

*Meet
Mr. Omega*

Brother Albert
"Smitty" Smith

Fall 2016/Winter 2017

The Oracle



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Brother Albert P. Smith and Brother Gary Bacon of Baltimore's Pi Omega Chapter joined over 500 Brothers at the opening of the National Museum of African American History Culture.

The Oracle

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Volume 87 No. 31
FALL 2016/ WINTER 2017

The official publication of
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

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The next Oracle deadline:

April 15, 2017

**Deadlines are subject to change.*

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comments, and information to
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Oracle Cover Photograph
of
Brother Albert "Smitty" Smith

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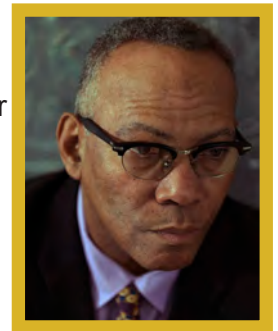
Brother Kenneth Barnes

40th Grand Basileus

Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr.

EDITOR'S NOTES

The *Oracle Magazine* was presented the Award of Excellence for Magazine Page Design by the National Association of Black Journalists in August 2016. This honor was bestowed to the *Oracle*, its editor and the Fraternity's outstanding members which are featured each issue.



An excellent membership story that is highlighted in this edition is "Meet Mr. Omega," a profile on Brother Albert "Smitty" Smith. The profile is the second installment of the series which introduces an Omega man to the Brotherhood each issue. Also, in this edition are stories about the 80th Grand National Conclave, the opening of the National Museum of African American History and Culture and the Fraternity's Rededication Ceremony at Howard University.

The publication's design is strengthened by the outstanding work delivered by Brother James Witherspoon, the lead international photographer, and his assistant international photographers. They have produced solid storytelling images that represent slices of Omega's mission. The stories are detailed with facts, and direct quotes from brothers, which is a must in preserving a written documentation of the Fraternity's history in the 21st century.

The Oracle design is influenced by the philosophical theory of large typography, images, and detailed reportage-- a tradition gathered from the Bauhaus Design Movement. In short, the magazine's pictures and words are companions to the structural design which welcomes an artistic visual package and encourages informational importance.

FIETTS,

Brother Milbert O. Brown, Jr.

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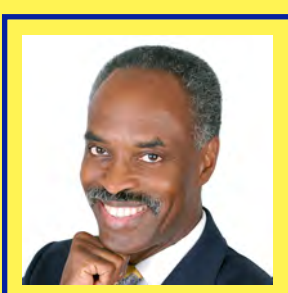
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Omega's Past Grand Basilei



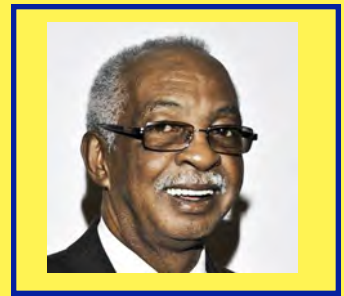
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Brother Morgan elected to Supreme Court of North Carolina

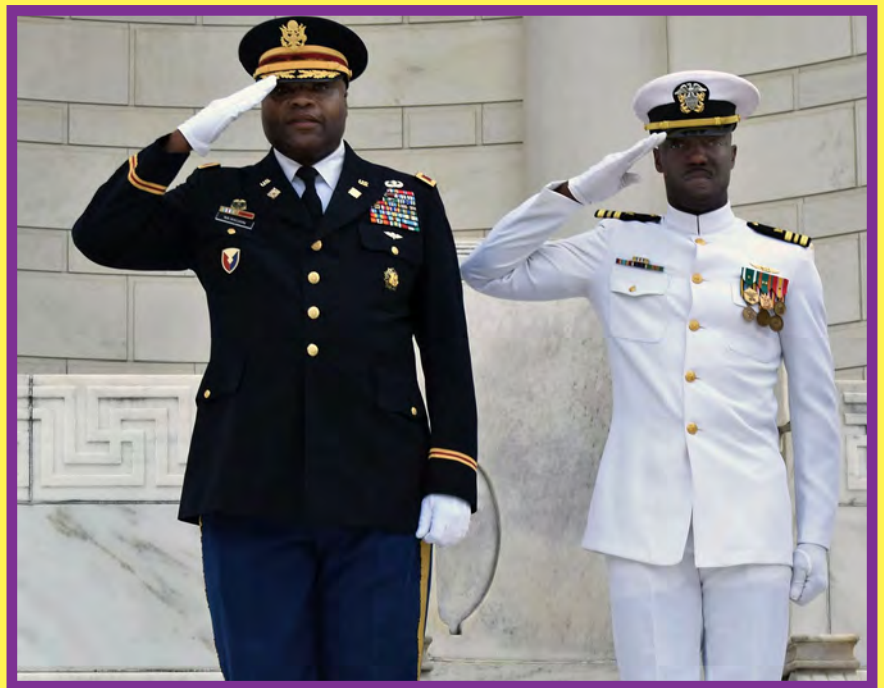
MOMENTS IN OMEGA HISTORY

Omega's Honorable Michael Morgan was elected to the North Carolina Supreme Court in November 2016. Judge Morgan defeated incumbent Judge Robert Edmunds for the Supreme Court seat. Brother Morgan, a Raleigh resident, was a Wake County District Superior Court judge. He also served as an administrative law judge, and held several positions in the State Attorney General's office. Judge Morgan comes from a strong Omega legacy. His grandfather pledged with Langston Hughes at Beta Chapter in the 1920s.



Brother Colonel Conrado B. Morgan, U.S. Army (Ret), from the Third District's Pi Lambda Lambda Chapter and **Brother Lieutenant Commander Steven Harper**, U.S. Navy (Ret), from the Sixth District's Iota Iota Chapter.

The military officers saluted in honor of the Wreath Laying Ceremony held at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery on September 11, 2016. Bro. Morgan was the Military Chairman for the Military Salute at the 80th Grand National Conclave. Bro. Harper is the executive director for the Military Racquetball Federation, the non-profit organization that hosted the ceremony in remembrance of 911 victims, Disabled Veterans, Wounded Warriors and all members of the Armed Services.



Omega's Brother Colonel Conrado B. Morgan, U.S. Army (Ret), and Brother Lieutenant Commander Steven Harper, U.S. Navy (Ret)., at a 9-11 Wreath Laying Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery.

MEET



MR. OMEGA

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

O

ver 50 years ago, a young undergraduate Omega man endured a long plane ride from Georgia to attend the 51st Grand National Conclave in Boston.

Unknown to the new Brother who was only initiated in December 1966, he would later run into Omega's three remaining Founders, and Brother George E. Meares, the 26th Grand Basileus.

After quickly exiting the taxi from the airport, he wrestled his suitcase to the hotel's front door. His neatly packed blue bag contained a white fraternity sweater, a few shirts, a couple of pants and one suit.

When he walked to the Hilton Ballroom Hotel's front desk he asked for his room key, but there was no reservation for him, neither were there any available vacancies. As he stood in amazement, he politely asked again. The desk person replied, "there is no room for Albert Smith."

Photograph: Bro. Smith greet Brothers in one of his colorful outfits.





At the 1967 conclave, Brother Smith was an excited 20-year old Omega man who was the assigned delegate for his chapter, Chi Epsilon. The chapter at Albany State College had neglected to reserve their representative a room for the conclave.

That was the beginning of Brother Albert “Smitty” Smith’s first Omega conclave experience. “When I got there, it was a lot folks in the lobby, but I didn’t know nobody. Brother Moses Norman let me put my suitcase in his room. Because I didn’t have a room, I just stayed in the lobby. I didn’t actually sleep-I just dosed off in a chair,” said Brother Smith.

As he endured his two-night stay in the lobby, Brother Smith would get up and walk around. This routine was often followed by several trips to the hotel’s restroom to throw water on his face. “I kept going up the front desk asking for a room. I liked to worried those folks to death,” smiled Smith.

Above photograph: Brother Albert Smith directs guest at the 80th Grand National Conclave. **Left photograph:** Bro. Smith holds the Fraternity’s Maze as he escorts the Supreme Council into the ballroom at the Conclave.

AN OMEGA PROFILE



It wasn't until his third day at the conclave that finally Bro. Albert Smith secured a room. "During the luncheon, Omega Psi Phi presented the Citizen of the Year Award to Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Shortly, after the award presentation, Dr. King checked out his room, and the hotel gave me his vacant room. I still have the room key--room 427," said Smith.

The young Albert met Martin King ten years earlier when he visited his seventh-grade class with his Morehouse classmate Samuel Cook. "That Cook was a big fellow, a Morehouse football player, and his girlfriend was my teacher, Ms. Field," smiled Brother Smith. He added that Cook was just visiting his future wife and brought along his best friend, Martin.

Smith was born in a green painted three-room shotgun house. Today, the house still stands as it overlooks the Georgia Dome. "We lived in the front room, and if you open the door you could look all the way to the backyard," laughed Bro. Smith. Later his parents moved to Atlanta's Castleberry Hill area, and they would add another son to the family.

From Smith's simple beginnings, he would meet two of the world's future giants, Dr. Samuel DuBois Cook and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. one day in class at Atlanta's Walker Street School.

Samuel D. Cook, an Omega man, would become the president of Dillard University. In 1966, at Duke University, Dr. Cook was the first African American to become a regular professor at a predominantly white institution in the south.

He was joined by his classmate, Martin in Morehouse College's early admission program at age 15. Years later, Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. would be elevated as the leader of the 1950's and 1960's civil rights movement. Dr. King was the youngest man to receive the Nobel Peace Prize.

At Atlanta's Eta Omega Graduate Chapter, Brother Smith is still connected with Brother Cook. "I need to call him soon because he didn't attend the end of the year chapter event. Cook's wife always reminds me that Dr. King's sister, Christine will be sitting at their table," mentioned Omega's Smith.



As a student at Albany State College, Smith remembers the important role Dr. King played in fighting segregation in Albany and throughout the south. After graduation from Albany State, Brother Smith began working at Atlanta's Marriott Hotel. There were several out-of-town guests that attended Dr. King's funeral at Ebenezer Baptist Church. Because of his youth and enthusiasm, the Marriott Company rushed Smith over to deliver food for the repast at the church. Brother Smith, now in his 70s still works for the company as a connoisseur after over 45 years.

"I was raised in the church with my grandparents, parents and other relatives, I just love preparing special care for others. It's just a part of my life. It's like being a servant in the Army of the Lord, so when I am working as a host for Omega Psi Phi, it's just like I am working for the Lord," noted Smith. During most Grand Conclaves, Brother Smith often escorts Omega's leadership as he leads them in holding the Maze.

Because of his personal service and connection with the Marriott, when the Founders came to Atlanta the Fraternity requested that Brother Smith provides special care for them.



"Brother Frank Coleman gave me an autographed copy of the Sweetheart Song, and the others gave me several Fraternity pins that I still have today," recalled Smith.

"All three of them [Coleman, Cooper, and Love] use to walk together. Cooper would have his hand on Coleman's shoulder, and the other hand on Brother Love's shoulder. Brother Coleman was the leader, and others would follow him. They were like a little train," as Smith proudly remembers.

At the 80th Grand Conclave in Las Vegas, Brother Smith received his 50th Year Service Award. Keeping with his over 35-year tradition, Brother Smith wears several colorful outfits as he serves as a host during both the Conclave and Seventh District Meetings.

Some of his wild wear is reserved for his participation in solo step shows. "During my first conclave, Brother Love noticed me as I was stepping, and he asked me 'Are you going to be a good Omega?' My reply to the Founder was 'I am going to try to do my best.'"

Above photographs: Brother Albert "Smitty" Smith stepping at the 7th District Meeting and the 80th Grand National Conclave.

80th Conclave

Omega Hold Elections for Grand Offices



Top photographs: Brothers in session at the Grand National Conclave in Las Vegas.

of Finance. Brother Rev. Dr. Staccato Powell was reappointed as the Grand Chaplain. Brother Dr. Terrence M. Augillard was appointed as the new Grand Marshal.

As the host of the onclave, the 12th District solicited Brothers to volunteer their time and service to work throughout numerous events and sessions during the Conclave and the District's Omega Weekend Takeover. The dedication of the brotherhood's work commitment was termed "Boots on the Ground," by the 12th District's Brother Dennis Martinez, the First Vice District Representative.

The 12th District Representative, Brother James Walker's vision of "Omega Leaving Las Vegas better than we found it" came into fruition during the conclave.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity held their 80th Grand National Conclave in Las Vegas, Nevada. The 12th District served as the host for the July 2016 Grand Conclave..

Four Grand Officers were reelected to the Supreme Council. They included: Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr., 40th Grand Basileus; Brother Dr. David Marion, First Vice Grand Basileus; Brother Kenneth Rodgers, Grand Keeper of Records and Seal; Brother D. Michael Lyles, Esq., Grand Counselor.

Elected to new offices were Brother Cody Charles, 2nd Vice Grand Basileus; Brothers Davasia Jones and Timothy Taylor as Undergraduate Representatives. Brother Daniel B. Jones, Sr. was elected as the Grand Keeper



TOP: Rho Gamma Gamma's Paul Cruthfield (c) listen with other Tenth District brothers during a discussion about a major recommendation.

LEFT: Former Grand Basilei Brother Dr. Dorsey C. Miller (left) and Brother Dr. Edward J. Braynon (center) talk with Brother Adam McKee (seated), a past First Vice Grand Basileus.

RIGHT: International Committee Chairmen at a conclave planning meeting with Brother Dr. David Marion, First Grand Basileus at the Grand National Conclave.



TOP and CENTER PHOTOS: Omega brothers performing during the Step Show Competition at the Conclave. BOTTOM: Omega leaders, Brothers Knox and Kadri with guests during a Fraternity public event. Oracle Photographs by IHQ/Oracle Staff

Brother Walker noted that the District's "School Beautification Project" held at Matt Kelley Elementary School, and the "Attack Hunger Initiative" at the Three Square Food Bank were part of his vision.

Over 125 Omega men volunteered by assisting daily operations and preparing food donations for delivery at the food bank. The combined efforts of Omega men, local sorority and community volunteers resulted in greater than 400 volunteer hours. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., partnered with the American Diabetes Association and the Epicenter to feed 400 deserving families from the local Las Vegas community.

"This united exercise in stewardship and public service that provides this very important assistance to families in the community aligns with the founding and continued mantra of our Fraternity," said Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr., the 40th Grand Basileus of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.



FATHERS AND SONS

Several fathers and sons met or traveled together to the 80th Grand National Conclave. An Omega father, Brother Robby West joined his son, Isaiah West with great excitement as the pair journeyed to Las Vegas. Brother Robby West was initiated in 1983 through Delta Mu Chapter at Cornell University. Years later, his son, Isaiah became an Omega man through Eta Delta Delta Chapter on the campus of George Mason University.

