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THE OMEGA

Voice of the Second District



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*67th Second
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April 30 - May 3, 2015

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Milton Harrison
2nd District Representative

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District Marshal



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HOSTED BY NU BETA BETA & UPSILON PHI

Friendship Is Essential To The Soul

THE OMEGAN

“Voice of the Second District”

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A Great Leader



*39th Grand Basileus
Brother Dr. Andrew A. Ray*

A Grand Brother

The Omegean Article Submission Deadlines

October 15

January 15

April 1

67th 2nd District Conference

April 30- May 3, 3015

**Marriott at Glenpointe
Teaneck, New Jersey 07666**

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Founders: Frank Coleman, Oscar J. Cooper, Ernest E. Just, Edgar A. Love

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Tony Knox, 40th Grand Basileus

March 23, 2015

Giving honor to God and my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ:

Omega men, I hope you and your families are in the best of God's loving care. I am reaching out to you to say thank you, for representing Omega as our founders would have intended. However, my brothers all is not well within our communities as we see things happening that indicate that some may not believe that "Black Lives Matter." Recent events have indicated that it does not matter where you live.

My Brothers, this must change. I believe that it will, but we must stay the course, persevere and continue to work with those that are trying to stop this problem. We have many Omega men who work within law enforcement and are willing to share their wisdom on how we can work to stop this trend that has unfortunately been going in the wrong direction. It will take working together to put the correct strategy in place. As difficult as it is, we must remain calm and follow our principles and we will overcome this madness.

Also the news media is full of stories based upon actions taking place within other fraternities that are embarrassing to their families, organizations, their colleges, and universities. Those actions have no place in Greek life or any place else in our society. I am happy to see that the college and university administrators have acted swiftly and decisively to rid their campuses of those organizations. I am also pleased to see that the fraternities involved in most instances have taken action against those affiliate chapters involved, and are taking steps to educate and train their members on diversity and the respect for all men and women.

This type of ignorance being reported has created interest from the media and several universities have full scale investigations going on to determine if these types of things are going on at their campuses. The investigations have turned up many different types of violations that will not and should not be tolerated on campus. The universities are making it clear that they will expel students and prosecute those breaking the law.

My brothers, it is very important for us to allow our Cardinal Principles to guide our actions on and off campuses and in the community. We must bind ourselves together as men and stand up against injustices, but we must use our scholarship and be smart about how we challenge, protest, and lead others when speaking out. We must protest with a purpose and not just for the sake of doing something. During this time, perseverance is most important because creating the change that we want is not an overnight process and it will come with challenges and setbacks. However, we must be persistent and keep working for change as long as it takes to create the positive change that we are demanding. To stay true to our mission, from the very start it's been about protecting and providing whatever is necessary to make our communities better. Each day that we are given is our chance to serve mankind and to have a positive impact on the lives of members of our communities, and people that we may not even know.

Brothers I again thank you for your leadership within the community, and representing Omega everyday as our founders would have you do. Where there is adversity, there is opportunity. Brothers let's take this opportunity to lead our people. Be the model chapters on campus, be the leading community organization that others turn to when there is adversity and that time is now.

My Brothers, when we bind ourselves together as one and work without anyone caring who gets the credit, there is nothing that we cannot accomplish. We are one and the time to lead is now. Brothers, be mindful of everything we do and remember that we represent Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. and not just ourselves.

Thank you for recognizing who we are.

Fraternally,

Antonio F. Knox Sr.
40th Grand Basileus

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DIVINE 91
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67th Second District Conference
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Time: 10:00pm until 1:00am
Cost: \$20.00


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March 31, 2015



Greetings My Second District Brethren and Guests:

It is my sincere pleasure to serve as the 34th District Representative. It has truly been a year of extreme highs and, of course, challenges. One of the highs has been watching the brothers step up to perform in new and creative ways. I am very pleased with our new committees. As always, it is an extreme pleasure to witness the execution of our mandated programs across the district. My sincere desire is that we can get more brothers involved in the things that make us true Omega Men.

Some of the challenges have been how a very small percentage of our brothers choose not to live up to our cardinal principles. In addition, we have seemed a return to some of the violence against people of color across our nation. As we look at the two examples of the challenges, we must rededicate ourselves to our organization and to ensure we take a leadership role of helping to solve the problems in our nation.

As we look forward please join me in a renewed commitment to Omega Psi Phi at the international, district, and local levels.

Congratulations again on your accomplishments across the District and Internationally. May God continue to bless your efforts for Omega Psi Phi and the community.

Yours in Omega,

Milton D. Harrison
34th 2nd District Representative



Tau Mu Chapter has Highest GPA of all Greeks at Fairleigh Dickinson University



February 10, 2015

Dear Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated:

Congratulations, it has come to our attention that Omega Psi Phi, Tau Mu chapter has the highest Fall 2014 Grade Point Average(3.6) out of all of the Greeks on campus.

Every semester Fairleigh Dickinson University reviews the semester grades to ensure academic achievement is obtained by its students.

I am proud of you and your accomplishment.

You are encouraged to share this information with the members of your organization.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Timothy J. Fann".

Timothy J. Fann
Assistant Director of Student Life
Fairleigh Dickinson University – Metropolitan Campus



Accomplishments as Current 1st Vice D.R.



Coordinated an engaging & enlightening Shirtsleeve Conference with presenters including undergraduate representatives.

Developed Committee Reference Manual as a marketing tool for committee enhancement

Provided direction for 6 new committees to get organized and functional

Developing guidelines for new 2nd District Life Member Program & working to connect the 2nd District with a 501c3 foundation

Working with Advisory Council to develop and implement Leadership Development Training Series

Represented the district at numerous events, activities, and in discussions

Kappa Omega 103rd Achievement Week Awardees



l-r Lonnie Devan- Superior Service Award, Soumaila Koudougou- Student of the Year, the Late Dr. George Love- Founders Award and Kappa Omega Man of the Year- Bro. James Randolph

“The Omega Type” May ‘46 Oracle

“The Omega Type . . . ”

By CHARLES E. KING

The use of the expression “the Omega type” is widely known wherever Omega is known. A prospective “lamp” is either referred to as being the Omega type or not the Omega type. There is great probability that the expression of “the Omega type” is often used without very much meaning. It is most important that “type” be given consideration for it is the “type” that makes Omega Omega, but we should be clear in our minds about what the type should manifest.

The “type” should exhibit the qualities of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift. In exhibiting manhood he should be a gentleman, but none-the-less a man. He should be reliable, self-confident, able to have convictions of his own, fair in his dealings with others, have respect for authority, but not the type to cringe before or court favor with authority. In exhibiting scholarship grades alone cannot be used as the criterion of measurement. The type should exhibit this quality further by showing the ability to master facts and interpret them into application for practical situations. Perseverance should be exhibited by the tendency of plugging ahead in face of obstacles. The tendency to keep pushing forward despite difficulties until the aims have been accomplished. The type should show the quality of

uplift by having interest in any activity that tends to make for the improvement of the well being of individuals and society.

The fraternity does not make men. Men make Omega. Therefore it is imperative that careful observation be undertaken before a prospect be taken “across the burning sands to the mystic shrine of Omega”. The fraternity can never be better than its constituents. If the fraternity is to promote manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift, the type of men taken into it must possess these qualities and it is up to the Omega men to see to it that these men are the possessors of these qualities before they are made into the fraternity for once he is made there is no “turning out.”

If brotherhood is to be made realistic in the realm of Omega it must recruit men who have the trait of open-fair-mindedness and a desire and appreciation of fellowship.

The Omega type is not something to be loosely considered, but rather something that must gain our most serious attention. We must keep the standards of Omega high; we must keep Omega meaning something. Therefore it is essential that we determine if the prospect is the type that will build Omega to be what we want it to be.

Kappa Omega 103rd Achievement Week Program

Harrisburg, Pa. November 27, 2014. Harrisburg's Kappa Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. recently observed its 103rd annual Achievement Week Program. Achievement Week is a nationally mandated program whereby individual fraternity chapters highlight their community interaction and activities aimed at uplifting their community. The week's activities consisted of several events held at the chapter's fraternity house at 2020 State Street, including a Founder's Day social for the members of the chapter.

Other activities included a dinner held at the Blue Ridge Country Club 3940 Linglestown Rd. Harrisburg, Pa., which served as a venue to acknowledge and honor individual members of the fraternity, as well as community residents, in appreciation for their individual contributions towards uplifting the community.

Keynote speaker for this event was Brother Carlton Lampkins, 1st Vice District Representative of the 2nd District of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., who spoke on 'Leveraging Our Collective Resources for Maximum Impact'.

This year's honorees were; Citizen of the Year-Mr. Kaaba Brunson; Student of the Year-Soumaila Koudougou; Superior Service Award-Bro. Lonnie DeVan; Basileus Award-Bro. Curtis White; Chapter Service Award-Bro. Dennis Lumpkin; Colonel Charles Young Award-Bro. Eric Jackson;

Founders Award-Bro. Dr. George Love and Omega Man of the Year-Bro. James Randolph.

A special addition to this year's activities was the Chapter recognition and salute to chapter members who have served in the United States Armed Forces. A photo collage showing chapter members and their branches of service was prepared and bestowed by Bro. Jeffrey Kirkland. Achievement Week Committee Chairman Brother Anthony Steele said, "It is important to recognize the sacrifices our fraternity brothers have made over the years as well as their service to our country".

The culminating activity of the week was Chapter attendance at a local church service in reverence of the fraternity's strong spiritual underpinnings. In recognition of Kappa Omega's far-reaching membership and influence, which encompasses the entire central Pennsylvania region (Harrisburg, York and Lancaster), this year's service was held at Cornerstone Baptist Church in York, Pa. whose Pastor is the Reverend Mark Kears, a Kappa Omega brother. The leader of Kappa Omega Chapter, Basileus Garfield Jackson, Jr. said, "It is important as an organization to serve and uplift our community, and Achievement Week activities help the chapter and the community focus on and appreciate our yearlong community interactions".

Omicron Iota Annual Holiday Scholarship & Achievement Dinner Dance



Brothers of Omicron Iota congratulating Mrs. Vera Cheek, Omicron Iota 2014 Citizen of the Year

New Rochelle, NY. December 2014. Omicron Iota Chapter hosted its Annual Holiday Scholarship & Achievement Dinner Dance at the Davenport Country Club in New Rochelle, NY on Friday, December 12th. It was "an evening of celebration", as the honorees were recognized for their accomplishments and unselfish dedication to the betterment of the Westchester County community. During the past year, all the individuals and organizations demonstrated strong commitments to one or more of the four cardinal principles of Omega - MANHOOD, SCHOLARSHIP, PERSISTENCE and UPLIFT. In addition, all the proceeds from this signature event enables the Chapter to award scholarships to high school students throughout Westchester County; who have expressed a desire to continue their education, demonstrated high academic achievement and shown a need for financial assistance.

The honorees for the evening included Omicron Iota's Brother Robert Harris, who was selected as Omega Man of the Year for his outstanding service to the Chapter. The Scholarship Awardees were mentioned, as they

received scholarships totaling \$4,000 at the beginning of the Fall 2014 semester for their outstanding academic achievements. The students recognized were Kinsley McNutly from Yonkers HS (Attending: Yale University), Charles King from New Rochelle HS (Attending: Emory University) and Aaron Harewood from New Rochelle HS (Attending: Hofstra University). The Perseverance Award was presented to Westchester Pan-Hellenic Council for their 20+ years of social and educational programs in Westchester County. The Uplift Award was presented to Mr. Derrick James who serves as the Director of Vocal Studies at New Rochelle High School in New Rochelle, NY and has been a big supporter of the Chapter's Talent Hunt Program for the past four years. Mrs. Vera Cheek was awarded The Citizen of the Year Award, as the House III Principal at New Rochelle High School in New Rochelle, NY, she has been an instrumental part of the success in our Young Achiever's Mentoring Program which is an enrichment program to encourage excellence and prepare students for their transition from high school to college.

Corridor IV Health Care Initiative



2nd District 1st Vice DR., Carlton Lampkins, Corridor IV Rep. Bro. Delrecole Gales & Eta Pi Basileus, Bro. Keith Pressey, accept award for Corridor IV chapters

New York, NY. February 25, 2015. The Affordable Care Act of 2010 requires that all Americans be insured for basic health care by certain dates each year or they must pay a fine, as outlined by this federal legislation. In spite of all efforts to help people sign up for Obamacare, the unofficial name given to this law, many are still out of compliance.

As a part of their health and wellness agenda, many chapters in Corridor IV of the Second District, prompted by Bro. Keith Pressey, Basileus, Eta Pi Chapter and Bro. Delrecole Gales, Corridor IV Representative, embarked on a journey to get as many people as possible in the State of New Jersey to enroll in an insurance plan during the open season for Obamacare by hosting Affordable Care events in their communities. All together, eight chapters, in collaboration with the Region II Office of the federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families, held health care events between January 31, 2015, and February 12, 2015, in their communities. The chapters involved were Eta Pi, Nu Lambda Lambda, Tau Mu, Lambda Upsilon, Upsilon Phi, Upsilon Alpha, Beta Iota Iota, and Chi Upsilon. Not only were they focused on getting people to sign up for health insurance, they also provided the opportunity

for community members to participate in health screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, etc.

The result of this collaborative effort was more than 150 newly insured households. In addition, each of the chapters involved, along with Second District leadership, Bro. Milton D. Harrison, 34th District Representative and Bro. Dr. Carlton Lampkins, First Vice District Representative, received recognition from HHS during its 4th Annual Federal Inter-Agency Celebration of National African American History Month on Wednesday, February 25, 2015, at the Javits Federal Building in New York City. Bros. Pressey, Gales, and Lampkins accepted the crystal award for Corridor IV. The Department of HHS demonstrated much appreciation for the brothers of the Second District, and they are looking forward to expanding our partnership to include other chapters in all of our corridors. Needless to say, Corridor IV and its leadership are to be commended for providing uplift to our needy communities. Let's expand this project to include every corridor in the Second District. What a great example of "Uplift" to our communities!!!



Omicron Iota Black History Month Program

Mount Vernon, N.Y. Feb. 2015 On Wednesday, February 18, 2015 the Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. - Omicron Iota Chapter presented an exciting Black History Internet Scavenger Hunt Program in Mount Vernon, NY. The purpose was to share greater awareness of the many accomplishments of African Americans inventors that students lack knowledge of, such as Brother Dr. Charles Drew who perfected the use of blood plasma, Mr. Percy Julian who discovered the use of foam to extinguish fires and Ms. Patricia Bath who developed the device which quickly and nearly painlessly dissolves cataracts with a laser, just to name a few.

The program started with questions given by the Brothers about inventions or inventor's names and the students had to research the answers via the Internet. Although, the program was initially developed for the children of the Mount Vernon Youth Bureau, it was so well received that the parents became engaged. A lively dialogue began creating interest and enthusiasm between the adults and youth demonstrating the importance of identifying, communicating, and relating to the achievements of African Americans. After the program, parents let us know that they will continue building on the program by promoting more of the contributions of African Americans

Mu Nu Game Changer Mentoring Conference for Young Males



Mu Nu Brothers at the Game Changer Conference with Young Males

Montgomery County, Md. March 28, 2015. Mu Nu Chapter hosted the 4th Annual Game Changer Conference for Young Males at the University of Shady Groves. Over 450 young males from elementary school thru high school age attended this event. Brother Donald Williams, Chair of Mu Nu Social Action Committee, organized this event. This focused one day conference featured a series of workshops geared towards elementary, middle school and high school students. Workshops covered such topics as criti-

cal thinking, image and stereotypes, study skills, team building and crucial communications. Montgomery College, Montgomery County Public Schools and a coalition of churches in Montgomery County assisted as co-sponsors. Notable speakers included Mu Nu Chapter Basileus Clarence Thomas, and Montgomery County Council Chair, Craig Rice. Popular presenters amongst the children included Mu Nu brothers Donnell Boykin and Walter Neighbors Esq.

Mu Nu Brothers Attend White House Black History Discussion

Washington DC. February 10, 2014. Brothers Robert Jamison and Paul Scott of Mu Nu Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. along with Omega men from other chapters attended a Black History Panel Discussion that was held at the White House. This event was organized with the assistance of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) and featured a discussion on domestic policy initiatives that

have been key highlights of President Barack Obama. The moderator of the panel discussion was Daryl Scott, Ph.D., National President of ASALH. The discussion topics were, The Administrations Legacy on Education, The Administration Legacy on Women and Gender, Progress on the Problem of Mass Incarceration and the Historic Importance of the Affordable Health Care Act.

Mu Nu MLK Day of Service

Monday, January 19, 2015. Mu Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. sponsored its annual community Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. Mu Nu Chapter along with the Montgomery County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. cosponsored and held this event at the Silver Spring Civic Building. Many other community organizations attended and participated in various other service activities to benefit veterans, prisoners and schools in foreign countries. This event allowed hundreds of Montgomery County Md. residents to celebrate the national holiday honoring the life and work of Dr. King by coming together and assisting in the various service activities that were held in downtown Silver Spring.

Mu Nu chapter's service project was geared towards the Carroll House Shelter for Men in Silver Spring, Maryland. Mu Nu efforts were focused

on organized and collecting items to create transitional package to help men transition from temporary housing shelter to permanent housing. Mu Nu Chapter was successful in preparing 62 transitional packages which were delivered to Carroll House.

With this being one of the first service projects in the New Year, "Mighty" Mu Nu Chapter enthusiastically set a benchmark for the rest of the year to follow. We showed our support in honoring Dr. Martin Luther King with a day 'on' not a day 'off'. We showed our support for the men at the Carroll House Men's Shelter. We showed our support for the Silver Spring Civic Building in hosting this event. We showed our support for our Social Action efforts at "Mighty" Mu Nu Chapter. And furthermore... we showed our support for 'Omega Dear' on this noble project!

Omicron Iota “Black Lives Matter” Forum



Omicron Iota Brother moderating “Black Lives Matter” Forum

Mt. Vernon, NY. February 20, 2015. The Brothers of Omicron Iota Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Westchester County, NY came together to discuss the fate of our young men in the City of Mount Vernon, NY at the Friendship Worship Center. We were joined in the discussion by the citizens of Mount Vernon, NY Community Police Outreach Division and their Commissioner, Brother Bishop C. Nathan Edwers, Mount Vernon City Councilman Brother Yuhanna Edwards, Brother Basileus Larren Joseph and a host of respectable members and elected officials from the community.

The focus of the discussion was to bring young Black men together with the officers of the Mount Vernon Police Department (MVPD) in a non-hostile environment and give them the opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns regarding their experiences with MVPD. The discussion focused on how we could better the relationship of the Police Department and the

young black males in the community. To address the immediate concerns of some in attendance, MVPD officers explained in detail how to go about filing an official complaint against officers you felt treated you unfairly or violated your rights. This discussion was very heated and passionate as various examples were detailed by citizens who felt they had been wronged. To their credit, MVPD took the time to address all concerns and agreed to incorporate some of the suggestions into their Community Policing Program. Furthermore, the officers requested that this just not be a one shot deal, but that we come together often to further discuss the concerns in the community with the youth and adults in this type of community based forum. We look forward to continuing this new, but ongoing process as we continue to try and enlighten the young men and residents of the Mount Vernon community.

Omicron Iota Young Achievers Program



Omicron Iota Brothers and the Westchester County Links with the Young Achievers Program Participants

Omicron Iota Founders Day Brunch



Omicron Iota Brothers at the Founders Day Brunch

Mount Vernon, NY. November 15th, 2014 - Omicron Iota Chapter hosted our 3rd Annual Founder's Day Brunch at the Friendship Worship Center in Mt. Vernon, NY. It was a time to pause and reflect on the vision of our Founders. The theme for the event was "Saluting the Past, Celebrating the Moment & Anticipating Our Future".

Men of Omega from chapters throughout Westchester, Rockland, the New York City metropolitan areas and southern Connecticut, sixty-five in total, attended. The program began with the recognition of four Brothers that epitomize the four cardinal principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift. These Brothers were selected as the Founder Stand-ins for their outstanding work in their communities and many years of service in Omega. They were Bro. John Reavis initiated in Delta Gamma Chapter 1956, Bro. Fredrick A. Staton initiated in Lambda Psi Chapter 1963, Bro. Leslie Wyche initiated in Chi Chapter 1966 and Bro. Kevin Woodhouse initiated in Nu Psi Chapter 1975. They shared their stories about what

Omega has done for them. Before presenting these Brothers with medals and appreciation certificates, Omicron Iota Basileus Larren Joseph stated "these are recognized leaders in their communities with diverse stories of how they made it to where they are today and there's one common denominator – Perseverance; which they learned as Omega men".

The keynote speaker, Bro. Greg Burnett (Kappa Chapter '80) and the current International Community and Civic Affairs Chairman stayed true to the theme of the program by taking the Brothers on a journey of his past, present and future aspirations related to the Fraternity. Brothers were able to cheerfully reminisce, but the rousing speech also left many thinking how can we continue and repeat those great memories. The Brothers were once again recharged by Bro. Kevin Woodhouse, 2nd District 5th Corridor Representative, who executed the rededication ceremony.

The afternoon was then capped off with an exquisite brunch and Brothers reflecting on their love of Omega.

Omicron Iota Young Achievers Program

New Rochelle, New York. Oct. 2014 – Jan. 2015. The Men of Omicron Iota Chapter in partnership with the Westchester County Links, Inc. has continued to build on their Young Achievers Program at New Rochelle High School in New Rochelle, NY. The program has expanded from one semester to the whole school year. In addition, the number of mentees doubled from twenty students to forty, which exceeded the program's expectation after just one year. The overall goal to encourage excellence in young men and to ease the transition from high school to college has stayed the same; the workshops will continue to provide a comprehensive enriching experience for students to engage in thought provoking dialogue, develop life skills, and help them to become well-rounded. Here is a recap of what's been accomplished thus far:

Omicron Iota hosted a workshop to prepare the young men for an upcoming College Fair. During the workshop, men-tees received information on the types of questions to ask the college representatives and received a floor layout of the locations of all the colleges that would be present. This was done to help maximize their planning on the schools they wanted to visit. On Oct. 22, 2014, the Brothers of Omega escorted thirty students via bus to the Westchester County Center in White Plains, N.Y which gave the students an opportunity to visit over 120 colleges that were present at the College Fair. In addition to seeing representatives from schools they would like to attend, they also were given information on school financing and testing services.

