

COL CHARLES YOUNG DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

BROTHER BEN CRUMP CALLS FOR ACTION

2011-2012 INTERNATIONAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

# CALLING ON THE MEN OF OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.

Join the letter writing campaign to promote the legendary Buffalo Soldier/Diplomat Colonel Charles Young to the honorary rank of Brigadier General in the United States Army. (See the following proposed Proclamation.)



Copy this page; sign your name and state of residence

Signature: -

State: \_

Mail to: President Barack Obama The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20500

(Make 5 copies, distribute them to your friends and ask them to join the campaign.) Sponsored by: The National Coalition of Black Veteran Organizations E-mail: cnmmmf@aol.com

#### **OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.**

International Headquarters 3951 Snapfinger Parkway Decatur, GA 30035 404-284-5533

# THE ORACLE

Volume 83 \* No. 27 \* Summer 2013

The official publication of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

The Oracle is published quarterly (spring, summer, fall and winter) by Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. at its publications office: 3951 Snapfinger Parkway, Decatur, GA 30035.

\* The Oracle deadlines are:

Spring issue	- February 15
Summer issue	- May 15
Fall issue	- August 15
Winter issue	- November 15

\*Deadlines are subject to change.

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 (1890-1967)

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 (1891-1974)

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# Message from the **39th Grand Basileus**

# MY BROTHERS,

I thank you for your individual and collective support in assisting the forward movement of Omega. I have travelled to every district in Omega during my first term. At each location, the friendship and fellowship extended by the brotherhood has been warm, strong and uplifting. It is my belief that as the leader of this great brotherhood, I must demonstrate the importance of Omega Men, wherever they may be.

This administration has focused on targeting Omega's giving to show balance in our outreach to programs and institutions. Each district has received support for our signature program, the Fatherhood/Mentoring Initiative. We have increased Omega's support for the Carter G. Woodson effort via ASALH *(Association for the Study of African-American Life and History).* The Black Male Teacher initiative at Edward Waters College, the donation to Miles College for academic support, and the donation to Howard University serve as major statements of Omega's focused outreach.

We are in the final stages of approving the updated history of Omega. Presently, we are looking to issue the first update in 60 years on November 17, 2013. I thank all Omega Men who have assisted Brother Rev. Dr. Charles Fletcher in collecting necessary data for this effort.

I commend the Executive Director, IHQ staff, grand officers and committee chairs for their individual and collective efforts in imaging Omega in the positive. Our 2013 Leadership Conference truly affirmed that Omega is about preserving the legacy of our Founders. May God continue to bless our worthy endeavors.

### FRATERNALLY,

Andrew Lac

DR. ANDREW A. RAY 39TH GRAND BASILEUS OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.

"The best Grand Basileus is one who never forgets what it is to be a Grand Brother."

Brother Dr. Andrew A. Ray

39th Grand Basileus

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# Message from the Editor to The Oracle

# **GREETINGS BROTHERS,**



Brother Michael A. Boykin Editor to The Oracle

Let me express sincere gratitude for each District Director of Public Relations, chapter reporter, photographer, and brothers in general, who submitted information for this edition of The Oracle.

The Oracle was first published in June 1919; at that time, there were five chapters in the Fraternity. Currently, there are over 800 chapters throughout the world. While there are literally hundreds of articles submitted for consideration, time and space simply does not permit all submissions to be printed in The Oracle.

Many of our districts have an established publication. Some of the chapter submissions not printed in The Oracle may appear in your district publication. For those districts without a publication, April 2014 has been established as the target date for all districts to be in compliance. Contact your District Representative or District Director of Public Relations for more details.

As we deal with the many challenges of the 21st Century, more coverage will be given to issues that affect our communities and the solutions our brothers implement to address those situations. Many brothers have expressed a desire to see more information about the collective impact of the Fraternity and individual districts. We are working toward measurable results for the things we do and the people we help.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve Omega as your Editor to The Oracle. If there are suggestions, comments, or concerns, please contact me at editortotheoracle@oppf.org with your information.

Long Live Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated!

FRATERNALLY. Michael A. Boy

MICHAEL A. BOYKIN





Atlanta Airport Marriott Atlanta, Georgia

JANUARY 25-27, 2013















2nd Vice District Representatives on the top row. Undergraduate Supreme Council along with Grand Basilieus and First Vice Grand Basileus pose for a picture at the 2013 International Undergraduate Summit in Atlanta, GA.



The Chi Omega Social Action and Scholarship Committee recently held an event that raised approximately \$38,000 for scholarships for deserving young students in the Tallahassee, Florida area.

Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) from the amount raised was presented to Grand Basileus Brother Dr. Andrew Ray on January 26, 2013 in Atlanta, Georgia. It was appropriately presented at the Ronald E. McNair luncheon during the International Undergraduate Summit to fund undergraduate scholarships. Brothers Benjamin Crump and Brian Bouleware are members of Chi Omega and were on hand to make the presentation.



Steven A. Smith served as Brother guest speaker at the 2013 International Undergraduate Summit. He is a graduate of Winston-Salem State University and became an Omega man in 2012. Brother Smith's message to the undergraduates and graduate brothers focused on "Leadership, Perseverance, and Triumph." Each trait supports the other in a circular fashion and adds stability to many situations. Smith says, "My aspiration is to talk beyond sports, to use sports as a venue to talk about what really matters to so many people out there. I want the world, no just the sports world."



# Trayvon Martin's Family Attorney Calls for ACTION

Bro. Benjamin L. Crump

Dear Brothers,

The murder of Trayvon Martin is a horrific tragedy. It is appalling that the jurors failed to return a guilty verdict holding his killer accountable. When Trayvon was shot in the heart, America bled. George Zimmerman wrongfully profiled, pursued, and murdered an unarmed teenager. With a not guilty verdict, our justice system has yet again failed to deliver its promise of equal justice. As President Obama asked rhetorically; if the roles were reversed, "...would Trayvon have been vindicated with the Stand Your Ground Laws?" We must organize and take a stand against this injustice, and let it be known that we will not be silenced.

It is time for us to come together and promote change and equality. We, as educated African-American men in this country, have a duty to seek justice for our children and strive to protect their future.

It is important that we, as supporters of Justice for Trayvon Martin, continue to fight for what is right and put pressure on the Department of Justice to bring a civil rights case against George Zimmerman if it deems that it is illegal for a private citizen to profile solely based on race. Recently, the Unites States Supreme Court held that not even the police can profile solely on the basis of race. The United States Department of Justice is waiting to hear your concerns regarding the outcome of the trial and whether Trayvon Martin's civil rights were violated. Please send your comments to **Sanford.Florida@usdoj.gov**.

As your brother, I also urge you to visit **www.moveon.org** and sign the petition entitled, "Justice Department: Open a Civil Rights Case Against George Zimmerman." It is imperative that we do all that is within our power to ensure justice. With your support, we can achieve just that.

More importantly, we should continue to support the Martin family during this trying time. It is hard to imagine the pain and struggles that their family has been through this past year and a half. His parents, Tracy and Sybrina, understand that they can't bring Trayvon back. However, they are fighting for his legacy by trying to make sure that this doesn't happen to anybody else's child. They want to have the Trayvon Martin Amendment to the Stand Your Ground Law passed to proclaim that you can't start the confrontation, kill the person, and then say you were standing your ground: that flies in the face of common sense.

Please consider donating to the Martin family at **www.TrayvonMartinFoundation.org**. This will aid the family in their quest to not only change the Stand Your Ground Laws, but also teach our youth about conflict resolution and help other families that fall victim to senseless gun violence.

Thank you for your continued support. Keep the Martin family in your prayers.

Best regards, Benjamin L. Crump

Benjamin L. Crump, Esquire 7th District Counselor Lead Attorney for Trayvon Martin's Family





# Omega Psi Phi Donates 10,000 Books to Reading Tree

**Baltimore, MD** - The International Social Action Committee in conjunction with Pi Omega Chapter donated 10,000 books to the Reading Tree. The event took place at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, National Harbor, Maryland. The donation was part of the Fraternity's initiative to eliminate illiteracy in local, national, and international communities. "An educated American is a better American" states Brother Al White, International Social Action Chairman. "The earlier we can introduce children to reading, the better off they will be."

The Reading Tree is a non-profit organization with a mission to provide books to children, families, schools, and libraries that desperately need them. Since 2007, Reading Tree has distributed several million books to schools and partnering charities that support local libraries and literacy programs. The Reading Tree outreach extends to schools and libraries in the United States and to developing countries including India, Kenya and the Philippines. Grand Basileus Dr. Andrew Ray made the formal presentation, along with Brother White to Reading Tree Executive Director Gina Zambori. First Vice Grand Basileus Antonio F. Knox, Jr., Kenneth Rogers, Eddie High, Dwayne White, Thrift Recycling Vice President Tyler Hincy and Thrift Manager Sam Kibisi attended the presentation.

# Presidential Proclamation:

*Establishment of the Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers National Monument* 

Office of the White House Press Secretary For Immediate Release March 25, 2013



y the President of the United States of America. PROCLAMATION: Colonel Charles Young was the highest ranking African-American commanding officer in the United States Army from 1894 until his death in 1922. He also served as the first African-American superintendent of a national park, overseeing Sequoia and General Grant (now Kings Canyon) National Parks while commanding a troop of Buffalo Soldiers in the years before the creation of the National Park Service.

Young served nearly his entire military career with the all-black 9th and 10th Calvary regiments, often called "Buffalo Soldiers." Commissioned in 1889 as a second lieutenant, Young attained the rank of colonel in 1917. During his career he served on the western frontier, saw combat in the Philippines, and rode with General John "Black Jack" Pershing in Mexico in 1916. He was the first African-American to serve as a United States military attaché, first to Hispaniola (Haiti and the Dominican Republic) and later to Liberia. Young's diverse military career included a posting to Wilberforce University to serve as a professor of tactics and military science.

Born to enslaved parents in Kentucky in 1864, Young's parents, Gabriel and Arminta Young, moved to Ripley, Ohio, in 1866 with their two-year-old son Charles to improve their prospects after the Civil War. This Ohio River town was a center of abolitionism renowned as a welcoming place on the Underground Railroad during the antebellum years. Young thrived there and, in 1881 at age 17, he graduated with academic honors as a member of his integrated high school class. His mother encouraged his life-long intellectual and musical pursuits. Young grew up proud of his father's military service as a Union soldier during the Civil War, and he heeded his father's advice by entering the United States Military Academy at West Point. In 1889, Young was the third African-American to graduate from West Point and the last African-American to complete West Point until 1936.

 $\star \star \star \star \star$ 

Young established his career between 1889 and 1907, serving in the 9th Cavalry at western posts as a second lieutenant in Nebraska and Utah before accepting the military posting at Wilberforce University, where he was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant. During the Spanish-American War, he was commissioned in the volunteers as a major, and accepted command of the 9th Ohio Volunteer Infantry Battalion. Although the unit did not deploy or see action, it gained a reputation for discipline and efficiency. Following the war, he returned to his regiment, and was promoted to captain in 1901. He saw combat with the regiment in the Philippine Islands and returned with the 9th Cavalry to California, where his troop was selected as honor guard for the visiting President Theodore Roosevelt -- the first time African-American soldiers had served in that capacity. While assigned to the Presidio, Young and his regiment of Buffalo Soldiers were dispatched to Sequoia and General Grant National Parks where Young served as the acting superintendent, and earned the respect of not only the African-American troops he commanded, but also of the white construction crews he directed. His achievements drew the attention of President Theodore Roosevelt. Captain Young was appointed military attaché to Hispaniola in 1904 -the first such appointment for an African-American -- before rejoining the 9th Cavalry in the Philippines, Wyoming, and Texas from 1908 to 1911.

In 1894, when Young accepted a posting at Wilberforce University, he returned to Ohio and with his widowed mother, purchased a large house and adjoining farmland, which he named "Youngsholm." While a professor at Wilberforce University, Young established life-long friendships with poet Paul Laurence Dunbar and philosopher W.E.B. Dubois. Youngsholm served as a gathering place for elite African-American thinkers, performers, and leaders. Young opened his doors to aspiring young people, and welcomed a revolving extended family there even during his many military postings. Although Young's career took him to far-flung places, it was Wilberforce, Ohio -- where he established his home, raised a family, mentored a successive generation of leaders, and found intellectual refuge -- that remained his base of operation.

From 1912 to 1916, Young served as the military attaché to Liberia, helping to train the Liberian Frontier Force, and then served as a squadron commander during the Punitive Expedition in Mexico against Pancho Villa. He distinguished himself at the Battle of Agua Caliente, leading his men to the aid of a cavalry unit that had been ambushed. During the same period, Young won additional promotions, to major in 1912, and lieutenant colonel in 1916. The 1916 examination board for his promotion to lieutenant colonel acknowledged Young's prior illness (malaria contracted while in Liberia), but concluded he was fit for duty.

On the eve of World War I, Young was the highest ranking African-American officer in the U.S. Army. As the United States readied its forces for Europe, Young and his supporters expected that he would continue to rise in rank and contribute to the wartime effort. Subsequent examination boards recommended Young for a promotion, but also noted medical concerns about his fitness to serve. In June 1917, Young was selected for promotion to the rank of colonel; however, his physical exam revealed he suffered from nephritis (a condition first diagnosed in 1901), high blood pressure, and an enlarged heart. Around the same time, several Southern Senators were pressuring President Woodrow Wilson and his Secretary of War to take steps to reassign or otherwise prevent white officers from serving under Young's command. Indeed, as the United States entered World War I, the War Department generally kept African Americans from assuming leadership of African-American regiments being sent to France and largely restricted African-American troops to non-combat roles.

In July 1917, Young was medically retired as a result of his illnesses, and promoted to Colonel in recognition of his distinguished Army service. Young was disappointed, and he and his supporters asked for reconsideration. To demonstrate his fitness to serve, Young -- who was then 54 -made an historic 500-mile horseback ride from Wilberforce, Ohio, to Washington, D.C. Afterwards, the Secretary of War gave Young an informal hearing, but did not reverse the decision. The War Department's action in this matter was controversial, especially within the African-American community, during this time of significant racial tension. Young continued to protest his retirement and work for the civil rights of all African-American soldiers.

Yet, Young's career was not over. Though medically retired, he was retained on a list of active duty officers. During World War I, the War Department sent him back to Ohio to help muster and train African-American troops being recruited for the war. Days before the November 1918 armistice, Young was assigned for a few months to Camp Grant in Rockford, Illinois, to train African-American servicemen for non-combat duties. Shortly thereafter, at the request of the State Department, Colonel Young was sent once more to serve again as military attaché to Liberia, arriving in Monrovia in February 1920. While in neighboring Nigeria, he passed away at the British hospital in Lagos on January 8, 1922. In 1923, Colonel Charles Young became only the fourth soldier to be honored with a funeral service at the Arlington Amphitheatre before burial in Arlington Cemetery.

Colonel Charles Young's story and leadership are also emblematic of the experience of the Buffalo Soldiers during difficult and racially tense times. The story of the Buffalo Soldiers' bravery and service is not fully told at any existing national park sites. In 1866, the Congress established six allblack regiments, later consolidated to four, to help rebuild the country after the Civil War and to patrol the remote western frontier during the "Indian Wars." Although the pay was low for the time -- only \$13 a month -- many African Americans enlisted because they could earn more and be treated with more dignity than they typically could in civilian life. According to legend, American Indians called the black cavalry troops "buffalo soldiers" because of their dark, curly hair, which resembled a buffalo's coat. Aware of the buffalo's fierce bravery and fighting spirit, the African-American troops accepted the name with pride and honor.



The Buffalo Soldiers fought alongside white regiments in many conflicts and were instrumental in the exploration and settlement of western lands. They were also an important part of the early history of America's national parks. Before the Congress created the National Park Service in 1916, the U.S. Army played a critical role in administering several parks. The Army sent the Buffalo Soldiers stationed at the Presidio to manage Yosemite, General Grant, and Sequoia National Parks in California. The Buffalo Soldiers blazed early park trails, built roads, produced maps, drove out trespassing livestock, extinguished fires, monitored tourists, and kept poachers and loggers at bay.

WHEREAS section 2 of the Act of June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S.C. 431) (the "Antiquities Act"), authorizes the President, in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments, and to reserve as a part thereof parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected; WHEREAS the National Park Foundation and the Trust for Public Lands, with the assistance and cooperation of the Friendship Foundation, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and Central State University, have relinquished the existing remainder of the Youngsholm property, consisting of Colonel Young's home and surrounding farmland, to the United States for the purpose of establishing this monument; WHEREAS it is in the public interest to preserve and protect the objects of historic and scientific interest associated with Charles Young and the Buffalo Soldiers at Youngsholm in Wilberforce, Ohio;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by section 2 of the Antiquities Act, hereby proclaim, set apart, and reserve as the Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers National Monument (monument) the objects identified above and all lands and interests in lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States within the boundaries described on the accompanying map, which is attached to and forms a part of this proclamation, for the purpose of protecting those objects. These reserved Federal lands and interests in lands encompass 59.65 acres, which is the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected.

All Federal lands and interests in lands within the boundaries of the monument are hereby appropriated and withdrawn from all forms of entry, location, selection, sale, leasing, or other disposition under the public land laws, including withdrawal from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and from disposition under all laws relating to mineral and geothermal leasing.

The establishment of the monument is subject to valid existing rights. Lands and interests in lands within the monument boundaries not owned or controlled by the United States shall be reserved as part of the monument upon acquisition of ownership or control by the United States.

The Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) shall manage the monument through the National Park Service, pursuant to applicable legal authorities, consistent with the purposes of this proclamation.

The Secretary shall prepare a management plan for the monument, with full public involvement, within 3 years of the date of this proclamation. The management plan shall ensure that the monument fulfills the following purposes for the benefit of present and future generations: (1) to preserve and protect the objects of historic and scientific interest identified above, (2) to commemorate the life and accomplishments of Colonel Charles Young, and (3) to interpret the struggles and achievements of the Buffalo Soldiers in their service to the

United States. The management plan shall identify steps to be taken to provide interpretive opportunities concerning Colonel Young and the Buffalo Soldiers both at the monument and at other sites where appropriate. The management plan shall also set forth the desired relationship of the monument to other related resources, programs, and organizations associated with the life of Colonel Charles Young, such as the U.S. Army, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and Wilberforce University, as well as to other sites significant to the Buffalo Soldiers.

The National Park Service shall use existing authorities as appropriate to enter into agreements with Central State University, Wilberforce University, Omega Psi Phi, the Ohio Historical Society, and other organizations and individuals to provide further opportunities for interpretation and education consistent with monument purposes. The National Park Service shall coordinate with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, which manages the Presidio in San Francisco, and Sequoia, Kings Canyon, and Yosemite National Parks to commemorate the historical ties between Colonel Charles Young and his military assignments at those sites, and the role of the Buffalo Soldiers as pioneering stewards of our national parks. The National Park Service shall use available authorities, as appropriate, to enter into agreements with other organizations to provide for interpretation and education at additional sites with an historic association or affiliation with the Buffalo Soldiers.

Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to revoke any existing withdrawal, reservation, or appropriation; however, the monument shall be the dominant reservation.

Warning is hereby given to all unauthorized persons not to appropriate, injure, destroy, or remove any feature of the monument and not to locate or settle upon any of the lands thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fifth day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand thirteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-seventh.

BARACK H. OBAMA 44th PRESIDENT, UNITED STATES of AMERICA





Omega Psi Phi and National Black Veterans Coalition Honor COL Charles Young at Arlington National Cemetary









**Top:** A ceremonial star wreath in honor of the unselfish contributions Young made in paving the way for Blacks in the officer's ranks of the armed forces, as well as to commemorate the official proclamation from President Barack Obama naming his home in Wilberforce, Ohio a National Monument.