Within weeks of Brother Isaiah West's initiation, he became the Chapter's Basileus, and his father, Robby was elected as the KRS at Omicron Chi Graduate Chapter. "Watching my son get initiated was the proudest moment I had as a father since his birth," said Brother Robby West. Currently, Isaiah is the Third District's 2nd Vice District Representative.

At the Grand Conclave on July 21st, Brother Isaiah West's chapter was recognized as the 2014-15, "International Undergraduate Chapter of the Year." Also, his father's chapter was selected as the "International Graduate Chapter of the Year." During this past Achievement Week, both Brother Isaiah, and Brother Robby West were named as their chapter's "Omega Man of the Year."

PHOTO CENTER: include fathers and sons (l to r): Brothers Pearly and son, Jarred Nicholson. Another father and son pair was Brothers Brent and father, William Coleman. Brent saw his father receive his 50-year pin.



TOP PICTURE: Brother Isaiah West with his father Brother Robby West.
BOTTOM: Omegas with other Deltas and AKA's at Three Square Food Bank.





At the 80th Grand Conclave's Founders Banquet Brother Charles A. Bruce, the International Achievement Week Chairman presented several chapters, Omega men, Talent Hunt, and Essay winners with International Achievement Awards for 2014-2015 fiscal year. The awards included:

*Eta Delta Delta Chapter, George Mason University, the ***"International Undergraduate Chapter of the Year."***

*Omicron Chi Graduate Chapter, Plainfield, NJ, the ***"International Graduate Chapter of the Year."***

*Pi Lambda Lambda Graduate Chapter, Prince William County, VA, the ***"Large Graduate Chapter of the Year."***

*Bro. Reginald J. Eadie, M.D., Tau Kappa Kappa, the ***"International Citizen of the Year."***

Bro. Marion C. Pugh, Zeta Delta Delta Advisor, Georgia Southern University, ***"International Undergraduate Chapter Advisor."***

*Bro. Derrick F. Varner, Psi Alpha Chapter, the ***"Colonel Charles D. Young Military Leadership Award."***

*Bro. Raymond J. Bell, Pi Lambda Lambda Chapter, the ***"International Superior Service Award."***

*Bro. Brandon A. Byers, Tau Theta Chapter, Eastern Illinois University, the ***"Undergraduate Omega Man of the Year."***

*Bro. Erik N. Noel, Pi Lambda Lambda Chapter, the ***"International Graduate Omega Man of the Year."***

Bro. Burnel Elton Coulon, the 31st Grand Basileus, Zeta Phi Chapter, ***"International Founders Award."***





Bro. Derek Fitzgerald

Aaliyah P. Box



Bro. Derek Fitzgerald was named the **“International Scholar of the Year.”** During the 2014-15 award term, Bro. Fitzgerald was a biology student at Howard University (2016 graduate). He is currently a medical school student at Meharry Medical School. Fitzgerald was also the past **“Third District’s Scholar of the Year.”**

Ms. Box, was presented by the Tenth District’s Nu Chi Chapter. Currently, she is a freshman at Tennessee State University majoring in psychology. She also has an interest in enrolling into the university’s outstanding Air Force (ROTC) program.

Part of her winning essay included:

Other awards included the **“International Social Action Chapters of the Year.”** were: Pi Omega Chapter (Large); Xi Pi Chapter (Small); and Zeta Delta Delta, the **“Undergraduate Social Action Chapter of the Year,”** Georgia State University.

“African-Americans must be more engaged in the voting process in order to affect change in legislation. During the Civil Rights Movement, African-Americans protested, boycotted, and joined together as one to have their rights acknowledged. Because of this, Congress passed the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and passed other legislation to address inadequate rights.”

Aaliyah P. Box was selected as the **“2016 International High School Essay Contest Winner.”**



Oracle photographs on previous page-

TOP: Former Grand Basilei at the 80th Conclave. **CENTER:** Brother Dr. David Marion, First Vice Grand Basileus in plenary session. **BOTTOM:** Brother John H. Scott, past First Vice Grand Basileus (on far left).

Oracle photographs on this page

TOP & CENTER: Talent Hunt contestants at the Conclave. **BOTTOM:** Omega brothers and Naval officers at the Omega Military Salute Banquet.



The Founders Banquet's keynote speaker was U.S. Ambassador, Brother Gentry O. Smith. Brother Smith, the Director of Foreign Missions was initiated at Kappa Lambda Chapter at North Carolina State University. He was the line brother of the 40th Grand Basileus, Brother Tony Knox.

One day before Brother Smith's inspiring address another Omega titan spoke, Brother Governor L. Douglas Wilder. The former Virginia Governor was the featured speaker at the Dr. Ronald E. McNair Undergraduate Luncheon. Wilder was initiated into Omega through Zeta Chapter (Virginia Union University) in 1950. Brother Wilder noted he pledged Omega because, "I was impressed with what was considered the development of the individual."

In 1990, Brother Wilder received one the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's (NAACP) highest honors, the Springarn Medal. Currently, there are 23 men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity who have been the recipient of this prestigious award. Dr. Ernest E. Just was Omega's first awardee in 1915.



LEFT: Brother Burnel E. Coulon, the 31st Grand Basileus is honored with the *International Founders Award* at the 80th Grand National Conclave's Founders Banquet.

BOTTOM: Omega's 40th Grand Basileus, Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr., (left) presents Brother Raymond Sallay (Beta) with his Omega Psi Phi 25-Year of Service Award.



Brother Governor L. Douglas Wilder (far right) talks with Brothers after his address at the Ronald E. McNair Luncheon Program held at the Conclave.



Oracle Photographs

LEFT/Center: Omega men at the McNair Luncheon.

LEFT/Right: Brother Dr. Marvin C. Brown, Sr. (Army, LTC, Ret.) with movie actor, Brother Harry Lennix.

BOTTOM: Brothers from Tau Pi Graduate Chapter during a break in one of the Fraternity's conclave plenary sessions.

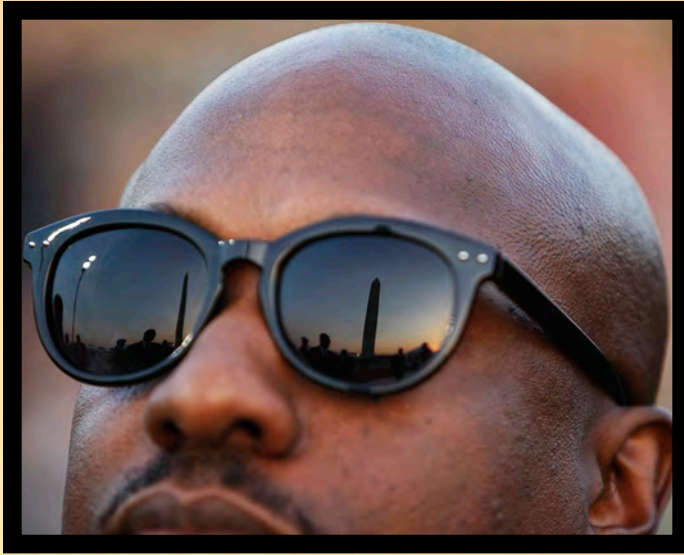


Contributors to the conclave report were: Brother Charles Bruce, International Achievement Week Chairman; Brother Myron Reed, 12th District Director of Public Relations, and Brother Robby West, Omicron Chi Graduate Chapter.



Omegas Witness

HISTORY



W

hen the sun's golden rays sliced through the morning

dew and peeked over the building's frame—Omega Psi Phi stood there as welcomed witnesses to a new history—a new beginning.

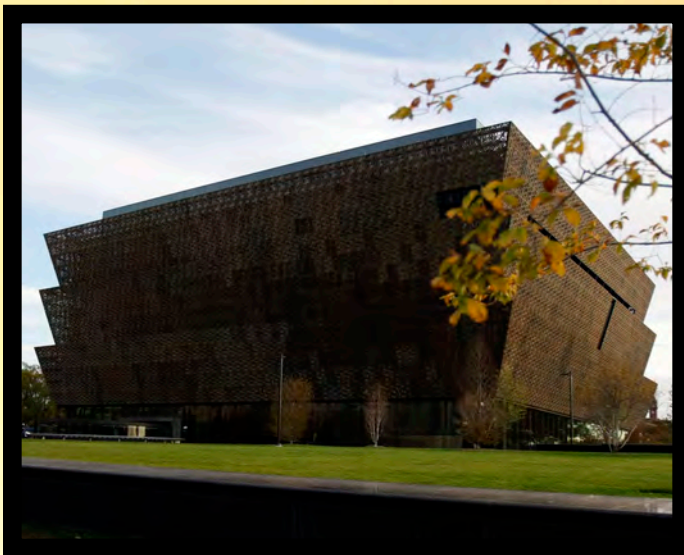
Over 500 Omega men were dressed in suits of dark hue; with contrasting white shirts and ascending purple ties. On this particular Saturday morning, the Omegas and the world viewed the unveiling of the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC). America's first Black President, Barack Obama provided remarks at the opening dedication of the museum on September 24, 2016.

“This is a moment in time. Omega is on the grand world stage.”

*Brother Benjamin Jeffers,
Former Second District Representative*

Smithsonian's newest museum, the NMAAHC sits on a five-acre site on Washington, D.C.'s mall. The 400,000 square foot building is the repository for over 37,000 artifacts, documents, and photographs. The building is wrapped in an ornamental bronze-colored metal as a tribute to the ironwork created by enslaved African Americans. Materials from Brother Carter G. Woodson, the father of Black History is housed in the museum.

Oracle photographs: (Left) Omegas at the opening, Brother Chris Thompson's glasses reflect the Washington Monument near the museum and an exterior view of the NMAAHC.





Brother Daniel Jones, the Grand Keeper of Finance, said, “This museum is reflective of everything that has occurred over the past 400 years. This is a pilgrimage for our organization and race.”

The 40th Grand Basileus Brother Antonio F. Knox added, “As a Wall Sponsor (Million Dollars), Omega was recognized in a very special light and listed among major contributors of Fortune 500 companies.”

Brother Knox also noted that several distinguished Brothers attended the NMAAHC’s Dedication and Gala. Some of the Omega men included: Brothers James Clyburn, U.S. Representative; Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr., Ben Crump, Esq., and Tom Joyner.

Omega’s Supreme Council members that represented Omega Psi Phi throughout the weekend celebration included Brother Dr. Andrew Ray, the Immediate Past Grand Basileus; Brother Kenneth Rogers, Grand Keeper of Records

Seal; Brother Daniel Jones, Grand Keeper of Finance, and Brother Michael Lyles, Esq., Grand Counselor. Brother Sherman Charles, 2nd District Representative and Brother Zeke Dennison, 3rd District Representative both helped to organize their District’s outstanding participation.

“This museum honors our history and our culture. I look forward to what this is going to mean to my children in years to come,” commented Brother Chris A. Thompson of Nu Omega Chapter.

Prominently positioned on a large walk inside the museum are the words from Brother Langston Hughes’ poem “*I , Too.*”

“I, too, sing America. I am the darker brother ... They’ll see how beautiful I am. And be ashamed— I, too, am America.”

Brother Langston Hughes



PREVIOUS PAGE: Omega men walking to view the opening of the museum.

TOP: Detail of the Grand Basileus ring of Immediate Past (39th) Grand Basileus, Brother Dr. Andrew Ray. (Right/top): The Pan-Hellenic display case inside the museum features four of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's artifacts.

CENTER: Detail of the Gavel used by Brothers at 1925-26 Grand Conclave. (Right/Center) 1938 picture of Mu Psi Chapter, North Carolina A & T State University.

ABOVE: 1957 picture of Omega men with other members of the Pan-Hellenic Council.

Story by Brother Milbert O. Brown, Jr.,
International Editor of The Oracle

2016 Photographs by Oracle Staff

Omegas Reconnect at Rededication



Brother Michael Parham, Jr., of Lambda Gamma Gamma Chapter (far right) greets Omega men before the beginning of the Founders Day Rededication Ceremony at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Below: Brother Judge Rohulamin Quander, Esq. Oracle photographs and story by Bro. Milbert O. Brown, Oracle Editor.

On November 17, 2016, Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr. Omega Psi Phi's 40th Grand Basileus, joined over 1,000 Omega men in celebrating the Fraternity's 105th Anniversary. As it has been tradition for several years, the Founders Day Rededication Ceremony was held at Cramton Auditorium on the campus of Howard University.

“As we reflect and celebrate our Founders Day, let us proudly realize that the timeless courage 105 years ago of our Founders stands progressively stronger and their vision continues to globally embrace and impact mankind forward,” said Brother Knox.

In 1911 at Howard, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity was created in the office of Professor Ernest E. Just by three undergraduate students: Edgar A. Love, Oscar J. Cooper, and Frank Coleman. Dr. Just, their advisor was Omega's first honorary member.



PHOTOGRAPHS



TOP: Brother Reverend Dr. Staccato Powell, the Grand Chaplain was the keynote speaker.

CENTER: Bro. D. Michael Lyles, Esq., Grand Counselor; Bro. Daniel B. Jones, Sr., Grand Keeper of Finance, and Bro. Kenneth Rodgers, Grand Keeper of Records and Seal.

BOTTOM; Bro. Athonio F. Knox, 40th Grand Basileus; Bro. Dr. Andrew Ray, 39th Grand Basileus, and Bro. Ezekiel Dennison, 3rd District Representative.

Other past Grand officers in attendance included Bro. Lloyd J. Jordan, Esq., the 36th Grand Basileus and Bro. Kenneth A. Brown, former Grand Marshal and the event's Master of Ceremony.



Brother Judge Rohulamin Quander, Esq., was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity through Alpha Chapter in 1964, and always returns to Howard for the Founders Day Rededication Ceremony.

Judge Quander said, "I consider the rededication a life constitution. The event refreshes each of us-as we reaffirm our commitment to our Fraternity, our friendship and the world at large."



Throughout Brother Reverend Dr. Staccato Powell's keynote address, he artistically painted the meaning of the Fraternity's motto, *Friendship is Essential to the Soul*. Powell added that friendship had great importance in the creation of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

"Friends are essential. Foes are also essential, but you don't have an appreciation for friends until you're had some foes," said Bro. Powell. He also commented that friendship is essential to the growth process. "It's the soul that will live on, and our friendship will sustain us," said the Grand Chaplain.

REDEDICATION AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY



Brothers sing the Omega Hymn at the Founders Monument at Howard University after the Rededication Ceremony. Four Brothers hold candles to commemorate the Founders. Two of the candle holders included Brother Isaiah West, the Third District's 2nd Vice District Representative and Brother Robert Edmonds (center) who was honored with 70 Years of Service at the 80th Grand National Conclave in Las Vegas, NV. Oracle photograph

Reverend Powell often refers to himself as a humble servant from Hallsboro, NC. In July 2016, Bro Powell was elected as the 102nd Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church.

Bro. Reverend Coutenay Miller introduced Brother Powell. Miller mentioned that Powell received a Bachelor's degree in political science from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte; Master of Divinity from Duke University, and a Doctorate of Jurisprudence degree from North Carolina Central University. Brother Kenneth A. Brown, the Master of Ceremony, noted that the Fraternity was honored to have Bro. Powell as the keynote speaker.