The next workshop on December 15, 2014, Omicron Iota hosted a Career Day for the Young Achievers at New Rochelle High School. Forty students attended and the panel included Omega men and respected professionals

from a variety of fields. West Point Military Academy Cadet Bro. Carlton Blake had a discussion on becoming involved in the Armed Services, Brother Curtis Woods, D.P.W. Commissioner for the City of Mount Vernon, spoke on careers in the field of Engineering, Bro. J. Kendall Smalls, a Biologist/Researcher, talked about fields in Intro Vitro Fertilization (IVF) and Scientific Research, Mr. Tarik Bell, an NYC Educator shed some light on fields in Education and lastly, Sony Music Executive Mr. Yassiel Davis explained about some opportunities that are available in the Music Industry. The entire group of panelist, gave a brief summary of their academic backgrounds starting in high school and there extracurricular activities to support how they arrived at their current positions.

On January 8th, 2015 it was about life lessons for young men featuring a workshop on "How to Engage with Law Enforcement." This workshop was conducted by Bro. Alfonso Morrell; a retired New Rochelle Police Officer who gave the young men guidance on how to deal with law enforcement, if they encounter the police. The icebreaker question to the young men was "How do you feel when you see a police officer?" The question provided a very thought provoking varied response from the students. After a lengthy discussion, Bro. Morrell provided the group with instructions on how to carry themselves and examples on things that may provoke more scrutiny by law enforcement. The young men asked a lot of questions and some provided personal experiences to the group which was encouraged so they could be addressed by Bro. Morrell.

As the Young Achievers Program continues on during the school year, here are some of our upcoming workshops: Financial Literacy, Public Speaking, Man to Man Sessions and How to Interview for a Job.

Omicron Iota Darren Joseph President's Volunteer Service Award



White Plains, NY.

March 24, 2015. Congratulations to Omicron Iota's KRS Bro. Darren Joseph (1-87-OI) who received the 2015 President's Volunteer Service Award for the second year in row and is one of the highest honors a volunteer can receive in the United States! This is a prestigious national honor bestowed on Americans

who dedicated at least 100 hours of community service to their communi-

ties. The President of the United States, the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation issues this honor in gratitude for sustained community service over the past year. Bro. Joseph, a Network Infrastructure Engineer at American Telephone and Telegraph (AT&T) Laboratory, has been active in numerous social action programs throughout Westchester County, NY with Omicron Iota Chapter. In addition, as Commissioner of the Pop Warner Danbury Athletic Youth Organization Football League in Danbury, CT, where he resides, he is a mentor and has inspired many young men to go on to higher education.

During the week of April 12, 2015 – National Volunteer Week – the AT&T Community Engagement Team will present Bro. Joseph with a personalized certificate of achievement, a congratulatory letter from the President of the United States and an official President's Award pin. With that in mind, Omicron Iota Chapter once again congratulates our Brother on his commitment to our Founder's vision of service; and making our communities stronger, one neighborhood at a time.



Upsilon Phi Memorial Service



Upsilon Phi Wives and Widows in attendance at the Memorial Service

Newark, NJ. March 15, 2015. The Upsilon Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. held its memorial service program, conducted from the ritual public service format, at Abyssinian Baptist Church in Newark, New Jersey on March 15, 2015. Warm condolences were extended to the families of our recently departed chapter brothers to sincerely convey the message that neither they nor their families have been forgotten. The public program also allowed for wives and other family members to interact and celebrate the legacy of their loved one. The program, which began with breakfast and fellowship, observed the practice of two of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.'s Cardinal Principals — Manhood and Uplift. Our program celebrated the brothers, wives and families who are listed below. As a token of love, the women were presented with corsages beautifully laced with personalized purple and gold ribbons.

The following brothers' ascendance into Omega Chapter was memorialized: Robert "Bob" Wilson, Solomon Samuel Johnson, Jr., William C. Brummell Esq., Dr. Pearly H. Hayes Jr., and Hosea H. Smith, "To the Stars through Perseverance". We were delighted to have the participation of the distinguished Rev. Dr. Christopher T. Curry, Immediate Past Grand Chaplain, who delivered a stirring sermon "Talking and Listening to God." Following his sermon, Rev. Curry facilitated the "Dialogue of Friendship" for the brotherhood. We also were favored with the presence of State Representative Brother Delrecole Gales, whose remarks lifted our motto "Friendship is Essential to the Soul." The Upsilon Phi Chapter wishes to thank members of the Memorial Service Committee — Brother William H. L. Oliver (Chairman), Brother Zinnerford Smith, and Rev. Dr. James C. Wilkerson, for outstanding heartfelt service.

Omicron Iota Receive Grant for STEM Mentoring Program



Bro. Darren Joseph with students on the Liberty Science Center Field Trip

Mount Vernon, NY – February 3, 2015. Omicron Iota Chapter received a \$2,500 grant from the Mt. Vernon Youth Bureau to start the “Uplifting Minds” Mentoring Program. The program is designed to engage young male students’ ages 9 to 12 in meaningful, purposeful and relevant S.T.E.M (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) activities to inspire, challenge and help expand their knowledge in these fields. The Chapter will hold monthly workshops that focus on STEM education, research projects on STEM themes and STEM extra-curricular activities.

The goal is to provide a quality educational experience for students that ensure creativity and inventive thinking through a focus on science, mathematics and technology. An important dimension of this goal is to increase

the participation of groups that are underrepresented in the sciences, especially Blacks, Hispanics, and low-income students who don’t get exposure to STEM during the early stages of their education. Bro. Basileus Larren Joseph stated “in order for our students to be competitive in the future we have to expose them to these fields as early as possible.”

The Chapter will determine if our goals are met and evaluate the effectiveness of the program by pre and post-test measures using questionnaires, tests of knowledge, and other assessment tools.

So far the students enjoyed a field trip to the Liberty Science Center in New Jersey and had a hands-on Science and Technology Fair with the Brothers.

Kappa Chapter Project G.R.I.N.D. Mentorship Program



Kappa Chapter Project G.R.I.N.D. Participants

Syracuse, NY. February 11, 2015. Bro. David L. Jackson alongside the Project G.R.I.N.D (Greatness. Resides. In. Nonstop. Dedication) mentoring program host the first annual “LoveSome1” workshop on the campus of Syracuse University, the workshop was put on in an effort to redefine the definition of love among students, love was viewed through lenses of

support, accountability, and progression for the minority on campus. The Project G.R.I.N.D mentoring program was Co-founded by Bro. David L. Jackson and fellow Posse Scholars in the spring of 2014, the mentorship program is dedicated to the mental, physical, and professional enhancement of young men throughout the Syracuse city school district..

Kappa Chapter 93rd Anniversary



Kappa Chapter Brothers at the 93rd Anniversary

Syracuse, NY. February 21st, 2015. The Brothers of Kappa Chapter celebrated 93 years on the campus of Syracuse University, the anniversary banquet brought brothers out from five different generations spanning from the 70's, to recent Fall 2014 initiate. The event served as not only a milestone for Kappa chapter, but a chance to reconnect brothers to

Omega, several brothers made commitments of becoming more involved with the undergrad brothers on campus. Keynote speaker George Kilpatrick of the Chi Pi grad chapter spoke on the importance of Friendship, and what it means to serve Omega throughout or everyday endeavors.

Kappa Chapter Fatherhood Initiative “Building Men Workshop”



Kappa Chapter Brothers and participants at the Building Men Workshop

Syracuse, NY. March 2, 2015. The Brothers of Kappa chapter actively participate in a “Building Men Workshop” at local middle school Danforth, hosted by the Juvenile Urban Multicultural Program, a program founded on the campus of Syracuse University to decrease high school dropout rates, while increasing the enrollment into institutions of high-

er education by creating a bridge for Syracuse University Students into the Syracuse Community. During the workshop brothers Stress the importance of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift pertaining to overall longevity and sustainability in society. Brothers were awarded with mugs by the young men of Danforth, as tokens of their appreciation.

Kappa Chapter Activities

Neighborhood Youth Recreation Program

Syracuse, NY. Spring 2015. Throughout the Spring 2015 semester Brothers of Kappa Chapter have volunteered at the Neighborhood Youth Recreation Program at Syracuse University. The NYRP was created to give youth in the Syracuse community the chance, regardless of where they stand financially, to engage in organized recreational activities. The program also offers classes that both children and their parents can participate in as well such as salsa dancing and yoga. Brothers participated in a range of activities with the kids such as basketball and soccer. This program is very vital for the youth in the Syracuse community, because not only are they learning the fundamentals of activities like basketball, but they are also gaining interpersonal skills that will benefit them in life of the courts.



Kappa Chapter Brothers at the NYRP

The Undergraduate Summit

Atlanta, Georgia. Saturday January 24, 2015. Kappa Chapter Bro. David L. Jackson (left), alongside Bro. Grand Antonio F. Knox, Sr., and Omega Delta Delta Bro. Jamal Williams (right), during the 2015 International Undergrad Summit. During the summit brothers were not only encouraged, but empowered to redefine what it means to be a man of Omega. This auspicious event, provided brothers with workshops to ensure ample success, within our future career endeavors, including resume building, professional dress, and interviewing techniques



Kappa Chapter Brothers with Grand Basileus Antonio Knox

Kappa & Chi Pi Chapters Participate at MLK Day Of Service



Kappa & Chi Pi Chapter Brothers at the MLK Day of Service

Syracuse, NY. January 19th, 2015. The Brothers of Kappa Chapter teamed with the brothers of the Chi Pi Grad Chapter for the 15th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Clothing and Canned Food Drive in Syracuse, New York. The drive is put on by United Way of central New York in remembrance of the civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Brothers along with other organizations and members of the Syracuse community boxed clothing and food donations. The collected goods were

then packed and redistributed to various shelters, churches, and groups around the area. At the Peak of wintertime in Syracuse, this clothing and canned food drive is essential for many underprivileged families in the community. In an effort to commemorate the strides of Dr. King It's important to remember the necessities of giving back to our community, through unselfish deeds.

Xi Phi & Epsilon Black College Tour



Participants at the Xi Phi & Epsilon Black College Tour

New York, NY. March 2015. Men of Omega continue to build upon the tradition of greatness set before them, specifically, the brothers from the Second District's Xi Phi chapter and the Sixth District's Epsilon Gamma Gamma chapters. Together the chapters have impacted the lives of urban youth through the New York City Omega Black College Tour.

As part of an annual program, Xi Phi takes upwards of ninety high school students on a tour of 15 Historically Black Colleges and Universities along the east coast. Through strategic partnerships, Xi Phi has been able to connect with Epsilon Gamma Gamma, the local chapter in Greenwood, South Carolina to teach scholars about the legacy of Omega Man, Dr. Benjamin Elijah Mays.

Through this alliance between the two chapters, students visited the Dr. Mays Historic Site. While there scholars learned about Dr. Mays' experience at the Brick House School, a one-room building, where he received his early education. Many of the students expressed how moved they were when they discovered that finishing his high school career meant leaving his home and defying his father's wishes for him to drop out and work on their family farm. Epsilon Gamma Gamma brothers served as tour guides. These educated teenagers toured the home of Dr. Mays and were surprised to learn that Dr. Mays lived without things such as indoor plumbing, electricity, and central heating and air conditioning.

The partnership between Xi Phi and Epsilon Gamma Gamma is proof

positive of Omega Men continuing to fulfill Omega's cardinal principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift. Dr. Mays' example provides the children with a powerful account of how one's strength of character can support their development into an upstanding man or woman. Mays' commitment to his education communicates the importance of Scholarship as an avenue to transform one's life. Brother Mays' challenging of racism shows how steadfast enthusiasm can assist one in achieving near-impossible feats, such as earning a doctorate degree in an era of extreme Segregation and racial discrimination. And his continued service through such avenues as the Atlanta Public School System and Morehouse College exhibit his dedication to the African American community. Dr. Mays exemplifies the deep connection and sense of duty all Omega Men exude in order to uplift people of color.

Epsilon Gamma Gamma's chapter member, Brother Joseph Patton is the Site Director of the Benjamin E. Mays Center. His selfless and continued support of this historic site ensures that people from all over the country will know about the life of Dr. Benjamin E. Mays. The brothers of these chapters through this third annual visit to the Benjamin Mays Historic Site reveal the importance of passing the history of moral African Americans in the United States. Through a sustained partnership between Xi Phi and Epsilon Gamma Gamma, the men of Omega will continue changing the lives of youth and the world at large.

Eta Mu Nu Social Action Projects

Bloomsburg, PA. February 21, 2015. The Brothers of Eta Mu Nu Graduate Chapter hosted and participated in three great service projects. The Bloomsburg Chapter of the NAACP partnered with the Eta Mu Nu Brothers and held a successful Voter Registration drive. 58 new voter registrations were signed up and an additional 25 were given out. Next, brothers donated 6 months' worth of essential toiletries to an area Domestic Violence Shelter. Brothers have pledged to donate even more next year. Finally, brothers hosted a fundraiser for the chapter and for our sponsored nationally recognized mentoring program called Youth Step. Youth Step USA, which is a Non Profit 501(c) (3) Youth Sports Organization. Youth Step USA Program is offered to youth ages 8 through 18. Since 1999 over 40,000 youths, in 17 states, have participated in Youth Step USA Mentoring, Literacy, Stepping, Physical Fitness, Parenting Workshops and College Bound Program(s). I am proud to say that Youth Step and Eta Mu Nu Chapter will effect change in the lives of over 5, 000 young people this year from 17 states, from varied backgrounds. Our next big event with Youth Step will be in Harrisburg, Pa on May 22 and 23 2015, when over \$15, 000 of prize money will be awarded to the country's top Middle School and High School Stepping Champions.



Ets Mu Nu Brothers deliver toiletries to a Domestic Violence Shelter

Lambda Upsilon Host Healthcare Enrollment Drive



Lambda Upsilon Brothers and Volunteers at the Healthcare Enrollment Drive

Paterson, NJ. January 2015. The Men of Lambda Upsilon Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. in partnership with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Administration for Children and Families, Paterson Team H.O.P.E. and Assemblyman Benjie E. Wimberly recently hosted a Healthcare Enrollment Drive in Paterson. As part of its internationally mandated programs, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. coordinates activities that promote good health practices.

This program is one of many Enrollment Drives that took place at locations in East Orange, Irvington and Jersey City by various chapters of Omega

Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Each chapter has been challenged to “Leverage Their Collective Resources for Impact”. Through the fraternity’s Health and Wellness Initiative, Chairperson Anthony Hayes and the fraternity’s State Representative, Delrecole Gales coordinated this Enrollment Drive.

Residents were given the opportunity to speak with Certified Application Counselors trained to help applicants review, understand and compare all options and costs. Through our efforts, Lambda Upsilon was able to register those in need of valuable health insurance.

Nu Omicron Kings of Queens Who Cook



Nu Omicron Brothers participating at the Kings of Queens Who Cook Event

Queens, New York. February 2015. The Brothers of Nu Omicron Chapter of Queens, NY hosted their 2nd Annual “The Kingss of Queens Who Cook”. It was held at the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated, Early Childhood Education Center (ECEC).

Brothers prepared succulent dishes such as Baked Salmon, Chili, Chicken, Pasta dishes, and various types of desserts. Brothers even made sure vegan dishes were prepared. The event was attended by brothers from various chapters of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in addition to members of

other organizations in the metro NYC area, family, and friends.

Brother Robert Stevens, Event chairman, stated, “The event served as an excellent opportunity for the brothers of Nu Omicron chapter to show off their culinary skills, re-connect, as well as to meet and mingle with the children and the parents of ECEC.”

The proceeds from the event will be directed toward the ECEC and the chapter’s Social Action programs in the Queens community.

Lambda Upsilon Talent Hunt Competition



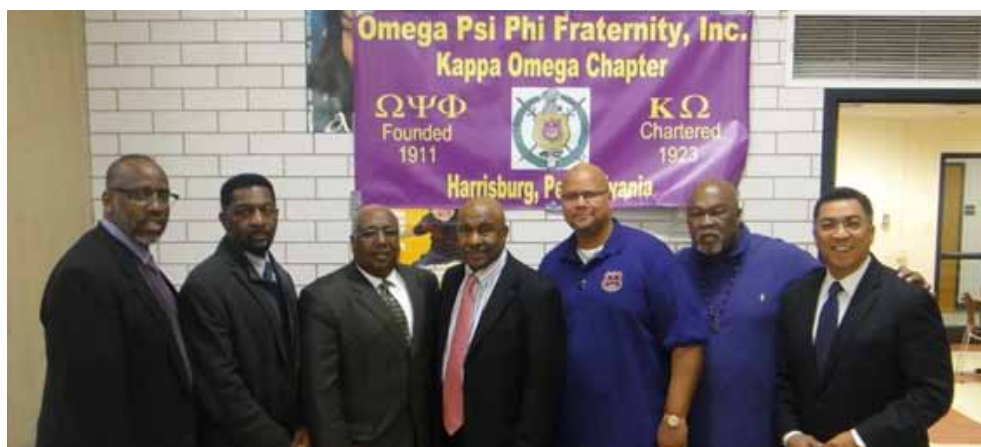
Lambda Upsilon Brothers with Talent Hunt Winner Mi-Angle McKenzie

Paterson, NJ. Saturday March 14, 2015. The Men of Lambda Upsilon Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Hosted the 2015 Talent Hunt at Rosa L. Parks School of Fine and Performing Arts. As part of its internationally mandated programs, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. provides exposure, encouragement and financial assistance to talented young people participating in performing arts. The categories for the event were classical instrumental, classical voice, contemporary instrumental, contemporary voice, dance, dramatic interpretation and visual arts. This year's Talent Hunt consisted of 12 participants'. The audience enjoyed the talent on display by the young vocal and dramatic interpretation

artist. The participant's all showcased the hard work and determination they put in to prepare for the competition. Many of this year's participant's are students at Rosa L. Parks.

The 2015 Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Lambda Upsilon Chapter Talent Hunt was won by Mi-Angel McKenzie. Mi-Angel impressed the judges with her rendition of Whitney Houston's I Will Always Love You. Mi-Angel will compete at the 2nd District Conference on May 2nd at Dwight Morrow High School in Englewood, NJ. In addition to winning a cash prize, Mi-Angel also received a gift bag from Lambda Upsilon Chapter.

Kappa Omega Chapter Support Career Education Seminar



KO Bros. George Fitch, Mack White, Howard Sheppard, Arthur Dickerson, Joe Farthing, Jeffrey Kirkland, and Ron Martin

York, Pa. February 21, 2015. Members of Kappa Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. traveled to William Penn Sr. High School in York, Pa. to support York Brothers in organizing and presenting a Career Education Seminar designed to provide an opportunity for community youth to interact with and learn helpful career information from successful, professional Black Men from various careers.

There were over 35 different career tracts represented during the seminar, many of which the young people in attendance were unfamiliar with. Careers represented by Omega men in attendance included, Brother Joe Farthing representing Pa. State Police Executive Protection Department, Brother Arthur Dickerson electrical engineering, Brother Kerry Kirkland representing private consulting, Brothers Ron Martin and Howard Sheppard representing the news media, Brother Clovis Gallon teaching, Brother Mack White Social worker, Brother Jeffrey Kirkland politics and teaching and Brother George Fitch school administration.

This outreach by the Brothers of Kappa Omega to the York community is

part of the chapter's effort to broaden its sphere of influence by providing uplift to all of the communities in the Central Pennsylvania area. The demographics, issues and social, economic and educational concerns are identical in communities across the region. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity itself is a historically Black fraternal organization that provides and promotes programs of social-, cultural- and economic uplift to the communities we serve and so we feel our initiative is also helping to further the aims of the National organization as well as our chapter goals.

The seminar itself was conceptualized around the participation of successful Black men because we believe it is only through the participation of accomplished, successful Black men that the destabilizing issues crippling many of our communities will be successfully addressed and resolved.

The York community welcomed and thanked the Omega men for their support and uplift and hope this is just the beginning of a fruitful, productive partnership.

Kappa Omega Chapter Support Student Mentoring Program



Kappa Omega Brothers with students of the B. T. Express Afterschool Mentoring Program

York, Pa. March 7, 2015. Members of Kappa Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. were instrumental in organizing and facilitating a Young Black Male mentoring program in the city of York, Pa. The inaugural/kickoff event for the program involved escorting a group of 30 fourth and fifth grade male students on a trip to Temple University in Philadelphia. The students were picked by school district administrators, having been identified as particularly challenging students who were likely to respond positively to a mentoring experience with successful Black Men. Kappa Omega members Jeff Kirkland, Mack White, Burrell Whitworth and Kerry Kirkland were among the 15 men who chaperoned the young students on the trip. The journey began with the students being treated to a first class breakfast at the Shady Maple Smorgasbord, a world renown restaurant located in Lancaster, Pa. The students were very excited during the entire trip, as most of them had never experienced an adventure like this. During the trip we talked to the students about the benefits of a "Fraternity" of men. We talked about our fraternity being based on a foundation of friendship and the cardinal principles of Manhood, Scholarship,

Perseverance and Uplift and how these principles could help them in their everyday approach to life.

As we arrived in Philadelphia we handed each student a T shirt donated by the BT Express After-school Tutorial Program, an organization founded by Kappa Omega member Kerry Kirkland and his wife. We attempted to impress upon them the idea and strength of a fraternity by letting them know when they put on the T shirt they were creating a fraternity of kindred spirits and would expected to ascribe to the principles of Responsibility, Leadership and Character in their school and life experiences.

