black community against Jim Crow.

Love also said his Uncle John had introduced Bishop Love by mail to a young lady named Virginia Rose.

“My father was anxious to meet her because of his brother’s recommendation,” Jon Love said.

Virginia and Edgar would soon be married. Bishop Love had high values and was a family man.

Some of young Jon’s most challenging encounters centered on an automobile. In every instant, it was connected to his father’s love for him.

“When I was a kid, a man had a car with a running board on the side. He would let me jump on, then slowly ride down the street stopping at my front door as I jumped off,” Love said. “One day I jumped off too early, and I fell backward. I hit my head and had a concussion. My parents were very worried about me.”

During his teenage years, Jon had another memorable car experience.

“My father was out of town; I knew I could drive his car, a new 1954 black and white Oldsmobile. I was out with some friends whom I had no business being with when I sideswiped a car. I didn’t know what to do, so I drove and hid the car in the garage,” Love said. “Someone saw me, and the police told me to talk to the man, or I was going to be picked up. I told the man not to worry, when my father came home, he would take care of your car. My father came in, I said, ‘Dad I got something to tell you, and I’d rather me tell you rather than someone else.’”

We sat down, and I explained what happened. He just shook his head, and said, ‘Boy.’ Quickly, I rose to tell my dad I was going to get a job so that I could pay for damage to the car. In his quiet way, he said, ‘Boy you don’t need to do that—I’ll take care of it.’”

Another time, “I was off in school when I got word that my parents had an accident. Dad was driving his new four-door Hudson, and after an engagement in Washington, he fell asleep, running off the road on his way home. I was upset, but it was little that I could do as a student at St. Emma Military Academy. The officer in charge of the accident report told me that if it had been any other car other than that Hudson, they would have been killed.”

Brother Love said that when Bishop Love died, a lot of his important papers, pictures, and paraphernalia were discarded by an overzealous real estate agent trying to resell the property. The bishop’s wife could have stayed in the church’s home longer, but unfortunately, she died within six months of Bishop Love. “I put the family’s items in the garage, but when I returned in a week the area was empty,” Brother Love said. “It left a hole in my heart knowing my family’s treasured items were no more.”

Now in his late 70s, Brother Love still thinks about his dad and remembers his father’s undying love for him. Love has said many times how blessed he was to have had a father like Edgar A. Love. He was even more fortunate to have been given a preview of Omega’s history as he walked and talked to the Founders.

A Test in Perseverance and Keeping the Faith



Brother Harry Lennix

Omega's Harry Lennix credits his voice as his greatest asset.

His deep baritone delivery is commanding. Brother Lennix is a seasoned film, stage and television actor. Recently, he played the role of General Swanwick in the 2016 movie, *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*.

The Chicago native was Commissioner Blades in Spike Lee's movie *Chi-Raq*. Some aspects of his experiences growing up on Chicago's South Side mirror the violence presented in the 2015 Lee film.

Lennix's early years in Chicago exposed him to a climate where gangs like the Blackstone Rangers and the Black Gangster Disciples were actively recruiting young promising black men.

During the late 1960s, Chicago was highly segregated, and the Nation of Islam had a tremendous positive impact on his neighborhood.

"Chicago never was shocked from it's kind of very basic, in some ways crude composition. I came up in the era of Black Power, at the same time when Black people didn't have a lot of power," said Brother Lennix.

He mentioned that Omega's Jesse Jackson with Operation PUSH was "a powerful attribute that people pointed to as they navigated through life."

Harry got interested in Omega Psi Phi when his sister joined the Que Pearls at Illinois State University. "I was maybe a sophomore in high school when she came home and introduced me to her friends who were Ques. They were great guys.

"I remember James Neil, who passed away a few years. I was impressed with his intellect, pride and knowledge. He was a very dignified man, and was my first Omega influence," recalls Lennix.

As a student at nearby, Northwestern University, Lennix added, "I was recruited by a couple of other fraternities, but I was never interested in anything except the Omegas." He said the Omegas had a chapter on campus, but were in trouble.

Finally, his roommate pledged Omega, and he viewed the process as an outsider. Harry had to work and was unable to join because of his financial situation.

Even though Harry received a scholarship to Northwestern, as a theatre major, his family had limited resources. "I didn't really know my father. He had died before I was two, so I was raised primarily by my mother.

She was a laundress, who did laundry for Catholic priests at two different rectories. When she wasn't doing that she was babysitting to take in extra money," said Brother Lennix.

Young Harry was an altar boy at his church and the youngest of four children. He attended a Chicago seminary high school and was studying to become a priest.

"I really regret even to this day, not becoming a priest. I think about it a lot. I think the priest, in general, is a kind of father figure. I could have been that priest who served as a father to children," reflects Brother Lennix.

"As an actor, I thought I could reach more people. I could inspire someone," added Lennix. The Chicagoan first got into acting to impress the girls.

"Once I got interested in acting, I dived into it head first.. "I was always watching movies, reading books on acting, and always practicing in front of the mirror—becoming the character," Lennix replied.

"I was always watching movies, reading books on acting, and always practicing in front of the mirror—becoming the character," Lennix replied.

After college graduation, Lennix moved around Chicago acting in small theatre companies. For eight long years, he worked in Chicago's tough Englewood area as a permanent substitute teacher in the Chicago Public School system.

Then it happened. In the mid-90s, one of Lennix's classmates called and said, 'Hey, why don't you stop teaching school, and come out here to New York, and really try this.'

"So, I moved to New York. If you want to make a dent in this industry you really have to get to one of the coasts (New York or Los Angeles) to make your mark," commented Bro. Lennix. His friend, Emily got Lennix to New York, and even today she still is his agent.

In the 1999 movie, *Titus*, Lennix was awarded the Satellite Award for Best Supporting Actor in a motion picture drama for his role as Aaron. In *Titus*, he paired with two Academy Award winners, Anthony Hopkins and Jessica Lange. Today, Harry Lennix can be seen in the NBC drama, *The Blacklist*. He plays Harold Cooper, the Assistant Director of the FBI.

Even with all of his movie, and play credits, he is still most adored by the Black community for his role as Terrence "Dresser" Williams in Robert Townsend's 1991 movie, *The Five Heartbeats*.

Several years after his first introduction to the Fraternity, Lennix kept the faith, and was initiated into Omega through Theta Kappa Kappa Chapter in 2013.

Story by

*Brother Milbert O. Brown, Jr.
Editor of The Oracle.*

Omega's Brother Smith Named Director of U.S. Foreign Missions

Brother Gentry O. Smith, a 1983 graduate North Carolina State University, (Kappa Lambda Chapter, Spring 1978), was sworn in on July 14, 2015 as the Director of the U.S. Department of State's Office of Foreign Missions, a position that comes with the rank of ambassador.

He was confirmed by the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee to this position on June 15, 2015.

In his capacity as Director of Foreign Missions, Ambassador Smith is responsible for ensuring foreign diplomats comply with guidelines governing diplomatic privileges and immunities granted by the U.S. government; improving the treatment of U.S. missions and their personnel abroad; and providing service to the foreign diplomatic and consular community in the United State in matters such as tax, customs, property and motor vehicles.

"I believe strongly in the art of diplomacy. It is the greatest tool in our arsenal for addressing the multitude of issues we encounter around the world. And like it or not, there are times when it is our only tool," said Ambassador Gentry Smith.

"I believe the relations we have with people and governments around the world are the most effective manner for expressing our own values and our best chance of affecting foreign policy at the highest levels."

Ambassador Smith



Prior to this appointment, he served in the Bureau of Diplomatic Security as the Deputy Assistant Secretary (DAS) for Countermeasures.

In that position, Ambassador Smith supervised the development of security standards and policies associated with the physical and technical security of U.S. diplomatic missions around the world.

Ambassador Smith entered service with the Department of State in 1987 and has been a career member of the Senior Foreign Service since 2006.

Ambassador Smith served as Director of the Office of Physical Security Programs. He has also served as the Regional

Security Officer at U.S. Embassy Tokyo, Japan and at U.S. Embassy Rangoon, Burma.

He has also held the positions of security officer and as Deputy Regional Security Officer during two separate tours at U.S. Embassy Cairo, Egypt.

Omega's Ambassador Smith is married with four children. He graduated from North Carolina State University's College of Humanities and Social Sciences with a bachelor's degree in political science.

Before his career with the government, Brother Smith served as an officer with the Raleigh Police Department in Raleigh, N.C. for four years. Brother Smith is the Line Brother of our current Grand Basileus Brother Antonio E. Knox, Sr.

Picture Center:

Brother Gentry Smith with his wife, Georgette is sworn in as the Director of the State Department's Office of Foreign Mission.

Photo /Story Special to the 6th District's Q-View.

The State of Legal Affairs



Brother D. Michael Lyles, Grand Counselor

The legal affairs of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity is a complex mix of corporate, ritualistic and constitutional law. My job, along with the 12 District Counselors, is to advise the Supreme Council and the membership on the legal aspects of actions considered or taken.

I have had a wonderful time doing what I do best and am hopefully putting the Fraternity in the best position to WIN! I appreciate the help of the District Counselors who have helped immensely and continue to provide great assistance to me as we work through legal issues in the various states where Omega Psi Phi and its chapters are situated. I want to, in just a few paragraphs, give a summary of the top matters we have dealt with in the last year.

The Legal Environment

As I explained to a reporter, who called me last fall inquiring about the Rho Chapter hazing allegations, besides our aggressive legal approach, the public should know that the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, in addition to being a brotherhood, is a large multi-national corporation of over 600 chapters active and inactive, with over 80,000 members active and inactive in 45 states and on 4 continents--to have only 5 hazing allegations I would say is a pretty decent record of management and attests to our great record of curbing abuse.

Any other well-known commercial enterprise, with that many employees and that few "grievances or allegations" would think it were a wildly successful growing concern as well.

The message, I hopefully got across, is that even when we as active members and managers of this great Fraternity do everything right, things and members may still go wrong and get it wrong and be a reason for someone to sue the Fraternity in hopes of a big payday. I am certain that our current Supreme Council and all our committees are thoughtfully and intelligently thinking about ways to continue to protect the Fraternity from those that would seek to bring us down, from within and without. I am proud to play a role in this success and support the vision of Grand Basileus, Antonio F. Knox, Sr.

The Legal Agenda

Currently, I am focused on several legal agenda items: 1) Aggressively defending the Fraternity and local chapters (along with outside counsel) in 9 active and pending law suits in the states of South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida, Missouri, New York and Michigan. Only three of these are related to allegations of hazing and three are wrongful death allegations related to public events.

The wrongful death allegations are surprising to most brothers, but point up the fact that when we host or attend events, we need to be more thoughtful about the event and why it needs to be seen as an event sponsored or hosted by Omega Psi Phi. We need to be more protective of the Fraternity when it comes to our involvement in events that are hosted by others, especially inactive brothers, because our colors and our unique brand makes us a target for those wanting a big legal payday. Message: if it's not a sanctioned event and there are no contracts between the Fraternity or a Chapter, limiting Omega's liability, than do not engage.

2) We completed a rewrite of the Member Code of Conduct, which is available now. A month's long process that I and the District Counselor team

completed last year to update the outdated Code of Conduct in order to remove redundant language, clarify confusing or contradictory provisions, simplify the overly legalistic language and make it easier to understand and to comply with.

3) We developed and disseminated a Social Media Policy and Trademark Usage Policy. They may be downloaded from the Fraternity Website. They set a standard for protecting Fraternity's marks, letters, shield, and intellectual property. When we protect our brand, we increase its value and help keep your dues low.

Each Brother must help us in this regard. If someone is using or selling our brand or displaying it in any form in any medium without OUR permission, or as a licensed vendor, than they are devaluing it and abusing the Fraternity and as a result increasing our costs as an organization.

Help us protect the Omega Psi Phi brand by calling IHQ or sending an email to the Corporate Compliance Officer, Bro. Brian Boulware. If you see someone selling or using our precious marks, ask if they are a licensed vendor and, if not, let us know immediately.

Brothers, if you need legal advice or an opinion regarding any legal matters concerning Fraternity operations, I am here to help.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly at **grandcounselor@oppf.org**.

National Bar Association Selects Crump President



Brother Crump at the Justice or Else March in Washinton, D.C. Oracle (2015) photograph by Bro. James Witherspoon.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Attorney Benjamin Crump was sworn in as the 73rd President of the National Bar Association on July 23, 2016 in Los Angeles, CA. U.S. Federal Judge Donald Graham provided Attorney Crump with the oath of office. There to witness the momentous occasion was Brother Crump's family, wife, Dr. Genae Crump, and their daughter Brooklyn.

Omega men that attended the event included: Brother Dr. David Marion, 1st Vice Grand Basileus; Brother Ricky Lewis, and Brother Brian Beverly, the 6th District Representative.

Brother Crump will be the fifth member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and the eighth person from the State of Florida to serve as the President of the National Bar Association.

Several Omega men were elected to positions within Brother Crump's cabinet. They include: Brother Joseph Drayton (New York); Brother Juan Thomas (Chicago), and Brother Jean-Marie Sylla who will serve as General Counsel. Brother Ricky Anderson will lead the Sports and Entertainment and Brother Jeffrey Jones will head Labor and Employment.

The National Bar Association is the nation's oldest and largest national association of predominantly African-American lawyers, judges, educators and law students.

Brother Crump was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., through Chi Theta Chapter at Florida State University in 1988. Crump, an Omega Life Member serves the Fraternity as the Grand Tribunal chairman.

A Case for Courage



By Brother Dr. Garry M. Keel

Last year, I attended and watched the movie “Selma” with my 92 year old father. Having lived much of his formative and adult years in Jim Crow North Carolina. Even during this turbulent time, my father was one of those Black men who was steadfast and unwavering to the cause of racial freedom and justice. He walked the lines, held up signs, attended rallies, and went to jail.

I always saw my father as a proud chauvinistic macho Southerner who never showed emotion. I am sure he has feelings, but showing them is not something he would normally do in front of one of his offspring. So, I was surprised by his reaction to the movie.

When the movie ended and the marchers crossed the Edmond Pettis Bridge, I glanced over and saw a tear running down by father’s cheek. I asked him what moved him to tears. He whispered to me (perhaps needlessly embarrassed) about how much courage those people had to have to stand against insurmountable odds. He was sure that those people feared for their life, but their dream and the desire to make it better for others far outweighed any personal immediate threat and for that he was so very touched and proud.

Shortly after attending the movie, I attended the annual MSP training session. During training, I could not help but to think back to my father’s statement about the role

that courage plays in order for real change to occur. I further thought back to 1911 and the unwavering courage that the Founders must have had just to think about and to finally organize our Beloved Omega. The entire school administration and most likely most of their peers were negative about their idea.

It then dawned on me that perhaps one reason why we often find ourselves continuously fighting against inappropriate action by some of our members (not “True” Omega Men) is unfortunately that they have either lost or never had the courage necessary to fight for a better way. Most would agree that there is no place for any form of hazing in our efforts to bring new young men into the Fold.

Yet when the time comes to be courageous in the face of those who wish to do irreparable harm to the future of Omega, too many members become complacent and reluctant to step in. Where has the courage exhibited by Founders gone? Unfortunately, we have some members who will stand by and watch a young man being needlessly hazed and rather than take a courageous stand by saying “stop”, they either leave the scene or worse yet put their heads in the sand like they don’t see it or it isn’t happening. In such a situation, these members are exhibiting what I would call cowardice.

How can we continue to grow a strong and resilient Omega if some members choose to either leave or hide when they find themselves in an uncomfortable situation? How can we continue to be the quintessential Black Greek organization and at the same time show limited courage during difficult and unjust times? Where is the courage to stand against what most would agree is a wrong. If only one Brother would stand and say enough is enough, it is likely that the wrong doers will get the message.

Since, the selection of new members is the lifeblood of our future and it is likely that the new recruits will take on the characteristics of their big Brothers, it is imperative that those charged with bringing those into the sacred shrine of Omega exhibit courage and like those on that bridge in Selma 50 years ago and those who started the greatest Black Fraternity over 100 years ago, they will have to exhibit and stand for courage.

A Connection with Omega's Founders

What is Always On My Mind

**By Brother Dr. Andrew A. Ray,
Omega's 39th Grand Basileus**

I recall a life changing moment when as an undergraduate, I sat on the floor in front of Founders Edgar A. Love and Oscar J. Cooper. A few years later as a young graduate Brother, I had the opportunity to do the same. The Founders shared their passion for the Fraternity, which was rooted in the challenges from naysayers and their steadfast stand on principles to address all obstacles.

Our Founders passed on the four Cardinal Principles and the special Friendship for Omega Men of future generations to employ, wherever they may live and work. The Cardinal Principles serve as our North Star as we look up; while the special Friendship benchmarks our path as we look forward.

Each day I reflect on the Founders tearful yet strong statement of pride and indeed a charge: "Young Brothers, we gave birth to this Fraternity. It will be your responsibility to keep it alive. Don't let the Fraternity die."

Little did I know that those words would forever be seared in my heart and mind; marking the last time I would be in their collective presence.