As Bro. Rev. Dr. Powell greeted the men of Omega and started his message he said, *"To stand on November 17th in front of the men of Omega is something that I could not have imagined in my wildest dreams. This is the manifestation of God's word. He is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think. We sit here among those stellar lights of superlative leaders who have gone on to greatness."*

"We owe much to those who have gone ahead of us. We have a responsibility to pass the torch forward in a way that it is not dropped, but moved up the course that is set before us."

Bro. Rev. Dr. Staccato Powell, Grand Chaplain

After the emotional message by Omega's Dr. Powell, Brother Larry A. Brown, the Chairman of Achievement Week Committee gave his closing remarks. Dr. Andrew A. Ray, the Fraternity's 39th Grand Basileus presented the Rededication Ceremony. Before Omega men adjourned to the Founders Monument, Brother Reverend Dr. Bernard L. Richardson presented the benediction.

Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr, the 40th Grand Basileus, and Brother Andrew A. Ray, the 39th Grand Basileus marched with several hundred Omegas to the Founders Monument. The monument is located about 300 yards from Howard University's Science Building-the Birthplace of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.



Brother Ricky Lewis talking with young boys at the Youth Leadership Conference in Los Angeles.

Omega Host Youth Conferences

The Omega Educational Foundation hosted its 23rd Youth Leadership Conference and Mentorship Program in October 2016.

The Los Angeles area conference featured a series of workshops and seminars aimed at youth of color, ranging from ages 8 to 18.

Brother Ricky Lewis, the founder of Omega Educational Foundation, mentioned that there over 700 male attendees who were exposed to a variety of workshops on creating a positive self-image.

“Your Image,” was the theme of the conference held at the University of Southern California. One of the sessions was “Manhood 101,” which emphasized the importance of respecting women and listening to one’s elders.

Parents were also encouraged to participate. Several mothers networked as they created strategies to bring father back into children’s lives



The fathers that attended the conference provided information on becoming stronger role models for their sons. Tau Tau Graduate Chapter organized the annual event.

A few months earlier, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and Project Friendship hosted the “Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative Youth Leadership Conference in August 2016. The two-day conference provided male youth with an insight in becoming productive citizens.



Bro. Lloyd Jordan, Esq, the 36th Grand Basileus; Bro. Dr. David Marion, 1st Grand Basileus; Bro. Antonio F. Knox, Sr., 40th Grand Basileus, and Bro. Benjamin Crump, Esq., talk during the Congressional Black Caucus Convention in Washington, D.C. Oracle photographs by Brother James G. Witherspoon, IHQ/Oracle Director of Photography.

Omega Hosts CBC Panel

At the 46th Annual Congressional Black Caucus, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., hosted, “When justice matters for all: The impact of the criminal justice system on fathers and sons; men and boy,” panel discussion.

The Honorable Brother James E. Clyburn, U.S. Congressman from South Carolina’s 6th Congressional District served as the honorary host for the September 2016 panel held in Washington, D.C.

The guest panelists included: Brother Benjamin Crump, Civil Rights Attorney and President of the National Bar Association; Mr. Tracy Martin, Co-Founder of the Trayvon Martin Foundation; Sakira Cook, Counsel, Leadership Conference and Criminal Justice Reform Policy Expert; Lt. Sonia Pruitt, Montgomery County (MD) Police Department and Vice President of the National Black Police Association; Acacia Salatti, Director of African American Outreach, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services and Etan Thomas, a former

National Basketball Association (NBA) player. Brother Thabitihi Boone, White House Fatherhood Representative served as the moderator.





While in Washington, D.C., Omega's Bro. Antonio F. Knox, Sr., the 40th Grand Basileus participates in the National Signing Ceremony with a National Park Service official in September 2016. The signing celebrates the legacies of Omega men, Brother Colonel Charles Young's Buffalo Soldiers National Monument and Brother Carter G. Woodson's National Historic Site. Oracle photographs by Brother James G. Witherspoon, IHQ/Oracle Director of Photography.

For seven years, the Fraternity has hosted an annual CBC Convention Forum in partnership with President Barack Obama and the White House to press the President's Fatherhood platform, Criminal Justice Reform, Healthcare, My Brothers Keeper Initiative and more.

Omega's Congressman Clyburn stated, "If you want to really honor me-vote." Brother Attorney Ben Crump graphically painted a realistic picture and reminded the audience why the Criminal Justice Reform legislation is so important and must move forward.

Terry W. Spicer, publicist for Omega Psi Phi Fraternity contributed to this report.



Omega Psi Phi presented Brother Tom Joyner at the CBC. On Left: Brother Earl Wilson, former Omega Executive Director; Brother James E. Clyburn, U.S. Congressman (center) and Tracy Martin, father of the late Trayvon Martin (right).

Remembering the Emanuel Nine

Story by Brother Kurt Walker, Sixth District's Director of Public Relations

The night of June 17, 2015, will forever be etched into American history as a horrible national tragedy.

The lives of innocent souls were taken when an armed coward pointed his weapon; releasing bullets that indiscriminately cut through the summer air hitting nine victims.

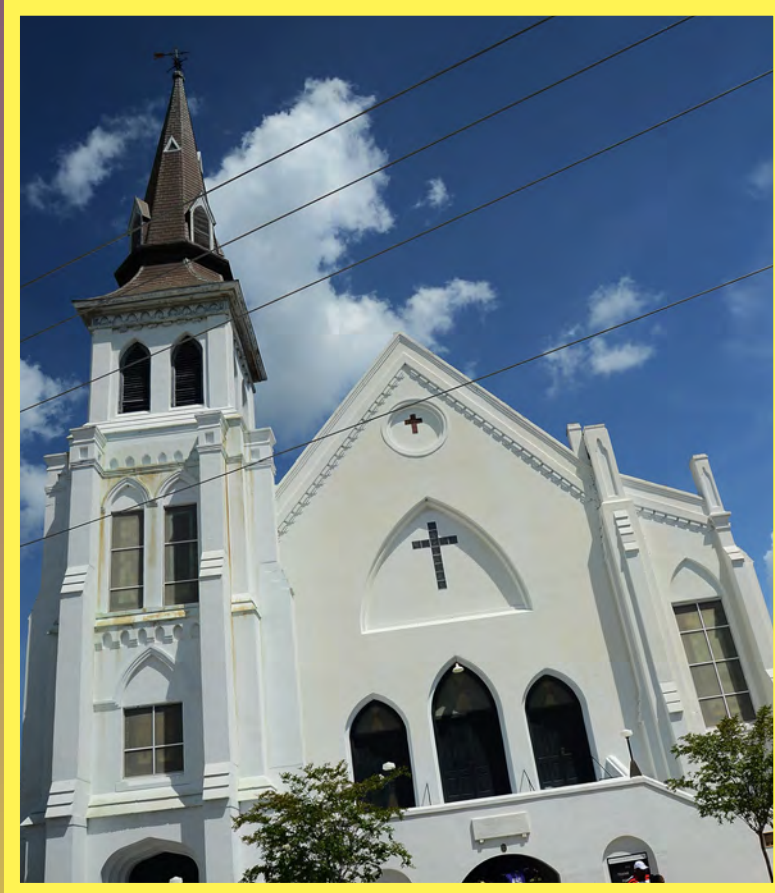
The real tragedy was that the nine members were thought to be safe as they studied God's word during a Bible study session at Charleston's Mother Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The shooting left the nation and the world wondering how such a horrific act can take place in such a peaceful place--a church.

Pastor Reverend Clemente Pinckney's wife and one of their children survived the tragedy as they were tucked away in his office. Polly Sheppard, Felecia Sander, and her five-year old granddaughter were also survivors of the tragic event.

Pinckney, the church's pastor and a South Carolina State Senator did not survive. Others who lost their lives included: Daniel Simmons, Depayne Middleton-Doctor, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton,

Suzie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance, Myra Thompson, Cynthia Graham-Hurd, and Tywanza Sanders were among the victims.



As the Charleston, SC community continues to heal; the Mother Emanuel family held its first-anniversary observance on June 17th, 2016 at the College of Charleston's in June 2016.

The Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., filled several rows of pews at the morning service. In attendance were Brother Antonio Knox, the 40th Grand Basileus; Brother Howard Jackson, the Sixth District Representative and Brother Nathaniel Jackson, the Immediate Past

Basileus of Mu Alpha Chapter.

Mu Alpha's Bro. Jackson presented Reverend Betty Deas Clark, the church's new pastor with an interactive digital chip that would be later installed on a bronze marker. The chip will allow visitors to access information using their mobile device to find out information about the church and the clip also honors the Emanuel Nine.

Sixth District Representative, Brother Howard Jackson presented a donation of one thousand dollars on behalf of the members of the Sixth District. Brother Knox presented Pastor Clark with a gift of nine thousand dollars on behalf of the Fraternity in honor of the victims of the shooting one year earlier.



As he stood before the congregation, Omega's Grand Basileus Antonio Brother Knox shared his reaction after hearing the news on June 17th. "I felt the hurt as many of you, then I called my Grand Chaplain, and together we prayed," said Knox.

Several Divine Nine Pan-Hellenic organizations were not spared from the tragic event. Reverend Pinckney was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and Reverend Simmons, a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Hurd and Singleton were members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and Thompson, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Although several Omega men are members of the church, none were victims of the shooting. Brother Keith Jones Sr., a member of the Mu Alpha Chapter, left the church that evening to attend an A.M.E. conference planning meeting.

After that meeting, Brother Jones met his son to purchase a shirt at a local store. That act of buying a shirt for his son, Keith, Jr., may have spared Brother Jones and his son's life. They were scheduled to attend Bible study that night. "Had it not been for this shirt it would have possibly been the Emanuel 11," stated the young Keith, Jr.



Top photo: The Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity with Emanuel A.M.E. Church's Pastor Betty Deas Clark. **Bottom photo:** Omega men at Sunday morning worship with Emanuel membership.

*Photographs by Bro. James Witherspoon,
IHQ/Oracle's Director of Photography*

GRIDIRON

GREAT

1919 GAMMA CHAPTER MEMBER

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...ESQ.



...mega's John Shelburne was one of the first African Americans to break the color barrier in the National Football League (NFL) in the early 1920s.

English High School, his fame as “the hardest plugging fullback in school boy circles” spread across Boston sports pages.

As Dartmouth College’s “Colored Fullback,” Shelburne continued his academic and athletic excellence. When America entered World War I, Shelburne interrupted his studies and answered the call to service as a top sergeant in the 325th Field Signal Corp.

Upon his return to Dartmouth, Shelburne reestablished his reputation as an All-American in football and a national champion in track and field. After graduating from Dartmouth with honors, Shelburne emerged as one of the first five African Americans to integrate professional football.

Playing for the Hammond Pros in 1922, Shelburne battled the dreaded combination of racial hostility, threats of bodily harm from opponents, and the lack of support from teammates, management, and ownership.

Before entering the NFL, Brother Shelburne played football at Dartmouth College, one of few Black players in the Ivy League.

The accomplishments of Shelburne are many: athletic immortal, a brilliant scholar, brave war hero, and pioneer who integrated professional football. Still, he is remembered best for his unparalleled service and commitment to a community that needed him most.

Born in the City of Boston in 1894, he defied stereotypes and persevered through the adversities of racial segregation and social isolation. An honor student at

6

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Omega Psi Phi's Brother John Shelburne

Despite Shelburne's athletic prowess and documented stellar achievements, by his choice, he left the untenable work environment of professional football to begin a new course. Redirecting his passion for sports and academics he became an educator, coach, and counselor. A favorite instructor from Lincoln University to high schools in the Midwest, he would ultimately return to his native Roxbury, Massachusetts.

Shelburne dedicated over three decades of service engaging and developing the underserved youth in Boston. His boldness, tenacity, and hunger provided strategies of perseverance, well-being, and uplift to the community. Through his work as the Youth Director of the Robert Gould Shaw House, a settlement house and community center, to Director of the Breezy Meadows Summer Camp for underprivileged children, Shelburne served as a model and pillar to many of Boston's most lost youth.

Shelburne's impact was undeniable and his influence immense. He is credited with averting several gang wars in Roxbury and disbanding many antagonistic groups. He formed the United Club Council, organizing members into groups that worked together harmoniously in civic, social, and athletic activities.

Fearless, he guided teens from confrontational gatherings on street corners to positions as duly elect officers at clubhouse meetings. Today, the Shelburne Recreation Center in Roxbury stands to remember the legacy of the football and track immortal whose legacy is only eclipsed by his dedication, commitment and work off of the field.

Brother Shelburne was initiated into the Fraternity through Gamma chapter in 1919 with several famous Omega men that included: Sterling Brown, Benjamin Mays, Roland Hayes, and Simon Overton Johnson.

As Gamma Chapter celebrated their 100th Anniversary in 2016, the chapter will always remember Brother Shelburne's impact within the Fraternity and the Boston community.

Brother David L. Carl, ESQ, is a member of Gamma Chapter. He is an attorney and real estate broker in the Washington, D.C. metro area. Brother Carl earned a BA in Political Science from Tufts University, and a JD from George Washington University's School of Law.



Farrell H.S. Inducts Bro. Brockman to HOF

Omega Psi Phi's Brother Derrick Brockman was recently inducted into Farrell High School's Alumni Hall of Fame.



Brockman, a member of the class of 1978, joined nine other inductees. The Hall of Fame honorees were selected from several categories including: arts and entertainment, business and commerce, community service and volunteerism, education and humanities, government and military, medicine and health, philanthropy and nonprofit, science and technology and sports and recreation. Each person must also have graduated from Farrell at least 20 years ago, and have made significant accomplishments and/or community service.

Brother Brockman was very unique. He had a strong athletic and scholastic career in high school. While at Farrell High, Brockman was the recipient of 14 sports letters in four different sports: baseball, basketball, football and track. After graduation, the Philadelphia native moved to Ohio to attend college. He earned dual bachelor degrees in industrial and systems engineering at Central State University and Wright State University. While at Central State, Brockman was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity through the "Grand and Glorious," Eta Gamma Chapter.

He also holds a Master's in industrial relations and construction management from the University of Illinois, and a Juris Doctorate from Rutgers University's School of Law. As executive producer of the event management division of DB Enterprises, Derrick works to provide planning, marketing, promotion and sponsorship for a varied range of business events.

One of Brother Brockman's specializations is in sports. Some of his projects have included the production of the John B. McLendon Basketball Classic, one of the nation's largest basketball tournaments featuring Historically Black College and University teams.

Professionally, from March 2011 to June 2012, Bro. Brockman received meritorious achievement honors as senior advisor to the Ministry of Interior during Operation Enduring Freedom in Kabul, Afghanistan.



Brother Jabrill Peppers is one of Michigan's top performers. Photo courtesy of the University of Michigan Athletics.