**Center left:** *Members of the Supreme Council observe the ceremony.* 

**Center right:** *The official colors being presented during the ceremony.* 

**Bottom:** *Grand Basileus Brother Dr. Andrew Ray reviews a ceremony program next to the gravesite of COL Young.* 







CHARLES YOUNG COLONEL UNTED-STATES ARMY 1864 1922











# THE NATIONAL COALITION OF BLACK VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS Presents The Magazine and DVD Collector's Edition

# "A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE HONORING COLONEL CHARLES YOUNG"

In June 1923 the District of Columbia came to a halt in recognition of the burial of a true American Hero, the legendary Buffalo Soldier/Diplomat Colonel Charles Young. Schools closed and the streets were lined with a cross section of the public who came to bid farewell to an exceptional soldier, the highest ranking Black Officer in the United States Armed Forces.

In a career that spanned thirty-two years, in the segregated United States Army, he represented country and race at home and abroad in a manner of distinction. While serving during a period in American History when separate was not equal, he served with honor. Many felt then as well as now that had he served in more contemporary times; he would have been promoted to the rank of general.

In recognition of his outstanding service in June of 2013 the National Coalition of Black Veteran Organizations joined by the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity gathered at Arlington National Cemetery in acknowledgement of the 90th Anniversary of that historic day.

In commemoration of the occasion, Golden Buffalo Publications and BlaqueIce Productions have combined their talents in creating a souvenir collection of the event. The collection comes complete with a full color 48 page magazine documenting the Arlington Cemetery Program and the Evening on Capitol Hill festivities that followed. In addition, with the magazine there is a DVD presentation of the events set to an original soundtrack created exclusively to enhance your viewing pleasure.

A portion of the proceeds from the souvenir collection will be used to fund a monument in our nation's capital symbolizing the Colonel's historic 500 miles journey on foot and horseback from his home in Wilberforce, Ohio to Washington, DC. The purpose of his journey was to protest his medical separation from the Army while proving his physical fitness to continue serving the nation. The statue will be the first of a Black Army Officer on horseback in our nation's capital. The statue will be presented to the nation as a gift from the National Coalition of Black Veteran Organizations.

THE NATIONAL COALITION OF BLACK VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS

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It is Our Distinct Honor to Announce the 2012 International High School Essay Contest winners.

Bro. Greg Burnett, Sr. Achievement Week Chairman

We applaud the efforts of each District in promoting the High School Essay Contest and encouraging participation of our high school seniors. Once again we had 100% participation with each District submitting an outstanding candidate to represent their District. Awards will be submitted to each winner upon written verification from an institution of higher education that the individual has enrolled. Actual enrollment, not just acceptance is required to receive the college scholarship award.

# (\$3000 Scholarship Award):

Representing the 6th District / Chi Iota Iota Chapter / Fort Jackson, South Carolina Jessica Zhane Jennings; Dutch Fork High School Irmo, South Carolina

# (\$2000 Scholarship Award):

Representing the 9th District / Theta Alpha Chapter / Dallas, Texas Walter S. Munnings; Coppell High School Coppell, Texas

# (\$1000 Scholarship Award):

Representing the 5th District / Pi Gamma Gamma Chapter / Murfreesboro, Tennessee Derek Johnson, II; Siegel High School Murfreesboro, Tennessee

# (\$500 Scholarship Award):

Representing the 12th District / Delta Pi Chapter / Tacoma, Washington Wesley Coats; River Ridge High School Lacey, Washington

# **CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!!!**

"With the Rising Cost for a College Education what Value Do You Place on Earning a College Degree?"

An Essay by: Jessica Zhane Jennings Dutch Fork High School Irmo, SC 29063

Sponsoring Chapter: Chi Iota Iota Chapter Sixth District Fort Jackson, SC The growing cost of college education is a topic that has been prevalent in the news and even lately on the campaign trail. Many question if a college education is as necessary as it was in the past. However, the reality of this economy is that low skilled workers are disproportionately represented in the unemployment percentages and the first to be laid off. The value I place on a college education can be best represented by a motto that I heard on a recent college tour: "Becoming a Power for Good in the 21st Century." While the growing cost of college is quite intimidating, making a difference through my work, having a fulfilling career and having job security are worthwhile rewards.

Meaningful work is valued in my family. We firmly believe that if our work does not make a difference in the lives of others, then our living is in vain. My father works in law enforcement. My mother is an educator. She has dedicated her life to working with children, particularly at-risk students. Currently, my mother works as a substitute teacher as she searches for full time employment. Even as she experiences being underemployed, she stresses the value of a college education to my brother and me. While working closely with my guidance counselor, and exploring several different career paths, I have decided to pursue a career in nursing. I believe that this will be a fulfilling career in which I will be able to provide care to people when they are most vulnerable.

The ever-changing world of medicine will engage me in a fastpaced career field where I will become a lifelong learner. In the tenth grade, I enrolled in Health-Sciences courses offered at my high school. This program allowed me to gain hands-on knowledge of the nursing field and participate in off-campus clinicals. In this course we also explored the costs associated with getting a nursing education and the salaries associated with different specializations and classifications in the nursing field. After doing this study, and even considering the fact that nurses have been experiencing some measure of layoffs in this economy, pursuing a career in nursing is still a sound investment that I would be making in myself.

Living in a household that has been directly affected by the economic recession and recovery, I have experienced our family having to adjust to becoming a single-income household. My family makes daily sacrifices to maintain my older brother's college expenses. I have also witnessed my mother's endless effort to find full-time employment. Job security has become a matter that I have become increasingly aware of in recent months. I strongly believe that security is one of education's biggest rewards. Not just the security of having a job but the security of being an educated person and having an enlightened mind. With the goal of obtaining a Master of Science in Nursing, I will not only be skilled to perform as a nurse, I will be informed and able to be a leader in the nursing field.

In a perfect world, an acceptance letter to the college of my choice would arrive in the mailbox. During freshmen orientation, my parents would write a check to cover the full cost of tuition and fees. My parents would then ride off into the sunset, leaving their only daughter without a care in the world. Unfortunately this perfect world has yet to be discovered. In reality, I understand that life has no true guarantees; and though cliché, anything worth having, really is worth fighting for. In watching my family work toward educating themselves, chart new paths to reaching life goals, and persevere through tough times, I have come to understand the true value in earning a college degree. Many times it cannot be measured in numbers or dollars and cents; though its value can be measured. I measure the value of earning a college degree in the skills that I will learn, the experiences that I will have, the choices and chances that will be afforded to me, and the lives that I will be able to touch. Earning a college degree will help me gain a rewarding and meaningful career. I recognize the value of earning a college degree as an investment in myself and my future. Any economist will tell you that investments in human capital have the most likely and greatest return.

# 2011-2012 International Achievement Week Award Recipients

All awards were presented Saturday August 3, 2013 at the Leadership Conference in Kansas City, MO

#### GRADUATE OMEGA MAN OF THE YEAR

Brother Dr. Steven G. Johnson Alpha Omega Chapter Third District

#### UNDERGRADUATE OMEGAMAN OF THE YEAR

Brother Ayo Akinmoladun Delta Theta Chapter Third District

#### UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTER ADVISOR AWARD

Brother Damon Wilson Chapter Advisor Epsilon Sigma Chapter, Bowie State University Second District

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR Brother Michael J. Jackson Lambda Gamma Gamma Chapter Second District

#### SUPERIOR SERVICE AWARD

Brother Ernest D. Hall Beta Beta Beta Chapter Sixth District

#### **FOUNDERS AWARD**

Brother Gary C. Clark Alpha Omega Chapter Third District

#### COLONEL CHARLES YOUNG MILITARY LEADERSHIP AWARD Brother MAJ Michael A. Boykin lota lota Chapter Sixth District

#### GRADUATE CHAPTER OF THE YEAR (LARCE, 50+ MEMBERS)

**Pi Lambda Lambda** Prince William County, Virginia Third District

#### GRADUATE CHAPTER OF THE YEAR (SMALL, 5-49 MEMBERS) Sigma Mu Mu Ashburn, Virginia Third District

#### UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

Alpha Delta Rho Southern Polytechnic State University, Marietta, GA Seventh District

#### INTERNATIONAL SCHOLAR OF THE YEAR AWARD (\$10,000 award) Ebosele Ayewoh, 2nd District, Cheyney University

#### DISTRICT SCHOLAR OF THE YEAR AWARDS (\$6.500 award each)

Antonio Montiero, 1st District, **UMass Amherst** Ebosele Ayewoh, 2nd District, **Cheyney University** NONE, 3rd District NONE, 4th District Ahram Feigenbaum, 5th District, Vanderbilt University Travis Sabb, 6th District, Wofford College David Daniels, 7th District, University of Alabama NONE, 8th District Harrison Blair, 9th District, Prairie View A & M University Milton Grays, 10th District, **Central Michigan University** Lawrence Melton, 12th District, Stanford University Eban Rolle, 13th District, Ashford University

#### FOUNDERS' MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

#### UNDERGRADUATE (\$5,000 award each)

Thomas James, 4th District, Bowling Green State University Alaric Jones, 9th District, Southern University Mikael Riley, 13th District, Birmingham City University

#### FOUNDERS' MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP-GRADUATE (\$5,000 award)

**Terrence Lang,** 10th District, Chicago State University

#### GRAND BASILEUS AWARD

(\$6,500 award) Micah Baisden, 7th District, Fort Valley State University

#### RONALD E. MCNAIR SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (\$6,000 award)

Velemseniwenkosi Shabangu, 13th District, Birmingham City University

#### HERMAN S. DREER SCHOLARSHIP/ LEADERSHIP AWARD

(\$5,000 award) Marquise Staton, 6th District, Winston Salem State University

#### GEORGE E. MEARES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (\$5,000 award)

Michael Frazier, 7th District, University of West Georgia

H. CARL MOULTRIE ILEGAL SCHOLAR AWARD (\$5,000 award) NONE

## W. MONTAGUE COBB MEDICAL SCHOLAR AWARD

(\$5,000 award)

**Richard Steward,** 2nd District, Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine

#### UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP GRANT

(\$4,000 award) Hugh Hunter, 7th District, Emory University

### GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP GRANT (\$4,000 award)

Taylor Reed, 12th District, California Lutheran University



# 2011-2012 Achievement Week Awards

# PRESENTED AT THE 2013 Leadership Conference Kansas City, MO (8.3.2013)





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The Oracle - Summer 2013















*Pictured left to right:* Brother Kermit Ervin (host chapter); Susan Wilson, PhD, (guest speaker); Brother Melvin Pinn, MD, Chair Health Affairs Committee; Brother Perry Caudle, Health Affairs Committee; and Brother Dr. Charles Christopher, Surgeon General of the Fraternity.

he Health Affairs Committee sponsored a two day program featuring four outstanding speakers at the Leadership Conference in Kansas City, MO. The four featured speakers and their topics were: 1) Diabetes Management, Shalonda Gray, MD; 2) Chronic Diseases, Leslie Fields, MD; 3) Stress Management/Mental Health, Susan Wilson, PhD; and 4) The Affordable Care Act, Captain Jose Belard from the Public Health Service USA.

Dr. Wilson, Team Psychologist for the Kansas City Chiefs, mesmerized the overflow crowd with her presentation on Stress/Mental Health. The Fraternity is very appreciative of the efforts of the local brothers led by Brothers Kermit Ervin and Glenn Rice, and of the support received from Truman Medical Center, whose CEO/President Brother John Bluford bought greetings to over 800 brothers at the plenary session.



(*pictured below l to r*) Brother Antonio Knox and Brother John Bluford



















WWW.OLMF.ORG

## THE OMEGA LIFE MEMBERSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

Dear Supporters and Friends,

As of July 1, 2013, the Omega Life Membership Foundation, Inc. (OLMF) was designated as an approved charity on the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) list.

Please consider donating to the Omega Life Membership Foundation through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) #18833 to support:

- SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS LEADERSHIP GRANTS
- **MENTORSHIP PROGRAMS DISASTER RELIEF**
- TALENT HUNT AWARDS HBCU FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The Omega Life Membership Foundation (OLMF) works to grow and manage financial resources to aid organizations involved in charitable, educational, leadership development, scholastic and scientific pursuits.

OLMF is a non-profit corporation granted tax-exempt status under the provisions of 501 (c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. The IRS has determined that OLMF is a publicly supported foundation and in addition to it being exempt from federal taxes, contributions to the foundation are tax deductible to the donor.

Please visit WWW.OLMF.ORG for more information and to donate.













CFC # 18833 Combined Federal Campaign

# Eta Phi Chapter Sponsor's Science Fair

**Boston, MA** - On February 28th and March 1, 2013, the brothers of Eta Phi Chapter continued their partnership with the students at Elihu Greenwood Leadership Academy (EGLA) which was developed as a result of the chapter's Fatherhood Initiative. This is the second year that Ms. Maudlin Wright, principal of EGLA and Deandra Williams, school project coordinator, invited the brothers to participate in their annual Science Fair and Luncheon. The luncheon is a segment of their social action program and STEM project, and the chapter has been instrumental

in supporting and assisting in the organization of EGLA's Science Fair and Luncheon. Eta Phi Chapter purchased all of the student display panels that were used to display the science projects.

During the luncheon, Brother Matthew Smith spoke to the students, parents and volunteers in attendance about the history of the Fraternity. Brother John T. Turner talked about the various social action programs that Eta Phi Chapter conducts in support of the surrounding communities in Roxbury and Dorchester, MA.





Brother Michael Munn, Basileus of Eta Phi, Immediate past Basileus Brother Ralph Watson, John T. Turner, Social Action Chair, Dr. Frederick Powell, Timothy Solomon, Brother Matthew Smith and photographer Michael Hailey were in attendance and pictured above.

## Gamma Pi Chapter Receives Proclamation for Exemplary Service

**Upper Marlboro, MD** - March 26, 2013. Gamma Pi Chapter in Prince George's County, Maryland, turning "40" was indeed a "sweet" experience as members of the chapter were honored on March 26 by the Prince George's County Council, led by Brother Councilman Derrick L. Davis, for four decades of exemplary service to the local community. Both Brother Councilman Davis and Brother County Executive Rushern Baker co-sponsored the Proclamation. Both are members of the chapter.

Close to 40 Brothers turned out for the recognition ceremony at 10 a.m. at County Council Chambers in Upper Marlboro. The event included a Proclamation presented by Brother Councilman Davis and his fellow council members in honor of Gamma Pi's stellar and steady community service. It was an event to experience and will go down as one of the proudest days in Gamma Pi history. The chapter, which surged to more than 200 dues-paying members in 2011, was chartered on March 5, 1973. This past March 5, Gamma Pi held a ''reunion" program to commemorate the occasion and kickoff a yearlong slate of activities honoring the 40th anniversary. More than 100 Brothers past and present attended the reunion program.



# Mu Nu Chapter presents Second Annual "Game Changer" Conference

**Montgomery County, MD** - On April 20, 2013, Mu Nu Chapter co-sponsored the Second Annual "Game Changer" Conference for Young Males at Montgomery College. In support of President Obama's National Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative, over 450 young males between the ages of 10 and 19 gathered for a full day of enriching presentations and workshops. Brother Donald Williams, Chair of Mu Nu's Social Action Committee, was the organizer of this event, bringing together organizations across Montgomery County.

Mu Nu Brothers participated in workshops focused on study skills, fitness, nutrition, preparing for employment and accepting responsibility for reaching their potential. The young males heard from Montgomery Police officers who shared the perspective of law enforcement officers who are on the street, and engaged in honest discussion on the need for young males to make good choices, as well as sharing the consequences and impact of poor choices. Omega men also provided guidance on how to negotiate a brief 30-second interview and how to dress for success including how a necktie should be tied.



The Oracle - Summer 2013

#### Grand Basileus Dr. Andrew A. Ray Receives the Dr. Martin Luther King Humanitarian Award

**Rochester, NY** - On January 2013, the members of Christian Friendship Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor, Dr. John S. Walker, continued their tradition of presenting the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award recipient to the community. The committee selects a citizen from the Rochester community, who exemplifies the characteristics of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The 2013 honoree of this award is the 39th Grand Basileus of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Dr. Andrew A. Ray.



Pictured left to right: Grand Basileus Ray, Pastor Dr. John Walker, Rev. Sebron Johnson, and Brother Peter James.

Brother Peter James, a Deacon at Christian Friendship Missionary Baptist Church read the following scripture: "What does the Lord require of thee? To do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8. Brother James indicated that Grand Basileus Ray was an ordinary man whose extraordinary life and ministry boldly exemplify this scripture. Grand Basileus Ray's accomplishments as a profound educator of our youth and his leadership in bringing knowledge to the Rochester Community were also cited as reasons for his selection for this recognition.

The speaker for the morning was Rev. Sebron Johnson, an associate minister at Emmanuel Baptist Church. Pastor Walker, a noted historian of the Civil Rights movement stated that he has worked with Grand Basileus Ray on several committees in the Rochester community to address the rights of our people. In his acceptance speech, Grand Basileus Ray told of his life in rural Mississippi and the struggles he encountered which help to mold him into the person he is today.

#### Brother Akmed Taylor-Kamara Named Teacher of the Year



Paterson, NJ. Monday, May 6, 2013. Lambda Upsilon Chapter's Brother Akmed Taylor-Kamara was presented with the honor of being named the Paterson Public

School State Teacher of the Year as well as the recipient of the Governor's Teacher of the Year Award for the 2012-2013 school year. Brother Taylor-Kamara teaches 3rd Grade at Public School No. 25 in Paterson, NJ.

### Brother Carlton Boujai Elected President of Maryland Association of Realtors



**Frederick, MD**- Brother Carlton Boujai (Theta Rho –1973) assumed the presidency of the Maryland Association of Realtors, charged with navigating a 22,000 – member organization at a time when the very concept of home ownership is difficult to maintain.

According to Brother Boujai, "homeownership is under attack." "At the legislative level, support is being questioned as it never before has been. We have to make sure the opportunity to buy a home is there for our children and grandchildren." Brother Boujai is emphatic: "We have to work at the local, state, and national level to do everything we can to protect the American Dream."

Brother Boujai, is a graduate of North Carolina A&T State University and retired Army officer who launched his real estate career over 24 years ago. He and his wife Saundra are residents of Frederick, Maryland.

# 2ND DISTRICT

# Brother C. Nathan Edwers Elected President of The United Black Clergy of Westchester

**Mt. Vernon, NY.** The brothers of Omicron Iota Chapter came out to support their Chaplain, Brother Bishop C. Nathan Edwers, as he was installed as the newly elected President of The United Black Clergy of Westchester. The service was held at The Friendship Worship Center in Mt. Vernon, NY. Public officials who spoke on the importance of the organization included Brother Judge Bruce Tolbert and Mt. Vernon Mayor Brother Ernie Davis. The United Black Clergy of Westchester was founded by Rev. Dr. Richard Dixon in 1968. It consists of a group of prominent black clergy from the Westchester area who convene together to address the social, economic, political and spiritual issues of the areas in which they serve. They work closely with local government



officials and local residents to meet the ever-changing needs of the community.

NY Senator Charles Schumer and Brother Bishop C. Nathan Edwers

## Mu Nu Chapter and the Dr. George B. Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy Mentor and Influence Thousands of Young Minds Over the Last 25 years

The George B. Thomas Sr., Learning Academy, also known as "Saturday School," provides tutoring and mentoring services to students in grades 1 through 12 in Montgomery County, MD. Saturday School's motto is "I Believe in Me" and the program increases students' confidence and heightens their awareness of "what is possible" while encouraging them to reach for higher goals and to accomplish more than they ever thought possible. Since 1986, the support provided by Saturday School has enhanced the positive self-

image, academic foundation and achievement of more than 20,000 children in Montgomery County, Maryland. Saturday School's mission is to better prepare students for the challenges of college and career by enhancing student mastery of core academic subjects such as reading, language arts, and mathematics. Every Saturday morning, from October through May, certified teachers serve as lead tutors to assure program consistency and quality. Eligible volunteers include parents, retired teachers, high school and college students, individuals from local businesses, including the medical and legal professions.