Omega's 39th Grand Basileus, Dr. Andrew A. Ray, prays at the Founders Monument on the campus of Howard University on November 17, 2011. The Fraternity was celebrating their 100th anniversary. Oracle photo/MBrown

In the early 70's, Founders Cooper and Love entered Omega Chapter. The charge they left with the young Brothers assembled at that faithful moment, grew in me then and now.

In the latter part of the 70's, the seriousness of the growing charge was revealed at the Grand Conclave in Denver. Serving as a delegate for my chapter; I watched the flow of business digress into a very negative state.

When the Conclave flow moved to the nominations process, my promise to the Founders moved me to action. Attired in a purple dashiki, beads and the largest afro on the conclave floor, I approached the mic to get the attention of H. Carl Moultrie.

When H. Carl asked why I was at the mic, I responded that "This Fraternity is in need of leadership; therefore, I nominate myself for Grand Basileus." I got a second and three votes in the election!

My stunning defeat at the Denver Grand Conclave, in no way suppressed my desire to keep my promise to the Founders. After leaving Denver, I immersed myself working within and for Omega. Serving on and chairing committees at the chapter, district and international levels. Acquiring leadership roles over a thirty year period resulted in my being elected to the office of Grand Basileus in 2010.

My journey is a testimony to Perseverance.

SEPSIS: A Relatively Unknown Yet Serious Disease and Health Threat



Brother Myron E. Reed, MBA, Health Columnist

One of the Omega Psi Fraternity, Inc. mandated programs is health initiatives which includes promoting good health practices. With that mandate comes the responsibility of being well informed. This article is intended to provide information to readers about sepsis which is a very deadly, costly and prevalent disease state.

Sepsis is more deadly than stroke and nearly as common as heart attacks, but many have never heard of sepsis or are not certain what it is or how serious a condition it can be if not diagnosed quickly and treated properly.

Consider the facts:

DEADLY – According to multiple sources such as the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) and the Global Sepsis Alliance; sepsis causes approximately 215,000 annual deaths in the US. Globally, sepsis is the largest killer of children and new-born infants.

COSTLY – Data published by Critical Care Forum reports that 40% of all dollars spent in US intensive care units (ICU's) is spent on sepsis.

PREVALENT – In the US, more than 750,000 cases of severe sepsis occur annually and one out of every 23 hospital patients has sepsis according to the publication "Critical Care Medicine." The Global Sepsis Alliance reports that sepsis affects

over 26 million people annually and the disease is growing approximately 10% every year. Not to diminish other health conditions, but to put the serious nature of sepsis into perspective, sepsis will cause over 215,000 deaths in the US in 2015. Sepsis alone will be responsible for more than double the number of deaths caused by AIDS, colon cancer and breast cancer which are projected to cause a combined total of approximately 105,000 deaths for the same time period. Yes, sepsis is indeed very deadly, costly and prevalent! Once again, this is not intended to diminish the seriousness of other diseases but the data proves that sepsis is twice as deadly as diseases with more name recognition such as AIDS, and certain forms of cancer.

The remainder of this article will focus on the definition of sepsis, the impact and burden of sepsis on the healthcare system as tied to clinical outcomes and what you can do about sepsis as an individual to protect yourself and your loved ones.

What is sepsis and who is most vulnerable to it?

Definition:

According to a definition derived from Stedman's Medical Dictionary, sepsis is the body's response to infection caused by microorganisms invading the body in either a localized or widespread manner. Under certain circumstances, serious infection can cause cell and tissue damage leading to multiple organ failure which is the clinical hallmark of sepsis and why it is responsible for high mortality and morbidity rates.

Vulnerable populations:

As with many diseases, the very young, the elderly and those with compromised immune systems are at most risk to be impacted by sepsis.

Impact & burden of sepsis on the US health care system:

One of the strategic goal of the Affordable Care Act of 2010 (also known as Obamacare) is to advance health, safety, and well-Being of the American people. The system for financial reimbursement to

individual and organizational health care providers is rapidly migrating away from Fee-for-Service (FFS) towards the Pay-for-Performance (P4P) model. With P4P, health care providers could potentially earn higher reimbursements by providing enhanced patient care. In addition to being deadly and prevalent, sepsis is difficult to diagnose which could make it more challenging for health care providers to optimize the P4P model causing an overall burdensome and draining effect on the entire health care system.

What is Triple Aim?

The Triple Aim Initiative is a framework developed to optimize health system performance by simultaneously pursuing improved population health, reducing per capita cost of health care and improving the experience of care for patients. The growing sepsis problem will continue to challenge the health care system's ability to meet the clinical needs of patients while addressing the financial impact it poses on the continuum of care.

What can you do about sepsis?

The most important and effective actions you can take to minimize the risk of severe sepsis to you and your family are to consult with your health care provider and err on the side of caution if sepsis is suspected and adhere to this quote from the Global Sepsis Alliance....

"Until a cure for sepsis is found, early detection is the surest hope for survival".

Brother Reed has held numerous roles across multiple industries including health care, aerospace and automotive. His health care industry experience spans nearly a decade specializing in the clinical in-vitro diagnostics medical device space. The Cleveland, Ohio native earned his MBA from the University of Phoenix, and he holds dual BBA degrees in marketing and business management from Kent State University. He is a member of Mu Alpha Alpha Chapter, and the 12th District Director of Public Relations.

A Voice for Prostate Cancer



In 2014, **Brother Michael Jackson** was appointed by Tony Knox, the 40th Grand Basileus to serve as the International Prostate Cancer Subcommittee Chairman, which is under the International Health Initiative Committee. Under Brother Jackson's leadership, all Districts in the Fraternity will have an appointed representative to serve on the committee.

Brother Jackson was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2008. He underwent radiation treatment in 2009 and now as a survivor of prostate cancer his life

exemplifies the four cardinal principals of the fraternity. He now offers his experiences to educate and uplift brothers by encouraging them to be tested, early detection leads to prevention. Brother Jackson takes "manhood" seriously. An Omega man should demonstrate strength and courage, even in medical concerns. He perseveres and overcomes barriers that would prevent his message of "life" to reach all brothers. Scholarship....Know what questions to ask your medical team.

Brother Jackson is an inspiration to all men as a prostate cancer survivor. He is a nationally renowned motivational speaker, and author. He has dedicated his life, time, and personal resources to raise prostate cancer awareness, not only in the fraternity but also in communities, faith-based events and social gatherings. He makes personal contacts with brothers that have been diagnosed, or are either in treatment or recovery for prostate cancer to provide uplift. In 2011, he was a key speaker at the 100th Year Celebration in Washington, DC followed by the Minneapolis Conclave.

Brother Jackson is currently active with Lambda Gamma Gamma (MD). He was initiated at Drake University through Mu Omicron Chapter in 1970.

The Life Member has over 45 years of service to the Fraternity. He has served in various positions including the 12th District Keeper of Records and Seal, chapter officer, and a 12th District State Representative.

Brother Jackson is the International Prostate Cancer Subcommittee Chairman.

John Brown Inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame



Epsilon Epsilon Chapter on the campus of Benedict College initiated John R. Brown into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity in April 1969. While at Benedict, Brother Brown was a stand-out Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) star tennis player. As a SIAC All-Conference athlete, Brown was considered to be one of the conference's top tennis players from that era.

On October 15, 2015, Brother Brown, the team captain of the 1968 and 1969 team was inducted into Benedict College's Athletic Hall of Fame. Brother Brown is the first tennis player to be selected for the school's Hall of Fame honor.

Brother Brown graduated from Benedict College with a B.S. in mathematics and physics. He later earned a Masters of Administrative Science in Management from Baltimore's prestigious Johns Hopkins University. He is an accomplished technologist, entrepreneur, business consultant and speaker.

Omega's Brown is founder of JR Brown & Associates, LLC, a business consulting firm that focuses on small technology company's growth strategies. His leadership, consulting and business experience is based upon over 40 years with a major corporation and government. Brother Brown has lead multiple organizations specializing in business and product development, program management, and strategic planning in field of electronic systems. He has also demonstrated his commitment to challenges facing small minority-owned companies by providing innovative growth strategies.

He also holds a certificate of Executive Leadership education from UCLA Anderson School of Management. Prior to starting his own company, he had a long and success career with Westinghouse Electric and Northrop Grumman Corporations.

Brown has over 25 years in young adult mentoring, leadership and coaching. He has is a passionate and committed leader at his church, and within the community. He serves on several boards including: Advisory Board for Amos Tuck School of Business MBE programs at Dartmouth College, and Bowie State University's College of Business.

The Omega Life Member holds memberships with Tau Pi Graduate Chapter, American Management Association, American Society of Manufacturing Engineers, and Society of Black Engineers.



Coleman heads Pac-12 Officiating

Omega's Brother Coleman joined the Pac-12 Conference in May 2015 as the Vice President of Officiating after serving as the Director of Officiating for the National Football League. Bro Coleman is responsible for overseeing the football officiating and developing best practices for the college conference.

The Cleveland, OH native has officiated football in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference, Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference, Mid- American Conference, and as an Instant Replay official in the NFL. Also on the NFL level, he was in charge of the Officiating Development Program which ensured a pipeline of new talent into the NFL officiating ranks. Prior to the NFL, Coleman had a distinguished career in human resources and as an Army officer.

Coleman, a retired U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel, graduated from West Point Military Academy with a B.S. in Engineering. He also holds a M.S. in operation research from Case Western Reserve University.

Lt. Colonel Bro. Coleman was initiated into Omega through Lambda Xi Chapter (Seoul, Korea) in Fall 1977.

Obama Selects Bro. Brown as Assistant Secretary of Commerce

WASHINGTON, DC---Retired U.S. Coast Guard Vice Adminal Manson Brown was appointed by President Obama and confirmed by a voice vote of the U.S. Senate to serve as Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Environmental Observation and Prediction and Deputy Administrator for NOAA.



Omega's Brother Brown joins NOAA after 36 years of distinguished service in the U.S. Coast Guard. As deputy administrator, he will play a major role driving the Obama administration and NOAA priorities for weather and water services, climate science, plus the agency's integrated mapping and earth-observing capabilities.

His portfolio will also include agency-wide direction for satellites, space weather, water, and ocean observations and forecasts to best serve American communities and businesses.

"I am thrilled to have Manson joining my leadership team," said Kathryn D. Sullivan, Ph.D., Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA administrator. Dr. Sullivan also added that Brown's "years of experience in the Coast Guard make him uniquely qualified to ensure our investment in those systems keep pace with the growing demand for accurate, timely and actionable information."

Prior to joining NOAA, Brown served as deputy commandant for Mission Support for the U.S. Coast Guard from 2012 to 2014. He served as commander of Coast Guard Pacific Area in California from 2010 to 2012 and as commander of Coast Guard District 14 in Hawaii from 2008 to 2010. His previous tours of duty include assistant engineering officer aboard the icebreaker Glacier and command of Coast Guard Sector Honolulu and Group Charleston, South Carolina.

In 2006, he assumed command of the Maintenance & Logistics Command Pacific of the Coast Guard, where he had previously served as assistant chief of the Civil Engineering Division. In 2004, Brown served as senior advisor for Transportation to Coalition Provisional Authority in Baghdad, Iraq. In 2003, he served as the chief of Officer Personnel Management at the Coast Guard Personnel Command. From 1999 to 2002, he was the military assistant to the Secretary of Transportation.

The son of an Omega Man, Manson K. Brown entered the Fraternity in June 1983, through Sigma Iota Chapter in Oakland, California. Through his many military moves, he remained true to Omega's cardinal principles. He served as KRS for Sigma Alpha Chapter in Miami, Florida, from 1987-89. Sigma Alpha honored him as the 1988 *Omega Man of the Year*. More recently, he served as an Honorary Co-Chair for the Military Salute Dinner at the 2011 Centennial Celebration in Washington, DC. Brother Manson Brown is a member of Alpha Omega Graduate Chapter in Washington, DC.

**Report by Brother Norm "Bougie" Senior,
3rd District Director of Public Relations**

Undergraduate Ques Attend Justice or Else March



Omega men from Pi Chapter (Morgan State University) attended the Justice or Else March in October 2015. This event marked the 20th anniversary of the Million Man March also held at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. Pi Chapter members (L to R) included: Brothers Brandon Martin, Antonio Brown, Jr., and Rudy Lee Daniel, III. Oracle/ Bro. Brown

Omega Reactivates Phi Kappa

Brother Kenneth Barnes, the Fraternity's International Executive Director confirmed that Phi Kappa Chapter at Rowan University was in good standing on August 27, 2015.

The New Jersey university was reactivated with the help of the local graduate chapter, Pi Kappa Kappa. Some of the key members of Pi Kappa Kappa were: Brother Mark Coston, chapter advisor and Brother Joe English, Rowan University's faculty advisor.

Brother Keith Dickens met frequently with administrators at Rowan's Greek Affairs Office and Community Standards. The mentorship of graduate Brothers from Phi Kappa Kappa was important in reestablishing the undergraduate chapter at Rowan University.

Some of the topics discussed during meetings with the Greek Affairs Offices included: the campus climate, community service, fraternal hazing, and scholarship.

Alpha Delta Psi Arrives



Hickory, NC--(L to R): Brothers Joseph Ray, KRS; Adrian Hart, Vice Basileus; Issac Saxon, Basileus; Xavier Gill, KF and Jolen Briggs, Chaplain are members of the first Omega Psi Phi Fraternity chapter to be established at Lenoir Rhyne University. Omega's Alpha Delta Psi Chapter is also the first Black fraternity on the North Carolina campus. Oracle/Bro.Crisp

New Oracle Internship Program

Omega's International Editor of The Oracle, Brother Milbert O. Brown, Jr., established the Fraternity's first Undergraduate Oracle Internship Program in Fall 2015. The program was approved by Brothers David Marion, the 1st Vice Grand Basileus and Anthony Kadri, 2nd Vice Grand Basileus.

The purpose of the internship program is to provide undergraduate Omega men with a unique opportunity to develop their communication skills. The selected Oracle intern would work on the Oracle Magazine under the guidance of Brother Brown. The Oracle intern would also have a variety of duties including serving as an editor, designer, photographer and or writer. The internship is a non-paid appointment of four to six months.

Preference will be given to Omega men with majors in communications, journalism and or media related fields.

In October 2015, the Oracle Internship Program selected their first undergraduate editors: Brother Jarrett Raghnael of Pi (Morgan State University), and Brother William Haywood of Chi Epsilon (Albany State University).

The Oracle Internship Program Requirements:

1. This program is open to financial undergraduate Omega men ONLY.
2. Interested undergraduate Brothers must email a resume with current contact information.
3. Each applicant should provide an electronic work sample which may include: broadcast /video clips, graphic design, photography or print/online writing. Brothers with unpublished work, may submit class projects.
4. Email your materials to Brother Brown, Oracle Editor
EditortotheOracle@oppf.org

Five undergraduates reactivate chapter Delta Mu Returns to Cornell University

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., returned to the campus at Cornell University on April 25, 2015 when five undergraduates helped to reactivate Delta Mu Chapter.

Historically, the chapter was founded in 1982, but was not an active chapter after 2006. Brothers Chavez Carter and Chase Wheeler served as the chapter advisors.



PHOTOGRAPH

The new five Omega men are called the “Five Bad H.A.B.I.T.S (High Aspiring Brothers of the Sesquecentennial).” The group includes: Brothers Siddiq Iddrisu, Larry Gibson, Brian Short, Cadell Williams and Adebowale Sodeke.

Brother Brian Short from Baltimore, MD is a Mechanical Engineering major. He serves as the chapter’s Basileus.

Brother Cadell Williams from Brooklyn, NY is a History major. He is the Vice-Basileus.

Brother Siddiq Iddrisu from Staten Island, NY is a Applied Economics and Mangement major. He is the Keeper of Records and Seal.

Brother Adebowale Sodeke from Houston, TX is a Interdisciplinary Studies major. He serves as the Keeper of Finance.

Brother Larry Gibson from Charlotte, NC is majoring in Industrial Labor and Relations. He serves as the Chaplain.

ALL POWER RALLY DIE-IN

One of the chapter’s activities was on April 28, 2014,

when the Brothers of Delta Mu stood together in solidarity with other with other members of Multi-Greek Letter Council at the Die-In Rally.

The event began at 11:00 am to raise awareness for the injustices enacted towards people of color. The marchers concluded at 1:30 pm at the Cornell Ezra statue. At Cornell, many students have expressed their feeling towards the injustices against Black people that have occurred recently through the nation.

During the event, all of the participants laid on the ground with eyes closed which showed solidarity to the Cornell community. Over 100 protesters, joined together to make their voices heard.

The purpose of the rally was also to honor those who have been targeted, silenced, erased, and or killed by police and street violence.

Report by Brother Siddiq Iddrisu

Alpha Chapter's Blood Drive



Alpha Chapter's Brother Aquanius Freeman donating blood at Children's Hospital in Washington, D.C.

On November 18, 2015, following the Fraternity's Founders Day and Rededication ceremony at Howard University, the Brothers of Alpha Chapter held their bi-annual Fall Blood Drive. The chapter worked with the staff at Children's Hospital in Washington, D.C.

