THE ORACLE

OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.

FALL 2014/WINTER 2015

Bro. Antonio F. Knox, Sr. the 40th Grand Basileus

OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.

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The Oracle

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Message from the **Grand Basileus**

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

To my brothers in Omega, I thank you for allowing me the opportunity to lead the greatest organization in the world, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., Brothers, I am indeed humbled by the faith and trust that you have bestowed upon me. I thank Brother Ray and the previous administration building on previous administrations and putting us in a position to continue moving forward. I firmly believe that we are one! Our Founders envisioned us binding ourselves together to have a great impact on our communities. By working together, we will move our organization to another level. We have an outstanding team of officers and we will work to create positive change. By doing this we will strengthen our rightful place as the premier fraternal organization in the world.

Brothers, there are a lot of things going on in our communities that are disheartening and have the appearance of pre-civil rights days. Our voting rights are being challenged; black men are being killed with no fear of a consequence by those who have been sworn in to protect all citizens. Along with other organizations, we are working to change this troubling trend and together will make a difference. We have under performing schools and poor graduation rates by our black male high school students. Funding for higher education is being cut and many of our HBCUs are struggling to survive. However, since our inception, we have been known to serve our fellow man by providing for and protecting our own. It can't be any different now.

With all of these adversities, I call it "Q Time!" The community is looking for Omega to step up and lead. We have an opportunity to make a bigger difference. We have and will continue to drive voter education, registration and mobilization within our communities and we have already made a difference. Through our mentoring programs from coast to coast we are making a difference in the lives of thousands of our young black boys and we will have Omega's own mentoring program very soon. Slowly but surely we are changing the graduation rates and sending young men to college. We are participating in protests geared towards decreasing funding for our public school systems. We are adopting and volunteering in schools to help increase their academic performance. Our work with the Fatherhood Initiative is being recognized by the President and the Black Caucus. Partnerships are being developed with both corporations and government. And we are improving our image through strong social action programing, raising funds for the St Jude Children's hospital and a honoring a \$1,000,000 commitment to the Smithsonian African American Museum.

We are working together as one! Our undergraduates are leaders, scholars and scholar athlete on their campuses and we are very proud of them. They are leading the way with voter education registration and mobilization as well. At the Undergraduate Summit there was an enormous amount of positive feedback from college and university graduate schools and corporate and government Human Resource recruiters present, regarding our undergraduates. The conference was definitely a huge success.

Brothers, there are many exciting things going on within Omega. As we continue to build partnerships and work together with the Divine Nine, we will tackle issues that matter to our communities. Brothers, as the chosen ones, we will lead with a spirit to serve and make a difference. It's not important who gets the credit. Our desire is simply to get the job done!

We are one my brothers and we will continue to make this a better world in which to live!

Fraternally,

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





Message from the 1st Vice Grand Basileus

Dear My Brothers in Omega,



It is a pleasure to extend warm and sincere greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I thank you for your individual and collective support in assisting the forward movement of our beloved Fraternity. The spiritual fervor of brotherhood and service seems to be unstoppable these days.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity has historically led the way with substantial programs of service. Our children's future, our community's health and our families' stability will continue to be key themes moving forward.

Our collaboration with St. Jude throughout the Game Day/Give Back program allowed us to donate over \$40,000. The Membership process has been revamped with an updated MSP program. Our Fatherhood Initiatives and Medical and Health Initiatives committees have rolled out the NIH collaborative mental health initiative through our signature program, "Brother, You're On My Mind". The Omega 1911 project is now underway thanks to the Economic Development, Ways and Means, Marketing and Corporate Relations committees as one of the ways to help with our commitment to the Smithsonian. On our national website, there is a donation link that will allow brothers to donate \$19.11 or \$191.10 and receive either our Omega ink pen or a lapel pin. Our HR committee worked tirelessly and completed their work in selecting the new Assistant Executive Director, Brother John Howard. The Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Fatherhood Initiatives and Youth Leadership Conference committees are in the works of creating an international mentoring program called – One Omega Mentoring Program. And yet there is more to come as we continue to live our cardinal principal of Uplift.

I extend a heartfelt thank you to the Supreme Council, First Vice DRs, Committees and IHQ Staff for all of their hard work as they strive to make this 2015 Leadership Conference in Jacksonville, FL a success. Their passion and dedication to the vision and mission of Omega is unmatched. With the Leadership Conference approaching, I am asking for each of you to participate and encourage another Brother to participate. There will be officer training and informative training in the areas of Violence Prevention, Fatherhood Initiatives, International Mental Health Initiative, Caring for the Elderly, Protocol, MSP/Ritualistic Training and more. Many educational sessions such as "What's the Value of a Young Black Male in America?", Black Entrepreneurship in America, Power of Politics Panel and the State of Fraternities and Sororities and other appropriate sessions will also be open to the public.

Again, thank you to the Brothers who have already registered and committed to attending the Leadership Conference. I am excited to fellowship with you as we conduct business and enjoy the many activities that the host committee has planned for us.

May God continue to bless our worthy endeavors!

Fraternally,

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

Message from the Editor of The Oracle



I would like to thank Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr., our 40th Grand Basileus for appointing me to this important editorial post. Also, I am grateful to Brother Major Michael Boykin, the past editor for allowing me to work with him on our beloved Oracle.

It has been several years now since I joined Omega Psi Phi. After almost 40 years in the Fraternity, pledging Omega was one of my best life decisions as an undergraduate student. In fact, I have been a Que for most of my life as a man.

The Fraternity's first cardinal principle is Manhood. As a man, I have been exposed to men with high ideas, great men—Omega men. Over the years Omega men have influenced me. Some of my pearls of wisdom in Omega have been earned with my

Omega men have influenced me. Some of my passociation with great Omega men.

Dear Brothers.

My greatest Omega influences include: Brothers Dr. Vernon G. Smith, my 5th grade teacher; Burnel C. Coulon, the 31st Grand Basileus, (the 10th District Representative when I started my Omega journey); Ronald Taylor, Ezell Marr, Richard D. Nichols, Michael Falker, Kenny Mathis, Arthur Allen Clark, Cedric L. Brown, Dr. Marvin C. Brown, Sr., Clint Sellers, Myron E. Reed, Maurice Crump, Marvin McNeil, Paul Cruthfield, Michael Parham, Sr., Steven Hill, Judge Steve Watkins, Carl Haggins, the late Raymond "Pelican" Hill and the late Alfonzo "Kokomo" Hill. Also, I have been influenced by the outstanding Omega men I have served with at Upsilon Beta, Sigma Psi, Chi Kappa, Rho Gamma Gamma and Tau Pi chapters.

The Oracle has been redesigned featuring bold design elements, in-depth stories, and larger photographs. This issue also includes an undergraduate section to better highlight our undergraduate chapter activities.

As I begin my celestial appointment as the new Editor of The Oracle, I will be forever indebted to the men of Omega who encouraged, prepared and influenced me. My vision for upcoming Oracle issues is to always present three important elements: clean design, strong photography, and quality writing. This new approach will improve the total informational presentation of telling our story--"The Great Omega Story" to the men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, and the world.

Fraternally,

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

The Oracle - Fall 2014/Winter 2015

Photograph by Bro. James Witherspoon, Director of Photography

s the 79th Grand Conclave of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. cascaded to a close last summer inside the Pennsylvania Convention Center, a familiar Frankie Beverly and Maze song erupted over the loud speakers and quickly blanketed the banquet hall.

"Can't understand; why we treat each other in this way, taking up time with the silly, silly games we play ..."

OMEGA PSI PHI'S





Omega men sprinkled throughout the massive room slowly stood from their tables and rhythmically began waving their arms. Soon, nearly the entire room stood and joined the movement.

Antonio F. Knox Sr., who earlier that evening was elected the 40th Grand Basileus of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. stood at the podium, nodded his head and smiled as the 1983 hit song, We Are One, continued playing. (It is based on my belief and the things I have learned and seen in the fraternity," Knox said recently. "The song is about coming together sharing our love and respect for each other."

We are one no matter what we do; We are one love will see us through; We are one and that's the way it is... Knox would later say that the song and its lyrics were symbolic of the challenges that all Omega men experience and must overcome throughout their fraternal lives.

Knox, a resident of Raleigh, North Carolina, ascended to the Fraternity's highest office after serving two terms as the First Vice Grand Basileus.

Story continues on next page

rand Basileus Knox's successful formula for effective leadership has always been to lead by example, with humility and from a position of confidence and teamwork," said Judge Michael Morgan, who served as Grand Marshal during the 2010 Grand Conclave that was held in Raleigh.

Weeks after the Grand Conclave, the Fraternity sponsored a community forum on fatherhood that was held during the annual Congressional Black Caucus in Washington D.C. Omega was one of the first black Greek organizations to partner with President Barack Obama and his

"Sounds simple enough, but it takes a special person with unusual people skills to have an innate sense of how to balance those traits. Brother Knox has a natural knack for it, and I've watched it blossom through his years of experience in working with and for the brothers,"



During his acceptance speech, Knox said under his leadership the Fraternity will continue its decades-long mission of community uplift, political and civic engagement as well as mentoring African-American youth and championing ongoing efforts for racial and economic equality.

"History and our Founders speak of binding ourselves together as one," he said. "Our administration must use our history as part of our plan to move forward. Our history tells how we can bind ourselves together to accomplish great things."

Other newly elected officers include: Dr. David Marion - First Vice Grand Basileus; Anthony Kadri - Second Vice Grand Basileus; Kenneth Rodgers - Grand Keeper of Records and Seal; W. Kelly Shannon – Grand Keeper of Finance and D. Michael Lyles – Grand Counselor.

Following the Philadelphia Grand Conclave, the Fraternity has embarked on a number of social action and philanthropic initiatives.

Fatherhood Initiative that is designed to provide resources and encourage African-American men to play a greater role n the lives of their hildren. Numerous congressional leaders spoke favorably of the nat area.

In the aftermath of the shooting death of an unarmed teen in a St. Louis, Missouri, suburb, Knox and

other Fraternity leaders pushed for federal and state legislation requiring police to wear body cameras.

"These cameras may have prevented the tragic death of a young man who was looking forward to attending college," Knox said at the time.

In August 2014, Michael Brown was shot and killed by Officer Darren Wilson after a confrontation in the middle of a Ferguson, Missouri street in August 2014.

Officials say Brown was shot at least six times, including twice in the head. The shooting and the grand jury's decision not to indict Wilson triggered protests and looting. Police responded by deploying armored vehicles and firing tear gas at demonstrators.

Omega men in St. Louis worked behind the scenes to help restore calm. The Fraternity held a voter registration drive in the St. Louis area, and youth leadership conferences in October, 2014, and February, 2015.

Other recent activities included the annual International Undergraduate Summit that was held in Atlanta and received outstanding reviews from participants. The summit included a career fair that attracted recruiters from several major corporations, governmental agencies and over 40 colleges and universities that offered graduate and other advanced degree programs.

Knox said the Fraternity has worked to strengthen its partnerships with General Electric and other Fortune 500 corporations. Moreover, the Fraternity has forged new ties to groups like AARP, Walmart and automakers, General Motors, Ford and Chrysler.

During the Super Bowl, Fraternity members hosted parties and raised more than \$40,000 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Omega also became the first black-Greek organization to forge a relationship and make a significant archival and cash donation to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C.

Knox was initiated into the Fraternity in 1978. He became a charter member of the Kappa Lambda Chapter on the campus of North Carolina State University. While at North Carolina State, Knox was a defensive lineman who played on three bowl teams.

After graduating, Knox joined lota lota Chapter. Years later, he was elected to serve two terms as **TOP:** Bro. Knox with wife, Angela. **BOTTOM:** chapter Baslieus. Bro. Knox at Fraternity cookout with Brothers.

During that time, Knox said brothers such as J.B. Allen, Toussaint Avent, George Coburn, S.R. Cloud, Johnny Farmer, Joseph Harper, L. Williams, and Butch Williams mentored and encouraged him to seek higher elected office in the Fraternity. Knox was later elected the 33rd Sixth District Representative.

Professionally, Knox is a deputy administrator for the North Carolina Credit Union Division, where his office is responsible for regulating an industry with more than two million members and \$30 billion in assets.







PICTURE OPPOSITE PAGE: Judge Michael Morgan receiving lota lota's "Omega Man of the Year Award" from chapter's Basileus Bro. Knox in 1989. Bro. Morgan was Grand Marshal (76th Grand Conclave).

For over 30 years, he has been married to Angela Dickson Knox and they are the parents of Antoinette Knox Haygood, a graduate of Hampton University and a son, Antonio F. Knox Jr., who holds degrees from Columbia University in New York and Wake Forest University. Angela and Antoinette are active members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Antonio Jr. was initiated into the Fraternity in 2009 by way of the lota Xi and Zeta Psi chapters.



The Grand Basileus Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr. (left) talking with Brother Dr. David Marion, the 1st Vice Grand Basileus (right) and Brother Kenneth Barnes at the 2015 Undergraduate Summit in Atlanta. Oracle Photo by Bro. James Witherspoon.

"What has always resonated with me regarding Brother Knox are his foundations in faith and family," said Brian O. Beverly, the 39th Sixth District Representative. "They are unwavering and they guide his decision-making personally, professionally as well as for Omega."

"Brother Knox is not driven by ambition, avarice, demand for attention or power - all failings that frequently undermine our national leaders. He is instead motivated by integrity and a steadfast desire to do the right thing," Beverly said.

Knox said the Fraternity will continue to build on past achievements while charting a course for the future that follows the vision and foundation laid by the Founders.

Among other things, the Fraternity would work to improve its public image, reclaim inactive members and become more attractive partners to corporate and government leaders.

"We will be involved politically and civically and accept being the organization that others look to when there is adversity," he said. Over the past seven months, Knox said the Fraternity has experienced many accomplishments and has worked to create a lasting foundation for growth and improvement.

"Brother C. Tyrone Gilmore says that, "we are a cut above the rest" and I believe that, so if we as men of high ideals and like attainment bind ourselves together as one, there is nothing we can't do," Knox said. "Because from the very start; we are one."

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated Grand Basilei 1911 - 2014

Frand Basileus:	Name
1st	Edgar A. Love
2nd	Oscar J. Cooper
3rd	Edgar A. Love
4th	George E. Hall
5th	James C. McMorries
6th	Clarence F. Holmes
7th	Raymond G. Robinsor
8th	Harold H. Thomas
9th	Jasper Alston Atkins
10th	John W. Love
11th	George E. Vaughn
12th	Julius S. McClain
13th	Matthew W. Bullock
14th	Lawrence A. Oxley
15th	William E. Baugh
16th	Albert W. Dent
17th	Z. Alexander Looby
18th	Campbell C. Johnson
19th	Harry T. Penn
20th	Milo C. Murray
21st	Grant Reynolds
22nd	John E. Potts
23rd	Herbert E. Tucker, Jr.
24th	I. Gregory Newton
25th	Cary D. Jacobs
26th	George E. Meares
27th	Ellis F. Corbett
28th	James S. Avery
29th	Marion W. Garnett
30th	Edward J. Braynon, Jr.
31st	Burnel E. Coulon
32nd	L. Benjamin Livingston
33rd	Moses C. Norman, Sr.
34th	C. Tyrone Gilmore
35th	Dorsey C. Miller
36th	Lloyd J. Jordan
37th	George H. Grace
38th	Warren G. Lee, Jr.
39th	Andrew A. Ray
40th	Antonio F. Knox, Sr.

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Term of Office

1911	-	1912
1912	-	1913
1913	-	1915
1915	-	1916
1916	-	1917
1917	-	1918
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Omega Chapter

Grand Conclave



19th



mega's Antonio E. Knox, Sr. was elected the 40th Grand Basileus of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. during the biennial Grand Conclave held July 10-16 in Philadelphia.

During his acceptance speech, Knox said under his leadership the Fraternity would continue its mission of community uplift as well as mentor to African-American youth and champion hard-earned civil rights efforts. "If we bind ourselves, as our Founders said that we should," Knox said. "Then we can have a far greater impact in all that we do."

Other newly elected officers are: David Marion, Ph.D., First Vice Grand Basileus; Anthony Kadri, Second Vice Grand Basileus; Kenneth Rodgers, Grand Keeper of Records and Seal; W. Kelly Shannon, Grand Keeper of Finance and D. Michael Lyles, Grand Counselor.

Nearly 20,000 Fraternity members from throughout the United States and overseas gathered in Philadelphia during the group's 79th International Grand Conclave held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. The conclave theme was "Charting a Course for Omega's Success for Its Second Century." Alan W. Junius of Mu Omega Chapter served as the Grand Marshal.

During the conference there were several workshops, caucuses, seminars and informal gatherings sponsored by social service programs.

Prior to the conclave, the Fraternity held a Youth Leadership Conference at LaSalle University. Nearly 75 participants from throughout the country took part in the three-day conference.

(On Left/top): Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr., a candidate for the office of Grand Basileus. (Left/bottom): Omega men at the Grand Conclave's public forum.

GRAND CONCLAVE 2014



Brother Stephen A. Smith (center) hugs Brother Curtis A. Baylor, the Grand KRS at the Feed the Children event. Omega men unload food items from trailers (middle). Young men listen during the Youth Leadership session (bottom).

icky Lewis, founder of the Los Angeles-based Omega Educational Foundation said "our goal is to have our young men mature into manhood." Brother Lewis' foundation was a co-sponsor of the mentoring conference.

The Feed the Children caravan rolled into Philadelphia prior to the start of the conclave. Hundreds of designated families flocked to a North Philadelphia church to receive much needed resources. The parking lot of the Deliverance Evangelistic Church was turned into a super grocery store.

"One of the main missions of Omega Psi Phi is service to the community," Dr. Andrew A. Ray, the Fraternity's 39th Grand Basileus said during the giveaway. "It is important to be a part of this gathering where we are providing services on multiple levels to our community."