Omegas Prepare for NFL

During Fall 2016, **Brother Jabrill Peppers** played over four positions on defense and was used in several offensive formations as one of the University of Michigan's most gifted football players.

When discussing Brother Peppers talent, the University of Michigan's Head Football coach said, "I have not coached a more versatile player than Jabrill Peppers." Earlier in the season Coach Harbaugh compared Peppers to the outstanding college football player and Olympian Jim Thorpe.

A better comparison would have been Brother William DeHart Hubbard, the first African American to win an Olympic gold medal in an individual event, in 1924. Hubbard of Phi Chapter was a UM alumnus.

Brother Reuben Foster, an All-American from the University of Alabama credits his initiation into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity as a life turning point. Brother Foster called the "Reuben Missile Crisis,"

was named as the "2016 Butkus Award" winner. The Butkus Award is presented to the nation's best college linebacker. Foster noted that his direction and play for the Crimson Tide improved when he began intensely studying the history and mission of the Fraternity.

Tau Psi Chapter's Brother Carl Jones and Brother Tarrance Wells were named to the 2016 All Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC). The North Carolina Central University's (NCCU) Jones and Wells were also selected for First team honors.

Brother Jones, a redshirt senior from Nashville, Tennessee, now a graduate student, was chosen as the top center in the MEAC for the second straight year. Brother Jones has been honored as the MEAC Offensive Lineman of the Week twice this season and five times during his career. **Brother Wells**, a senior offensive lineman from Oxon Hill, MD was named the MEAC Offensive Player of the Week for his performance during NCCU's 42-21 victory over rival North Carolina A&T State University in November 2016.

Our Health, Our Main Priority



Brother Dr. Jedan Phillips, MD

There are many issues in our community that demand our energy and enthusiasm. The crucial component to ensuring that we can meet these needs is our health. Unfortunately, United States health statistics indicate that African-American men suffer more in comparison to other ethnic and gender groups when it comes to health outcomes.

So how do we begin to take control of our health? We have to acknowledge some realities about ourselves. African-American men are less likely to see a doctor regularly for routine medical checkups.

Many of us have been taught from a young age to push through “pains” because of not wanting to show any signs to the outside of weakness. African-American men are also less likely to engage in regular exercise. We have higher rates of being overweight and have greater incidences of diabetes and heart disease.

It has been suggested that many African-American men manage their health in a reactive way instead of using a preventative approach. As a person who owns an automobile and a home, I see that a reactive approach to managing those things can be more costly to me than taking a defensive approach. Most wait until something happens to decide that they need to begin taking care of themselves.

We wait until a medical crisis arises and then realize how important it is to have a doctor that we see regularly. We must first identify a family doctor or primary care physician. It is much better to have a doctor when you don’t need one, than to wait till you need one to realize that.

So you must familiarize yourself with your health insurance so that you can identify a suitable provider for yourself and your family. You should then set up a medical checkup with the doctor. This checkup can be done so that if there are any areas of concern about health, a plan of action can be developed and initiated.

In preparation for that checkup, there are a few things that should be done. We must find out our family medical history. This means finding out about medical conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, and cancers that have affected our first degree relatives which would be our parents and siblings.

Also, you should create a list of questions or issues that you wish to discuss with the doctor during your visit. Sometimes, we may need to come to that appointment with an advocate. Many of my male patient’s come to their appointments with their significant others, so they make sure that they don’t miss any items that they needed to discuss with me.

At the end of the visit, make sure you understand all the goals set up by you and the doctor. Remember there are no dumb questions nor too many questions! So let’s make that first appointment with the doctor to take the initial steps of getting a handle on our health.

Brother Dr. Jedan Phillips, MD., is a Family Practitioner at Stony Brook University Medical Center and Clinical Associate Professor, Stony Brook University Medical School. Brother Phillips was initiated in 1988 through Chi Kappa Chapter while an undergraduate at Johns Hopkins University.

Protect Your Image on Social Media



Brother Herb Ford, Jr.

Everyone has access to social media via your smartphone, tablets and nowadays even on the TV set. It is ideal for keeping in contact with friends, sharing pictures and even in some cases help entrepreneurs start businesses. It is a billion dollar industry that will continue to grow. Ok, now that we have gotten that out of the way, let us talk about what companies are doing today with social media.

Inappropriate social media activities can prevent you from obtaining a job as well as getting you fired from a job. Social media today in some cases are just as important and informative as the background check that you will have to complete. Formal background checks reveal and verify, name, address, age, previous street addresses, and employment history. Social media profiles provide insight into your brain and the inner workings of how you act outside the workplace.

Young men, as you progress from the collegiate lifestyle into the formal workforce of corporate America, please note that you will have to complete a background check along with your application. Companies are also checking your social media profile as part of that process.

Social media is no longer the Internet playground among friends. It is a tool that is used in the professional setting to screen potential candidates. What does your profile say about you?

Do you have racy pictures and comments? Companies are not only concerned with their brand and image. They are now forced to be concerned with their employees' brand and image. Take a moment and review your page. Does it say that you can be trusted with a million dollar account? Do you pay attention to details?

Does it say you can be trusted with a new client? What does it say?

According to Careerealism.com, one of the issues that impact potential employees is "You are unaware of proper Social Etiquette." If one does not understand the rules of etiquette on social media, companies tend to believe that you will exhibit the same behavior in a corporate setting. According to a June 2013 report posted on www.jobs.aol.com "a new study

from market analyst firm, On Device Research noted that 1 in 10 young job seekers have lost a job opportunity because of their social media profiles.

In the U.S. alone, the total was 8 percent among those 16 to 24 years old and 5 percent for those 25 to 34 years old. Employees you also need to be careful on what you post on your social media network as well.

Most companies have a strict policy on what employees can and cannot post on social media. Make sure you are aware of the rules and adhere to them. Don't use social media to vent about your job, boss or its clients.

Here are four steps that you can take to clean up your social media profile:

- 1: If you must have a picture attached to your profile, make it a clean and professional candidate image.
- 2: Review your policy settings on each of your social media profiles and ensure who can see your post and pictures.
- 3: Review all of your posts and delete any inappropriate comments you may have made or offensive pictures.
- 4: Set your privacy policy up to prevent others from sending you offensive pictures.

Bro. Herb Ford, Jr.

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

Brother Harper Elected Vice President of ASALH



North Carolina Central University (NCCU) Department of History chairman, Dr. Jim C. Harper II was elected vice president of programs for the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH).

In this role, Harper will supervise all ASALH programs and grants, as well as the association's annual conference and luncheon. He will also oversee ASALH publications, including the *Journal of African American History*, *Black History Month Bulletin*, *FIRE: The Multimedia Journal of Black Studies*, *ASALH Press* and the *Black History Month Kit*.

Harper currently serves on its executive council and is a member of its Wesley-Logan Prize Committee. Harper has served in various teaching positions at NCCU and also in the post of interim associate dean of the NCCU College of

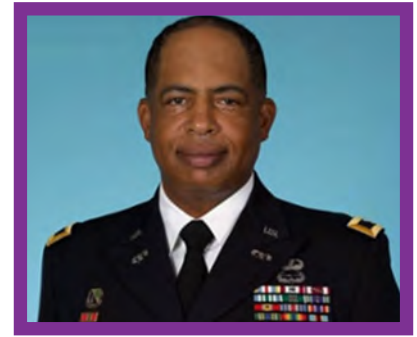
Liberal Arts. His numerous awards include the 2014 University of North Carolina Board of Governors Excellence in Teaching Award and the 2012 Chairman's Choice Letitia Woods Brown Article Award from the Association of Black Women Historians.

Harper has authored numerous manuscripts and articles during his career. In 2006, he wrote *Western-Educated Elites in Kenya, 1900-1963: The African American Factor*, hailed by academic reviewers for its insight into African/African-American links as well as the history of Pan-African movements.

His research interests include connections between Africans and African-Americans during the 19th and 20th centuries and African students in the United States. Currently, Harper is working on a manuscript covering the life of John Harding Lucas, an education administrator who was heavily involved in the integration of Durham (N.C.) Public Schools and of teacher associations throughout the country.

Dr. Harper is also producing a full-length documentary on the Civil Rights Movement in Durham. Harper received his bachelor's and master's degrees from NCCU and doctorate in history from Howard University.

Brother Harper is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Beta Phi Chapter.



Que Promoted to Army General

In September 2016, the United States Senate confirmed that Colonel Alfred F. Abramson, III will be promoted to Brigadier General.

Abramson was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army in 1988. Since his commission Abramson has held several management and leadership positions. Currently, he is the Deputy Joint Program Executive Officer for Chemical and Biological Defense, at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD. He holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Virginia State University as well as a master's degree in strategic studies from the Army War College, a master's degree in strategic policy from the Naval War College, and a master's degree in chemistry from Johns Hopkins University.

Brother Abramson was initiated through Nu Psi in 1987, and is currently active with Iota Nu Chapter since 2003. His leadership in the chapter includes serving as Vice-Basileus, KRS, chairman of the Mardi Gras committee, and a charter member of the Iota Nu Uplift Foundation, Inc, an affiliated non-profit which has donates monies for scholarships.

Improving Educational Achievement

Keys to Success: Aim High

Story by Brother Tony Harris, M.A., M.Ed.

In the spirit of one of Omega's greatest educators, Dr. Benjamin E. Mays noted that our educational methods must meet the changing needs of the systems within our communities.



Brother Mays also said, "Not failure, but low aim is a sin." He intensely believed that the error of aiming low is a problem within education and throughout society. Dr. Mays emphasized that high aims and determined effort will yield success. Schooling as we knew it no longer exists. Today's student has at his fingertips more information than he can artfully manage.

A student knows of no life before Google and has always carried a phone. Today's students have unfettered access to images of violence and injustice and are more likely to be mobilized to action through social media than through any article appearing in a newspaper.

Even the casual observer will note the significant changes in school structures, school culture, and parental expectation and involvement that have occurred over the last twenty years.

And yet, twenty-six years in the classroom reveals to me one facet of school life that has not changed: a child's imagination and love of learning takes root in an environment that is structured, supportive, and safe.

More specifically, children and young adults of color – reap long-term socio-emotional and academic benefits when they see adults of color actively supporting and working or volunteering in their schools.

We are not all educators in the strictest sense, but we are all teachers, and children – all children – need to see us in their schools.

Across Omega, chapters have taken Grand Basileus Knox's most recent call to action to heart and have begun mentoring programs or have contributed efforts to sustain the Manhood Project. Bro. Ricky Lewis's efforts in the 12th District are, perhaps our greatest success story in this regard but, as highlighted in the Oracle, many chapters have taken up the banner of mentoring young boys and young fathers.

There is room at the table for more. Not everyone has joined in the effort. Indeed, there are more cities without mentoring programs sponsored by and run through Omega than there are cities with these programs.

I (modestly) suggest that each chapter can afford to dedicate at least one day to working with the youth in our communities. That can take the form of a "Real Men Read Program" that goes into schools to read to children. Also, it can include the sponsorship of an elementary school where brothers provide book bags and school supplies and quarterly maintain a classroom presence.

Any single effort will be appreciated by classroom teachers and school administrators eager for their students to hear advice from a group of educated men. A male presence in school hallways – even once a month can establish a positive, nurturing school culture. It is time to re-calibrate and to renew our efforts to sustain life, leadership, and learning in our communities.

Bro. Harris is an Assistant Principal at Chicago's St. Ignatius College Prep High School. He holds a B.S. in Economics, and an M.Ed. from Vanderbilt University. Also, MA in English from the University of Kansas. Initiated by Gamma Phi in 1988, currently with Chicago's Rho Gamma Gamma Chapter.

Mother Pearl Marches To Tradition During Probate



At Howard University, the Spring 2016 line performing their Probate Show. *Story by Brother Esau White, Special to the Oracle*

The Long Walk is an area on the Howard University campus that serves as a unique place for Alpha Chapter's Omega men. Some aspects of the Long Walk tradition has changed throughout the years. The walk evokes tremendous pride associated with the day young men enter into the service of Omega.

Today, the Long Walk runs from the gates close to Cramton Auditorium, to the front of Fine Arts, to the Sundial, the center of the campus. "As the brothers return yearly to renew tradition and retrace the steps they once traveled, a deeper love and appreciation for the friendship and brotherhood becomes a common bond within Alpha Chapter," said Brother Alfonso Beale.

Brother Beale is a 2011 Alpha Chapter member and former Second-Vice District Representative for the Third District.

During the probate period, each time a man is instructed to rise and be greeted as a brother, another soldier who is armed with the Four Cardinal Principles begins an Omega journey that will profoundly affect his friends and community. Through attention to brilliant ideas and hard work—the Long Walk traveler may be fortunate to enter the light of Omega.

Brother Rohulamin Quander, an author, and former judge crossed into Omega through Alpha Chapter in 1964. Judge Quander's latest book, "Fifty Plus Omega Inspired Years: Tracing an Omega Legacy to 1931," presents the history of his family and

his life in Omega. Bro. Quander described the Long Walk as an important path that transcends Greek life. "It stands as a space that has seen the intelligentsia and powerful members of Black society develop and share their message with the world," said Judge Quander.

The Judge viewed his probate and initiation as a six-week bonding process which was incredibly unique to him. He noted that his initiation was the process of building relationships which served as the cement to his Omega friendships today. Brother Quander proudly said the cement still holds strong as his pledge line celebrated their 50th Anniversary in 2014.

Quander noted, "The legacy of the Brotherhood of Omega has cast a

favorable light on those who are coming up in her ranks. There are those who truly understand the meaning of being an Omega Man today.” He also mentioned that there are major differences between his 1964 Probate Show and the current shows.

“Today’s shows are much more of a theatrical production than it was when I did mine. Back then the purpose of the shows was the demonstration of enthusiasm. The show has devolved to a different style as society has picked up its pace.

The modern derivation is not without some familiarity, however, the brothers still value enthusiasm when performing the show.

Brothers had been setting out these high enthusiasm steps as far back as when I arrived on campus in 1961,” commented Quander.

Alpha Chapter’s Brother Robert Warren looked back on his probate day with fondness. “I was exhausted, smelled terrible as I scoped the yard for brothers from the observatory in Locke Hall,” said Brother Warren.

In 1980, Warren with his pledge line of 23 others stood proudly at the gate near Crampton Auditorium. Later, Bro. Warren would become Alpha Chapter’s Basileus and rise to become the District Representative for the Third District.

Bro. Robert Warren noted that one his most memorable events during probate was when one of his line brother’s pants came off because of the combination of water from the rain, and his enthusiastic movement.

Brother Warren also mentioned that the goal of the line was to reach that transcendent moment—returning victoriously to campus as an Omega.

Warren also commented that the sharing of time unites all of brothers of Alpha Chapter. This rite of passage has developed over the years into a show that temporarily paralyzes the campus due to the enthusiastic response from the student body when the Omega probate shows begin.