Saturday School's 12 High School Centers are strategically located in areas of the County with the highest concentration of minority students who qualify for federally subsidized Free and Reduced-price Meals (FARMS) and/or who are learning English as a second language. Although the program is open to all students, it is targeted to those having the most difficulty with academic performance. The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. congratulates the George B. Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy, Inc. on its 25th Anniversary. Established by Mu Nu Chapter, the Saturday School Program truly exemplifies the Cardinal Principles—Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift. The Fraternity recognizes the direct impact that the Saturday School has had on closing the achievement gap for Montgomery County, Maryland students.



Brother Dr. George B. Thomas, Sr., Founder of the Academy, poses with a timeline banner about its 25-year history.

## **Omega Baltimore Foundation Re-opens Easterwood Recreation Center**



**Baltimore, MD** – The Easterwood Recreation Center, offering a full range of recreation and leisure programs and services, celebrated its official Grand Re-opening Ceremony on Wednesday, December 5, 2012, at 4:00PM with Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake.

Located in West Baltimore, at 1522 N. Bentalou Street, the Easterwood Recreation Center has been closed since 2008 and is managed and operated by Omega Baltimore in conjunction with Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake's plan to enlist community organizations to be responsible for programming underserved city recreation centers. Omega Baltimore, a nonprofit organization associated with Pi Omega Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated was awarded the lease to manage and operate Easterwood. The doors of Easterwood opened last month providing free hot meals and computer access to Baltimore City students after school. The after school meals program is sponsored by the Family League of Baltimore City through the Kidz Table.

Three rooms within Easterwood have been transformed into computer labs with free Wi-Fi access and a library which will be operated by a local teacher who resides within the Easterwood community. "As a native Baltimorean, I can personally attest to how important recreation centers are in uplifting a community. Our reason for reopening the Easterwood Recreation Center was to provide a place where kids can be kids, in a safe and fun environment," says Omega Baltimore CEO, Zanes E. Cypress, Jr.



"Friendship is Essential to the Soul"

# **3RD** DISTRICT

# Brother Judge Robert Rigsby Delivers Keynote Address for US Department of Transportation's Black Heritage Month Program



Washington, DC - On February 13, 2013, the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) Black History Coordinating Committee (BHCC) held its inaugural Black Heritage Month Program in the West Atrium of the USDOT

headquarters building. The keynote speaker for the program was the Honorable (Brother) Judge Robert R. Rigsby of the District of Columbia Superior Court, who delivered a powerful message about how his own experiences have been shaped by those who made personal investments in him. The BHCC was created to promote Black and African American Heritage within the Department and serve as a resource for DOT Leadership as they work to enhance diversity strategies within

Brother Seth Robertson Receives George Mason University Black Scholars Scholarship



Fairfax County, VA - The George Mason University Black Alumni Chapter recently announced Brother Seth Robertson as the 2013 (and first) recipient of The Black Scholars Endowed Scholarship. He was officially recognized at the Scholarship Awards Dinner on April 4, 2013.

Brother Robertson, an electrical engineering student, is expected to graduate in December 2014. He is the Vice Basileus and social action chair of the Eta Delta Delta Chapter.

He is also an active member of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) and served as the academic excellence chair. As chairman, he was able to develop both a study buddy system and group study sessions. "What I came to realized in my early tenure at Mason was that many students, specifically of African American descent, seemed to always be willing to party and have fun together, but when it came down to studying and doing schoolwork, we want to handle things individually," Robertson said. Although this approach works for some, he truly believes that the study sessions and study buddy system functioning together helped many students to greater academic success. the Department and execute the Civil Rights Strategic Plan. The Black Heritage Month Program's theme was "Investing Today, Shaping Tomorrow," signifying that the knowledge, wisdom and personal time that we deposit into the lives of one another today have the power to shape, influence and prepare future generations for tomorrow. Special guests of Judge Rigsby included his wife, Judge Anna Blackburne Rigsby, who sits on the D.C. Court of Appeals, and Judge Advocate General Clyde Tate. A special appearance was also made by US DOT Secretary Ray LaHood, who shared remarks about the contributions that Blacks and African Americans are making across all modes in the Department and about how leadership at DOT is committed to expanding professional opportunities to African Americans. Brother Rigsby is an active member of Alpha Omega Chapter serving Omega and the community.

Howard Bison Brother Keith Pough Receives Pat Tillman Award



**Washington, DC** - Howard University's Brother Keith Pough was awarded the Pat Tillman Award at the East-West Shrine Game banquet January 18, 2013. The award is presented annually to the player who demonstrates courage, perseverance and talent throughout the week leading up to the game and recognizes his overall achievements and conduct. Brother Pough was voted the MEAC (Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference) Defensive Player of the Year and to the Black Sports Network All America team. He was named to the Sports Network 2012 FCS All America second team. Brother Pough was initiated at Alpha Chapter, Howard University.

# ASALH: At the Crossroads of Freedom and Equality

February 23, 2013, ASALH (Association for the Study of African American Life and History) hosted its annual Black History Luncheon at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC. Under the leadership of the Immediate Past District Representative, Brother Anthony Knight, the Third District has been an annual supporter since 2010. This year, Omega was in the "house!"

The Third District had its customary table and were joined by the Grand Basileus, Pi Lambda Lambda Chapter, Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter, Alpha Omega Chapter, the Second District and Tau Pi Chapter (Columbia, Maryland – Second District) for a total of over 50 brothers. We not only announced our presence physically, but our Grand Basileus, Brother Dr. Andrew Ray, served notice that Omega's partnership to preserve Brother Dr. Woodson's legacy is permanent by surprising ASALH with a check for \$10,000 at the luncheon. This was a moment when I looked at the faces of the brothers in attendance and we each were beaming with pride. The keynote speaker, Dr. Mary Frances Berry, former Chair of the Civil Rights Commission, called out all of the other fraternities by name, asking the Alphas, Kappas, Sigmas and Iotas, *"where are you?"* It always feels good to be an Omega, but it really felt good that Saturday.



"Friendship is Essential to the Soul"

# Brother Charles B. Hunter Appointed as New Virginia Commissioner



Portsmouth. VA: Brother Charles Β. Hunter has been named by Gov. Bob McDonnell the Hampton to Roads Transit Citizen Commissioner's Board. His recent appointment to the HRTCC Board provide will him opportunities to enhance reliable and efficient

transportation services and facilities to the Hampton Roads Community.

He will be the voice of the city and citizens of Portsmouth in all matters regarding the public transit system. His duties will include developing and reviewing solutions for the transportation issues in order increase the quality of life for them by providing practical options for how they navigate the region. Brother Hunter was the recipient of the 2011 Lefcoe Leadership Outstanding Alumni Award Recipient which is a program that develops and recognizes volunteers for the city's various boards and commissions. Having gone through the program, Brother Hunter is able to bring all of his talents to bear through this commission to assist the community. As well, Brother Hunter's leadership and focus on customer service are exemplified in the performance of his duties as Business Banker for Towne Bank, in Portsmouth, VA.

With the economy being a challenge, Brother Hunter has helped many businesses adapt and significantly change the way they do business. Brother Hunter is an active member of Lambda Omega Chapter in Norfolk, Virginia and continues to set an example for Omega Men in service to the community across the country.

# Newport News NPHC Selects Brother Azar Allen as Greek of the Year



Newport News, VA The Peninsula Pan-Hellenic Council honored Brother Azar Allen as Alpha Alpha Greek Chapter of the Year at its annual Banquet on 10 November 2012. During the past year and a half, Azar Allen has

made a great impact on Alpha Alpha Chapter, Omega Psi Fraternity, Inc and the local community.

As Chairman of Alpha Alpha's Social Action Committee, Azar conducts a community project each month to include: A mentoring and tutorial program, a blood drive,

voter registration drive, feeding the homeless donating Christmas and Thanksgiving baskets, donating to the Angel Tree Program, participating in the Cancer Relay for Life, and the Prostate Cancer Walk, donating to the battered women's shelter, donating to the Peninsula Food Bank, sponsoring a youth Christmas party, and donating gift cards to local social services.

Under his leadership, Alpha Alpha Chapter was selected as Social Action Chapter of the Year of the Fourth District. Brother Allen is a shining example of what an Omega Man should be-- a person that works hard for his Fraternity, but is also a role model in the community. Brother Allen is involved in every aspect of Alpha Alpha and he is one of the keys to our success over the past years. Brother Allen's actions speak for themselves and he is truly deserving of Greek of the Year.

# **3RD DISTRICT**

# Kappa Iota Iota Brother Troy Recognized as Top "40 Under 40"



he University of Georgia's Alumni Association recently named Brother Milton Troy III, a Commander in the United States Navy, as member of the Class of 2012 "40 Under 40." Established in 2011, the "40 Under 40" program celebrates the most outstanding University of Georgia alumni under the age of 40. With more than 400 applicants this year, the selection committee chose the top 40 candidates for their career success as well as their unwavering commitment to UGA and the community.

These prominent graduates have made an impact in business, leadership, education and philanthropy. To honor the Class of 2012, the Alumni Association presented each graduate with a commemorative plaque during a formal luncheon, hosted at the Atlanta Aquarium on 20 September 2012. Each honoree was later recognized as a member of the "40 under 40" during the pre-game ceremonies of the University of Georgia versus Vanderbilt University football game, held at UGA's Sanford Stadium.

Brother Troy earned his Master's Business Administration of degree from UGA's Terry School of Business in 2002 through the Navy's Civilian MBA Program. With a career that spans over 17 years, Brother Troy was one of three military members (the other two represented the Army and the Air Force) honored by the UGA "40 Under 40" this year. When commenting on his selection to this elite group of graduates, he humbly acknowledges that, "Any accolade I may achieve is purely a reflection of the excellent group of Sailors, peers, and senior officers that I have had the pleasure to serve with throughout my career."

Brother Troy was initiated in 2001 through Zeta Beta Beta Chapter in the Gainesville-Athens Area of Northeast Georgia and has served with distinction ever since.

Brother Troy previously served as the KRS for KII Chapter, as well as the KRS for Kappa Omega (Harrisburg, PA) Phi Gamma Gamma (Kuwait) and Zeta Beta Beta (Athens, GA). He as well was a Founders Award Recipient for Phi Gamma Gamma (2005). Brother Troy presently serves as the Vice Basileus of Kappa Iota Iota (KII) Chapter.

# 4TH DISTRICT

# Central State University Receives \$50,000 Endowment in Honor of Brother James A. Elam

Wilberforce, OH - On April 13, 2013, the Friendship Foundation and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity established an endowment at Central State University in the name of Brother James Elam.

The James A. Elam Chair was established as \$30,000

was given to Central State to use for students that want to complete their education at Ohio's only public HBCU. James Elam is a 1954 graduate of Central State University and one of the university's largest private benefactors. Brother Elam has been a member of the Fraternity since 1952 and a charter member of Eta Gamma Chapter at Central State University.

Brother Elam was elated and overcome with emotion during this ceremony. He added \$20,000 of his own to this endowment bringing the total to \$50,000. Brother Elam stated how much he loves both of these organizations, Central State University and the Omega Psi Phi

Fraternity. As a philanthropist, Brother Elam has many activities to his credit that consists of buildings and halls named after him. The auditorium at the International Headquarters is named in honor of Brother Elam, further commemorating his contributions to the Fraternity and to humanity.



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## Brother Morgan Dean Receives 70-Year Pin from Grand Basileus Ray

Cincinnati, OH - On April 12, 2013 at the 72nd Annual held at Beta Iota "The STAR Chapter" in Cincinnati, District Meeting and Conference, Brother Dr. Andrew Ray presented a 70-year pin to a member of Beta Iota Chapter. Brother Morgan Dean has been an active member of the Fraternity for 70 years. He is the 12th Basileus of Beta Iota and he was the Chairman of the First Mardi Gras



Ohio. Brother Dean was initiated at Psi Theta Chapter (University of Cincinnati) in 1943. On hand to assist in presenting the rare honor were Brother Kelly Shannon-Grand Keeper of Finance, Brother Tony Knox-First Vice Grand Basileus, and Brother Christopher Cooper-Grand Counselor (all pictured with Brother Dean).

As Brother Morgan Dean parted the crowd of over 150 brothers who rose to their feet to greet him, tears of joy were present in all that witnessed this wonderful occasion. Brother Dean told the Brothers in attendance how much this meant to him and how much he loves the Fraternity. He thanked the Grand Basileus for his accolades and shared some stories with the brothers.

The Oracle - Summer 2013
## Beta Iota Chapter Highlights Father-Daughter Activities

**Cincinnati, OH** - According to "Healing Hearts and Family Counseling," girls who spend quality time with their fathers tend to do better in school, learn to navigate social roles better and avoid some of the pitfalls of youth, like drug abuse. In an effort to promote the Fraterity's Fatherhood Initiative, Beta Iota Chapter held its 10th annual father/daughter dinner. The outing offered fathers and daughters the chance to highlight activities necessary to build fatherhood skills in a way that's fun and non-threatening.

## **IMPORTANCE OF FATHERS**

Fathers are important in a daughter's life for several reasons. During childhood and the teenage years, fathers become important role models for their daughters and are able to inspire and motivate. Fathers are also the first intimate male relationship in a girl's life, a fact that greatly

affects how daughters will relate to men in future relationships. A loving, protective, encouraging and honorable husband and father will typically cause a daughter to seek out men that possess the same qualities.



## **BENEFITS OF FATHERS**

There are many benefits of a healthy father-and-daughter relationship. Fathers are essential to the process of building a daughter's self-confidence, self-esteem, selfworth and self-reliance. Building a healthy father-anddaughter relationship is as simple as spending quality time together, being sensitive to your daughter's feelings, having meaningful and personal talks, demonstrating trust and love, and providing encouragement. Fathers should always let their daughters know how much they love them, care about them and believe in them.

Fathers also teach their daughters achievement, assertiveness and adventurism. Daughters that grow up with a healthy father-and-daughter bond are often less likely to become a teenage mother, experience depression, experiment with drugs and alcohol, develop body image problems and engage in criminal activity.

Left photo: Brother Dante and daughter Imani Mayo.

Bottom photo: Brothers of Beta Iota Chapter along with their daughters.



## Fourth District Focuses on Mentoring at Annual Meeting

**Cincinnati, OH** - On Friday, April 12, 2013, the brothers of the Mighty Fourth District descended upon the Rothenburg Academy in Cincinnati, Ohio to renew their commitment to the Omega Psi Phi Fatherhood Initiative.

Thirty brothers participated in the event as one of the scheduled events for the 72nd Annual District Meeting. Brothers separated into groups to visit the classrooms, talked with the students, and shared stories of their success. Students from kindergarten-

8th grade participate in the program. One student said that when the brothers first arrived, he thought someone was in trouble. Brothers explained the purpose of the visit, put them at ease and gave some great advice.

After the small group sessions were dismissed, the brothers gathered with the students in the cafeteria and watched the very touching and telling presentation. Brothers who watched the video were moved as emotions filled the room. The students who identified with the kids on the video, shared their sentiment as they watched other children talk about their absent fathers. Once the presentation was over, the brothers of the Fourth District took the Fatherhood pledge committing to being better fathers.

Brothers who had not participated in this event before committed to participating next year. This annual event is one that will be a part of the Annual Meeting for years to come.



## Ohio Swears-in First African-American County Treasurer



**Cleveland, OH** - In an unprecedented move, Ohio swore in its first African-American County Treasurer. Mark A. Parks Jr. took the oath of office on March 27th, 2013, from Cuyahoga County Executive Ed FitzGerald before a group of 11 council members and community supporters. Brother Parks is a member of Zeta Omega Chapter.

"Mark continually demonstrates his value to county government with his wide ranging experience and effective management in a variety of areas. His experience, professionalism and knowledge in financial management are a true asset for Cuyahoga County and its citizens. He is one of our very best," said Cuyahoga County Executive Ed FitzGerald.

Brother Parks served as the interim Cuyahoga County Treasurer since mid-December, 2012. His appointment began one month prior to him taking the oath. He is the first African-American county Treasurer in any county in Ohio. His responsibilities include managing the billion dollar investment portfolio for Cuyahoga County, collecting its property taxes and distributing funds to municipalities.

# **CHARITIES**

## Manhood - Scholarship - Perseverance - Uplift

## Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) #18563



## **OUR MISSION IS THREEFOLD....**

- Provide programs of Uplift to the Black community (male youth in particular)
- Foster programs and activities of economic empowerment in distressed neighborhoods
- Provide Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster relief in times of critical need

## **Officers and Directors**

Alcindor R. Rosier, President Michael E. Charles, Secretary Keith B. Key Vroman Wright W. Kelly Shannon (ex officio) Jerome Haggins, Vice President Patrick B. Bosworth, Treasurer Michael Rosier, Esq. Andrew Ray (ex officio)

Omega Charities is a 501(c) (3) public charity established in January 2007. All contributions and donations are tax deductible according to the rules of a 501(c)(3). To date, Omega Charities has donated over \$45,000 to disaster relief in Haiti and the US, and supported mentoring and community service programs with our strategic partners. For donations and information, please visit www.omegacharities.org.

## Bridge Builder Mentoring in the Lexington Area

Lexington, KY – Members of Psi Tau Graduate Chapter, Rho Lambda and Psi Psi Undergraduate Chapters, and other brothers gathered on the campus of the University of Kentucky on November 17, 2012 to dedicate the new chapter monument for Rho Lambda. The dedication program served as a sterling example of the "Power of Mentoring" from one brother to another.

As the first Omega Man at the University of Kentucky, Fifth District Chaplain and Pastor of Bethsaida Baptist Church in Lexington - Brother Bishop E. Carter III was honored with the Visionary Award for being an outstanding mentor, and encouraging brothers to provide uplift throughout their respective chapters and community. Yet, Brother Carter is quick to acknowledge the impact of long-time Omega Men like former Councilman and Past Fifth District Representative- Brother Robert Jefferson, and retired educators Brothers Gentry Larue and George Logan. "The influence these Omega men had on me encouraged me to want to be an Omega from the age of 12," says Carter. He goes on to say that "one should never underestimate the effects of mentoring because it empowers our people to achieve beyond what they can see."

Initiated 10 years ago by Psi Tau Chapter and the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Graduate Chapter of Lexington, Brother Bishop E. Carter IV, son of Dr. Bishop E. Carter III helped launch the effort. Over the past eight years, Brothers John Douglas, David Jenkins, and Charles Duke and others have carried the torch. Special awards of appreciation were given to the brothers and students to render thanks by the church and community.

Breakfast with the Bible is another excellent program. Started 15 years ago, it focuses on fellowship, evangelism, and spiritual development of laymen, men, and youth of the church. Finally, a special outreach focus on the Annual Father's Day Program draws about 1,000 people. The Local Urban League and Bethsaida sponsor the program along with several local community programs/ churches. It serves to spearhead fatherhood, leadership, and youth development with a Christian perspective. May the power of mentoring always enable us to lift as we climb.

Over the years, Rev. Dr. Bishop E. Carter, III has continued to use the Fraternity's four cardinal principles to cultivate and foster mentoring initiatives and assistance to students, laymen, women, inmates and clergy.

One outstanding program initiated is the Tuesday Night Tutoring provided by Psi Tau Chapter. This mentoring and tutoring program is offered every Tuesday evening at the church for the youth. The focus is to tutor the students, ages 6-18, in subjects such as mathematics, English, Sscial studies, and science to enhance study skills.



## Brother Charles Matthews Mentors At-Risk Youth to Become Successful Students

Louisville, KY-Theta Omega Brother Charles Matthews mentor and Big Brother/Big Sister Executive has experienced significant success as a mentor for three atrisk African American male youths. In 2007, Brother Matthews was recognized by Big Brother Big Sisters of America as national Big Brother of the Year for his work in mentoring initiatives.

Brother Matthews was successful in mentoring and guiding youth having critical anger and other problems associated with life in poverty stricken single-parent homes. Brother Matthews introduces students to educational experiences, facilitates communication options and identifies recreation opportunities not normally experienced by intercity African American youth. Homework, phone conversations and long Saturday morning breakfast conversations where they discuss life are some typical interactions. A personal interaction (approximately 10 hours/month) is one of the keys to implement a plan for personal success.