More than a dozen agencies pulled together to sponsor the massive giveaway, including Philadelphia Eagles safety Brother Malcolm Jenkins and his foundation. Jenkins said he saw Feed the Children in action in New Orleans and wanted to help bring it to Philadelphia. "I know that this is something we can do rather quickly with the help of a few partners," said Jenkins who was initiated into the Fraternity in June 2007 through the Iota Psi Chapter.







КΤ

L think it came together really fast and a lot of people jumped on board to help," added Brother Jenkins.

Each family received enough food to feed four members for a week, plus a box of household goods. After receiving some food goods, Barbara Giles said she was extremely grateful. "It touches my heart, it's just beautiful," Giles added.

Other conclave service events included a health fair and career development workshops. Omega brothers also packed several boxes for Philabundance, a regional food bank for the homeless, disabled, and seniors.

Legendary recording artist Kenny Gamble was on hand to welcome participants and guests during the International Talent Hunt Demonstration that was held at the University of the Arts' Gershman Hall.

Twelve high school students representing each of the Fraternity's districts throughout the United States and abroad performed vocal, instrumental music (classical, semi-classical, gospel and jazz) and interpretive movement to music (ballet, modern dance and tap). These students had advanced to the Talent Hunt demonstration from local and state competitions.

GRAND CONCLAVE 2014



Top Photograph:

Omega's Dr. Andrew Ray, the *39th Grand Basileus greets* Dr. Paulette C. Walker, National President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., at the conclave's public forum.

Omega brothers reading over information provided at the morning plenary session.



GRAND CONCLAVE 2014



u Omega's Quettes were a reservoir of innovation, hard work, perseverance and an asset to the chapter's visiting ladies, and families. Their program of gifting, walking tours, Macy's shopping and hospitality were a delight and was well-received.

Unforgettable fun things also occurred during the Grand Conclave. Among them...vendors' tete-atete; IHQ's and Mu Omega's late night cruises on the Delaware River; the Pan-Hellenic party at the Marriott. Mu Omega held a "Day Party" at the African-American Museum.

The biennial "Marchdown," was well-attended. Mayor Michael Nutter held a welcome reception for Grand Basileus Andrew Ray, the Supreme Council and other guests. Nutter also was among the featured guests at the public forum. Other events included the Second District's party at the Camden Aquarium, which was hosted by Mu Omega and Zeta Iota Iota chapters.

Photographs: Two of Omega's step teams performed during the Grand Conclave's Stepshow.









GRAND CONCLAVE 2014

Brother Dr. Andrew A. Ray presided over the Rededication ceremony held as part of the Brotherhood Banquet. Service award programs as well as Achievement Week recognitions were held throughout the week.

During the biennial Founder's Banquet, Dr. Ray was recognized for his of service to the Fraternity and his work as Grand Basileus.

He was presented with a number of gifts and awards that highlighted his fraternal leadership. At the conclusion of the banquet, Brother Ray passed the leadership baton onto the newly elected Grand Basileus Antonio F. Knox, Sr.

Top: *Bro.Andrew Ray (far left) with Life members.*

Center (l to r): Brothers Rick Flanagan, Corey Powell, Howard Nicholas and Kelly Williamson after the Undergraduate Luncheon.

On Left: Brother Benjamin Crump talks with guests at the Conclave's public forum event.

ALL PHOTOS BY IHQ PHOTOGRAPHERS



Brothers sing the hymn at the Founders Memorial on Howard's campus. Photo by Bro. Jamal Parker / Oracle

Omega Rededication at Howard

he foundation was set in 1911, when a few undergraduate students joined their advisor, a Howard University faculty member to form a unique organization of men.

The name for the organization, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity created in the office of Professor Ernest E. Just by three brilliant young students: Edgar A. Love, Oscar J. Cooper, and Frank Coleman.

On November 17, 2014, members of Omega joined together to celebrate the 103th birthday of the Fraternity. The Founders Day Rededication Ceremony was held on Howard University's campus at Cramton Auditorium.

"For 103 years, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. has improved the conditions of individuals in our community, championed the cause of the under served populations, and acted as a beacon of light for all of humanity," said Brother Steven G. Johnson, Chairman of Achievement Week Committee (Washington, DC Chapters). Brother Kenneth Brown served as the Master of Ceremony. Brother Ademuyiwa T. Bamiduro, Esq., a former 2nd Vice Grand Basileus was the featured speaker for the program. Bamiduro, the senior pastor of Walker Memorial Baptist Church said "I thank God for Omega. God used Omega to bring me closer to him." Closing remarks were presented by the 36th Grand Basileus, Brother Lloyd J. Jordan, Jr., Esq.

Brother Charles Bowers (Lambda Zeta 1974), now with Alpha Omega Chapter said, "I am never tired of feeling the awe when I'm around these group of men in this setting. It is inspiring to see when we walk down to the memorial and break out into the hymn. I'm just in tears."

Some came dressed in purple blazers, or golden sweaters embroiled with colorful patches. Many came from just up the road, around the corner—and a few from the other side of the globe. Some even cried, most smiled with joy as laughter was heard from blocks away, but all celebrated the greatest of Omega on this chilly night—November 17, 2014, one hundred three years later.

Fraternity Supports Woodson's ASALH

mega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. have joined in supporting the 100th year anniversary of the late Dr. Carter G. Woodson's organization, the Association For the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) throughout the year of 2015. This year - long celebration of Dr. Woodson will galvanize organizations, and institutions to work together around the country in selecting a week to recognize Woodson and his efforts.

In Chicago during 1915, Dr. Woodson and others formed the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. The name would eventually be changed to the Association for the Study of African American Life and History.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity has a special connection with Dr. Carter G. Woodson. During 1917, Woodson was accepted into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. as an honorary member. In 1920, while at Omega's Grand Conclave held in Nashville Tennessee, a seed was planted with some of the Omega Brothers that would give birth to the celebration of Negro History Week, which was during the second week of February in 1926.

The reason why Brother Woodson chose the second week of February was it fell between the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglas. It was celebrated for 50 years until it was changed to Black History Month in 1976.

In addition to the United States, Black History Month is celebrated in Canada and is studied in Japan.



During the 2014 and 2015, Omega members have served on the planning committee with the ASALH's leadership and the National Park Service in preparing Woodson Week celebration events in Washington, D.C.

On December 19, 2014, Dr. David Marion, the First Vice Grand Basileus of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity was the keynote speaker for Dr. Woodson's 139th Birthday Commemoration Shiloh Baptist Church in the nation's capital.

Brothers also had a major role in planning the 89th Annual Black History Luncheon. The event's theme "A Century of Black Life History and Culture," highlighted ASALH's centennial anniversary.

The event held at Washington's Marriott Wardman Park Hotel featured the 2015 Living Legacy Awardees. Two awardees were Omega men, Brother James E. Clyburn, the Assistant Democratic Leader of the 114th Congress and



Top picture: Omega's Brother Sam Williams (center) served as a member of the ASALH planning committee. Right: Bro. Woodson.

Brother Robert G. Stanton, appointed by President Obama on the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

While completing his PhD at Harvard University, one of Woodson's professors told him that the Negro had not done anything worthwhile to be mentioned in American history. Carter G. Woodson became known as the "Father of Black History," because of the love for his people.

Brothers Ramsey L. Smith and Bro. Norm Senior contributed to story

2015 INTERNATIONAL UNDERGRADUATE SUMMIT

2015 INTERNATIONAL UNDERGRADUATE SUMMIT

Omegas Receive Information At Undergraduate Summit

Photographs by Brother James Witherspoon, International Director of Photography



mega men came from around the globe to meet in Atlanta as they discussed topics from Are We Really Brothers to Youth *Mentorship.* "The vision of the summit was to prepare undergraduate Brothers for the next phase of their life and career, " said Brother Anthony Kadri, the 43th Second Vice Grand Basileus (on right).

Almost 700 men of Omega registered for the January 2015 international activity. The summit participants included 342 undergraduate brothers from 194 chapters; 152 graduate brothers and 178 life members. Also attending the annual event was Omega's Grand Basileus, Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr., including five Grand Basilei: Dr. Edward Braynon, 30th Grand Basileus; Burnel E. Coulon, 31st Grand Basileus; Dr. Moses C. Norman, 33rd Grand Basileus; Dr. Dosey Miller, 35th Grand Basileus; Lloyd Jordan, Esq., 36th Grand Basileus; Warren G. Lee, 38th Grand Basileus, and Dr. Andrew Ray, the Immediate Past Grand Basileus.











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Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr., the Grand Basileus with undergraduate Omega men. (CENTER).

Undergraduate Brothers share their experiences with Brother Burnel E. Coulon, the 31st Grand Basileus (BOTTOM).

Brother Anthony Kadri, the 2nd Vice *Grand Basileus contributed to the 2015* Undergraduate Summit report.

How The Business of Health Care Impacts Every **Omega Man, Their Families and Communities**



Brother Myron E. Reed, MBA

rom a macro fraternal perspective one of the internationally mandated programs of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. is health initiatives. The Brotherhood is mandated to facilitate, participate and coordinate activities that promote good health practices.

(1) This article will take a more personalized view and encourage Brothers to consider how recent changes in the U.S. health care system impact you and your family.

The intent of this article is to provide you with information that will empower you to be a more informed and savvy consumer of health care in this age of sweeping and massive reform. The reality is that every U.S. resident is significantly impacted by health care reform, we are all in this together.

It does not matter if we are young or seasoned, affluent or indigent, a retiree/pensioner, unemployed or currently active in the workforce. We are all impacted and everyone will pay medical insurance in the future to help fund the health care system.

In March 2010, President Barack H. Obama signed into law the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, collectively referred to as the Affordable Care Act.

(2) The Affordable Care Act is also commonly known as ACA and Obamacare, the terms are often used interchangeably. NOTE: President Obama has publicly endorsed the word "Obamacare" and considers its use in modern vernacular a term of endearment. Obamacare will go down in history as one of the crowning achievements of the Obama Administration. This article is not intended to dissect. interpret or be a comprehensive reference guide to Obamacare, but its importance must be recognized as it will have generational impact on all U.S. citizens and residents.

Let's examine a small sample of the strategic goals and objectives of The Affordable Care Act and pay particular attention to possible alignment with Omega Psi Phi's internationally mandated health initiatives program.

Strategic Goal – Strengthen Health Care

Supporting Objective – A:

Make coverage more secure for those who have insurance, and extend affordable coverage to the uninsured.

Supporting Objective – B: Ensure access to quality, culturally

competent care, including longterm services and supports, for vulnerable populations.

Strategic Goal – Advance Health, Safety, and Well-Being of the American People

Supporting Objective – A:

Promote the safety, well-being, resilience, and health development of children and youth.

Supporting Objective B: -

Promote economic and social wellbeing for individuals, families, and communities.

Supporting Objective C: -

Promote prevention and wellness across the life span.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) reported annual U.S. health care spending will be \$3.8 trillion in 2014, up more than 30% from the \$2.8 trillion spend in 2012.(3) That equates to an average of greater than \$12,000 per person. To reiterate, that is an average per person spend for the entire U.S. population. You should be aware of, and have a voice in, how your \$12,000 is being spent.

The terms Fee-for-Service (FFS) and the Pay-for-Performance (P4P) have an immediate and direct impact on the quality and type of health care you and your family consume. Historically, FFS has been the common servicereimbursement model; simply put, with FFS a specified fee is paid or reimbursed to your health care provider for a specified service at a pre-determined dollar amount. As one component of Obamacare, the trend is to migrate away from the FFS model and the migration has already begun in a very big way. P4P will most likely eclipse FFS as the primary reimbursement model in the next 5-6 years.

An example of P4P is hospitals potentially receiving higher reimbursement rates by having lower patient readmission rates. In other words, hospitals are paid at a higher reimbursement rate and receive financial incentives if they provide better patient care and have reduced patient readmission rates for illnesses and conditions that were previously treated. In this example P4P is ideal in theory because you as the consumer receive better patient care and the hospital or healthcare provider receives a higher reimbursement rate and is more profitable.

To summarize, if in doubt, always follow the money. It is almost inevitable that most members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. will interact with the "business" side of health care in one way or another during the very near future and beyond.

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

Omega Joins Initiative To Focus On Mental Health Among Black Men

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., will collaborate with the National Institute on Minority Health and Disparities in an educational outreach initiative. The partnership will help to raise awareness about mental health conditions that affect African American men. In 2010, an estimated 45.9 million adults aged 18 or older in the United States had a mental illness in the past year. This represents 20% of all adults in the U.S.

Brother, You're On My Mind: Changing the dialogue about African American men and mental health initiative seeks to raise awareness about bullying and depression affecting African American men, their families, and their communities.

"This initiative is a signature program of our administration and we look forward to establishing a partnership with the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) and other institutes within the National Institutes of Health. This will ensure that we have the most current, evidence based information to assist us in this effort," said Brother Antonio Knox, Grand Basileus of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

professional marriage/family therapist.

Bro. Knox noted that "We are delighted to have Dr. Marion's expertise as a member of our national board."

Leading the initiative is Dr. David Marion, Omega's 1st Vice Grand Basileus. Bro. Marion is a licensed counselor. and

As part of the initiative, members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., propose to take a pledge to help change the national dialogue in under served communities about mental illness, and become more knowledgeable about mental health. Omega men will also educate other men and partner with other organizations in helping to reduce the stigma of mental illness.

"We are excited to join forces with Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., in communicating the importance of seeking help for mental illnesses that affect African American men. We will raise the awareness that help and treatment is available--so no one has to suffer in silence," said Yvonne T. Maddox, Ph.D., Acting Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities.

According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI):

* African Americans in the U.S. are less likely to receive accurate diagnoses that their caucasian counterparts. Schizophrenia, for instance has been shown to be over diagnosed in the Black community.

* Mental illness is frequently stigmatized and misunderstood in the African American community.

*Blacks are much more likely to seek help though their primary care doctors as opposed to as opposed to accessing specialty care.

Omega on front lines to stop the spread of **EBOLA**

"The chapter's effort is to ... facilitate the speedy and reliable delivery of needed medical supplies."

Brother Fred Leigh

n October 2014, Omega's Pi Lambda
Lambda Chapter provided desperately
needed support in the fight against
the deadly Ebola virus. As the crisis
continues to dominate the news in the
United States and the world, the men of
Pi Lambda Lambda through their George
M. Hampton Foundation (GMHF) took

immediate action to address the needs of the people of West Africa.

GMHF is the chapter's affiliated tax exempt nonprofit arm. The chapter and GMHF awarded a grant to the Taia Peace Foundation (TPF) for the distribution of supplies for the people of Liberia and Sierra Leone. Both of the western African countries have the largest volume of Ebola cases. Brother Fred Leigh facilitated the speedy and reliable delivery of medical supplies and sanitation materials to the countries.



Of the three countries most affected by the Ebola crisis, Liberia has the most cases and the highest death rate. The focus of the Ebola crisis support in Liberia was in the township of West Point, a suburb of the capital city, Monrovia, a city of more than one million. The action agent for the intervention in West Point was "Vision for Tomorrow" (VFT), a group of university students focused on developing solutions to rebuilding their county after years of a destructive civil war.

GMHF through TPF worked with the dedicated university students of VFT to purchase and distribute Ebola sanitation materials such as bleach in both large drums and small buckets. The volunteers established seven sanitation centers in highly concentrated areas in the township of West Point.



The focus of the Sierra Leone relief effort was the Penguia Chiefdom, Kailahun District. This district is in the epicenter of the crisis and borders on both Guinea and Liberia. The combined Pi Lambda Lambda, and GMHF funding enabled the procurement of several items. In addition, by preventing the spread of Ebola, and educating the people on ways to sanitize and protect themselves reflects the Cardinal Principles of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity noted Brother Leigh. The work must continue and resources will be

The supplies included: chlorine, bleach, buckets and faucets for 97 public sanitization stations used at public meeting places such as churches, mosques, village markets, and traditional town meeting halls. Over 45 megephones were also donated to provide the public with loud vocal announcements, and other preventive education messaging, because public assemblies were prohibited. The Brothers had a great concern for the people of this region, and they combined their efforts and resources to make a difference in saving lives.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH NEWS

The work must continue and resources will be required to help improve the lives of many people in the western region of Africa added Leigh.

If you would like to contribute to this integrated international effort and like to team up with Omega's Pi Lambda Lambda, GMHF, and or Taia, Please contact us at: krspllqpp@gmail.com

> Contributing to this international report were: Brothers Fred Leigh, Cris Abad and Joe Boutte

A GIANT inspires

Our Omega Storyteller

f Rohulamin Quander stood in a large group the crowd would dwarf his 5' 7 frame. His physical L statute has not caused a significant problem for he stands tall within the greatest of the Fraternity. For over 50 years, Brother Quander's fraternal lessons have been neatly tucked away within his storybook memory—as he emerges as an Omega giant.

Woven throughout the Quander home are touches of patiently crafted, and colorful artistic renderings produced by paintbrushes held in Carmen's hand. Trained as a professional artist in New York City and Russia, Carmen Torruella Quander is also the mother of three adult children, and the wife of Rohulamin. The couple's Victorian house embodies an extensive collection of Carmen's oil paintings fit for a downtown gallery.

Prominently placed on the north wall of their wood framed dwelling are two well recognized paintings that engulf the room. The larger than life portrait of Nellie Quander, the cousin of Brother Quander, and

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's first Supreme Basileus offers guest welcome. Equally impressive is a slice of history image that presents Omega Founders concretizing the creation of Omega Psi Phi. The painting entitled "In the beginning: November 17, 1911" was the first in a series of four of Carmen's Omega originals that were released during the Centennial Conclave in 2011.