Brother Kenneth Little, Alpha Chapter (2010) led the *Long Walk* in 2013 and had returned annually to reconnect with the life altering experience. “The *Long Walk* is a rite of passage for those Brothers who are so fortunate to enter Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. through Alpha chapter. The walk is sacred and should be held in the highest esteem each and every time it is brought to fruition,” said Brother Little.

He also commented that the Omega probate is a tradition that is steeped into the Long Walk ceremony, and is passed from decade to decade.

“On April 4, 1964, the day of my initiation, after the probate show when they said, “Rise my brothers!” I began a new phase of life from which I have never since retreated,” said the 72-year old Alpha Chapter member, Brother Rohulamin Quander.

*Story by Alpha Chapter’s
Brother Esau White*

*Bro. Robert Warren, Esq,
Alpha Chapter, 1980
Oracle Photographer*



STEM PROGRAM *For Undergraduates*

Omega4Life is a national leadership development program sponsored by Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and the General Electric Company. The program focuses on collegiate Omega Men majoring in: Mathematics, Science, Engineering & Technology, Computer Science, and Business (Finance, Management, Marketing).

Program Specifics:

*3.0 and higher grade point average (on a 4.0 scale).

*Sophomore, Junior or Senior class standing. Employment opportunities with GE upon graduation.

Deadline - May 1, 2017

Applications are available at -

www.omega4life.org

Questions:

GE: carlos.miller1@ge.com

OPPF: williehinchen@hotmail.com

Bro. Arnold Hosts Male Radio Show

STATESBORO, GA--Omega Psi Phi Fraternity’s Zeta Delta Delta Chapter member, Brother Dale Arnold hosts an evening radio program entitled “*Manhood Mindset*.”

Bro. Arnold, a communications major at Georgia Southern University, leads a dialogue every Thursday on air discussing Black male issues in the community.

Black men are encouraged to call in to Arnold’s show to voice their opinions on several topics including: education, economics, mental health, racism and violence.

Gamma Chapter Hosts First District Meeting in Boston Metro Area

On April 22, 2016, Brothers convened in Quincy, MA., a Boston suburb for the 79th First District Meeting. Gamma Chapter hosted the conference held at the Quincy Marriott Hotel.

Brother Lenward Gatison II, the devoted and industrious Basileus of Gamma Chapter served attentively as District Marshal, directing all affairs for the weekend.

While this conference preeminently conducted the work of Omega, brothers and guests enjoyed plentiful entertainment and opportunities for fraternization.

Among the many prominent attendees, the appearance of several Grand officers included: Grand KRS, Kenneth Rogers; 2nd Vice Grand Basileus, Anthony Kadri; Grand Marshal of the 80th Grand Conclave, Leon Pearson; and Deputy Grand Marshal, Claude Tolbert III, of Gamma Chapter (1992).

The weekend also exhibited the historical significance and contributions of our district. A delegation joined Tufts University president Anthony Monaco in rededicating a campus marker to world record breaking hurdler and acclaimed engineer Brother Edward Dugger, Gamma Chapter, (1938).



Photograph (L to R): Brothers Marvin Gilmore (Gamma 1950); Cortland Dugger (Gamma 1949) and Clifton Moore (Gamma 1950) at the First District Meeting. Also on display were original memorabilia, including the oldest known membership certificate in the Fraternity from Gamma Chapter's 1917 member, Brother John B. Garrett. Another important document included the first Colonel Charles Young Memorial Service program from February 12, 1922.

Brother Cortland Dugger (Gamma 1949), famed inventor and chemist, along with his two neophytes, Brothers Clifton Moore, prominent New England businessman, and Marvin Gilmore, founder of the first Black owned commercial bank in New England (both Gamma 1950), imparted their collective wisdom and experiences at the Founders' Banquet.

The District conferred awards to the following: *Omega Man of the Year*, Brother Sharrieff W. Christmas (Gamma 1991); *Superior Service*, Brother Larry Lopes (Iota Chi); *Talent Hunt*, Kemet T. Krayton (who succeeded in winning the International Talent Hunt Competition); *Citizen of the Year*, Dr. Karen Du Bois Walton; and *Chapter of the Year*, Iota Chi.

Story by Brother David E. Carl

Two Omega Men Receives 50-Year Service Awards

Sigma Nu Chapter Brothers Lemuel H. Fuller and Jerome P. Morgan, Jr. were recognized for their 50-Years of Service to Omega at the 79th First District Meeting.

Brother Lemuel H. Fuller was born in Princess Ann , MD., and was raised in Kinston, NC. He was one of eight children. Bro. Fuller said he and his family once lived in a housing project, but his parents always stressed education. Fuller graduated from Johnson C. Smith University.

Brother Fuller served as an educator for the Rhode Island Public School Public School System for over 25 years. He held positions as an administrator and guidance counselor.

As a member of Sigma Nu, Bro. Fuller spearheaded the chapter's High School Essay Contest for many years. He also served the chapter as the Keeper of Finance, and was chosen as Sigma Nu's Omega Man of the Year many times.

Brother Jerome P. Morgan, Jr. was raised in Gary, Indiana where he was an All-State basketball star. He also was a member of Indiana's first all Black basketball team. Morgan would later play quarterback at Northern Iowa University. He later played for the Dallas Cowboys, and the



Bro. Irvin Caesar, Sigma Nu Basileus; Awardees Brothers Lemuel H. Fuller and Jerome P. Morgan, Jr. with Bro. Francios Fils-Aime, the First Vice District Representative.

Boston Steamrollers, the team was renamed as the Boston (New England) Patriots.

Morgan, a professional golfer continues to teach and instruct inner city youth in the City of Providence.

Brother Morgan was a recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from Sigma Nu.

He also received the George S. Lima Award from the NAACP-Providence Branch. Bro. Morgan has also served as Sigma Nu Chapter's Basileus.

First District Officers

- District Representative-Bro. Michael Jefferson, Esq.
- 1st Vice District Representative-Bro. Francois Fils-Aime
- 2nd Vice District Representative- Bro. Dana Griffin, Jr.
- District Keeper of Records & Seal- Bro. Alexander Jones
- District Keeper of Finance- Bro. Lennitt Bligen
- District Counselor Bro. Steve Hall
- District Chaplain Bro. Arron Lucas
- District Director of Public Relations, Shahid Abdul-Karim

Over 700 Attend District Meeting

Bro. Sherman Charles becomes the Second District's 35th District Representative

Mu Nu served as the host chapter for the 68th Second District Meeting.

PHOTO: Taking the oath of office was Bro. Sherman L. Charles (left) as the new 2nd District Representative and Bro. J. Kendall Smalls, 1st Vice District Representative.

The meeting was held at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in April 2016.

The first event of the conference was a public forum titled "Our Call to Action: Achieving Excellence for All Students in All Communities."

The panel of educators and elected officials discussed how communities can use their political strength and social resolve to ensure adequate funding for schools. The panelist also noted that community members should partner with their local governments to ensure excellence by design in any school district.

The conference was officiated and opened by the 34th Second District Representative, Milton Dewey Harrison. Grand Basileus, Antonio F. Knox; 1st Vice Grand Basileus, Dr. David Marion; Grand Keeper of Records and Seal, Kenneth Rodgers and Grand Counselor, Michael Lyles, Esq. attended the 2nd District Meeting.

Fiscal year 2016-17 marked a change in administration for the Second District Leadership on the Executive Council. Elections were held and the newly elected officers received their Oath of Office at the Founders Banquet. The newly elected 2016-17 Second District Officers are as follows: Sherman L. Charles, 35th 2nd District Representative; J. Kendall Smalls, 1st Vice District Representative; Brandon Ashworth, 2nd Vice District Representative;



Anthony Jones, Dist. Keeper of Records and Seal; Lee Rideout, Dist. Keeper of Finance; Bertrand Harry, Dist. Counselor; Dwain Harrell, Dist. Chaplain; Zanes Cypress, Jr., Dist. Director of Public Relations; Desmond "Skip" Victor, Dist. Keeper of Peace;

Milton D. Harrison, Immediate Past Dist. Rep.; Adebowale Sodeke, Undergrad Rep.; Iniobong Etuk, Undergrad Rep.; Emeka Madubuogo, Undergrad Rep.; Charles Johnson, 69th Dist. Marshall; Jamal Parker, Dist. Photographer; Paul Ramseur, Asst. Dist. KRS; and Adrian Wilcox, Asst. Dist. KF.

2nd Districts awards that were presented: The Undergraduate Omega Man of the Year was Bro. Siddiq Iddrisu of Delta Mu Chapter; Graduate Omega Man of the Year, Bro. Edward Murray, Jr. of Xi Phi Chapter; Bro. C. Donald Bowser, Jr., of Pi Omega Chapter, Basileus of the Year Award.

The Superior Service Award was given to Bro. Eric "Moby" Brown of Pi Omega Chapter and the Founders Award was given to Bro. Kevin Woodhouse of XI Phi Chapter.

CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE

Health Fest

BALTIMORE, MD-Pi Omega Chapter held its 7th Annual Staying Alive Health Festival in June 2016. The early summer event is the chapter's method of providing free health screenings, seminars, neighborhood education and safety awareness to African American Men.

This event helps the population of Black men stay alive by providing them testing for prostate cancer, blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, and osteoporosis screenings. Free HIV/Aids and STD information was also provided. Dentist and Pharmacist were on site to answer any questions.

AWARDS CONTINUE from page 44

Bro. Joseph English, Undergraduate Advisor of the Year and Bro. Terrance J. Williams received the Colonel Charles Young Leadership Award. Bro. Dr. Marco Clark was selected as the District Citizen of the Year.

The Undergraduate, Small and Large Graduate Chapter of the Year were awarded to Delta Mu, Omicron Chi and Lambda Gamma Gamma Chapters, respectively.

Pi Omega Chapter received Large Social Action Chapter of the Year Award and Omicron Chi received Small Social Action Chapter of the Year Award. The High School Essay Contest First Place Winner was Ms. Genae Hatcher, sponsored by Iota Nu Chapter.



SHIRTSLEEVE CONFERENCE

Omicron Chi Chapter hosted the 2016 James S. Avery, Sr. Shirtsleeve Conference. The September event was held in Plainfield, NJ.

The first Shirtsleeve Conference began in 1965. The purpose of conference was to have Omega men roll up their collective sleeves to create action steps in moving the Second District forward in the upcoming fiscal year.

Before the business of the Shirtsleeve Conference began, on Saturday morning, Omicron Chi Chapter conducted a 5K Prostate Cancer Awareness Walk followed by a continental breakfast.

The conference opened with a prayer by District Chaplain Brother Dwain Harrell and a welcome by First Vice District Representative, Bro. J. Kendall Smalls and Bro. Leon Smith, Basileus of Omicron Chi.

The Men's Health Seminar was the conference's first session. Brothers who were survivors of prostate cancer lead the discussion on how cancer can affect your life. Brother Dr. Jedan Phillips gave a clinical perspective of the need for yearly PSA test, prostate and colon cancer screenings. A Mental Health discussion was led by First Vice Grand Basileus, David Marion. Dr. Marion elaborated on his "Brother You're On My Mind" Initiative. Health and Wellness Chair, Brother Tony Hayes gave a discussion on the need for physical fitness. Also, Brother Ron Williams gave his perspective on mental health issues from a governmental perspective.

Fatherhood and Mentoring Chair, Brother Donald Williams shared with the brotherhood, the incredible successes Second District Chapters have had in conducting their chapter's Fatherhood and Mentoring Programs. Bro. Williams also noted the importance of uplifting the image of fathers.



Gamma Xi Host Districts

The 83rd Third District Meeting of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity was held in Virginia Beach, VA. Gamma Xi Chapter served as the host for the three-day meeting in April 2016. The District awardees included:

Omega Man of the Year- Bro. Erik Noel (Pi Lambda Lambda Chapter)

Founders Award -Bro. James Carver (Phi Phi Chapter)

Citizen of the Year -Mrs. Chastity R. Corbett (nominated by Alpha Alpha Chapter)

Col. Young Mil Leadership Award- Bro. Major Kelcey R. Shaw (Pi Lambda Lambda Chapter)

Superior Service Award- Bro. Raymond Bell (Pi Lambda Lambda Chapter)

Undergraduate Chapter of the Year-Eta Delta Delta (George Mason University)

Graduate Chapter of the Year (Large)-Pi Lambda Lambda (Prince William County, VA)

Large Social Action Chapter of the Year-Upsilon Nu (Richmond, VA)

Small Graduate Social Action Chapter of the Year-Tau Rho (Fredericksburg, VA)

Youth Academy Program (YAP) Chapter of the Year (2015)-Gamma Xi (Virginia Beach, VA)

Youth Academy Program (YAP) CoY (2015 Runner-up)-Delta Omega (Petersburg, VA)

Retention Chapter of the Year-Gamma Xi

Special recognition 3rd District Essay Contest Winner and 2nd place International Winner: Miss Zoë C.T. Jones, nominated (Kappa Iota Iota Chapter).

Third District Scholar of the Year-Bro.Derek Fitzgerald – Alpha Chapter - \$2,000.00

3rd District Graduate Scholarships John Hughes IV – Gamma Omega Chapter - \$500.00

Curtis Williams – Kappa Psi Chapter - \$1,000.00

Maurice Smith – Lambda Nu Chapter - \$1,000.00

S. Raschid Muller – Kappa Psi Chapter - \$1,000.00

District /International Scholar of the Year (\$6,500 - \$10,000)

Derek Fitzgerald

Grand Basileus Award (\$5,000)

Aaron Peters

Undergraduate Founders' Memorial Scholarship (\$5,000)

Stafford Brown

Graduate Founders' Memorial Scholarship (\$5,000)

Maurice Smith

Herman S. Dreer Scholarship (\$5,000)

Justin Wimberly

Graduate Scholarship Grant (\$4,000)

S. Raschid Muller

Awardees continue on next page



International Graduate Chapter of the Year (Large)-Pi Lambda Lambda (Prince William County, VA) International Omega Man of the Year - Bro. Erik Noel (Pi Lambda Lambda Chapter) International Superior Service Award Bro. Raymond Bell (Pi Lambda Lambda Chapter)

PHOTOS: The 40th Grand Basileus, Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr. talks with Brother Amos Townsend at the Third District Meeting in April (Left). Previous page-Brother Bruce Brown of Delta Omega Chapter at the District Meeting.

Photographs by Bro. James Witherspoon, Oracle's Director of Photography

Kappa Psi Helps Homeless

The Brothers of Kappa Psi Chapter, along with local supporters and volunteers, convened on Franklin Square in September. The Washington, D.C. area groups shared their upcoming activities and programs, and helped Omega men feed the homeless.

Kappa Psi Chapter joined in partnership with The Good News Community Kitchen (TGNCK) of Virginia. TGNCK's mission is to rebuild and strengthen communities by fighting hunger one meal at a time. "We believe in changing communities one life at a time, so we not only understood [TGNCK's] mission, but we also live it daily as a chapter," said Brother Glen Yonkers, Jr., Kappa Psi's Basileus.