This year, 34 donors were seen, with 22 successful donations. According to the hospital, this will directly help 100 children at the hospital located less than half a mile from Howard University.

The staff was very impressed by the enthusiasm of the Omega men in recruiting for this great cause, and would like to expand their partnership with the chapter. Alpha Chapter was founded on the campus of Howard University on November 17, 1911, and today the chapter remains as one of the most productive undergraduate chapters in the Fraternity.

Alpha Delta Recieves Campus Awards

Kennesaw, GA - There are twenty organizations that make up the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life at Kennesaw State University.

Each year the fraternities and sororities submit evidence of their involvement throughout the community. On April 24, 2015, all of the groups came together to celebrate their achievements in different competitive areas at the annual Award Banquet.

Omega's Alpha Delta Nu won the Organizational Values, Alumni Engagement, Educational Program, Academic Support Award, and the prestigious "Greek Chapter of the Year Award."

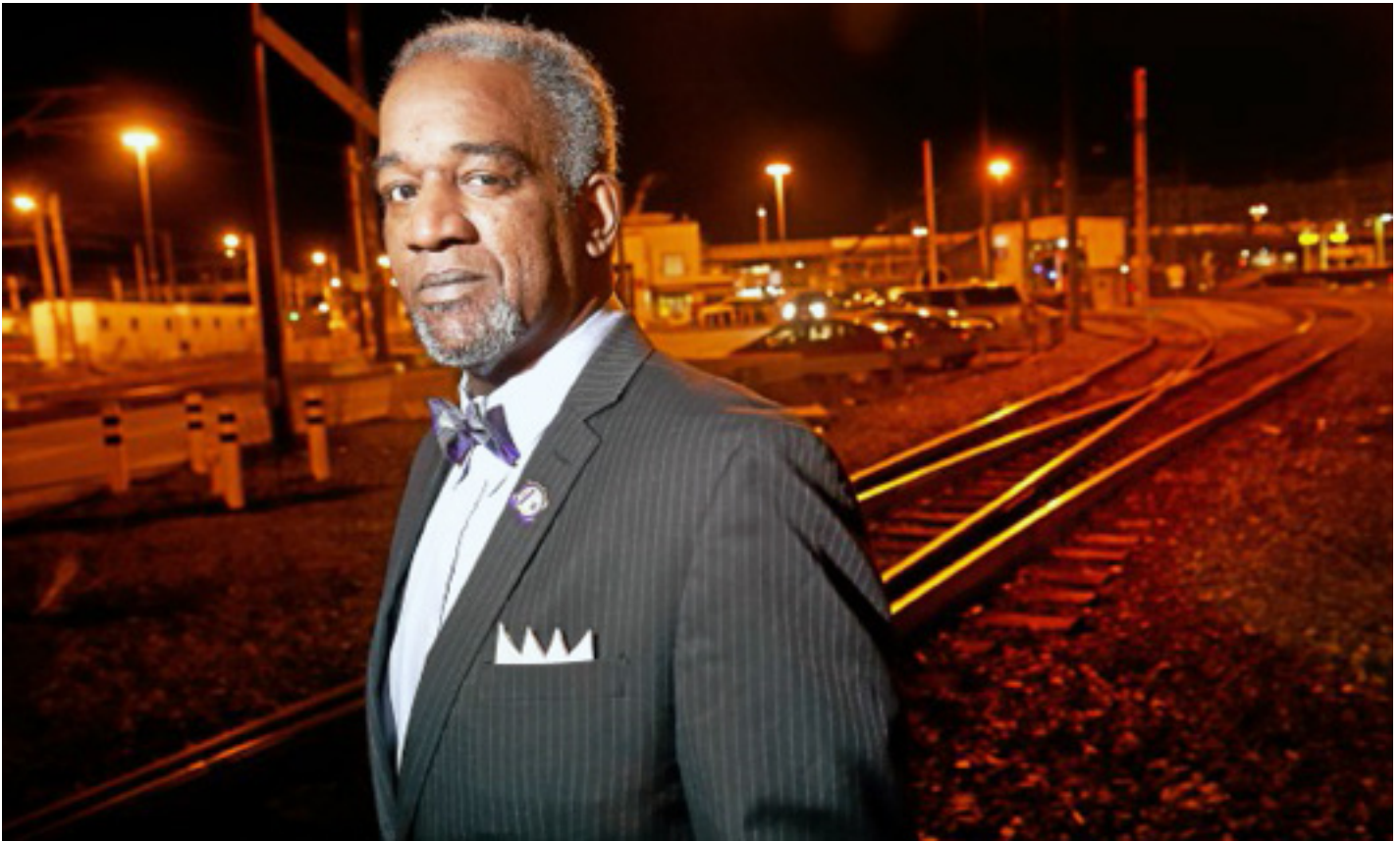
The Organizational Values Award represented how as a chapter we reflected all of our cardinal principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance and uplift.

The Alumni Engagement Award was achieved by fellowshipping with not only our graduate chapter, but also our alumni of our chapter.

The Educational Program was won by hosting our Domestic Program Awareness Event due to the information distributed and numbers attended. Also, the undergraduate chapter received the Academic Support Award because of the improvement of the chapter member's academic achievements.

*Alpha Chapter
report by
Brother Esau White, Third District's
2nd Vice District Representative*

Omega's Edwards Achieves A First in Connecticut



Brother Marcellus A. Edwards, III was elected as a Connecticut Legislative Representative for the Association of Commuter Rail Employees in Fall 2015.

Story by Bro. Shahid Abdul-Karim, 1st District Director of Public Relations

The great-grandfather of Brother Marcellus Edwards III helped lead a protest of black railroad workers against white union bosses in a bid to be represented by the same union. That effort in 1944 led to a landmark Supreme Court ruling in support of the black unionists.

Seventy-one years later, Brother Edwards, 50, has been elected as the first African American Connecticut legislative representative for the Association of Commuter Rail Employees. Bro. Edwards was elected to the post in Fall 2015, and he will serve a three-year term. The association represents Metro-North conductors and over 1,000 union employees.

"I can only imagine what the struggle was for him pushing that agenda and having to work in that hostile environment," said Brother Edwards, whose great-grandfather Rufus Edwards was a brakeman and union leader for Norfolk & Western Railway in Roanoke, Virginia.

Brother Edwards believes if it wasn't for his great-grandfather he would not be able to work in the capacity in which he is working, nor be represented by his union.

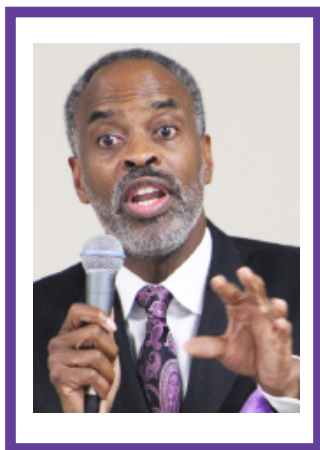
"There was a lot of discrimination back then and there were no laws to protect the black rail workers," he said. "I do sit and think about what he would think of me and what I'm doing now."

In addition to Brother Edwards' responsibilities as legislative representative, he also serves on various boards and committees in the community, including Farnam Neighborhood House, Walter Camp Football Foundation and the James Hillhouse High School Athletic Hall of Fame.

Edwards said his role as Membership Selection Process chairman for Chi Omicron Chapter is most rewarding. "The MSP role allows me to interview and select individuals who are going to come into the fraternity to work and help the community," said Edwards. First District Representative Brother Michael Jefferson, a New Haven attorney said Brother Edwards' role with MSP is extremely important to the survival of the Fraternity.

Brother Powell leads NAACP symposium

Omega's Grand Chaplain, the Reverend Dr. Staccato Powell, Sr., was the featured speaker for the Connecticut State Conference of NAACP Branches. Brother Powell led one the conference's symposiums entitled "The Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Factor: A Viable Option for Teacher Recruitment." The fall 2015 conference was held in Hartford, CT.



In reference to Omega, Brother Powell noted that Omega men are the best and brightest men on earth. He also said, "manhood is not measured in how vile you can be, but how great of an impact Omega can be in the communities in which we serve."

Reverend Powell added, "We have to be intentional. We have to be strategic, systematic, and sustainable in our approach to communicating who we are as members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc."

Story by Bro. Shahid Abdul-Karim

Gamma Chapter prepares for 100th

BOSTON, MA--The Gamma Centennial Celebration will be held at the Boston Marriott Cambridge in November 2016. Omega men from the Boston area are currently preparing for the grand event.

Gamma Chapter, the third chapter established by Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., was chartered in 1916 as a citywide Intermediate Chapter within the First District (New England Region). Its membership comprises college-educated men from various educational institutions throughout the city of Boston; these institutions include, but are not limited to: Boston University, Boston College, Emerson College, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.), Northeastern University, Tufts University, and UMass-Boston.

Both undergraduate and graduate school programs are represented. Members of this prestigious organization have been influential at the national level as well as the local Boston metropolitan level. They have had a major impact and received widespread recognition across various industries and sectors of our society. "Gamma Brothers" are revered and respected for leadership in their chosen fields of endeavor and professions.

As a chapter established for "undergraduate students and recent college graduates", Gamma Chapter has often become a "pipeline of leadership talent" which has migrated into the formal membership of Iota Chi and Eta Phi Graduate Chapters.

The symposium was organized to bring awareness of the lack of African-American teachers in classrooms in many districts throughout the country. According to the event organizer Brother Dr. Benjamin Foster, Jr., there is a shortage of strong Black teachers.

"During a time when we're facing disproportionate numbers of African American males being incarcerated, there is also a number of youth being retained in secondary schools. It's absolutely critical that we have role models," said Brother Powell.

In addition to serving the Fraternity as the Grand Chaplain, Brother Powell is also the pastor of Grace AME Zion Church in Raleigh, NC.

"In my time in school, we saw African-American males in the classroom," said Bro. Powell. He also noted that many black children would not have been able to go to college if it were not for HBCUs. He also mentioned that the community has to give back to HBCUs for them to remain viable and help them produce a new breed of Black teachers.

Joining the discussion with Brother Powell was Dr. Moses C. Norman, the Fraternity's 33rd Grand Basileus, and Dean at Clark Atlanta University. Brother Norman said that HBCUs not only develop competency, but also build confidence.

"If we can help young people find their life trajectory in undergraduate programs, then we can help them blossom and they'll be successful," commented Dr. Norman.



Tau Lambda Lambda tackles youth illiteracy

Omega's Tau Lambda Lambda Chapter partnered with Forever Free Books in hosting the *Books, Boys n Cuts* in August 2015. This joined initiative is the chapter's effort in support of the Fraternity's Assault on Illiteracy Program. The summer activity was held at the Barber Lounge for Men in Waldorf, MD.

The event included story time reading by chapter members, a book giveaway, and a free haircut. The *Books, Boys n Cuts* program encourages reading for male students from preschool through middle school.

Forever Free Books is a local literacy program that circulates high-quality free books into student homes. The program also holds sessions where volunteers read aloud with children to promote reading as a family activity. According to scholars, reading aloud to children helps to prepare them for success in school. "It's a good feeling when you see how excited children get about being read to, and how it promotes the joy of reading," said Brother Kevin Turner, the chapter's illiteracy committee chairman.

Brother Turner also noted that student reading enriches vocabulary as they learn new information. Reading experiences expose youth to their community and the world.

Championing the importance of reading is nothing new to Omega Psi Phi. The Fraternity's Assault on Illiteracy program had its conceptual roots established in January of 1980, during a meeting with a group of publishers associated with Black Media, Inc. (BMI). BMI stated that approximately 44% of African Americans could neither read nor comprehend beyond the 4th grade level. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and numerous other national organizations joined together to attack, reduce and eradicate illiteracy among African Americans through reading tutorial programs and other efforts.

PICTURE ABOVE: Brother Luther Clark, far right, reading to boys during the *Books, Boys n Cuts* event. Photo courtesy of Jake Prater and Tau Lambda Lambda.

Chapters support youth programs

MT. VERNON, NY--Omicron Iota Chapter organized a "Black Lives Matter" forum to discuss concerns confronted by young Black men in the City of Mt. Vernon. The forum was held at the Friendship Worship Center in February, 2015. The focus of the discussion was to bring young Black men together with law enforcement officers from the Mt. Vernon Police Department (MVPD). In the non-hostile forum Black men were able to voice their concerns regarding their experiences with the MVPD.

YORK, PA--Members of Kappa Omega Chapter developed a young Black male mentoring program. The chapter's inaugural program event in March 2015 included escorting a group of 30 elementary school aged Black males on trip to visit Temple University. The fourth and fifth graders were able to tour the Philadelphia campus, and later attend a Temple basketball game. The chapter members emphasized the importance in working together as a team.

ROCHESTER, NY--The Second District's Assault on Illiteracy (AOI) Committee presented 150 books to the Rochester (NY) Boys and Girls Club on Saturday September 12, 2015. The donation is one of the initiatives of the AOI Committee to donate books at major Second District meetings to organizations that are involved with fighting illiteracy. Bro. Dwayne Mahoney, Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club, accepted the book donation from AOI Committee Chairman Bro. John Berkley. Also at the event, were Second District Representative Bro. Milton Harrison, and Bro. Dr. Carlton Lampkins, the Second District 1st Vice District Representative.

NEW YORK, NY--In March 2015, two Omega chapters joined together to organize the New York City Omega Black College Tour. The two chapters included the Second District's Xi Phi Chapter, and the Sixth District's Epsilon Gamma Gamma Chapter.

As part of the program, Xi Phi Chapter took over ninety high school students on a tour to visit 15 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) along the East coast. Through strategic partnerships, Xi Phi has been able to connect with Epsilon Gamma Gamma. The chapter, located in Greenwood, SC, exposes scholars to the legacy of Omega's Dr. Benjamin Elijah Mays.

Through the alliance between the two chapters, students visited the Mays Historic Site. In addition, scholars learned about Dr. Mays' experience at the Brick House School, a one-room building, where he received his early education. Epsilon Gamma Gamma brothers served as tour guides.

The partnership between Xi Phi and Epsilon Gamma Gamma is proof that Omega Men are continue to fulfill the Fraternity's cardinal principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.

PITTSBURGH, PA--This spring Iota Phi Chapter began the fourth year of the chapter's Omega Dr. Carter G. Woodson Academy (OCWA). The co-ed program is designed to strengthen African American students in the arts, history and science. In 2015, over 50 African American students participated in Iota Phi Chapter's ten-week OCWA program.



Bro. Nall appointed new commander

Brother Colonel Walter Nall was appointed command of the 57th Troop Command of the New Jersey Army National Guard on May 12, 2015. The U.S. Army officer also serves as the Basileus for Delta Upsilon Chapter.

Colonel Nall's command provides service for several logistical, administrative, and aviation units in the New Jersey Army National Guard. The Command also provides emergency response for floods and similar disasters along the New Jersey coast.

The 57th Troop Command has subordinate Battalions which perform a variety of services or combat roles. These include: the 119th Corps Support Battalion and the 1-150th General Support Aviation Battalion.

The 57th Troop Command also has a Headquarters Detachment, which is responsible for pay, administration, and training for the command headquarters.

Brother Drane of Iota Lambda Lambda

An Omega Directs Band at Penn State

Brother Gregory A. Drane was named as the new Director of Athletic Bands at Pennsylvania State University in July, 2015.

He is the first African-American band director in the university's history, and the first in the Big 10 Conference. Before his new role, Drane served as the the assistant director of the athletic bands, and instructor in Penn State's music department.

Brother Drane has been a charismatic and talented member of band staff for ten years.

According to ESPN Magazine, Drane is known for his creative drill-writing, his memorable half-time shows, and his contemporary arrangements. He is also active as an arranger and drill designer.

He works closely with all aspects of the Athletic Bands program also serving as the director of the Pride of the Lions (POTL) basketball pep bands. In addition to his duties with the Athletic bands, he assists with conducting concert bands.

He also a member of Phi Mu Alpha and the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association.



Bro. Drane's research interests include African American historical contributions to music education leadership in music, and musical ensembles.

Recently, Drane's research was published in the *Music Educators Journal*, the primary publication for the National Association for Music Education (NAFME).

His March 2015 article was entitled, "*The Role of African American Bandsmen in the Integration of the United States Navy.*"

The Miami native received his Bachelor's degree in music education and music performance (saxophone) from Bethune-Cookman University. He also holds a Master's in music education from Pennsylvania State University. Currently, he is completing his dissertation as a Ph.D. doctoral candidate.

Brother Gregory Drane was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., through Omicron Epsilon Chapter in 1998.

Tau Pi Marks 40 Years of Service

On April 19, 1975, after a few meetings, 16 Omega men founded a new chapter, Tau Pi. The graduate chapter celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2015.

The over 100 chapter membership has provided a variety of services to the greater Howard County, MD, community. The chapter is located 25 miles north of Baltimore, and 25 south of Washington, D.C.

Over the years, one of the chapter's signature programs has been the Mentoring Initiative. An important element of the mentoring program is the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematic (STEM) activities and lectures.