Off to the side is a small red love seat sofa, once the property of the Confederate General, Robert E. Lee. Recalled by Quander, "the Lee piece came into our family through the Syphax family. When the Civil War broke out, the Lee family lived in a mansion in Virginia, which now overlooks Arlington National Cemetery. The family had to quickly move from the mansion, and entrusted some their family valuables to Selena Gray, one of their loyal slaves. Selena hid some of the property from the approaching Union Army with the Syphaxes, another slave family. Because of the length of the Civil War some of the items like this sofa never made it back to the Lee family."

Quander's world is compiled of old records, historical facts, and quiet moments with his wife as they often snack on

homemade banananut bread. The 71year old's wonderful Omega experiences and stories lay in the powerful words of his third book "50 Plus Omega **Inspired** Years: Tracing an Omega legacy to 1931." As a member of Omega Psi Phi's International History and Archives Committee, the



retired judge is working on a fourth book.

The Washington, D.C. native graduated from Howard University with a bachelor's degree in political He said organizational history "lets people in the science, and after law school at Howard, began his community at large know that membership in one of private practice as an attorney. Later, he served as an these organizations is a very important component Administrative Law Judge for District of Columbia and of daily life, particularly in African-American community. We are judged by what we do," replied after ten-years was promoted to Senior Administrative Law Judge until retirement in 2011. Quander.

"50 Plus Omega Inspired Years" was written because as Quander puts it "folks were always asking me questions—like what happened back in 1962? My father and uncle were well-known in the Fraternity, and my mother was highly visible as an Omega wife."



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AN OMEGA BOOK

The information from the book traces Brother Quander's Omega lineage from his uncle, Brother

> Joseph P. Quander (Theta Psi 1931), and his father, Brother James W. Quander (Alpha Omega, 1958).

Another reason why Quander wrote the book was he wanted to share the Omega perspective with members of other organizations, and provide information about the early years of the Fraternity to Omega

men. The book also highlights why stories about fraternities and sororities are important.

Picture above: Brother Rohulamin Quander, Esq. Below: Omega men at the White House to meet with U.S. President Calvin Coolidge, December 29, 1924.

AN OMEGA BOOK

ne of Rohulamin's early Omega experiences included attending the 45th Grand Conclave in 1959 with his family. He said while at the conclave in New York City, "I was so enthralled in wanting to become an Omega, right then and there, but, I was still in high school. I saw in Omega, a friendship, a brotherhood, and I wanted to be part of it."

Brother Quander said, "I grew up in the Fraternity and my sights were set on Omega. I hung with a lot of the Kappas because I didn't want the brothers in Omega to think I had it made. I kept my counsel. I stayed away from Omega intentionally."

As a soft smile stretched across his face, Quander remembers when he went to the Omega interview in February 1964, and was accused of thinking he had it made because of his father and uncle's influence in Omega. During this time he noted, "I had to keep a straight face, and stay away, but I always had my mind set on Que."

After transferring to Lincoln University, and then back to Howard, he stepped on line and was initialed in 1964 through Alpha Chapter at Howard University. Again, it was Quander's exposure to Omega as a high school student with the Les Jeunes Hommes Club, an Omega interest group that prepared him for community service.

"We have to realize that Omega is a social action organization, in addition to being a social organization as well. Social action is service to everyone. All of our Founders mentioned Omega's relevance as a service organization," the Judge said.

Omega's Quander also said "Party, party, party won't get it. If we don't serve the purpose of being a service to others and ourselves, then why are we here?" Throughout 440-pages of the book, Quander captures his unique perspective on Omega, and fraternal life. He said, "this memoir lays out in detail, aspects of my life as influenced by Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, Uplift, and Service, the Fifth Cardinal Principle."

He also adds, " Omega's direction is still uncertain. Unless we refocus our sights in terms of getting to some of the basics according to principles and service there won't be an Omega. What was done 30, 40 or 50 years ago is not necessarily good for the ship of Omega today."

The Quander book presents two directions two Omegas. "We have one direction—the hazing approach, and one the most promising, the higher road. Omega has made a lot mistakes because we have opened the door, forgetting about members versus men. We have let brothers into the Fraternity who don't belong here," said Quander. He notes how brothers after paying their dues for initiation soon become non-financial, and only re-surface when there is an intake line. "They are the first ones to do some type of harassment," noted Quander.

Brother Quander presents the argument why we have to be careful about membership selection. He also asserted, "Omega is a living breathing organization. While numbers are important because it they bring in revenue and physical participation, we have to put more emphasis on quality than quantity."

As an organization, Omega as stated by Quander is "an organization of men of sterling character and stellar accomplishments." He also mentioned that Omega men must seek the higher road.

Even with the interruption of outdoor street movement and the passing of cars traveling by, one can still hear the powerful whispers of his voice as it echoes across the room when Quander speaks of Omega's mission.

He concludes, "I am hoping and praying that Brother Knox has the vision, strength, fortitude and the support of the Fraternity to bring Omega to our highest heights."

Story by Bro. Milbert O. Brown, Jr., Oracle Editor from 2014 interviews with Brother Rohulamin Quander, Esq.

50+ **OMEGA INSPIRED YEARS**



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White House 1924 photograph feature on previous page----

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hen you visit any website for the first time, the site scans your computer to check to see if you have one of their cookies on your computer. If your computer does not contain a cookie, the website sets a cookie on your computer. If one is found, it is updated with pertinent information about you.

The term cookies, as innocent as it may sound, are the means by which everyone is tracked and monitored. On subsequent visits your cookie is updated with more data. A cookie is an encrypted text file that tracks who you are, what you did on their site, what you clicked on, and how long you were there. It also controls the types of ads that appear on your computer as well.

For example, if you go to a car dealership site a "car cookie" is dropped on your computer. Before you know it, you will start receiving car emails. Even when you visit other sites you will start to see car ads appear on your computer.

Often companies that you sign up for, sell your data to their partners. A number of companies are now asking customers for their email addresses to "send" you a copy of your receipts.

They then put you on their email distribution list. Also, when you apply for a store credit card, companies are building their database from your information.

Cookies and Data Tracking

By Brother Herb Ford, Jr.



Listed below are some ways to help minimize websites and companies from tracking and selling your data.

1. Use your personal computer for personal business and not your work email and computer. When conducting personal business, sending and visiting websites do so on your personal computer so that your company cannot track your activities. 2. Install strong Antivirus /Internet software on your computer that will assist in preventing malware, and cookies from being dropped on your computer. The good programs always send you regular updates as they keep up with the bad guys.

3. Clear your cache and cookies. All browsers have the option of allowing you to manually "clear" or remove cookies from your computer.

Bro. Herb Ford, Jr. has worked for several Fortune 100 companies as the Director and Vice President of Quality Assurance and Development in the Information Technology. He holds a B.S. in Information Technology from the University of Phoenix. Bro. Ford is a member of Chi Gamma Gamma Chapter.

AN OMEGA PROFILE

Before Selma There was Montgomery, an Omega Man Remembers

cademy Award winning actor, Cuba Gooding, Jr. had a small, but pivotal role in the acclaimed 2014 movie, Selma. Gooding portrayed the disciplined lawyer who represented the Southern Christian Leadership

Picture: Reverend Dr. King and Brother Fred Gray, Esq. working on the Montgomery Bus Boycott case in 1955. Photo courtesy of Fred Gray.

Conference (SCLC), and activists during the tumultuous 1965 Selma crusade.

Ten years before Selma, Gooding's real life character, Fred D. Gray was an attorney who represented Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Rosa Parks as clients during the Montgomery Bus Boycott. He would litigate civil rights cases with rulings that reached the heights of Supreme Court decisions.

During his early life, little Fred was born in a shotgun house to Nancy, a domestic who worked for white folks, and a religious father who was a carpenter. Unfortunately, his father, Abraham died when he was only two-years old. By all accounts, young Fred was destined for failure, but while in college, he heard about a group that promoted manhood, scholarship, perseverance and uplift.

The promising young man would be exposed to men with high ideas, and he would rise to become a legendary lawyer, and an Omega man, *Brother Fred D. Gray, Esq.*

As an undergraduate, Gray served as the Basilues of Gamma Sigma, and represented the chapter at the 36th 1950 Grand Conclave in Boston. A few years earlier, Fred's older brother, Thomas was also an Omega man at Gamma Sigma Chapter on the campus of Alabama State University.

After graduation from Alabama State University in 1951, Fred decided to study law, but in Alabama like much of the south, Blacks were not admitted to law schools. "If an African American student was interested in pursuing an advanced degree in Alabama, and if that professional school was not offered at a Black institution, then that student had to make an application with the state for out-of-state aid," said Gray.



He also noted that according to the "1938 United States Supreme Court decision, Gaines v. Canada, ex rel., it held that states that had a segregated higher education system must provide African Americans with equal educational facilities." Gray added that he ended up in Cleveland at Western Reserve University's law school in 1951, because of the Gaines case.

Out-of-state aid had been provided from the state of Alabama to pay for Gray's law education. Even with the initial monies, he still had an outstanding bill and could not receive his final exam grades, or resume his studies the next term—so he returned home. Gray's journey through law school would again connect him to his beloved fraternity, Omega Psi Phi.

"I had earlier applied for a \$250 professional scholarship from Omega Psi Phi. As fate would have it, on the same day I arrived home without being able to see my grades, I found the letter from Omega Psi Phi containing a check for \$250. I was able to pay my balance, and return to law school because of an Omega Psi Phi scholarship," said Brother Gray.

During, Black History Month 2015, Gray was honored with the unveiling of a historical marker in Montgomery. The marker recognized Gray's tireless civil rights efforts, and memorable Alabama cases during his legal career. The event was sponsored by the Alabama Tourism Department and Tuskegee History Center unveiled on Rosa Parks' birthday, and steps from the site of Gray's former law office. Ironically, Gray like other Negroes (African Americans) was ignored as a human being by Montgomery's city fathers in the middle of the 20th century. Gray was born into a segregated situation caused by southern-style apartheid within the restricted limits of Black society. As a child, he grew up in the1930s, the beginning of the Great Depression era. He was confronted daily with well-established Jim Crow laws reserved for the darker hue citizenry. Fred's hometown was Montgomery, Alabama's capital city—the "Birthplac of the Confederacy."

reserved for the darker hue citizenry. Fred's hometown was Montgomery, Alabama's capital city—the "Birthplace of the Confederacy." It was that backdrop of disarray that best prepared Fred Gray to serve as the lead council for the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott, only months out of law school.

One of his first, and most famous clients was a 27-year old preacher, Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He was the new pastor at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, and was thrown into the movement as he held the hand of his new wife, Coretta. "Unlike what some people think, King didn't come here to establish the civil rights movement, he came here as a pastor. He was not involved in any civil rights activities," stated Gray.

In our interview with a quick delivered voice, Fred Gray answered the phone similar to when Dr. King called him over 50 years ago. As the conversation began, Brother Gray recounted his experiences when he served as one of the nation's most gifted civil rights lawyers. His seasoned 84-year old vocal cords presented a passionate response when he spoke about the bus boycott case and Dr. King.

"Montgomery city knew they had a problem. Black Association (MIA). people constituted 75% of the city's bus riders. On March 2, 1955, Claudette Colvin, a 15 year-old honor student "Everybody in Montgomery was involved in the boycott. was coming from school as she rode the bus. She didn't There was 100 % participation as people stayed off the give up her seat to a white woman, and was arrested very buses. The fraternities, the sororities, social clubs, and the similar to what happened to Mrs. Parks months later. churches were very involved. The entire Black community Claudette's parents contacted me, and I represented her in had a stake in our success. We planned the boycott as a the juvenile court of Montgomery County," said Attorney mass movement for everybody," Gray said. Gray.

The attorney mentioned there was talk of staging a boycott after Claudette's arrest. "I told the leaders that I thought the Claudette Colvin arrest was a good test case to end segregation on the buses. However, the Black leadership in Montgomery at the time thought we should wait," replied Gray.

After the arrest of Rosa Parks for refusing to go to the back of the bus, the Black community wanted a change in the bus policy. With the Colvin and Parks cases, "the state was using the criminal statute to enforce segregation, which I believed to be unconstitutional.

AN OMEGA PROFILE

We would have to get the support of the Black preachers, if we wanted to stage a bus boycott. If we had their support, then announcements could be given to church members to stay off the buses," Gray remembered.

"Martin was very easy going. If you came into the room, you wouldn't have any idea that King could lead. He wouldn't monopolize a conversation, and he had a sense of humor. He liked jokes, and he would be willing to tell some that he couldn't tell in the pulpit," said Gray.

Two other Black leaders who were important to the success of the bus boycotts included E.D. Nixon known as Mr. Civil Rights. He had a direct connection with A. Philip Randolph, which was key in acquiring fundraising for the bus boycott. Rufus Lewis and his wife, Jewel were co-owners of the largest funeral home in town. Lewis was selected as the chairman of the transportation committee.

"If we are going to get people to stay off the buses, we would use automobiles from all of the Black funeral home directors to transport people," recalled Gray. The committee formed the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA).

"I represented Dr. King, and the MIA during the entire year of the bus boycott," said Attorney Gray. After the boycott's success in Montgomery, King and others formed the SCLC. "They wanted me to be the legal counsel for the Atlanta-based organization. I turned them down because I wanted to destroy everything segregated I could find in Alabama," concluded Brother Fred Gray.

Story by Bro. Milbert O. Brown, Jr., Oracle Editor from 2015 interviews with Bro. Fred Gray, and information from his book, "Bus Ride to Justice." (2013 edition).

Omega's Dr. Adams mentors Brother Thomas

A Future Apollo of Science Spends Summer at UAF Research Laboratory

B rother Michael Thomas of Kappa Epsilon, a student at St. Augustine's University began the summer of 2014 in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Arkansas,

Thomas was a part of the university's Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program. The 10week program was sponsored through a grant from the National Science Foundation. The participants represented eight states, and one foreign country. Bro. Thomas elected to study protein biochemistry in the laboratory of Dr. Paul D. Adams of Upsilon Chi Graduate Chapter. Dr. Adams is an associate professor of chemistry, biochemistry, cellular and molecular biology at the University of Arkansas.

Fayetteville (UAF).

Brothers Adams and Thomas originally began discussing the possibility of Thomas coming to study in Dr. Adams' laboratory while networking at the International Leadership Conference in Kansas City, a few years ago.

The two Omega men worked together in the laboratory last summer. Brother Thomas learned the techniques in the Adams laboratory necessary for optimizing the purification of a Ras (Rat Sarcoma)related protein from Escherichia coli cells so that it could undergo biochemical and biophysical study, fields in which Adams has expertise in. In addition to providing research activities with Dr.



Adams, the REU program offered exciting opportunities for Thomas which included weekly group meetings, and dialogues that covered research, ethics, interviewing skills, and business dinner etiquette.

At the conclusion of the program, Brother Thomas and Dr. Adams presented the results of their research.

(Photograph) Bro. Dr. Paul D. Adams in the lab with Bro. Michael Thomas.

At St. Augustine's University, Brother Thomas currently serves as president

of the Student Government Association. He is also a past Basileus of Kappa Epsilon Chapter. Brother Adams serves as 9th District Advisor for the State of Arkansas, and Co-Chairman of the International Undergraduate Chapter Advisors Committee for the Fraternity.

Omega's first Apollo of Science was Omega Founder Ernest Everett Just, one of the elite scientists of his day. Maybe one day Brother Thomas will follow in the footsteps of Brothers Just and Adams.





Brother Wayne E. Pollard III, (*second from right*) holds a candle in commemoration of the Fraternity's Four Founders. Bro. Pollard participated in Omega Psi Phi's Rededication Ceremony at Howard University. November 17, 2014 marked the Fraternity's 103rd anniversary. Pollard, a senior political science major at Howard received the *International Scholar of the Year Award* at the 79th Grand Conclave last year. Recently, Brother Pollard was inducted in the prestigious honor society, Phi Beta Kappa. *Oracle photo by Brother Jamal Parker*

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

picture above:

Omega men from Pi Chapter stand with Nation of Islam's Minister Louis Farrakhan on November 22, 2014.

Pi Chapter sponsored the second annual Black United Summit International Conference in conjuction with the Student Government Association of Morgan State University. Minister Farrakhan delivered the keynote address for the conference. Pi Chapter is located in Baltimore, MD on the campus of Morgan State University.

SUBMIT YOUR UNDERGRADUATE NEWS TO THE ORACLE

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Gamma Chapter Honors Ivy League Football Star

Story by Brother Christopher E. Bennett

rother Norman Hayes, a defensive standout who led the Harvard University football team to an undefeated season in 2014, was honored during the fourth annual Dr. Benjamin E. Mays Scholarship Awards Gala.

"I'm glad my spirit of love, humility, and work ethic has inspired so many of my brothers and I hope we all continue to grow and mature as men. Iron sharpens iron and by each of us continuing to grow, we will slowly begin to erase some of the negative perceptions of our Fraternity.

The event, held the weekend of November 21-23, 2014, also celebrated the 98th anniversary of Gamma Chapter. Brother Hayes joined Gamma Chapter in 2013.

"The Norman Hayes story is confirmation that the Omega way is built upon love, friendship and represents the best in life," said Brother Antonio F. Knox Sr., the Fraternity's 40th Grand Basileus. "Brother Hayes' story is both inspirational and motivational and is worthy to be read by all."

"Brother Hayes is proof that Omega men can get it done in the classroom and the gridiron." Knox said.



Hayes, a senior psychology major was elected the 141st captain of the Harvard Crimson. The football season culminated with the Crimson capturing the Ivy League title with a 31-24 victory over Yale. Hayes led the team with 13 tackles. Yale had averaged 40 points per game prior the 131st meeting but the Harvard defense held them to their lowest point total of the season.

For the first time in the history of the rivalry, the captains for both teams were African-American. Omega's Hayes was also named to the first-team All-Ivy League as a defensive back. Brother Hayes noted that as an Omega man, he has a high standard to uphold. "I care that people know I'm an Omega man for the benefit of my brothers in the Fraternity and for the advancement of African-Americans," said Hayes.