In Washington, D.C., the number of homeless families has soared by more than 30 percent in 2016 compared to a year ago. According to a Federal estimate released last spring, D.C.'s Mayor Muriel Bowser proposed spending about \$173 million on homeless-related services and leasing new shelter sites for more than 250 families.

Brother Uri Robinson, the chapter's Vice Basileus said, "while there have been many proposals in the District, we understand that the families around us, who many times look like us, need food and basic needs today."

Mercedes Naomi, founder of TGNCK, noted that working with Omega's Kappa Psi Chapter helped to bridge a gap between various community organizations.

She also added, "This partnership seems more like a family affair and working with Kappa Psi Chapter reminds me that I'm not alone in the fight to end hunger."

"Our biggest and loudest message for the community is that we are one community. The chapter is dedicated in ensuring that basic needs are met- one meal, one life, and one family at a time," said Brother Yonkers.

Story by Brother Garrett James, Kappa Psi Chapter Editor

School Named After An Omega

Pi Lambda Lambda Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. celebrated the ribbon cutting and dedication of the George M. Hampton Middle School on August 25, 2016.

Hampton Middle School was renamed in honor of Dr. George M. Hampton. He the chapter's oldest active member.

Brother Hampton was initiated into Omega through Mu Psi Chapter in 1949. Hampton served in the U. S. Army retiring with rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

The event was the culmination of a year campaign launched by friends of Dr. Hampton to secure a public school as his namesake.

Hampton Middle School, formerly known as the Mills E. Godwin Middle School, was the third Prince William County School proposed to honor Dr. Hampton. The previous two schools were named to honor other prominent Virginia citizens (the Charles J. Colgan, Sr. High School and the Kyle R. Wilson Elementary School).

Omegas Celebrate 75th District Meeting

The Mighty Fourth District celebrated its Diamond Anniversary District Meeting in Columbus, OH. The meeting was held April 28 to May 1, 2016.

One of the highlights of the 75th District Meeting was the wellness resources provided to over 1200 Columbia area families by the District and Mu Iota Chapter.

Kennedy L. Kandi was winner of the Fourth District's Talent Hunt. Kandi, a student at Westerville Central High School (OH) was sponsored by Mu Iota Chapter. Iota Psi Chapter's Step team (Ohio State University) was recipient of the 2016 Kevin Cherry March Down Competition.

Other 2016 Achievement Awards

Large Chapter of the Year, Zeta Omega and *Small Chapter of the Year*, Xi Iota Iota.



Undergraduate Chapter of the Year, Phi Sigma, Cleveland State. *Graduate Omega Man of the Year*, Bro. Darryl Moore, Zeta Omega; *Undergraduate Omega Man of the Year*, Bro. Antonio Echols, Phi Sigma. *Founders Award*, Bro. Robert Wilson, Delta Alpha. *Superior Service*, Bro. Paul Lucas, Xi Iota Iota.

Colonel Charles Young Award, Bro. Derek Bennett, Jr., Mu Iota. *Citizen of the Year*, Bro. Walter Madison, Zeta Omega and *Chapter Advisor of the Year*, Bro. Bruce Coffee, Zeta Omega. Bro. Michael Jefferson, Esq, the First District Representative served as the Fourth District's Achievement Week's keynote speaker.

Beta Iota Plays a Key Role in Cincinnati

Omega's Brother Joseph Butts was presented an award from the Cincinnati Fire Department on April 17, 2016. Brother Butts used CPR to bring a 10-year girl back to life after she stopped breathing during her karate practice.

The 2016 Heart Mini celebrated its 39th running on March 13th, 2016. The Heart Mini offers events for participants of all fitness levels. Events include: Signature 15K Heart Mini Marathon; Heart ½ Marathon;

5K Heart Run; 3 mile and 5 mile Heart Walks; 2K Kids' Run and 1K Steps for Stroke for heart. The Health and Fitness Expo features health screenings, fitness tests, apparel sales, yoga and fitness dance and a free Kids Fun Run for ages seven and under. The Heart Mini is presented by Mercy Health.

At Woodward High School, Beta Iota Chapter participated in The Relay for Life event. The Chapter was able to meet its fundraising goal of \$1,000.

Relay for Life events are community activities where teams and individuals camp out at a school, park, or fairground and take turns walking or running around a track or path.

The Chapter had at least one participate on the track at all times to raise awareness to help the American Cancer Society save lives. The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life movement is the world's largest fundraising event to fight cancer in every community.

National Park Service Joins Birthday Celebration

Omega's Young Honored in Ohio

Omega men from the Fourth, joined the National Park Service in honoring the late Brother Colonel Charles Young's 152nd birthday in Xenia, OH.

Young became the Fraternity's second honorary member in 1912.

Young's connection with the Xenia community began in 1894, when the Army assigned him to serve as the military science professor at Wilberforce College. He was also the first Black superintendent of the National Park Service.

Cadet Richard Powell-Russell, a history major at Central State University and a volunteer at the Col. Charles Young National Park, presided over the program on March 16, 2016. The event was attended by US Army ROTC cadets from the CSU Marauder Battalion, the Honorable Marsha Bayless, Mayor of Xenia, Ohio, and a multitude of others who gathered to honor Young.

Brother Charles A. Bruce, former Grand Keeper of Records and Seal delivered the keynote address. Brother Bruce took the attentive audience on an informative and engaging tour of the life of Young.

Bro. Bruce spoke about the challenges that the young Cadet faced as he attended West Point Academy, becoming the third African American graduate from that institution.

The audience was treated to historical facts



about the Colonel's leadership of the 9th and 10th Calvary in Nebraska called the "Buffalo Soldiers." Many could not believe the obstacles that Colonel Young had to endure for the opportunity to serve his country.

Bruce provided a vivid mental image of the Colonel as he served his country through

deployments in Mexico, the Philippines, Liberia and several of the National Park sites in the United States. Colonel Young's ride from Wilberforce to Washington, D.C. was a surprise to many.

Brother Bruce's enthusiastic portrayal of the life of Col. Charles Young was recognized by the Park Service and he was presented with a Certificate of Dedicated Service for his effort to prepare and deliver his presentation.

Brother Albert Jordan, the 19th Fourth District Representative presented the Proclamation from The Grand Basileus of The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Brother Antonio Knox. The Fraternity made the attendees aware of the many contributions the Fourth District's late Brother Dr. James Elam's generous donations which made the National Park site a reality.

*Story by Brother Dr. Fred Aikens,
4th District Director of Public Relations*

Pictures by Brother James Witherspoon, IHQ Director of Photography

Story by Brother Quincy Snider, 5th District KRS

Nashville Hosts The 5th Distict Meeting

Since 1948, in its present form the Fifth District is comprised of Omega chapters from the states of Kentucky and Tennessee. Annually, representatives from the each state joined together to conduct the business of Omega.

The 68th Fifth District Meeting was held this spring at Nashville's Airport Marriott.

Attending the March meeting was Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr., the 40th Grand Basileus; Brother Dr. Andrew A. Ray, the Immediate Past Grand Basileus and Brother Kenneth Barnes, the International Executive Director.

Epsilon Phi Chapter was recognized as the District's top chapter for Reclamation and Retention. Brother Danny Pogue was recognized as the Undergraduate Advisor of the Year for his work with the Chi Psi Chapter.

Brother Mark Bishop was elected chairman of the Life Member Committee. Brother Terrence Jones received the Colonel Charles Young Award for his outstanding military service.

Later during the year, Omega men from Middle Tennessee Chapters hosted a reception for the new Metro Nashville Public Schools Director, Brother Dr. Shawn Joseph. The reception was held on June 21, 2016, at Vanderbilt University's Multipurpose Facility Field House in Nashville. Omega's Middle Tennessee Chapters include: Delta, Eta Psi, Gamma Phi, Rho Psi, Theta Beta, Lamb Mu, and Omega Lambda Lambda. Also attending the public reception for Omega's Dr. Joseph was the 22nd Fifth District Representative, Brother Bryan K. White.



"This is a monumental and exciting moment for our city and the Fifth District. Not only does Dr. Joseph bring significant experience in leading diverse school populations, he is also Nashville's first African American to lead our local school district," said Brother White.

Other Omegas at the event included: Bro. Dr. David Williams, Vanderbilt's Vice Chancellor for Athletics; Religious leaders, Bro. Vincent Windrow; Bro. Dr. Joseph W. Walker and Bro. Harold Love, State Representative, District 58.

Gamma Theta Participates in School Event

Omega's Gamma Theta Chapter participated in a lock-in at Parker Bennett-Curry Elementary School in Bowling Green, KY.

The lock-in event was held on March 25, 2016 with the purpose of providing 4th and 5th graders steps on how to become young men.

Brother Kurrion Carmichael spearheaded the event to present chapter brothers with the opportunity to give back to the community by investing time into the future of young Black boys.

During the lock-in the chapter brothers introduced themselves, and explained why it is important to work with community youth. During the event, Omegas played basketball, dodgeball, and tag with the young male students.

The brothers also taught the 4th and 5th graders how to tie a neck tie. The young boys also learned the importance of developing as a man, and why men are needed in Black communities. Brothers also helped the youthful attendees with their homework and answered their concerns and or questions.





A Sea of Brotherhood

The Brothers of the Mighty Sixth District descended upon one of the nation's most popular vacation destinations to hold their 71st Annual District Meeting. Omega Delegates and their families were housed in the comfortable confines of the Sheraton Hotel and Convention Center in Myrtle Beach, SC.

The Sixth District is home to former Sixth District Representative, and Omega's 40th Grand Basileus, Brother Antonio Knox, Sr. Brother Michael Morgan delivered a stirring address during Sunday's morning breakfast. Brother Morgan referred to throughout the district as "the judge," presented how disparities in class, race and wealth impacts society, and why Omega is important in aiding Black communities.

At the Talent Hunt competition members, families and guests witnessed performances by a lineup of the best musical talents from youth across the Carolinas.

Featured were several young performers using a variety of instruments, and some vocalists.

DISTRICT AWARDS

Omega Man of the Year – Graduate Brother James Ford
 Undergraduate Brother Anthony Trapp
 Superior Service – Brother Byron Putnam
 Founders Award – Brother Lathan Turner
 District Scholar – Brother Benson Uche, Epsilon Epsilon
 Founders Memorial Scholarship – Brother Carl Jones, Tau Psi
 Grand Basileus Award- Brother Khari Cyrus, Kappa Lambda
 Ronald E. McNair Scientific Achievement Award – Brother Samuel Cole, Xi Psi
 Herman S. Dreer Leadership Award – Brother Tyberius Cravens, Xi Psi
 H. Carl Moultrie Legal Scholar Award – Brother Michael Boykin, Iota Iota
 W. Montague Cobb Medical Scholar Award – Tyler Allen, Iota Iota
 Undergraduate Scholarship Grant – Brother Jeffrey Booker, Alpha Delta Chi
 Graduate Scholarship Grant – Brother Adam Kinloch, Xi Psi



Reclamation Large Chapter – Pi Phi, Charlotte, NC
Intermediate Chapter – Delta Iota, Elizabeth City, NC
Small Chapter – Pi Alpha, Greer, SC
Tasmanian Award – Brother Phillip Perry
Marchdown Winners – Lambda Gamma, Elizabeth City State University

African-American Quiz Bowl Champions – South Point H.S., Rock Hill, SC, Sponsored by the Kappa Alpha Chapter
Talent Hunt Winner – Anne Carlestein, East Chapel Hill H.S., sponsored by the Beta Phi Chapter
Large Chapter of the Year – Iota Iota, Raleigh, NC
Small Chapter of the Year – Kappa Alpha, Rock Hill, SC

PHOTOGRAPHS
By Bro. James Witherspoon
Story by Brother Kurt Walker

Omega's Leadership Attends 7th District Meeting



Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr., the 40th Grand Basileus; Brother Dr. George H. Grace, 37th Grand Basileus; Brother Dr. Dorsey C. Miller, 35th Grand Basileus and Brother Dr. David Marion, the First Vice Grand Basileus at the 7th District Meeting. Photographs by Brother James Witherspoon, Director of Photography/IHQ.

The District Meeting for the 7th District was held in Jackson, MS., on March 17 -20. Brother Dominic Riley served as the District Marshal for the spring meeting at Jackson's Marriott Hotel.

A week earlier, Lambda Psi celebrated their 90th chapter anniversary. The evening event was held at the Middle Georgia State College Conference Center in Macon, GA. The First Grand Basileus, Brother Dr. David Marion delivered the event's keynote address entitled "Its time for real men to step up."

The 7th District Representative, Brother Leslie Gamble and Brother John Howard, the International Assistant Executive Director attended the chapter's celebration.

Brother James Jones, the chapter's oldest active member received an award for 65 years of service. The chapter also presented Brother James Postell, Sr. with a service award for 57 years of active service. Other recipients of the chapter's Cornerstone honors included: Brother Craig Jackson, Leadership Award; Brother Ronald J. Taylor, Service Award; Brother Rickey Moore, Keeper of Finance Award, and the Founders Award was presented to Lambda Psi Chapter's founding members enshired in Omega Chapter. Lambda Psi Chapter received special proclamations from Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., the 7th District, and the City of Macon for their 90 years of service to the community.

Report by Bro. Douglas Fletcher

Eta Omega and Psi Omega Chapters Provide Mentoring to Community

ATLANTA, GA--For the past five years Eta Omega Graduate Chapter has participated in the Paul Laurence Dunbar Elementary School's annual Career Day, and "Dress for Success" program in November.

Earlier during the year, the chapter relaunched the Omega Manhood Leadership Institute (OMLI). The purpose of the OMLI program is for the chapter brothers to become more involve as mentors for the students in the Atlanta school. Some of the program's weekly activities include computer programming & coding, public speaking and etiquette.

AUGUSTA, GA--One of Psi Omega Chapter's major programs is their Assault on Illiteracy program. The chapter's mentoring activities are held at Deer Chase Elementary School. The Omegas that participate in the program are viewed as positive male role models by their mentorees.

COBB COUNTY, GA--The brothers of Chi Gamma Gamma Chapter have been mentoring and reading programs at four elementary schools in Cobb County. Over the course of the school year, members have worked with 215 students each month.

They also have logged 1560 hours of support for the chapter's 1911 League School Mentoring related activities. The chapter's mentoring program highlights life skills training, classroom reading and general volunteer support.



Eighth District Holds District Meeting in Kansas



Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Eighth District at their 67th Annual District Meeting in Lawrence, KS

Story by Brother Dr. Paul Prosper, 8th District Director of Public Relations

The 67th Eighth District Meeting was held in Lawrence, KS from April 28th to May 1, 2016. Delta Phi and Rho Eta Chapters hosted the meeting at the Holiday Inn Hotel Convention Center, and the University of Kansas Lied Center.

During the meeting, there were many notable events, Eighth District elections, and visits by several Supreme Council members. Omega's Dr. David Marion, the First-Vice Grand Basileus spoke to the brothers about the 80th Grand National Conclave and *The Brother, You Are on My Mind* initiative.