Each year, Brother Frank Miles directs a team of mentees in the robotics competition. STEM educators have projected that by 2018, jobs in computer systems design and related fields will increase 45 percent. "Early STEM education is key to continued interest in sciences, and mentoring can help inspire the next generation of technological leaders," noted Brother Miles, the chapter's mentorship chair.

"Too many kids are growing up not learning the basics of math and science," said Brother Steve Grice. Recently, Brother Grice, a Carnegie-Mellon University educated engineer wrote a grant that secured \$3,500 in funding for the chapter's STEM mentoring initiative activities.

The Tau Pi Chapter Mentoring



Initiative focuses on academic support, college readiness skills, cultural enrichment, career discovery, personal responsibility, and self-discipline. Brother Grice said, "through the chapter, I have worked on improving student's public speaking skills, and guiding them in applying for special college programs."

PHOTOGRAPH ABOVE:

In November 2015, during Tau Pi's Achievement Week activities, (left to right) Brothers Rashaun Bass, Eric Hebron and Richard Negri served dinner to men at the Grassroots Crisis Center in Columbia, MD.

Chapter Empowers Youth

Pi Kappa Kappa partnered with the New Jersey Garden City Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority for their second annual *Dress for Success* event. The activity highlights, Delta's national program called the Empowering Males to Build Opportunities for Developing Independence (EMBOI). EMBOI provides collaborative efforts to improve life for young Black males, ages 13-17. **Photograph on right:**

Pi Kappa Kappa member showing a young man how to properly tie a necktie.



Ques support community action projects

Brother Ezekiel “Zeke” Dennison, the Third District Representative, joined several Omega men from throughout the district to participate in Wounded Warrior Week. The events were held in Virginia Beach, VA, during May, 2015. Brothers assembled a racquetball court on the oceanfront as one of the Wounded Warrior Week projects.

The USO sponsored project highlighted the contributions and sacrifices military members, verterans and their families have made as wounded warriors in Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts.

The racquetball court was designed to assist wounded warriors and disabled veterans wth their rehabilitation. The Military Racquetball Federation (MRF) members provided racquetball instruction for the participants.

PICTURE: *Omegas erect the racquetball court in Virginia Beach, VA. Photograph by Brother Alvin Swilley.*



The mission of the project is to also strengthen the living conditions for some of the communities most vulnerable citizens including: disabled, low income, mentally challenged, and veterans.

PSI ALPHA ALPHA CHAPTER

On April 25, 2015, Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter participated in the National Rebuilding Day event.

The chapter was part of several organizations in the Northern Virginia area, and throughout the nation that helped residents make mprovements to their homes. The chapter embraced this community social action project with great enthusiasm.

Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter purchased materials and supplies in preparation for National Rebuilding Day.

Purchases included paint, brushes, rollers, handles, drop cloths, light fixtures, lumber, brackets, screws, paint pans, handy wipes, trash bags and water. All items were purchased using monies donated by Psi Alpha Alpha.

Over 25 chapter members were assigned the task of painting the third floor of a group home for mentally challenged residents in Alexandria, VA.



PHOTO/LEFT--Bro. E. Clyde Barrett of Psi Alpha Alpha at the Founders Monument after attending the Founders Day Rededication Ceremony at Howard University on November 17, 2015.

CHAPTER NEWS

STERLING, VA

On February, 9, 2015, the Brothers from Sigma Mu Mu Chapter partnered with Sugarland Elementary School to encourage students to read on a daily basis.

The Que-Bucks program ties in with Sugarland Elementary Accelerated Reader Program by engaging students to become more active and avid readers. For each book read, students earn a stamp in their Que-Buck. Once 20 stamps have been earned, each student's Que-Buck is placed in a drawing for individual prizes. The drawing, held at the end of each semester, awards prizes to one boy and one girl from each grade level (K-5).

One of the English teachers said, "There's a lot of reading going on at Sugarland Elementary, thanks to the men of Sigma Mu Mu Chapter in Loudoun County, VA." Since 2012, the Omega men of Sigma Mu Mu Chapter have been visiting the school several times each semester.

The chapter also awarded prizes, which have included gift cards, Kindle readers, and bicycles. In the 2014-15 school year, the chapter awarded over \$1,600 in prizes and gifts to the top readers in the school.

On May 9, 2015, twenty members of Sigma Mu Mu participated in the Susan G. Komen (SGK) annual Race for the Cure on the National Mall. This year marked SGK's 26th year in the District of Columbia. More than 15,00 runners and walkers participated in the Mother's Day Weekend event. Washington, D.C. metropolitan area has the highest mortality rate from breast cancer in the country with women being diagnosed at a rate 20% higher than the average.

RICHMOND, VA

On the campus of Virginia Union University in Richmond, VA, Upsilon Nu held their "Relay for Life" event on April 18, 2015.

The purpose of the event is to support wellness and provide assistance to cancer patients and their families through training and comfort care. The chapter event also helps to establish both physical and emotional connections with the patient and their families.

Bro. Bartholomew Appointed Head

Brother Carroll Denis Bartholomew, Jr. was appointed Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Foundation, Department of Virginia in late 2014.



Bro. Bartholomew, a Richmond resident, was graduated from Armstrong High School in 1963. He attended Lane College and joined the U.S. Army in 1966. In 1967, he began a tour of duty in Vietnam as a rifleman with the First Cavalry Division.

Returning home in 1968, he continued his education earning an A.A. Degree in Administration of Justice, while serving in the active U.S. Army Reserves.

He returned to active duty in 1976 and served as a recruiter until 1992 at which time he joined the reserves from which he retired in 2004.

During his service in the U.S. Army, Bartholomew earned a Combat Infantryman's Badge, Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Air Medal, Gold Recruiting Badge and Recruiter's Ring, which is the highest award an army recruiter could earn during that time period.

Bartholomew joined the Greater Richmond Chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Chapter 1965, in 2010 and became a Trustee of that chapter.

In 2012, he became active in the Department of Virginia Purple Heart Foundation as Senior Vice Commander, serving in that capacity until his appointment to Commander.

Brother Bartholomew is a 40-year member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and he is an active member of Upsilon Nu Chapter.

Brother Knox Speaks at Achievement Week

Chapters Host 40th Grand Basileus



Lambda Omega, Zeta Iota, and Gamma Xi chapters ended a week of activities by celebrating Founders Day at a joint Achievement Week dinner on November 15, 2015. Omega's 40th Grand Basileus Brother Antonio Knox, Sr., delivered the keynote address held at the Pavilion at Bide-A-Wee Golf Course in Portsmouth, VA. Each of the three chapters presented awards.

LAMBDA OMEGA: Brother Zack Rogers, Omega Man of the Year; Bro. Wilbur Addison, Founders Award, and Bro. Mark Ball, Superior Service.

ZETA IOTA: Brother Willie Levenston, Omega Man of the Year; Bro. Michael Williams, Founders Award; Bro. George Cooper, Superior Service and Omega's Kenneth Wright, the mayor of Portsmouth was the Citizen of the Year.

GAMMA XI: Brother Seko Varner, Omega Man of the Year; Bro. Vincent Walker, Superior Service; Bro. David Whitted, Founders Award, and Rev. Brother Dr. Melvin Marriner of Grove Baptist Church was the Citizen of the Year.

ABOVE: Brother Knox speaks to Achievement Week.

LEFT/TOP: A capacity crowd listens to the Bro. Antonio Knox's keynote address.

RIGHT/TOP: The 40th Grand Basileus Antonio Knox shares a moment with the host Basilei (L to R): Bro. Lloyd Jackson, Jr., Zeta Iota; Bro. Teddy Wilder, Lambda Omega; and Bro. Terry Calhoun, Gamma Xi.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
Brother Alvin Swilley

Gamma Xi prepares future leaders



Golden Fold parents bless the heads of their sons who have “Crossed the bar.” The Golden Fold is Gamma Xi’s mentoring program. Oracle photograph by Brother Alvin Swilley.

Gamma Xi celebrated the accomplishments of 21 young men from the chapter’s Golden Fold Mentoring Program. The event was held on June 8, 2015, in Virginia Beach, VA.

The Golden Fold (TGF) is the chapter’s unique youth academy program in which Gamma Xi fulfills its commitment to Omega Psi Phi Fraternity’s Black Male Leadership development mandate.

The chapter members mentor and prepare young men, ages 12 to 18. When each young man enters the program, they are taught proper leadership skills.

After the young men achieve the goals of the program they participate in Golden Fold’s rite of passage ceremony entitled the “Crossing the Bar.”

As Alfred Tennyson’s poem, “Crossing the Bar” is recited, parents stand with their respective sons, led in a modified “blessing of the head” ritual. This year’s young leaders who crossed the bar included: Marcus Wallace, Phillip Owens, Andrew Jackson, Sean Patterson, LarQuan Shoulders and Christopher George.

Recipients of Golden Fold awards included:

Brian Savage, Emerging Leader; Cyntenious Morris, Emerging Scholar; Phillip Owens, Golden Leader; Devin Lovell, Golden Scholar; Andrew Jackson and Marcus Wallace, Uplift Awards; Jalen Kirton, Nikoli Green, Jonathan Jackson, Joel Jackson, Baldwin-Akin Varner, Sean Patterson, Kevin Alston and Ishmael Meredith, all received the Endurance Award.

The Golden Fold Uplift Foundation also provided college scholarships for eight young men.



Meet Mr. Omega

When his hand reaches out to shake-it's warm and welcoming.

As Omega men hurriedly move quick across the carpet floor to attend a conclave plenary or workshop session, they stop when they see the smile of Brother Lee Fields.

Omega's Bro. Lee Fields

Even without his open embrace, and friendly grin, Fields' personality without effort, makes him one of the Fraternity's most valued members. If you met him only once, you would note that his presence is spell-binding, and his love for Omega is unconditional.

In 1979, Lee was initiated in Omega Psi Phi Fraternity through Omega Epsilon Chapter on the campus the University of Toledo. As an undergraduate student, the Fourth District honored Lee as the "Undergraduate Chapter Basileus of the Year." He received a B.S. in Marketing from the University of Toledo.

Currently, the Cleveland native is active with Zeta Omega Chapter. At the Cleveland graduate chapter, Bro. Lee has served as the Keeper of Finance, Achievement Week chair, Reclamation chairman, and a Conclave delegate. Presently, he serves as the 4th District's Reclamation and Retention Chairman.

Fields is Vice President and Community Development Manager at First Federal Lakewood. Brother Fields' roles is to reinforce First Federal's commitment to offer quality service and support to individuals and families in Northeast Ohio.

He works closely with the members of the community, city staff officials, business leaders, and non-profit organizations. Brother Fields is the Board of Directors for ICAN Schools and Harvard Community Service Center. He is also on the board for the Housing and Asset Management Committee for Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization.

Fields is a member of the 100 Black Men of Greater Cleveland, and an Omega man you want to meet.

CLEVELAND, OH--One of our pillars of the community Brother Ronald Adrine, Omega's International Chair for Domestic Violence was recognized by the local community for his tireless efforts to reduce domestic violence. The Ohio Domestic Violence Network (ODVN) presented Cleveland Municipal Court Judge Ronald Adrine with the 2015 Croucher Family Award for Outstanding Leadership. Judge Adrine has long been an advocate and is committed to ending domestic violence. The award was presented in October 2015 at the Statehouse Atrium.

Judge Adrine was first elected to the municipal court bench in 1981. The Judge has served on several local and national domestic violence boards. He also chaired the effort to bring a Family Justice Center to Cleveland for assisting victims. Domestic Violence Awareness Month evolved from the "Day of Unity" held in October 1981. ODVN was created in 1989 to support and strengthen Ohio's response to domestic violence through training, public awareness and technical assistance, and to promote social change through public policy.

*ZETA OMEGA EDITOR
Brother Jerry Kennebrew, MBA.*

COLUMBUS, OH--On October 17, 2015, Mu Iota Chapter had a Stop the Violence/ Prevent Domestic Violence Program at Brentnell Community Recreation Center. The panelist included: Veronica Jones, Bro. Eugene Williams Jr., Angela Clarke and Judge Terri B. Jamision.

Jones and Clarke spoke to the audience about their personal experience with domestic violence. Bro. Williams spoke to the audience about growing up as a child watching his parents engage in domestic violence. Judge Jamision spoke to the audience about her personal experience as a college student.

Report by Brother Bryan K. Dirke

First African-American meteorologist to head NWS

Comeaux retires after 36 years



Zeta Kappa Kappa's Brother William Comeaux was a former 4th District Representative. In June 1993, he made history becoming the first African American Meteorologist-in-Charge of National Weather Service (NWS).

Upon his arrival at NWS Cleveland, Comeaux pushed for strong relationships with local and state emergency management agencies and volunteer groups. One of his greatest achievements was the development of a very early social media-like program at NWS Cleveland during the mid 1990s.

When the new Doppler radar and NWS modernization led to a change in the way NWS distributed warnings to partners, Bro. Comeaux developed a pager system utilizing a maximum of 140 characters to disseminate warnings to emergency management in real-time.

Brother William Comeaux said that working for the National Weather Service was more than just a job—it was a dream come true. William's love for science and weather started at an early age. When he was 10, his parents bought him a chemistry and weather station set. During high school, he would frequently create his own weather forecasts.

In 1975, as a senior in high school, Comeaux began his career at the NWS Atlantic City Weather Service Forecast Office (WSFO) as a student trainee. He continued to work for the NWS while attending college during summer and winter breaks. Brother Comeaux was initiated at Rho Zeta on the campus of Kean College in 1977. He graduated from Kean in 1979 with a major in earth science.

After graduation he returned working for the National Weather Service full-time first in Pittsburgh, Washington, D. C., and later Cleveland. Bro. Comeaux retired in February, 2015, and is now learning to play golf.

MU IOTA CHAPTER

COLUMBUS, OH- On May 14, 2015 five college-bound students received a \$2000 scholarship from the chapter's Omega Lamp Foundation. The scholarship recipients were: Denials Heard, Marianna Ba, Adrian Johnson, Tijuana Humbert and Zorianna Goins.

Also, on March 28, 2015 the chapter held their annual Talent Hunt Program at Columbus' East High School. CareSource was the corporate sponsor of the 2015 Talent Hunt. Brother Anthony Perkins, Basileus of Mu Iota Chapter, along former 4th District Representatives, Raymond Tillery and Dewey A. Ortiz presented the awards to the Talent Hunt participants.

The winners were: Sileye Ndongo, 1st Place; Kayla F. Keys, 2nd Place; and Isaiah E. Williams, 3rd Place. Each participant in the program received a Talent Hunt certificate of participation and a medallion from the Fraternity. The top three contestants received a trophy, and monetary awards of \$1,000, \$750 and \$500 dollars.

Omega's Delta Chapter committed to community health

Chapter Supports Health Care

Omega's at

Meharry Medical College (Delta Chapter) in Nashville are engaged in local and international health activities.

As training health care professionals, many Omega men have witnessed the struggles of the underserved.



The chapter also partnered with Africare in purchasing protective equipment for the brave health care workers putting their own lives in danger to care for the sick and dying.

Monies were raised for the Eric K. Wood, Sr., DDS Scholarship Fund.

In the field of hematology, Brother Charles R. Drew made a great impact. Because of Drew's work, the chapter assisted the American Red Cross in fulfilling the needs of patients in the middle Tennessee area, especially patients suffering from sickle cell anemia.

The chapter also supports the Sickle Cell Donor Program, which designates donation for patients with sickle cell anemia. In an effort to fill the needs of the program, Delta Chapter hosted three blood drives that have led to the collection of over 75 units, which ultimately affected the lives of roughly 225 sickle cell patients and their families.

In addition, the chapter has not not ignored the crisis that was affecting our brothers and sisters in Africa. In the wake of the Ebola outbreak, the chapter mobilized quickly to raise funds. They sold bracelets, gifts and hot dogs in the lobby of the Science Building to gather funds for the Ebola Health Initiatives.

The scholarship provides funding for healthy food options in an area dominated by fast food restaurants.

Given the current health care market, the chapter partnered with GetCovered Tennessee. Org, and the Tennessee Justice Center to assist families in enrolling and selecting insurance on the healthcare exchange each Saturday.

Most importantly, the chapter members had a chance to share their medical skills and knowledge with the community by participating in the Nashville Medical Mission.

This program allowed families to be seen by healthcare professionals free of charge.

Report by Brother Craig Washington

Undergraduate Omegas Camp Counselors Ques Promote Leadership Skills

Omega men from throughout the Sixth District held their Annual Boys' Leadership

Camp in King, NC. Over 200 young African American males, ages 8 to 15 attended the camp during the last week of June, 2015.

The camp was free and provided workshops on leadership and citizenship for the attendees.

The workshops included: Conflict Resolution, My Future, Life Skills, Adult and Child CPR, Black Lives Matter, Making Healthy Decisions, Etiquette Training, Finance, Team Building, Reading and Writing. Undergraduate Omega men from several universities served as camp counselors for the Boys' Leadership Camp. The undergraduate Brothers

were from Charleston Southern University, Clemson University, East Carolina University,

Elizabeth City State University, Fayetteville State University, Johnson C. Smith University, Livingstone College, North Carolina State University, Shaw University, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina-Charlotte, and Winston-Salem State University.