Omega with other Black Greek organizations has further united the Black community in uplifting our communities," Hayes said.

Omega's Haves said he is inspired on and off the field by the loss of his younger sister, Olivia who died on Sept. 1, 2008, weeks after she was struck by a truck while walking to her school bus stop. This year, Norman Hayes' story has been featured in Harvard Magazine, the Boston Globe and in a video feature on ESPN Gameday.

Norman said he tries to honor Olivia in everything he does. The family started the Livvy's

Love Inc. Foundation, which provides scholarships and grant awards to deserving youth between the ages of 5-21 years old.

"The First District is home to some of best colleges and universities in the world," said Brother Michael Jefferson, First District Representative. He also added that "it should come as no surprise that our great fraternity has been well represented at these prestigious institutions of higher learning by young men such as Norman Hayes."

Prior to the Ivy League championship against Yale, the bond of Omega brotherhood between Norman Hayes and his chapter brothers was evident. Omega men were visible in different parts of the bleachers and cheered Brother

Hayes and the Crimson football team. As the final seconds ticked away and Harvard's victory was unquestioned, all Omega men rushed the field and hoisted Brother Hayes on their shoulders in celebration.

Gamma Chapter hosted a reception in Barker Hall on the Harvard campus for Brother Hayes and his family. Brother Sharrieff Christmas presented Brother Hayes with Gamma Chapter's Undergraduate Omega Man of the Year Award.

Over 200 guests attended the annual gala that recognized Omega men for their service to the Fraternity and others for their community service. Iota Chi and Eta Phi chapters joined together in celebrating the National Achievement Week.

Other award recipients at the gala included:

Brother Eric Mitchell, Director of Neighborhood Services, A.B.C.D., Inc., South End, Graduate Omega Man of the Year - Gamma Chapter

Brother Yvel Joseph, Co-Founder Performance Fitness Training, L.L.C., Superior Service - Gamma Chapter.

Dr. Brothers is a science and technology leader and expert with more than 20 years of demonstrated Andrea Swain, Executive Director, Yawkey Club of success across the private and public sectors. He has Roxbury, Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston, - Citizen of the Year held a variety of positions within the scientific and - Gamma Chapter technological community, which demonstrate his leadership and technical aptitude.

Brother Michael Vance, V.P. Field Operations, A.B.C.D., Inc. - Superior Service - Iota Chi Chapter

Shauna Rigaud - Citizen of the Year - Eta Phi Chapter

Brother Derrick Barker - Omega Man of the Year - Eta Phi Chapter

Deondre Kennard - Citizen of the Year - Iota Chi Chapter

Brother Reginald Brothers, an undersecretary for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security - Omega Man of the Year and keynote speaker - Iota Chi Chapter.

Photograph courtesy from Harvard University Magazine

1ST DISTRICT NEWS

President Obama Selects An Omega

Brother Dr. Reginald Brothers was nominated for the position of Under Secretary for Science and Technology at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) by President Barack H. Obama and confirmed by the United State Senate on April 7, 2014.



Through his leadership of S&T, Dr. Brothers' responsibilities include a science and technology portfolio that involves basic and applied research, development, demonstration, testing, and evaluation.

Omega's Dr. Brothers received a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Tufts University; an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from Southern Methodist University, and a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The Boston native was initiated into Omega through Iota Chi Chapter in the spring of 1979. Since joining the Fraternity, Dr. Brothers has held several positions including: Keeper of Finance for Gamma Chapter from 1980-1981; Keeper of Records and Seal for Eta Phi Chapter 1987-1989; Basileus for Eta Phi Chapter 1997-2002, and served as the Chair of Omega Men in Action (Eta Phi Chapter's non-profit extension).

Brothers has received many awards for his outstanding work in Omega such as 1998 Eta Phi Chapter Omega Man of the Year; 1999 1st District Omega Man of the Year, and 2013 Omega Man of the Year for Iota Chi Chapter.

2ND DISTRICT NEWS

CHAPTERS CELEBRATE ACHIEVEMENT WEEK



Members of Tau Pi Graduate Chapter attend service at St. John Baptist Church. The chapter ended their Achievement Week activities by worshipping together at the Columbia, Maryland church. Photograph by Oracle staff

u Nu Chapter held their Achievement Week Banquet on November 8th in Audubon, NJ. The chapter's Omega Man of the Year Award was presented to Brother Dr. Vincent Pearson. Brother Carlos Enriquez was honored with the Joseph Washington Basileus Award. Brothers Don Hampton and Terry Lucas recieved the Arthur F. Brown Leadership and Inspiration Award.

Founders Awards were presented to Brothers LaVaughn M. Dillings, Kelvin Hayes, Kyle Stevens, Michael E. Brown, and Darryl McMillon. Brother Jarrod Flowers was the reciepent of the Colonel Charles Young Military Leadership Award. Brothers John Piercy and Mamon Bey recieved Superior Service Awards.

Plainfield, NJ- Omicron Chi Chapter began their Achievement Week activities by serving food to residents of the Plainfield YMCA. Resources for the November 9th event were provided through the chapter's Feed the Less Fortunate program. Also, during the week, the chapter collected over 70 suits, and 50 shirts at their Suit Drive.

Columbia, MD- On November 13th, Tau Pi Chapter served residents at the Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center. The Howard County center shelters homeless men, women and families.

Brother Dr. Carl L. Lampkins, the Second District 's 1st Vice District Representative was the keynote speaker at the chapter's Founders Day Program and Awards Banquet on November 15th.

Other Second District officers in attendence included: Brother Milton Harrison, District Representative; Brother Derrick Lowery, District Keeper of Finance, and Brother Michael Littlejohn, District Keeper of Records and Seal.

Tau Pi's Omega Man of the Year Award was presented to Brother Jerry Watkins. The Superior Service Award was received by Bro. Eric Astrop. Founders Stand-In Awards were presented to Brothers Henry H. Ball, Lionel Layton, Joseph Alston, and Richard Rogers. Brothers Michael Littlejohn and Arthur Colbert were the recipents of the Founders Award. The week ended with the chapter attending the Founders Day Rededication Ceremony at Howard University on November 17th.

Westbury, NY--On December 14, 2014, Sigma Beta Beta Chapter held it's Achievement Week signature event at the Westbury United Methodist Church.

Brother Edward H. O'Neil was the chapter's recipent of the Omega Man of the Year Award. The Founders Award was presented to Brother Dr. William R. Smith. Brother Robert J. Howell received the chapter's Superior Service Award. Brother Fredrick K. Brewington, Esq. was honored with the Guest Speaker Award, and Brother Joseph Thompson was named the Citizen of the Year.

Waldorf, MD- "This award means a lot to me," said Brother Kevin Turner when he was presented with his chapter's highest honor as the Omega Man of the Year. Brother Turner received the honor at Tau Lambda Lambda's Achievement Week & Founders Day Awards Banquet on November 15th. Other chapter awards included: Superior Service to Quentin T. Lowe; Founders Award to Winston E. Lewis; Colonel Charles Young Military Leadership Award to John Earl Collier, and the Basileus Award was presented to Bernard Jackson.

Ft. Meade, MD - On November 17th, the Brothers of Lambda Gamma Gamma completed their Achievement Week activities at the Founders Day Rededication Ceremony at Howard University. The chapter started the week at their Royal Purple and Old Gold Ball in Upper Marlboro on November 9th. Award recipients included: Brother Sherman Charles, Omega Man of the Year; Brother Andre DeBose, Founders Lifelong Service; Brother Marc Pina, Superior Service and Brother James Walker, Colonel Charles Young Leadership Award.



Philadelphia, PA - Mu Omega's Achievement Week (Left to Right): Brother Garfield Jackson with Brother Betram Lawson as he receives the chapter's Citizen of the Year Award. Also, included is Brother Milton Harrison, the 2nd District Representative, and Brother Ashley Hines, Achievement Week chairman.

Omega's Robert Grant Receives Nursing Degree

December 18, 2014, Brother Robert Grant received



his nursing pin from Coppin State University's Helen Fuld School of Nursing.

The ceremony was held on the Baltimore, Maryland campus. Brother Grant is a member of Delta Beta Chapter.

The pinning ceremony is a symbolic welcoming of newly graduated nurses into the nursing profession. The new nurses are presented nursing pins by the faculty of the nursing school and recited the International Pledge of Nurses.

Omega's Grant became the first Delta Beta Chapter member to receive a baccalaureate degree from the Helene Fuld School of Nursing at Coppin State University.

He is currently preparing to take the National Council Licensure Examination- Registered Nurse Boards (NCLEX-RN) for the State of Maryland.

All boards of nursing in states and territories of the United States require candidates to pass this exam for licensure as a registered nurse (RN).

Grant has been accepted in the Master's Program at the University Of Pennsylvania's School of Nursing. The University of Pennsylvania, an Ivy League university in Philadelphia is the oldest nursing program in the country.

Father and Son Serving Omega as the Basileus of Different Chapters in 2nd District

hroughout its history, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity has always emphasized the

importance of strong family connections.

One of Omega's Founders Edgar A. Love was the Fraternity's first Grand Basileus. Edgar Love's younger brother, John W. Love served as Omega's 10th Grand Basileus. Also, Bro. Edgar A. Love had four brothers and three of them were Omega men.

(On Right) Brother Garfield L. Jackson, Jr, with his father, Brother Garfield L. Jackson, Sr. In October, Brother Garfield L. Jackson, Jr, the Basileus of Kappa Omega traveled from Harrisburg to

Philadelphia to witness his father, Brother Garfield L. Jackson, Sr., take the oath of office as the Basileus of Mu Omega.

Both father and son are currently serving as Basileus of two different chapters in the 2nd District.

Another son, Kenny is also an Omega. While the Jackson men were always a strong and unified clan, they credit their involvement with Omega as a way to focus and strengthen their commitment to the community, family and God.

Alpha Upsilon Chapter marks 65 years of service

Brooklyn, NY – On October 4, 2014, Alpha Upsilon Chapter was founded by 38 Omega men from Zeta Phi Chapter. The men of Alpha Upsilon celebrated 65 years of service at the Brooklyn Marriott.

The ballroom was magnificently decorated in the majestic colors of purple and gold. The energy from the room reverberated through the spacious venue throughout the evening. Omega brothers, family members, and guests shared the joy of the evening's activities. The Omega men of Alpha Upsilon graciously recognized Grand Basileus Antonio F. Knox Sr. The Grand Basileus stood resolutely behind the podium with his eyes on the Omegas, as he delivered an inspiring address.

His words encapsulated the evening and poignantly touched on the theme of the affair, *"Remembering our past and embracing our future."*

Story by Brother James E. Bell, Jr.

Chapter Supports Assault on Illiteracy Program

Rockville, MD – November 10, 2014, the Brothers of Mu Nu Chapter attended a dinner celebrating 28 years of community service by the George B. Thomas Learning Academy Saturday School. Marian Wright Edelman, Founder and President of Children's Defense Fund was keynote speaker for the evening event.

The Saturday School program was started in 1986 by Mu Nu Chapter to address the achievement gap among minority students in the area. Over 3,400 students from more than 130 schools are served on a weekly basis throughout the school year. They receive academic support and mentorship guidance.

The program also includes certified teachers, and trained community volunteers who provide academic enrichment services, guidance in reading, language arts, and mathematics.

Test-taking skills are also provided for all students (grades 1-12). These services are provided on Saturday morning from 8:30 am to 11:00 am from September until May at a dozen high schools throughout Montgomery County.

The founder and president of the school is Brother George B. Thomas, Sr. (1950, Xi Psi, South Carolina State University). Bro. Thomas is also a founding charter member of Mu Nu Chapter.

At the end of the special dinner, remarks were made by Christopher Van Hollen, U.S. House of Representatives; Isiah Leggett, County Executive, Montgomery County (MD) and Dr. Joshua Starr, Montgomery County Superintendent of Schools.

Story by Brother Paul A. Scott



Pi Omega Chapter serves the Baltimore community

Last year Pi Omega Chapter was recognized as the Fraternity's International Social Action Chapter of the Year (Large Chapter) at the Grand Conclave. One of the chapter's community projects include their involvement with youth at the Easterwood Recreation Center.

Pi Omega's non-profit organization, Omega Baltimore Foundation, Inc., manages and operates the Easterwood Recreation Center in a public-private partnership with Baltimore City Recreation and Parks. The John Mackey Award Committee donated tickets to the foundation, so that some of the youth from the Easterwood Recreation Center could attend the gala event. Brother Zanes Cypress, Jr., the president of the foundation escorted ten young men from the center to the event.

The John Mackey Award is given to the Division-1, NCAA tight end who best exemplifies the sportsmanship and community values of NFL Hall Famer John Mackey. Other awards were given to people with some association with NFL programs. The young men from Easterwood had the opportunity to meet two Omega men that received awards. Brother Ozzie Newsome, the NFL's Ravens general manager and Hall of Famer was presented with the Mackey Leadership Award. Brother Stephen A. Smith of ESPN's First Take was presented with the John Mackey Outstanding Journalism Award.

On November 22, 2014. Pi Omega celebrated 93 years of service to the Baltimore community by hosting its Achievement Week Founders' Day Observance at the Forest Park Senior Center. The keynote speaker was Brother Antonio Knox Sr., 40th Grand Basileus of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Brother Knox's theme was "Leveraging Our Collective Resources for Impact."

Also in attendance was the Grand Keeper of Records and Seal, Kenneth Rodgers; Grand Counselor, Michael Lyles and the 2nd District Representative Milton Harrison. The "*George K McKinney Pi Omega Man of the Year*" was presented to Bro. Clarence A. Jeffers, III, R.Ph.

3RD DISTRICT NEWS



Bro. Keith Yarborough (left) greets guests at the morning event. Assisting him are the young men of the Golden Fold. The Golden Fold is the chapter's mentoring program for African American males, ages 12 to 18.

Gamma Xi hosts Stop the Violence Breakfast

ver 200 people and community leaders from the Hampton Roads area attended the *Stop the Violence Breakfast* on January 24th. The morning event was held at the Holiday Inn's Virginia Beach-Norfolk Hotel and Conference Center in Virginia Beach, VA.

The purpose of the gathering which highlighted the theme, *Know More* was to increase awareness, educate and empower members of the community to act in ending domestic violence.

Gamma Xi Uplift Foundation hosted the second year event which included educators, officers from the Virginia Beach Police Department, business and religious leaders. Photograph and story by Brother Alvin Swilley

Michael J. Coker, a retired law enforcement officer from the Portsmouth (VA) Police Department was the keynote speaker. Coker is recognized nationally as an expert in domestic violence. His speech induced a gamut of emotions-from raucous laughter to gut wrenching tears. Coker proclaimed that we must keep it real as he addressed the breadth of domestic violence, and its wide impact on our communites.

Gamma Xi Foundation donated \$1,000 each to the Samaritan House, a Virginia Beach shelter for domestic violence victims, and the YWCA of South Hampton Roads. Omega's Dr. Antonie L. Hickman, Director of Special Education, Suffolk (VA) Public Schools served as the program's master of ceremony.

Omega man remembers 1963

Story by Brother Norm Senior

t the height of the civil rights movement, Amos Townsend was growing up in Birmingham, Alabama. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. referred to the city as "the most segregated city in America."

Brother Amos Townsend shared his stories of living in Birmingham during a Washington, DC panel discussion last year. "My childhood innocence was forever erased, as I came to understand that hatred had eliminated the only sanctuary in my life--the church," said Townsend.

The safety of the church, and its faithful reassurances were violated when the 16th Street Baptist Church was bombed in 1963 noted the former 3rd District Omega Man of the Year.

In 1968, Townsend began his junior year at Ramsay High School under the *George Wallace Freedom* of Choice program. Governor Wallace instituted this program to permit students to enroll in any school as long as they could get there on their own.

Townsend said the program allowed the state to make the claim that schools were integrated although they would not bus Black students to achieve integration.

The Birmingham native said, "he was forced to become more aware of race-based hatred, beyond the grinding heel of racism. Bro. Townsend added that "Connor would ride around in a white tank ordering his neighbors off the streets. I felt fear when I saw Bull Connor, Birmingham's public safety commissioner. Racists bombed Attorney Arthur Shores' home. They had felt the blasts in their homes during the night."

When telling stories about Birmingham, sometimes Townsend feels of fear begin to stir. He said, "nothing prepared me or us as children in embracing the utter terror that came that Sunday morning when our friends were killed at the 16th Street Baptist Church. As the news spread about the bombing at the church, and death of the four little girls- it brought a new and strange reality to me."

Brother Amos Townsend is a member of Alpha Omega Chapter in Washington, D.C. He was initiated into Omega through Kappa Delta Chapter in 1972.

During last July, at the 79th Grand Conclave, Brother Townsend was honored as the Achievement Week Founders Award winner.

Omega's Townsend graduated with a B.S. and Master's degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He is a retired senior executive from the federal government, and he lives in the Washington, DC area.



Bro. Nance to SWAC Hall of Fame

He has never rushed for 1,000 yards or scored a touchdown in a game. He has never hit a home run. He has never made the gameclinching three-point basket. But, Roscoe Nance is a Hall-of-Famer.

Brother Nance, a retired sports writer with USA TODAY was inducted into the Southwestern Athletic Conference Hall of Fame in December.

Nance began his journalistic career at the Columbus (GA) Enquirer, later The Jackson (MS) Clarion-Ledger before joining USA TODAY in 1986, where he covered college sports, the NBA, and the Olympics before retiring in 2007.

He is the first SWAC Hall of Famer who was not associated with the conference as an athlete, coach or administrator. Nance first covered black colleges when he was sports editor for The Campus Digest, the student newspaper at Tuskegee.

Nance graduated from Tuskegee University, and is a member of Omicron Kappa Kappa Chapter.