Upon arriving in Philadelphia we were escorted on a tour of Temple University's inner-city campus by Black male Temple students after which we attended a basketball game between Temple and the University of Connecticut. The topics of conversations on the return trip really illustrated how successful the experience was in impressing the young students of the opportunities which exist outside of our community and the need to set and pursue higher goals for themselves.



Nu Omicron BlaQ Saturday “A ThanksQiving Tradition”

Queens, New York. November 30, 2013 The Brothers of Nu Omicron Chapter of Queens, NY hosted its second annual “BLAQ SATURDAY: A New ThanksQiving Tradition” party. It was held at Redemption Sports bar located in Midtown, Manhattan.

The event was attended by various chapters of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in the metro NYC area and the surrounding areas. Additionally, it was attended by various other Divine Nine organizations, family, and friends.

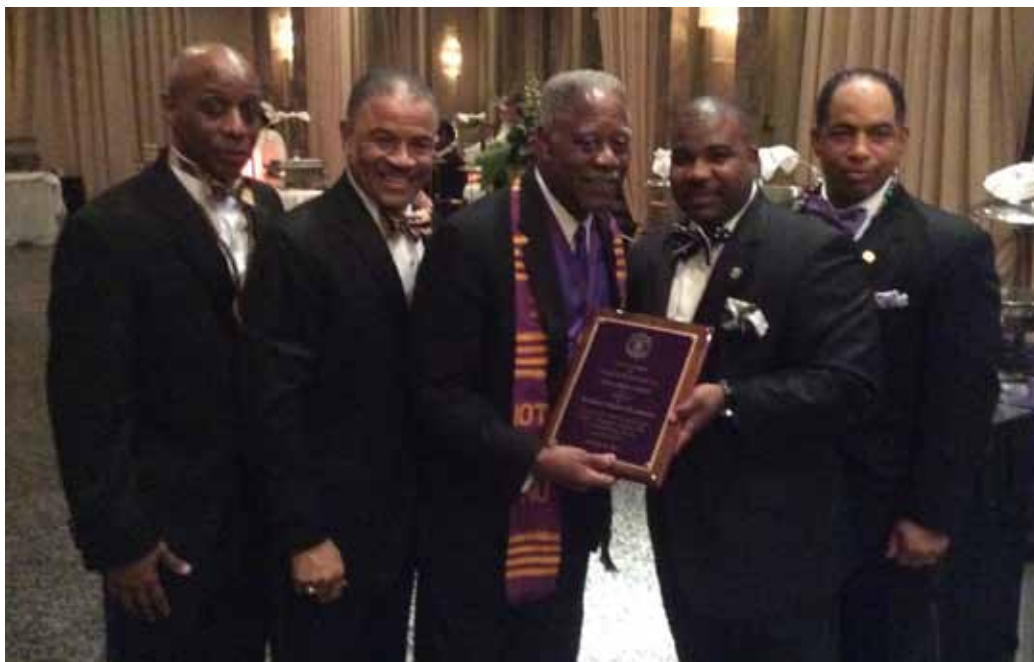
Proceeds from the event were donated toward Nu Omicron’s social action work in the Queens community and it’s Early Childhood Education Center. This includes helping provide scholarships for high school seniors, funding future events, community service projects, and other philanthropic efforts.

Upcoming events include The Que-Festival: Formal Gala which will be held on May 16 at the LaGuardia Marriott and Golf Tournament which will be held on June 13th.



Brothers socializing at the BlaQ Saturday event

Iota Nu Mardi Gras



Bro. Charles Alston receives 60 year award from Iota Nu Basileus Dwayne Adams

White Marsh, MD. February 28th, 2015. 2nd District, The Iota Nu Chapter of Omega psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD hosted its 39th Annual Mardi Gras Ball that benefits the chapter’s scholarship fund at Martin’s East in Middle River, MD. Despite having been postponed a week due to inclement weather, the event was attended by an enthusiastic crowd that enjoyed a night of dining, dancing and celebration of the highest order. This year marks the 45th anniversary of Iota Nu Chapter having been founded in 1970 by 18 Omega Men who previously had been associated with Pi Omega Chapter in Baltimore. They felt that enough Omega Men were living in Harford County or stationed at Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) to justify a chapter in the area. Since its inception and charter, Iota Nu has been at the forefront of community service and promoting scholarship in Harford County and the surrounding area. In the past 10 years, the chapter has awarded 50 scholarships to deserving high school students to assist them in their pursuit of college educations.

Among the dignitaries attending the event were the 2nd District 1st Vice District Representative, Bro. Carlton Lampkins; District Keeper of Records and Seal, Bro. Michael Littlejohn; President of the Harford County

NAACP, Ms. Zilpha Smith; APG Garrison Commander, COL Gregory McClinton; and Former Coach Johnny Brooks. The event also celebrated two founding members of the chapter, Bro. William Brown, a member of the Maryland State Hall of Fame and Bro. Charles Alston who also is celebrating 60 years in Omega (Mu Psi ’55). The guests were welcomed by Iota Nu Basileus, Bro. Dwayne Adams and Bro. W. Eugene Egerton, MD (Psi Delta ’75) served as emcee.

Guests were treated to a step show put on by the Iota Nu Hop Team and door prizes after enjoying a sumptuous meal prepared by the staff at Martin’s East. The evening concluded with dancing into the early morning hours. The Mardi Gras is the primary source of funding for the scholarships and serves as the hallmark event for Iota Nu. The chapter has grown to 62 brothers and continues to embellish itself as a leader in community service in the area. The chapter has an active social agenda that includes supporting veterans at the local VA Hospital, book donations to local libraries in Harford and Cecil counties, annual participation in Habitat for Humanity, support for Toys for Tots, Voter Registration programs and Omega Academy and Omega Teens Male Mentoring programs.

Iota Nu Book Dedication



Iota Nu Brothers at the Book dedication with Brother Rohulamin Quander (c) and Lisa Mittman (r)

Harford County, MD. Saturday February 7, 2015. The Iota Nu chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., conducted their annual Black History Month celebration by coordinating two book dedications at the Abingdon and Elkton Libraries. This year, Iota Nu showcased the book *50+ Omega Inspired Years, Tracing an Omega Legacy to 1931*, written by Brother Rohulamin Quander who was also the guest speaker for both programs. Brother Quander's speech was both educational and enlightening, outlining how he traced his family's history back more than 300 years to the likes of George Washington at his Mount Vernon Plantation. The history of his family runs deeply in the states of Maryland and Virginia. Lisa Mittman, Manager of Abingdon Library, replied, "It was great to see Iota Nu Saturday and to be able to attend the book dedication ceremony. I find the program informative and inspiring every year."

The program was open to community members in both counties. Willie Johnson, Manager of the Elkton Library, expressed his appreciation for Iota Nu taking the time to reach out to Elkton Library and looks forward to creating new programs in which Iota Nu and Cecil County can work in

partnership to better that community. These book dedications allowed Iota Nu to showcase a rich part of one family's story of passage and triumph through times of slavery and civil rights. This is one way to remind younger generations of the struggles which older generations had in order to ensure that today's young people would have more equitable opportunities and freedoms, regardless of race. "I have attended the book dedications for the last nine years, and every year I still look forward to what new book Iota Nu will present to the collection of books in the library", stated Mary Hastler, Harford County Public Library Chief Executive Officer.

In addition to highlighting this author's work, Iota Nu donated 18 copies of the book to these library branches. Melvin Adderley, Iota Nu Social Action Chair, expressed the importance of providing these libraries with literature that highlights the history of various cultures as a way of helping communities understand each other better. "To be able to go to another chapter, another district too, and to be so warmly welcomed was not a surprise in the least. After all, that is what Fraternity and Friendship, symbolized by our 20 Pearls, is all about", Brother Quander shared.

Omicron Chi Business & Career Development Roundtable

Plainfield, NJ. March 21, 2015. Brothers, family and friends of Omicron Chi Chapter were the beneficiaries of two recent business education and skills-building events organized by the chapter's Reclamation and Retention Committee through the Omega Business and Career Development Roundtable initiative.

In the first of a two-part business and career series, Brother Velton Showell provided Roundtable participants with an excellent seminar on sales techniques and strategies on February 21st, entitled: "Your Million Dollar Sales Success". Brother Showell, founder and CEO of Strategic Solutions, LLC, has led award-winning sales teams at Global Hyatt, Inter-Continental Hotels and Resorts and Starwood Hotels and Resorts and has authored the book, "Prospecting, The Key Your Future Success". Brother Showell was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity through Tau Zeta Chapter in 1980. In part two of the series, Ms. Emily Mitchell, CEO, The Accelerations Group 100, led a career seminar - "What the Recruiter Won't Tell You in 2015", on March 21. Ms. Mitchell shared her expertise as a Chief Career Coach and Strategist, providing attendees with an informative program focused on readiness for new job search, hiring trends, preparation for job interviews and post-interview action plans. Emily Mitchell's background includes tenure as a former talent acquisition executive for a Fortune 500 company.

"The impact on the audience of these outstanding forums has been tremendous", said Brother Jeff Blanchard, coordinator of the Roundtable



Emily Mitchell in consultation with Brother Delrecole Gales

Initiative. "I have seen real change take place in brothers as a result of the information shared in these sessions". The Brothers of Omicron Chi Chapter started these business and career work sessions in March 2014 to build the collective capacity for Brothers in the Fraternity to advance their business and career aspirations. Omega Business and Career Development Roundtable Winter Series meetings were held at Johnson & Johnson World Headquarters in New Brunswick, NJ.

Pi Omega Youth Leadership Conference



Bro. Jonathan Adkins-Taswell discusses benefits of community gardens with youth



Bro. Lamonte Tyler teaching self defense techniques

Baltimore, MD March 28, 2015. The Brothers of Pi Omega Chapter participated in The 4th Annual Taking it Back to Our ROOTs Student Leadership Conference which was held on the campus of John's Hopkins University. The Chief Visionary Officer for this event was Brother Juno Simmons. Brothers conducted self-defense for anti-bullying as well as benefits of community gardens and healthy alternatives. The youth were given platter pot soil and vegetable seeds. They discussed urban planning and community organization and how they could make a change. The aim for this event was for our students to walk away feeling empowered to be the catalyst for positive change in their communities so they can build a utopia of their own. Throughout the day, they learned to recognize their strengths and build their resumes so they have the tools they need to go on to college or obtain a job that excites them. The cost to the chapter was zero. Launched in 2012, Realizing Our Own Talents (R.O.O.T.s.) is an

opportunity for students graded 6 – 12 to engage in personal and professional development. The Brothers of Pi Omega have been involved with this program since its inception. The program started with 70 children in attendance. This year, there were over 1000 children in attendance. Prominent leaders from across Baltimore and the greater Maryland area facilitated sessions geared towards empowering students to be the catalyst for change in their communities. This year's keynote speaker was Brother Ozzie Newsome, general manager of the Baltimore Ravens, making him the first African-American to occupy that position in the NFL. He had previously been a front office executive with Ravens since 1996 and with the Browns from 1991 to 1995. Newsome earned his first Super Bowl ring when the Ravens defeated the New York Giants 34-7 in Super Bowl XXXV in 2001, and earned a second ring after the Ravens defeated the San Francisco 49ers in Super Bowl XLVII 34-31 in 2013.

Pi Omega Rules of Engagement for Black Males



Vice Basileus Dr. Ron Williams photos participants at the Rules of Engagement Event



Bros. Dwayne White, Dr. Gary Rodwell, Dr. Ron Williams and Fitz Devonish

Baltimore, MD. February 21, 2015. In an attempt to make a difference in the lives of young African American males, a few of the Divine Nines set a date to inform some and remind others that “black lives matter”. On Saturday February 21, 2015 the Baltimore Alumni Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Pi Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, and the Alpha Chapter of Iota Phi Theta Fraternity (along with their local Graduate Chapter) joined together to present a seminar designed to inform and empower young men in their relationships with law enforcement and people of authority. These Greek organizations were accompanied by an outstanding qualified panel of individuals who have or currently serve in some fashion or another in law enforcement: Moderator Patricia Jessamy (DST Sorority); Warren Brown, attorney at Law (Omega Psi Phi Fraternity); Lamont

Martin, Captain of Baltimore County Police Dept. (Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity); Gary G. Rodwell (Omega Psi Phi Fraternity); and two community service officers of Baltimore County Police Dept. Brother Fitz Devonish was our Photographer for the day.

There were over 60 young men present, discussing “how to respond when approached by an officer” and what rights you have. The event was proceeding well when the day was interrupted by about a foot of snow and forced us to end the event early. While everyone was disappointed by the shortened event, there will be an opportunity to complete that seminar and to prepare additional ones.

Social Action Chairman, Dwayne White spearheaded this event for Pi Omega Chapter.

Pi Omega 59th Annual Kelvin J. O'Neal Talent Hunt Competition



Talent Hunt Chair John Berkley with First Place Awardees

Baltimore, MD March 29, 2015. Pi Omega Chapter, Graduate Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., hosted its 59th Annual Bro. Kelvin J. O'Neal Talent Hunt Competition on Sunday March 29, 2015 at The Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture, located at 830 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD. sponsored by the Pi Omega Foundation, Inc.

The Talent Hunt demonstration was created in 1945 out of the Fraternity's Sixth District (North Carolina and South Carolina), and is one of the international projects of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Pi Omega has participated in this activity for over 50 years, and many of our talented high school youths have benefited from this project through all-expenses paid trips, U.S. Savings Bonds, trophies, certificates, print and televised media exposure.

Students from public and private schools in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and the surrounding area were involved in this year's competition. The winners were as follows: Vocal Classical: (1) Jaylyn Simmons (Baltimore School for the Arts), (2) Dije' Coxson (Baltimore School for

the Arts). Vocal Contemporary: (1) Trudi Henderson (Glenelg Country School), (2) Ashanti Jones (Milford Mill Academy). Instrumental Classical: (1) Aaron Parker (Edgewood High School), (2) Michael Fouty (Patterson High School). Instrumental Contemporary: (1) Isiah Lemons (Reservoir High School), (2) Joshua I. Fields (City Neighbors High School).

Ms. Jaylyn Simmons will represent Pi Omega Chapter at the District Talent Hunt Competition to be held at the 2015 67th Second District Conference. This year the conference will be held at the Marriott at Glenpointe in Teaneck, NJ the weekend of April 30 – May 3, 2015.

Upon returning from intermission seniors competing in the program for the last time were recognized. The Talent Hunt competition was renamed in 2011 following the death of Bro. O'Neal who was the Talent Hunt Chairman for over 20 years.

Bro. John Berkley served as the chairperson for the 59th Annual Bro. Kelvin J. O'Neal Talent Hunt. Bro. Ronald Williams did an outstanding job as MC for this event. Special thanks are extended to the Pi Omega Foundation for providing the funding for this year's competition.



Pi Omega Foundation Chair, Otho Thompson, Jaylyn Simmons and Pi Omega Basileus, C. Donald Bowser, Jr.



Guitarist Isiah Lemons displays his skills

Pi Omega 2015 Mardi Gras



Pi Omega Chapter at the Mardi Gras

Baltimore, MD. February 2015. Pi Omega Chapter celebrated its 64th annual Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball. This is the chapter's signature event and serves as our largest fundraiser for our annual scholarship fund. This year marked our fourth consecutive year in downtown Baltimore at the Baltimore Hyatt Regency hotel. In years past, this event was only a Saturday night event but thanks to the vision of good leadership, we now have a full weekend of events.

The weekend began with an exciting Grown and Sexy Friday night party. People, young and old, poured in the Hyatt Hotel ready to get their party on as Old School Productions kept the party jumping much to the delight of our guests and the Brothers. The anticipation of something amazing was buzzing in the air. Mid way through the night, Pi Omega's neophyte brothers of Three the Hard Way appeared and brought the house down with their first public step presentation as Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Big shout out to neophyte Brothers Jonathan Tazwell, Glen Washington

K'Ron Kranford who took the evening to another level of "Omega Good". Friday was the appetizer and the main course arrived Saturday. Some came in costume others in formal attire but all came ready to celebrate in the spirit of the Mardi Gras. The XPD Band got things started with live music as people were making their way in the event. Although the weather did not cooperate, the event was filled with nearly 800 guests. Among the guests were Baltimore City dignitaries as well as area chapter Basili. We had numerous door prizes with a signature raffle where the winner won a fur coat. Everyone could hardly wait for the traditional 2nd line Mardi Gras march as the costumes, beads and customary umbrellas were out in their finest. Just before the night kicked into high gear, the brothers came together for the singing of our beloved hymn and Atomic Dog moment. The remaining time of the night, Old School Productions again turned the lights down and let the music play.

Pi Omega Memorial Day Observance



Pi Omega Chapter at the Memorial Day Observance

Baltimore, MD. March 8, 2015. Pi Omega Chapter conducted the mandated Memorial Day Observance, was hosted at the Greater Faith Christian Ministries where Pi Omega's Chaplain, Rev. William Jeff Downing is pastor. The Brothers showed up in great numbers and packed the house as Rev. Downing welcomed and delivered an inspiring message.

In addition to the Brothers and the host church's congregation, the wives, sweethearts, and widows were also in attendance. Immediately following the morning worship, dinner was prepared for all as we engaged in food, fun, and fellowship. The Annual Memorial Day Observance was chaired by Brother Robert Hudley.

Pi Omega Social Action Initiatives

Sarah's Hope Luncheon

Baltimore, MD. December 14, 2014. Sarah's Hope, Mount Street provides 24-hour emergency shelter, case management and other support services for homeless women and children in the Sandtown-Winchester area of Baltimore City. On-site services include: intensive case management, meals, service linkage, life skills training, parenting classes, employment readiness, health screenings, public school enrollment, child and youth services and activities.

Pi Omega Chapter, in conjunction with The Maryland Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV), Sisters of Praise (SOP) from St. Gregory the Great Church, and the Pi Omega Que-ettes sponsored a Christmas party for the children at Sarah's Hope. The DMV contributed the toys for the project. The Missionary Circle from Macedonia Baptist Church provided baby items for the mothers. The Que-Ettes and SOP donated hats and scarves for the children and items for the mothers, and served lunch to the residents. The brothers from Delta Beta Chapter, Coppin State University, for the second year in a row, came out and performed a mini-show for the children and parents. As always, Santa Que was on hand to read a Christmas story and deliver toys to all of the children.



Santa Que reading to kids at Sarah's Hope Luncheon

Clothing and Feeding the Homeless

Washington, D.C. March 19, 2015. The Brothers of Pi Omega Chapter collected and donated a 42 gallon bag of clothes to men, women, and children who were at the on-ramp of I-395 located in Washington, DC. The bag contained men and women shoes, coats, pants, shirts, and children clothes. The attempt was to meet the needs of the homeless with adequate clothing for different seasons and weather.

Washington, D.C. March 19, 2015. Brothers from Pi Omega partnered with Mu Rho and participated in feeding the homeless at Union Station located 50 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington, DC. The brother purchased enough chicken and biscuits from Bojangles' Famous Chicken 'n Biscuits to feed at least 20 homeless men and women. The cost to the chapter was zero.

"Union Station is a major train station, transportation hub, and leisure destination in Washington, D.C. Visited by over 40 million people a year, Union Station is one of the busiest train stations and shopping destinations in the country and is served by Amtrak, MARC and VRE commuter rail services, "Bojangles' Famous Chicken 'n Biscuits is a Southeastern regional chain of fast food restaurants based in Charlotte, North Carolina, specializing in spicy, "Cajun" fried chicken and buttermilk biscuits.



Bro. Lamonte Tyler feeding the homeless at Union Station

Self Defense Class at Z Hope

Baltimore, MD. March 14, 2015. The Brothers of Pi Omega Chapter conducted a Self Defense class with the Ladies of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. which was held at the Edgecombe Circle Elementary/Middle School, 2835 Virginia Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215. Brothers assisted with the setup and were the aggressors to help make the self-defense realistic. The ladies from the Tau Eta Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. were trying to earn points for Z-HOPE.

Z-HOPE is an outreach service program that has six primary objectives, corresponding measures of success and a mechanism for chapter recognition. The primary objectives are:

To provide culturally appropriate informational activities according to the Z-HOPE program format. To foster collaborative partnerships between community organizations with shared goals. To promote the opportunities for expansion in Stork's Nest programs. To facilitate community service and mentorship opportunities for members of the organization. To provide an equitable chapter recognition program for community services rendered. To provide a standard reporting format to concentrate efforts and demonstrate the organization's impact.



Zetas display newly learned Self Defense skills

Lambda Gamma Gamma 30th Anniversary Celebration



LGG Brothers at the 30th Anniversary Celebration

Gambrills, MD. December 29, 2014. Brothers of Lambda Gamma Gamma Chapter and other local chapters enjoyed dinner and fellowship at the Blue Dolphin Seafood Bar & Grill in Gambrills, MD. While there, the Brothers recounted the many great men who have passed through LGG and the many who remain in the area and active with LGG today. Over 30 Brothers attended the celebration and the evening was concluded with Bro. Ivan Hardnett toasting the chapter, its founders and all of its distinguished Basilei. Lambda Gamma Gamma Chapter was chartered on De-

cember 29th of 1984. Charter members included Blair Alexander, Jonathon Allen, Douglas Bonner, L.C. Collins, Roy Gordon, Shelton Henry, Lawrence Shaw and Cyrus Stroman. Since its founding, LGG has focused on philanthropic efforts, mentoring and providing scholarships to local high school students. Based in Ft. Meade, MD, LGG has also supported Anne Arundel County and the surrounding communities and counties, Second District activities and events and the fraternity via service and mandated programs for 30 years.