PHOTO:
Bro. Arnaud Hobbs of Delta Psi Chapter,

Shaw University hugs some of the camp youth. Oracle Photograph by Bro. Byron D. Putman

Bro. Putney Named New Chief of Police

Psi Phi Chapter's Brother Kerr Putney was sworn in as Chief of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department on June 29, 2015.

Chief Putney was previously assigned to the Administrative Services Group where he managed the operation of the administrative functions of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department. Bro. Putney also supervised the Training Bureau where all new police candidates are recruited and trained to become police officers. He supervised the Communications Bureau where nearly one million calls per year are received and processed for public safety services.

Prior to his assignment over Administration, he was assigned to the Investigative Services Group where he supervised approximately 300 detectives.

Omega's Putney was responsible for the Criminal Investigations Bureau which consists of detectives who investigate criminal offenses ranging from fraud and arson to armed robbery and homicide cases. Putney also managed the Special Investigative Bureau which consists of detectives who investigate crimes ranging from vice and narcotics to major series crimes involving priority offenders and priority groups who repeatedly commit crimes across the Charlotte-Mecklenburg jurisdiction. Putney was responsible for managing the detectives assigned to various federal agencies as task force officers who present cases to the U.S. Attorney's office for prosecution.



Chief Putney was hired by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department in August of 1992. Since that time, he has held a variety of patrol, training and specialized assignments at various ranks within the organization. He was promoted to the rank of Deputy Chief in September of 2007.

He attended the FBI National Academy in 2004 and the Senior Management Institute for Police in 2009. Putney earned a Bachelor of Science degree in criminology from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and a Master's degree in criminology from East Carolina University.

School Honors An Omega

Psi Phi Chapter's Brother Rudolph V. Boone, Sr., was honored in April, 2015 by Carver High School. The Winston Salem, NC school named their band room in Boone's honor.

Brother Boone served in many capacities during his long and prosperous career in music.

He founded several music programs and competitions not only in the City of Winston-Salem, but throughout the state of North Carolina.

Boone was the band director at Carver High School for twenty years. He was Carver High's "Teacher of The Year" three times. He was also District Four's "Teacher of The Year," and a state finalist for that honor in 1973.

He directed Psi Phi Chapter Chorus for several years and was a long-time chairman of the chapter's Omega Talent Hunt Contest. Bro. Boone also worked faithfully on the Sixth District Talent Hunt Committee.

School Names Center for Cook

Duke University Honors Omega's Dr. Cook

Brother Dr. Samuel DuBois Cook is a trailblazer. He has long been associated with academic excellence and civil rights.

Dr. Cook was appointed as a professor at Duke University in 1966.

He became the first Black tenured faculty member at a predominantly white college or university in the south.

On August 24, 2015, Duke University formally named its Center on Social Equity in honor of Brother Dr. Samuel DuBois Cook. According to a press release from the university, it noted that "Dr. Cook is a symbol, and has been actively involved in social justice and equality at Duke."

The naming ceremony was attended by a number of Brother Cook's family, friends and Fraternity Brothers. Also in attendance were Duke administrators, faculty members and Duke University's president, Dr. Richard H. Brodhead. Billye Aaron, the ceremony's keynote speaker recounted some of Cook's character-building and early life experiences.



The Griffin, GA native entered Morehouse College at age 15. While at college, he served as the student government president and established a campus chapter of the NAACP.

In 1946, young Cook joined Omega Psi Phi Fraternity through Psi Chapter at Morehouse. He is now a member of Eta Omega.

During his college years, he was a classmate of Martin Luther King, Jr., and was a mentee of education and civil rights giant, Brother Benjamin E. Mays, Morehouse's president at the time. After graduation from Morehouse in 1948, Cook entered the M.A. and Ph.D programs at Ohio State University. After receiving his doctoral degree, Bro. Cook would embark on an illustrious career in higher education. He taught at Southern University, Atlanta University, and UCLA before arriving at Duke.

In 1975, he left Duke for a 22-year tenure as president of Dillard University. Throughout his career, Bro. Cook promoted social activism in addition to academic achievement to his students.

*Report by
Brother Jason V. Jackson and
Brother Vincent McCant*



Omega's Brother Malachi Knowles teaching the art of golf.

HOF Selects Knowles

Life member (#88), Brother **Malachi Knowles** was inducted into the 2016 Sports Hall of Fame by the Palm Beach County Sports Commission. The induction ceremony was held at the Palm Beach County Convention Center on March 20, 2016.

Knowles, now in his 70s, passion for golf started when he was ten years old. He would hit golf balls at the Everglades Country Club, and was called "Shag Boy."

Omega's Knowles founded the Inner City Youth Golfers (ICYG) in 2001. ICYG is a tax-exempt foundation that teaches at-risk-youth the game of golf while promoting positive life values.

Knowles left Florida to attend school at Morgan State College. When he arrived at Morgan, the Baltimore HBCU did not have a golf team. He convinced the Morgan State athletic department to start a golf team.

Knowles would later receive a golf scholarship from Morgan State and the team would play in the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association. He was Morgan's first golf team Captain, graduating from the college in 1963. He also was the first African American to receive a Master of Regional and City Planning degree from the University of Oklahoma.

Bro. Knowles vision is to establish an IGYG Learning Center and Museum to better promote youth golf programs.

Bro. Daniels Receives Justice Award

Zeta Beta Beta Chapter's Bro. Maurice Daniels, Dean of the School of Social Work at the University of Georgia, received the **Dr. Ray MacNair Lifetime Achievement Award** on November 14, 2015.

The award is presented each year by the Economic Justice Coalition to an individual exemplifying a commitment to racial equality and social activism.

Bro. Daniels was recognized for his service as the director of The Foot Soldier Project for Civil Rights Studies, and his role as co-founder of Athens Area Habitat for Humanity and the University of Georgia's Black Faculty and Staff Organization.



The Economic Justice Coalition organization promotes fair treatment and for workers. The award was presented to Bro. Daniels in Athens as part of the organization's annual JusticeFest.

Eta Iota Supports Community Project

On June 6, 2015, members of Eta Iota Chapter joined the National Pan-Hellenic Council's community service project. The project was held at the Regional Food Bank in Oklahoma City, OK.

The food bank's the largest private hunger-relief organization in the state. The chapter packaged 97 cases of food with a total weight of 29,910 lbs.



UPSILON OMEGA

St. Louis, Mo. – On June 20, 2015, Upsilon Omega Chapter hosted their 16th Annual Charles Drew Blood Drive in partnership with the Red Cross of Greater St. Louis.

Over 60 individuals donated blood. The participants also used the opportunity to talk to various health vendors. The event was held at the Omega Center.

Health professionals also discussed Prostate screenings, HIV and Sickle Cell awareness.

Dr. Stancil Receives Award

Omaha, NE- Brother Marvin L. Stancil, MD, a member of Beta Upsilon received the *Pete and Weesie Hollis Community Service Award* from the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG).

The award was established to recognize ACOG Fellows for their outstanding and dedicated service in caring for the underserved community.

Dr. Stancil's award was presented at the 2015 Annual Clinical and Scientific Meeting in San Francisco last May. Brother Stancil received a \$1,000 honorarium and free registration to the ACOG conference.



Dr. Stancil donated his \$1,000 award to two charities: the **Fathers For A Lifetime**, a program which supports men. He also donated monies to the **Stork's Nest**, a program, which encourages parenting skills and healthy behaviors for mothers.

Omega's James Miller recounts of the Selma March

Thank You For Coming Here

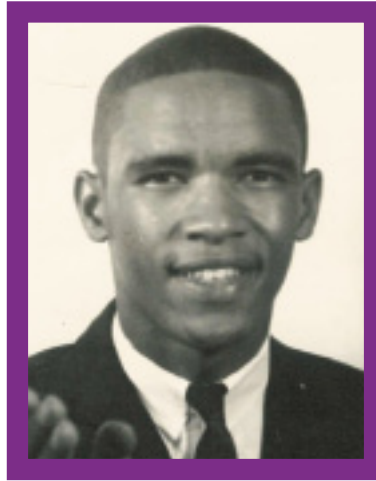
The televised images of Black men and women under attack by police in Selma, AL on March 7, 1965 both stunned and enraged Jim Miller.

He studied the images as he asked himself, How could this be happening?

Now a college senior, Miller had a leadership role at Lincoln University as president of the student body. Two years earlier, he joined Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Eta Sigma Chapter.

Brother Miller had followed the country's civil rights movement closely. He knew of its legal strategies and its boycotts. He was familiar with its sit-ins, its pray-ins and its marches.

Miller watched the television in anger, revulsion and horror on Bloody Sunday, March 7, 1965, as Alabama state and Dallas County, Ala., police troopers viciously attacked peaceful marchers who had just crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma. While the marchers knelt in prayer, the troopers clubbed and beat them using bullwhips, nightsticks and batons. Astonished television news crews and photographers recorded the attack.



Bro. Miller in the mid-60s

Within hours of the police riot, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. issued a nationwide appeal for marchers to come to Selma to participate in what would eventually become the third march from Selma to the state capitol in Montgomery. Dr. King appealed to Gov. George Wallace to stop police brutality, and to call attention to the struggle for Blacks' right to vote.

Heeding Dr. King's call, Brother Miller quickly determined what action he would take. As president of the student body he led other campus organizers in raising sufficient funds in just 48 hours to charter two buses to transport Lincoln students from their campus in Jefferson City, MO down to Montgomery, AL. The students would join the marchers for the third Selma protest as they entered the Alabama capitol.

Miller's reflections about the 1965, and how it relates to Omega now:

"Without doubt, the principles and ideals of the Fraternity, in concert with the steady influence of my father, an Omega Man, and that of the other Omega Men at Lincoln University.

Omega prepared me and my Brothers for our brief journey to Montgomery long before Dr. King's appeal for marchers to join him in Selma.

More importantly, the Fraternity prepared me and my chapter Brothers for our individual journeys through life. By their examples, we learned the mantle of leadership falls upon people of character, scholarship, and perseverance."

Parts of this article is from

"Thank You For Coming Here" a narrative essay by Brother James Miller. A young Brother Miller Recounts the 1965 Civil Rights March to Montgomery, AL.

Brother Lloyd M. Alston serves as the Chapter Editor at Xi Pi and prepared this article as told by Brother Miller.

Chapter Adopts A Highway



"We're excited to have someone with Mario's experience and background to build and lead the team at Pearland Hospital. He is a proven leader not just in healthcare, but also in the community," said Erin Aspreco, Regional President at the hospital.

Prior to accepting this role, Brother Garner served as the President and CEO of the New Orleans East Hospital in New Orleans.

During his tenure, Garner re-established a full-service inpatient hospital to an area severely damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

Psi Upsilon Chapter, conducted its Adopt a Highway Initiative on August 8, 2015.

Each quarter, the chapter gathers trash, and debris from Oklahoma's Highway 62 in the Lawton/Fort Sill, OK area.

The two-mile stretch of highway where members cleaned up is known as Rodgers Lane.

The purpose of the chapter's activity is to increase a sense of environmental awareness and social responsibility through their highway adoption program.

"I'm grateful for my experience in New Orleans as it taught me a great deal about rebuilding both a hospital and community. I'm now sincerely honored to be able to serve the community of Pearland and excited for the growth that lies ahead," commented Garner.

The native of Lake Charles, La., Garner holds a bachelor's degree in microbiology from Louisiana State University, a master's degree in healthcare administration from Tulane University and a doctor of education degree from the University of Houston.

Hospital Appoints Garner CEO

Brother Mario Garner, Ed.D., was appointed as the first Senior Vice President and CEO of Memorial Hermann Pearland Hospital during the summer of 2015.

Dr. Garner was recently named the *Young Healthcare Executive of the Year* by the American College of Healthcare Executives,

Story by Bro. Mel Lewis

9th District Brothers Work on International Advanced Degree Committee

9th District Report-

The International Advanced Degree Committee of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. was created after the 79th Grand Conclave in Philadelphia, PA.

The purpose of the international committee is to promote excellence in Scholarship, the Fraternity's second Cardinal principle.

This established program expects to increase resources as well as to strengthen academic skills for both undergraduate and/ or graduate brothers pursuing advanced or professional degrees.

Three 9th District Omega men serve on the seven member committee.

Brother Dr. Paul D. Adams of Upsilon Chi Graduate Chapter serves as the committee's chairman. Pi Tau Graduate Chapter's Keeper of Records and Seal, Brother Dr. Generique Stewart also works on the International Advanced Degree Committee.

Brother Adams' chapter brother from Upsilon Chi, Brother Alfred Dowd is an important member of the committee.

The early accomplishments of the committee included the facilitation of the Fraternity's first Graduate & Professional School Fair held at the 2015 International level, hosted during the 2015 International Undergraduate Summit in Atlanta, GA.

Over 40 schools from throughout the nation participated in the fair.

In addition, the committee has developed workshop presentations focusing on "Best Practices" to aid in the development of competitive graduate/professional applications for Fraternity members.

The committee is also committed to the creation of novel pedagogical and programmatic approaches that are expected to continue to promote Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. as a national leader in a globally diverse workforce.

LHCC Selects Dr. Henderson



Brother Dr. Marlon D. Henderson was recently appointed to the Louisiana Health Care Commission (LHCC).

The Louisiana Health Care Commission reviews and studies the issues affecting the availability, affordability, and delivery of quality health care in Louisiana.

Dr. Henderson is a general dentist and owner of Henderson Dentistry, LLC in Shreveport, Louisiana. He is also the current President of the Pelican State Dental Association.

Brother Henderson is an International and Ninth District ("Heritage 100") Life Member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

He is also active with Rho Omega Chapter, and a member of the 9th District Council Advisors.

Joint Founders Day Banquet

Ten Greater Chicagoland Chapters Participate

The Honorable Brother Steven G. Watkins,

the 35th Tenth District Representative said, “our four Founders had a vision and they had a mission. They knew and believed that a fraternity of college educated men with like ideas could make a difference.”

Bro. Watkins welcomed Omega men from ten Chicago area chapters to the Chicagoland Joint Founders Day Banquet. The event was held on November 14, 2015, in Matteson, IL.

The ten chapters that were part of the Joint Founders Day event included: Chi Lambda Lambda, Epsilon Eta, Iota, Mu Xi, Nu Pi, Omicron Mu Mu, Rho Gamma Gamma, Rho Mu Mu, Sigma Omega, and Theta Kappa Kappa. Each chapter presented Omega Man of the Year and Citizen of the Year Awards. The chapter's ***Omega Man of the Year*** awardees were: Bro. Byron Williams, Chi Lambda Lambda; Bro. Antonie Guillotte, Epsilon Eta; Bro. Marco Johnson, Iota; Bro. Howard Sharber, Mu Xi; Bro. Don Hoard, Nu Pi; Bro. Brian Williamson, Omicron Mu Mu; Bro. James Battieste, Rho Gamma Gamma; Bro. Willie Edwards, Rho Mu Mu; Bro. Courtney Pogue, Sigma Omega, and Bro. Gregory Calloway, Theta Kappa Kappa.

PICTURE: (Left to Right) Bro. Michael

Ward, the Joint Founders Day Chairman; Bro. Harry Lennix, acclaimed actor, and keynote speaker with Bro. Darren Benton, Basileus of Rho Gamma Gamma Chapter.



Bro. Art Norman, a reporter for WMAQ-TV (Chicago) served as the event's emcee. Sharing

emcee duties was Val Warner, co-host of Windy City LIVE (ABC-TV), Chicago. Brother Harry Lennix was the Founders Day speaker.

Four pastors including: Omega's Rev. Dr. Jeremiah Wright; Rev. Dr. Trunell Felder; Omega's Rev. Dr. Ozzie Smith and Apostle H. Daniel Wilson, all were presented the Pastoral & Community Service Award.

The ten chapters each presented their Citizen of the Year Awards. The awardee included: Carrie M. Austin, Chicago Alderman; Omega's Rev. Darren Brady, minister & youth leader; Edward Calahan, funeral business owner; Kristian Harris, educator; Tamar Manasseh, community leader; Toni Preckwinkle, Cook County Board President; Omega's Eugene Scott, USA, Colonel (ret)., president of Chicago Defender Charities and Dr. Ian Smith, MD, author and national health lecturer.

Zeta Phi's Omega Men Promote Magazine



Brothers Michael Falker and Daniel Pierson (L to R) in Washington, D.C.

During the week of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), Brother Michael Falker and Brother Daniel Pierson met with all of the African American fraternity and sorority national presidents. The group of organizations is commonly referred to as the Divine Nine.

Brothers Falker and Pierson discussed the importance of forming an official publication for the National Panhellenic Council with the presidents. "Our company, Omega One Connect LLC, publishes the Divine Nine Magazine. We want our magazine to be your product of choice when comes to news and information about every Black fraternity and sorority," said Brother Falker.

According to Target Market News' 2015 report, *Buying Power of Black of Black American*, Black people spend close to one trillion dollars on goods, products and services.

Falker noted that his company has the formula to success. "We want to be the news-gathering organization for all Black fraternities and sororities," commented Brother Pierson.