The brothers of Xi Iota Iota display their awards that were presented at the 4th District's 73rd District Meeting last year in Cleveland, Ohio. Included (L to R) are Brothers Shane Carter, Dr. Percy Frasier, Wendell Boyce, Jarrett A. Thomas, Paul Lucas and Jessie Pope.

Chapter's Great Year of Service

i IOTA IOTA CHAPTER was named as the 4th District's Small Chapter of the Year at their 73rd District Meeting held in Cleveland.

"Our chapter had an outstanding year in servicing our four communities" said Brother Jarrett A. Thomas, a Xi lota lota member, and the 13th District Representative of the 4th District. The four communities that the chapter serves include the Ohio cities of Lima, Sidney, Troy and Piqua.

An extensive blood drive effort, youth mentorship at Lincoln Community Center, talent hunt and scholarships for high school Black males pursuing higher education are some of the chapter's ongoing annual programs. At the Xi lota lota's 23rd Achievement Week Celebration Banquet held in Piqua the featured speaker was the 1st Vice Grand Basileus, Brother Dr. David Marion. Also, at the November event the chapter presented five student scholarships. Each student received a \$1,000 scholarship.

Other 4th District awards that were presented to the chapter and or its members included:

*4th District's Social Action Chapter of the Year (Small Chapter).

*Brother Wendell L. Boyce, Founders Award.

*Brother Jarrett A. Thomas, Graduate Omega Man of the Year Award.

*Brother Gary W. Wilson, Superior Service Award.

*Brother Lt. Colonel Jarrett A. Thomas, II, Colonel Charles Young Military Leadership Award. Zeta Omega's Holbert Elected Village President



Cleveland, OH- Last year Brother Ben Holbert was elected president of Woodmere Village Council. Bro. Holbert has been a member of the village council since 2012 and a member of Omega Psi Phi since May, 1980.

"When I was initiated through Psi Gamma Chapter, not only did I pledge allegiance to the Fraternity, I also pledged my service to humanity," said Bro. Holbert.

Holbert has served Omega on all levels of the Fraternity; he was the International Communications Director, 2nd Vice District Representative and is a chapter media advisor to Zeta Omega.



Xii's Brother Worley Recieves Doctorate

Tipp City, OH- Several members from Xi lota lota Graduate Chapter attended the United Theological Seminary commencement last spring for Brother Stacey M. Worley.

The ceremony was held at Tipp City's Ginghamsburg Church.

The celebration marked the culmination of a challenging journey for *Omega's Dr. Stacey M. Worley*.

As a husband and father of three, Brother Worley juggled his family life, fraternal duties and work as he completed his doctoral dissertation.

Rev. Dr. Worley has persevered and currently serves as the Xi lota lota Chapter's Chaplain.

As the chaplain he consistently uplifts his Omega brothers with messages of encouragement. Delta Alpha's Gooding selected for civil rights hall of fame



Columbus, OH- *Brother Jesse Gooding* of Delta Alpha Chapter was inducted into the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame on October 2, 2014.

Brother Gooding recently published a book entitled, *Freedom and Justice for All: My Life and Dayton Civil Rights History.*

The book chronicles Gooding's life, his family, career and extensive involvement with the NAACP.

Brother Gooding has served in the NAACP (Dayton Chapter) for over 50 years. For several years he was the chapter's president.

Young's cabin receives dedication



mega men from across the country traveled to May's Lick, KY to participate in the dedication of the restored birthplace cabin of U. S. Army Colonel Charles Young.

The national historic event was held in September 2014. Brother Col. Young was a legendary Buffalo Soldier, educator, diplomat and an outstanding Omega man.

Brothers from Psi Tau and Theta Omega chapters attended the ceremony. They were joined by members of the National Coalition of Black Veteran Organization, Kentucky elected officials, dignitaries, and local citizens.

Young was born at the log cabin in May's Lick in 1864. The cabin has undergone a complete restoration. Brother Earl Young, the 5th District Representative spoke at the dedication on behalf of Grand Basileus Antonio F. Knox, Sr., and the Supreme Council. He encouraged the Omegas to put forth greater support and participation toward securing Colonel Young's promotion to rank of Brigadier General. The September dedication for Young's cabin began with a spirit filled Sunday morning service at the historic Second Baptist Church. The church also located in May's Lick was the Young's family church. After the service over 400 attendees met at the restored cabin to view Young's bronze statue, and other exhibition items. During the public reception Morehead State University's Black Ensemble presented musical selections.

Among those in attendance included: Brother Lt. General William E.(Kip) Ward, (Ret USA) Inaugural Commander US African Command; Charles Blatcher, Chairman of the NCBVO and keynote Speaker for the occasion; Heather Renee French-Henry, former Miss America and Commissioner of Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs; Chief Methuselah Z.O. Bradley IV, Honorary Consul for Sierra Leone and Liberia, and Howard D. Jackson, (Retired Major), chairman of the National Minority Military Museum Foundation.

Story by Brother L. Rodney Bennett

Omega Brothers Who Built Bridges

Brother E. Hyburnia

Williams entered Omega in 1954 through Rho Psi Chapter on the campus of Tennessee State University. In 1975, Brother Williams helped to establish Psi Phi Graduate Chapter, and Rho



Kappa, an undergraduate chapter at Austin Peay State University in 1977. Both chapters have created a scholarship fund named after Bro. Williams. Recently, Williams was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award.



In November 2014, Omega brothers returned to the "Hill" to fellowship, fraternize and celebrate the 45th Anniversary of Gamma Theta Chapter at Western Kentucky University.

On December 14, 1968, after overcoming several obstacles, Brother H. Carl Moultrie, National Executive Secretary of the Fraternity, along with Don Offutt and Larry Ashby met with the Dean of Western Kentucky. After the meeting the initiation process began admitting eleven men, known as the *"Tenacious Twelve"* into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. The Gamma Theta charter was granted on July 3, 1969. To date, 49 lines and over 170 brothers have been initiated thru Gamma Theta Chapter.

5TH DISTRICT NEWS

Brother Alfred Motlow, Sr., a member of Epsilon Phi Graduate Chapter recently received his 60-year membership pin at the 79th Grand Conclave held in Philadelphia. Bro. Motlow joined Epsilon Phi in 1958,



Omega's Harvey Selected as Principal of the Year



icholas Harvey, a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Lambda Pi Chapter was selected as the 2014 Principal of the Year for Lenoir County Public Schools (LCPS). Brother Harvey, only in his second year as the principal of Lenoir County Early College High School was chosen from a field of LCPS principals nominated by the staff at their schools. The selection was announced in October 2014.

Dr. Steve Mazingo, LCPS superintendent said that Harvey, "has done some innovative things n the short time he's been at Early College. Mazingo added that Harvey's Principal of the Year Award, "is an honor I share with every principal in this district."

Brother Harvey is a Lenoir County native, and son of a longtime teacher in the system. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Education degree from North Carolina A&T State University and a Master's degree in School Administration and Curriculum from East Carolina University.

He started his career as a drop-out prevention coordinator, later an assistant principal, and then principal. "There's nothing else I'd rather do than work with children--this is it," said Bro. Harvey.



Bro. Kenneth Hubbard **Promoted to General**

n June 25, 2014, the United States Senate confirmed Omega's own U. S. Army Colonel Kenneth D. Hubbard promotion to Brigadier General. Hubbard is the son of a career Army officer and a 1986 graduate of the South Carolina State University's Army ROTC Program.

General Hubbard also holds a Master's degree in Business Administration from Syracuse University, and a Master's degree in National Resource Strategy from the National Defense University. His military education includes the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, and the U.S. Air Command and Staff College.

The General's deployments have included participation in Operation Just Cause 1990 Panama; Stabilization Force 1998, Bosnia-Herzegovina; Operation Iraqi Freedom 2009-2010, Iraq and Operation Enduring Freedom 2012-2013, Afghanistan.

Some of Hubbard's awards and decorations include: the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Services Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Services Commendation Medal, Army Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Iraq Campaign Medal with the Campaign Star and the Global War of Terrorism Medallion.

Bro. Williams Receives Presidential Honor



Lambda Pi's Bro. Dawson Inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame



In 1977, Bobby Dawson was 29-years old when he took the job as the Head Coach of the Men's basketball program at Lenior Community College.

Today, he is the longest-tenured coach among junior college basketball coaches.

Last November, Brother Dawson, a member of Lambda Pi Chapter was inducted in the Kinston/ Lenoir County Sports Hall of Fame. The ceremony was held at the Woodmen Community Center.

The 1986 Region X Eastern Division Coach of the Year said he was suprised to receive such an honor like the Hall of Fame.

One of his former players said, "the main thing that I really love about Coach Dawson is that he is not only a coach on the court, but he coaches his players in life off the court."

Brother Melvin Williams was presented with President Barack Obama's Presidential Volunteer Service Award for his years of service to the community.

Williams founded the Fathers, Protector, Resourceful, Ongoing, Understanding and Dedicated (PROUD), a non-profit organization established to provide support, encouragement, and resources to fathers and men who serve as father figures.

Brother Thabiti Boone, the (right) gives Brother Williams his Presidential pin.

Omega's Johnson Selected as VP

Brother Ken Johnson of Iota Iota was recently appointed as VP at Active Power.



As the Vice President of Manufacturing, Johnson will be responsible for all manufacturing, supply chain, manufacturing engineering and order management activities.

The Texas native earned a BS in Industrial Engineering, and a Master's of Engineering from Texas A & M University.

Rho Alpha presents "Who killed Emmett Till?"



Several young Black males listen to discussions on *Profiling: Race, Class and Gender* at the Alabama School of Mathematics and Science in Mobile, AL. The panel discussion featured issues such as stop-and-frisk, and the Stand Your Ground Law. The young Black males that attended are similar to the same age as Emmett Till when he was murdered in 1955. One of the highlights of May event was the presentation of documentary "Who killed Emmett Till?" Rho Alpha Chapter hosted the Emmett Till Legacy Foundation event.

Chapters embrace basketball ministry

embers of Phi Kappa Kappa and Zeta Theta Chapters serve in various capacities as referees, score keepers, food servers, and guest speakers in support of the Christian Basketball Ministry. The ministry led by Brother Cecil Rivers has existed for over 15 years in the Atlanta area.

Phi Kappa Kappa's Brother Steve Thomas said, "it's good for young males to see positive established Black men. Rivers noted that many Omega brothers have returned to the community, and given several hours of their time in support of this program. "The basketball ministry has absolutely had an impact in this community. Many young men have entered the ministry, enrolled into colleges, and recruit to college Division I basketball and football programs" added Omega's Rivers. The basketball ministry features two hours of competitive basketball games, followed by a meal prepared by Omega men from two Atlanta area chapters.

"The most important statistic is that many young Black males are now Christian men who have turned their lives over to God, and are now heading in the right direction as productive citizens," said Brother Cecil Rivers.

Report by Brother Marc Styles, Phi Kappa Kappa

NEWS BRIEFS

Boynton Beach, FL- The Brothers of Lambda Alpha Alpha Chapter participated in the Back to School Fair in partnership with St. John Missionary Baptist Church. Over 1000 kids from throughout the South Palm Beach community received school supplies.

Columbus, GA - Brothers of Lambda Iota (Graduate) and Nu Delta (Undergraduate) chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., sponsored a "Supplies for Success," a Back-to-School student assistance program. The event was held at the Frank Chester Recreation Center on July 25, 2014. The chapters and the Columbus Times Newspaper provided school supplies and backpacks to elementary and middle grade students who often start out the school year without the supplies necessary to participate in classroom activities.

Grovetown, GA - The members of Upsilon Gamma Gamma Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., sponsored a Back to School Drive on August 2th at Liberty Park Community Center in Grovetown.

The event allowed various community members from the cities of Grovetown and Evans who shared their services. Youth were provided: paper, pencils, composition books, haircuts in preparation for school. Also, in attendance were the Greenbrier High School JROTC Color guard, Columbia County Auxiliary Sheriff The honor was given to Hodge for outstanding business performance and a commitment to putting customers at the center of their focus. Allstate's Field Senior Vice President Bob Holden said "the award demonstrates Hodge's commitment to being accessible to customers and leveraging their own expertise to help ensure customers have the solutions they need to protect themselves and their family."

Youth were provided: paper, pencils, composition books, haircuts in preparation for school. Also, in attendance were the Greenbrier High School JROTC Color guard, Columbia County Auxiliary Sheriff Department, Grovetown Fire Department, Evans' Black Nurses group, Augusta Tech Barber and Hair Salon students. Lunch was provided by McDonalds i Evans, Ga. and Papa John's Pizza in Grovetown, Ga.

Black Nurses group, Augusta Tech Barber and Hair
Salon students. Lunch was provided by McDonalds in
Evans, Ga. and Papa John's Pizza in Grovetown, Ga.
Chapter members at the summer event included:
Brothers Singleton, Move, Connor, Jenkins, Thomas,
Mallory, Roper, and Wilson.
This is the second time Brother Hodge has won this award and while he demonstrates the highest ideas of Omega in his business endeavors, he is also very active in supporting a major chapter health initiative program at Johnson Towers, a senior citizen housing facility in the City of Huntsville. He also mentors a young man that has been under his guidance since 2005.

7TH DISTRICT NEWS

Bro. Hodge Honored



Psi Kappa Kappa's Brother Tony Hodge (Eta 81) was awarded the Prestigious Service Designation Award by the Allstate Company last June. The Allstate Premier Agency designation is bestowed on less than 48 percent of Allstate's nearly 10,000 agency owners across the country.

Beta Upsilon sponsors health fair in small African village



mega's Beta Upsilon Chapter sponsored a community health fair in collaboration with Kafuta Youth Development Association in the village of Kafuta located in Gambia, West Africa. The theme of the health fair was "Health for All, Body, Mind, and Spirit".

The spring 2014 event was aimed at bringing health services and health education to the community. More than two hundred people from Kafuta and nearby villages attended the health fair.

Among the participants were the District Head Chief, Alhagie Basiru Jarju; Kafuta Alkalo, village head; the Youth Development Committee, and the Kafuta Health Centre.

The health institutions present were, the National Blood Transfusion Services (GAMBLOOD) who conducted a blood drive, the National AIDS Secretariat (NAS) and **BAFROW conducted HIV/ AIDS Voluntary** Counseling and Testing (VCT), and the University of the Gambia medical students (UNIGAMSA) conducted Diabetes and BMI screening.

Fifty-one people participated in the HIV/AIDS Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT), eighty people were screened for diabetes and eightytwo people were screened for hypertension and had their BMI's measured.

An enormous amount of blood was donated. The health fair also featured awareness and sensitization activities on Malaria, Tuberculosis, and Healthy Lifestyle. On site were nurses and health personnel that answered any health related questions. The host village entertained the crowd with educational stories about on malaria and other relevant diseases.

Youth Leadership Summit Held **During Black History Month**

n February 25th, 2015, Upsilon Omega Graduate Chapter and Omicron Sigma Undergraduate Chapters hosted the Youth Leadership Summit. The event was held at the Omega Center in St. Louis, MO.

The summit was designed to focus on pertinent issues facing young African American males.

The importance of the conference was to instill the principles of critical thinking, personal and social responsibilities into young African American males. The event also provides them with tools necessary for self-respect and community leadership.

Over the past decade there has been a decline in youth literacy and job training. Suicide, homicide, high school dropout rate and teenage pregnancy have increased. Incidents between African American youth and law enforcement are steadily rising.

The conference was located only a few miles from the City of Ferguson, the site of the citizen unrest, rioting and the location where unarmed teenage, Michael Brown was shot.

For decades, opportunities have lagged behind for millions of boys and young Black males. Boys of color are too often born into poverty and or live with a single parent.

Still, some school districts in the St. Louis area have a high dropout rate for African American males.

their grasp.

The Youth Leadership Summit brought together boys and young men as they discussed, brainstormed, and tackled solutions to issues including:

- Self Esteem
- Legal

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The conference also addressed how to understand and prepare for opportunities in the corporate sector and entrepreneurship. The moderator for the event was Brother John Bowman, chair of the Youth Leadership Summit.

Also, many Black males will have negative interactions with the juvenile system, and a college education is not within

Health and Wellness Academic Growth Personal Responsibility **Financial Development Goal Setting College Preparation**

Some of presenters during the one-day summit included:

Omega's Judge Jimmie Edwards, Innovative Academy; Brother Alfred Adkins II. Assistant Deputy Chief of the St. Louis City Police; Dr. Brother Earl Beeks II; Brother Byron Bell (NFL) and Brother Thabiti Boone, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Fatherhood Mentoring Initiative and White House Liaison to President Obama's White House Fatherhood Mentoring Initiative.

Other session participants also included Past Eighth District **Representatives: Brother** Dr. Lynn Beckwith; Brother Charles 'BeBe" Shelton and Brother Dr. Robert Scott. Also, Brother Jerry Walker, Eighth District Keeper of Finance; Brother Aaron Robinson, **Eighth District Achievement** Week Chairman; Brother Derrick Mitchell, Principal Normandy High School; Brother Cornelius Green, Principal Carr School; Brother Kevin Collins, Upsilon **Omega Foundation President** and Upsilon Omega Basileus Brother Ashley Kornegey.

In attendance was Dr. William Ray Brown, the Eighth District Representative.

Psi Alpha Conference addresses Black male disparity

Theta Chi mentors at-risk youth

fter reading the findings from a report entitled "The Urgency of Now: The Schott 30 State Report on Public Education and Black Males," Psi Alpha Chapter decided to launch a Youth Leadership Conference and Fatherhood Initiative (YLCFI).

The purpose of YLCFI held at St. Phillips College in San Antonio (TX) was to "bring young boys and their fathers and or male figures together in an organized setting to begin a conversation about positive interventions," said Brother Billy Fair, Psi Alpha's Basileus.