Rico and Shaquille Johnson as elementary students.

In 1996, Brother Matthews befriended his first little brother, Rico Johnson. Rico was a very angry young man who lived with his brother and mother in a predominantly single-family home.

Brother Matthews mentored Rico over a six year period from 5th grade through graduation from high school. During that period of time, Brother Matthews followed Rico and his family through the mentoring plan and through counseling. Rico is currently a junior at Northern Kentucky University where he is majoring in criminal justice and has maintained a B average. After Rico graduated from high school, Brother Matthews mentored Shaquille Johnson, the younger brother of Rico. Shaquille demonstrated the same personal issues as his older brother. Over a period of six years, Brother Matthews met with Shaquille under



a similar program as Rico. Shaquille was successful in high school and is currently a freshman student at Western Kentucky University where he is majoring in business administration. He has been successful at Western Kentucky having made the dean's list in his first two semesters.



Marcus Hamilton is the third in this line of mentoring volunteer work. Marcus is a 7th grade student at Newberg Middle School, Louisville, KY. He is the product of a broken home since the age of 3 years old. Brother Matthews continues to follow the family through counseling and the one-on-one mentoring interactions with Marcus.

## Epsilon Phi Chapter and Brother Adrian Baskin Help Change the Community

**Memphis, TN-** Recognizing the effectiveness of mentoring and also understanding the importance of Uplift throughout our communities, Epsilon Phi Chapter partnered with the 110 Institute as the title sponsor of the 4th Annual "Man of The House" mentoring event. The event was held at the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, TN.



Brother Kellen Christian demonstrates how to properly tie a Windsor knot.

The event was a unique experience where 75 men with "real world" knowledge had an opportunity to provide hands-on workshops and discussions with 110 young men between the ages of 12 and 18 years old that are being raised by single mothers. The event allowed the young men to experience the next level of personal preparations, including an introduction to the list of "110 Tasks Every Young Man Should Know How to do Before 9th Grade."

Some of the key themes discussed include: How to tie a Tie; The Importance of Personal Hygiene/ Grooming Tips; How to communicate effectively, and more. The young men benefited from a

guided tour of the National Civil Rights Museum, with a particular emphasis on the Birmingham Children's Crusade. All of the participants in this event left eager and excited about the future.

Event organizers made a tremendous impact within the community. For his involvement and service, Brother Adrian K. Baskin, was selected as one of Memphis' "Top 40 under 40" for 2012. This recognition is given annually to the brightest individuals in Memphis' business community who have significant professional contributions, accomplishment and community service.

Brother Baskin is a thriving professional engaged in various community organizations throughout the Mid-South area. He is the Chair of the Porter-Leath (over 100 years old) Board of Directors, one of the Mid-South's oldest charitable organizations which services over 8,000 underprivileged families annually empowering children and families to achieve a healthy, optimal and independent lifestyle.

Under his leadership, the Epsilon Phi Chapter implemented a wide array of service projects that has made a significant impact in the Memphis Community like: "The Man of the House Male Mentoring Program," sponsorship to the Benjamin Hooks Red Carpet Documentary, and partnerships with several organizations to feed over 10,000 families in the Mid-South area during the holiday season.

Omega Lambda Lambda Chapter Publishes "Virtuous Women: Voices of Wisdom"



Hendersonville, TN. In March 2013, the brothers of the Omega Lambda Lambda Chapter published a book entitled "Virtuous Women- Voices of Wisdom". This collection of autobiographies honors and pays homage to 24 incredible women of the greater Hendersonville/ Nashville area. Accomplishments from a broad range of amazing women including pastors, homemakers, senators, mothers, educators, Quettes and doctors are highlighted throughout the 93-page book.

The autobiographies detail the individual journeys of each of our Virtuous Women as they transition through various life stages. Their journeys serve to inspire both young men and women as each individual philosophy, and adage can be applied to one's own life journey. Proceeds of this publication go towards the Omega Lambda Lambda Scholarship fund.

## Brother Hubert Poole Receives Congressional Gold Medal Posthumously



Raleigh, NC-Iota Brother Hubert Iota Poole Andrew was posthumously awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for his service with the Montford Point Marines. The Congressional Gold Medal is the nation's highest civilian honor for

distinguished achievement. The award was presented to Brother Poole's surviving wife of 69 years, Mary Holden Poole, in a ceremony at Wilson Temple United Methodist Church in Raleigh, NC. Brother Poole entered Omega Chapter on February 29, 2012. In November 2011, the President of the United States signed into law a bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the Montford Point Marines. Our Montford Point brothers are patriots and from 1942-1949 nearly 20,000 African-American men from across America came to the Montford Point Camp in Jacksonville, NC. Because of the climate of separation due to race, these men were trained separately by the Marine Corps, ultimately denying them typical rights for Marines in the Corps. In spite of this denial of rights, these men served in battle and performed their roles to the highest degree. As a result of their professionalism and their perseverance the Marine Corps underwent a social awakening that allowed for changes within the Corps especially in the area of equality.

# Brother John Thompson Receives Congressional Gold Medal

**Washington, DC**- During a ceremony at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, DC, the United States Marine Corps awarded the Congressional Gold Medal to more than 20,000 African-American Marines who entered service at Montford Point. Approximately 500 of the Marines are still alive; Brother John Thompson, Tau Omega Chapter Fall '69, was one of the many men honored from the elite fighting group.

Between 1942 and 1949, Montford Point was a blacks-only segregated boot camp at Camp Lejeune near Jacksonville, NC. Montford Point trained these trailblazers for combat, primarily in the Pacific, during World War II. President Barack Obama signed the act granting gold medals to the Marines. The Gold Medal represents Congress's highest expression of national appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions. House Speaker John Boehner, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority and Minority Leaders Harry Reid and Mitch McConnell made remarks during the ceremony.

Brother Thompson joined the US Marines in 1943 after graduating from George Washington Carver in Kannapolis, NC. After the military, he entered NC A&T State University and earned a bachelor and master's degree in Industrial Education. He later took a job with the Greensboro Public Schools, where he worked until



retirement in 1991.

Brother Thompson said it was an honor for him and his comrades to receive their awards from Black officers. "Imagine all these generals saying yes sir to me. I wanted to tell them that I should be saying yes sir to them. I'm just a peon," said Thompson. During John's enlistment, Black officers were nonexistent.

Tau Omega Chapter has honored Brother Thompson over the years with various awards and recognition for his tireless service to the community and Omega, including the Founder's Award and Omega Man of the Year. Seventy years later, the Montford Point Marines finally got the accolades they so richly deserved.

## *The Sixth District Helps Raise \$11,528 for the Garner Road Community Center*

**Raleigh, NC** – On Sunday April 28, 2013 during the Sunday morning breakfast of the 68th Annual meeting, Brother Ulysses S.G. Sweeney, IV, Sixth District Representative along with 1st Vice Grand Basileus Brother Antonio Knox presented the Garner Road Community Center with a check for \$5000.00.

"For the past 3 years, the Sixth District has challenged the host chapters of the Annual Meeting to select a grassroots organization in their community and collect money to financially support their efforts; said Sweeney, at the conclusion of the meeting, the District will match all donations up to \$5000 to assist with this effort.

Brother Glenn Thomas, District Marshal reported after the match donation from the District the total money raised was \$11, 528.00. On hand for the check presentation was the Executive Director of the Center Mrs. Mozetta Johnson and a Garner Road attendee, Donovan Summers. Brother Knox who chairs the Garner Board of Directors said, "This money will go a long way to ensuring great things happen for the youth of Garner."



## Brother Dr. Tony L. Burton, III Helps Change the Community in Winston-Salem, NC

Winston-Salem, NC - Brother Dr. Tony L. Burton, III has had enough of the negative reports coming from too many of our communities and is doing something about it. His dedication and success with saving Winston-Salem, NC area youth have been recognized with the honorary renaming of 7th Street in Winston Salem to "Dr. Tony L. Burton Lane."



Major research studies purport that a child's success can be predicted as early as the third grade. While working in the Winston-Salem Forsyth County School System, Brother Burton witnessed first-hand the truth of that research. After focusing on the recovery of wayward middle and high school students, Brother Burton decided to redirect his attention to true prevention by reaching children before they enter school. Winston-Salem Mayor Allen Joines, Senator Earline Parmon, local media and national child development organizations have commended his implementation model of childhood development programs.

God, Family, and Fraternity, Brother Burton knows the importance of maintaining balance and perspective. A member of Winston-Salem's Union Baptist Church, he has three children and is married to Brittani Marie Williams. Educated at University of Tennessee-Martin and Winston Salem State University, he also received Masters and PhD degrees from Columbus University. Initiated into BKK Chapter in 1995, Brother Burton endeavors to leverage his talent and expertise as a positive African American role model.

## Kappa Alpha Chapter and Local Business Receive Presidential Service Award

**Rock Hill, SC** - The Kappa Alpha Chapter and Kut Kreator Barbershop were presented with National Citations from the President's Council on Service. President Obama created the President's Volunteer Service Award to recognize those who help others through volunteer acts of service.

Brother Thabiti Boone, International Fatherhood Initiative Chair, represented the White House in making the presentation of the awards. Boone said, "The brothers of Kappa Alpha have an outstanding track record of community service in the Rock Hill area. These men are truly making a difference in their community and the President is pleased to recognize these types of efforts throughout the country."

This is the third year the shop owners, brothers Cleavon and Jovon Bradley, and staff have offered the haircuts before school starts. The event was cosponsored by the Kappa Alpha Chapter. Cleavon said, "We have done this event hoping it would give our black males self-esteem and help them feel confident as they head back to school." President Obama, has made every effort to encourage grass-root organizations to form projects and programs supporting fathers.

In conjunction with the event, Dr. Winslow donated school supplies for the students. Over 200 young men received free haircuts and school supplies to prepare for the first day of school in York County.

Sixth District Representative Brother Ulysses S.G. Sweeney, IV, was present for the announcement along with Rock Hill Mayor Doug Echols, Rock Hill City Manager David Vehan, Rock Hill City Council members, Brother Osbey Roddey and Suzie Hinton, York County Councilman William Roddey and South Carolina State Representative Brother John King.



The Oracle - Summer 2013

## Brother Fredrick Thomas Named 2012 Father of the Year



**Raleigh, NC** - Brother Fredrick and Mrs. LaDonna Thomas were named the 2012 Triangle Tribune Family of the Year. Brother Thomas and his wife LaDonna, exemplify the true meaning of parenthood, family and community service. They are the proud parents of a son, Logan.

Brother Thomas was named the Triangle Tribune 2012 Father of the Year. Thomas is a Middle School Counselor with the Wake County Public School System. He holds a bachelor's degree and two masters, one in counseling and the other in School Administration. He is currently seeking to pursue a doctoral degree from Fayetteville State University.

The Thomas' gave birth to a premature son, Logan. Logan weighed one pound and five ounces at birth. The prognosis was not good, but they were and still are a "praying and believing" family. They spent countless days and hours in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. The support of family and friends were immeasurable.

In April, Logan was chosen as the Eastern North Carolina March of Dimes Ambassador. Today, Logan is walking and running. Logan will continue to grow with loving parents who believe in education.

## Brother Calvin Hastie Named SC Public Defender of the Year



**Sumter, SC** - Brother Calvin Hastie, Sr. became the first 3rd Circuit public defender to win the South Carolina Public Defender of the Year award. The 3rd District represents Sumter, Lee, Clarendon and Williamsburg counties. A graduate of South Carolina State College, Hastie became a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Fall 1969, through the Xi Psi Chapter. Currently, he is a member of the

Gamma Iota Chapter in Sumter, SC.

Brother Hastie, a retired lieutenant colonel, runs a local law firm and serves on the Sumter City Council.

According to Hastie, public defenders sometime get a bad name simply because they may be overloaded with cases; however, he looks at his job as more of a counselor rather than a lawyer. He tries to guide youth into trusting him but more importantly, making good decisions in life.

Brother Hastie's love for youth is the cornerstone of his work. He is also actively involved in Gamma Iota's William Blanding Mentorship Program. This program's mission is to positively influence the youth we serve in the Sumter community.

## Brother Dr. Thaddeus J. Bell receives National Medical Association Service Award

**North Charleston, SC-** History is nourished by instructive examples. The instructive example of Brother Dr. Thaddeus J. Bell and his dedication to improving the health of others moved the National Medical Association



(NMA) to salute him. In recognition of Brother Dr. Bell's exemplary leadership and outstanding work as a physician, dedication and tenacious efforts in educating physicians and health care providers; and for all his work impacting the minority community, the Board of Trustees of the National Medical Association honored him as the recipient of the NMA 2013 Distinguished Service Award.

The award was conferred, on Saturday, July 27, 2013, as the National Medical Association (NMA) formally convened its 2013 Annual Convention and Scientific Assembly in Toronto, Canada. The meeting was an impressive gathering of some of the nation's leading medical scholars, scientists, practitioners and medical administrators.

Founded in 1895, the National Medical Association has casted a footprint in two centuries leaving an indelible mark on the art, science, and conscience of medicine. As the nation's oldest and largest professional organization of African-American physicians, the NMA is the premier voice promoting the interests of more than 50,000 physicians and the patients they serve.

Brother Bell was initiated through Xi Psi 1965, South Carolina State College. He is a Life Member of the Fraternity and member of Iota Beta Beta, St Stephen, SC. Bell retired from Medical University of South Carolina and is currently in private practice family medicine.

## Beta Lambda Lambda's Passport to Manhood Program

Lawrenceville, GA - Beta Lambda Lambda strives to mentor youth and provide guidance to at-risk students. The Passport to Manhood Program has been an annual program to help students from 9th-12th grade. Students obtain advice on issues such as peer pressure, role models, leadership, careers, drugs, academic success, bullying, finance, college options, etc. The program has been facilitated by Brother Ainsley Clarke, Brother Kevin Hayes, and Brother Eric Brown.

## **GENTS OF CHARACTER CLUB**

The brothers of Beta Lambda Lambda continue to reach out to mentor elementary school youth. The Gents of Character Club has been a yearround mentoring program for 4th and 5th grade boys at Anderson-Livsey Elementary School in Gwinnett County. The program is designed to build leadership skills and foster self-esteem. Brother Ainsley Clarke has the students commit to school community service. The students have put on a book drives, canned food drives, worked with other clubs on projects, and assisted faculty. The program has helped the students make positive decisions in their daily lives.

## **PROJECT ASPIRATION**

Project Aspiration at Brookwood High School in Gwinnett County has been an annual program for the brotherhood. Brother Roy Byrd, III has worked with the school in conjunction with a Black History Month program. The program has helped the students make positive decisions in their daily lives.



The Oracle - Summer 2013

## Lambda Alpha Alpha Brothers Show Up in Great Numbers

**Delray Beach, FL** - The brothers of Lambda Alpha Alpha Chapter lent their efforts to help beautify the community during the 3rd Annual Curb Appeal by the Block held Saturday, April 13, 2013. More than 15 Brothers turned out to landscape, clean, and paint the home of one of the city's deserving elderly citizens as part of the City of Delray Beach's community volunteer events.

While the city provided the tools and materials, it was the brothers who showed up in numbers providing the muscle to renew the character of an older ranch style home that needed some TLC. The home owner was overwhelmed with joy and was emotionally moved by the efforts of the brothers yet tickled with the comic relief that the brothers bestowed on one another during the four hour process, she said she was honored to have so many "wonderful Omega men showing their love and support in the community."



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## Xi Omicron Chapter Creates Sons of Royalty Mentoring Group

**Huntsville, AL** - The Xi Omicron Chapter has implemented a new mentoring leadership program called the Sons of Royalty (SOR). The chapter wanted to create a program that would serve as a character and leadership program for young men in the 9th -12th grades in the Huntsville/Madison County area. The brothers of Xi Omicron held an induction ceremony for its inaugural class of SOR's on November 4, 2012 at the Omega Community Center. Twelve young men were inducted into the program.

The mission of SOR is to display the importance of putting God first in daily activities, being upright and just in all dealings, having self-respect as well as respect for others, and maintaining a positive attitude. It strives to teach Christian values in the areas of teamwork, leadership, responsibility, and practical life situations. This program provides activities that increase academics, skill, knowledge and abilities for a successful transition from adolescence to manhood.



"Friendship is Essential to the Soul"

## Rho Alpha Chapter - Togetherness Improves Everyone's Success (TIES)

**Mobile, AL** - President Barack Obama's Fatherhood Initiative made its way to the Port City of Mobile, Alabama this year as the Rho Alpha Chapter initiated its TIES (Togetherness Improves Everyone's Success) Mentoring Program at Whitley Elementary School in January. Having seen first-hand the need for more positive African-American male role models for our young men, it is imperative that we play a more active role in their educational foundation at an early stage.

It takes parents, the community, and schools working together in order to produce a well-rounded individual. With this in mind, we developed a mentoring program at Whitley Elementary School that addresses self-esteem, pride, respect, motivation, and leadership qualities of young men.

The TIES Program is about sharing experiences as well as encouraging, mentoring and fostering leadership qualities in young men. The program aims to develop strong character in 4th and 5th grade young men. Brothers of Rho Alpha Chapter, from various professions, discussed their careers ranging from positions in government, academia and finance to chemistry and technology. The workshops and discussion are held twice a month for the participants. In addition to discussing their careers, our membership engaged the students in discussions on topics including "Developing and Maintaining Your Own Image and Brand," "Professional and Dinner Etiquette," and "Goal Setting."

These conversations proved to be enlightening to our students and were well received by them as we made the discussions fun and easy to understand. For example, the etiquette session included a hands-on segment in which the students actually practiced setting a formal dinner table, and they participated in exercises at the dinner table to demonstrate what they had learned. During the professional image workshop, we taught our students how to properly tie neck ties and showed them various options of professional dress. The chapter has scheduled several field trips for the young men to visit several college campuses, museums and art centers to enable them to see a world beyond the confines of their local neighborhoods. This type of *"togetherness improves everyone's success!"* 





## **Chaplains Discuss Current Spiritual Topics at Annual Conference**

**Daytona Beach, FL** - Grand Chaplain Brother Christopher T. Curry hosted the Annual Grand Chaplain's Conference May 15-18, 2013. The conference focused on a series of lectures and workshops from famous Omega clergy across the country. The speakers list included: Dr. H.B. Hicks (Washington DC); Dr. Grainger Browning, Jr. (Baltimore, MD); Dr. Robert Scott (Kansas City, MO); Bishop Rudolph McKissick, Jr. (Orlando, FL); and Dr. and Mrs. Andrew Ray, 39th Grand Basileus.

District and local chaplains joined Grand Chaplain Brother Curry as they gathered to discuss, revive, and revamp the spiritual focus of Omega. There were planning sessions to present position papers on hot topics such as: "Will Omega's Christian Principals be Compromised by Embracing the Homosexual Lifestyle?", "What's Omega Next Step in the Brotherhood Relationship Building?", "What did Jonathan and David's Relationship Represent?", and many other thought-provoking topics. The discussions were covered by some of the most respected minds in the religious community.





## "Friendship is Essential to the Soul"

## Theta Tau Brothers Help Those in Need

Anniston, AL- The brothers of Theta Tau Chapter volunteered their time by working at the Anniston Soup Bowl Kitchen . The Soup Bowl Kitchen provides meals for people in need on a daily basis. The brothers served food, cleaned tables, and provided encouragement for the various individuals stopping by.

The Anniston Soup Bowl served 30,677 meals to residents in need last year and it served them all in a deteriorating 116-year old house retrofitted for the purpose. The living room of the old Victorian home now serves as a dining area, seating up to 29. The dining area is where the food is served buffet-style to clients. The kitchen, which would have been adequate in a single-family dwelling, is now crammed full with commercial-sized appliances while a freezer occupies a majority of the hallway. Much of the food has to be stored upstairs in the former bedroom.