Lambda Gamma Gamma Partner with PG County for Fatherhood Forum

Springdale, MD. February 11, 2015. For the past few years, the fathers of children in the Prince Georges County Public Schools band together to participate in an open forum to address concerns that fathers in Prince Georges County encounter while raising their children in the school system. Another component of the forum is to recognize fathers who show overwhelming support and help for their children. The children in the school system can nominate their fathers to be recognized. The chairman of this year's event was Brother Gorman Brown, principal of Charles Herbert Flowers High School, the site of the forum. The co-chair was Brother Kenneth Calvin. Brothers of Lambda Gamma Gamma chapter attended in

a show of support for the fathers and their children. Our own Brother D. Michael Lyles, the Grand Counselor of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., participated as a member of the Fatherhood Forum panel and provided insight regarding the importance of fatherhood initiatives in our communities. According to Bro. Brown, one major success of this year's event was the number of county schools who participated in the nomination and recognition process of the fathers. There were 198 fathers recognized in at the Forum, which was approximately 8 times as many fathers last year's event. Needless to say, there was standing room only in the auditorium and, by all accounts, the event was a huge success.

Lambda Gamma Gamma Bro. Harold Shambley and Wife Donate Over \$100,000 to Norfolk State University

Norfolk, VA. February 4, 2015. Bro. Harold Shambley and Mrs. Joyce Shambley were recently inducted into the inaugural group of the Lyman Beecher Brooks Society at Norfolk State University (NSU). This society recognizes individuals whose lifetime giving to Norfolk State University is \$100,000 or more. They will receive their award at the 80th Anniversary Gala on Saturday, March 28, 2015 on Norfolk State's campus. The Lyman Beecher Brooks Society embodies the high expectations for achievement

and excellence that were exemplified by Dr. Brooks, for whom the award is named. In addition to the exceptional accomplishments of Bro. Shambley and Mrs. Shambley, they are being recognized for their contributions to the University and their leadership in the greater community. The recognition is also a testimony to their outstanding leadership as generous donors to the university and as steadfast supporters of NSU's mission and vision.

Lambda Gamma Gamma Talent Hunt



Lambda Gamma Gamma Talent Hunt participant

Springdale, MD. March 7, 2015. The Brothers of Lambda Gamma Gamma Chapter hosted their annual Talent Hunt Program at the Charles Herbert Flowers High School on Saturday, March 7, 2015 in Springdale, Maryland. Twenty-one students in 9th thru 12th grade participated in the event in the categories of Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, Instrumental and Vocal.

Brother Antonio Ferguson served as the chairman of this year's event and Brother Yahari Butler served as the co-chairman. Both brothers expressed how fortunate they were to have "such a deep roster of talented high school students."

The winners for the event follows: 1st Place Drama – Malik Arnett (12th Grade – Perry Prep School). 1st Place Dance – Cydney Hill (12th Grade

Duke Ellington School of the Arts). 1st Place Vocal – Tasia Young (12th Grade Bowie High School). 1st Place Instrumental – Kyla Frank (11th Grade – Duke Ellington School of the Arts). 1st Place Visual Arts – Pearlina Muckelvene (12th Grade – Charles H. Flowers High School).

The 1st Place overall winner and the student which will represent Lambda Gamma Gamma Chapter in the 2nd District Talent Hunt on Saturday, May 2nd, 2015 in Teaneck, NJ will be Malik Arnett (12th Grade – Perry Prep School – Pantomime Performance). Brother Ferguson indicated that he has every confidence that Malik will have another excellent performance during the Districts event and the chapter will be positioned well at this year's 2nd District Conference Talent Hunt.

LGG "We Feed Our People" MLK Day of Service

Washington, D.C. January 19, 2015. Every year, We Feed Our People (WFOP), a grassroots organization founded in Washington, D.C., feeds and clothes the homeless on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. In conjunction with WFOP, the Lambda Gamma Gamma chapter ("LGG") hosts a clothing drive where cold weather clothes are distributed to homeless men, women and children in Washington, D.C. The event also provides a nutritious meal for homeless citizens in the nation's capitol as a way to keep the work of a great hero, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., alive. As always, this year's event was held at "The Big Chair" in Southeast, Washington, D.C. and at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in Washington, D.C. The chairperson for the event was Brother Erick R. Tyrone and the co-chairman was Brother Johnny Sidbury.

Bro. Tyrone stated that this year's event was such a success because so many people joined together to clothe, feed and give back to the less fortunate in our community. This year, over 400 families were fed and clothed which, according to Bro. Tyrone, was "over three times as many clothes as in years past. At the conclusion of the event, the remaining clothes were donated to a men's shelter and a separate donation was made at a women's/children's shelter.



Clothes collected and distributed at MLK Day of Service

Theta Mu Mu Escort Daughters to Omega Psi Phi/AKA Father Daughter Dinner Dance



(l to r) Brothers Jerome Lavender, Curtis Davis, Evan Murray, Anthony Leonard, Morgan Hall, Warren Chambers, Marlon Robinson, and Kevin Richards with their daughters

Silver Springs, MD. December 7, 2014. Make this dance last forever was the thoughts of the 8 fathers and 9 daughters of Theta Mu Mu chapter. The Brothers of Theta Mu Mu Chapter and their daughters caravanned to Knights of Columbus Hall in Silver Springs, MD. to spend an evening with their princesses at the 5th Annual Omega Psi Phi/ AKA Father Daughter Dinner Dance sponsored by Mu Nu Chapter & Theta Omega Omega Chapters, respectively. For the past two years, the Brothers of

Theta Mu Mu Chapter get on the road with their beautiful daughters to spend an evening to remember. This night entailed the crowning of the princesses, buffet dinner, pictures taking, dancing, singing, and that special dance with dad. Bro. Anthony Leonard spearheaded these events because he felt that the chapter needed to take advantage of such an enchanted moment. The brothers drove 40 plus miles to ensure that this night would be a night to remember for their daughters.

Theta Mu Mu Superbowl Party



(l to r) Evan Murray, Edward Hill, Jeff Givens, Ricardo Morales, and Christopher Gant

Randallstown, MD. January 2015. While millions of Americans were glued to their TV watching one of the greatest Super bowls of all time, the members of Theta Mu Mu used that game as an opportunity to reclaim members back to Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Theta Mu Mu chapter hosted their first Super Bowl party at Identity Lounge, an African American owned establishment in Randallstown, MD. Over 300 hundred patrons packed the small club to celebrate and watch a jaw dropping super bowl game. In the crowd were 13 brothers who have not been financial for several years. The excitement of this event invigorated their spirits back to Omega. During halftime the crowd was entertained by more than 100

brothers assembled on the dance floor to show off some of their best party marches. The event also raised over \$2,000 for scholars and community service programs. This was the brain child of the Basileus Edward Hill to host a reclamation event while the brothers could capitalize on the ability to raise money for charity. From this event several non-financial brothers came to the February meeting vowing to pay their dues and reengaging back in the Fraternity. The Brothers of Theta Mu Mu have a slogan that "We Are Not Your Granddaddy's Grad Chapter." On this night the Brothers proved this slogan true.

Theta Mu Mu Memorial Service



TMM Brothers at Founder Bishop Love's Gravesite

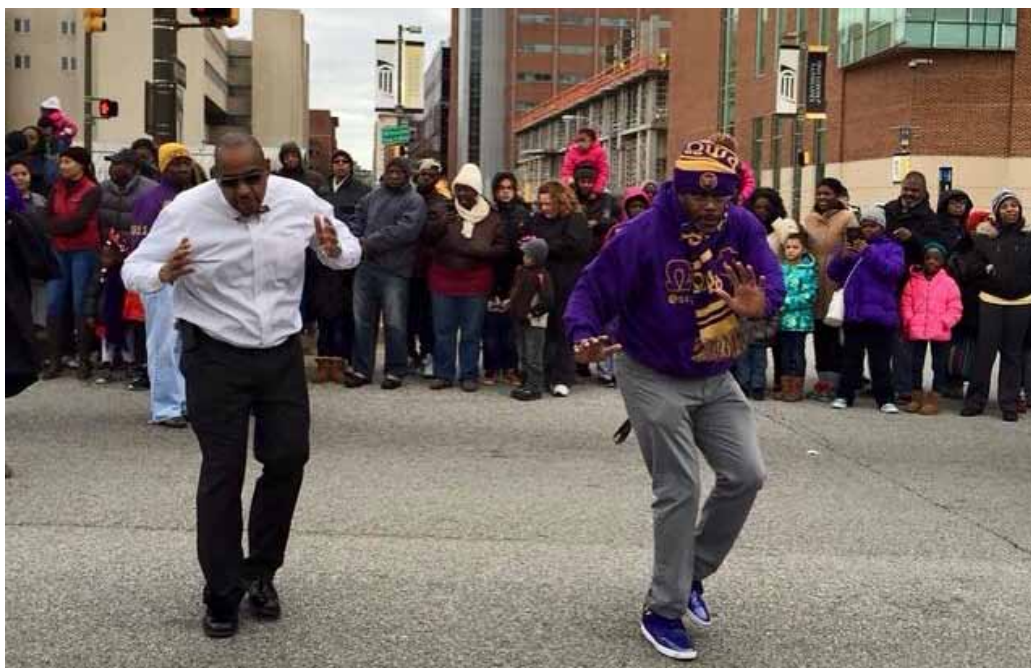


Evan Murray and TMM Basileus Ed Hill at Founder Ernest E. Just's Gravesite

Baltimore and Suitland MD. March 2015. Theta Mu Mu spent Sunday March 15, 2015 as day to remember our beloved Founders. For the fifth year in row, the Brothers of Theta Mu Mu ascended to Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Baltimore, MD to the resting place of Bro. Founder Edgar A. Love to pay homage and conduct his memorial service. This service was officiated by Bro. Chaplin Warren Chambers. Hosting the memorial services at Bishop Love's resting place has become a tradition of the chapter since its inception. The chapter also used this occasion to invite non-financial brothers to take part in this celebration and rededicate themselves back to Omega. At the conclusion of the service, TMM Basileus Edward Hill

and Bro. Evan Murray drove 45 miles to Suitland, MD. to participate in the Corridor 1 Memorial Services held at Lincoln Memorial Cemetery where Bro. Founder Ernest E. Just and Bro. Founder Frank Coleman are laid to rest. Several chapters in the corridor sent members to memorize our Brothers that have entered Omega Chapter and to remember our treasured founders. After this ceremony the Brothers walked to the resting place of Carter G. Woodson to pay respect. This national mandated program continues make all that attend remember the great lives of those Brothers that are no longer with us.

Theta Mu Mu Participate at Baltimore MLK Day Parade



TMM Basileus Ed Hill and Evan Murray Step at MLK Parade

Baltimore, MD. January 2015. Members of Theta Mu Mu chapter were invited to take part in the 15th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade which celebrated the life and legacy of one of America's most influential champions of civil rights and humanitarian efforts. Theta Mu Mu was among 50 plus groups that participated in the parade which included high school and community bands, honor/color guards, fraternities & sororities, dance squads and civic leaders of the community. The Members of Theta Mu Mu marched along Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard singing songs, shaking hands and displaying their love for The Omega Psi Phi

Fraternity, Inc. During the parade the Basileus Edward Hill 'Zeta Psi 87' and Evan Murray Eta Gamma 90' decided to display steps and songs bringing great delight to the thousands of individuals who assembled to watch the parade. This stepping exhibition brought the house down so much that along the parade route, Brothers with 27 and 25 years of service, decided to perform the stepping exhibition for the remainder of the parade. This was a glorious time in Baltimore and it thrilled the crowd that witnessed this great performance.

When We Wear the Gloves

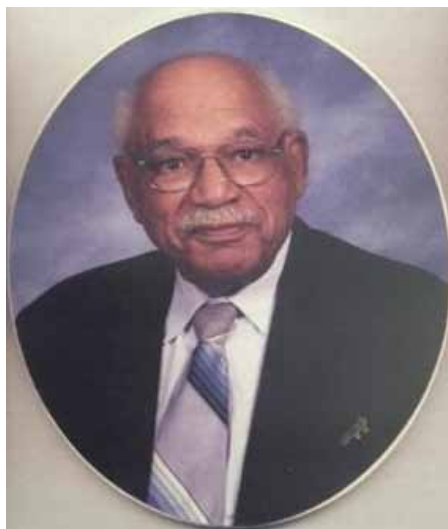
Manhood.....laid low



Brother Daniel Boddie - Omega Chapter

New Rochelle, NY. Brother Daniel "Dan" Boddie entered Omega Chapter on Monday January 12, 2015. Born February 10, 1922 in New Rochelle, NY, Bro. Boddie became one of New York's legendary legal figures and a giant in the Westchester County Community; where he was an active member in Omicron Iota Chapter for more than 60+ years. Educated in the New Rochelle Public School System and upon graduation attending Virginia Union University in Richmond, VA., Bro. Boddie was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated in the Fall of 1941, through Zeta Chapter. He served one year as Basileus of Zeta Chapter and received an Omega scholarship from the Grand Conclave as "Student of the Year". He was the 1st Corridor Representative of what is now Corridor 5; appointed by then District Leader and eventual 28th Grand Basileus James S. Avery. Life Member Number 617, Dan served as the Second District Counselor for 10 years, two non-consecutive terms as Basileus of Omicron Iota Chapter of Westchester County and over 20 non-consecutive years as the Parliamentarian. He was selected as Omega Man of the Year 1973 and 2006 in Omicron Iota Chapter. After graduation from Virginia Union University, where he received his B.A. in 1943, he was drafted in the United States Army during

World War II and was honorably discharged as a Battalion Sergeant Major (858th Avn Eng Bn) in December 1945. He continued his education at Cornell University School of Law, where he received his LL.B degree in 1949, and additional studies at Cornell School of Industrial and Labor Relations and New York University School of Law. Dan was employed as the Law Secretary to the City Judge, Deputy Court Clerk, Assistant Corporation Counsel and Deputy Corporation Counsel for the City of New Rochelle over a 27 year time span. During that time, he was also Chairman of the New Rochelle Municipal Housing Authority, 1951-1965, Legal Counsel to the local chapter of NAACP, Member of the New Rochelle Bar Association (President from 1971-1972), and a founding member of the Association of Black Lawyers, Westchester County. He operated a Private Practice of Law from 1984 until his retirement. Dan was a faithful servant of Bethesda Baptist Church in New Rochelle, New York which his father Reverend Jacob Benjamin Boddie founded in 1888. He was preceded in death by his wife Annie, parents and all 19 of his siblings. He leaves to cherish his memory one daughter, Dr. Cynthia L. Boddie-Willis, 3 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren a host of nieces and nephews.



Brother Leonard D. Haywood - Omega Chapter

Aberdeen, MD – Brother Leonard "Lenny" Haywood entered Omega Chapter on June 13, 2014. Brother Haywood was 63 years old. He was initiated into Lambda Xi Chapter in 1988. He grew up in Portsmouth, VA., and graduated from I.C. Norcom High School class of 1969, 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 with honorable service. While stationed in Seoul Korea he pledged Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Upon his return from Korea he was assigned to APG, would make his home in Aberdeen, Maryland and become a member of Iota Nu Chapter.

Brother Haywood had a love for people working part-time at the ARC Northern Chesapeake Region, where he supervised those with special needs. He was a loving and caring husband and father. He was kind, hardworking and very active with a plethora of knowledge. He was a master at pool, dominoes, and chess. Additionally, he had a passion for basketball and tennis.

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.

When we say our last goodbye...He walks on Streets of Pearls

When We Wear the Gloves

Manhood.....laid low



Bro. Christopher Kittrell - Omega Chapter

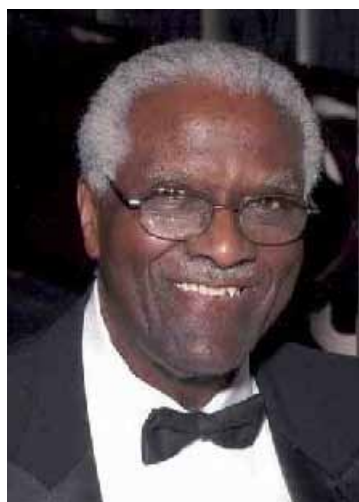


Mt. Vernon, NY. Brother Christopher Kittrell entered Omega Chapter on November 26, 2014. Brother Kittrell was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated in 1961 through Omicron Iota Chapter located in Westchester County, New York. He served the Fraternity for more than 50 years in various capacities, such as a member of the Mother's Day Brunch, Scholarship, and Holiday Dinner Dance Committees. Christopher "Billy" Kittrell was born August 4, 1934 in Mt. Vernon, NY. He was the

devoted son of 7 children of Fred Douglas Kittrell & Edna Lance Kittrell, and the nephew of the late Rosa A. Kittrell a community activist of White Plains and her sister Dr. Flemmie Pansy Kittrell of Howard University. He educated in the Mt. Vernon School system and, received his Bachelor's degree from Hampton University and Master's degree from Pace University. He was also a student of the world where his studies took him to Costa Rica, Spain & Ecuador. He was Director of Special Education at Richmond High School in New York City.

Christopher was active in Hampton University Alumnae Association and former member of St. Simon Episcopal Church prior to relocating to Florida.

Predeceased by his daughter Vernez Kittrell Bandoh, he is survived by his devoted wife Melva Kittrell; brother John Edward Kittrell; sisters Flemmie Kittrell, Rosa Kittrell Barksdale, Jacqueline Kittrell Tynes; 2 stepdaughters, Judy McGraw (Fitzmorris), Lana Rheubottom (Michael); 2 grandchildren, Jason & Jonelle Rheubottom, and of a host of nieces, nephews & cousins.



Brother Donald J. Stukes - Omega Chapter

New Rochelle, NY. Brother Donald Stukes was born January 17, 1930 and entered Omega Chapter on January 20, 2015. Brother Stukes was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated in 1958 through Omicron Iota Chapter located in Westchester County, New York. Donald served Omega diligently over the years in-

-cluding being the Second District Keeper of Finance. Brother Stukes was educated New Rochelle, NY. Brother Donald Stukes was born January 17,

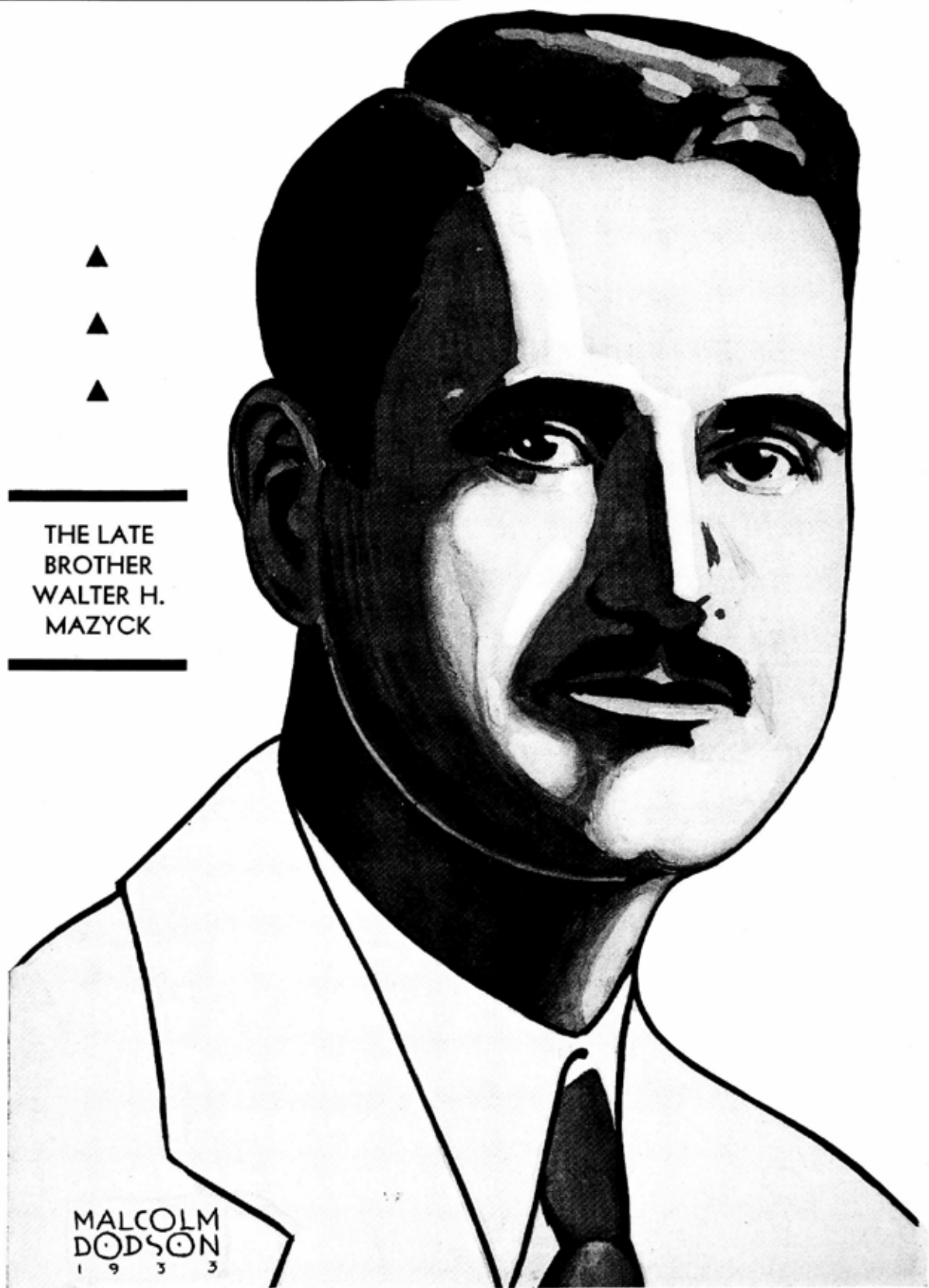
Brother Stukes was educated in the Buffalo, NY school system. He received his B.A. in Business from Canisius College in Buffalo, New York.

He was a Partner at Coulthrust, Howard and Stokes, CPA's in New York City and Proprietor of Donald Stukes & Co. located in New Rochelle, New York.