Brother Marion said the initiative "was not designed to have a lot of spiritual influences, however after I presented it, *The Brother, You Are on My Mind* session was a great avenue for brothers to talk, share, pray, laugh, cry, and encourage each other.

I am still receiving calls today about this session and how brothers want to keep this going in future district meetings," added Dr. Marion. "The session was the first of its kind at an Eighth District Meeting," said Brother Ray Brown, the Immediate-Past Eighth District Representative.

The Eighth District Talent Hunt was an incredible event. The judges had a major challenge in selecting from the pool of talented contestants. Ultimately, the judges chose Anthony Roberson, who represented St. Louis' Upsilon Omega Chapter. Brother Michael Jackson, the Fraternity's International Prostate Cancer Subcommittee Chairman discussed prostate cancer awareness as he presented his personal story with the disease.

The Denver Broncos' Brother Christopher Harris addressed the Brothers about how he saw it through on his journey to initially making the

Bronco's final 53-man roster. He noted that an assistant coach and Omega man gave him an opportunity to play on special teams. Omega's Harris acknowledged that because of his outstanding special teams play, he was later a starter and ultimately a Pro Bowl caliber cornerback. Brother Harris is a member of the 2016 Super Bowl champion Bronco. He was initiated through Rho Eta Chapter in 2010.

The Grand Chaplain Reverend Dr. Staccato Powell visited the District Meeting and delivered the message during the Prayer Breakfast. Brother Powell presented Brother Ray Brown, Immediate-Past Eighth District Representative, with the Distinguished Service Award for his body of work accomplished while on the Supreme Council as the Senior District Representative. Powell presented this award on behalf of Brother Antonio Knox, the 40th Grand Basileus of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Additionally, Brother Ezekiel Dennison, the Third District Representative was the Undergraduate Luncheon keynote speaker. This was the fifth consecutive year, the Eighth District Meeting hosted a sitting District Representative to deliver the Undergraduate Luncheon address.

Other District Representatives that previously spoke at the Undergraduate Luncheon included: Bro. Cedric Spencer, 12th District in 2012; Bro. Fred Alexander, 12th District in 2013; Brother Colonel Mathew Coleman, 13th District in 2014, and the Honorable Judge Steve Watkins, 10th District in 2015.

International Headquarters Assistant Executive Director, Brother John Howard visited and updated the brothers on the strength of Omega. This engaging presentation highlighted the numbers of financial and non-financial brothers ready to be reclaimed back into the fold.

During the Eighth District Meeting new District officers were elected. They included: Bro. James R. Ball, the 33rd Eighth District Representative; Bro. Stefan C. Hughes, First-Vice District Representative; Bro. Kristoffer Bridges, Second-Vice District Representative; Bro. Jerry Walker, District Keeper of Records and Seal; Bro. Osuman Issaka, District Keeper of Finance; Bro. Tommy Jewell, District Counselor; Bro. Dr. Paul Prosper, District Director of Public Relations; Reverend Brother Dr. Thomas Smith Sr., District Chaplain; Bro. Delvon Rouser, Undergraduate Representative at Large and Bro. Ivy Williams was re-appointed as the Eighth District Chief of Staff.

At the closing night of the meeting, Omega men and their guest attended the Founders Reception and Award Banquet. Achievement Week Annual Awards were presented in recognition of top-performing Omega brothers and chapters from the Eighth District. Brother Lloyd Jordan, Esq., 36th Grand Basileus was the keynote speaker during the Founders Awards Banquet. He delivered an interesting speech about the Black Lives Matter movement and the issues facing the Black male in America.

The Founders Banquet awardees included: Bro. Mandrid Williams, Beta Omega, (Kansas City, Mo) received the **Founders Award**; Bro. Doug Williams, Upsilon Omega (St. Louis, Mo) was the winner of the **Eighth District Stalwart Award**; Bro. Jason Jones, Upsilon Omega was presented the **Superior Service Award**; Bro. Michael Lambert, Xi Pi (Colorado Springs, CO) was honored with the **Colonel Charles Young Award** and Bro. John Bowman of Upsilon Omega Chapter was the recipient of the **"Eighth District Omega Man of the Year"** Award.

Xi Pi Chapter was awarded the **"Eighth District Social Action Chapter of the Year."** Xi Pi Chapter was selected as the **"Eighth District's Chapter of the Year."** Malik Ahmed was presented with the **"Eighth District Citizen of the Year"** Award. Ahmed was nominated by Upsilon Omega Chapter.



TOP: Brother Dr. David Marion, the First Vice-Grand Basileus (center) at the District Meeting Cookout.

MIDDLE: Brother James R. Ball, the 33rd Eighth District Representative (center) with other Omegas.

BOTTOM: Brothers Steve Piphus, Ron Johnson and Jayson Jones on the golf course.



Photographs by Bro. James Witherspoon, Oracle/IHQ Director of Photography

District Prepares for Conclave 2018

The Ninth District Meeting was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in the City of New Orleans.

Brother Terrence Augillard, the District Marshal welcomed Omegas to one of largest districts in the Fraternity on March 23-26, 2016.





The Tenth District Welcomes Grand Officers to the Heart of America



The 79th Tenth District Meeting was held April 21-24, 2016 in Merrillville, Indiana. The meeting was hosted by Alpha Kappa Kappa Graduate Chapter at the Radisson Star Plaza Hotel. Several Grand officers were in attendance at the business sessions last spring.

The brotherhood welcomed Brother Antonio Knox, the 40th Grand Basileus; Brother Dr. David Marion, the First Vice Grand Basileus; Brother Kenneth Rodgers, Grand Keeper of Records and Seal and Brother Anthony Kadri, the 2nd Vice Grand Basileus.

The Honorable Brother Steven G. Watkins, the 35th Tenth District Representative concluded his third term as he announced new undergraduate chapters, and the Tenth District's contribution of over 1000 cases of water to the help the residents of Flint, who

are still suffering from their city's water crisis. The election of District officers was completed during the conference. The 2016-2017 elected officers include:

- Bro. Darryl L Jones, 36th Tenth District Representative
- Bro. Dr. Roland J. Thorpe, Jr., 1st Vice Tenth District Representative
- Bro. Derrick Ivory, Tenth District Keeper of Records and Seal
- Bro. Alex Beamon, Tenth District Keeper of Finance
- Bro. Ira Witlock, Tenth District Counselor
- Bro. Sean T. Long, Tenth District Director of Public Relations
- Bro. Richard Keller, Jr., Tenth District Chaplain

Above: Brother Antonio Knox, the 40th Grand Basileus (left) with Brother Burnel E. Coulon, the 31st Grand Basileus (center) and Brother Dr. Vernon G. Smith, a former Tenth District Representative. Photo by Bro. James Witherspoon.



Tenth District's leadership with over 1000 bottles of water for Flint residents.

Omega works to end crisis

Two Tenth District Chapters, Flint's Omicron Rho and Tau Kappa Kappa of Southfield joined together to lead the delivery of water bottles gathered from their chapters as well as other chapters since last year.

In October 2015, officials from Genesee County(MI) declared a public emergency over water concerns in the City of Flint. Doctors reported high levels of lead in blood samples. Also, residents complained of poor water taste, bad smell, and discolored water.

At the beginning of 2016, Omega men continued efforts in Flint, as they joined Omega's Reverend Jesse Jackson in a social action march entitled "Rebuild Flint."

The focus of the march was to

demand the move from relying on bottled water to fixing lead pipes and reconstructing Flint's infrastructure.

On January 28, 2016, the International Headquarters sent out a call to action to all Omega men aid in ending the water crisis. They partnered with Omega Charities to set up tax deductible donations for the Flint cause.

Omega's International Headquarters (IHQ) also sent \$2000 directly to Omicron Rho, the Flint chapter. The 10th District set up a "GoFundMe" account which has raised close to \$10,000.

The District delivered 700 cases to Mount Hermon Baptist Church, a Flint church pastored by Brother Kim Yarber. Also, Omega's Brother Derrick Nolen, pastor of Flint's St. John Christian Church recieved 300 cases of water.

Theta Kappa Kappa Launches Omega Night at the Theater

On July 1, 2016, Theta Kappa Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., joined the Congo Square Theater in presenting the play, *A small oak tree runs red*. The play was the first feature presentation for the chapter's Omega Night at the Theater.

The *premiere* of the theaterial piece written by Lekethia Dalcoe was in the City of Chicago. The audience has an opportunity to understand 20th century America, and how that time connents to our present challenges.

The play is stuck between reality and purgatory, as historical figures Mary Turner and Sidney Johnson's anger, passion and pain are running emotions throughout their lives.

Proceeds for the *Omega Night of the Theatre* was dedicated to the chapter's scholarship fund. The presentation was directed by Brother Harry Lennix.

Brother Lennix, a Theta Kappa Kappa member, and well-known T.V. and movie actor. His recent credits include the 2016 *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*, *Chi-Raq* movies, and the NBC drama, *The Blacklist*.

12th District Presents Original Chapter Charters



Brothers Oscar Edwards, Franklin Henderson and Eddie Conner holding the recreated 1946 Lambda Omicron Chapter Charter at the 12th District Meeting.

Over 500 Omega men, family members and guests attended the 71st Twelve District Meeting in May 2016. The spring gathering was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Phoenix, AZ.

Brother Charles Peevy, the District Marshal, truly exemplified the District Meeting's theme "*Omega men: Living a life of consecrated usefulness.*"

Brothers from the host chapters, Phi Iota and Alpha Theta rallied around Brother Peevy in executing an excellent District Meeting months before the 80th Grand National Conclave. The conclave was hosted by the 12th District in the City of Las Vegas.

The 71st District Meeting was presided over by Brother James "Big Game" Walker, 32nd District Representative. Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr., the 40th Grand Basileus and other Omega Grand officers attended the west coast meeting.

The International History & Archives Chairman, Brother Carl Blunt and Brother Darroll Love, the 12th District History & Archives Chairmen took on the work intense duty of gathering historically information about early chapters.

Brothers Blunt and Love had the task of recreating the original chapter charters including era correct signatures of Grand Officers from 1923 and 1946.

Signatures on the "original" Chapter Charters include J. Alston Atkins, 9th Grand Basileus (circa 1923) and Campbell C. Johnson, 18th Grand Basileus (circa 1946.) Lambda Chapter was chartered in Los Angeles, California ninety-three (93) years ago in 1923. Seventy (70) years ago in 1946, Sigma Iota, Alpha Epsilon, Phi Iota and Lambda Omicron Chapters were chartered in various cities throughout California and Arizona.

Brother Morris O' Kelly, Jr., a successful radio/TV commentator was the speaker for the Dr. Ronald E. McNair Undergraduate Luncheon. Brother O'Kelly chronicled his lifelong journey in become a member of Omega after several unsuccessful starts. He noted his personal trials and tribulations while seeking Omega tested his ability to Persevere.

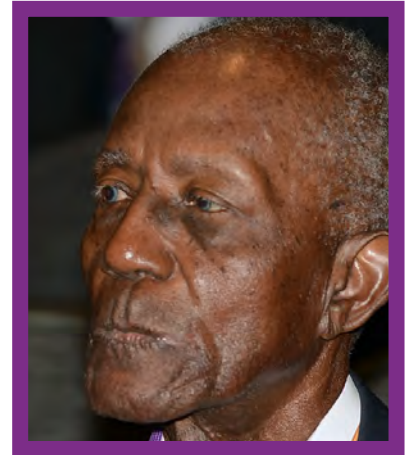
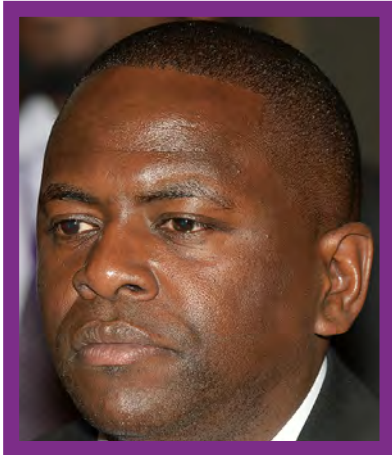


PHOTO ABOVE--Bro. Ricky Lewis (center) at the District Meeting.

For the last 20 consecutive years, since 1996, one of the hallmark events of each and every 12th District Meeting has been a District Youth Leadership Conference (DYLC.) The first 12th District DYLC was held in Phoenix.

DYLC is largely the brainchild of Brother Ricky Lewis who has been the primary driving force not only at annual 12th District Meetings, but during Grand Conclaves, Leadership Conferences, and at other District Meetings throughout the nation.

The Youth Leadership Conferences in Los Angeles every Fall has presented a positive impact on the lives of more than 6,000 young boys over the past two decades.

Brother Michael Brown, the District Chaplain held several Bible studies sessions during the 12th District Meeting last spring.

The golf outing held at the Legacy Golf Resort in Phoenix, AZ., was enjoyed by 56 golfers from various chapters and supporters from the Phi Iota chapter. Brothers Shedrick Collins, William Carter and Louie Johnson from Tau Tau chapter won 1st Place trophies for the lowest score of 58. They also took honors of winning the 12th District's Traveling Golf Trophy.

*Report by
Brother Myron E. Reed, 12th District
Director of Public Relations;
Brother Ronan K. Hill, 12th District
Keeper of Records and Seal, and Brother
Carl McNeary, Golf Coordinator*

12TH DISTRICT AWARD RECIPIENTS

Social Action Awards

Undergraduate Chapter of the Year, Phi Lambda
Graduate Chapter of the Year
Small Chapter - Zeta Tau Chapter
Large Chapter-Tau Tau Chapter

Achievement Week Awards

Citizen of the Year-Ms. Melissa Lynn Jock, representing Beta Mu Mu

Founders Award

Brother Ricky L. Lewis, Tau Tau Chapter

Colonel Charles Young Award

Brother Stanley Harris, Tau Tau Chapter

Superior Service Award Brother

Ronnie Walker, Tau Tau Chapter

Undergraduate Advisor of the Year

Brother Louis Cortez, Lambda Omicron Chapter

Omega Man of the Year

Undergraduate Brother Isiah L. Turner, Lambda Chapter
Graduate Brother Andrew Davis, Phi Iota Chapter

Reclamation Awards Small Chapter-

Xi Nu, and Kappa Xi Chapters
Large Chapter-Tau Tau Chapter



Omega men from eleven active chapters located in Canada, Hawaii, Japan, South Korea, Ghana, Bahamas, St. Thomas, St. Croix, Germany and the United Kingdom attended the 13th District Meeting and the Conclave.

13th District Meet at the 80th Conclave

The 23rd Thirteenth International District Meeting was convened under the chairmanship of the 9th Thirteenth District Representative, Brother Dr. Delon Brennen at Caesar’s Palace, Las Vegas, NV.

The theme of the meeting held at the 80th Grand National Conclave in July 2016 was “Transforming the District through Modernization and Technology.”