The 2012 Schott Foundation report indicated that the national gap between Black and white students has decreased 3% in last ten years. The findings also asserted that there is a direct correlation between the lack of education and employment opportunities. The report also stated, "at this rate of progress, with no large scale system intervention, it would take another 50 years to close the graduation gap between Black males and their white counterparts."

According to research from Cornell University, scholars noted that the reasons for disparity is the lack of male mentors, and or fathers in the lives of young Black males.



A young participant gives an adult male a hug at the Youth Leadership Conference & Fatherhood Initiative.

The epidemic reached a national level when President Obama issued a challenge to communities across the nation when he started a National Conversation on Responsible Fatherhood and Strong Communities and made the issue of fatherhood and at-risk youth one of the Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships' four key priorities.

In Texas, the Schott Foundation study noted that data from the 2009-2010 cohort of students, reported that the high school graduation rate for all students is 86%, African American students is 81%, however the rate for African American males who graduate high school in four years is 53%.

The conference included instructing the boys on proper study habits, grooming tips, and how to navigate through school. The chapter provided each male child with a purple conference shirt. The fathers and or father figures participated in roundtable discussion with leaders from community and religious organizations. During the discussions, many men revealed that they themselves grew up without a father, but someone intervened in their life.

The conference's keynote address was presented by Minister Nuri Muhammad. During his speech, he made an impassioned plea for the young male attendees to "stay the course when it comes to their education and life."

statistics are shocking. In Houston, if you're Black, you are almost 25 times more likely to be shot than a white person, and 43 times more likely to be arrested. The Brothers of Theta Chi Chapter in Houston, TX asked two questions: 1. How can we hold our Black youth to a higher standard? 2. How can we raise a Black males' expectations for an improved quality of life?

The Manhood 101 Mentoring Outreach program was created by Theta Chi due to the increasing sense of urgency concerning the lives of African American young men. The goal of the mentoring outreach is to align college educated professional African American mentors with at-risk high school students that exhibit a propensity to underachieve.

The target students exhibit academic challenges, social issues and or emotional deficiencies. However, the students that enter into the program must be open-minded and aspire to better themselves.

The program aims to work in conjunction with the efforts of school officials and help to reduce juvenile delinguency, drug abuse, truancy, and other high-risk behaviors.

expectations.

Approximately 15-20 participants are accepted into the program each year. Each student is assigned to at least one of the Fraternity's members as a primary mentor.

Williams receives honor



9TH DISTRICT NEWS

The 101 Mentoring Team effectively provides positive mentoring to young men enrolled in Greater Houston area high schools through the establishment of mutual trust, sharing of knowledge, coaching, modeling and meeting of clear and defined Participants meet one Saturday per month as a group from 10am-1pm, but have constant access to their primary mentor(s). The mentorship program coincides with the academic school year.

The program also employs positive males as the catalyst for open and honest discussions concerning daily trials, tribulations and obstacles faced by the young men. The sessions also hope to prepare young Black males for life in the future.

rother Dr. Lonnie R. Williams was presented with a deserving Lifetime Achievement Award by the Black Alumni Association at the University of Arkansas. Dr. Williams is the Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at Williams' exemplary work in recruiting minorities has also been recognized across the state and nation. One of the hallmarks of his expertise has been his implementation of new programs that promote student success.

Brother Williams was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. through the Gamma Eta Chapter at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville in 1974.

He is currently a member of Upsilon Chi Chapter in northwest Arkansas and serves as the Chapter Editor to the Oracle. He also serves Omega as State Representative-North, Arkansas.



Brother Michael Ward (left), Tenth District's Social Action Chairman directs undergraduate Brothers to the District's suit donation rack.

Undergrads select suits

s part of the Tenth District's Social Action involvement within the Fraternity, Brother Michael Ward, the Social Action chair encouraged graduate brothers to bring at least one of their old suits for donation.

The collected suits were donated to the undergraduate Omega men who attended the District meeting.

"I felt that since social action is one of the driving forces of our Fraternity, then we should do something to help our own--the undergraduate brothers," said Brother Ward.

Over 150 suits were collected, and the suits were from designers including Giorgio Armani, Kenneth Cole, and Hugo Boss.

The 10th District's Social Action chair, Bro. Ward also said that the left over suits were donated to several charities throughout the District's five-state region.

Some of the community recipients of the extra suits were Detroit's Missionary Baptist Church, and the Cara Program, a Chicago job readiness program for challenged individuals who experience employment barriers.

The health testing included: Cholesterol Screening, Diabetes testing, High Blood Pressure Screening, HIV testing, Pulmonary Screening, Mammogram Testing, Sleep Apnea Testing, Prostate Screening and Kidney Health

RGG Holds

Drew Blood

Drive

Gamma Chapter

brothers provided a

ho Gamma

comprehensive testing and

The event was held at the

2014.

health-screening event in June

Salvation Army's Joan and Ray

brothers also enlisted Advocate

Trinity Hospital to administer and

Chicago's Roseland and Morgan

Kroc Community Center. The

perform a multitude of health

screenings for people from

Park communities.

Profiles. In addition, organ and tissue donation registration was available.

Every Omega brother that attended donated a pint of blood. Also, members from Alpha Kappa Alpha and Sigma Gamma Rho sororities collectively worked with Rho Gamma Gamma as volunteers during the event.



Bro. Ted Childs (L), and Bro. Leon DeCosta Dash (R) discussed issues at the University of Illinois.

Chapters Present Forum

igma Xi and Pi Psi Chapters joined together as they presented an in-depth discussion that featured two fifty-year Omega men. The forum was held at the University of Illinois in September 2014 during the school's Illinois Day.

Brother Ted Childs (Theta Psi Chapter 1964) was the keynote speaker for Illinois Day. Childs is a corporate diversity expert and founder and CEO of Ted Childs, LLC. Bro. Childs retired from IBM after a distinguished 39 year career as a member of their corporate human resources team.

Brother Leon DeCosta Dash (Beta Chapter 1964), is a Professor in the departments of Journalism, African-American Studies, and Law at the University of Illinois-Champaign. In 1975, Dash was one of the founding members of the National Association of Black Journalists. Bro. Dash, a former journalist for the Washington Post was awarded the 1995 Pulitzer Prize in Explanatory Journalism as the writer of Rosa Lee: A Mother and Her Family in Urban America,

Omegas discussed recent incidents in the media regarding domestic and child abuse, police brutality, and the impacts they have on society today. Brothers Childs and Dash provided an educational and historical perspective as to how the dynamic of parenting has changed over the years. They also discussed their recommendations for best practices in childhood development.



On August 2nd, 2014, Mu Xi Graduate Chapter honored three of their founding members at a special brunch in Lisle, IL. The three Omega men that were presented special awards included:

Brother Marvin C. Byrd was initiated in 1949 through Savannah State University. Bro. Byrd graduated with dual bachelor degrees in biology and chemistry. Omega's Byrd serves on the Fraternity's national By-Laws committee, and is the president of the NAACP's DuPage Chapter (IL).

Brother W. Frank Rodgers was initiated in 1964 at Tuskegee Institute. Bro. Rodgers graduated with a B.A. degree in education. For several years, Rodgers was a training executive at Sears.

Brother Rollie Steele was initiated on May 8, 1959 at Alabama State College graduating with a BS in science. He later received his Master's degree from Fisk University. Now, retired, Steele was a professor for 29 years at the College of DuPage.

Story by Brother Bryce O. Walker

Below: Holding their Mu Xi Chapter Legacy Awards are Omega men (left to right): Brother Marvin C. Byrd, Brother W. Frank Rodgers, and Brother Rollie Steele.





Tau Tau Chapter Brothers join Omega's Isadora Hall (center) after his swearing-in ceremony. Hall Elected To California State Senate

au Tau Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., gathered to witness the swearing-in of Brother Isadore Hall, III, as the California State Senator of the 35th District.

The January 31, 2015 ceremony featured several California Assembly members that spoke about Hall's dedication and previous work as an assembly member (64th District).

Others noted that Hall's exceptional leadership skill speak volumes about his work in communities throughout southern California. Brother Hall's commitment to education prompted him to launch of his political career in 2001. He first served on the Compton Unified School District Board of Trustees. Aja Brown, the mayor of the City of Compton, CA honored Senator Hall by naming a Compton street as Isadore Hall Drive.

In 2003, Brother Hall was elected as a city council member of Compton, CA. His leadership positions also included serving as the Mayor Pro Tem of the Council. While on the city council, he oversaw efforts to make recreational activities and parks increasingly accessible.

Brothers of Tau Tau Chapter, their families, and friends were able to witness the beginning of a new day for the 35th District of Los Angeles. Winning 54.9% of the votes over three opposing candidates, Brother Hall overcame all opposition on December 10, 2014 in his bid to serve the people of the 35th District in Sacramento. The Compton native was initiated in Omega through Tau Tau Chapter in 2005.

Mu Alpha Alpha Sponsors Faith Revival

mega men of Mu Alpha Alpha Chapter are regularly involved in a variety of encouraging and uplifting community activities. In the spring of 2014, the chapter sponsored the Omega Faith Other summer events sponsored by the chapter included the Father's Day Scholarship Brunch. The brunch was held at the Pacific Club in Newport

Revival. The event was hosted at the Christ Second Baptist Church where Reverend Bro. Welton Pleasant serves as the pastor of the Long Beach, CA church.

The theme "In the Spirit of Faith, Family, Friendship, and Fraternity," was brilliantly tackled by Omega's Rev. John Adolph, Senior Pastor of Antioch Baptist Church.



Brother Adolph related the theme to his work as substitute teacher which led to his acquaintance wit a boy named Kanard Barksdale. Adolph's relationshi with Kanard, a troubled middle school kid connec with the biblical story of Cain and Able.

Reverend Adolph's sermon was entitled *Raising Ca Until He is Able. He said "if we don't help Cain --nobolelse will.*" Other points of his sermon including ho men who live away from their children must operate a team with mothers in parenting male children.

He also said that parents and the community muraise boys like a man today, because they will become a man tomorrow. Brother Adolph encouraged the congregation to let boys see manhood, and rejoice the fact that God created them to be men. Proceed from the revival helped to support the work of the Orange County Uplift Foundation, Mu Alpha Alph non-profit 501 c3 organization.

Beach, CA, and was attended by people from all age groups. The guest speaker was Webster Guillory, Orange County's Assessor. Webster is the only African-American Assessor in California and has held the post for over a decade. He spoke about how he managed the growth of his career while being a father and husband.

Scholars	ships were given in the following areas of discipline:
and stu	– awarded to Sulwe Green, a classical pianist ident at Stella Adler Academy of Acting and e in Hollywood.
attendi Busine	i ness - awarded to Taylor Nauden, a student ng University of Pennsylvania's Wharton ss School with a focus in marketing and ons management.
Master	<i>cation –</i> awarded to Dawn Cook, a recent 's degree graduate from Cal State University's te history program.
who at	ineering – awarded to Bro. Charles Osuala tends Cal Poly Pomona with a 3.75 GPA. He is ve member of Phi Lambda Chapter.
Cal Pol	ence – awarded to Shannon Jones who attends ly Pomona where she has earned a 3.73 GPA ng in nutritional science.

Chapter's Senchi outreach project encourages literacy Tau Chi Promotes Health in Ghana



Girls from the village of Senchi participate in healthy activities.

enchi is a small fishing community located in the eastern region of Ghana. One of the impoverished village's problems is their high illiteracy, and challenged health care options.

In October 2014, Omega's Tau Chi Chapter decided to participate in a health screening, and learning development session for some Senchi's youngest residents. Tau Chi's Brother Dr. Bryan Cox provided health talks on the importance of the spine, and how having fun through games can improve one's general health. Bro. Cox is the CEO and founder of the Spinal Clinic with offices throughout Ghana.

The chapter's health initiative produced over 500 participants for eye screening, blood pressure, and diabetes checks.

Over 200 children from three local schools were presented with information on how to best use the community library as a source for reading and research. During the learning session at the library, students were entertained with reading exercises, and encouraged to use computers as a learning tool.

The event was co-hosted by Tau Chi Chapter and Vodafone, an international telecommunication company. Both groups joined together to donate books, chairs, games and other educational materials for the library.

Omega men from Tau Chi also cleaned the grounds of the facility as well as painting rooms weeks before the start of the event.

Story by Brother Gerard Broussard

igma Gamma Gamma Chapter held their

annual Back to School event known as Que Nic. The event was hosted for Department of Defense students throughout Okinawa, Japan in September 2014.

This year at the

Que-Nic, the

campaign.

chapter launched

an Anti-Bullying



Theta Rho Recognizes Essay Winners



mega men from Theta Rho Chapter hosted their Achievement Week Banquet, and presented awards to essay contest winners. The November 2014 event was held in Stuttgart, Germany. The chapter announced its three High School Essay Contest winners selected from the Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) schools throughout Germany. The contest is open to all college-bound high school seniors who attend one of the DODEA high schools in Germany.

Que-Nic kicks off back to school event

Their slogan was "Bullies Never Win." The chapter

said that this social action initiative would help to address the growing concerns of school age children being bullied.

(On Left): One of the event's *most popular* activities is "Dunk an Omega Man." Children line up as they prepare to throw a ball at the target.

The theme for the 2013-2014 Theta Rho Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. High School Annual Essay Contest was: "Considering the Political Climate in the United States and the World, How Much Value Do You Place on Your Right to Vote."

The three winners received scholarships in the following amounts: 1st Place \$500, 2nd Place \$300 and 3rd Place \$200.

The winners were: (1st Place) Delaney McKinney of Hohenfels High School; (2nd Place) Michaelo Shilo of Kaiserslautern High School, and (3rd Place) Quatia Thompson of Kaiserslautern High School.

(ABOVE): Theta Rho Brothers after presenting awards to the High School Essay Contest winners.

Story by Brother Brandon J. Wilkins

WHEN WE WEAR THE GLOVES

"When we wear the gloves, A brother has gone from our midst and sailed to golden shores. When we wear the gloves, A friend has passed the final test and walks through purple doors. The circle has an empty place, A voice will raise no more. The song of fellowship and love Uplift forevemore. When we wear the gloves, A light goes from this earthly life. The visor closed again. Yet all the heavens open wide. To let a new star in.

When we wear the gloves, A brother leaves the chapter rolls, and moves to other worlds. For when we say our last goodbye, He walks on streets of Pearl, When we wear the gloves.

by Brother Carver Portlock

Omega Chapter

Brother Walter G. Amprey, Ed.D.

Educator and Former Grand KRS



Brother. Dr. Walter G. Amprey, who served as the Fraternity's 19th Grand Keeper of Records and Seal and the 17th Second District Representative, transitioned to Omega Chapter on April 22, 2014.

Known as an education innovator and community stalwart, Brother

Amprey served as the Baltimore schools superintendent from 1991 to 1997.

He was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity through He was the first African American veterinarian in the Pi Chapter at Morgan State University (then college) in 1963. metropolitan area that serviced southern Maryland, Prince Upon graduation in 1966, he joined Pi Omega Graduate George's and Montgomery counties. While a student at Chapter in Baltimore, Maryland, where he remained Tuskegee he was instrumental in bringing Omega Psi Phi financial until his transition to Omega Chapter. He was Life Fraternity to the campus. He became a member in 1946. member 766.

Born December 13, 1944, Walter earned both his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Science degrees from Morgan State University, where he studied Elementary and Secondary Education and History and Social Science.

Bro. Jerome Augustus Brooks, Jr., affectionately known as In 1977, he earned his second Master of Science degree in "Butch", was born October 25, 1940 and entered Omega Educational Administration and Supervision from Johns Chapter on August 8, 2014 in Baltimore, MD. Hopkins University. He later completed his Doctorate in Urban Education at Temple University.

Dr. Walter Amprey served as Superintendent of Public Instruction for the Baltimore City Public Schools from 1991-1997. He is credited with developing innovative programs that involved the effective use of business and private industry to improve the operations and effectiveness of schools. Amprey was well known and highly regarded throughout the nation as an expert in the area of urban education.

In addition to his local legacy, Walter made significant Maryland Workshop for the Blind. Later he served as a contributions to national education reform in his service as vocation rehabilitation counselor, and a substance abuse the former National Vice President for Urban Education of counselor at the Baltimore County Health Department. National School Conference Institute, President of the Large City Schools Superintendents of the U.S. and Canada, and His passions were music and wrestling. Both pursuits were the Director of National Center for Education Research & nurtured at Morgan. He formed a rhythm and blues band Technology (NCERT). In the year 2000, he formed his own called the Ambassadors. He was also a CIAA champion educational consulting firm, Amprey & Associates. wrestler at Morgan State. In 1961, he was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity through Pi Chapter.

Brother Dr. Jospeph Barr Veterinarian



Bro. Dr. Joseph Barr departed his earthly life for his heavenly reward on Friday, July 11, 2014.

Dr. Barr was a graduate of Tuskegee Institute's School of Veterinary Medicine, class of 1950. As proprietor of Jo-Rett Veterinary Clinic in Fairmont

Heights, MD, he serviced the community for almost 60 years.

Blind since birth, he received his early training at the Maryland School for the Blind and graduated high school

Brother Jerome A. Brooks, Jr.

Counselor



at Baltimore City College in 1960. He received a B. S. degree in psychology from Morgan State College in 1964 and a Master of Science degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from Coppin State College in 1974.

His first professional position was Personnel Director for the

Brother Daniel W. C. Brown Athlete and Biochemist



Brother Daniel W.C. Brown entered Omega Chapter on November 23, 2013. Bro. Brown was initiated in the Theta Psi Chapter at West Virginia State University in 1945.

His family relocated to Columbus, Ohio where he attend public school and graduated at the age of 16.

Upon graduation, he enrolled in Ohio State University. He was a gifted athlete, and in his freshman year, he played football at Ohio State under legendary coach Paul Brown.

Later, he transferred to West Virginia State and received his Bachelor's degree. Brown became the first African American to receive a Master of Science from the Science Department at Ohio University. He received a doctorate degree in biochemistry from George Washington University.