The brothers were humbled and grateful to serve the meals and help others in their time of need.



**Beta Upsilon Presents its 35th Annual Beautillion** 

**Omaha, NE** – The Beta Upsilon Chapter presented its 35th Annual Beautillion. The theme of the event was "Our Destiny is Not Defined For Us...But By Us!" The event took place at the Mid-America Center Grand Ballroom. Fourteen young men dressed in black tuxedo tails took center stage with their lovely mothers (or other influential female figure in their life). Dressed in an array of black and silver rhinestones, the mothers and sons danced to an appreciative crowd of 400 family, friends, teachers, and school administrators.

Serese Cole, the WOWT Channel 6 Daybreak Anchor, served as the Mistress of Ceremonies. The audience was delighted with two choreographed performances by the Junior Beaus & Belles (8 – 14 years old). Other performances included an interpretive dance by the 2011 Beautillion Mr. Personality - Shaquire Jones, who is currently a freshman at Lincoln University in Jefferson City, MO. Next up were the Mother & Son presentation & dance, followed by the Beau & Belle routines. The beau grand finale step routine was choreographed by Brothers Tyrone Brice and Miguel Mason.

This year's Passionetta Prince Scholarship was presented to Miss Brianna Nielsen a senior at Omaha North High Magnet. The Tamara Stovall-Smith Scholarship winner was presented to Miss De'Ja Combs, a senior at Omaha North High Magnet.

The evening culminated with the crowning of Mr. Beautillion (\$1,000 scholarship) Brandon McGary II – North High Magnet, son of LaChandra Kellogg and Brandon McGary I; first runner up (\$750 scholarship) Kameron Bradford – Omaha North high Magnet, son of Kimberly Bradford and Kevin Gamble; 2nd runnerup (\$500 scholarship) Calvin Lyncook II – Omaha Burke H.S., son of ShoShann LynCook and Calvin T. LynCook I; Mr. Academia (\$1,000) Ki-Jana Moore – Omaha North High Magnet, son of Angela Moore and Calvin Lee Davis. The Mr. Personality Award was presented to Alden Blake, son of Matkesha Blake and Thomas Wilson and a senior at Omaha Creighton Prep.

## Brother Chris Rodgers Elected National Association of Counties President



Omaha, NE The membership of the Association of National Counties (NACo) recently elected Douglas County Commissioner Chris Rodgers as NACo president during the association's 77th Annual Conference and Exposition in Allegheny County, Pittsburgh.

First elected as Douglas County Commissioner in 2004 and reelected in 2008, Brother Rodgers has been active in NACo since 2005. He was first elected as a NACo officer in July 2010 and has served in various leadership positions since, including chair of NACo's Finance Committee and vice chair of the Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee.

Brother Rodgers has served as NACo's executive committee liaison to the Information Technology

Committee and Rural Action Caucus Steering Committee, and as a member of NACo's Financial Services Center Advisory Committee, the Large Urban County Caucus, and the Next Generation NACo. He is also a member of the new Cyber Security Task Force.

After being installed as president on Tuesday, July 17, Brother Rodgers told NACo membership assembled during the Annual Conference that the initiatives he has chosen were inspired by his experience in NACo. The initiatives are: Smart Justice, Cyber Security and Next Generation NACo. More information on these initiatives will be released in the days and weeks ahead.

"I am deeply honored to lead this great organization," Rodgers said. "Counties across the country are still facing many difficult challenges to maintain the levels of services citizens expect and depend on. It is through strong national organizations such as NACo that we can ensure that the voice of America's counties is heard loud and clear in Washington, D.C."

## Xi Pi Chapter Welcomes Home Brother Anthony Lewis from Afghanistan

**Colorado Springs, CO** - Xi Pi Chapter welcomes home Brother Anthony Lewis. Private First Class (PFC) Lewis assigned to the 759th Military Police Battalion stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado deployed to Afghanistan in March, operating in several areas throughout the country. PFC Lewis just returned from deployment where their primary mission was to train Afghan forces. PFC Lewis was involved in the training of close to 1500 Afghan troops and helped transition two districts and one outpost to Afghan control during his deployment.

The transition from battlefield to home can be a difficult one. As Brother PFC Lewis stated, "Deployment is tough and was a great experience." Additionally, "I would like to thank the members of Xi Pi Chapter for the care packages and the brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. for their fellowship while I was deployed," said Brother Lewis at a recent Xi Pi Chapter meeting. We salute Brother Lewis and all the members of the armed forces for their protection, dedication and devotion to providing this "blanket of freedom" that our country is able to enjoy.



## Beta Upsilon Chapter Project Manhood Discuss Behavior Expectations

**Omaha, NE** - On Thursday, October 18, 2012, members of the Beta Upsilon Chapter held a Project Manhood monthly meeting at Central Park Elementary. The meeting was held from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The topic was "Behavior Expectations of Participants in an Informal Versus Formal Setting".

Brothers Trevis Sallis, Skyler Johnson, and Fred Whitted discussed day to day ethics and how students should conduct themselves in various situations. Brother Sallis stressed that students should never address adults in an informal manner. This would include friends of their parents. He stated, "students should make an effort to always use a title when communicating with an adult, an example, Mr., Mrs., Miss. or even Coach". He also stated, "even in cases when you address an adult by their first name, you still want to use a title".

Respect for parents was addressed as a high expectation, but the respect for motherhood was specifically addressed with the students, as Omega Psi Phi Fraternity stated, it was one of their key principles as an organization. Respect of parents is displayed through positive communication and regular interaction. It was re-emphasized that throughout their adolescence lives to adulthood, there will be several times that they will rely on their parents for assistance and support when facing life's barriers. Students were challenged to start regularly communicating with their parents about issues that may be going on in their lives, good or bad.

The Fraternity stated that respect for parents is the foundation. Once this foundation is established, then students should use basic traits in all aspects of their lives. Members stated that respect goes outside of the household and into the classroom, and into the community in general.

## Gamma Upsilon Chapter Hosts Senior Citizen Appreciation Dinner

Wichita, KS - Gamma Upsilon Chapter held its annual salute to the senior citizens in the community with an appreciation banquet. The event took place at the Madison Avenue Apartment Club House, with Brother Larry Burks serving as master of ceremony.

One hundred fifty seniors were in attendance as we served a holiday meal catered by Josee Bradley. The men of the chapter served plated meals to each attendee; young men in our mentoring group, GOLD (Gentlemen of Leadership and Distinction) also assisted with seating and followup dining needs. Chapter Basileus, Dana McElrath welcomed our guest, thanking them for laying the foundation that this generation continues to build upon.

Brothers Wendell Smith, George Shaver, and William Hunter were members of that distinguished group that were honored. There was a special African styled verbal story telling by Ms Jean Pouncil-Burton, founder of Wichita's Grio Group. She recanted the story of Mary Bethune and the founding of Bethune-Cookman College. Gifts were presented to each of the guests. After closing comments, several seniors expressed how they sincerely appreciated the event sponsored by the chapter.



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## Brother David B. Lewis, Jr. Receives University of Oklahoma Award

**Norman, OK** - Brother David Blaine Lewis, Jr. was honored at the Fraternity and Sorority Student Life Awards Ceremony as one of the 2012 Top 10 Greeks on the campus of the University of Oklahoma. This award honors students that have demonstrated leadership and service in the Greek community at the University.



In addition to being selected as one of the Top 10 Greek award recipients, Brother Lewis was awarded the 2012 Anona Adair Award. This award is presented to the top Greek student on campus that has embodied the values of their organization while providing service to their community. Brother Lewis's service to the campus and Norman community include being a Step-In Speak-Out peer educator on campus for the Women's Outreach Center, an Emerging Leader mentor for newly initiated Greeks in the OU community, as well as a mentor for the Price College of Business's High School Camp.

Brother Lewis was initiated into Pi Delta Chapter in the Spring of 2010 and has served as the Basileus of the Pi Delta since his initiation. On the district level, Brother Lewis served as the Oklahoma Undergraduate State Representative for two years. David is a graduating senior at OU majoring in Management Information Systems and upon his graduation, Brother Lewis will be going to work for ConocoPhillips.

Pi Delta Chapter, as well as the Eta Iota Graduate Chapter, are very proud of David's accomplishments and know that he will represent Omega in a positive light in all that he chooses to do.

## Brother Arthur L. Bryan-Changing Lives Through the Sound of Music

**Killeen, TX** – Brother Arthur L. Bryan became a member of Delta Xi Chapter Spring 1978. He has been a faithful and very active member of the Omicron Pi Chapter since 1982. Through the years he has held the position of Basileus three times and has served as KRS ten times.

Brother Bryan is a military retiree after serving 25 years in the United States Army. He transitioned from the Army to become the first African-American band director in the Killeen Independent School District. He is currently the band director at Charles E. Patterson Middle School where he is in charge of the school's musical programs. His classroom techniques enable his students to excel in their craft and prepare them for the University Interscholastic League (UIL) competitions. His teaching style instills the needed virtue of discipline in his students.

His band or elements of his band have garnered several awards in their competitions and much recognition through their performances. Many of his students have been recognized as members of the All-Region Band.



## Brother Dr. Paul Adams Tackles Cancer with Biochemistry

rother Dr. Paul Adams, associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville is a researcher tracking down mechanisms involving proteins involved in the onset of diseases such as cancer. His work recently earned him the cover of the summer 2012 issue of African American Perspectives-Northeast Arkansas.

*Biochemistry.*" African American Perspectives is a premier publication targeted for African-Americans in Arkansas and beyond. The magazine is dedicated to the highest ideals of service to all communities in Northeast Arkansas.

The article featuring Brother Adams's work was entitled

"Arkansas Scientist Trying to Tackle Cancer with

# American Cance Awareness and Prevention

## Inside:

- Arkansas Scientist Trying to Tackle Cancer with Biochemistry
- You've Got Breast Cancer
- Prostate Cancer: To Screen or Not to Screen

Brother Adams's research focuses on Ras proteins, which have been identified in nearly one-third of cancer cell types. He believes that these proteins have unique structural aspects, which, in part, may play a role in causing cells to continue growing, a behavior that is a hallmark of cancer cells. Brother Adams joined the faculty at the University of Arkansas in 2007, and since that time, his research has garnered more than \$1,450,000 in funding from the National Science Foundation. National Institutes of Health and the Arkansas Biosciences Institute.

Brother Adams was initiated into the Fraternity in the Spring of 1989 at the Theta Kappa Chapter at Louisiana State University. He is currently active with the Upsilon Chi Graduate Chapter of Northwest Arkansas, where he serves as Advisor to the Gamma Eta Chapter at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. He also serves Omega as the 1st Vice President of the "Natural State Ques," the 9th District Advisor Overseer for the State of Arkansas, and is the 9th District Appointee to the International Undergraduate Chapter Advisors Committee for the Fraternity.

## Epsilon Iota Chapter Awards its Annual John O. Bell Scholarships to Five Local Students

**Austin, TX** - The Epsilon Iota Chapter awarded its annual John O. Bell Memorial Scholarships for 2012 to five outstanding students. The awards ceremony was held at the Ebenezer Baptist Church. Scholarship, as one of our cardinal principles, is emphasized with these awards.

Brother John O. Bell was always committed to and had a passion for education. He exemplified scholarship and had a very distinguished and rewarding career as an educator. He served as principal at Sims Elementary School, Area I director of Elementary Schools and Director of Student Teacher Placements. After working 34 years he retired from the Austin Independent School District in 1983.

Brother Bell received the "Citizen of the Year" award from the Epsilon Iota Chapter and from the district as well. He was married to his high school sweetheart, Joe Helen Hall in 1943. Mrs. Bell is shown in the picture below with the students. The Epsilon Iota Chapter John O. Bell Memorial Scholarship awardees for 2012 are as follows:

Forrest K. Roberts- will graduate from Westlake High School in Austin, Texas and plans to study sports medicine at Huston-Tillotson University

Camryn Burkins- graduated from Carnegie Vanguard High School in Houston, Texas and is studying environmental engineering at The University of Texas at Austin

Tony C. Sampson- graduated from Crockett High School in Austin, Texas and attending The University of Texas with plans to get a Ph.D. in computer science

Kerrick S. Rhone- graduated from Hendrickson High School in Pflugerville, Texas and studying biology with an emphasis on forensics at Kent State University

Niyel T. Campbell- graduated from Akins High School in Austin, Texas and studying music education at Mary Hardin-Baylor University.



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## Brother Jerry Rutherford Receives Doctor of Philosophy Degree



Saturday, On December 8. 2012. Brother Jerry Rutherford received a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Public Affairs and Economics from the University of Texas at Dallas Richardson. in TX. Brother

Rutherford defended his dissertation on November 1, 2012 on the topic of "What are the Effects of Tax Abatements and Government Incentives on Economic Development? A Study of Select Texas Cities."

Earlier in 2012, Brother Rutherford was inducted into the Delta Epsilon Iota Honor Society.

Brother Rutherford also holds two masters degrees: Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Finance and Masters of Arts in Organizational Management (MAOM), both from Dallas Baptist University in Dallas, TX. His undergraduate degree was a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) in Accounting from Tennessee State University in Nashville, TN.

Brother Jerry Rutherford served Omega Psi Phi Fraternity as its 18th Ninth District Representative from 2000 - 2002.

## Brother Timothy U. Phillips Promoted to Colonel



Fort Polk, LA- On February 1, 2013 the brothers of Iota Gamma Gamma along with soldiers, family members, friends, and well-wishers gathered to witness the promotion of Brother, LTC (P) Timothy U. Phillips to the rank of Colonel. Brother Phillips hails from Lawrenceville, VA. He received his B.S. degree from Virginia State University and was commissioned in May 1989. He subsequently earned a master's degree from Central Michigan University. He has held numerous positions of progressive responsibility, to include Battalion command. Pictured left to right are, daughter Shelby, mother, Rene Phillips, Brother Phillips and father-in-law Ronald Adams.

## Brother Wilton Munnings leads Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce



**Dallas, TX** - The oldest and largest Black chamber of commerce in the nation, the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, has selected Brother Wilton Munnings, Theta Alpha Chapter as its new President and Chief Operating Officer, effective December 1, 2012.

Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce Board Chair, Sonya Hoskins states, "Mr. Munnings will bring a wealth of business, marketing and financial skills and experience to the leadership of the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, which will provide a valuable asset to guide the Dallas Black Chamber to a higher level in the 21st Century. Mr. Munnings' leadership and business acumen will provide the Dallas Black Chamber with a greater capability to facilitate creation, growth and development of African-American owned and operated businesses in the greater Dallas area."

Brother Munnings received a bachelor of arts in Accounting from Clark University in Atlanta, GA and Masters in Business Administration from Cox School of Business, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX.

## Rho Gamma Gamma Chapter Goes Purple, Gold, and "Green"

On Saturday, April 13, 2013, Rho Gamma Gamma Chapter held its first ever, environmental appreciation day – Purple, Gold & "Green."

The chapter assembled an impressive team to help communicate the message of sustainability to residents of the far south side of Chicago. Representatives from Argonne National Laboratory, which recently hosted President Barack Obama, The Union of Concerned Scientists, Commonwealth Edison, Peoples Gas, and MeterSave all provided information on how we can become better stewards of the earth.

Jim Colon, VP, Toyota, came all the way from California to be a part of the event. Colon discussed the Toyota Green Initiative – a program that travels to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to promote the benefits of sustainability. The company also showcased the popular Prius and the Avalon vehicles outside the facility. Other presentations included worm composting, organic men's skin care products, and energy auditing and consulting. Perhaps the real highlight of the event was the focus on the youth. The crowd was entertained by the West Side Afri-Caribbean dance group made up of Chicago Public School students and the program ended with a children's Eco fashion show.

How serious are the brothers about going green? Brother Jamal Ali is author of the book, *Black and Green: Black Insights for the Green Movement*. The chapter no longer distributes paper reports in its meetings. The meeting facility has increased its renewable energy supply and so have several of the brothers.



## Brother Dr. Gene R. Carter Receives Service Award from Iota Chapter

ota Chapter recently recognized Brother Gene R. Carter, Ed.D., Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer for the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development with a resolution for his dedication to serving the community. The Tenth District's Immediate Past District Representative Brother Arnold Simmons was on hand to make the presentation.

Brother Carter is a veteran educator with experience as a private and public school teacher, public school administrator, superintendent of schools, and university professor. He is active in community, business, and civic organizations. He assumed his position of Executive Director and CEO of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) in 1992. ASCD is the global leader in developing and delivering innovative programs, products, and



services that empower educators to support the success of each learner. Comprising 140,000 members superintendents, principals, teachers, professors, and advocates from more than 143 countries—the ASCD community also includes 55 affiliate organizations.

## Brother Edmund P. Lewis, Jr.- Making a Difference in Detroit



**Southfield, MI** - Tau Kappa Kappa. Brother Edmund P. Lewis is a Tenth District transplant from the Sixth District of our beloved Fraternity. Brother Lewis joined Tau Kappa Kappa and began to work as soon as arrived here. He is very active with the chapter and has been a great asset to City of Detroit with his work with troubled youth.

As a first generation college graduate, Edmund earned his undergraduate degree in social work from North Carolina Central University in 2008. During his undergraduate years, Edmund worked with high school males in Durham with college access. Edmund had decided that in order for him to have a real impact, he needed to pursue a graduate degree. He was courted by universities throughout the country and he was flattered by the interest of several Ivy League schools.

Within one year, Edmund graduated with master's degree from the University Of Michigan School of Social Work with a practice method concentration in Social Policy and Evaluation. Not only did he embrace his studies, but he also was the president of the Association of Black Students in Social Work.

During his MSW, Edmund's field placement was with the Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation, which is dedicated to providing service to others and creating CRAIN'S DETROIT BUSINESS opportunities for those who lack them.

The field placement cultivated Edmund's experience in philanthropy and from there, he made a transition into the non-profit sector as a Community Support Specialist with the Brightmoor Alliance in northwest Detroit. In 2011, Edmund decided to focus on his passion and began his own non-profit, Minority Males for Higher Education that focuses on college and career aspirations of African-American males, in Detroit.

Edmund gives the males college and career exposure and motivation by helping them realize that college is obtainable. He even provides free haircuts and established a college closet, which supplies the young men with professional attire and tailored suits.

Edmund's list of accomplishments and achievements are not the only thing that keeps him occupied. He is the CEO/Creative Director of The Style Guy'D, a fashion consulting firm he started in 2009 after recognizing the importance of "the well dressed male" and the opportunities that were available when you make a great first impression. Edmund was recently awarded *Crain's Detroit Business 20 in their 20s* for his work with both, The Style Guy'D and Minority Males for Higher Education.

## Team-Building Activities Help Youth Succeed in Life

**Matteson, IL** - On February 21, 2013 the brothers of Chi Lambda Lambda Chapter, Matteson, Illinois worked with students from Whittier School to participate in team building exercises at "Climb On" located in Homewood, Illinois. Climb On is an indoor rock climbing and training facility.

Each mentee was instructed on the usage of safety harnesses as well as strategies of rock climbing. This was the first time many of the young men and women had ever participated in rock climbing activity. Quickly, each mentee found out that it takes agility, strength and endurance to scale the wall.

The objective of the outing was to demonstrate that goals can be set and achieved through planning, developing a work ethic and believing in one's own ability. Approximately 28 young men and young ladies participated in the event.



## **Omicron Mu Mu Chapter Holds "Bridge Builder" Mentoring Program**

**Park Forest, IL** – April 13, 2013, Omicron Mu Mu Chapter held its monthly "Bridge Builder" Uplift Male Mentoring Program at O.W. Huth Middle School in Matteson, IL.

The "Bridge Builder Uplift Male Mentor Program," is a non-profit program operated by and funded by members of the chapter. The program is designed for high performing, under-represented and/or disadvantaged young men in grades 6th - 12th.