"After the start of the first magazine, we realized that more than anything else we needed you," added Pierson.

In the Indianapolis (IN) area, Omega One Connect launched a radio program that brought people together as they shared their news and programs with public.

Since starting the Divine Nine Magazine shortly after Omega Psi Phi's 100th Year Centennial Celebration, Brothers Falker and Pierson have had barriers. Through those challenges, they have received corporate support in advertistng.

"The time is now. We can achieve our dreams, and conquer our problems, if we unite. We must unite to harness the power of our people," said Bro. Falker.

The September 2015 meeting was held at Delta Sigma Theta's national headquarters in Washington, D.C., and was part of the CBC's 45th Annual Legislative Conference.

National presidents from the fraternities included Omega Psi Phi, Alpha Phi Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Phi Beta Sigma, and Iota Phi Theta. Also in attendance were sorority national presidents from Delta Sigma Theta, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Sigma Gamma Rho, and Zeta Phi Beta.

Undergraduate News

Indiana State Representative Brother Ezell F. Marr, III, of Zeta Phi Chapter is working on strengthening undergraduate chapters in Central Indiana.



Brother Marrs has been a Tenth District's Indiana State Representative for 10 years.

During spring 2016, Marrs helped to reactivate several undergraduate chapters including: Upsilon Beta, Ball State University; Chi Sigma, Indiana State University, and Sigma Beta at Indiana University-Purdue University of Indianapolis (IUPUI).

The former Tenth District Marshal was responsible for bring back his initiation chapter, Zeta Epsilon, Indiana University back to campus.

Tau Tau Supports Community Programs

Last Fall, over 650 African American young men joined members of Tau Tau Chapter for a Youth Leadership Conference and Mentoring program. The youth participants ranged from ages 8 to 18 years old.

The event was held on the campus of the University of Southern California. Also, in attendance were 200 Omega men from 15 different chapters, and over 250 parents. For 22 years the chapter's Omega Educational Foundation has sponsored the youth conference.

"We have touched the lives of over 6100 young men," said Brother Ricky L. Lewis, Founder of the Youth Leadership Conference. Bro. Lewis also serves as the president of the Omega Educational Foundation, Inc.



In a separate classroom, LAPD Detective, Brother Ronnie Walker led a round table discussion with the parents that focused on how a basic contact with law enforcement officers can elevate to deadly

force. Brother Walker discussed several recent police involved shootings and attempted to provide the parents with more insight on what actions will trigger a law enforcement officer to implement deadly force.

The inaugural "Street Law Academy" session had such a powerful impact that in June, Brother Bill Scott arranged a special training for all of the students at the Los Angeles Police Department's Ahmanson Recruit Training Center.

STREET LAW ACADEMY

The Brothers of Tau Tau Chapter recognized the need for community action, after the recent number of police involved shooting against Black men. The Street Law Academy was created by Brother Stephen Butler to provide valuable information to Black youth from the Los Angeles inner city. On May 23, 2015, the academy hosted its inaugural session at Watts' Markham Middle School. The first session focused on the Fourth Amendment, and miranda rights. The session was conducted by Bro. Bill Scott, Deputy Chief of the Los Angeles Police Department.

During the second session of "The Street Law Academy," Brother Scott provided the students with a rare opportunity to train on the same simulator used to instruct new cadets.

The thought process behind the Force Option Simulator was to provide the students with an officer's perspective. The youth also learned about the department's Use of Force Policy from officers assigned to LAPD's Training Division. By having to make potentially life-threatening decisions in a split second, it became abundantly clear to the students on how bad contact with law enforcement officer can escalate to problems.

Omega's Scott Promoted to LAPD Deputy Chief

LOS ANGELES, CA--

On March 12, 2015, Brother William Scott was promoted to Deputy Chief of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to head LAPD's notorious South Bureau.



The South Bureau is comprised of four geographical patrol divisions, Southwest, Harbor, 77th and Southeast Area. The South Bureau encompasses more than 1,012 street miles with 57.6 square miles. The population of South Bureau has more than 639,924 inhabitants.

As the Deputy Chief of South Bureau, Brother Scott is responsible for providing direction and leadership to more than 1,600 patrol officers, detective personnel, and civilians. He is the second highest ranking African American within the Los Angeles Police Department and the first to accomplish this task within Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated. Brother Scott is a member of Tau Tau Chapter.

Chapter NEWS

Kappa Xi Chapter joined the Urban League and the Southern Nevada Health District in sponsoring a free HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in June, 2015.

The event was open to the public as several employees of the Southern Nevada Health District conducted the testing.

Brother Jamar Johnson of the Urban League spearheaded the chapter's involvement with Brother James Jackson, chair of the chapter's Social Action Committee.

Las Vegas' Channel 13 interviewed Brother Johnson during the Saturday event.

Chapter Promotes STEM

OCEANSIDE, CA - Brothers from Xi Gamma Gamma Chapter partnered with the African-American Task Group (AATG) and the San Diego National Society for Black Engineers Professionals in support of the NSBE Summer Engineering Experience for Kids (SEEK) Program.

The Summer Engineering Experience for Kids' program, (SEEK), is the National Society of Black Engineers' (NSBE) solution to the underrepresentation of African American students in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields.

The three week program is a STEM pipeline designed to expose African American children to STEM fields as early as the third grade and through the twelfth grade. In addition, this exposure will be provided by utilizing NSBE members, who are young, Black, collegiate students, majoring in STEM fields. From its inception, NSBE's SEEK program quickly established itself as the largest STEM program for African American children.

The SEEK program is designed to be a fun and an engaging educational experience led by NSBE engineering students and technical professionals. The program also utilizes a hands-on design curriculum supplied by various educational curriculum companies and corporate sponsors.

Campers worked in teams using their knowledge to solve problems and create products while discovering the underlying math and science principles involved in these processes. Each week, the campers started a new project which will culminate with a presentation, design competition and physical competitions. Xi Gamma Gamma Chapter served as judges for the students projects.

This program is very important because African American students continue to be marginalized in their preparation to compete with mainstream America for technical science and engineering jobs.

Chapter Promotes Pre-Father's Day Walk

Zeta Tau Foundation, Inc., in partnership with Omega's Zeta Tau Chapter sponsored their 3rd Annual Pre-Father's Day Rose Bowl Walk event on June 20, 2015.

The father and son team of Brothers Harold and Bryan Reese arrived at 6:30 a.m. to set up the foundation's banner, canopy, tables and chairs. Bro. Reese, the event coordinator, scouted the Rose Bowl to find the best location for the day of activities, on the eve before the event.

On the day of event, also included was a "BBQ and Brew" Festival and an exhibition by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). Brothers and families from other southern California chapters participated.

"It's a wonderful thing to see fathers and families gather in the name of fitness," said Brother Johnie Drawn, Zeta Tau Chapter's Basileus.

He also added, "We thank all participants who came out and made this a great event."

Bro. Drawn mentioned that future chapter events will focus attention on health and fitness.



Zeta Tau Chapter Brothers preparing to sign-in participants for the Pre-Father's Day Rose Bowl Walk.

In following the Fraternity's My Brother's Keeper program, Zeta Tau will continue reaching out to fathers and families.

This effort will help to close the gap of father's absence from the lives of their children and families.

"The Rose Bowl walk is an indication of Zeta Tau's commitment to the Fatherhood Initiative and the youth of the Inland Empire, Greater Pasadena and the San Gabriel Valley," said Brother Jim Wilson, Zeta Tau Chapter's Fatherhood Initiative Chairman.

Brothers Ricky Lewis and George Taylor walked the entire 3.3 miles around the track in 50 minutes, a new record for the Pre-Father's Day Rose Bowl Walk. They challenged Omega's from other chapters to beat their record during next year's event.

Brothers Ed Massey, Bud Coleman and Dave Anderson recorded all of the walkers.

Report by

Brother George D. Taylor

Zeta Rho Chapter Provide Scholarships To African American Males

LOS ANGELES, CA--Zeta Rho Chapter in conjunction with Zeta Rho Foundation presented \$60,000 in scholarships to African American male high school seniors on June 6, 2015.

The 33rd Annual Salute & Scholarship Program was held at the California African-American Museum (CAAM). The event was attended by over 400 members of the community, who were treated to an evening of inspiring presentations by this year's honorees and celebrated a superb group of student scholars.

Omega Salute honorees are selected based upon their contributions to their community, and the ability to inspire the scholarship recipients with their words and accomplishments.

The 2015 honorees were: Tracy Underwood, National Manager, Community Affairs, Toyota Motor Sales; Charles Harmon, Procurement Corporate Services, American Honda Motor Company; Hope Bullock, President, BA, Inc; and Calvin Hadley, Senior Advisor to the President for Strategic Initiatives, Howard University.

The 2015 Zeta Rho Foundation scholarship recipients were: Zain Ali to Penn State University; Moses Betts to Fisk University; Jeremy Cleveland to Xavier University; Miles Davis Hall to UC Davis; Camren Hudson to Morehouse College; Chase Moore to the College of Holy Cross; Temiloluwa Salako to UC Davis; Brendan Towns, to Loyola Marymount; Miles Williams, to UC Berkeley and Donny Wilson to California State University..

Aramis Anderson was selected as the Presidential Award Honoree. He received a \$10,000 scholarship presented to the student most representative of our leadership principles.

Aramis was also selected as President of the LAUSD District Superintendent Student Advisory Council. He served with the NAACP Beverly Hills chapter as Vice President of the Youth and College Division.

Anderson plans to attend University of California-Berkeley, majoring in Business Finance and Theatrical Productions.

A Giant



In 1925 Brother Brice Taylor (Lambda Chapter) was the first All-American football player from the University of Southern California (USC) in Los Angeles. Brother Taylor excelled as an offensive lineman, defensive standout and kicker on special teams.

As a member of the USC track team, it was documented that Taylor, a native of Seattle, WA, ran a sub-10 second 100 yard dash which was world class sprinting for that era.

The primary reason he did not play one of the skilled positions in football is that he was born without a left hand. Undoubtedly, Brother Taylor faced his share of challenges, including racism, but he persevered and represented himself, his race and USC in stellar fashion. Although the first All-American from USC factually, he was not listed in the media guide until the 1950's. Brother Taylor went on to later coach football at Southern University.

Report By Bro. Carl Blunt

Chi Mu Mu's Colonel Faison Assumes Command



Omega's U. S. Air Force Colonel Eric Faison was appointed as Commander of the 352 Special Maintenance Operation Group (SOMXG) in Mildenhall, England. Col. Faison (center) assumes command of the 352 SOMXG squadron flag in a change of command ceremony on March 23, 2015.

Bro. Edwards Promotes Help For Vets

Omega's Brother Bernard Edwards is a member of Chi Mu Mu Chapter located in Birmingham, UK. The retired U.S. Air Force instructor and former Non-commissioned officer in charge of Orthopaedic Surgical Care is using his extensive military medical background to help other veterans.

Bro. Edwards established the Unconventional Veteran, a unique resource for veterans transitioning out of the military, and back to civilian life. Unconventional Veteran, a unique resource for veterans transitioning out of the military back to civilian life. The purpose of Unconventional Veteran is to provide service men and women with a honest,

helpful, and up to date content for their journey back to civilian life. "We all get out one day and sometimes we don't have the luxury of choosing when," said Edwards.

Brother Edwards noted that 22 veterans commit suicide each day. Veteran homelessness and unemployment is above the civilian average, added Edwards. Unconventional Veteran believes that by enhancing the current transition model they will be about to aid veterans combat some of their challenges.

Unconventional Veteran fights against outdated transition models and old conventional advice, as veterans focus on life enhancement, and life opportunities.

Notes from overseas

OKINAWA, JAPAN - The members of Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter joined approximately 80 college and university representatives at the 2015 College Night. The event was held in November 2015, and was sponsored by the Department of Defense Education Activity-Pacific, Okinawa District.

The Brothers shared valuable information about college admissions, organizations and career fields with over 400 juniors and senior high school students. The chapter also took the opportunity to provide additional information about the Fraternity's International Essay Contest. Sigma Gamma Gamma also sponsored the hospitality room, and provided refreshments for the college and university representatives.

ACCRA, GHANA – In November, 2015, the Brothers of Tau Chi Chapter hosted a *Dress for Success Seminar and Tie Campaign* for the Christian Students Association at the University of Legion in Accra, Ghana. The chapter mentored young college men on how to dress professionally and appropriately to make a positive impact in their future careers.

Brother Jonathan Akuamoah, opened with an inspiring introduction while the Basileus, Brother Dr. Bryan Cox, shared with the audience the history and purpose of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Worldwide. Finally, the seminar was conducted by Brother Kwab Asamoah, one of Ghana's top fashion designers. He shared with the young men business fashion tips that will enhance their style and advance their career moves. Refreshments for the college and university representatives were served.



Theta Rho's Bro. Michael Shilo and Bro. Vyron Folds (right) pass out Thanksgiving care packages.

KAISERSLAUTERN, GERMANY – Theta Rho Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. distributed Thanksgiving care packages to junior military personnel on November 21, 2015 at the Vogelweh Commissary in Kaiserslautern, Germany. This event occurred in conjunction with the areas Sergeant's Major Association, Sergeant Morales Club, Air Force "Top 3" and local sponsors.

This annual distribution of Thanksgiving groceries united sponsors, leaders, soldiers, airmen and families across the Kaiserslautern Military Community. Turkeys, packaged sides, vegetables, desserts and roasting pans were among the items distributed.

Omeegas undaunted by the cold November rain that fell steadily throughout the event, distributed over 600 meals over a four-hour period.

The Kaiserslautern Military Community is the largest U.S. military community outside the United States consisting of nearly 53,000 service members, Department of Defense civilian employees and family members.

WHEN WE WEAR THE GLOVES

"When we wear the gloves, A brother has gone from our midst and sailed to golden shores.

When we wear the gloves, A friend has passed the final test and walks through purple doors.

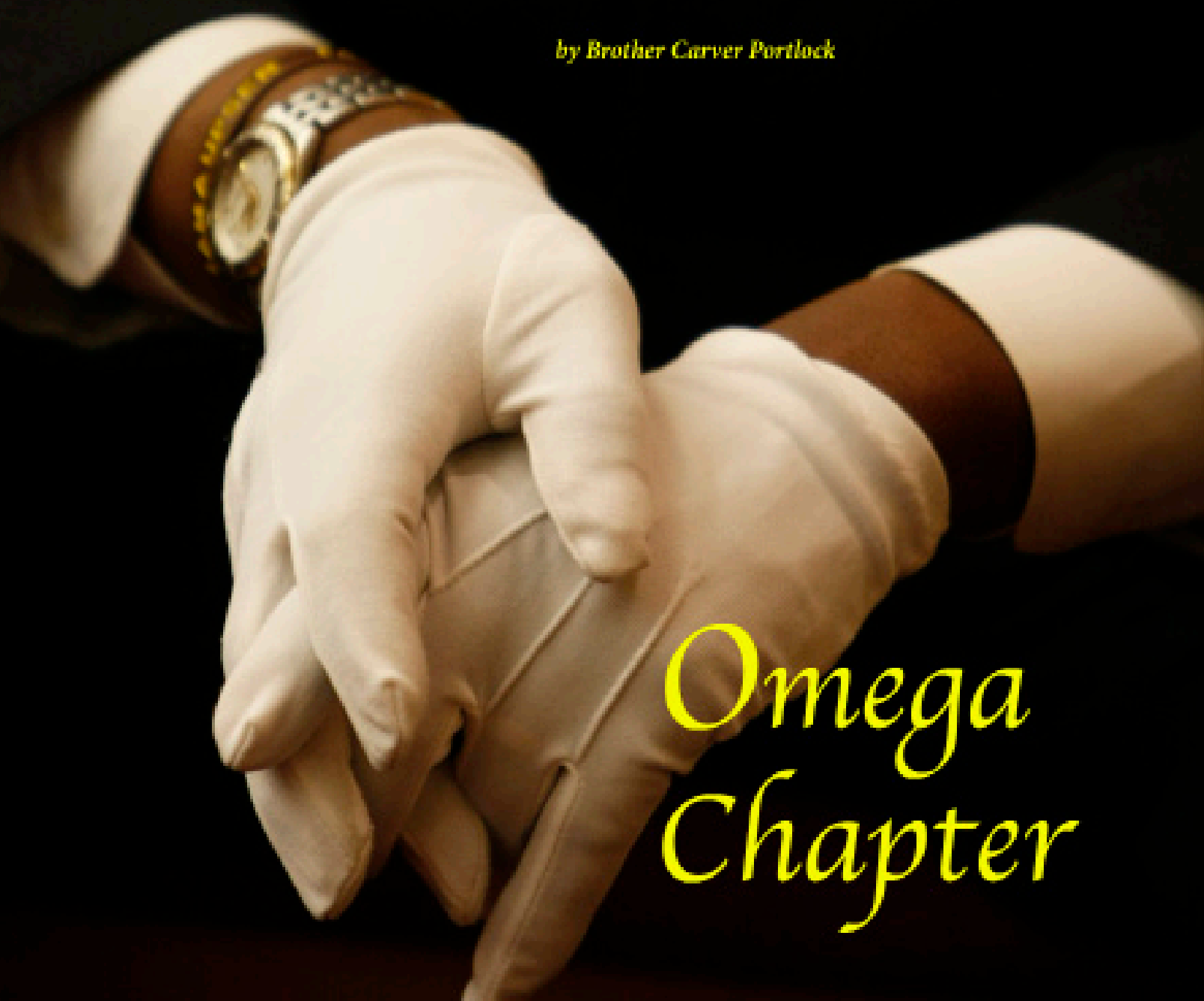
*The circle has an empty place, A voice will raise no more. The song of fellowship and love Uplift
forevermore. When we wear the gloves, A light goes from this earthly life. The visor closed again.*

Yet all the heavens open wide, To let a new star in.