He worked at the National Institute of Health and Food & Drug Administration for 44 years. In 1975, Brother Brown was a founder and charter member of Tau Pi Chapter in Columbia, MD. He served as the chapter's second Basileus. Until his death in 2013, he proudly swore in the new chapter officers. He is survived by his devoted wife, Doris and daughter Carolyn Brown Jackson, and a host of family and faithful friends.

Brother Garland Brown Educator and Fulbright Scholar



Brother Garland Brown was born January 23, 1933 and entered Omega Chapter on November 15, 2014. He was initiated into the Omega in fall 1953 through Delta Psi Chapter on the campus of Shaw University.

After graduation from Shaw, he obtained a Master's degree from

North Carolina A& T University, and studied in Africa as a Fulbright Scholar. He help to integrate teachers in the Baltimore County School System. The Life member served as Basileus of Pi Omega Chapter. He was also a contributor in the purchase of the Pi Omega Fraternity Center in 1983.

Brother George R. Brown Pharmacist

Brother George R. Brown, R.Ph., P.D. died peacefully on September 21, 2014 at his Washington, DC home at the age of 91 years.

He was born on March 17, 1923 in New Orleans, LA. After high school, George earned a diploma in Commercial Studies from

Straight Business School and worked as an electric welder at the Norfolk Virginia Navy Shipyard.

After service in the U.S. Army, Brown enrolled into Xavier University. At Xavier, joined Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, and he received a degree in pharmacy in 1951.

He was the first African-American pharmacist employed at Rhode Island Pharmacy, as well as the first African-American member of the DC Pharmaceutical Association becoming an active member in 1955. He was a charter member of Xavier's Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association.

> Brother Clint Boyd, Jr. Engineer and Omega Man of the Year

On September 13, 2014, Brother Clint Boyd, Jr., peacefully joined Omega Chapter. He was born on January 16, 1962. Brother Boyd graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1985 with a B.S. in Industrial Engineering at Tennessee. He was intitated into Omega through Iota Beta Chapter.

Boyd served as the chaplain and chapter reporter for Gamma Phi Chapter. He received the Omega Man of the Year Award from Gamma Phi in 2012 and 2013.

He was also presented the 5th District's Graduate Omega Man of the Year Award in 2014.

Bro. Boyd is survived by devoted wife, Elaine H. Boyd; children, Jordan and Winston Boyd; loving mother, Barbara Walls Boyd; father, Clinton C. Boyd, Sr.; siblings, Creighton and Jena, and grandmother, Viola Myrickone.

Brother Joseph C. Bozeman, Jr. U.S. Army Officer



Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Bro. Joseph C. Bozeman, Jr., 58, of Laurel, Md., died April 26, 2014 in Baltimore following a sudden illness. A celebration of his life was held May 10, 2014.

Brothers from Lambda Gamma Maryland. Mike enrolled in Morgan State College and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science in 1970. He later received a Master's degree in Urban Planning and Policy Analysis in 1973. He was conferred his Jurist Doctorate degree from the University of Baltimore's School of Law in 1979.

Gamma Chapter (LGG) performed the Omega Service on September 2, 2014 at Argonne Hills Chapel at Ft. Meade, MD. Brother Bozeman received a burial with full military honors

at Arlington National Cemetery on September 3, 2014.

Initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. through A 23-year Army veteran, Brother Bozeman enjoyed a career Pi Chapter at Morgan in 1970, he was number 20 of the that took him around the globe and included teaching legendary pledge line Grand Funk 44. Brother Bulter had positions at Morgan State University, Howard University, worked as a recruitment counselor, EEOC and Affirmative Bowie State College and U.S. Army bases. Action manager, and faculty member at several colleges and universities. At the time of his death, Dr. Butler He earned five Meritorious Service Medals, two Army worked as an Assistant Professor of Law at Baltimore City.

Commendation Medals, the Legion of Merit Award, the National Defense Medal, the Army Achievement Medal and the Parachute Badge before retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel in 2000.

Brother Joseph C. Bozeman, Jr. was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. through Xi Xi Chapter in 1977.

Throughout his long and illustrious career, Brother Bozeman served in numerous fraternal leadership positions including: Dean of Pledges, Xi Xi Chapter; Graduate Advisor for Epsilon Sigma Chapter, and Keeper of Finance at Omicron Iota Iota, Fort Leavenworth, KS.

He graduated from North Carolina College, now known Additionally, as a member of Lambda Gamma Gamma as North Carolina Central University with a B.A. degree in Chapter, Brother Bozeman served with distinction on accounting. Later, he earned an M.B.A. from New York numerous committees and community service projects. University. Omega's Brother Carter served on many Pi Phi Brother Bozeman served as the Achievement Week Chapter committees. Chairman for four continuous years 2008 thru 2011.

Brother Dr. Michael R. Butler

educator and lawyer



Brother Dr. Michael R. Butler was born November 9, 1948. He joined Omega Chapter on December 31, 2014.

Affectionately known as Mike, in 1966, he graduated in the first integrated class at Chopticon High School in St. Mary's County,

Brother Robert D. Carter, III Financial Advisor





On October 1, 1941, Brother Robert D. Carter, Jr. affectionately known as "Bob", was born. He joined Omega Chapter on July 30, 2014.

Brother Carter was an academic advisor to Rho Chapter when he was employed in the Office of Financial Affairs at Johnson C. Smith University. He was also a Sixth District Assistant Keeper of Finance and proudly served as secretary for the Friendship Foundation. He become an Omega member through Tau Psi Chapter in 1962.

Brother Melvin E. Daniels, Sr. *Coach and Educator*



Brother Melvin Edward Daniels, Sr. was born January 30, 1952. Daniels joined Omega Chapter on August 2, 2014.

Daniels was called Melvin or "Coach D" as he was affectionately known to many of his students and players. In high school, Daniels

was a gifted and well-rounded athlete in baseball, track and, most notably, football. He was awarded a football scholarship to attend Middle Tennessee State University. In addition to being an outstanding tailback, he became the first African-American quarterback to play in the Ohio Valley Conference. Melvin was also a member of the school's track and field team before earning his B.S. M.E. and Ed. S. from the university.

At MTSU, Daniels was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Mu Zeta Chapter in 1973. He later became a Life member of the Fraternity.

After graduation, he played for the Shreveport Steamers of the World Football League before serving as an educator for 37 years. He worked as a coach, physical education teacher, and later Principal. In 1984, as the high school coach, Daniels led the Boy's track team to a State Championship. He also served as the high school's offensive coordinator as the team won the State Football Championship.

To cherish his memory is wife, Lora; beloved son, Melvin Daniels Jr.; stepdaughter, Pamela Glenn and his devoted mother, Stella M. Daniels.



Brother Dr. Cromwell C. Douglas joined Omega Chapter on August 16, 2014. He was born in Lawrenceville, VA on March 1, 1923.

Bro. Douglas was a graduate of Lincoln University, and initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity

through Beta Chapter in 1946.

Bro. Douglas earned his medical degree (MD) from Meharry Medical College. He served in the US Army as an officer in the Medical Corp. Douglas was a tennis player, avid fisherman, and boats man.

Brother Dr. Cromwell C. Douglas, MD

Medical Doctor

He served as a Trustee, and Vestry member at Grace Episcopal Church in Norfolk, Virginia for over 60 years. He also served on the Board of directors of St. Paul's College.

His wife Kathryn, son, Keith, and his brother, Winston A. Douglas of Washington, DC preceded him in death.

He is survived by his two daughters, Karen Winston and Adrienne Hymes of Richmond, VA; his son, Kevin Douglas of Norfolk, VA.

Brother Douglas' grandchildren include: Robin Lynch (Thomas), Adrienne R., Kendra Abeleda (Allan), Dennis Winston, Jr., Erica, Kel'ese, and Kerrigan; and five great grandchildren; and a host of relatives and friends.

Brother George Robert Dennis, Jr. Athlete and Educator



Brother George Robert Dennis, Jr. entered Omega Chapter on July 30, 2014. He was initiated into Pi Chapter on the campus of Morgan State College in 1955.

In 1956, he qualified in the high jump to be an alternate on the 1956 US Olympic Team in Melbourne,

Australia during his senior year.

Dennis became the first African American staff member of the Atlantic City High School physical education department where he coached the cross country and outdoor track & field teams. He acquired his Master's degree from Villanova University and rose to the position of Vice Principal. He retired in 1992 as an administrator for the Atlantic City Board of Education. Dennis was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Janice. He leaves to cherish his memory two children, Sharon M. Davis and George R. Dennis, III, and a host of relatives and friends.

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Brother Robert P. Duke, Jr. Clinical Social Worker



Bro. Robert Page Duke, Jr. was born on January 17, 1920, in Lynchburg, VA. On March 17, 2014 he joined Omega Chapter at the age of 94.

He graduated from the North Carolina College (now North Carolina Central University) in 1942 with a Bachelor of Arts degree

in Kinesiology. In 1940 he was initiated into the Tau Psi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

After college, he served in the US Army, as a Sergeant in the Engineer Regiment. After WW II, he earned a Master's degree in Social Work from Atlanta University (now Clark Atlanta University). He was employed as a Clinical Social Worker by the Veteran's Administration Hospitals, in Montross, NY, and in Salem, Virginia. He also was employed by Lynchburg General Hospital as a Social Worker until his retirement in 1975. At the time of his passing he was Trustee Emeritus of the Diamond Hill Baptist Church. He also was a member of the Men's Fellowship, the Male Chorus and the Senior Choir.

Bro. Duke is survived by a son, Kenneth; three daughters, Wyonella, Robyn and Elaine. Brother Duke also had seven grandchildren, and eight great grandchildren.



Brother James Elam (seated right) with his chapter brothers from Eta Gamma (Central State Univ.,) at the 76th Grand Conclave in Raleigh, NC held in 2010.

Brother Dr. James A. Elam Corporate and Philanthropic Titan



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., mourns the passing of Brother Dr. James A. Elam, who joined Omega Chapter on February 3, 2015. Brother Elam was a corporate and philanthropic titan whose contributions and selfless service to Omega was

immeasurable. He was born on November 13, 1931.

"Elam led an extraordinary life of public service." Brother Elam was a philanthropist who possessed an unwavering affection and support for Central State University and the Fraternity," said Antonio F. Knox, the 40th Grand Basileus. Knox added that "he was an outspoken stalwart who always sought solutions to make a difference in the lives of everyone and everything he touched." In 1958, Dr. Elam started Belmonte Park Laboratories, an environmental testing company in Dayton, Ohio.

Elam was initiated on March 17, 1952, through the Eta Gamma Chapter at Central State College (OH). Brother Elam was an active member of the Mu Chi Chapter in Dayton, Ohio, at the time of his transition into Omega Chapter. However, his legacy and stewardship will live on through his countless significant contributions to Omega. It was through his leadership, that the Fraternity established its own federal credit union. In 1995, the 800-seat auditorium inside the Fraternity's world headquarters in Decatur, Georgia was named in honor of Brother Elam. Elam served as a stand-in for one of the Founders during the Centennial Celebration observed in 2011.

"He freely gave his time and resources to elevate Omega to the stature that this organization enjoys today," Knox said. During his 62 years of service to Omega, Brother Elam received nearly every award, at every level of the Fraternity. In early 2013, Brother Elam was summoned by the White House to be present as the National Park Service designated the Colonel Charles Young estate as a national monument by Presidential Proclamation.

"Brother Elam was a friend to brothers of the chapter, district and international levels, and provided cogent advice to the Fraternity leadership including the Grand Basilei of this great brotherhood," Knox said. "No one word will ever describe Brother Elam, but one word we all could call him is friend."

Brother Lloyd Eure Engineer and Family Man



Brother Lloyd Eure joined Omega Chapter on March 29, 2014. A native of Suffolk, Virginia, he was the son of Gracie Eure and the late Ellison Eure. He was member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Delta Omega Chapter.

Eure graduated from Virginia State University with a B.S. in Industrial Engineering Technology. He was employed with CBT Networking. Brother Eure was a member of Metropolitan Baptist Church; Project Management Institute; Society of Industrial Engineers, DC Chapter and Virginia State University.

Cherishing his memory is his wife, Shannon Saunders Eure; one daughter, Faith Linae Eure-Adamson; sons Savion Leland Eure and Miles Anthony Coble; one sister, Loretta Eure Jones (Curtis); and several relatives and friends.

Brother Lee A. Frison, Sr. *Accountant*

Brother Lee A. Frison, Sr., entered Omega Chapter on Friday, July 11, 2014 at his Jackson, MS home. He was born June 9, 1941 in Lafayette County, Mississippi. He received his Bachelor's degree in business administration from Mississippi Valley State University in 1963. Later, he earned his M.B.A. in management and accounting from Jackson State University. During his career as an accountant he worked at several educational institutions including Coahoma Junior College, Jackson State University, Mississippi Valley State University, Grambling State University and Southern University-New Orleans.

He was an active member of Cade Chapel Baptist Church where he served as a Sunday School teacher and was the past Chairman of the Board of Trustees. Brother Frison was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity in 1973 through Beta Alpha Chapter.

He was preceded in death by his wife of forty-two years, Luxie Mae Frison. He leaves to cherish his memory, two daughters Jacqueline, Luxie and son, Lee A. Frison, Jr.

Brother Robert H. Fain Family Man



Brother Robert H. (Bob) Fain, III passed away at his home in Las Vegas, Nevada, on Friday, August 29, 2014.

He was born on November 1, 1948. Among his many interests, he particularly loved fishing, martial arts, gardening

and helping others. Brother Robert Fain graduated from Morristown College in 1968, and received a B.A. from Lane College in 1970.

At Lane College, Fain became a member of the Kappa Sigma Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.



Brother Jonathan K. Hall Engineer

Brother Jonathan K. Hall entered Omega Chapter on March 10, 2014. Bro. Hall was initiated in the Pi Epsilon Chapter at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) in 1965. He graduated in 1967 from the UMES with a Bachelor of Science in engineering. Shortly, thereafter he married DeGloria and settled in the

newly developed Columbia, MD. He and his wife were one of the first African American couples to establish residency. In 1975, he was one of the founders and charter members of Tau Pi Graduate Chapter.

He worked as an engineer at Ft. Meade Army base, Western Electric Corporation, and the Howard County Government He also worked at the United States Social Security Administration as a Project Manager. He is survived by his devoted and lovely wife, DeGloria; brother, Sammy Berry, and sister, Julia Pearl Lucas.

Brother Nelson Greene, Sr. Leader and Mortician



In May 1914, Brother Nelson Greene Sr. was born. Bro. Nelson joined Omega Chapter on November 13, 2014. Greene had 76 years of dedicated service to Omega and 60 years as a mortician.

After his freshman year at Virginia Union University, he transferred to Shaw University where he was offered an athletic scholarship to play basketball and football. In 1938, Nelson Greene joined Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., through Delta Psi Chapter. Brother Greene also found the love of his life at Shaw University in the late Miss. Gloria C. Kay, who was crowned Miss. Shaw University in 1937. They dated throughout college, and later married Christmas Day, 1941.

Brother Greene honorably served in the United States Army and had tours in WWII and the Korean War as a commissioned officer. After service, the Bronze Star recipient moved to Virigina in 1954, and opened the Greene Funeral Home in the Alexandria, VA area.

Brother Greene was the second Black since Reconstruction to serve on the Alexandria City Council. He also was a founder of the Alexandria Urban League.

Greene was also a key contributor in helping integration the Alexandria area during the 60s, and 70s. The legacy that Brother Greene began years ago lives on to this day with our Fraternity brothers (and his two sons) Brother Terry Greene (Pi, 1970), and Brother Nelson Greene, Jr. (Psi Nu, 1974).

As one of the founders of Psi Nu Chapter in 1972, Brother Greene distinguished himself as one of the chapter pillars for other Psi Nu brothers and Fraternity members to emulate. Brother Nelson E. Greene Sr., was a great man who lived the cardinal principles of the Fraternity.

Brother Manley D. Khaleel *Federal Government Employee*



Brother Manley D. Khaleel was born on August 18, 1945, and entered Omega Chapter on July 27, 2014. He was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in 1966 through Zeta Psi Chapter.

Throughout his many years of membership in Zeta Psi, Beta Alpha Alpha and Kappa Omicron Chapters, Brother Khaleel was a committed member of the Fraternity and served Omega faithfully for 48 years. The life member served as Keeper of Peace, Vice Basileus, and Basileus of Kappa Omicron Chapter. He received his 40 Year Service Award at the 74th Grand Conclave in Little Rock, AR. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam era. After service, he worked in the United States Federal Government.

Brother Matthew Kennedy University Music Director



Brother Matthew Kennedy remained an "icon" at Fisk University, his alma mater and longtime employer, long after he retired. He was born in Americus, Ga., in 1921. He played "It's Me, O Lord, Standin' in the Need of Prayer" by ear

when he was just 4 years old. His skill won him a scholarship to the Juilliard School in New York, where he met Duke Ellington and performed at the Apollo Theater.

After graduating from Juilliard with a piano diploma in 1940, he when to Fisk University as a piano accompanist for the famed choral ensemble the Jubilee Singers. He later was appointed director of the Jubilee Singers. Kennedy held that post for 23 years and retired from the Fisk in 1986, but he remained active in the community and continued to play piano at First Baptist Church Capitol Hill well into his 90s. Brother Kennedy was a member of Gamma Phi.

Brother Matt H. Kimbrough Health Care Specialist



Brother Matt H. Kimbrough was born September 1, 1983 to the unity of William Green and Mattie Mae Brown Kimbrough. Brother Kimbrough entered Omega Chapter on October 31, 2014.

He earned his bachelor's in biology and graduated Cum Laude from

South Carolina State University in 2006.

While at South Carolina State, the W.K. Kellogg Public Health Scholar was the SGA president and a member of Beta Kappa Chi Scientific Honorary Society.