The objective is to provide a sustained and preventive program that will enrich the lives of young males and empower them to develop their true life-given potential. The purpose of the "Bridge Builder Uplift Male Mentor Program" is to inform the Young Male Protégé of the importance of: putting righteousness first in everything; being an upright man; being a good father and family man; respecting others; and maintaining the right attitude in all situations. These young men will achieve worthy goals and become constructive contributors to their communities by developing their leadership skills while monitoring, encouraging, enhancing, and rewarding their outstanding academic performance.

The brothers of Omicron Mu Mu provide activities that increase knowledge, skills, and abilities for the successful transition from adolescence to adulthood. We teach righteous values in the area of teamwork, leadership, responsibility, and practical life.

Through leadership oriented activities, the student officers and students of the "Bridge Builder Uplift Male Mentor Program are afforded tremendous opportunities to access quality educational institutions and are exposed to a diverse group of business professionals.

Students of the program perform projects that expose them to planning, execution and reporting of ideas that simulate good leadership characteristics designed to raise their aspiration levels.

## Nu Chi Chapter Spends the Day at Confluence Preparatory Academy

**East St. Louis, II.** - On April 16, 2013 Nu Chi Chapter attended the Men's Day at the Confluence Preparatory. Confluence Preparatory Academy is one of two high schools in Confluence Charter Schools in St Louis, MO. Brother Jason Ford, Basileus of Nu Chi Chapter and Brother De Juan Lockhart Immediate Past Basileus spoke with 9th and 10th grade males on the following: The importance of education, giving back to the community, being respectful, and wise decision-making skills.

The importance of education was broken down to two reasons. The first is that the training of a human mind is not complete without education. Education makes man a right thinker. It tells a man how to think and how to make decision. The second reason for the importance of education is that only through the attainment of education, man is enabled to receive information from the external world; to acquaint himself with past history and receive all necessary information regarding the present. Without education, man is as though in a closed room and with education he finds himself in a room with all its windows open towards outside world. Brothers gave the following reasons why it is important to give back to their community.

1. Develop new skills. Gaining skills, knowledge and expertise are common side effects of volunteering. Giving others your time brings you interesting and challenging opportunities that might not come along otherwise. This experience can be added to your resume and could result in a better paying job in the future.

2. Make social connections. Loneliness and boredom are common among retirees, students, and transplants to a new city. Volunteering can relieve this sense of social isolation and help you fill empty hours in the day.

3. Give back to your community. Doing something for the community you live in and returning the favor to those who have helped you are strong motivators. Everyone, rich or poor, takes from society, and volunteering is one way.



## 12 TH district

## Psi Xi Chapter Rites of Passage Program- "Don't Call Me Boy"



Oxnard, CA - April 2013. The "Rites of Passage – Don't Call Me Boy" Program was established in 2008, by the Psi Xi Chapter of Oxnard, CA. This year's program coincides with the 12th District's "Fatherhood Initiative." Psi Xi Chapter's mentoring program incorporates presentations by Brothers that are professionals in the fields of business, finance, education, health and nutrition, community involvement and other disciplines, with active participation of other program participants. Presentations were made to young black males within the local community, ranging in age from 10 to 17. Each weekly seminar was centered on subjects that are essential to a young man's personal and professional growth. Brothers Fundi Legohn and Marvin McKenzie are the Co-Chairmen of Psi Xi's Mentoring Program for 2013.

## This year's program began on March 2, 2013 Other workshops and group outings have been:

- African and African-American History
- Finance
- Group outing: Bowling
- Relationships
- Dangers of Drugs and Alcohol
- Job Interviewing Techniques and Professionalism
- Closing Weekend: Group outing camping trip at Lake Casitas in Ventura County –

Since the program's inception, there has been no cost to participate. Meals were provided at each session, with all course materials provided by Psi Xi Chapter. Field trips were also provided at no cost to the participants. All funding for the mentoring program was provided by Gold Coast Charities, Inc. of Oxnard, CA; Psi Xi Chapter's 501(c)(3) tax exempt arm. Almost 100 young men have participated in the program since its inception and the feedback from the participants and their parents has been overwhelmingly positive.



## Annual Northern California Camping Trip Highlights Critical Life Lessons

**Oakland, CA** – From August 10 to August 12, six Northern California area chapters took 33 young men on their 4th Annual Northern California area-wide camping trip. Twenty (20) brothers from Alpha Rho (Berkeley, CA), Delta Iota Iota (Stockton, CA), Epsilon Xi (Sacramento, CA), Pi Chi (San Francisco, CA), Sigma Iota (Oakland, CA), and Theta Pi (Vallejo, CA) were in attendance to support this key areawide youth mentoring initiative.

The purpose of the camping trip was three-fold. First, to set a foundation for cross-chapter and ongoing Northern California area wide mentoring activities. Second, bring the areas' youth together and afford them the opportunity to connect across chapters to build a strong, positive and likeminded community/network of friends. Third, to provide the young men with a series of tools centered around two key components; Brotherhood training (team building) and Manhood training. These components focused on ideas such as friendship, group cooperation, self-identity, and relationships [family, friends, and community] that benefit them presently and in the future.

The young men in attendance ranged from ages 10 - 18. These young men participated in team building activities to establish relationships; workshops and planning sessions to address pertinent issues and concerns within their various communities. Having come from the Modesto / Stockton / Oakland / Berkeley / Richmond / El Cerrito / San Francisco areas, these young men have experienced similar challenges within their communities.

By connecting our community of youth mentees the camping trip created a sense of belonging and teaming across and among mentees and mentors, as well as accelerated relationship building across chapters in an extended and secluded setting.



## Brother Alvin Holsey, US Navy, Takes Command of USS Makin Island



On Friday, June 14, 2013, Brother, Captain Alvin Holsey took command of the USS Makin Island, the Navy's newest Amphibious Assault Ship. Brother Holsey commands a crew 1.100 of over Sailors. Brother Holsey is a native

of Fort Valley, Georgia. He graduated from Morehouse College in 1988 with a degree in Computer Science and received his commission through the Naval ROTC program. He earned a Master of Science degree in Management from Troy State University in 1995 and attended the Joint Forces Staff College in 2010. While at Morehouse, Brother Holsey became a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. at Psi Chapter, in the Spring of 1985. He is Life Member #6081 and is currently in the International Chapter.

Brother Holsey has served in a variety of training and operational squadrons during his career. Brother Holsey became Executive Officer of *USS Makin Island* on February 29, 2012 during the ship's maiden deployment.



## Kappa Xi Chapter Awards \$15,000 to College Bound Students

Las Vegas, NV – May 12, 2013 The Kappa Xi Chapter has awarded scholarships to five high school graduates for 2013. The young men were selected based academic performance, SAT/ACT test scores, community service and an essay written on the history of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. According the Scholarship Committee Chair Edsel Bester, "these are five impressive winners with GPAs ranging from 3.4 to 4.2, strong test scores and a commitment to community service."

The winners were recognized at Kappa Xi's Scholarship Luncheon held Saturday, May 11, 2013 at the Texas Station Hotel Las Vegas, NV. The luncheon had almost 100 attendees and was held jointly with the ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, who also honored their scholarship winners. The recipients (and their colleges) are Christopher Berry (Howard University), Nathan Keith (Howard University), Jovon Kirkley (University of Nevada –Reno), Keean Patton (Arizona State University) and Rashad Patton (University of California – Long Beach). Each winner received a \$3,000.00 scholarship.

The chapter scholarship goals are: 1) Increase the college attendance and graduation rate among minorities and the underprivileged, and 2) reach the point where we're able to fund the bulk of our recipients' costs for earning a bachelor's degree. Funds for the chapter scholarships are raised by the Chapter's 501c3, the Uplift Foundation of Nevada. Through the chapters matching funds partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Las Vegas, the chapter has awarded \$75,500.00 in scholarships to 46 recipients since 2004. The list of schools our recipients have either attended and/or graduated from includes Duke, Stanford, University of Pennsylvania, Hampton University, Morehouse College, Arizona State University, the University of Nevada at Reno and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, among many others.

Brothers working on the Scholarship Committee and program included Dr. Leary Adams, Jerry Holliday, Damon Hodge, Will Scott, Ken Evans, Travis Kennon, Khary Black, Russell Pratt and Dr. Zachary Robbins.

## First Grand Officer from the 12th District Enters Omega Chapter



ell done, thou good and faithful servant." This scripture describes the life and works of Brother Carl Alexander Earles. He attended and graduated from Central High School in 1939. He attended Wiley College, where he was a strong student, graduating with a bachelor of science degree in 1943. It was at Wiley College where he was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. by way of Theta Chapter.

Upon graduation, Brother Earles immediately enlisted in the U.S. Army. He would serve his country with distinction and nobly with the 777th Field Artillery Battalion, where Brother Earles honed his understanding of chemical warfare.

After being discharged from the U.S. Army at the close of World War II, Brother Earles relocated to Los Angeles, where he attended law school at the University of Southern California. He graduated in 1951 from Southwestern School of Law.

He would go on to establish a private practice in South Central Los Angeles and focus on civil litigation. The scarcity of Black lawyers at that time, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) called upon his services often to represent clients in discrimination and civil rights matters, many times litigating these types of cases pro bono. Brother Earles was a long-standing bar member of the National Bar Association, American Bar Association, Supreme Court of the United States of America, Supreme Court of California, among a host of others.

A 71-year stalwart Omega man, Brother Earles' service to and love for Omega was exemplary. A staple at Grand Conclaves since 1949 and a host of 12th District Meetings, he became the first Grand Officer elected from the 12th District. He served as Grand Counselor from 1955-1961, elected at the 41st Grand Conclave.

Brother Earles received his 60-year Fraternity pin in 2002 at the Charlotte, NC conclave. A recipient of numerous Fraternity accolades, he has been named Citizen of the Year and has received the Meritorious Service Award, both from Lambda Omicron Chapter.

Brother Earles was married to Norma M. Earles for 28 years before she preceded him in death in 1975. He will be missed by a legion of loved ones and Omega men alike.

## Lambda Xi Awards \$12,000 to High School Students in South Korea

**Seoul, Republic of Korea** – On Saturday, November 17, 2012 the Lambda Xi Chapter, Seoul, South Korea announced its three High School Essay Contest winners selected from the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools from across the Korean peninsula. The contest was open to all college-bound, high school seniors who attend a DoDEA high school in Korea. Each year college-bound high school seniors have the opportunity to win one of three local scholarship

awards. Essay winners are recognized for their accomplishments to include academics and community service at the annual Achievement Week Banquet.

Three winners were selected for the 2012-2013 Lambda Xi Chapter High School Annual Essay Contest entitled "*With the Rising Cost for a College Education What Value Do You Place on Earning a College Degree?*" The scholarships ranged from first place \$5,000, second place \$4,000 and third place \$3,000. The winners were third place Ms. Kimberly Tadlock of Osan American High School;

second place Ms. Michelle Quizon of Daegu American High School; and first place Ms. Sarah Kim of Seoul American High School.

The members of Lambda Xi Chapter want to take this opportunity to congratulate the winners of the essay contest as well as to acknowledge and thank those students that worked hard and submitted an essay for consideration.



## Lambda Xi Chapter's "Be Seen in 2013" Campaign

**Uijeongbu, South Korea** – "*Be Seen in 2013*" is Lambda Xi Chapter's theme for the year. The Social Action Programs and community involvement this year have garnered an extremely positive reputation for Omega throughout US Forces Korea and in Korean communities. Under the leadership of Brother Alex Sanders, the chapter capitalized on an opportunity to assist the Evergreen Women's Shelter.

Korean society shuns unwed mothers and many of them look to shelters for support. The Evergreen Women Shelter provides care for young pregnant Korean women from ages 16-23 years old who can live at the shelter during their pregnancy and up to a year after their baby's birth. The shelter currently has six young women who received help from the Chapter. The recipients' gratitude was overwhelming. Speaking on behalf of the women, the Area I Chaplain Benjamin Ahn, in a heartfelt and moving letter wrote, "Not only were they overjoyed to receive your contribution, but the Evergreen House mothers and mothers-to-be were smiling from ear to ear because they were not expecting it." The chapter looks forward to supporting this effort and find more ways to help the shelter assist these young women.



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## **Omega Charters First Chapter in the United Kingdom**

**Birmingham, England** – With the global reach of the Fraternity and the increased presence of its members worldwide, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. is garnering greater relevance internationally.

It became apparent that if real efforts were to be made to ensure the continuous engagement of Omega men living abroad, considerations to explore the chartering of a chapter in the United Kingdom (UK) would soon become necessary.

Recognizing that the UK expansion relied on membership and cognizant of the success of a Fall 2010 and Spring 2011 MSP pilot in the United Kingdom, approval was sought to proceed with a Membership Selection Process to be conducted in the United Kingdom in the Spring of 2012. It became obvious that in order to sustain the work of Omega, a strategic plan had to be put in place in order to build capacity. This yielded seven initiates.

The Fraternity had witnessed the metamorphosis of an idea - to a strategic plan - to a reality. The focus quickly had moved from the expansion of the Fraternity to its formal and permanent establishment. As a result, 13th District Representative Matthew Coleman charged Brother Trevor Hodge to investigate the possibility of chartering the first ever Omega Chapter in the United Kingdom. Working closely, these two ambassadors of Omega meticulously strategized to achieve this charter. Without intent, the Supreme Council got word of this noble aspiration and Brother Dr. Andrew Ray, 39th Grand Basileus, took a keen interest in this initiative.

The charter weekend attracted attendance from International Headquarters staff as well as brothers from Germany, Canada, Washington, DC, Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, New York, Ohio, Atlanta, Italy and host country, England.

The culmination of this historic weekend witnessed the Grand Basileus presiding over the chartering of the Chi Mu Mu Graduate Chapter # 949, Birmingham, England on June 23rd, 2012. The Chi Mu Mu Chapter, the first British Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., enjoys a unique place in the Fraternity's history. It sits at the cusp of our fraternal existence as it is the first chapter to be chartered at the sunrise of the second centennial of its existence.

With the vision of the Fraternity clear and its legacy secure, the UK expansion has become pivotal in advancing the ideals of our Founders. It has set the stage for the establishment and shaping of an undergraduate chapter at Birmingham City University and beyond.



"Friendship is Essential to the Soul"

## Brother Dr. Bryan Cox Named a Distinguished Fellow for Chiropractic Work in West Africa



Accra, Ghana – At the core of every Omega man is the desire to be of service to his community. This ideal resonates across the Atlantic in the city of Accra, Ghana, where Brother Dr. Bryan Cox, a practicing chiropractor resides. Brother Cox, a Doctor of Chiropractic and the C.E.O of the Spinal Clinic Limited, is an honored Distinguished Fellow and Assembly Representative of the International Chiropractors Association (I.C.A.). He is also the founder of Chiropractic Around the World, a non-governmental organization (NGO) whose main objective is to educate people about the proper care of the spine.

Brother Dr. Cox is the first and only chiropractor of African descent to be a Distinguished Fellow of the International Chiropractors Association. The organization has been in existence since 1926 and is the oldest chiropractic association in the world. He has been a Doctor of Chiropractic since 2002 and decided to come to Africa to help educate the people of Ghana about Chiropractic and provide spinal health care. Since 2003 Dr. Cox has helped grow chiropractic service in Ghana. During his time in Ghana, he has treated thousands of people from the Ghanaian community including government leaders and municipal chiefs. Dr. Cox has provided education and training on spinal health to the business sector, schools, churches, Government employees, S. O. S. Children's Village, Help Age Ghana and other NGOs. Currently, Dr. Cox appears on a number of national and international television and radio stations, where he gives spinal health advice to the public. Dr. Cox was also invited to Liberia to train and treat the personnel of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL).

Dr. Cox is the author of the book entitled "Love Your Spine" (approved by Ghana Education Service), that educates people about the importance of the spine and gives simple suggestions and/or recommendations that would help alleviate problems in the spine and prevent future

spinal conditions.

With the recognition of the importance of the chiropractic dimension of health care, Brother Dr. Cox is working toward the establishment of a third level institution in Ghana. Its aim is to offer prechiropractic courses, a baccalaureate in Science, and a Doctorate of Chiropractic program. The institution would lead in the health, education, advancement and development of Ghana and neighbouring countries.

The mission of the institution is to provide an ultimate educational and health awareness program that graduates quality and qualified chiropractors to be leaders committed to the highest standards in the philosophy, science, and art of chiropractic, while its vision is to be the ultimate pacesetter in chiropractic education in Africa and beyond.

## Upsilon Lambda Lambda Brothers Bring Joy to Orphans in Tokyo

**Tokyo, Japan** - Recognizing that service sits at the core of who we are as Omega men, brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda recently partnered with the NAVSUP FLC Yokosuka office on a service project. The men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., set out to spread some holiday cheer to the Japanese children of St. Josephs' Children Orphanage.

Established on August 13, 1946, St. Joseph's was a response to a dire reality. With the arrival of WWII, nuns were desperate to figure out a solution to the masses of orphans within the "war orphan station" as well as those homeless and without care left on the streets. A formal application was filed on behalf of a Catholic mission to open a "war orphan facility" in the Saitama Prefecture. These benevolent nuns began to collect what was needed to care for these children of all ages. Today, St. Joseph's houses 66 children and has taken in and nurtured more than 1,000 children since its inception.

Armed with enthusiasm, compassion and a commitment to impact the lives of these children, the brothers of Upsilon Lambda Lambda spent the day laughing, playing games, barbequing and singing Christmas carols. The highlight of the day was Santa's visit and the opening donated gifts. Basileus Rasaq Balogun was inspired by the day's activities and stated, "This is what serving Omega is all about. I am deeply moved and determined to participate in projects that have maximum impact in the community." Brother Edgard Oakley stated, "I have been deeply and profoundly enlightened by the impact our presence makes in a world where the need exists. Now more than ever, a need to serve is incumbent upon all Omega men."

The day ended with the children expressing their sincere gratitude by verbally speaking in English and singing Japanese Christmas songs. Brother Seth Wright, the youngest member present, was thrilled and enjoyed sharing his time with the children and noted, "the smiles on their faces makes this endeavor so worthwhile, I definitely plan to do more of this." Brother Balogun said, "we will definitely return here to build and forge an on-going friendship with the staff and children of St. Joseph's."



"Friendship is Essential to the Soul"

# OMEGA CHAPTER

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

JOHN 14:1-3


**Rickey L. Brown** (Bossier City, LA) entered Omega Chapter on January 8, 2013. Brown was born in Haynesville, Louisiana on March 6, 1977. From elementary school through high school, Brother Brown excelled academically and athletically. He was named student of the year at Haynesville Jr. High School and Haynesville High School. In 1993 and 1994, he played quarterback and led the Tornado to clinch two state championship titles. Brother Brown maintained a 4.0 grade point average throughout high school; he was

named valedictorian of the Haynesville High School class of 1995. After high school, Brother Brown attended the University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM). While attending ULM, he was initiated into Mu Lambda Chapter Fall 1998. In 2000, Ricky graduated from ULM with a degree in Biology. In 2009, he accepted a teaching and coaching position at Bossier High School. While at Bossier High School, Coach Brown worked as the offensive coordinator and helped to lead the Bearcats to back-to-back district championships in 2011 and 2012. He remained employed at Bossier High School until his untimely death.



**Dr. Thomas Lawrence Clarke** entered Omega Chapter June 20, 2012. He was a 1953 graduate of Hampton Institute where he was initiated into Gamma Epsilon Chapter in the spring of 1951. Clarke was honorably discharged in 1955 from the United States Army as a second lieutenant. Brother Clarke continued his education and earned his medical degree from Meharry Medical College in 1959. Dr. Clarke became the first African American board certified OB-GYN in Forsyth

County in 1967 after earning his certification as a member of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He went on to become the director of Obstetrics-Gynecology at Reynolds Memorial Hospital, Senior Attending OB-GYN at Forsyth Medical Center and director of the Forsyth Medical Center OB-GYN division from 1976-1978. He delivered more than 5,000 babies prior to retiring from 36 years of practice on September 30, 1999. Clarke was a long standing member of the First Baptist Church in Winston-Salem where he served on the Board of Trustees. Dr. Clarke was preceded in death by his loving wife Mattie. He leaves to cherish his memory daughters Benita and Beverly, son Thomas Jr., granddaughter Veronique, his siblings Alphonso Clarke and Virginia Shuford, and a host of relatives and friends.