When we wear the gloves, A brother leaves the chapter rolls, and moves to other worlds.

For when we say our last goodbye, He walks on streets of Pearl, When we wear the gloves.

by Brother Carver Portlock



Omega
Chapter

Brother Robert E. Alston

Financial officer and youth leader



Brother Alston entered Omega Chapter on November 12, 2013. The Henderson, NC native was initiated into the Fraternity through Iota Gamma Chapter at Trenton State College in 1973. After graduating, Bro. Alston was active with Delta Upsilon Chapter in Trenton, NJ.

Brother Alston was recognized numerous times for his fraternal and community involvement. His awards included: Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Iota Gamma Chapter's Outstanding Educator Award, the Community Award and the Legacy of Fatherhood Platinum Dads Award.

Alston's community involvement included serving as president of the West End Little League and Trenton's Youth Services Commission. Bro. Alston worked as a financial aid officer at the College of New Jersey, retiring as the Associate Director of Financial Aid after 34 years of service.

Brother LeRoy "Boots" Battle

Tuskegee Airman and Musician

Brother Battle entered Omega Chapter on March 27, 2015. He was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. through Pi Chapter at Morgan State College in 1948.



After receiving a degree in music from Morgan State College and a degree in education from the University of Maryland, College Park, he worked as a jazz musician in New York, performing with notables such as Billie Holiday and Pearl Bailey.

Battle was born in Harlem, NY on Dec. 31, 1921. After high school, he received a philharmonic scholarship to study at the Juilliard School of Music before attending Morgan State.

Drafted in the military, he was later commissioned as second lieutenant. As a Tuskegee Airman he had the courage to stand with the other Black officers demanding service at the Freeman Field Officers Club. After the war in 1945, he returned to Morgan as a graduate assistant in the music department.

In 1950, he worked for Prince George's County's Public Schools serving as a teacher, band director, guidance counselor and vice principal. He was a member of Lambda Gamma Gamma Chapter.

Brother William "Bill" Oliver Bishop

Educator

Brother Bishop entered Omega Chapter on July 29, 2015. Bishop departed his earthly life for his heavenly reward on Friday, July 11, 2014. He was initiated through Eta Gamma Chapter at Central State University in 1952. After graduation from Central State, he became an active member with Delta Upsilon Chapter in Trenton, NJ.

Bishop served in the U.S. Navy during WWII, before attending Central State. During his military career, he earned the American Theater Medal, the Victory Medal and was selected for the Navy Boxing Team.

Brother Bishop served as a recreation director in New York City, and later as an educator for the Trenton Board of Education. He taught and worked in the Trenton (NJ) school system for 34 years as a teacher and later a school administrator. He was a lifelong member of Union Baptist Church.

Brother Daniel W. Boddie

Law Counsel

Brother Daniel "Dan" Boddie entered Omega Chapter on Monday January 12, 2015. Born February 10, 1922 in New Rochelle, NY, Boddie became one of New York's legendary legal figures and a giant in the Westchester County community.

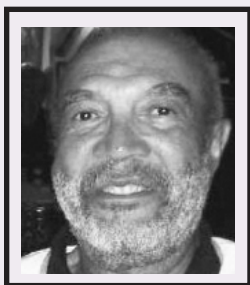
He was an active member in Omicron Iota Chapter for more than 60+ years. Bro. Boddie was initiated into Omega in 1941, through Zeta Chapter on the campus of Virginia Union University. Bro. Boddie served one year as Basileus of Zeta Chapter and received an Omega scholarship from the Grand Conclave as "Student of the Year". After graduation from Virginia Union University, where he received his B.A. in 1943, he was drafted in the U. S. Army during World War II. and was honorably discharged as a Battalion Sergeant Major. He continued his education at Cornell University School of Law, where he received his LL.B degree in 1949



Later, Brother Boddie, Life Member # 617, served as the Second District's Counselor for 10 years. During his law career, he served as the Law Secretary to the City Judge, Deputy Court Clerk, Assistant Corporation Counsel and Deputy Corporation Counsel for the City of New Rochelle. He was a founding member of the Association of Black Lawyers, Westchester County.

Brother John E. Churchwell

Air Force fighter pilot



Brother Churchwell entered Omega Chapter on April 20, 2014. He was initiated at Tennessee State University through Rho Psi Chapter.

John graduated from De La Salle Academy in 1959 where he was the first African American to win a Rhode Island State tennis championship. John was awarded a tennis scholarship to attend Tennessee State University.

While at TSU, he joined the Air Force ROTC program.

Upon graduation he was commissioned as an officer in the USAF, was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering and also married his college sweetheart, Bonnie Jean Bates.

John had a decorated military career as a U.S. Air Force fighter pilot. He completed three tours of duties in the Vietnam War at Tuy Hoa Air Base in the Republic of Vietnam - two tours in tankers and one tour in fighters as a F100 pilot. After 25 years of dedicated service, John retired from the Air Force but continued working with NASA to implement a scheduling system, and as an adjunct professor for Hampton University.

Brother Dr. Sylvellie R. Cloud

Dentist



Brother Cloud entered Omega Chapter on July 10, 2015. Cloud started his college career at Saint Augustine's College, where he played basketball and football and received a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry in 1958. Brother Cloud was initiated into Omega through the Kappa Epsilon Chapter at Saint Augustine's College (now Saint Augustine's University) in Raleigh, NC on November 26, 1954.

Augustine's University) in Raleigh, NC on November 26, 1954.

He later studied chemistry and physics at several universities including: Atlanta, Temple, North Carolina State and American University. Brother Cloud received his Doctor of Dental Medicine degree from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine.

Brother Cloud was not just an accomplished dentist but had a deep and abiding faith in the mission of community service. He was a member of several professional societies and health care organizations, i.e. the Old North State Dental Society, NC State Dental Association, the American Dental Association, and Academy of General Dentistry

Brother Malcolm A. Cofer

Businessman



Brother Cofer entered Omega Chapter on March 9, 2015. He was initiated into Omega through Pi Beta Beta Chapter in 1998. He held the offices of Basileus and Vice-Basileus for the chapter. He also chaired the Achievement Week, and served on the Scholarship committee.

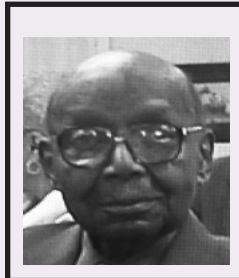
Brother Cofer was also an active member of Ward Temple AME Church in Bradenton, FL., where he served as the Superintendent of the Sunday School, and Trustee.

Brother Walter F. Coleman

Brother Coleman entered Omega Chapter on August 1, 2015. He was initiated through Kappa Tau Chapter in 1975. Brother Coleman professional activities included work with the Urban League, NAACP and Canton Oldtimers Athletic Association.

Brother William E. Davis

Educator



Brother Davis entered Omega Chapter on September 4, 2015.

He was born in Winston Salem, NC, on April 4, 1915 was educated in the Forsyth County School System and was a graduate of Atkins High School. After high school graduation, he matriculated to the

North Carolina College for Negroes in Durham. He later received an advanced degree from East Carolina University.

In Durham, he was initiated into Tau Psi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity in 1934 and was elected Chaplain of the chapter. Upon graduation, he was employed in Wayne County. He was later employed at Camp LeJeune in a civilian capacity and then in Greene County as an Assistant Principal until retirement.

During his fraternal life, he was also involved with Nu Alpha and Lambda Pi Chapters. Church life was very important to Brother Davis. He was an active member of his local church St. James AME Church, where he served as a Steward, Class Leader and the Church Treasurer.

Brother Lincoln I. Diuguid, Ph.D

Scientist

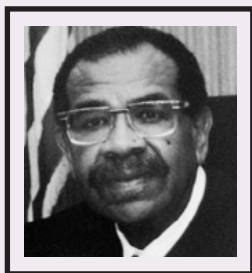
Brother Diuguid entered Omega Chapter on January 27, 2015. He was initiated into Omega at West Virginia State College. Bro. Diuguid was born in Lynchburg, VA. He was the youngest of nine children where his father was a brakeman for the railroad. Young Lincoln dreamed of becoming a scientist, and shoveled coal and snow to earn money for college.

He earned a bachelor's of science degree graduating magna cum laude from West Virginia State College. He also graduated with a master's and Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Cornell University. Before earning his doctoral degree he was the head of the chemistry department at Arkansas (A & M) Normal College in Pine Bluff, Ark.

As a scientist, Diuguid tested more than 3,000 compounds in his search for a cure for cancer. Some of his research showed promising tumor-killing abilities in tests at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, MD.

Brother James B. Ethridge, Jr.

Judge



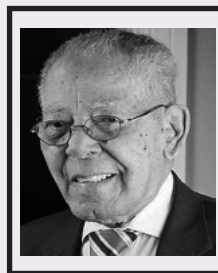
Brother Ethridge entered Omega Chapter on February 2, 2015. He was initiated through Iota Iota Chapter in Raleigh, NC, on September 22, 1973. Brother Ethridge was born on July 16, 1946 in Wendell, North Carolina.

After completing his elementary and high school education in Wendell, Brother Ethridge attended North Carolina Central University in Durham, North Carolina, where he completed his undergraduate studies and earned a Juris Doctor Degree in Law. Brother Ethridge's professional career spanned over 30 years which included serving as an attorney of his private law firm in Smithfield, NC, and District Court judge of the 11th Judicial District for Johnston, Harnett and Lee counties.

Brother Ethridge was preceded in death by his parents, James, Sr. and Minnie Ethridge, and his sister Catherine Woodard. He is survived by his wife, Denise Ethridge, daughter Jamie Beth Ethridge; sisters Dorothy Battle (Joe) and Nancy Ethridge-Allsbrook (John) and other relatives and friends.

Brother Herbert Fielding

State Senator



Brother Fielding entered Omega Chapter on August 10 2015. He was initiated into Omega through Theta Psi Chapter at West Virginia State College in 1947. After earned his degree in Business Administration from West Virginia State College, Fielding also studied at Glosow University (Scotland); University of Scotland; Biarritz American University (France) and at Renouard College of Embalming in New York City. He received a Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from the College of Charleston in 1981.

Fielding was elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives in 1970, and was one of three African-Americans who were the first elected to the House since the Reconstruction era. He helped to create the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission. He was elected to the South Carolina Senate in 1984. He served as Deputy Majority Whip of the Senate; member of the Democratic Leadership Council; Chairman of the Charleston County Senate Delegation and was a member of the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus.

Brother Eugene J. Gadson, Ph. D.

Psychologist

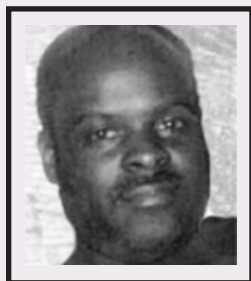
Brother Gadson entered Omega Chapter on November 25, 2014. He received his 50-year pin in 2014, and was a loyal member of Delta Upsilon Chapter.

Gadson received his Ph.D. from Rutgers University's Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology. Brother Gadson was the first Black psychologist employed by the State of New Jersey at Bordentown Reformatory. He served the Trenton Board of Education for 26 years and established Trenton Psychological Services, Inc., a multi-ethnic organization devoted to providing psychological services to inner city populations. Dr. Gadson retired and continued working part-time with teenagers in a special program under the Juvenile Justice Commission.

Later, he created Genesis Paces P.A., a multidisciplinary professional association dedicated to psychotherapy, counseling, psychological and educational assessments and evaluations. Brother Gadson also served as the first Executive Director of the Urban League of Metropolitan Trenton, NJ.

Brother Thomas L. Graves

Engineer



Brother Thomas L. 'Tommy' Graves entered Omega Chapter on Sunday June 9, 2013. He was educated in the Ewing Township Public Schools and was a graduate from Ewing High School. Thomas later graduated from West Virginia State College with a Bachelor of Science degree in industrial engineering.

Brother Thomas was previously employed by the Okonite Cable Company and Rhein Chemie until his illness. He was a member of Union Baptist Church and the Youth Adult Ministry. He was an active member of Delta Upsilon in Trenton, NJ serving on numerous chapter committees and active in many community initiatives. He was a Life Member of the Fraternity.

Brother Steve Hallett, Sr.

Lawyer

Brother Steve Hallett Sr., entered Omega Chapter on September 11, 2013. He was initiated at Delta Upsilon Chapter in Trenton, NJ, and remained true to Omega until his death.

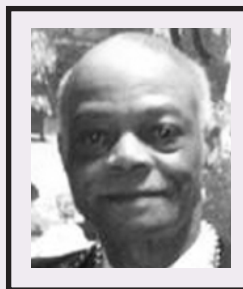
Bro. Hallett was educated in Birds Nest, Va., and later in the Trenton Public Schools graduating from Trenton Central High School in 1971. After graduating from Rider College, Hallett received his Juris Doctor (JD) from Rutgers University's School of Law in Newark. He practiced for law for 24 years, until the time of his illness.

He is preceded in death by his father, Floyd McDonald, and sister, Marquita Hallett. Bro. Hallett is survived by his mother, Ruth; sisters, Carmen Hallett and Emily Moyer; brothers, Coleman and Roosevelt Williams; stepmother, Emma McDonald; sons, Steve Jr. (Jennifer), Jamal (Nikia), Rashad, Khaleef, and daughter, Miranda Hallett.

Brother Hallett and his former wife, Alvina Hallett, also raised Lisa Smith, Howard Jones, Phfedrah Adams, Jason, Jose and Quasim Hallett. He is also survived by 10 grandchildren including: Jarel, Rashad Jr., Steve III, Kanye, Cheyenne, Jenae, Kennedy, Tekiah Reid, Jason and Darius Hallett.

Brother Leonard D. Haywood

Federal Service and USN



Brother Leonard "Lenny" Haywood entered Omega Chapter on June 13, 2014. He was initiated into Omega through Lambda Xi Chapter in 1988.

Brother Haywood grew up in Portsmouth, VA., where he graduated from I.C. Norcom High

School and joined the U.S. Navy in 1970. Upon being honorably discharged he furthered his education at the University of California at Berkeley. He would later become a civil servant, and worked 40+ years as a federal employee for the Department of Defense. While stationed in Seoul Korea he joined Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Upon his return from Korea he was assigned to APG and would make his home in Aberdeen, Maryland.

He leaves to mourn his wife of 28 years, Janet K. Flucker-Haywood; son, Leonard; two daughters, Lakisha and Matisha; five grandchildren, Chase, Ashton, Baileigh, Raven and Rasuan; sister, Danelle Rivers; brother, Phillip Haywood-DeLoatch along with a host of (great) nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Brother Fred Johnson

Pharmacist

Brother Johnson entered Omega Chapter on July 6, 2015. He was initiated through Kappa Tau Chapter on June 20, 1959.

He served as pharmacist for over 50 years. He was the owner of McKinley Pharmacy. His professional activities included community work with the Catholic Charities; Catholic Interracial Council; Board member for Meyers Lake YMCA; Hunter House; St. Benedict Catholic Church and the Canton Rainbow Repertory Company.

Bro. Johnson was the recipient of several prestigious awards including: Pro Ecclesia et Pontifices Medal and a certificate from the late Pope John Paul II. He also was presented an award by the Ohio State Board.

Brother Christopher “Billy” Kittrell

Director of Special Education



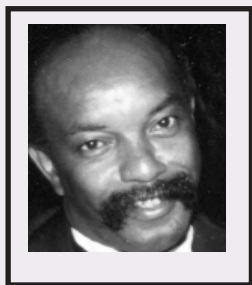
Brother Kittrell entered Omega Chapter on November 26, 2014. Kittrell was initiated into the Omega in 1961 through Omicron Iota Chapter located in Westchester County, NY. He served the Fraternity for more than 50 years in various

capacities. Bro. Kittrell was born August 4, 1934 in Mt. Vernon, NY.

He received his Bachelor's degree from Hampton University and Master's degree from Pace University. Kittrell was active in the Hampton University Alumnae Association. Bro. Kittrell was Director of Special Education at Richmond High School in New York City. He joins his daughter Vernez Kittrell Bandoh in death, and he is survived by his devoted wife Melva Kittrell.

Brother Robert C. Lowman

Law Enforcement Officer



Brother Lowman entered Omega Chapter on July 20, 2015. He was initiated into Omega in 1983 through Tau Pi Chapter. He served as the chapter's Keeper of Finance. He played a key role in establishing the chapter's Brother Ronald E.