Brother Stukes is survived by his wife Mrs. Joan Stukes, son Donald A. Stukes, C.P.A, daughter Susan D. Stukes, D.D.S. and 2 grandchildren.

When we say our last goodbye...He walks on Streets of Pearls

Historical Perspective Walter Herbert Mayzck's Importance to Omega



Reprinted from The Oracle "December 1933"

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE BROTHER WALTER H. MAZYCK

By LAWRENCE A. OXLEY

*Now the labourer's task is o'er;
Now the battle day is past;
Now upon the farther shore
Lands the voyager at last.
Father, in thy gracious keeping
Leave we now thy servant sleeping.*

*"Earth to earth, and dust to dust,"
Calmly now the words we say,
Left behind, we wait in trust
For the resurrection day.
Father, in thy gracious keeping
Leave we now thy servant sleeping.*

—John Ellerton, 1870.

OUR beloved Grand Keeper of Records and Seals, Walter H. Mazyck, died at Washington, D. C., Monday, August 7, 1933. For over ten years he directed the work of Omega with an efficiency that left no question as to his interest and abilities. Much of the modern structure of Omega was built by Walter Mazyck. The quality of intelligence, gentleness of manner and a fine disregard of selfish interest which characterized his work, have enriched the traditions of high devotion and able service that have distinguished our Fraternity and made it a social force in the life of the Negro.

Walter Mazyck brought to Omega many gifts. Perhaps the greatest of which was unselfish service. To him the welfare of Omega, the widening of its influence and the extending of the service which the Fraternity could render to our racial group were of the greatest importance. To this end he worked long and faithfully, entirely forgetful of self, co-operating in every move to further the cause of Omega and remaining always in the background. So quietly did he work that many will never know the full extent and significance of his contributions.

In his work for Omega, Walter Mazyck was painstaking and thorough; no needful task was left undone; no matter how small or unimportant it might seem to others, to him it was something that needed to be done in order to perfect a larger, more important piece of work. Gentle but strong, clear thinking and energetic, faithful, loyal, high-minded and conscientious, his work is enduring, a large part of Omega's glory, a lasting memorial to his marked abilities and his unselfishness.

All Omega mourns the loss of a great man and brother.

Linwood Koger's Friendship for Walter H. Mayzck

MY FRIEND AND PAL, WALTER HERBERT MAZYCK

By LINWOOD G. KOGER

"TO HAVE a friend is to have one of the sweetest and dearest gifts that life can bring. A friend gives us confidence for life. A friend makes us go out of ourselves. A friend takes heed of our health, our work, our aims, our plans. A friend remembers us when we have forgotten ourselves. A friend may praise us, and we are not embarrassed; may rebuke us, and we are not angered. A friend may do that for us which we can not gracefully do for ourselves. A friend may be silent, yet we understand."

HE WAS MY FRIEND! He was my PAL! He gave me confidence. I went out of myself gladly for him. He heeded my health, my work, my aims, my plans. He remembered me so often when I had forgotten myself. He praised me and I knew he meant every word. He rebuked me and I knew he did it because he thought it would help me. He did, O, so many things which I could not have gracefully done for myself. Often he was silent when I thought he would have spoken to me, for me, against me; yet, it was not long before I understood why he was silent. He was my FRIEND! My PAL!

HE was a GREAT SOUL. He had a BIG HEART, a loving spirit. He forgave much, forbore much, forgot much. He sacrificed for me. He denied himself for me. He was my friend at a GREAT cost. He spent time and patience in my behalf. He LOVED me. One of the most cherished jewels of my life was this thought: That I need have no care, my REAL friend and pal, never tries, nor wants to get away from me. We shared all things temporal and spiritual together. His joys were my joys, his sorrows my sorrows and the converse. And so often, whither one went the other also went. What more could be said, than, HE was my friend and pal?

For twenty years, he never deceived me. He did not cheat. He was no chiseler. He was reliable. He was honest. He was loyal. He was consistent. His integrity was second to no man's. In all the qualities that go to make up character he was a thoroughly genuine man. He was my friend and pal.

He achieved. He was the highest honor student on the entire program when he graduated in law of the classes of 1922. He was an officer and organized one of the best Student Army Training Camps at Wiley University during the World War. He created and perfected a filing cabinet system in the Navy Department, the like of which had never been seen there. For about seven years, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity revolved around him as its axis. He wrote "George Washington and the Negro," an original unique style which drew favorable comments from the leading newspapers and literary critics colored and white throughout the Nation. This was MY friend and pal.

He was my room-mate during my college years at Howard University. He was in my company with his bed directly across from mine at Fort Des Moines, Ia. He was assigned to the same Camp Meade, Maryland, to train soldiers. We sat beside each other in our college classes; our company classes and camp lectures; our law classes. We interchanged visits mid-week or week-ends. We slept in each other's home any time. In him, were happily blended the qualities which adorn public service and dignify private life. The character and opinions of this intellectually great pal always enforced respect and confidence whatever the pleasantry of his manner. WE were friends and pals.

When death entered upon my friend my sorrow was so consuming that it could only be measured by the singular depth and intensity of my love for him. He in the hour of his greatest glory, in the very zenith of his success and fame, was transferred, as it were, in the twinkling of an eye, by grim death to the great pages of history. How the memory of his kind acts, his gentle deeds of charity and of mercy, plead against the deep damnation of his taking off. The final and nobler tribute to him is yet to be rendered, not by me alone as his pal, not by his bereaved widow and personal friends, not by fraternity brothers. A knowledge of his life and character is to be carried by generations yet unborn, throughout an oppressed race and into a great nation. MY BEST FRIEND AND PAL, WALTER HERBERT MAZYCK.

Reprinted from The Oracle "December 1933"

CAPTAIN WALTER HERBERT MAZYCK

By CAMPBELL C. JOHNSON

"Death will come to you, I think,
Like an old shrewd gardener
Culling his rarest blossoms. . ."
—STERLING BROWN.

WALTER HERBERT MAZYCK was born in Charleston, South Carolina, December 14, 1895. He received his early schooling at Winslow's Private School and Avery Institute in that city. At the completion of his studies at Avery in 1914, he matriculated at Howard University, Washington, D. C., and, except for a period of absence during the World War, made his home in Washington until his death on August 7, 1933.

Brother Walter Mazyck made an enviable scholastic record at Howard. A brilliant academic career was followed by scholastic achievements while pursuing his law course that after eleven years remain unequalled. He led one of the largest law classes in the history of the Howard University School of Law during the entire three years of his course, winning every first prize offered and received his degree of Bachelor of Laws Magna cum Laude.

Immediately after his graduation in law Brother Mazyck passed the District of Columbia Bar and was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia. His law partners were Brothers John W. Love and Campbell C. Johnson.

It is difficult to evaluate a life even when it is viewed from the perspective of many years. When one stands virtually at the bier, the task is futile. Especially is this true in the case of Brother Mazyck. Those who knew him best are so filled with poignant sorrow at their loss and at the loss which has been sustained in the fields of his varied interests that they have not been able dispassionately to consider the great extent of his service.

In 1917, even before his country entered the World War, Brother Mazyck volunteered his services. Together with other students of Howard University, he fought for the establishment of an Officers Training Camp for colored officers at Des Moines, Iowa. When this camp was realized, he enlisted and was discharged on October 15, 1917, to be commissioned a first lieutenant of infantry. He was assigned to the 368th Infantry at Camp Meade, Maryland. After several months in camp, he was taken ill and ordered to the Army Base Hospital at New Haven, Connecticut. His regiment left for France before he had recovered sufficiently to rejoin it.

Lieut. Mazyck was later ordered to Marshall, Texas, where he served as Adjutant of the Students Army Training Corps Unit.

After his discharge from the army in 1919, he was commissioned first lieutenant in the Officers Reserve Corps. On the formation of the 428th Infantry he was assigned to the organization and promoted to the rank of captain in 1929. Captain Mazyck served as Regimental Adjutant until his death.

It is interesting to observe the different spheres that knew Brother Mazyck. In each one he gave his best. That was his code. Consequently, his passing has cut deep.

After his discharge from the Army, Brother Mazyck received appointment as a clerk in the Navy Department where a section was being developed to handle the pay of thousands of Naval Reservists throughout the country. He grew with the section, was promoted to law clerk or technical adviser and help to write the laws that control it, was called upon to advise in the interpretation of the laws, prepared decisions for the Comptroller General and served as representative of the important Retainer Pay Section, Division of Supplies and Accounts of the Navy Department where legal matters were involved.

When Brother Mazyck passed, men and women who had worked along side him for years wept and his immediate superior officer said, "It is foolish to say we are going to replace Mr. Mazyck. His place just cannot be filled. It will take years to train a man who will be half as good."

Very few of us have considered Brother Mazyck as a lawyer, yet his brilliant record as a law student marked him for a prominent place in the profession.

His practice in the firm of Love, Johnson and Mazyck and the cases which he handled subsequently showed him to be possessed of more than ordinary ability. The lawyers among his friends were constantly expressing their regret that he would not throw himself fully into the practice.

It is difficult to say when Brother Mazyck first began to take an interest in writing. As far back as his college days he essayed some short literary sketches, most of which were kept very private. Several years ago, however, he began to evince a keen interest in history and biography, particularly the history of the Negro in America and the biographies of outstanding personalities in our national life. He studied these lives to determine primarily their relation to the Negro.



CAPT. WALTER H. MAZYCK

Continue on page 19

Historical Perspective

Walter Herbert Mazyck's Importance to Omega

Editorials from The Oracle "December 1933"

They Say He's Dead

MANY people are born, live and die without contributing one iota to the welfare of humanity or to the happiness of their immediate associates. To some with a Pollyanna complex this may sound harsh, but once they are interred they are truly dead. Very much dead, never having lived. . . Some few lead lives so dynamic, become so imbedded in the hearts of those fortunate enough to know them, have mentalities so acute, possess abilities so diversified and are so creative and productive that they become subjective realities not dependent upon corporeal existence. And a subjective reality is much more real than a physical reality. So it is with Mazyck—Mazyck—ah, there's a name that means much. No need to bolster it with euphonious given names and titles.

To Omega men Mazyck was more than a name or a person, he was an institution. He typified loyalty, good fellowship and an uncanny efficiency. He possessed an especially keen and analytical mind together with a photographic memory. Many are the snarls he has untangled in the business sessions of the conclaves or in Supreme Council meetings. Going to Mazyck with a question was more productive of results than hours of thumbing the Constitutions and By-Laws or the Ritual. Without clerical aid he answered a large volume of correspondence without the delay of a single day. In every chapter the name Mazyck symbolized the national office.

To the Navy Department, where he was employed, Mazyck was indispensable. In writing to his widow his superior officer so stated adding that had he lived a few months longer he would have been put in charge of his department. The officer further stated that the department did not expect to be able to replace him. Surely he lives in the hearts of his fellow workers.

To the critical readers of history the name Mazyck means the writer of "George Washington and the Negro;" a writer who went to the first sources and labored hard to produce an authoritative work written in a particularly clear and lucid style. Before he died Mazyck had completed gathering the notes for a similar work to be known as "Abraham Lincoln and the Negro" and had completed all but twenty-five pages of a manuscript on Colonel Charles Young.

There are those who know him as an able practising attorney. The profession suffered because he was not able to devote more of his attention to his practise.

To those who knew him socially Mazyck was a scintillating wit, a facile conversationalist and a likeable companion. He liked people and in turn was liked by all. The writer retains a vivid picture of Mazyck, whether on the floor at an Omega Formal or at an informal gathering of friends; smiling, slightly flushed and with here and there a truant lock of hair; the center of interest. Many others will keep that picture.

He lived a full, productive and creative life. He lives vividly in the memory of thousands. And yet they say he's dead.

Nunc est Bibendum

THE noble experiment has taken a double back tumble and stretched out flatter than the Lincoln Highway. Legal liquor will once more gurgle musically from jug, bottle and decanter and gladden the eye with its amber glint at the same time soothing the olfactory organ with its delicate bouquet.

Many evils attended the Saloon Age. Still more vicious vices flourished in the Speakeasy Epoch. Now the problem is to minimize the potential evils of the Great Come-back. With proper government supervision and not too prohibitive taxation the return of alcoholic drinks should yield a great revenue. Prohibition handed prosperity to the Bootlegger on a platinum platter and he will fight to the bitter end by price cutting competition, hijacking and intimidation of legitimate dealers. Many domestic drinkers have acquired an amazing facility in the blending of bath-tub gin and rye; nor does it cost much. These tendencies will have an undesirable effect on expected revenues. Another danger is that Mr. John W. Public may in his first enthusiasm become so inebriated as to give strength to a counter attack by the unseated and disgruntled drys. It will be well for the public to avoid patronage of bootleggers, home manufacture and over indulgence. In the meantime, "Nunc est bibendum."

The Conclave

THE welfare of the Fraternity is too vital a matter to permit the business sessions of a conclave to be a mere adjunct to the social program. Legislation passed at the conclave governs the Fraternity until repealed. Budgetary expenses authorized by the conclave must be met and any such expenses proposed must be within reason and for the greater good of the Fraternity. At the conclave is not the place to formulate policies. Rather it is the place to decide upon policies already formulated. Delegates should come already prepared and the Chapter meetings before the conclave is the place of preparation. Parliamentary procedures should be used as lubrication for the legislative machine rather than as sabotage. There are many weighty problems to be deliberated upon at the coming conclave and the time will be short. Come prepared and we shall be better able to enjoy the splendid social program being prepared for us by the "Bull City" without neglecting the real purpose of the gathering. *On to Durham.*

Modern Heathen

WE view with horror, and unrelenting condemnation, the brutal and outrageous persecutions which the Romans inflicted upon the followers of Christ in days gone by. Our sympathy goes out to the German Jew because of his inhumane treatment by the strong arm of Nazi government. We are today making precedent by repealing for the first time in our history a constitutional amendment, because that amendment was the occasion of greater lawlessness. Yet, in the face of these sane trends, we find "the powers that be" in a dilemma when we ask security for black men and women. Lynching orgies will flourish so long, and only so long, as nothing is done about them. Negroes are loyal and extremely patient, but woe to any

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The George Washington Bicentennial Celebration gave impetus to his research into the life of George Washington, the Father of his Country. After an unsuccessful effort to capture the interest of the National George Washington Bicentennial Commission in publishing a book in its series that would show the relation of our First President to the large Negro group in this country, Brother Mazyck decided to publish his research in book form through the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. This Book, "George Washington and the Negro," received high praise in literary circles and was offered as an alternate book by the Book-of-the-Month Club.

At the time of his death, Brother Mazyck had in manuscript form a life of Colonel Charles Young about two-thirds completed. Another three weeks would have seen this book ready for the press. It is still possible that it may be published.

The real tragedy in Brother Mazyck's death so far as his literary career is concerned rests in his incomplete work which was to have borne the title "Abraham Lincoln and the Negro." Voluminous research had already been completed, some preliminary pages written but five more years work had been planned before this volume or these volumes were to have been presented to the public. In this work Brother Mazyck had set for himself the task of painting a picture showing the effect of the Negro's presence in this country on the history of the United States.

Brother Walter Mazyck was best known and loved by many of us through his position as Grand Keeper of Records and Seals of our Fraternity. Just how much he has meant to the Fraternity as he has served in this capacity may soon be realized. He has kept not only our records but our ideals as well. Through his vision Omega Psi Phi has had life. Year after year as Grand Officers have been changed, a feeling of security has remained with us primarily because of our faith in him. In times of stress, even in the face of bank crashes, his guiding hand has steadied us. Never an idle dreamer but a materialist with vision, Brother Mazyck has inspired our confidence and we have followed with assurance where he has indicated the proper pathways led.

Even as we sense our great loss, our hearts go out to Brother Mazyck's widow, a truly noble character, who has suffered the severest blow of all. Broken-hearted she took his body back to the home of his childhood and laid him to rest with his family. There is an Omega shrine in the Southland which true Omega men will never forget.



Continued from page 18 Modern Heathen

agency or force that exhausts the patience of the oppressed. Unless the "powers that be" immediately stamp out this form of lawlessness it will lead to unnecessary bloodshed and consequences more formidable than mere civil uprising. Anti-lynching laws are sought, but if secured they will be debased as laws before them have been debased. No—the solution will not come from statutes. What is needed is outspoken public opinion by those of power and influence that such outrages must stop. As long as high officials make asses of themselves by attempting to hood-wink thinking men and women as to their sincerity when they allegedly probe these blood-feasts, lynchings will continue. If we condone heathenism, declare a state of CHAOS.

R. D. B.

Omega Brand Statement

25-Word (Elevator) Positioning Statement:

OPPF is a historically Black fraternal organization that provides and promotes programs of social-, cultural- and economic uplift to the communities we serve. For over a century, we have recruited, trained and deployed men of color for leadership roles in service to humanity.

50-Word Positioning Statement:

Our social action programs touch the lives of hundreds of thousands of families and individuals each year. Whether our efforts result in entertaining an audience, educating a group of young people; or simply helping those in need, we have developed a reputation for delivering programs and projects that make a difference in the lives of those we serve.

100+ Word Positioning Statement:

A partial list of social action initiatives includes: scholarships for deserving students, mentoring programs for disadvantaged youth, leadership development and training in partnership with GE, health and wellness prevention through partnerships with State Farm and American Cancer Society.

If your company is looking to move from "success" to "significance" as a corporate neighbor, let's have a conversation! Our aim is to make you feel welcome, respected and well served!

Tau Pi 40th Chapter Anniversary



The Brothers of Tau Pi Chapter

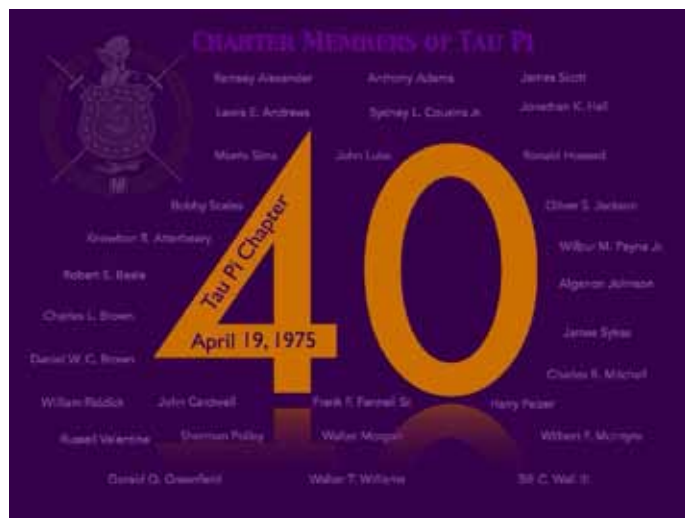
Columbia, MD. April 2015. On April 19, 1975 a dynamic chapter was chartered with 40 Brothers. The groundwork had initially started at the beginning of the year with 16 Omega men without a home in the newly established community in Howard County. The genesis began with “Sons of Blood and Thunder” who were different in backgrounds, beliefs, philosophies, and career paths; but had all come together to reside in the new metro Columbia, MD area. Tau Pi Chapter is located in Central MD, specifically serving the Howard County area which includes Columbia, Ellicott City, Clarksville, Gleneig, and West friendship.

Over the 40 years period, we have had 21 outstanding Basilei and sworn in 133 men into the halls of this great fraternity. Twelve were undergraduates from Chi Delta Chapter at the University of Maryland, College Park. Tau

Pi Chapter is their Graduate Chapter Advisor. We produced Bro. Calvin Zellars as the 24th Second District Representative. Currently, we have Bro. Michael Littlejohn serving as the Second District Keeper of Records and Seal. The chapter has also had numerous Brothers served as Second District Committee Chairs in conjunction with being on a Corridor One staff. Immediate Past Basileus Jay Kerr, Jr. is the 40th Anniversary Chairperson. He has put together a Committee of some stalwart brothers to make this a memorable occasion. The celebration will cover a two week period; from April 10, 2015 to April 19, 2015. We will kick it off with a Reclamation/Retention event, a Day Party, Formal Rededication, Men’s Health Public Forum, Worship Service, and culminating with an Anniversary Banquet.

Tau Pi Sage Brothers Brunch

Columbia, MD. Tau Pi Chapter Senior Brothers have a brunch the third Wednesday of each month. The brunch starts at 11AM and in fine Omega spirit concludes within two hours. In 2001, Bro. Alwin Collins and Bro. Carl Haggins initiated the event. It was started when there was a desire for retired brothers in Howard County to increase the fraternization within the chapter. The event is scheduled on the same date as Tau Pi evening General Body Meeting. In 2003, the baton was passed on to Bro. Robert Payne to coordinate. The get together became an excellent forum to share and discuss health issues affecting Senior Brothers. In addition, the Brothers talked about all walks of life’s journey. Of course, they still share and joke about their pledge process.



Tau Pi Talent Hunt Competition



Tau Pi Talent Hunt Contestants

Columbia, MD. March 15, 2015. Tau Pi Chapter held its annual mandated event at Hammond High School in Columbia, MD. The committee is comprised of our 2012 Fall Line, Damaged Control. Bro. Kelly Williamson is the Chairperson; Bro. Rasheed Williams the Emcee; and Bro. Edward Porcher the Photographer. Bro. Corey Powell opened the program with the Invocation. Bro. Rick Flanagan choreographed the music for each contestant. Brothers Derrick Knight, Howard Nicholas, and Eric Astrop provided the repast and ushered guests to their seats. Brothers Gary Tuggle and Brandon Bell timely coordinated the flow of contestants to and from the stage.

There were four categories performed by the contestants. We had four students who were Instrumental Performers. We had six students who were Vocal Performers. Four students were in the Speech/Drama category and one as a Dance Performer. Geographically, contestants were from Baltimore City & County, Prince Georges County, and Howard County. The judges were Ms. Rhonda Boozer, Ms. Adena Macgloire, Ms. Ayana Mar-

tin, and Mr. Richard Layne. A trophy and a monetary award were given to the top three winners in each category. The overall winner was Speech/Drama performer was Sydney Banks from Baltimore School of the Arts. She will be Tau Pi Chapter representative at the 67th District Conference in Teaneck, NJ.