**Reverend James Richard DeFoe** (Oxnard, CA) entered Omega Chapter on October 17, 2011. He enjoyed a 28-year successful career with General Motors. He held positions as District Manager, Training Manager, Market Area Manager, Zone Manager, Regional Marketing Manager; ending his career as the Regional Manager, Administration and Vehicles for General Motors Vehicle Sales, Service and Marketing Western Region. He was ordained an Itinerant Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. He served in two

charges, Wayman Chapel A.M.E. Church in Billings, Montana and Bethel A.M.E. Church in Monrovia, California. Through God's power, he led the Church from a troubled past to prominence in the Southern California Annual Conference of the A.M.E. Church. Brother DeFoe was married to Deborah Thompson in September 1987, whom he loved and cherished. Brother DeFoe was initiated into Omega Psi Phi through Iota Chapter in Chicago, IL. He was affiliated with both Psi Xi and Zeta Tau Chapters.

**Dr. Spencer C. Disher Jr.** entered Omega Chapter on January 4, 2013,



at the Regional Medical Center in Orangeburg, SC. Brother Disher was educated at Mayo High School in Darlington,

SC and was a graduate of South Carolina State University, receiving a B.S. in chemistry. He was initiated into the Xi Psi Chapter in 1953. Brother Disher graduated from Meharry Medical College in 1960. He was a physician in Orangeburg and served as director of student health and as college physician at Claflin University. Brother Disher received many awards such as, The United States Congressional Record by Congressman James E. Clyburn in November 2010, the highest honor given by a member of Congress to honor a constituent. Brother Disher belonged to a number of civic and professional organizations. He leaves to cherish his fond memories his wife, Mrs. Annette Disher, four daughters, four sons, a sister and seven grandchildren, along with a host of other relatives and friends.



Andrew Ducksworth entered the Omega Chapter on October 23, 2012.



He was initiated into Alpha Lambda Chapter of Southern University (New Orleans) on April 22, 1992. He was the Keeper of Records and Seal from 1992 -1993, became the initial webmaster for Beta Lambda Lambda Chapter in Georgia from 2001 - 2005, and was chosen as the Beta Lambda Lambda Chapter Omega Man of the Year in 2004 and 2006. Brother Ducksworth served the Fraternity as the

Seventh District MSP Committee Chair and the Seventh District Keeper of Records & Seal from 2008 until his death. He developed interactive training for the Seventh District by providing electronic versions of all forms related to MSP, and created a fillable version of form 9A adopted by IHQ. Brother Ducksworth was Vice Chair of the International Technology Committee, served on the International Web Development Team, and provided IT consultation to IHQ and the Supreme Council. Brother Ducksworth was a husband, father, educator, mentor, and visionary leader.

Dr. Eugene Aaron Eaves, Sr., 74, (Durham, NC) entered Omega Chapter



on Carolina and attended the public schools of Charlotte, graduating from West Charlotte High School. He received a B.A. degree from North Carolina College (now North Carolina Central University), M.A. degree from Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia and a Ph.D. from the

University of Connecticut. Following graduate school in Atlanta, he served in the U.S. Army for three years. Brother Eaves was employed by North Carolina Central University for 37 years, where he began his teaching career in 1964. He was a member of St. Joseph's A.M.E. Church, where he was a Steward-Emeritus. He held membership in the Beta Phi Chapter and the James E. Shepard Memorial Lodge. Brother Eaves is survived by his wife, Quincey N. Eaves; son, Eugene Eaves Jr. (Jennifer) of Durham; daughter, Christa E. Edwards (Robbins Sr.) and a host of other relatives and friends.

Dr. Henry D. Fortson, Jr., (Thomasville, GA) was born on September 11, 1947 and entered Omega Chapter on July 1, 2012. He was a member of Mu Beta Beta Chapter. He graduated from Daytona College with a B.S. degree in Biology. He also earned a chemistry degree from Knoxville College in Tennessee. While in Tennessee, he was initiated into the Beta Epsilon Chapter. He graduated from Meharry Medical College with a degree in Doctor of Dental Medicine degree. His occupations included working as a chemist and a dentist. He served the Fraternity for more than 45 years in various capacities, such as Keeper of Peace for Mu Beta Beta Chapter, Chairman of the Little Gents Program and more. He was a member of National Dental Association and the Georgia Dental Society. He was affiliated with St. Mark A.M.E. Church, Haines City, FL and New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, Pelham, GA. He leaves to cherish his memories his wife Debra Fortson, his (children) Henry D. Fortson III, Dennis Gregory Fortson, Tosha L. Jones, and William Christopher Fortson; (siblings) Edgar Fortson, Dr. James K. Fortson, and Loletha Fortson.

#### Conrade Gamble, II (Los



Angeles, CA), entered Omega Chapter on July 12, 2012 at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. He was born June

17, 1967 in Chicago, IL and grew up in Atlanta, GA, graduating from Benjamin E. Mays High School in 1985. Brother Gamble attended Howard University and later studied at the University of Phoenix. He spent six years in the United States Marine Corps, serving in the Gulf War, and was inducted into the National Society of Pershing Rifles. He later received an honorable discharge. After relocating to Los Angeles, Brother Gamble was an entrepreneur with a variety of businesses in the City of Inglewood from the 1990s through the early 2000s. In addition to being a successful and businessman, stuntman Brother Gamble came from a long line of educators. In this spirit, he founded Antecello Preparatory Academy in September 2010 to serve middle school students in the Los Angeles area. His goal was to bridge the educational gap between low-achieving schools and those of acclaimed excellence. On June 23, 2007, Brother Gamble was initiated into Tau Tau Chapter. He later chaired Tau Tau's Anniversary Committee and served as Assistant MSP Chairman. Brother Gamble leaves behind his parents, Charles and Marian; two daughters, Asia and Mya; and one sister, Charma Gamble-Davis.

### . Our Last Goodbye

#### Colonel James Gilchrist, Jr.



(Oxnard, CA) entered Omega Chapter on October 18, 2012. He graduated from

Tuskegee University with a bachelor's degree in Commercial Industries. Soon after graduation, Brother Gilchrist was commissioned into the United States Air Force. He served as a pilot in Japan and ended his career as the Missile Launch Director at Vandenberg Air Force Base. For 22 years, Brother Gilchrist served his country and retired in 1977. After his career in the Air Force, Brother Gilchrist was employed as a manufacturing engineer for 10 years at Lockheed Martin and five years at Northrop Grumman. Brother Gilchrist was recently widowed by the passing of the beloved wife, Beretta. Brother Gilchrist enjoyed fellowshipping with the members of Trinity Presbyterian Church in Camarillo, California. He loved playing golf and spending time with friends. He was initiated at Lambda Epsilon Iota Chapter November 16, 1953.





**William Caesar Greenwell** (Seaside, CA) was born in Fort Worth, Texas on April 8, 1928 and entered Omega Chapter on September 7, 2012. Brother Greenwell graduated from Prairie View A&M University in 1951. He was a commissioned Army Officer and served on active duty from 1951 - 1957. In 1957, he converted to an Army Reserve Officer where he served for a total of 35 years, attained the rank of LT Colonel, and retired in 1988. While serving in the Army Reserves, he began a long career working for the

Department of Defense (Personnel Department). He retired from the Department of Defense in 1993, prior to the closing of the base at Fort Ord, CA. Brother Greenwell was initiated on April 27, 1974 through the Omicron Nu Chapter in Seaside, CA. He held the positions of KRS and KF, and was selected once as Omega Man of the Year. He was the primary founder and inaugural president of the Salinas, CA Branch of the NAACP. Brother Greenwell was the first African-American hired as a police officer for the Monterey (CA) Police Department. For 50 years, he served faithfully as a deacon to two local churches.



**Napoleon Bernard Harper, Jr.** was born October 17, 1935 in Chester, SC to the late Addie Stevenson Crockett and Napoleon Bernard Harper, Sr. He entered Omega Chapter August 11, 2012. Brother Harper was a graduate of Barr Street Training School in Lancaster, SC. Following graduation, he enlisted in the United States Air Force. Later, he attended Allen University receiving a B.S. degree in Math and Science. He would continue his studies at the University

of Virginia, earning a master's degree in Secondary Education. Brother Harper had an illustrious career as an educator and began teaching at Oglethorpe High School in Oglethorpe, GA. He advanced quickly in his career and was a pioneer – becoming the first black administrator in the Stafford County Public School System. He served as Principal of Stafford, Garrisonville, and A.G. Wright Middle Schools. As a committed educator, he enhanced his knowledge by being an active member of the Virginia Teacher's Association and the National Principal's Association. Brother Harper retired from Stafford County Schools in 1991. As a community activist, he served as the Fredericksburg Recreation Department Canteen Program Supervisor. He was a founding member of the Tau Rho Chapter, where he served on a number of public service projects.



**Waddell Hinnant, Sr.** entered Omega Chapter on February 17, 2013. He was one of three children born to William Van Dorn and Lillian Ayers Hinnant in Kenly, NC on October 7, 1924. Upon graduation from high school, he majored in both mathematics and biology at North Carolina A & T College in Greensboro, NC. As an Aggie, he was a member of the basketball team and marching band. Brother Hinnant owned and operated a dry cleaning business, built and purchased rental properties, co-founded, directed, and was an appraiser for American Federal Savings and Loan Association; eventually

ascending to Vice President. He was a faithful member of Grace Lutheran Church; where he served as Director of the Lutheran Day School. Hinnant was also very active in the Greensboro community as a member of several civic and professional organizations. Brother Hinnant is survived by his wife, Cordelia Ann Hinnant and three children; Glenna Jocelyn, Waddell, Jr., and Patrice Ann, along with a host of other relatives and friends.

Roscoe C. Hood entered Omega Chapter on January 21, 2011. He was a member of Kappa Pi Chapter in Lancaster, SC. Brother Hood served his country during World War II in the U.S. Army and was stationed on the island of Okinawa. Following the war in 1949, he graduated from N.C. A&T State University with a B.S. degree in education in 1962, he also received a master's degree in education from N.C. A&T State University. He was a highly regarded and dedicated teacher and taught school for well over 30 years. He was a devoted member of the First United Presbyterian Church of Waxhaw, NC and during his active years he served the church in many capacities, including holding the positions of Clerk of Session, Deacon, and Elder. Brother Hood was a member of the Menzel # 35 Shrine Temple and Waxhaw Chapter of the American Legion. He was a strong supporter of the Democratic National Committee and very active in civic affairs. He was the first African-American to hold the position of Town Commissioner in Waxhaw, NC. He leaves to cherish his fond and loving memories, his sons, Roscoe C. Hood, Jr. and Gerald C. Hood; and a host of other relatives and friends.



**Carl T. Jackson** (Memphis, TN) entered Omega Chapter on December 14, 2011. He was a member of the Epsilon Phi Chapter initiated in 2007. He graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from LeMoyne-Owen College. Brother Jackson was an affiliate broker of Crye-Leike Realtors and an entrepreneur with Men in Blue Security Company. He was extremely

active in the Epsilon Phi Chapter, where he served on several committees and as the chapter reporter. Brother Jackson leaves to cherish his memory his devoted wife of 30 years, Paula Carr Jackson, two adoring daughters, Ashleigh Nicole Jackson and Alicia Jackson Moore (Terrence), and a host of relatives and friends.



**Colonel Elliott M. Johnson, Sr.** Ph.D. was born on January 21, 1917. He entered Omega Chapter February 27, 2013. By the age of 15, Elliott had graduated from Allen University, in Columbia, SC. Elliott went on to attend South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, SC, from which he graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1936, at the age of 19. Brother Johnson was initiated through Xi Psi Chapter in 1933. In 1941, Brother

Elliott was drafted into the United States Army. Upon completing boot camp, he was one of three soldiers chosen to be the first African-Americans from South Carolina ever to attend Officer's Candidate School at Fort Benning, GA. After receiving his commission, Brother Johnson went on to serve with honor in the European theater. In addition to serving in the U. S. Army during World War II, his military career included serving in the Korean and Vietnam Wars. During his service in the Army, Brother Johnson received numerous medals and awards, including a Silver Star and a Bronze Star. After achieving the rank of Colonel, he retired from the Army in 1971. In 1972, Brother Johnson went back to Howard University where his various positions included Associate Dean of the School of Nursing and Allied Health, and Vice President of Academic Affairs. Brother Johnson received his doctoral degree in Public Administration from American University in 1974. He retired from Howard University in 1988.

## **Audwin E. Jones** (Atlanta, GA) entered Omega Chapter



on March 13, 2013. He was born on January 21, 1959. At the time of

his death, he was an active member of the C.M.A. Male Chorus at the Antioch Baptist Church North in Atlanta, GA. Brother Jones graduated in 1977 from John T. Hoggard High School with honors. He attended North Carolina Central University and graduated with a B.S. degree in biology. He was initiated into the Tau Psi Chapter in 1980 and eventually became a Life Member of the Fraternity. Brother Jones became a Correctional Officer in 1990 in Oklahoma City, OK where he received the Volunteer of the Year Award and the Humanitarian Award in 1991. He was named Correctional Officer of the Year in 1992, and advanced to the position of Deputy Warden I in 1998. He moved to Atlanta and became the first civilian brother of the military-based Phi Kappa Kappa Chapter in East Point, GA. He is survived by his stepfather Otto Midett, three sisters, two brothers-in-law, and other family members.



### ....Our Last Goodbye



**Nathaniel "Pete" Jones** (Greenville, SC) entered Omega Chapter on June 18, 2012. He was initiated into the Mu Pi Chapter on November 19, 1977 and enjoyed 35 years of active financial service. He served as Vice Basileus and Chaplain and chaired the Boys Camp Committee for many years. Brother Jones was twice honored as Mu Pi Chapter's Omega Man of the Year. He was born in Greenville, S.C. on August 22, 1941 and graduated from Sterling High School in 1961. He graduated

North Carolina A&T State University with a B.S. degree in Physical Education. He coached baseball, basketball and football at Sterling and Parker High Schools and officiated high school and Division II College men's and women's basketball. Brother Jones married Linda Darnell Isles Jones, from Belmont, N.C. Brother Jones attended Reedy River Missionary Baptist Church where he served as a deacon until his death. He was inducted as a member of the Piedmont Athletic Hall of Fame and the North Carolina A&T State University Athletics Hall of Fame. In 2008 he was inducted into the South Carolina Basketball Officials Association Hall of Fame.



**Pastor G. Stanley Lewis** (Natchitoches, LA) entered Omega Chapter on February 26, 2013. He earned a B.S. degree in Social Science/Physical Education from Grambling State College and a master's degree from Northwestern State University. At Northwestern, he was honored by his selection as the first African-American named to the Long Purple Line, in recognition of his service to the University and to the community at large. Brother Lewis was married to Ms. Edwina Lucille Mudrick. He was initiated into Gamma Gamma

Chapter at Grambling State University, December 12, 1953. He maintained active membership through Epsilon Chi Chapter in Alexandria. He organized and served as Advisor to Theta Delta Chapter at Northwestern State University for more than 25 years. Brother Lewis also organized Xi Alpha Alpha Chapter in Natchitoches. Over the years, he served on various committees at the local, state, district, and international level and was Omega Man of the Year in 1980. At the 2012 District Meeting, which he attended in Little Rock, a special activity for high school youth was named after him, the "G. Stanley Lewis Q Lock."



Lewis Logan (Los Angeles, CA) entered Omega Chapter on August 6, 2012. Brother Lewis graduated summa cum laude from Morgan State University. While at Morgan, he became one of the first Black Corrections Officers in Baltimore. Subsequently, he received a full scholarship and attended New York University's Master of Business Administration program. Brother Logan served as Deputy to the Treasurer of the State of Maryland. Brother Logan served as Treasurer of Bethel AME Church in Baltimore, MD. Upon retirement,

Brother Logan moved to Los Angeles. He served as CEO, Financial Officer and Elder for RUACH Christian Community Fellowship. Brother Logan became a member of Omega Psi Phi in 1980 through the Pi Omega Chapter. He leaves to mourn his passing and carry on his legacy, his wife Rev. Florence E. Logan; his sons, and daughters-in-law, Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Lewis E. Logan; Mr. & Mrs. John K. Logan; Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Logan; one daughter Ms. Nicole D. Logan and a host of relatives and friends.

James F. Mack entered Omega



Chapter on January 12, 2013. Born January 31, 1930, Brother Mack graduated from Carver

High School. After graduation, he enrolled at Morgan State College. College life was interrupted as he was called to serve in the U.S. Army. In 1956, he graduated from Morgan with a B.S. degree in Physical Education and was initiated into the Fraternity through Pi Omega Chapter. He received a M.S. degree in Physical Education in 1973 and a second M.S. degree in Recreation in 1977. Known for his coaching skills, Brother Mack was a well-known wrestling coach at the McKim Recreation Center, in East Baltimore. Coach Mack served as head coach of the Morgan State College Swimming Team from 1969-1976. After 38 years of service, Brother Mack retired from Morgan in 1995. Brother Mack's service to Morgan State culminated in having the Brook-Jones-Mack Natatorium named in his honor in 2009. He served as deacon at New Shiloh Baptist Church, President of the Radnor Community Association, Chairman of Affirmative Action for the National Intramural Association. and was Past Illustrious Potentate Jerusalem Temple #4 Masonic Lodge.



John Michael Anthony Matthews entered Omega Chapter on January 2, 2013. Known as Mike, he was born November 16, 1955. Educated in Baltimore City Public School System, he was a proud graduate of Baltimore City College. He graduated with a Bachelors of Arts degree in Computer Science from the University of Maryland and a Master of Business Administration from University of Maryland's Smith School of Business. In 1974, Mike was initiated

through Chi Delta Chapter. After moving to Howard County, MD, he became a member of Mu Nu Chapter and was an active member of Tau Pi Chapter in Columbia, MD. Brother Matthews worked as a consultant for several Information Technology firms and federal agencies. In 2009, he started his own Information Technology Company, MTS Solutions, LLC. Brother Matthews leaves behind a devoted wife, Dr. Terri Jones Matthews, his children, Melanie, Tara and Sean as well as a host of other relatives.

**Timothy Maybank** entered Omega Chapter on January 18, 2013 at MUSC Medical Center, Charleston, SC. He was born August 31, 1944, in Columbus, Ohio, however was reared in Charleston. Maybank was educated in the Charleston school system and graduated from Burke High School in 1962 and South Carolina State College in 1966. After graduating college he was initiated into the Fraternity through Epsilon Omega Chapter on April 28, 1974. After having a successful career in business administration and finance, he retired from the County of Orangeburg in 2011. Brother Maybank served on several boards for civic, charitable and educational organizations and was an active member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. He is survived by his wife, Lynne; children, Steven Erick Maybank, Adrienne Maybank and Deidre Maybank Rozier; brothers, Louis Henry Lucas and Clinton Kenneth Lucas; sister Bernadette Lucas Rogers; grandchildren, Camryn O. Maybank, Anna C. Maybank and Lucas O. Maybank; and other family members.



**Samuel Mazyck, Jr.** entered Omega Chapter on July 21, 2012. He was a graduate of Claffin University in 2003 with a B.S. in Health and Education. While at Claffin, he served as an assistant to the men's basketball team. After graduation, Brother Mazyck moved to Beaufort, SC where he worked at the Parks and Leisure Services of Beaufort County. In 2004, Mazyck was initiated into the Fraternity through the Omega Alpha Alpha Chapter.

Brother Mazyck moved back to his hometown of Columbia, SC and began working at the Department of Juvenile Justice. He also worked part time as a mobile disc jockey. At the time of his death he was working at the Three Rivers Behavioral Center for At-Risk Kids. He leaves to cherish his memory, his mother Shelia Mazyck, father- Samuel Mazyck, brother-Francis Mazyck, sister-Tawuana Mazyck, and host of other relatives and friends.