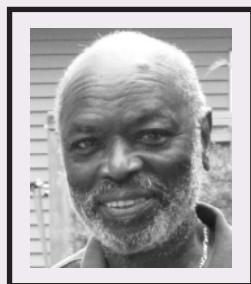
McNair Youth Leadership program. He was a member of the famous chapter line known as the the "Nine Synergistic Gents."

Lowman first attended Morgan State University, but joined the U.S. Army in 1963 serving as a military policeman. Later he earned a B.S. from the University of Baltimore, and a M.S. degree from Coppin State University majoring in sociology with a concentration in criminal justice. During his career, he served as a City of Baltimore police officer, and an agent with the Department of Parole and Probation.

He leaves to cherish his memories: fiancée Shelia Parker and children Dr. Shelly Lowman- Hooks (Steven) and Sherrey Williams (Jerome); two brothers Gregory and Donald; two sisters Regina Patricia.

Brother Eugene Thomas McCray

Engineer

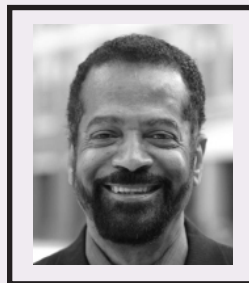


Brother McCray entered Omega Chapter on February 6, 2015. McCray was initiated into Omega through the undergraduate chapter at the University of Pittsburgh. Before attending college, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, and achieved the rank of Electrician's Technician-

Petty Officer, 2nd grade. He was honorably discharged in 1955. Later, Bro. McCray enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh, earning a B.S. in electrical engineering in 1959. He also graduated with a M.S. in applied physics from Adelphi University in 1965. Gene started his career with the Grumman Corporation on Long Island where he worked as a Navy aircraft contract specialist. In 1966, he left Grumman and returned to the Navy as a civilian navigational engineer for the Naval Applied Science Laboratory, which later became the Naval Air Development Center (NADC). Gene spent the rest of his career with NADC, retiring in 1992. A dedicated member of Delta Upsilon Chapter where he served as co-chair of the Social Action Committee. He is survived by his loving wife, , Cleo and two sons, Christopher and Ian.

Brother Eugene Lawson R. McElroy

Judge



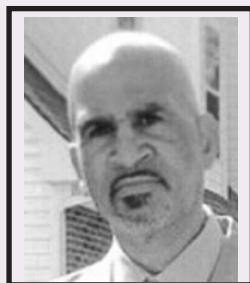
Brother McElroy entered Omega Chapter on September 9, 2013. He was initiated into Omega through the undergraduate chapter at Lincoln University (MO) in 1960. He later graduated with a Master's degree in counseling from Kean College, and a Juris Doctor from Seton Hall University's Law School.

Bro. McElroy opened his law practice as a member of the New Jersey & Pennsylvania Bar Associations. He became a prosecutor and was later appointed as a Municipal Court judge. After retiring as a judge, he continued to serve the community by providing legal representation in court. McElroy served on the boards of several non-profit organizations, including the NAACP.

He is survived by his wife, Kathy; seven children: DeLaine, Dellice, Lawson II, Gyasi, Maya, Kim and Krystal. He also had six grandchildren.

Brother Kenneth W. Parks

Army Officer



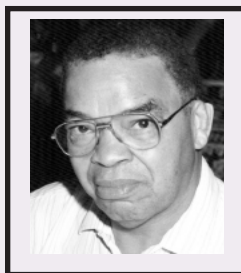
Brother Parks entered Omega Chapter on September 8, 2015. He was initiated at North Carolina A&T University through Mu Psi Chapter. He graduated from NC A&T with a B.S. in Engineering.

Brother Parks was commissioned into the U. S. Army and he received a Master's degree in Human Resource Management from the Command and General Staff College. For 25 years, Brother Parks served his country and retired in 2012 from Fort Jackson. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. During his military career, he served his nation in several combat operations: Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Parks was a Ranger, Jump Master, Pathfinder, as well as, Air Assault qualified.

Brother Parks, a Life Member, is best known for spearheading Chi Iota Iota Chapter's Boy's Camp program. He was faithful member of Wesleyan United Methodist Church. He leaves to cherish his fond and loving memories his loving wife, Tonya and his two sons, Kenneth II. and Tyler.

Brother Robert N. Rhodes

Professor Emeritus



Brother Rhodes entered Omega Chapter on December 4, 2015. He was initiated at Talladega College through Gamma Psi Chapter in 1951. After graduation from Talladega, the Cincinnati native earned a master's degree from the University of Cincinnati. He also graduated with a M.S. from Atlanta University, and started doctoral studies at the University of Chicago. He was known as an activist, brilliant scholar and jazz enthusiast.

Brother Rhodes served as an associate professor and chair of the Department of African American studies at Ohio University.

After retirement, Rhodes moved to Chicago where he often supported critical discussions around historical and contemporary issues. Before coming to Ohio University, he led the Black Studies program at Antioch College.

Rhodes was a significant Black Leftist activist during the early period of Black Studies. At Antioch, Chicago and Ohio, Rhodes was a popular university professor. He often held informal sessions with his students.

At Ohio University, he lived in an apartment above two promising young graduate students and Omega men, Brothers Milbert Brown and Derek "Cash" Collins.

Brother Earl F. Phillips

Educator



Brother Phillips entered Omega Chapter on May 7, 2014. He was initiated into Omega through Tau Beta Chapter at Glassboro State University in 1976. Brother Phillips earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Charleston Southern University in Charleston, SC, and a master's degree in psychology

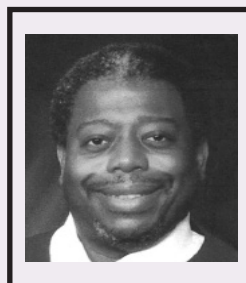
from Capella University in Minneapolis, MN. He was completing his dissertation as an ABD doctoral candidate in industrial psychology from Capella University at the time of his death.

The U. S. Navy veteran was a member of Eta Pi and Delta Upsilon chapters. At Delta Upsilon, he served as the KRS, and Basileus.

Brother Phillips is survived by his beloved wife, Carol; daughter, Michelle; son, Kyle; mother, Adelle Honaker; sisters, Lori Barrett Powell and Debbie Phillips; brother, Wilbur "Tony" Phillips; granddaughter, Cameron Davis; and a host of relatives and friends.

Brother Randolph B. Scott, Sr.

Administrator



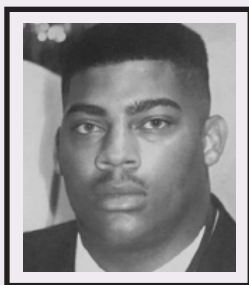
Brother Scott entered Omega Chapter on May 26, 2015. He was initiated into Omega at Savannah State University through Alpha Gamma Chapter in 1983. He earned a B.S. in civil engineering from Savannah State. He later was called into the ministry and was ordained Elder of First Thessalonian Holiness Church.

During his career he served in property maintenance, and was later promoted to Zoning Administrator.

Brother Scott was preceded in death by his wife, Muriel Scott, and his son, Randolph Ben Scott, II. He is survived by his son, Denzel Scott; grandson, Jeremiah Scott; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Scott; sister, Selena; brothers, Larry, Harry and Ahmad.

Brother Quewanncoii C. Stephens

An Omega Man

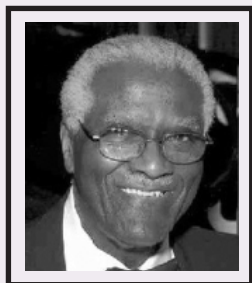


Brother Stephens entered Omega Chapter on June 30, 2015. He was initiated at West Virginia State College (WVSC) through Theta Psi Chapter. Brother Stephens graduated with a degree in history from WVSC. He also earned a Master's in guidance and counseling from Bowling Green University. He is survived by his

father, Bro. Quewanncoii C. Stephens, Sr., LTC, U.S. Army (Ret.); mother, Priscilla Greer; sister, Eurydice; brother, Aaron; nieces and nephews: Grace, Christian Alexia and Aaron.

Brother Donald Stukes

CPA



Brother Stukes entered Omega Chapter on January 20, 2015. He was initiated into Omega through Omcrion Iota Chapter in 1958.

He served for several years as the 2nd District Keeper of Finance. Brother Stukes received a B.A. in business from Canisius College.

He was a partner at Coulthrust, Howard and Stokes in New York City. Bro. Stukes is survived by his wife Mrs. Joan Stukes, son Donald A. Stukes, C.P.A., daughter Susan D. Stukes, D.D.S. and two grandchildren.

Brother Clarence E. White, Sr.

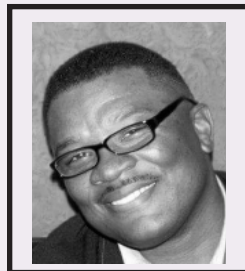
Educator

Brother White entered Omega Chapter on June 28, 2015. He was initiated into Omega at South Carolina State College through Xi Pi Chapter in 1961. He earned a B.A. degree in Education from South Carolina State. Later, he joined Mu Omega Chapter in Philadelphia, PA.

Bro. White's first teaching position was at the Simon Muir School as a mathematics teacher. He left teaching after many years and accepted a position as a staff representative with the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers where he was highly respected and instrumental in the early development of the local teachers union. Later, White became a national representative for the American Federation of Teachers located in Washington D.C.

Brother Silas L. Williams

An Omega Man



Brother Williams entered Omega Chapter on June 8, 2015. He was initiated into Omega through Iota Nu Chapter in 2014. Brother Williams graduated cum laude from Trident University International with a B.S. in business administration. Williams joined the United States Army in 1992 and served honorably until March, 2013 when he retired at the rank of Master Sergeant.

He thoroughly enjoyed his memberships in Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., the Masonic Lodge as well as his love in riding his Harley V-Rod with his endeared Buffalo Soldiers. He founded the Aberdeen Chapter of the Buffalo Soldiers Motor Cycle Club in May 2012. Brother Williams leaves to cherish his memory his children, Brianna Williams, Marleigh Williams and Michael Williams.

Brother Dr. Kennon A. Woods

Dentist



Brother Woods entered Omega Chapter on May 24, 2015. He was initiated at North Carolina A&T University through Mu Epsilon Chapter at Winston-Salem State University on December 11, 1970.

Brother Woods completed his undergraduate studies at Winston-Salem State University, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. He furthered his education by receiving his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry. After dental school, Woods joined the United States Army where he began his career in dentistry. He was honorably discharged with the rank of Major.

Bro. Woods continued his dental career by establishing dental practices in Georgia, Washington D.C. and North Carolina. He was a partner with Brother Dr. Gettys Cohen for over 20 years in the Smithfield, NC area. He was also a member of several community based and professional organizations, such as, the NAACP, the Old North State Dental Society, NC State Dental Association and the American Dental Association.

Brother Woods is survived by his wife, Tanya Woods; children, Kenny, Whitney, and Morgan; two grandchildren, Kennesha and Lourde; two brothers, Frederick and Michael Woods.

Brother Willie T. Allen

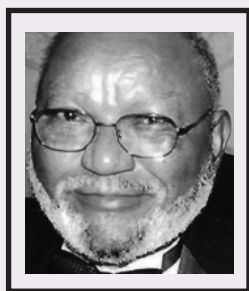
Educator

Brother Willie Thomas Allen, a retired educator entered Omega Chapter February 7, 2016. Bro. Allen served as principal of Rebecca Reed Elementary School in Holcomb, MS. He was elected to the Grenada City Council in 1972, becoming the first Black to serve a full term. Under a court-ordered desegregation plan Allen was assigned to be the principal of Carrie Dotson Elementary School in 1975. In 1980, Governor Winter appointed Allen as the Administrative Assistant for Education, Health and Human Services.

He was drafted to serve in the U.S. Army in 1951 during the Korean Conflict. While in the Army, he returned to marry his high school sweetheart, Mildred Jones, on September 4, 1952. After Korea he returned to college in 1953 and went on to graduate cum laude from Jackson State College in 1956 with a degree in social science. He was inducted into Jackson State University's Sports Hall of Fame in 1982. He is survived by his daughter, Dr. Marcia Allen Owens; grandsons, Allen Owens and Marcus Owens. He was preceded in death by his wife, Dr. Mildred Allen Jones and his son, Michael Bernard Allen (Omega Chapter).

Brother Douglas Carter

Systems Analyst



Brother Douglas Carter joined Omega Chapter on February 16, 2016. He was initiated into Tau Rho Graduate Chapter in 1984, and remained with the chapter until his death. Carter graduated from American University. He also served his country in the U.S. Army.

Later, he retired from the Naval Surface Weapons Center in Dahlgren, VA, as a Systems Analyst. Bro. Carter was a former member of the Fredericksburg City School Board and the first Black chairman. He also served as President of the George W. Carver Regional High School Alumni Association. In addition, Carter was a Scout Leader for several Cub Scout and Boys Scout troops. Carter was an officer and faithful member of the Nazareth Baptist Church in Boston, VA. He is survived by his loving wife of 58 years, Lessie; two sons, Douglas and Vincent, and four grandchildren.

Brother Andrew E. Thomas

Army Officer and Educator



Brother Andrew E. Thomas was a former associate dean of continuing education at Washington University in St. Louis, MO. Earlier, he directed the Urban League's job-training programs for inner-city youth in the 1960s.

Bro. Thomas joined Omega Chapter on February 16, 2016. Thomas was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity through Gamma Epsilon Chapter at Hampton Institute in April 1952.

Brother Thomas received a B.S. in Vocational and Industrial Education in 1955. After graduation, he married his college sweetheart, Martha Randolph, and joined the U. S. Army serving as an Army officer until 1958. After service, Thomas received a master of education degree in guidance and psychology from St. Louis University.

In the early 1960s, he served as a vocational guidance counselor and director of industrial relations for the St. Louis Urban League. He also worked at the United Fund, a social welfare agency. His duties helped to improve the economic and social conditions of the black community.

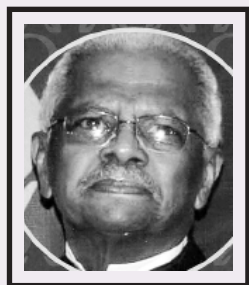
In 1966, he returned to St. Louis after being appointed assistant director of the division of conferences and short courses at Washington University. He later became associate dean in the university's school of continuing education, a position he held until the early 1980s.

After his stint at Washington University, he left education and served as an editor for the St. Louis Sentinel, an African-American-oriented weekly newspaper. He retired in the mid-1990s.

Brother Thomas was affectionately called "Andy." He was an avid music lover and a familiar fixture in the St. Louis community. Brother Thomas was known for his cool demeanor, bright plaid sport coats and Kangol-style caps. "He had a wry sense of humor," said his daughter Wendy Thomas-Williams.

Brother Frank B. Patterson

Loan Officer and Omega Legend



Brother Frank Byron Patterson, an Omega Life Member (#700), was affectionately called "Frankie P." Bro. Patterson joined Omega Chapter February 25, 2016. Frankie was initiated into Omega on April 14, 1962 through Alpha Chapter. While

at Howard, Brother Patterson served as the editor-in-chief of the 1964 yearbook, the *Bison*. Also, while a member of Alpha Chapter, Patterson served as the Keeper of Records and Seal. His outstanding job of organizing and maintaining records won him praise, which earned him Alpha Chapter's "Omega Man of the Year," in 1963.

After graduation, he joined Alpha Omega Graduate Chapter. He served the chapter for many years as the Keeper of Records and Seal (KRS). He was designated as KRS Emeritus.

He also rendered tireless service to the chapter as a member of several important committees. He also served as the Secretary of the Board of Directors for Alpha Tau Alpha, the governing body responsible for the stewardship of Washington, D.C.'s fraternity houses.

Alpha Omega presented Brother Patterson the "Omega Man of the Year," award in 1974 and 1997.

In 2012, he was recognized for "50 years of devotion, service and for exemplifying the "Four Cardinal Principles: Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift."

Brother Patterson served as the Third District's Keeper of Records and Seal for 10 years, followed by his designation as the Third District's KRS Emeritus. Patterson was selected as the District Marshal for the 64th Third District Meeting in 1997.

He was recently appointed as the Honorary Deputy District Marshal for next year's 84th Third District Meeting, to be held in spring 2017.

His International accomplishments included his selection as the Deputy Grand marshal for the 2011 Centennial Grand Conclave in Washington, D.C. Patterson served as the Chairman of the Founders Monument Committee; Chairman of Registration, 75th Anniversary Grand Conclave, and the Secretary of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Federal Credit Union. He was also a member of the International Registration and the International Member Selection Program Committees.

Professionally, Brother Frankie P. served as a Loan Officer for the United States Export-Import Bank for over 35 years.



Omega men attend the late Bro. Frank B. Patterson's Omega Service held at Friendship Baptist Church in Washington, D.C.

We remember Frankie P. and all of our fallen Brothers



On Sunday, November 16, 1975, Brother Frank B. Patterson affectionately called "Frankie P," with Mabel R. Coleman, Founder Frank Coleman's wife (center), and Margaret Just Butcher, daughter of Founder Ernest E. Just (seated).

1975 Photograph from Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Archives

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