Bro. Brandon Bell and Family are McDonalds franchise owners in Howard County gave each contestant two complimentary meals at one of their local stores. They issued a statement, "McDonalds has been a proud supporter of our local community, especially when it comes to scholastic and artistic endeavors. There is no better way to say thank you and congratulations to all of the participants than giving back a small token of appreciation for their talents."

Basileus David Charon gave rousing and inspirational closing remarks to contestants and parents. He told non-seniors to stay with their dream, continue to improve their talent, and to come back next year.

Tau Pi's David Steele Howard Co., MD. NAACP Branch President

Columbia, MD. Bro. David Steele was born on May 27, 1961 in Concord, North Carolina. He attended Cabarrus County public school where he graduated with honors. He received his Bachelors of Science Degree in Electronics Engineering Technology from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in Greensboro, North Carolina and a Masters from Johns Hopkins University.

He relocated to Columbia, MD when he accepted a position with Westinghouse Electric Corporation now Northrup Grumman Corporation. As an active member of the First Baptist Church of Guilford for many years, he is currently serving as a member of the Trustee Board Ministry. He is married to Robin who has served as Howard County Delta Alumnae President and currently is Howard County Links President. Jointly they have started an Educational Fund through the Community Foundation of Howard County.

Bro. Steele was initiated into the Fraternity through Tau Pi Chapter's 11th line on March 31, 1996 as part of The Twelve Disciples. He is a Life Member. He has served as Keeper of Records and Seal; Scholarship Committee; and the Mentoring Committee serving as a mentor at Patuxent Valley Middle School for over 10 years. Bro. David Steele has supported various mentoring programs through Northrup Grumman including its Discover 'E' (Engineering) program and its WORTHY Program. Both programs are designed to introduce the Engineering profession to students throughout Maryland.

Bro. David Steele has continued his community involvement through participation with the Howard County Branch of the National Association of Colored People (NAACP). Mr. Steele has served on various commit-



Brother David Steele

-tees including the Youth Council where he served as a Co-Youth Advisor, Scholarship Committee, Freedom Fund Committee, 2nd Vice President and he currently serves as the Branch President. Mr. Steele is a recent graduate of the 2013 Leadership Howard County class, arguably the 'best' leadership class to date.

In November 2014 David was selected by the newly elected County Executive Allan Kittleman to serve on his transition team. David along with his committee will be responsible for evaluating Public Safety areas of the county.

Tau Pi's Frank Turner Maryland State Delegate

Columbia, MD. Bro. Frank S. Turner was born on July 6, 1947 in Mt. Pleasant, New York. He received his Bachelor of Arts at North Carolina College in Durham, N.C. He attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law and North Carolina Central University of Law where he received his J.D. in 1973. In 1974 he became an Associate Professor teaching business law and legal environment at Morgan State Earl G. Graves School of Business and Management. Bro. Turner was initiated into the Fraternity through Tau Pi Chapter's 7th line, The Incredible 13. He was the recipient of the Educator of the Year award in 1991. In 2003, he also received the Chapter's Citizen of the Year Award. On January 11, 1995, Bro. Turner became a member of Maryland House of Delegates. He has served on a multitude of committees. Most notably are Vice-Chair; Ways and Means; Rules and Executive Nominations; Judiciary; and Appropriations. During his tenure, he was a member of some powerful subcommittees –Finance Resources; law & regulations; capital budget; and Education & Economic Development.



Recently, Bro. Turner has introduced a state bond for a \$500,000 matching grant to convert the former desegregated high school Harriet Tubman into a cultural center. From 1948 until 1965, the school was the only High School in Howard County for African American students. The building is now serving as office space for the school system maintenance staff. Due to budget constraint for a replacement building, the school system is reluctant to turn it over to the Tubman Foundation. November 2014, former Executive Ken Ulman honored, dedicated, and named Blandair Park fields in Bro. Turner's name. Executive Ulman stated that it is a fitting tribute since Bro. Turner has dedicated his life to make Columbia a better place to live. Construction started four years ago for which funding was requested 15 years ago in Annapolis, MD. Phase I of the park has been completed and opened to the public. It includes three lighted synthetic turf multipurpose fields, press boxes, bleachers, playground area, and parking lot. The cost for the 298 acres is approximately \$50 million.

Tau Pi Black History Expo

Columbia, MD. February 28, 2015. Howard County Pan-Hellenic and Black History Expo Core Committee sponsored a Black History program second to none at Wilde Lake High School. Tau Pi Brothers Eric Astrop and Kurt Wall are members of the Committees. Also, 86 year old Tau Pi Bro. Allen Mines made a considerable donation.

Each of the Divine 9 and Black Organizations had a display table to showcase the history of their fraternity, sorority, or organization. Bro. Richard Layne, the chapter curator, did an excellent job in providing pictures, placards, and art for public display. Many of the visitors were very surprised to know that many of our Omega Men were trailblazers in African American History. We had displays of Omega Men in Arts & Entertainment; Astronauts; Civil Rights; Education; Military; Ministry; Politics; and Sports. A major eye opener to our audience was the names of 23 Omega Men who were recipients of the NAACP signature Spingarn Medal Award. To top it off, we also had a list and pictures of Omega Men who have been honored in the series of the United States Postal Services Black Heritage Stamp. In addition to the aforementioned during the month of February, Tau Pi Chapter has had a relationship with Howard County Library to display our history in their lobby glass cases and other public counters. Displays were set up in two of the Columbia, MD libraries – Main Library adjacent to Merriweather Pavillion and Cradlerock Branch. To cap it off, we were able to have displays in the new state of the art library, Millers Library, in Ellicott City. Special thanks to Bro. Richard Layne for his commitment and hard work.

Tau Pi Black History Expo Exhibits



Tau Pi's Nonagenarian Brother Sherman Polley

Columbia, MD. Bro. Sherman Polley was born on August 25, 1918 in Huntington, West Virginia. He attended and graduated from Chrispus Attucks High School in Indianapolis, Indiana. After graduation, Bro. Polley entered in the United States Army during World War II. As an enlisted man, he achieved the rank of a Technician Fourth Grade. For his courageousness in the battle of Morotai, Netherlands East Indies part of the "Pacific War" of WWII, he received the Bronze Star Medal.

After serving in the War, Bro. Polley like many veterans was able to take advantage of the benefits and attend college. He enrolled at West Virginia State and received a Bachelor of Science Degree. He later pursued his education by attending Butler University in Indianapolis where he received his Master Degree in Economics. On December 20, 1952, he married his sweetheart Rubie. From this union, they have three children; Edward, Stephen, and Karen. From his previous marriage, he has a son John and a daughter Claudia.

Bro. Polley as a student at West Virginia State University decided that he wanted to become an Omega Man. He was initiated into Theta Psi Chapter on May 29, 1946. As an ambitious man, Sherman relocated and worked in Indianapolis, Florida, Philadelphia, and Washington, DC. In 1975 while working in Washington, DC and living in Columbia, MD he became one of the Charter Members of Tau Pi Chapter. In 1972, his wife Rubie became a Charter Member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in Howard County.

Bro. Polley professional career included Executive positions with Western Electric in Indianapolis, Indiana; Food Fair Stores in Philadelphia, PA; and Model Cities Housing Development Corporation in Washington, DC. The latter position he worked for the late and former Mayor Marion S. Barry, Jr. When Sherman was not working, he enjoyed music, traveling, and was an avid golfer. He was a member of the National Negro Golf Association.



Brother Jerry Watkins with Brother Sherman Polley (seated)

Today, Bro. Sherman and wife Rubie reside in Columbia, MD at Harmony Hall Retirement Center. One of their major wishes, while they are both living, is that Fraternity and Sorority brothers and sisters visit and call their aging members. After being active and serving as a Greek for so many years, it only seems respectful and with reverence that such a wish should be honored.

Tau Pi's Nonagenarian Brother Gerald Quentin Greenfield

Columbia, MD. Bro. Gerald Q. Greenfield was born on April 25, 1920 in Williamsport, TN and was the youngest of six siblings. Due to financial hardship during his upbringing, he attended four High Schools. However, his perseverance allowed him to graduate from Bridgeforth High School in Pulaski, TN. He later enrolled at Tennessee State University majoring in History, Social Science, and Physical Science. Through hard work, he was able to graduate in three years.

On December 16, 1940 he was initiated into Rho Psi Chapter on a line of 15 Lampados. He later became a Charter member of Theta Rho in 1965 (Germany) and Tau Pi in 1975 (Columbia, MD). He served as Tau Pi first Vice Basileus. He represented the chapter very well by attending and being a Delegate at Conclaves and District Conferences. Since the chapter did not have a Fraternity Center, he opened his house for chapter meetings and social gatherings. He is a Life Member and proudly shares with anyone who will listen that he has been financial since 1940. One of his most noble contributions has been his personal involvement with the Tau Pi Foundation. Each year he has donated an additional scholarship of \$1,000.00 to the best applicant recommended by the Scholarship Committee.

As with most African American males during his era, he entered into the Armed Forces since he was only able to get menial employment after graduating from Tennessee State. He enlisted in 1943 but was denied to attend Officer Candidate School. Unfazed, he saw it through and attained the rank of Master Sergeant. To fulfill his dream he later enrolled in graduate school at the University of Denver. This required him to drive 65 miles each way three nights per week. He successfully earned a Master Degree in Social Work in 1957. After over 20 years he was eventually recommended for OCS and successfully obtained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He bravely served in WWII, Korean Conflict, and the Vietnam War. Subsequently, he obtained his Honorable Discharge after 30 years of dedicated and commendable service. Bro. Greenfield penchant to stay ac-



Brother Gerald Greenfield (seated) with his lovely wife Blanchette

tive led him to a position of Social Worker with the Department of Social Services in Baltimore, MD. He later transferred to the Veteran Administration at the Virginia Hospital and St. Elizabeth Hospital in Washington, DC. Finally at the tender age of 72, he retired.

Today, he is an active member of Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church in Columbia, MD. He served on a number of committees including Stewardship, Finance, Lay Organization, and the Senior Ministry. His first wife Dorothy has transitioned to Glory, but from this union came two sons, Gerald Quentin and Damion. In 2010 at the 76th Conclave in Raleigh, NC, Bro. Greenfield was due to receive his 70th year Service Award. However, he was unable to attend because he was on his honeymoon with his lovely wife Blanchette.

Tau Lambda Lambda Talent Hunt Competition



Tau Lambda Lambda Talent Hunt First Place Winner Aaron Parker

La Plata, Maryland. February 28, 2015. For the seventh year in the row, the Tau Lambda Lambda chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. held its Annual Talent Hunt competition. The event was held on February 28th on the campus of the College of Southern Maryland's La Plata.

Aaron Parker, a talented pianist and a student at Edgewood High School in Edgewood, MD, placed first in the competition. Walker, 17, received a \$500 cash award. This was the second year in the row he entered the competition

First and second runners-up were Andre Jones and Kennedy Bell, respectively. Jones, a junior at Westlake High School in Waldorf, MD and a great student, got the audience involved with his rendition of "A Change Is Gonna Come" and Bell, a senior at Suitland High School in Suitland,

MD, used her sultry voice to serenade the crowd.

When speaking about the Talent Hunt, Chairman Quentin Lowe had this to say "This year's Talent Hunt was another success in my opinion. I was stressed a little more this year because we had to cancel the rehearsal due to the weather, so I didn't know what to expect of the contestants. However, we had a great group of talented contestants. I'm looking forward to next year's competition already."

A nationally mandated program of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, the Talent Hunt competition is a yearly event hosted by Tau Lambda Lambda and is open to all high school students in Southern Maryland. Cash prizes are awarded to the top three placing competitors, and the grand winner advances to a regional competition.



Tau Lambda Lambda Talent Hunt Contestants

Psi Lambda Lambda Celebrate 10th Anniversary in Punta Cana



l-r Reginald Henry, Henry Snead, Donald LaHuffman, Butler Dowery, Wade Isreal, David Marzette, Anthony Cochran

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, 18 - 21 January 2015. The proud Brothers of Psi Lambda Lambda Chapter flew to Punta Cana, Dominican Republic during the 2015 MLK Memorial weekend to celebrate their first 10 years of service to the Greater New York City community. Psi Lambda Lambda Chapter was chartered 20 January, 2005, and actively serves their community while supporting the Fraternity's programs and mandates. Their stay at the Paradisus Palma Real Resort, an all-inclusive oceanfront paradise, included a reception to commemorate the occasion and to reflect on the Chapter's accomplishments, as well as a dinner for fellowship. Ten Brothers and their significant others attended, including several Charter members -- Butler B. Dowery (Charter Basileus), Reginald A. Henry (Charter Vice Basileus), Wade H. Isreal, Sr., David Marzette, and Henry Snead. Brothers joined the festivities from New York, New Jersey, North Carolina, Washington, DC, and Alabama. Congratulatory notes and ac-

knowledgements were sent by Grand Basileus Antonio Knox, Sr. and Second District Representative Milton Harrison.

Over the Chapter's first decade members have participated in the mentoring program of the Eagle Academy in the Bronx, NY; and the chapter sponsors a scholarship program benefiting high school students in the New York City area. Other chapter initiatives and projects include establishment of the Purple Book Gold Book Project to create functional bookshelf space in New York Hospitals to house educational and fun reading materials for pediatric patients and their families; the Family Health Symposium which includes community health initiatives that advocate early testing and emphasizes preventive care. Other outreach projects include book drives to enhance reading skills of hospital pediatric patients aged 5-12. The Chapter looks forward to serving its community for the decades to come.



l-r Sharon Burke, Nancy Henry, Jacqueline Marzette, Sohndra Snead

Mu Omega Heart for Liberia Social Action



Mu Omega Brothers prepare food and supplies for Liberia Aid

Philadelphia, PA. October 11, 2014. Brothers from Mu Omega Chapter participated in Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church's Heart for Liberia event, to provide necessary food and other items to residents and aid workers in West Africa.

The Heart for Liberia event was the result of a partnership between Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church, Lott Carey, the Foreign Mission Board, and National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. Members of Enon and the community were asked to donate items such as bleach, hand sanitizer, bottled water, and various canned foods. Those items would be packaged and shipped to the Lott Carey Mission School in Brewerville, Liberia.

Because many Mu Omega brothers worship at Enon, and because Mu Omega as a chapter recognized the need to help prevent the spread of Ebola, brothers came out in strong numbers to help support the event. The

chapter used its resources to set up radio and television spots to promote the event. On the actual day, in addition to donating the requested items by the box load, Mu Omega brothers took the lead by unloading peoples' cars as they drove up with their donations, and setting up an assembly line process. The brothers also supplied much-needed manpower when it came to packing boxes with the donations and loading the boxes onto pallets.

Mu Omega was supported in its efforts by brothers from Zeta Iota Iota and Epsilon Pi Chapters. Heart for Liberia was extremely successful with, over 15,000 lbs of food and products shipped to Liberia. Enon was highly appreciative of Mu Omega's efforts, listing it first among the contributors in its post event report.

Mu Omega Minton Holiday Basket and Toy Drive



A sampling of various donated toys collected for Mu Omega Minton Holiday Basket and Toy Drive

Philadelphia, PA. December 20, 2014. Brothers from Mu Omega Chapter held its annual James A. Minton Holiday Basket and Toy Drive, where they packaged and donated holiday baskets to needy members of the community.

Mu Omega's Minton Basket Drive is held in the name of their chapter brother under whose inspiration and leadership the drive began almost 20 years ago. Since that time they have been providing holiday "baskets" to families in need each December - a basket consists of a frozen turkey, and all the sides needed to prepare a complete dinner. The chapter packs the baskets at a local supermarket and brings them to Mu Omega fraternity house for the families to pick up. The chapter locates deserving families

through their local elected officials and other community connections. When the families arrive to pick up their baskets, Mu Omega also sets up a table with donated toys on it for children to select - the true joy of the season comes out when one sees children's faces as they stand before a table full of toys. All baskets and toys are fully funded through donations of the brothers of Mu Omega.

This year, Mu Omega was able to donate 70 holiday baskets to the community. In addition, after learning through one of their community partners of a single father who had recently become unemployed, the brothers of Mu Omega invited him to the fraternity house the basket drive where they presented him with a \$250 gift card and toys for his children.

Mu Omega MLK Day of Service



Keynote Speaker Bo Kimble addresses audience at the MLK Day of Service event.

Philadelphia, PA. January 19, 2015. The Mu Omega Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and the historic Christian Street YMCA hosted the third (3rd) annual MLK Day of Service on Monday, January 19, 2015.

The Men of Omega Psi Phi used this special event to support youth initiatives, and focus on the issues they encounter and have questions about. The audience of young men and women drawn primarily from the surrounding neighborhoods of South Philadelphia, but youngsters from other sections of the city came to the event. Four (4) discussion topics were selected around which, the young men and women were grouped. The Omega Brothers serves as Moderator-Group Leader for each topic and group, which was Cyberbullying; Martin Luther King and Non-violence; Authority Figures & Conflict; Male Perceptions of Women.

The Keynote Speaker for the event was Philadelphia's Public League basketball icon, "Bo" Kimble. "Bo" Kimble is a retired All-American basketball player (Loyola Marymount University), and professional player with the Los Angeles Clippers and New York Knicks.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity is dedicated to promoting academic excellence, facilitating and coordinating activities that will uplift their communities and make a contribution toward improving the quality of life for African Americans.

The Fraternity's motto is "friendship is essential to the soul," and therein lays the basis of their organization. In honor of the MLK Day Service and keeping with their motto, they seek to maximize the potential of the community by providing support, resources and opportunities.



Mu Omega Brothers moderate group discussion with young men.

Gamma Pi Project ENRICH Black History Month

Bowie, Md. February 14, 2015. For young people, Black History Month is a time to read about and listen to stories highlighting the contributions of African Americans throughout our nation's history. Quite simply, it is a time to listen and learn. But the students who participate in Gamma Pi's Project ENRICH program experienced a different kind of Black History Month observance this year. This time, they were the voices of Black History Month, as they provided their views on social issues and talked about the challenges they face in a society that is still struggling with diversity and cultural problems.

During the February 14 program at Bowie State University's Thurgood Marshall Library, more than 20 students from Project ENRICH engaged in a public exchange of ideas and information about various hot button topics before a crowded auditorium of parents, friends and Gamma Pi chapter members. Divided into three panels, they took turns articulating their views on such issues as the black male image, the black female image, popular culture, careers, college life, their goals and dreams, how they navigate their daily environments, identifying the influences in their lives and their generation as a whole, black-on-black crime, police-community relations and the last panel dealt with critical thinking. The question posed to the panel was "Are we teaching our children how to think critically or are we teaching them what to think?"

"I think the energy and the passion we are getting from our young people is very powerful...The future leaders of tomorrow are right here. So the best way to engage our young people is to hear from them to see what they see as the best solutions to solve some of their problems," said Brother Willie Hines, chairman of Project ENRICH. He conceived this year's approach to Black History Month as a way to get the youth to start visualizing their futures.

At the end of the panel sessions, individual students came forward and shared with the group developments in college acceptance, selections, scholarships and any other academic and scholastic exploits.

It was encouraging to see the many opportunities Project ENRICH students are receiving. Project ENRICH focuses on encouraging and preparing youth for college and productive lives as adults through monthly Saturday sessions at Bowie State, beginning in the 9th grade and ending with high school graduation. Students learn study skills, what to expect in college and what courses to take to prepare for college. Along with their parents, they get financial aid and scholarship information as well as insight on the college application and selection process. About 80 students are enrolled this year.

The Black History month panels were broadcast live on Gamma Pi chapter's Ustream TV channel. The archived broadcast can be viewed at: www.ustream.tv/channel/gamma-pi-on-location.



Young man dialogues with the audience following panel discussions



A student shares her views and answers questions after a panel discussion

Gamma Pi Talent Hunt Contestants



Gamma Pi Mardi Gras

Greenbelt, MD. March 20, 2015. More than 1000 people from across the National Capital Region descended on Martin's Crosswinds in Greenbelt on Friday night, March 20, for Gamma Pi chapter's annual Mardi Gras Dinner & Dance Extravaganza. True to form, the event not only sold out, but again turned out to be the hottest entertainment ticket in the area led onstage by an all-Omega live musical aggregation, Just Friends Band, classic line dancing, exquisite food, and the always exciting costume contest where cash prizes are awarded.

For Gamma Pi chapter, in association with the co-sponsoring Friendship Charities Foundation, Mardi Gras is an opportunity for the chapter to raise funds for scholarships and an array of social action programs that Gamma Pi carries out to assist local families, children and seniors throughout the year. About \$20,000 is raised for scholarships and several thousand more dollars go to the various social action initiatives. As Gamma Pi likes to say, Mardi Gras is always a "party with a purpose."

For the full house of patrons, there was no shortage of options to entertain. Just Friends, one of the hottest musical acts in the metro area that formed for the Omega Centennial and has continued to perform, kept the flow going. Blending in favorite oldies R&B tunes with today's new hip-hop flavor, and a little bit of jazz, they kept the dance floor crowded with elbow room only. In between musical sets, patrons enjoyed the menu by dining



Grand KRS Bro. Kenneth Rodgers (center) greets Brothers at Mardi Gras



Basileus Brian K. Long (left) enjoying the night with chapter members

on roast sirloin of beef, baked chicken and seafood jumbalaya, mingling with friends and the Brothers of Gamma Pi, and enjoying drinks at the bar. The highlight of the evening was clearly the Mardi Gras parade. Close to 100 people marched in in costume – many of the women sporting parasols – making it by far the largest Mardi Gras parade in recent memory. The smartphone cameras were poking through the crowd like submarine periscopes as members of the audience scrambled to get some of the momentous event on video. And in classic fashion, the Brothers took to the floor to sing "Omega Dear," followed by the impromptu step show that always seems to break out as Omega spirit fills the house.