Those left to cherish his memory and legacy include his fiancée Jocelyn McCallister; father, William Green; sisters, Cornelia and Elisa; brothers: William, Raymond, Dwight, Bernard, Gabriel and Felix. Brother Kimbrough was a member of Alpha Omega Chapter.

Brother Dr. Robert L. Montgomery

Federal Government

Dr. Robert L. Montgomery died peacefully surrounded by family on September 7, 2014. He was an unpretentious man who lived through simple pleasures: family, church, and traveling. Bob had an uncanny ability to reach people in an analytical and positive way. He was born November 24, 1937 in Rome, GA.

Bro. Montgomery graduated from Clark Atlanta University and earned a PhD from the University of Maryland. He worked for the federal government and ultimately retired after several decades of service with the Central Intelligence Agency.

He is survived by his wife, Laura; children: Edna and Joseph; grandchildren Mark and Siobhan and siblings: Joe, Ola, and Willie. He was a Life Member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.. He was a member of Tau Rho and Beta Psi chapters.

Brother William A. Murphy

City Government and Public Service

Brother Owen S. McPherson, Sr.

Engineer



Brother Owen McPherson entered Omega Chapter on March 17, 2014.

Bro. McPherson was initiated into Omega Psi Phi through Mu Psi Chapter at North Carolina A & T University on April 1, 1950.

He graduated from North Carolina A & T with a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering. Bro. McPherson, a Life member was an active member of Tau Pi Chapter. During his career, McPherson worked as an engineer for the Department of Navy and at Westinghouse Electric Corporation.

After retirement, he obtained his realtors license and sold homes. Bro. McPherson is survived by his devoted and lovely wife, Dorothy; three sons; Owen Jr., Carl, and Jason and one grandson, Spencer Hill McPherson.

Brother William A. Murphy joined Omega Chapter on May 23, 2014. Bro. Murphy was born on July 7, 1953.

Murphy worked tirelessly in the name of the Fraternity as the Keeper of Finance, Chairman of the Bylaws committee and part of the Achievement Week and the Social Action committees. In 1991, he received the Omega Man of the Year Award. He was a member of Psi Nu Chapter.

Murphy graduated from Fayetteville State College in 1975 with a degree in political science. Later, he received a Master of Public Administration degree from Clark Atlanta University in 1979.

His career including jobs in city government, public service and with the Department of Defense (DOD). At DOD he worked in Kandahar, Afghanistan. After his return from his overseas assignment, he joined Millennium Corp. in Arlington, VA.

Bro. Murphy leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Sarah Kenan Murphy; daughters: Lorena and Dakena, and a son, Ricky.

Brother Charles E. Nicholson, Sr. Educator



Brother Charles E. Nicholson, Sr. a lifelong Richmond resident and brother in-law of former Virginia Governor L. Douglas Wilder joined Omega Chapter on June 23, 2014.

Brother Nicholson was a member of Theta Psi and Phi Phi chapters.

Nicholson was a lifelong member of First African Baptist Church, where he was baptized at age 12. As an adult, he served as a trustee of the church for many years.

"Nick," as he was known to family and friends, graduated from Armstrong High School in 1942, and earned a B.S. in education from West Virginia State University in 1950.

He later earned his Master's degree in physical education from New York University in 1955. While at West Virginia State, he joined Omega Psi Phi Fraternity in 1947, and remained active as a Life member.

Bro. Nicholson also served in the Army during World War II. Bro. Nicholson began his career with the Richmond Public Schools as a physical education teacher in the early 1950s.

Nicholson advanced in the school system to become an Assistant Principal, and after extended service he retired from the school system as the assistant director of finance.

His love of sports and knowledge of the rules of the game propelled him to become a football and basketball referee with the Virginia High School League and the CIAA. He was well-known as an official at area high school and college games. He was inducted into the CIAA Official's Hall of Fame in 2001.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Agnes W. Nicholson; son, Charles R. Nicholson Jr.; daughter, Tracy; a grandson, Charles R. Nicholson III and sister, Eddie N. Patrick.

Brother Osborne A. Payne educator and entrepreneur

Brother Osborne Allen Payne entered Omega Chapter on November 27, 2012. Bro. Payne was initiated in the Gamma Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi on April 12, 1948. At time of death, the Life member was a member of Tau Pi Chapter.

He entered the Navy in 1946 and used the GI Bill to attend college. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Virginia Union University in 1950. Later, he received a Master of Science degree in educational administration. He taught school and eventually became a Principal in Richmond, VA. He was a member with the National Education Association and Director of NEA 's SEARCH program. In 1986, he received an Honorary Doctorate in International Relations from Liberia.

Bro. Payne was a founder of Associated Black Charities. He is best known for bringing McDonald's restaurants to Baltimore. He was the first African American to win McDonald's prestigious Golden Arch Award. In 2001, he was enshrined as a ground breaking entrepreneur in Baltimore's Great Blacks in Wax Museum.

Brother Robert A. Peele

State of Virginia employee



Bro. Robert A. Peele joined Omega Chapter on March 30, 2014. Best known as "Peele," he was born in Rich Square, NC in 1932. He earned an undergraduate degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from Norfolk State University.

Bro. Peele's work history began when he served as a cryptographer in the US Army during the Korean War. He worked 30 years for the State of Virginia's Alcoholic Beverage Control Board.

He is survived by his daughter, Robyn, and two granddaughters, Karisa and Ma'Nayiah; sister, Thelma Gamble and a host of relatives and friends. Peele was a member of the Lambda Omega Chapter.

Brother Carver A. Portlock Educator



Brother Dr. Carver A. Portlock was an educator and poet. The former executive director of Alumni Affairs at Bethune-Cookman College was the author of the poem, "When We Wear The Gloves." Brother Portlock entered Omega Chapter on November 2, 2014.



"When We Wear The **Gloves**"

view the poem on page 64

Brother George C. Riley educator



The men of Lambda Upsilon Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity mourn the passing of their last surviving founding member, George C. Riley Sr.

The Life member entered Omega Chapter on January 17, 2015. Brother Riley was initiated into

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity through Beta Chapter in 1943.

Riley received a Bachelor of Arts degree in biology from Lincoln University. He continued his studies at Seton Hall University where he earned a Master's degree in education.

He served as an educator for special needs students with the Newark (NJ) Board of Education for 28 years. Riley was a World War II veteran, and served in the United States Army. He was also a member of Calvary Baptist Church for 80 years.

Brother J. L. Perry, Jr.

Educator and Coach

Brother J. L. Perry, Jr. was born in Jackson, Tennessee on March 17, 1949. The Theta Iota Chapter member entered Omega Chapter on July 28, 2014.

Brother Perry had a distinguished career as a teacher, coach, administrator and athletic director in the Memphis City Schools. Also during his career, he served as the head coach of the men's basketball team and associate vice president for student affairs at Lane College. Perry was an active member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) and the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA).

He leaves to cherish his memory, his devoted wife, Janis; mother, Lurline; son, Jason; daughter, Angela; three granddaughters, Alexandria, Jalen and Madison; two grandsons, Jonathan and Jaxson.

Brother David C. Sanford

Educator and Music Director



Brother David Carlton Sanford, entered into Omega Chapter on November 28, 2014. The native of Portsmouth, VA was born on March 25, 1928.

Brother Sanford attended Virginia State College, and later received the Bachelor of Music degree and a certificate in voice from Boston

Conservatory of Music. He sang and played the bass violin in the USO band during World War II. He also directed the chorus for the 2101st Area Service Unit at Fort Meade, during his Army career.

After service, he returned to the Tidewater (VA) area and continued his work in the community. He became choir director at Crestwood High School. Later, he was chairman of the Music Department at the high school. In 1980, he was selected as the "Chesapeake Teacher of the Year."

Sanford was initiated into through Gamma Chapter in 1951. Brother Sanford served as Basileus of Zeta Iota Chapter, and helped reestablished the Third District's Scholarship Fund serving as the chairman. He was also one of the Third District's Talent Hunt Judges. In addition, he chaired several chapter committees and was the Third District's Voice for our Omega Hymn.

Brother Edward W. Smyth NAACP Chapter President



Brother Bro. Edward W. Smyth was born on February 10, 1926, in Waynesboro, Georgia. Smyth graduated summa cum laude from Clark College in Atlanta, now Clark Atlanta University, with a bachelor's degree in business administration. While on campus, Smyth pledged Omega Psi Phi through Beta Psi on May 8, 1945.

Bro. Smyth was the president of the NAACP chapter of Milwaukee. During his administration, he was involved with racial issues of fair housing. As president, he was involved in law suits where crosses were burned on Black families lawns when they moved into an all-white neighborhood. He joined Omega Chapter on April 9, 2014 and was a member of Kappa Psi Chapter.

Brother Morris T. Street Chief Pretrial Services Officer



Brother Morris Turner Street, Jr. was born April 16, 1941 and joined Omega Chapter on December 16, 2014. As one of 13 men on the pledge line "The Road Runners," he was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity in March 1975 through Mu Rho Chapter. He later transferred and continued

his financial membership with Pi Omega Chapter until his death.

He graduated from Morgan State College with a Bachelor of Brother Dr. James Henry Turk graduated from Arts degree in history. He later obtained a Master of Science Morgan State University. degree in social science. Professionally, his career began as a case worker in the Baltimore City Department of Public He later received Welfare. In 1966, he became a probation officer for the his Masters and Supreme Bench of Baltimore City. He was later appointed Doctorate degrees as the first Black Federal Probation Officer for the United from the University of States Courts, and the United States Department of Justice Massachusetts. in the District of Maryland. When the new Federal Pretrial Services Program was instituted, he was selected as the He was a long time Chief Pretrial Services Officer of the United States District member of Omega Psi Phi Court of Maryland. Although blind, Brother Street never Fraternity, Inc. He worked professionally for the US Federal complained. To cherish his memory he leaves a loving and Government and the private sector. He joined Omega devoted wife, Phyllis; two daughters and one son. Chapter on June 13, 2013. He was a member of Iota and Alpha Omega chapters.

Brother Doran Nolan Thomas An Omega Man of the Year



Brother Doran Nolan Thomas, who received the distinguished awards of Omega Man of the Year from Sigma Beta Beta Chapter and the 2nd District's Omega Man of the Year Award, entered Omega Chapter on Tuesday, April 15, 2014. Thomas was also recognized by the International

Reclamation Committee for his outstanding contribution and dedication to the Fraternity at the 2013 Leadership Conference. Brother Thomas attended the University of Bridgeport in Bridgeport, Connecticut and became a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Rho Upsilon Chapter.

Brother Lamonte P. Tucker

Richmond Police Detective

Brother Paul Tucker was born August 12, 1969. He entered Omega Chapter on September 23, 2013. Tucker graduated from Virginia State University. He was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity through Upsilon Nu Chapter. He later joined Delta Omega Chapter. Bro. Tucker was a member of the Richmond (VA) Police Department for 16 years. He was a Detective in the major crimes, youth and family unit. He leaves to cherish his memory loving wife, Jennifer; daughters Amber and Ciara.

Brother Dr. James H. Turk

Federal Government



Brother Johnnie "JD" Washington

Educator and Leader



Brother Johnnie David Washington was born in Little Rock, Arkansas on January 12, 1929 to David and Hazel Washington. A brother, Charles Edward, was also born to this union. Many of his friends called him, "J.D."

He married Antoinette 'Skippy' Henderson on November 21, 1951. She passed away in 1989. Three sons were born to that union, Charles, Joseph and Roger. Washington later married Carmelita Hogan on July 13, 1991.

He graduated from Arkansas AM&N College with a B.S. degree. Later he received a Master of Arts degree from Southeast Missouri State University. Brother Washington was a skilled educator for more than forty years. He served as a teacher and administrator in the states of Arkansas, Missouri and Illinois.

Among his many distinctions, Brother Washington was the first African American recruiter for the United States Peace Corps, and the first African American Principal in Springfield (IL) District 186. After retiring he became a faculty member at Sangamon State University and the University of Illinois at Springfield.

Brother J.D. Washington was proudly active and affiliated with many organizations in his lifetime. Among them were: Frontiers International -Springfield Club, NAACP, Springfield Urban League, Central Lodge No. 3, Prince Hall Masons, Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated.

Brother Washington was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. on May 10, 1958 at Eta Epsilon Chapter. At Eta Epsilon, he served as Keeper of Records and Seal, Keeper of Finance, Vice Basileus, and Basileus. He was a Charter Member of Omega Nu in Springfield, Illinois.

Brother Washington served as an Illinois State Representative, Tenth District Keeper of Finance, Tenth District Keeper of Records and Seal, 1st Vice District Tenth District Representative, and Tenth District Representative.

Brother Washington was named Omega Nu's Omega Man of The Year and the Tenth District's Omega Man of The Year several times.

Brother J.D. Washington departed this life Wednesday, September 24, 2014, at his home, surrounded by his family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Hazel and David, his brother Charles Edward Washington, and his son Charles Henderson Washington.

Brother John Watson, Jr. Educator

Brother John Watson, Jr., joined Omega Chapter on September 7, 2014. He was born June 8, 1940 in Eudora, Arkansas.

Watson was an honor graduate of Merrill High School and the University of Arkansas-Pine Buff. He graduated with a B.S. in chemistry. He was a member Psi Alpha Alpha and Eta Sigma chapters.

Brother Watson devoted over 40 years of service to educating children as a math and science teacher. Watson was a member of the St. Bethel Missionary Baptist Church and later Mount Harmony Missionary Baptist Church.

He is survived by his loving wife, Betty Watson; daughter, Felicia; son, Stephen Watson; grandchildren: Ahjah Marie Johnson, Stephen Watson, Jr., Kingston Watson, and Major Watson; sisters: Madilyn Thornton and Eva Watson and Vivian Miller; brothers: Claude, Thurman and Gregory.



Omega brothers take a group picture at the Tuskegee Army Airfield Field. They were part of the Tuskegee Airman Training Program in 1945.

photograph from the Collection of Brother Tom Joyner



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated Grand Conclaves 1912 - 2014

Conclave	Location	Year	Conclave	Location	Year
1st	Washington, DC	1912	46th	San Antonio, TX	1960
2nd	Washington, DC	1913	47th	Washington, DC	1961
3rd	Washington, DC	1914	48th	Indianapolis, IN	1962
4th	Oxford, PA	1915	49th	Denver, CO	1964
5th	Washington, DC	1916	50th	Detroit, MI	1965
6th	Oxford, PA	1917	51st	Boston, MA	1967
7th	Washington, DC	1918	52nd	Charlotte, NC	1968
8th	Boston, MA	1919	53rd	Pittsburgh, PA	1970
9th	Nashville, TN	1920	54th	Houston, TX	1971
10th	Atlanta, GA	1921	55th	St. Louis, MO	1973
11th	Philadelphia, PA	1922	56th	Phoenix, AZ	1974
12th	St. Louis, MO	1923	57th	Atlanta, GA	1976
13th	Washington, DC	1924	58th	New Orleans, LA	1977
14th	Tuskegee, AL	1925	59th	Denver, CO	1979
15th	Chicago, IL	1926	60th	San Francisco, CA	1980
16th	New York, NY	1927	61st	Miami, FL	1982
17th	Indianapolis, IN	1928	62nd	Kansas City, MO	1983
18th	Baltimore, MD	1929	63rd	Louisville, KY	1984
19th	Detroit, MI	1931	64th	Washington, DC	1986
20th	Richmond, VA	1932	65th	Dallas, TX	1988
21st	Durham, NC	1933	66th	Detroit, MI	1990
22nd	St. Louis, MO	1934	67th	Atlanta, GA	1992
23rd	Atlanta, GA	1935	68th	Cleveland, OH	1994
24th	Philadelphia, PA	1936	69th	Los Angeles, CA	1996
25th	Cleveland, OH	1937	70th	New Orleans, LA	1998
26th	Chicago, IL	1938	71st	Indianapolis, IN	2000
27th	New York, NY	1939	72nd	Charlotte, NC	2002
28th	Nashville, TN	1940	73rd	St. Louis, MO	2004
29th	Indianapolis, IN	1941	74th	Little Rock, AR	2006
30th	Little Rock, AR	1944	75th	Birmingham, AL	2008
31st	Washington, DC	1945	76th	Raleigh, NC	2010
32nd	Fort Worth, TX	1946	77th	Washington, DC	2011
33rd	Detroint, MI	1947	Ce	entennial Grand Conclav	7e
34th	Columbus, OH	1948	And the second second		
35th	Chicago, IL	1949	78th	Minneapolis, MN	2012
36th	Boston, MA	1950	79th	Philadelphia, PA	2014
37th	Miami, FL	1951			
38th	Philadelphia, PA	1952			
39th	Cincinnati, OH	1953			
40th	Atlanta, GA	1954			
41st	Los Angeles, CA	1955			
42nd	Baltimore, MD	1956			
43rd	St. Louis, MO	1957			
44th	Cleveland, OH	1958			
45th	New York, NY	1959			





OMEGA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Members of Omega Psi Phi's Supreme Council surrounds Muhammad Ali (center) as they presented the former Heavyweight Boxing Champion with the Fraternity's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Kappa Psi Chapter Presents "Citizen of the Year" Award to Attorney General Holder

Kappa Psi Chapter presented U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, Jr. with the "Citizen of the Year" Award.

The December 2, 2014 presentation included Bro. Robert Warren, the 3rd District Representative with several Kappa Psi members.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. International Headquarters 3951 Snapfinger Pkwy Decatur, GA 30035

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. 2015 LEUDERSH JULY 8 - JULY 12 JACKSONVILLE 2015 FLORIDA Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront 225 East Coastline Drive Jacksonville, FL

Registration and Housing information now available at www.oppf.org

For additional information, contact John Howard at jhoward@oppf.org or (404) 284-5533.