#### Robert J. "Mack" McBryde



entered Omega Chapter on February 12, 2013. He was a teacher, educator, and active

community servant. He was born January 29, 1929 in Fayetteville, NC, the son of the late Alex and Maggie Evans-McBryde. Mack served his country before attending Fayetteville State University, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in 1958. He also attended North Carolina A&T State University where he received his Master's Degree in Education. Brother Robert McBryde was employed with the Boy Scouts of America as a District Scout Executive, but spent most of his time working in the Greensboro City Schools where he retired after 30 years of teaching. Brother McBryde was an active member of Saint Presbyterian Church, James and held membership in the National Educator's Association. North Carolina Association of Educators, Reading Association, and Retired Teachers Association. He is survived by his wife, Lovie McBryde and a daughter Cassandra Denise along with a host of other relatives and friends.



### .....Our Last Goodbye

George K. McKinney (Baltimore,



MD), who was the first A f r i c a n -American to be appointed U . S . M a r s h a 1 for the District of

Maryland, and whose career in federal service spanned more than four decades, transitioned to Omega Chapter June 17, 2012. He was 77 years old. Brother McKinney held the distinct honor of being the only African-American appointed U.S. Marshal to two different jurisdictions by two different presidents. He was initiated at Pi Chapter, Morgan State College in 1954. He graduated in 1956 from Morgan State College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and as a distinguished military Brother McKinney student. was commissioned a Second Lieutenant, serving in the U.S. Army with tours in Korea, the Panama Canal Zone and at Ft Bragg N.C. from 1956-1965. He was honorably discharged with the rank of Captain. He served as the 22nd Second District Representative; Omega Life Membership Foundation Chairman; and served as Inspector General for the Fraternity. А three term Basileus of Pi Omega Chapter, he was voted 1987 Omega Man of the Year for Pi Omega Chapter, and 1987 Omega Man of the Year for the Second District. In 1988 he was honored as Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. International Omega Man of the Year.



**Reverend Edward C. McLeod** entered Omega Chapter on February 2, 2013 at Carolina's Hospital. He received his early education in Marlboro County Public Schools before attending the Hampton Institute to major in Industrial Education and Auto Mechanics. After joining the military, he rose to the rank of Master Sergeant before returning home to start his own car repair business. Brother McLeod became a mechanics instructor with Marlboro County and retired after 45 years of teaching

with Florence County School District. Brother McLeod was also a pastor for five United Methodist Churches in the Pee Dee and Low Country regions of South Carolina. During his tenure, he even completed an advanced ministry course at Duke's Divinity School. He was a member of many professional and civic groups. He is survived by his wife, Janie H. Williams McLeod of Coward, SC; four children: Terrance Edward of Ladson; Janice La'Vette Williams of Florence; Charis Savitri d'Haiti and Tijuana Marshall Williams of Stratford; six grandchildren as well as friends and other family members.



**Nathaniel Mitchell** (Oxnard, CA) entered Omega Chapter on December 20, 2011. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War. Brother Mitchell was initiated into the Fraternity through Psi Xi Chapter on July 13, 1979. He was employed at the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division where he held several leadership positions. While employed, he continued his education earning a bachelor's degree in mathematics. Brother Mitchell's civil service career was highlighted by several awards, accomplishments, and special recognitions for

outstanding performance. He was a trustee for Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church Oxnard, CA for more than 20 years. A devoted family man, he was married to the love of his life Ramona for 41 years. Brother Mitchell was the seated Basileus at the time of his passing. Thirty-two years never saw his love for the Fraternity wane. His tenure included over 20 years as Keeper of Finance.



**Romallus O. Murphy** entered Omega Chapter on December 21, 2011. He was a Howard University graduate, and was initiated into Alpha Chapter, Spring 1948. He attended Howard University Law School and completed his legal degree at the University of North Carolina School of Law in 1956, the only student of color. He began his legal career in Wilson, NC and in 1959, he was retained by the Wilson community to bring a voting lawsuit against the City of Wilson. Attorney Murphy litigated the case through the state courts and eventually argued the case before the United States Supreme Court.

Though unsuccessful, the case was part of the record that convinced the Congress to enact the Voting Rights Act of 1965. He served in the United States Air Force, where he was honorably discharged with the rank of Captain. He was a dedicated member of Genesis Baptist Church where he served on various committees. In 1987, he was legal counsel to the North Carolina Branches for the NAACP. He was also part of the legal team that forced the State of North Carolina to create electoral opportunities for Black lawyers to become Superior Court Judges. Surviving, are his Quette Gale B. Murphy, children, and grandchildren.



**Ernest Niblack** was born December 25, 1932, in Orlando, FL. He was a graduate and star athlete at Jones High School. After high school, he continued his education and earned his B.S. degree in Education from Florida A&M University, where he was initiated into the Upsilon Psi Chapter. He married his beloved wife, Mary, on June 24, 1957. Brother Niblack later returned to his alma-mater to earn his Master of Science degree in Counseling. Brother Niblack worked as a teacher, football coach and guidance counselor for Orange

County Public Schools and later as an academic counselor at Valencia Community College – West Campus, where he retired. Brother Niblack was a faithful member of Washington Shores Presbyterian Church where he served as an Elder and many other capacities. Brother Niblack was a former president and lifetime member of the local branch of the NAACP. He was a charter member of the Chi Tau Graduate Chapter, established in 1962 in Orlando, Florida. During his Chi Tau Chapter tenure, he served the chapter in the role of KRS for many years and also served a term as the chapter's Basileus. He lived to see the chapter that he founded acknowledged as the 2006 International Graduate Chapter of the Year.



**S.L. "Sid" Purdle** (Long Beach, CA) entered Omega Chapter on October 27, 2011. In 1961, he became one of the charter members of Tau Tau Chapter in Compton, CA and was still an active member, receiving his 60th year service pin in October 2011. S.L. accepted Christ at an early age. He received his edu¬cation from Fayette County Training School in Somerville, TN and furthered his education at Lane College, where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1952. While

attending Lane College, he joined the Fraternity in 1949. S.L. entered the U.S. Army in 1953. At that time, you weren't allowed to have initials for a name, so he cleverly came up with the name Sidney Lee. He served two years on active duty and eight years in the Army Reserves, receiving an honorable discharge from both. In 1955, he married Debra Manning. Sid was employed at General Motors and during his employment he became a personnel supervisor. He retired from General Motors after 25 years of service. He leaves to cherish his memories two daughters, Denise Purdle Weed; Rhonda Purdle; one sister Frenchie B. Whitney and a host of other relatives and friends.



**Dr. Lewie C. Roache,** 86, of Orangeburg, died August 28, 2012 at his home. Born in Dalzell, SC, he was the son of Willie and Elouise Blanding Roache. He earned the B.S. and M.S. degrees from S.C. State College and the Ph.D. from The Catholic University of America, where he earned membership in Sigma Xi Honor Society. Brother Roache was elected the 14th Sixth District Representative in 1965 and served as DR until 1967. Brother Roache spent 43 years at S.C. State, rising

from Instructor of Biology to Chairman of the Department of Natural Sciences to Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences. He retired as Dean Emeritus of the School of Arts and Sciences. Survivors include his wife, Neva Smiley Roache, his daughters Rita Joye and Karen Rene; his sons Willie Vee, Lewie, Jr., and Martin Smiley, four grandchildren, and a host of other family members and friends.

Terraine М. **Saunders** (Randallstown, MD) entered Omega Chapter on December 13, 2012. Born March 4, 1966 in Baltimore, MD, he earned a bachelor's degree in Social Work in 1989 from Morgan State University and a master's degree in System Management in 2007 from the National Graduate School. Brother Saunders was initiated into the Fraternity through Nu Gamma Gamma Chapter on December 18, 1993. Brother Saunders received his commission as a second lieutenant through ROTC at Morgan State University. He served in numerous chapters: Nu Gamma Gamma, Delta Omega, and Pi Omega, in which he was the 2009 Colonel Charles Young Award Brother Saunders Recipient. came to Lambda Gamma Gamma Chapter motivated and enthusiastic about the Fraternity and serving the community.

George E. Short, 59, entered Omega Chapter on October 11, 2012, in Indianapolis, IN. He was initiated through Upsilon Beta Chapter on February 22, 1975 at Ball State University. Brother Short was an architect engineer for the U.S. Postal Service. He was a member and Deacon of Pilgrim Missionary **Baptist** Church, Indianapolis, where he was known to be an extraordinary vocal talent. Survivors include wife, Sheila M. Short; sons, George W., Phillip G. Short; stepmother, Esma Fairrow; brothers, Robert (Cozine), John (Barbara) Short: sisters, Arline Scott (Jeremiah), Gail E. Johnson, Cecilia Whitfield (James).

### ...Our Last Goodbye

John W. Spellman, Jr. (Newport News, VA) entered



O m e g a C h a p t e r J a n u a r y 24, 2013 at the age of 87. Brother S pell m a n was a g r a d u a t e

of P. W. Moore High School, North Carolina A & T State College (now known as NC A&T State University) and he was a veteran of the United States Navy. In 1991, Brother Spellman retired from Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Company (Tenneco) after 40 years of dedicated service. He was a member of First Church of Newport News and the Dochiki Civic & Social Club. Brother Spellman was initiated in the Mu Psi Chapter, in 1949 while attending NC A&T State University. Brother Spellman is survived by his devoted wife, Virginia Etheridge Spellman and a host of relatives and friends. Brother Spellman was a great American who proudly served America and Omega.





Julian Albert Tarleton, Jr., (Oxnard, CA) entered Omega Chapter on January 7, 2012. He was educated in the Sumter South Carolina School System. He earned bachelor's degree in mathematics from Morehouse College and a master's degree from Atlanta University. He was initiated into the Fraternity through Gamma Iota Chapter on February 4, 1948. Brother Tarleton's federal civil service career started in 1962 at the Pacific Missile Test Center. In his 26 years of employment, he

moved through several positions, finally ending up as the Comptroller of the Command. He was very active socially in the Ventura County area and was a board member for Oxnard Manpower Advisory Council and the Oxnard School District Personnel Commission. He was an active member of the Ventura County Branch of the NAACP. Brother Tarleton was wonderfully married to his wife Doris for 58 years. He served as Keeper of Records and Seal for Psi Xi Chapter.



**Gary Montez Thurman, Sr.,** born October 17, 1946, in Indianapolis, IN, entered Omega Chapter on November 17, 2012. He attended Shortridge High School in Indianapolis, and Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, where he was initiated on April 4, 1973. He served in the United States Navy 1964 to1969, including a tour in Vietnam. He was a member of Second Christian Church,

Indianapolis. Brother Thurman was employed as a sounds engineer and a computer electrical technician. He is survived by his former wife Cecelia Thurman, daughters: Monica Thurman-Burns, LaNette Thurman, and LaTresse Thurman-Reynolds, sons: Gary Thurman Jr.), LaMonte Thurman and Chris Booth, sisters: Bobbye V. Brown, Etta Joan Ford, Saundra Custis, Patricia Thurman, and Rose Tanner, brothers: Barry Bowles and Ike Bowles.



**Herman Wallace** (Charleston, SC) entered Omega Chapter on October 31, 2011 in Atlanta, GA. Brother Wallace, a proud member of Mu Alpha Chapter, received his master's degree in Counseling from the Citadel and proudly served his country as a member of the 82nd Airborne Division. Brother Wallace retired from service as the Director of Job Training and Employment for the City of Charleston. He was instrumental in the

implementation of summer initiatives and scholarship opportunities for local youth. Throughout his life, he worked with kids involved in sports as a participant, high school referee and championship high school basketball coach. He is survived by his four children; Robert Wallace, Jan, DeEster Bowie and Audra Wallace, two brothers; James Wallace and Tyrone Wallace and six grandchildren as well as a host of other relatives and friends.



**Dr. Daniel Wearring** entered Omega Chapter July 10, 2012. Brother Wearring was initiated into Xi Psi Chapter at South Carolina State College (now University) in 1938. He served as Vice Basileus of his undergraduate chapter. In 1950 he met his wife-to-be, Virginia, at Atlanta University and they were married for 50 years before she preceded him in death. His son, Brother Kirk Wearring, also preceded him in death. Brother Wearring received his bachelor's degree from South Carolina State College and his doctorate in

organic chemistry from the University of Iowa. He taught at every level including grade school in Simpsonville, SC; Alabama State College; Miles College; and the City Colleges of Chicago. He received many awards for his teaching. Brother Wearring became a Tuskegee Airman after he joined the U.S. Army. He was one of several men honored by the American Chemical Society for 50 years of service. He is survived by his son Michael.



Dr. Benjamin Carr Whitten, Sr. (Baltimore, MD),

born July 25, 1923 entered Omega Chapter on September 21, 2012. He was a member of Pi Omega Chapter, Baltimore, MD. Brother Whitten was initiated through Nu Chapter, Penn State University in 1940. He was a member of the Fraternity for more than 72 years. Educated at Penn State University, Dr. Whitten made the Dean's List for six semesters and graduated with honors at the age of 19. He held three degrees from Penn State-Bachelors of Science

in 1943, Master's of Education in 1948 and Doctoral Degree in Education in 1961. All degrees were in the field of Industrial Arts Education. Dr. Whitten was also awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters by the University of Baltimore. He was a civic leader and a maverick at the forefront of vocational education, serving over 31 years in the Baltimore City Public School System. In recognition of this long and distinguished career, in 1989 a wing of the Westside Skills Center was named in his honor. Dr. Whitten served on countless numbers of advisory councils and boards.



**Dr. Sylvester Wendell Wooten,** age 71, was born on November 5, 1940 and entered Omega Chapter May 27, 2012 in Fayetteville, NC. Brother Wooten earned his B.S. degree in Education at Winston Salem Teacher's College, his M.S. in Guidance at Virginia State College, and his Ph.D. in Counselor Education at the University of Virginia. He held a variety of roles at Winston-Salem State University. In 1977, Dr. Wooten became Director of Continuing Education and Extension at the University of

North Carolina at Pembroke, (formerly Pembroke State University). He served 25 years at UNC Pembroke until his early retirement due to health concerns in the year 2000. Dr. Wooten was an active member of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church and was a member of the Fraternity for over 50 years. He served as the graduate advisor of the Mu Epsilon and Chi Mu Chapters. He leaves to cherish his memory wife, Eveland Wooten; daughter, Candice Brown, son-in-law, Ivey Brown, Jr., and daughter, Shanita Wooten.

#### John W. Maloney, III, 80,



Educator, transitioned to Omega Chapter on March 12, 2013 in Baltimore, MD. Born in Chester,

PA. June 14, 1932 and educated in its public schools, he was active in scouting, youth activities and The Asbury Church Male Chorus directed by his father. John received a B.A. in Education from Cheyney State College where he participated in choir & theatre; played basketball and football; and joined the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. After 3 Army years, he taught science in Atlantic Highlands, NJ, earned his Master's Degree from Montclair State College and was the Assist. Supt. of the town's Recreation Depart. In 1968, John, one of Harrisburg, PA's first African American principals, founded the innovative Ben Franklin Learning Academy. He transferred to the Baltimore Co. School District in 1986 where he held administrative positions at Pikesville Middle, Randallstown High and Carver School for Arts & Technology. A Lifetime Member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Maloney was a past Basileus of Kappa Omega First Vice 2nd District Representative and the 19th 2nd District Representative. Some of his many honors were the "Omega Man of the Year" Award and the prized Omega Psi Phi Pin for 60 years of Continuous Service in 2011. He was also active in lay ministries and choirs in Wesley AME Zion Church in Harrisburg, Northwood-Appold and Milford Mill United Methodist Churches in Baltimore, and Baltimore's community choir, The Olton Singing Society.

### **OUR LAST GOODBYE**



Vincent Antonio Brown, (Willingboro, NJ) entered Omega Chapter on February 24, 2013. He was born in Columbia, SC, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Brown, Jr., and the late Barbara (Davis) Brown. He received his B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from South Carolina State College (now University) and earned a Master of Science in Management from Thomas Edison State College. He later pursued graduate studies in Divinity at Eastern Theological Seminary, and was licensed to preach in January 2005.

Brother Brown was employed by PSE&G for 24 years as a Project Consultant until his retirement in June 2011. He was a member of Aaron Lodge No. 9, Free and Accepted Masons (PHA), Ophir Consistory No. 48 and Khufu Temple No. 120. He was initiated into Delta Upsilon Chapter in July 1992, and served in a number of leadership positions. Brother Brown's interest in working for the betterment of Black youth was enhanced by his active participation with the Omega Teens Program.



Edwin Maurice "Goldboot" DeVaughn, Founder of Goldboot Que-Nections, entered Omega Chapter on August 6, 2012. He was born in Philadelphia, PA, the son of Martha and John DeVaughn. He received his bachelor of science degree in Music Education from Fayetteville State University. Edwin, known as "Goldboot" to many, was an educator for more than 30 years, working in the Camden, NJ, Oakland

and Sacramento, CA School Districts. He touched many lives during his career. His passion for music led to his participation as a trumpet player in a jazz band and a distinguished career as a music instructor throughout the Camden, NJ school district, directing award winning marching bands. One of Edwin's major accomplishments as a Band Director was to lead Camden High School's Marching Band in a performance and competition at President Barack Obama's Inaugural Parade in January 2009.



Kevin Antoine Hall transitioned to Omega Chapter on April 7, 2013. Born September 19, 1962, educated in Washington D.C. Public Schools, he graduated from Spingarn High School in 1980. Continuing his education at Morgan State University, he graduated with a bachelor's degree in Accounting and Business Administration. Kevin served Omega through many positions over the years. He served as Keeper of

Finance - Pi Chapter, 2nd District 2nd Vice District Representative 1984-1985, Undergraduate Representative 1985-1986, Keeper of Finance - Chi Kappa Baltimore Intermediate Chapter, Basileus - Chi Kappa Chapter 1988, Chairman of the Audit Committee Pi Omega Chapter 2009-2010, Chairman of the Reclamation Committee 2009-2010, member of Crab Feast Committee, and Social Action Committee- Feed the Community. Brother Kevin's continuous efforts in the work of Omega as undergraduate member, Chapter Officer, Committee Chairman, 2nd Vice District Representative and International Life Member exemplifies dedication, commitment and the Cardinal Principal of Perseverance.



on January 6. 1919, in Baltimore, MD and entered Omega Chapter on January 9, 2013. Brother

Johnson was a life-long member of the Fraternity, having been initiated through Pi Omega Graduate Chapter in Baltimore City on April 20, 1950. Brother Johnson committed almost 63 years of loyalty, dedication and service to his family, friends, community and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated.

Educated in the Baltimore City Public School system and graduating from Frederick Douglass High School in 1937, he continued his studies by attending Morgan State College. He graduated from Morgan State College (now Morgan State University) in 1941 and received a Bachelor of Arts degree. After graduation from college, Brother Johnson began his career with the Social Security Administration until his retirement in 1986. Brother Johnson's Omega experience was committed exclusively as a member of Pi Omega Graduate Chapter in Baltimore City. He served with the Pi Omega Chapter Que Mentors for years. Gaining the confidence of the brothers of the Second District (Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey & New York), Brother Johnson was elected to serve as the 10th Second District Representative.



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Attn: Editor to The Oracle 3915 Snapfinger Parkway Decatur, GA 30035

# LT. CHARLES YOUNG AT WILBERFORCE UNIVERSITY

OHIO

HISTORICAL

MARKER

(Continued from other side)

When Young left Wilberforce in 1898, its cadet corps comprised 113 members, 14 of which later joined his new command of the Ninth Ohio Battalion. He motivated students to rise to the "Talented Tenth" of African American leaders, so called by Young's colleague and friend W.E.B. Du Bois. Among many accomplishments, Young was elected the second honorary member of Omega Psi Phi in 1912 and awarded the Spingarn Medal in 1916, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's highest honor.

OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY – UPSILON CHAPTER 2013 THE OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY 26-29