As always, the Super Chapter attracted an impressive lineup of local and fraternal luminaries. Among them was Grand Keeper of Records & Seal, Brother Kenneth Rodgers, who is a former Basileus for Gamma Pi and the 32nd Second District Representative; Brother current and 34th District Representative Milton Harrison, and Brother Rushern Baker, the two-term elected County Executive for Prince George's County.

It was a memorable night for Gamma Pi and its supporters. Congratulations to Brother Ronald Swann, Chairman, and Co-Chair Brother Rodney Beverly, for an outstanding job. You can catch highlights from the Mardi Gras at this Twitter hashtag: #gpmardigras15.

Gamma Pi Talent Hunt Competition

Springdale, MD. March 14, 2015. If you were inside the auditorium of Brother Charles H. Flowers High School in Springdale on Saturday afternoon, March 14, you would have thought for a while you were sitting front and center inside the famed Apollo Theater in Harlem. The only thing missing was the infamous Apollo "Sandman," who wasn't needed here because there were no "duds" on stage at Gamma Pi's Annual Talent Hunt. It was all good.

The melodic voices, the sharp sounds of finely tuned instruments, the awe-inspiring dance moves and the captivating emotion of dramatic readings made you feel like you were watching tomorrow's stars today. In many respects you were, as Gamma Pi showcased the dynamic talents of area high school students, delighting the audience of about 400 who turned out to take in the entertainment and fine arts. A total of 33 students participated, including 11 who displayed artwork. As in previous years, trying to pick a winner from such an outstanding field was next to impossible. To help ease the pain of having to choose from so many talented contestants, Gamma Pi, as always, employed

a panel of professional music and fine arts educators to serve as judges, including the manager for legendary R&B act Earth, Wind & Fire. The performance categories were instrumental classical, instrumental contemporary, vocal contemporary, drama and art. Students represented public and private high schools from Prince George's County and surrounding communities.

Flowers High School School senior Kayla McDonald was the overall winner and also took first place in drama. She performed vocals on the selection "My Funny Valentine" by Richard Rodgers, and was accompanied by her father, Charles McDonald. She also performed a drama routine from the Tyler Perry movie, "For Colored Girls Only." Graceson Moore (Suitland High) won in the instrumental classical category, Aston Woolery (Suitland) won the instrumental classical piano category, Nylah Drummond (Flowers High) was selected winner in the vocal contemporary category and she also won the dance category, and Oluferanmi Quadrias won in the dance division. A full list of winners is below.

Gamma Pi Roland Jones to Head P.G. County Central Services



P.G. County Executive Brother Rushern Baker and Brother Roland Jones (center) gather with Omega Brothers after swearing-in ceremony.

Upper Marlboro, MD. October 30, 2015. On Tuesday, October 30, 2014, the Prince George's County Council, confirmed Roland L. Jones (Mu Rho '95) as the new Director for the Office of Central Services. Prior to this appointment, Jones served as the Executive Director for the Supplier Development and Diversity Division. He successfully fulfilled this role before receiving numerous recommendations to take on the leadership position for one of the County's most critical operational agencies.

In his new position, Jones will be responsible for the success of the Office of Central Services which houses the County's procurement, fleet management, printing and reproduction services, capital construction projects, land acquisition transactions, energy management, and supplier development. Jones is willing and capable as he previously excelled in similar

roles at both Fannie Mae and Sprint before joining the Prince George's County Government.

Praised for his integrity, consistent work ethic, and determination for results that make a difference, Jones received a unanimous vote from the Council. The Honorable County Executive, Rushern L. Baker, III along with Thomas Himler, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Budget, Finance and Administration, gave compelling remarks affirming their confidence in Jones' ability to accomplish the tasks set before him.

Jones is devoted to upholding the priorities of the County Executive as he firmly commits the Office of Central Services to be a "Best in Class" agency.

Iota Phi Goodwill Committee

Pittsburgh, PA. This year Iota Phi Chapter's Goodwill Committee has been actively working to expand the scope and bond between the Brothers in Pittsburgh. Motivated to work collectively to address the Social, Personal, and Spiritual needs of the Brothers and their families, the Goodwill Committee provides support to family and friends of Brothers who enter Omega Chapter, by meeting and praying for the family, serving as their liaison in the planning of the Memorial Service with the funeral home and maintaining contact and connecting them to appropriate Grief Counseling. Additionally, the Goodwill Committee showed their dedication to addressing the spiritual needs of the Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., by providing members only weekly prayer line. The Prayer Line is offered every week and is led by one of four Pastors on the Committee, who provides collective and individual prayers to Brothers who call in on the scheduled time and day (Brothers do not need to be financial to participate). The Goodwill Committee also served as a Bridge Builder by maintain-

-ing regular contact with Brothers who are unable to engage with the local graduate chapter on a regular basis, particularly our oldest brother, Brother Leo Woods '38 GE chapter. Committee Members are assigned individual Brothers that they are required to make contact with at a minimum of once a month by phone or in person. This has been our most precious accomplishment as family members have complimented the impact our regular contact has had on the Brother that we have taken the time out to keep in touch with or visit.

Next up, the Goodwill Committee is planning to provide programs, trainings, and seminars designed to address many of the issues that we all face as men. A marriage enhancement seminar (for couples), a fatherhood initiative, and training on the affects and impact of Domestic Violence are a few of the initiatives that we plan to offer from our diverse team of trained dedicated Committee Members.

Chi Pi Host Annual Dennis Dowdell Scholarship Reception



Chi Pi Man of the Year Brother Derrick Carr (center w/award) with Chi Pi Brothers at the Dennis Dowdell Scholarship Reception

Syracuse, NY. February 5, 2015. The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Chi Pi Chapter in Syracuse, NY presented its Annual Dennis Dowdell Scholarship Reception in celebration of Black History Month Thursday, February 5, 2015 at the Museum of Science and Technology, Armory Square Downtown Syracuse.

This event is used to raise scholarship money to support area students. "We are gratified by the support we continue to receive from across section of Central New York, as we continue Dennis Dowdell's legacy of supporting the educational achievement of young people" said Basileus Anthony Cherebin.

The event is named in honor of Dennis Dowdell a 50 year Omega man best known for his twenty year run as host of News and Views Black Perspective on WSTM TV in Syracuse, NY.

The chapter honored Pastor Daren Jaime of the People's AME Zion Church in Syracuse as Citizen of the Year. The church is the first African American congregation in the city of Syracuse. Pastor Jaime was honored for his work in the community especially on the city's south side. He is frequently called upon to address issues facing the community, serves as

an advisor to the mayor, oversees community revitalization, provides the city with a voice on his weekly "Power Perspectives" radio program, and serves on the city's trauma response team in response to violent crime in the community. "I am humbled to receive such a prestigious award from the brothers of Omega Psi Phi," said Pastor Jaime.

Vera House Inc. was recognized as the organization of the year. Vera House provides counseling, advocacy, shelter, and education to victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. Chi Pi Chapter has partnered with Vera House and 100 Black Men to focus on men's outreach and prevention education within African American community. "We are honored to receive this award, and are deeply appreciative of our partnership with the men of Omega", said Randi Bregman Executive Director of Vera House.

Brother Derrick Carr was named Omega Man of the Year for his commitment to principles and ideals of Omega especially his work with the undergraduate Kappa chapter at Syracuse University.

Chi Pi Chapter Syracuse Chapter was founded on January 31, 1976. The members are involved in mentoring, voter education and community service.



l-r Chi Pi Basileus, Brother Anthony Cherebin, Organization of the Year: Vera House, Ms. Randi Bregman, Citizen of the Year: Rev. Daren Jaime, Omega Man of the Year: Brother Derrick Carr.

Omicron Chi Celebrates 60 Year Anniversary

Plainfield, NJ. February 4, 2015, Omicron Chi chapter celebrated 60 years of outstanding service to the Plainfield, New Jersey community and to the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. The chapter anniversary was highlighted by a Proclamation from Plainfield Mayor, Adrian Mapp, as February 4th, 2015 was noted as “Omicron Chi Day” in the City of Plainfield. The humble beginnings of Omicron Chi chapter can be traced back to the Fall of 1954 when a group of Omega Men, who resided in Plainfield, New Jersey, formed a committee to initiate the process of chartering a Graduate Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in Plainfield. The Chairman of the committee was Brother Raymond Cruse.

A letter dated October 19, 1954 was sent to numerous Brothers in the area about the proposal and inviting them to join the effort. A meeting was held with the Second District Representative on November 9, 1954 to officially set the process in motion. The application for charter was filed on November 21, 1954, with 9 Brothers having paid dues.

On January 5, 1955 the application for charter was approved by the Grand Council of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. At that time John F. Potts was the 22nd Grand Basileus of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. An informal meeting of the Omicron Chi Chapter was held on January 11, 1955 to set up the temporary structure of this new chapter.

The first official formal meeting of the newly formed chapter was held February 4, 1955. The first Basileus of Omicron Chi was Brother Joel Nelson. The Keeper of Records and Seal was Raymond Cruse.

On April 7, 1955, Omicron Chi Chapter was chartered with twelve men including: Chappell Glenn, Lee Paterson, Joel Nelson, Washington T. Nelson, Raymond Cruse, Marvin Whaley, Marshall Brown, Donald Van Blake, Anthony Cary, Richard Vaughn, and Herman Carter.

Over the last 60 years, the “Mighty OX” has produced some of the finest Omega men in the history of the Fraternity. Omicron Chi chapter and its members have been recognized nationally and internationally for outstanding community service and business leadership. Omicron Chi is proud to have been home to one of Omega Psi Fraternity, Inc.’s greatest leaders, the late Brother James S. Avery who served as the 28th Grand Basileus of the fraternity.

Known as a “social action” chapter, Omicron Chi continues to sponsor outstanding programs in support of the community including the “Feed



(left) Basileus Byron Ward with Founding Omicron Chi Member Brother Donald Van Blake (center)

the Less Fortunate” Program, The Omega Leadership Institute Mentoring Program, The James S. Avery Scholarship Ball, Annual Coat, Suit, Toy, and Blood Drives, an Annual Scholarship Golf Outing, Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Program/Talent Hunt, Annual High School Essay Contest, Annual Assault on Illiteracy/Book Donation, and Voter’s Education and Registration events.

Founding Omicron Chi member, Brother Donald Van Blake, recently stated “I continue to be impressed by the focus and work of the Brothers of Omicron Chi chapter. I never imagined that 60 years after our small beginnings that the chapter would have accomplished so many wonderful things”.

Nu Beta Beta Cops and Clergy Forum

Englewood, NJ. February 26, 2015. In a forum that ought to be scheduled in every community of color; Bro. Wayne Hamer, Councilman of Englewood, moderated a panel discussion entitled “Cops and Clergy.” The panel included clergy, law enforcement and community leadership began a conversation that all hope will continue for years to come.

A presentation of recent national events and topics provided stimulus for the panel and attendees in a candid conversation that sought to create a dialogue and decrease tension. Law enforcement heard impassioned sto-

ries and questions and shared their viewpoints on how situations occur and what might be done differently.

There was agreement on all fronts that the forum was a great beginning. An invitation was extended by Rev. Bill Allport to use his church as the meeting site for the next forum.

The forum is version of a chapter program named “How to Act and React” that helps young people in their encounters with authority.

NBB “The Christian Response to the New Jim Crow Lecture Series”

Englewood, NJ. March 2, 2015. Bro. James Young, Municipal Judge of Teaneck, NJ led a segment of lecture series entitled “The Christian Response to the New Jim Crow. The five week series was an eye opening and unsettling look at Michelle Alexander’s important book. The book draws parallels between slavery and mass incarceration.

Bro. Young led a lively lecture on the role of the justice system in this new paradigm that has grown out of the “War on Drugs.” The audience was

engaged and grew larger as the series moved through the book.

The majority of attendees learned how ill prepared our communities are to receive the staggering number of men and women who are returning after paying their debt to society. Once they return and discover a world that continued without them and has few supports to allow their re-entry into society.

Omicron Chi 2015 Memorial Service Activities

Plainfield, NJ. March 2015. Omicron Chi has established a new tradition of observing our mandated Memorial Service program with an entire weekend of events. Memorial Service Weekend consists of the following: The "To Artina Initiative", Sunday Morning Worship Service, Memorial Service Observance, and a Brotherhood Brunch. This year's weekend was led by OX chapter Chaplain, Bro. Husan Abdul-Ghani.

"To Artina Initiative"

Union County, NJ. Saturday, March 14, 2015. The Brothers of the Mighty OX began our annual Memorial Service Weekend by visiting our Omicron Chi widows. We have affectionately named this unique program "To Artina Initiative". Our goal is to let the widows know that we still cared about them and we are concerned about them. Widows were visited by individual teams which consisted of a Senior/Elder Brother (Team Captain), a recently Reclaimed Brother, and a Neophyte to best represent our beloved Fraternity and Chapter. This year's team captains were: Bro. John Metz, Bro. James Key Jr., Bro. Horace Baldwin, Bro. Byron Ward, Bro. JohnTucker, and Bro. Mike Smith. During the visits, we presented each Quette a bouquet of flowers and greeting card (signed by Chapter Brothers) along with an OX overview DVD and/or a recent copy of our OX newsletter. In return, the ladies shared wonderful stories of the past about themselves and our fallen Brothers as well as provided us an update on the latest activities of their grandchildren. Unfortunately, this year we had a number of widows that were ill and not available for visitation. In those cases, we are in contact with their families and will plan visits in the near future. We also sent a greeting card to the out of town widows, and a designated Brother visited with them by telephone. All-in-all this program is extremely fulfilling and enriching for both the widows as well as the Brothers.

Sunday Worship Service

Plainfield, NJ. Sunday, March 14, 2015. Omicron Chi Brothers worshipped at Shiloh Baptist Church located at 515 W 4th St, Plainfield, NJ 07060 (hosted by the OX's very own Bro. Minister Morris Lucky). At least 18 Brothers were in attendance to fellowship and give God praise. Basileus Byron Ward made a presentation to the Pastor Gerald Thomas in the form of a donation to the Church's Scholarship Fund.

Omicron Chi Memorial Service

Westfield, NJ. Sunday, March 14, 2015. OX Chapter conducted its formal observance of Memorial Service at Fairfield Cemetery (1100 East Broad Street Westfield NJ 07090) at cemetery plot of the most Honorable Bro. James S. Avery (Omega Psi Phi Fraternity 28th Grand Basileus).

Brotherhood Brunch

Clark, NJ. Sunday, March 14, 2015. Omicron Chi Chapter Brothers enjoyed a hearty meal at Chili's Bar and Grill (225 Central Avenue, Clark, NJ 07066) as our Memorial Service weekend culminated with a focus on friendship. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"



Omicron Chi Members at Shiloh Baptist Church for the Memorial Service

Nu Beta Beta MLK Breakfast

Englewood, NJ. January 10, 2015. Nu Beta Beta holds its first Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Community Breakfast. The chapter served a sumptuous, pancake breakfast to a gathering of family, friends and community members at Galilee United Methodist Church. After the meal, we were treated to a powerful message by Rev. Javon Davis

of Ebenezer Baptist Church. Rev. Davis shared his thoughts on how Dr. King's legacy impacts his actions and the future of his young children. Bro. Mark DeMontagnac and his team organized the press, the chefs, the servers and the reception table. Guests seemed to have been pleased and made requests for next as they left the church.



What's On the Minds of Omega Men

Opinion/Editorial Section



What's Always On My Mind

My Brothers, having been granted the glorious privilege of leading this unique assemblage of men; I can again share the Omega constants that inform every Brother's walk on life's journey.

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.

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.

Without question I arrived at the pinnacle of leadership, when Omega was in dire straits. In 2010, the Brotherhood was focused on the pressing need for change. This was reflected in the fact that in over 40 years, I am the first Brother to be elected Grand Basileus who had not served in other Grand positions. This Brotherhood read my platform, heard my message, believed in me and voted as such.

With the strong vote of confidence, I promised the Brothers that I would not let them down. At the moment of my election, a call was placed to Past Grand Basileus Avery whom we had visited prior to my election. He was very ill and we did not know the hour. On our last visit he said "I believe you will win, and Omega will be in good hands." His final words to me while I was still on the Conclave floor were "Tell the Brothers I am alright now, I am at peace; Omega is in good hands." As I wiped tears from my eyes, I said to him "I won't let you down." Brother Avery entered Omega Chapter 48 hours later.

My Brothers, my team worked each and every day to restore Omega to a sound position, financially and a positive image. The four year record of my leadership can factually show that Omega is in the best financial position in its entire history and significant progress has been made in image repair. Thus, promises made and kept to the Founders and this Brotherhood. I thank you for allowing me to serve. This is always on my mind.

Words to remember, people are entitled to their own opinion; but not entitled to their own facts.

Brother Dr. Andrew A. Ray,
39th Grand Basileus

Violence: The Most Critical Issue Facing Our Community

Brothers of Omega:

We are men of action, not of mere symbolism. The directive for our action is found in our Cardinal Principles: to be men of integrity; to be men of continuous learning; to be men who work through life's challenges; and to be men who improve the circumstances of our community.

We must now address the most critical issue facing our community: violence. Until we reduce the violence in our neighborhoods, we cannot expect our children to have the future that we hope for them and, indeed, ourselves. Reducing violence must begin, as an initial matter, in our relationships. Physical violence, and the language of violence, must end in our own homes. Omegas should be the leaders of the anti-violence movement in our respective communities. Given our guiding principles and the vision of our Founders, it must be us.

Domestic violence is diminishing our quality of life. It is leaving permanent scars on the bodies and emotions of our mothers, sisters and chil-

dren. A quick overview of the facts of domestic violence in a few states in the Second District illustrates the point. Take a look at the year 2013. In Maryland, 54 deaths, 98 rapes and 25,188 assaults are attributed to domestic violence. In New York City, 62 family related homicides were recorded, and police responded to 280,531 domestic violence incidents. In 2014, in Pennsylvania, law enforcement agencies recorded 97 deaths of which 59 were women and 38 were men. The youngest victim was a 20 day old child whose mother was shot and killed and the baby died after delivery. The oldest victim was 92.

Keep in mind that only about a third of the victims of domestic violence report an incident to any law enforcement agency. For example, in the above statistics for New York City, in 2013, 74% of the victims had no prior police conduct and 84% had no prior order of protection.

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What's On the Minds of Omega Men Opinion/Editorial Section



Violence: The Most Critical Issue Facing Our Community (*cont.*)

The solutions are not overwhelming. They will, however, require consistent effort and attention. They also will require organized action by each Chapter. Here's what each Chapter can do right now: First, establish and build a relationship with a local domestic violence advocacy groups in your community. Second, help fund local domestic violence shelters so that women and children do not live in squalor as they escape the violence in their home and try to build a new future without violence. Third, host programs in the community on the issue of domestic violence in schools, youth organizations and churches. Fourth, turn Father's Day into Father's Week and host discussions about what it means to be a responsible father, including providing financial support for children and avoiding violence against the mother of one's children, regardless of the current state of the

relationship. Fifth, include in all future Second District conferences and meetings workshops and discussions about reducing violence in relationships.

Our communities deserve our effort. It's time to stop standing on the sidelines. We are men of action.

Eight Men

*Peter C. Harvey
Pi Chapter - 1976*

Former Attorney General of New Jersey



Successfully Leading Urban Students

School age students in municipalities and cities across these United States are being bombarded with personal reflexes as a result of dire poverty, police shootings and neighborhood violence between age group peers, ineffective public schools, and too few community education programs. The problematic circumstances our students face scream loudly for solutions that can be addressed by effective leadership. Those who lead the way for students in urban environments will help establish a comprehensively coordinated network of support systems between school districts, businesses, social service agencies, juvenile and adult criminal justice systems, non-profit organizations and other entities that serve the community. Leaders who are concerned about the well being and development of students in urban environments will be Cultural Workers: Those who understand the behavior, values, and attitudes of the students, "through their eyes" and are willing to participate in plans to assist students at their level of physical, intellectual, emotional, and/or social need. Cultural workers are moved beyond analyzing and describing the circumstances of urban students to engage in strategies planned to help improve their life trajectory. Cultural Workers make no excuses with and for students; they do the work: If there seems to be no way forward, they make a way; if there are no options, they create them. They consistently help students understand that high school graduation and having a post high school plan that leads to earning an income is a significant start to living a quality life in America.

Honest efforts must be made by municipal leaders to address the literacy and numeracy levels of urban students. To no fault of their own, many students in urban environments start school with deficient skills in areas of reading and math because of the obstacles and residual effects of poverty that many of their parents have not effectively surmounted and countered.

To that end, leaders of school systems across the country grapple with the challenge of having students graduate from high school. However, evidence has shown that more students in urban environments are graduating from high school, but, still, there is a skill deficiency between what they know and should know to compete for post secondary college and/or trade school opportunities. The chasm is occupied with disengaged students bent with inappropriate behavior along with academic skill deficiencies. These behavior and academic gaps have been very difficult for public school leaders to close. Thus, many systems have opted for school graduation rates over learning rates, when the pursuit of the latter is the only way to ensure that students are able to acquire skills to effectively compete in the American society. While the circumstances in which urban students and those committed to helping them are fraught with challenges, these challenges are surmountable.

Coordinated school and community structures that include practices of nurturing and positive repetition and action will provide the way forward for students in urban environments. Nurturing environments are places where there are caring adults who repeatedly reinforce positive behavior in addition to praising, appreciating, publically recognizing, giving attention and, providing tangible rewards (including money) to students. Simultaneously, boundaries and structures that require students to self-monitor must be established while holding them accountable for their unproductive behavior.

*Brother Dr. Andrey Bundley
Delta Beta Chapter, 1981
Coppin State University*



What's On the Minds of Omega Men

Opinion/Editorial Section



Now Is The Time For Omega

Some may say that despite the election of the first African American President of the United States, racism is still very much prevalent and on the rise in our country. And in that vein, it seems as if there are some factions of citizens and elected officials in America that have become extremely rebellious towards our current President, more so than towards any other President of the United States in history; stooping so low as to showing a complete lack of respect for the Office of the President itself. Why is this happening, what are the reasons? No one really knows but it doesn't help when our so called leaders in Congress precede President Obama's Inauguration by saying "We want to make sure Obama is a one term President", the hate was there before he even moved into the Oval office. That hate has trickled down from Congress, to Governors, Mayors, and various other elected officials across the country until it finally reached the local grassroots level where some form of racism now affects us directly in our communities.

It's fair to say that as a result, we now have experienced the killing of Trayvon Martin... by (so called neighborhood watcher) George Zimmerman... Verdict, Not Guilt; the killing of Eric Gardner, by police officers... No Indictment by Grand Jury; the killing of Michael Brown, by police officers... No Indictment by Grand Jury, and a host of others. So as a people what did we do? We followed in the footsteps of our ancestors from the civil rights era and we protested, marched, boycotted and picketed etc. And since we are in the new millennium, we also resorted to using our latest tool to quickly spread awareness of our anger and protest as we turned to various social media platforms such as, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram etc.

The problem however is that: "We fight Hard, but we don't fight long". For those brothers who use social media, you know exactly what I'm talking about. Everyone started creating various post against racism and police brutality, and/or posting pictures of victims or of themselves wearing hoodies in honor of Trayvon Martin, all to promote awareness, their anger and/or their support "for the cause". But I ask you, what are we doing now? Where are the protesters? Hood wearers? Marchers? What did they achieve by marching and protesting? If our goal was to voice anger, then that goal was achieved, but if our goal was to bring about change with jus-

tice and fairness then it failed miserably. When the verdicts of "not guilty" and "No Indictment" were read there was swift and vigorous protesting all over the place, yes we voiced our anger but we did not demand anything specifically in return. For all of the posting in the streets and on social media about those tragedies you will be hard pressed to find anyone talking about it now. It seems they've all gone back to posting the food they made last night, what they wore to an event or my favorite, when they post "I'm having a bad day Facebook family" and await the responses... Priceless. When our parents and grandparents marched during the civil rights era, they protested long and hard but it was for something they wanted which was equality. The brutality endured and in some cases murdering of their peers did not stop them from marching to achieve their goal. So what was the goal of all the marching and protesting done following these tragedies? Could it be to just show our anger or was it just to be active on social media, to show you "are down for the cause" or so people could "Like" your posts or pages? Now is the time for Omega! Now is the time for us to really do the work that our parents and grandparents have done, and paved the way for us to do so again, when they marched and protested. Now is the time for us to do the work when the camera's and spotlights are off. The real workers are working now to achieve some kind of equality and justice for the slayings. Hopefully putting together some kind of legislation that would prevent these tragedies from happening again by holding everyone responsible...from those who commit the slayings to those who prevent their persecution. Now is the time for Omega to step forward and lead as our forefathers have done so many times before. We don't need the spotlight, we don't need you to "like" our pages on Facebook, we are leaders who have our own inner spotlight that we will use to push for equality, justice and something tangible from these tragedies that we can use to help the communities we serve. Now is the time for Omega! Brother

J. Kendall Smalls
*Graduate Advisor Omicron Chapter
Second District Social Action Chair*

The Complex Issue With MSP

Induction of new men into the folds of Omega Psi Phi is as important to our existence as it is to the communities that are beneficiaries of the uplift that we are charged to bring them. For more than a century we have been relying on our "time tested traditions and rituals" as the primary way to continue the growth and relevancy of our great fraternity. Yet it seems that these time honored traditions and rituals, as currently interpreted, poses the single threat to our continued existence.

Given the nature of fraternities and sororities, much of our tradition is shrouded in mystery and unpublished for general distribution to the membership. Therefore we all assume the intentional or unintentional role of Griots in passing along our own unique interpretations of "traditions" and what they represent. Depending on the setting, sometimes the musings of us Griots can vary so widely that "going to the green" is often the end result.

When we talk about how it was when we crossed, what we did vs. what

they do, why we did it vs. why they do it, etc., we are passing along tradition. When we shake our heads and talk about how it is now; we are comparing traditions of old school vs. new school and unwittingly shaping new "traditions".

Lately, a popular topic among Brothers is MSP and Fraternity exposure to litigation. There is real fear in the air as this subject is discussed. It is as though we are collectively holding our breath and waiting to say "I knew it was coming".

Organizationally, there is tremendous effort being expended on training us on what we can't do, telling us what indemnifications must be signed, what legal pitfalls exists and the penalties for non-compliance. I feel as though we are living in a constant state of "severe weather warning" and we are constantly battenning down the hatches. Yet while we are focusing

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What's On the Minds of Omega Men

Opinion/Editorial Section



The Complex Issue With MSP (*cont.*)

on what we can't do, telling us what indemnifications must be signed, what legal pitfalls exist and the penalties for non-compliance. I feel as though we are living in a constant state of "severe weather warning" and we are constantly battenning down the hatches. Yet while we are focusing on preparations for the impending storm, us Griots continue to tell our story of what it takes for someone to be "made right".

The stories being told by us Griots vs the MSP training we are being given are diametrically opposed.

MSP training underestimates the importance of the Griots and the role of conveying our oral history. So while we are being instructed on what not to do; we are lacking in any discussion on what can replace 103 years of "tradition". Brothers who "accepted" the "traditions and rituals" on their journey to join the fraternity, naturally find ways to justify much of what they endured as being necessary, and will resist efforts to "give" away what they believe that they "earned".

In my opinion, we would benefit from guidelines and instruction on what is a substantial and suitable "replacement" process. I don't think that the Fraternity can continue to "whistle past the graveyard" and simultaneously work on a solution. I feel that Omega Psi Phi should impose an MSP moratorium until such time as uniform guidelines, representative of the high ideals upon which we were founded, can be established and taught to each brother, much like we are presently doing with MSP Training.

Obviously there will be pushback at the notion of a moratorium, but hopefully there are enough Brothers concerned about the "severe storm warnings" that a rational and logical decision will be made before this category 5 storm makes landfall.

Brother Terry Rogers
Gamma Pi Chapter

We Must Find Ways to Help At Risk Urban Youth

President Barack Obama hugs a student during an event in the East Room of the White House to promote his "My Brother's Keeper" initiative, on Thursday, Feb. 27, 2014, in Washington. Joined at the White House by young men of color, Obama called on America's businesses, philanthropists and government leaders to join forces to put more boys on a path toward successful lives. Foundations were to announce pledges to spend at least \$200 million over five years to promote that goal as Obama launches his "My Brother's Keeper" initiative. (AP Photo/ Evan Vucci)

The recently announced "My Brother's Keeper" initiative, proposed by President Barack Obama, has serious ramifications for the future of this nation and our local communities. This initiative serves to validate recent conversation regarding the need to strengthen and improve the participation of minorities in general and minority males specifically in the social fabric of our communities. The announcement of this initiative during the last week of Black History month is an emphatic response to the current debate over the relevancy and continued need to celebrate Black History month.

The spiritual and cultural wasteland that many of our urban communities have become is reflective of the spiritual and cultural wilderness which dwell in the lives and minds of many of the residents who live in these areas. The often-used adage, "A people without knowledge of its history is like a tree without roots, destined to die," is truly relevant and indicative of the lost condition many in our community find themselves. When we approach this world with an emptiness of spirit and purpose it is relatively easy to be led astray, down a path where we even participate in our own demise and destruction.

I truly believe one of the root causes of the continued dysfunction of our males in the educational, social and economic fabric of our community is this lack of knowledge of self.

When we have knowledge of self, an appreciation of the sacrifices as well as the incredible contributions those who came before us have made towards the betterment of mankind, we develop a more thorough understanding of our purpose in this world and become more committed to being contributing members of our communities.

In thinking about a strategy of cultural immersion, I looked around to see

what other peoples who have struggled to overcome adversity are doing to preserve and celebrate their history and traditions. How they ensure culture, tradition and values are transmitted from generation to generation. I believe our urban community organizations such as churches, community centers and other service groups could obtain a very enlightening lesson by examining one of the most successful group of peoples in our community, Jewish people.

According to their website, the local Jewish Community Center exists to "provide a barrier-free home for Jewish life in York and in strengthening and preserving Jewish culture." They do this by "promoting respect and understanding of Jewish values, history and culture." For example, the Jewish people make sure their children understand the ramifications the World War II Holocaust had on the development of their peoples. After the state of Israel was born in 1948, millions of European Jews moved there to rebuild their shattered lives. They adopted an unofficial motto: "Never again." On the other hand, blacks, many of whom have no connection to their past, still feel shame about the middle passage, slavery and the Jim Crow era. Even today, many blacks cower when they are told to get over those times, they happened a long time ago.

Other organizations such as Leadership York have a mission to train and support individuals who have the desire to serve the York community in leadership positions. They do a good job at that, but they are woefully lacking in their approach to developing leaders with skills needed to help extricate our minority community from its ever-spiraling descent into disarray, confusion and eventually chaos.

In addressing this third generation after the crack and rap epidemic, which has spread its destructive influences across the landscape, we need to be able to educate students on understanding and recognizing how our communities became the way they are. But even more importantly, we need to be sure they are equipped with the mentality and resources necessary to disengage ourselves from these conditions.

I have always believed the solutions to many of the negative conditions that plague urban communities lie within the purview of members of those

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What's On the Minds of Omega Men

Opinion/Editorial Section



We Must Find Ways to Help At Risk Urban Youth (cont.)

communities, particularly the male members. While serving as president be sure they are equipped with the mentality and resources necessary to disengage ourselves from these conditions.

I have always believed the solutions to many of the negative conditions that plague urban communities lie within the purview of members of those communities, particularly the male members. While serving as president of the School District of the City of York, about 10 years ago, I recognized, like President Obama, that the problems associated with black and Latino males proved to be an inhibitor to any significant progress aimed at improving academic performance of the district as a whole.

I realized, like President Obama, that if we could resolve some of these issues we could develop a situation where the rise in their performance would lift the entire district to higher degrees of performance. Sort of like a rising tide lifts all boats scenario. I spearheaded the development of a Black and Latino Male Task Force to work on those task. Unfortunately I did not have the 'juice' nor resources to adequately address the issues and the effort fell short of its goals. Social scientist David Rusk, in addressing York's problems in 1996, said that often in approaching difficult solutions to social problems "those who have the will often do not have the means, and those who have the means often do not have the will."

Well, President Obama has the will and access to the means. The president read over a litany of information, data and statistics that elucidate the dismal condition many black and Latino males find themselves mired in. In reciting the need to remedy the conditions minority males are confronted

with, the president remained focused on the conditions and the need for action to improve these circumstances rather than spending time and energy on assigning blame or responsibility for the current state.

I think this was part of the genius in the way the president rolled out the initiative. All of us are responsible for this country's future, and attempting to assign blame or guilt for the conditions at this time would be nothing but divisive and counterproductive.

Obviously there are at-risk youth of all races, but the problems facing young black and Latino men are so disproportionate that if left unresolved they will create an encumbrance on this nation that will be almost impossible to overcome. For every one black or Latino male who returns to York's neighborhoods from college, three will return from some type of incarceration. Is it any wonder our neighborhood culture reflects a prison culture mentality.

Hopefully, we can replicate the president's initiative in this community, developing a cadre of young men who can help to counter the negativity in our neighborhoods and provide hope to the many hopeless males in this city. Many people say all politics are local. I believe all effective social solutions are local. Perhaps there are some in this community who have the will and the means to address these debilitating problems.

My Brother's Keeper isn't the only solution. But it's a start.

Brother Jeffery Kirkland
York, PA.

50 year Brother's Perspective on Fraternal Life

This year through the grace of God, I have the honor of being a Brother of the Omega Psi Fraternity for fifty years. As the son of an Omega man, I have witnessed the metamorphosis of the fraternity for nearly seventy years. It has indeed been an honor and a privilege to share this experience with men of great character and who daily demonstrate the cardinal principles of the fraternity.

During my experience, as a Lamp, great importance was placed on the fraternity's cardinal principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift. Also, emphasized was the respect for and welfare of a brother. If these tenants were demonstrated, you would have the honor of becoming an Omega Man.

The cardinal principles are the solid foundation from which the Omega Psi Fraternity was established. Times sometime dictate change, but these principles should remain entrenched. The fraternity can't allow these principles to be infringed upon or dishonored.

I was very delighted to witness the fraternity's principles being demonstrated by undergraduate Brothers at the recent Second District Fall Meeting. The presentations shared during the workshops were well organized and well presented. They invoked serious dialogue on the undergraduate's role, status and participation in the fraternity's structure. It was evident to me my undergraduate brothers realize that it's a privilege being a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and that its founding principles must be honored and demonstrated. This reinforced my belief that Omega is Alive and Well! For the survival and continued enrichment of the fraternity lies within their character, the will to maintain the principles and to seek men who will live and honor the principles of this great fraternity.

The transition from the collegiate status to graduate level is an area that I find to be the most challenging tenure in a brother's Omega experience. This is a period where new challenges may occur, challenges such as developing a

career, being engaged in establishing a family and facing new financial obligations. Often during this period, a brother has no chapter affiliation and may never become an active dues paying brother after his collegiate experience. This is an area in which the Fraternity must place greater importance. I suggest that an undergraduate brother be paired with two active financial brothers upon his induction into the fraternity. That monthly communication occurs between the undergraduate and two graduate brothers. Communication should remain in place as the undergraduate transitions to the graduate status. There must be a committed effort to have the undergraduate continue to enrich his fraternal participation beyond his collegiate involvement. An electronic communication portal should be activated by the Fraternity to allow a graduate to transmit his updated information. This information should be disseminated to chapters where the brother will reside. The chapter, district and international dues structure should be modified during the transition period for three years. This would allow a brother to remain active in the many programs conducted by the fraternity and to continue utilizing his talents for the enhancement of the fraternity. Graduate brothers must embrace both undergraduates and brothers made on the graduate level. We must allow them the opportunity to be active participants on all committees. Be open to establishing activities that will motivate active participation by younger brothers.

I am presently serving as Protocol Chair for the Second District. The committee is scheduled to have workshops on the Fraternity's established rules of decorum, courtesy, propriety and the protocol guidelines for conducting Omega's fraternal activities and business. We look forward to sharing this information. May friendship remain "Essential To Our Souls"!

Brother Charles R. Mitchell, Jr., OD
Tau Pi Chapter

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Iota Phi Thanksgiving Dinner

Pittsburgh, PA. Saturday, November 22nd 2014. The Brothers of the Iota Phi chapter in partnership with Rivers Casino, Duquesne University, Save-A-Lot Grocery Stores, and the Alpha Alpha Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. held their annual Thanksgiving Dinner Giveaway at their fraternity center in the Larimer neighborhood of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This yearly event has been done in some form for the last 20 plus years and is a welcomed event aimed to provide holiday meals to several communities in the Greater Pittsburgh area. The extraordinary efforts by the Western Pennsylvania brothers of Omega and the above noted partnerships were able to provide 200 families with a hearty Thanksgiving meal. The baskets were given out to individuals in the neighboring communities, as well as 20 churches, food pantries, and community organizations reaching 3 counties in the area at large.

The baskets included a full 15 lb. turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce, vegetables, and additional trimmings. Karen Garland, Counselor at community outreach center Sojourner House expressed thanks saying, "Your gifts brought a smile to the faces of our families knowing that someone genuinely cares." Event chairman, Brother Jabari Weatherspoon stated, "The power of this program is important to the chapter. The African American community in Pittsburgh has come to expect the brothers of Omega Psi Phi to step up and be counted on to help facilitate the improvement of the lives of residents of our underserved communities. This is just one of the many initiatives that I am proud to be a part of. We are grateful for the generous support of our sponsors and partners". Chapter Baseilus, Dr. Rahmon Hart credits the men of the chapter for using personal and professional relationships to help secure sponsorships, making the event a collaborative effort. He added, "This was integral in increasing the scope and overall range of impact for this vital program. Many hands make light work."



The Iota Phi chapter has a strong influence and 90 year history of service in the Pittsburgh community. Initiatives like the annual Thanksgiving Dinner Giveaway are just proof that the men of Omega will continue to serve when called upon to make a difference. For more information on this program or any of the other works of the Iota Phi chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., please visit us at www.pghques.org or our visit Facebook page. (<https://www.facebook.com/PittsburghQues>)

Iota Phi Achievement Week Dinner

Pittsburgh, PA. November 22, 2014. Iota Phi Foundation and its leveraging partner, Iota Phi Chapter, sponsored its Annual Achievement Week Dinner on Saturday, November 22, 2014 at the beautiful Syria Center in Cheswick, PA.

The purpose of the Annual Achievement Week Dinner is to recognize outstanding leaders in the community whose contributions made a difference in the Pittsburgh metropolitan area, in addition to recognizing and awarding five \$2,000.00 scholarships to deserving high school graduating seniors.

This year we were proud to recognize the following community leaders: Business- Alexander Nichols, Pres. & CEO WP Minority Supplier Development Council; Medicine- Gateway Medical Society, Dr. William Simmons President; Education- Dr. Monica Lamar, Principal Dilworth

Elementary; Community Advocacy- MAD DADS, George Spencer President; Citizen of the Year- Reverend Glenn Grayson, Pastor, Wesley Center, AMEZ Leadership Development Program- Black Male Leadership Development Institute; Philanthropic Award- Heinz Endowments; Sylvester Pace Humanitarian Award- Valerie McDonald Roberts, Urban Affairs Officer; Civil Rights Vanguard Award- The New Pittsburgh Courier; Lifetime Achievement Award- William E. Edmondson, Retiree; Barack Obama Leadership Award- Evan Frazier, Sr. VP Community Affairs, Highmark; Sports Person of the Year- Charlie Batch, President, CEO Batch Foundation and Omega Man of the Year- Bro. Jabari Weatherspoon. We are proud to share that overall attendance increased 7% this year and that we generated \$8,381.74 in surplus revenue towards next year's scholarships.

Iota Phi Dr. Carter G. Woodson Academy Celebrates 4 years

Pittsburgh, PA. This past winter, in partnership with The Kingsley Association, the Iota Phi Chapter began its fourth year of the Omega Dr. Carter G. Woodson Academy (OCWA), a co-ed program designed to strengthen African American students by challenging them in history, science and the arts. While the session began in February, brothers, began planning the program in December with meetings held every Saturday to prepare the experience for fifty young people from around the region. The ideas of our honorary brother, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, best exemplified in his most famous work *The Miseducation of the Negro*, provide the framework for the program. Thus, our classes are taught with connections to Black history and culture. Equally important as the goal of the program is the program's process of teaching and learning where students make sure the young people have a learning experience about which they are enthusiastic by making sure youth are learning by doing and not simply listening.

This year has been our best so far with more than 50 students registering and paying \$50 to \$100 for this ten week program. Brothers Justin Laing

& Dr. Kelton Edmonds led the history classes, Brandon Jennings and Doug Webster (not an Omega) led the arts classes and Ahmed Martin led the science classes, but, as with any important endeavor, the effort would not have been possible without the work and support of many brothers. Brothers helped sign children in and out, taught classes focused on their area of expertise and participated in the morning opening ritual. Here students sing James Weldon Johnson's Negro National Anthem, Lift Every Voice and Sing and learn steps, chants and songs about Dr. Carter G. Woodson. The message of service will be brought home in the students' closing activity where they will offer a teach-in for their peers.

The foci of the program this year are: learning about the role of youth in Black liberation movements, ecology systems and t-shirt and puppet making. We are documenting some of the lessons so that other brothers may have access to them on the Omega Dr. Carter G. Woodson Academy Facebook page and look forward to sharing the program with brothers and representing the Mighty 2nd District at the 2016 Conclave in Las Vegas.

OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.

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The True Gentleman

The True Gentleman is the man whose conduct proceeds from good will and an acute sense of propriety, and whose self-control is equal to all emergencies; who does not make the poor man conscious of his poverty, obscure man of his obscurity, or any man of his inferiority or deformity; who is himself humbled if necessity compels him to humble another; who does not flatter wealth, cringe before power, or boast of his own possessions or achievements; who speaks with frankness but always with sincerity and sympathy; whose deed follows his word; who thinks of the rights and feelings of others, rather than his own; and who appears well in any company, a man with whom honor is sacred and virtue safe.

John Walter Wayland

Suspension List

The Brothers listed below are currently **SUSPENDED** from the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. pending further investigation.

Zeta Psi	Nigel	Rawlins
Zeta Psi	Nathaniel	Patillo, III
Psi Epsilon	Stephen	Brown Jr.
Psi Epsilon	Rashon Q.	Jackson
Psi Epsilon	Burditt	Bridge
Psi Epsilon	Jacque	Scott
Omicron Delta Delta	Steven R.	Smith
Omicron Delta Delta	Wayne D.	Comer II
Omega Delta Delta	Alexander	Zanders
Omega Delta Delta	Christopher	Banks
Omega Delta Delta	Lascelles A. ``	Chambers
Lambda Upsilon	Donald W.	Showell
Nu Tau	Rene Pierre	Solomon
Chi Rho	Bilal	Brown
Chi Rho	Leonard W.	Wright, III
Chi Rho	Charles	Obijuru

Expulsion List

These men should not be admitted into any formal fraternity meetings. Failure to adhere to these directives of the District Representative will result in the **SUSPENSION** of the Brother or Chapter who is in violation of the same.

THIS IS SERIOUS BUSINESS!!!

Chi Delta	Troy D.	Montgomery
Chi Delta	Andre L.	Smith
Chi Delta	Kenneth E.	Thompson
Delta Mu	John K.	Walker
Tau Pi	Kelvin E.	Robinson

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. 2015 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



**JULY 8 - JULY 12
2015**



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FLORIDA**

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Jacksonville, FL

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www.oppf.org

For additional information, contact
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