Several reports from 13th District Officers, Committee Chairmen, and Chapter were presented during the meeting. The District adopted a five-point strategic plan that focused on enhanced communications, financial operability, fiscal sustainability, growth, and support.

With the challenges inherent with a globally dispersed district, brothers engaged in robust discussions targeting strategies to improve the Thirteenth District.

The gathering also approved its annual operating budget and discussed the implementation of mandated programs across the district. Some 13th District Omega men also participated in Protocol and MSP training.

During the meeting, Brother Antonio Knox Sr., the 40th Grand Basileus; Brother Kenneth Rodgers, Grand KRS, and Brother Raymond Bourgeois, the International Membership Committee Chairman visited the District Meeting. They commended the District on the astounding strides made over the past five years.

Sigma Gamma Gamma District Chapter of Year



Brother Dr. Bryan Cox, a member of Tau Chi Chapter in Accra, Ghana addressed the Brotherhood during the District Meeting. Brother Dr. Cox of the Spinal Clinic discussed the benefit of good spinal health. Dr. Cox also released his children's book entitled, "Dr. Spine Goes to School." In addition, Ms. Nina Gan, representing Theta Rho Chapter was named the 13th District's Talent Hunt Winner.

The Annual District Elections were held, at the July 2016 District Meeting and the following Brothers were elected to office included:

District Representative – Brother Delon Brennen

1st Vice District Representative – Brother Trevor Hodge

2nd Vice District Representative – Brother Linardo Dawkins

District Keeper of the Records & Seal – Brother Tracy George

District Keeper of Finance – Brother Eric Silver

13TH DISTRICT AWARD RECIPIENTS INCLUDED:

Chapter of the Year Award – Lambda Beta Beta

Omega Man of the Year Award – Brother Trevor Hodge of Chi Mu Mu Chapter

Brother Dick Smith Memorial Scholarship
Brother Berhan Kaleb of Chi Mu Mu

Superior Service Award – Brother Eric Silver of Lambda Beta Beta Chapter

Charles Young Military Leadership Award –
Brother Eric Faison of Chi Mu Mu Chapter

Citizen of the Year Award – Brother Carl Bampoe of Tau Chi Chapter

Founders' Award – Brother Bryan Cox of Tau Chi Chapter

At the 3th District Meeting in July 2016, Sigma Gamma Gamma was named the District Chapter of the Year. This was Sigma Gamma Gamma's first "Chapter of the Year" honor.

Basileus Michael Robinson said that the award was the result of hard work and dedication performed throughout the year by each Brother. He also praised the Okinawa Community for their support in attendings programs and events sponsored by the chapter.

From November 1, 2014, through October 31, 2015, Sigma Gamma Gamma held three scholarship fundraisers: Mardi Grass, Black OWT, and Achievement Week Banquet which provided over \$1500 in cash prizes for Talent Hunt Winners and \$2000 for High School Scholarships.

The Brothers of Sigma Gamma Gamma also provided service to the Okinawa community through coordinating reading books to students, visiting the elderly home for routine cleaning, issuing scholarships and displaying the talent of youth.

STORY CONTINUES ON PAGE 70

WHEN WE WEAR THE GLOVES

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

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

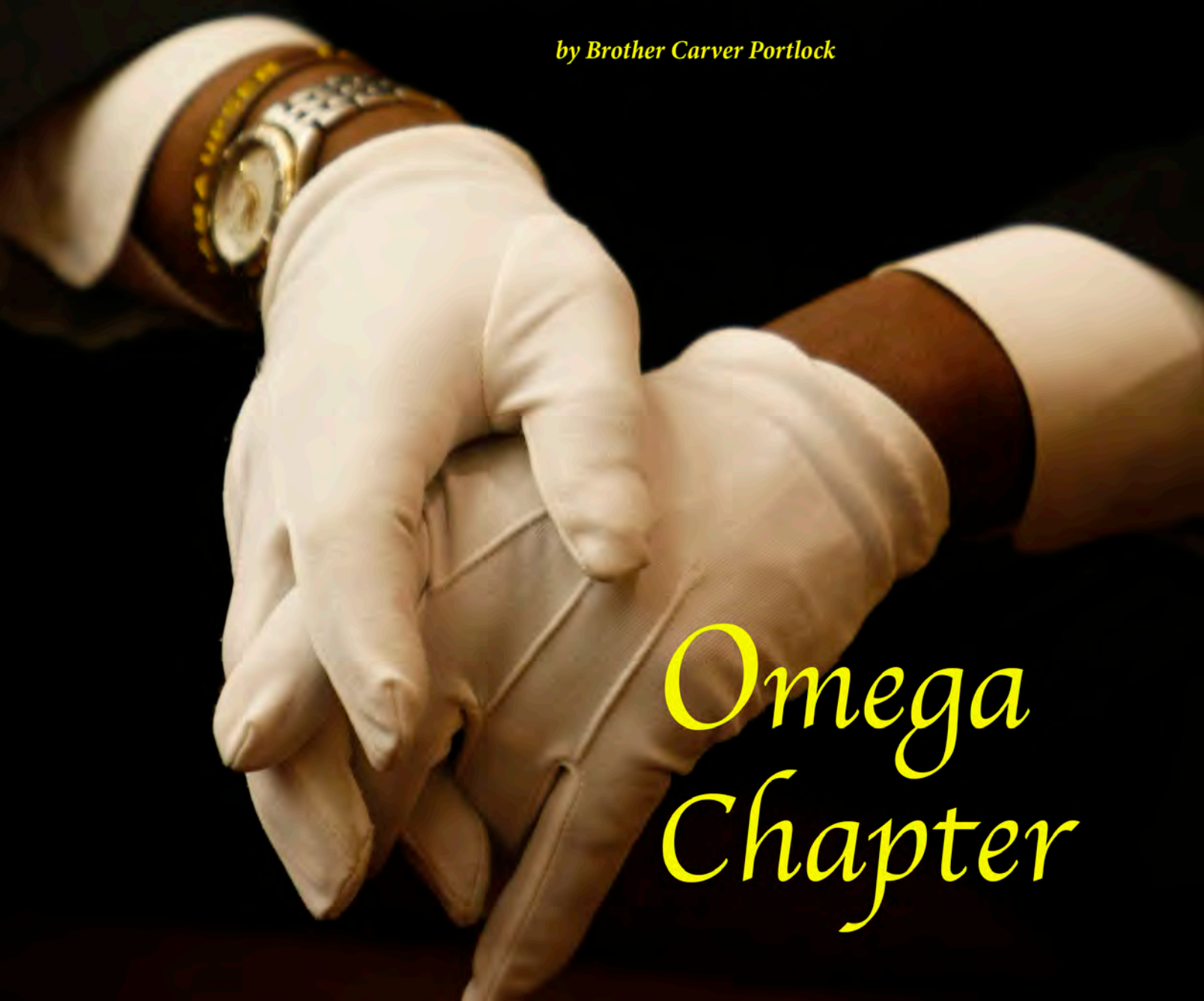
*The circle has an empty place, A voice will raise no more. The song of fellowship and love Uplift
forevmore. When we wear the gloves, A light goes from this earthly life. The visor closed again.*

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

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

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

by Brother Carver Portlock



*Omega
Chapter*

Brother Lloyd M. Alston, Sr.

Assistant Superintendent and Educator

Brother Alston entered Omega Chapter on January 31, 2016. The father of two Omega men (Michael and Lloyd) was initiated into the Fraternity through Pi Chapter at Morgan State College in 1952. After 63 years of service to Omega, Alston's grandson, Tyler Alston followed the family legacy and joined Omega Psi Phi in 2010.

Brother Alston served in the U.S. Army as an officer, later earning an MBA from American University. During his 28-years of service with the Baltimore City Public School system, Alston served as an Assistant Superintendent of three different divisions. He was a member of Baltimore's Pi Omega Graduate Chapter.

Brother Bernard O. Ames

Monfitt Point Marine

Brother Ames entered Omega Chapter on July 25, 2016. He was initiated into the Fraternity through Nu Psi Chapter at Virginia State College in 1946. Brother Ames is survived by his son, Bishop Dr. Malcolm O. Ames, three grandchildren, and three great grand sons.

Brother Horace H. Brissette

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army (retired)

Brother Brissette entered Omega Chapter on December 22 2014. The Pittsburgh native was born in 1929. He graduated in 1953 majoring in education from Virginia State University. Brissette was initiated into Omega through Nu Psi Chapter, Virginia State University in 1951. Brother Brissette was very an active member with Delta Omega Chapter. Lt. Colonel Brissette was inducted into the Virginia State University Military Alumni Chapter's Hall of Fame.

Brother William B. Bryant, Sr.

Educator and Omega Life Member

Brother Bryant entered Omega Chapter on March 9, 2016. During World War II, Bryant served in the U. S. Navy, later enrolling into Howard University. He graduated from Howard with a B.S. in commerce and finance. He also earned a Master's degree from Columbia University.

Brother Jasper Cabell

Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy (retired)

Brother Cabell entered Omega Chapter on March 22, 2016. He was member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and several other Norfolk, VA organizations. Lt. Commander Cabell served on active duty in the U.S. Navy for 28 years.

Brother Dave Grant

Educator

Brother Grant entered Omega Chapter on March 28, 2016. He was initiated through Omicrom Sigma Chapter in 1964. The Life Member earned his Master's degree in Physical Education and a Master's in Sociology. Grant worked at Hampton University as a coach and served as a counselor at Thomas Nelson Community College.

Brother Charles Edward IV

Educator

Brother Edward entered Omega Chapter in April 2016. After 33 years of service as a teacher, guidance counselor, and director of guidance and mentoring he retired from the Indianapolis Public School System in 1990. He graduated from Indiana University with undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Brother William "Jimmy" Hinson

Educator

Brother Hinson entered Omega Chapter in August 18, 2016. He was initiated through Mu Epsilon Chapter in 1949 at Winston Salem State University. Brother Hinson was Life Member #1906, and served in Beta Chi Chapter as a charter member until his death. After a short stint in the U. S. Army, Hinson resumed his education at Fayetteville State Teacher's College.

He also studied at East Carolina, North Carolina A&T, and the University of North Carolina. He taught at several schools and served as the principal at Lucile Souder Elementary School. Hinson served on the Oracle and the Sixth District's Q-View Editorial Boards. He was recognized several times as the chapter's "Omega Man of the Year."

Brother Wheeler Hughes

Educator

Brother Hughes entered Omega Chapter in 2016. He was initiated through Mu Alpha Chapter in 1975. After graduating from Benedict College in 1958, he served two-years in the U.S. Army. In 1960, Hughes began his teaching career in Charleston, SC. He served as an assistant principal, principal and teacher retiring after 35-years of service from the Charleston County School District.

Brother Hughes held memberships with Calvary Baptist Church, Central Baptist Church, National Education Association, South Carolinal Education Association, and the Benedict College National Alumni Association. Brother Hughes was inducted into the Benedict College Athletic Hall of Fame in 2006.



Brother Dosh R. Jackson
Businessman and Postal Service

Brother Jackson entered Omega Chapter on September 23, 2016. He was initiated into Omega in February 1934. He was a student at Morris Brown College, but they did not have a chapter, so he helped to form Alpha Sigma Chapter becoming its first Basileus.

Bro. Jackson was believed to be *Omega's oldest member as he celebrated his 105th birthday in February 2016*. He became interested in Omega when he was the church chauffeur for Omega's Founder Bishop Edgar A. Love during his Atlanta visit in the early 1930s. He worked for the U.S. Postal Service for 35 years and later started an electronics company.

A more detail story about Bro. Jackson appeared in the Oracle issue-(Winter 2012/Spring 2013). **Photograph above:** Brother Dosh Jackson received his 75th Years of Service Award at the 76th Grand National Conclave in Raleigh, NC (2010).

Brother Leonard L. Jackson
U.S. Army officer

Brother Jackson entered Omega Chapter on March 11, 2016. Jackson was initiated into Omega through the Kappa Omega Chapter in 1984. Jackson achieved the rank of Colonel after serving 30 years in the U.S. Army. He worshipped at Capital Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg, PA.

Brother Oscar L. Kemp
Educator

Brother Kemp entered Omega Chapter on February 24, 2016. He was a Life Member with over 50 years of service to the Fraternity and Psi Omega Chapter. He graduated from Benedict College in 1953 with a B.S. degree in biology. He later received a Master's degree from South Carolina State College. Bro. Kemp served as a faithful member of Old Storm Branch Baptist Church as the superintendent of the Sunday School, choir member and chairman of the deacon board. He was also an active member of the Mason Order-Simmons Lodge #571.

Brother Eddie Kolb
School Administrator

Brother Kolb entered Omega Chapter on April 28, 2016. He was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity through Gamma Omega Chapter. Kolb served in the U.S. Army as an officer. The Virginia State University graduate also served as the Director of Pupil Personnel Services and Special Education with the Roanoke County Public Schools.

Brother Horace T. Lamback
Educator

Brother Lamback entered Omega Chapter on April 22, 2016. He was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity through Sigma Theta Chapter at Voorhees College in 1970. He also graduated with a Master's degree from South Carolina State College, and an Ed.S. in Administration and Supervision from Tuskegee Institute. During his career as an educator he served as a guidance counselor, math teacher and as a principal.

Brother Thomas A. Lassiter
Peace Corp Director

Brother Lassiter entered Omega Chapter on October 22, 2016. He was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity through Rho Chapter at Johnson C. Smith University in 1947. As an undergraduate he was elected as the Second Vice Grand Basileus during the Fraternity's 34th Grand National Conclave. Lassiter served in the U.S. Marine Corps during WWII, and retired as the Kansas City Peace Corp Director.

Brother Bobby D. Lincoln, Sr.
U.S. Navy officer

Brother Lincoln entered Omega Chapter on March 22, 2016. He was a member with Lambda Omega Chapter and Norfolk Family Church. Bro. Lincoln achieved the rank of Lieutenant Commander after serving 28 years in the U. S. Navy.

Brother Jeffrey A. Matthews, Jr.

Young Scholar

Brother Matthews entered Omega Chapter on March 29, 2016. He was initiated into Omega through Beta Delta Delta Chapter in 2013. He graduated from Bridgewater College and was studying at the University of Baltimore pursuing a law degree (Juris Doctorate). Brother Matthews had a caring and beautiful spirit. He will be truly missed by his chapter.

Brother Eugene L. Montague, Jr.

U.S. Army and Police officer

Brother Matthews entered Omega Chapter on May 22, 2016. He was initiated into Omega through Epsilon Chapter in 1987. He graduated from City University of New York with a Bachelor's degree in Psychology. He later earned a M.S. degree in Business Administration from Central Michigan University. He also was a New York City police officer, and served 28 years as an U.S. Army infantry officer.

Brother Wilton V. McMillan

Educator

Brother McMillan entered Omega Chapter on April 16, 2016. He was initiated into Omega through Psi Nu Chapter, and he was a 40 year member. Bro. McMillan had a 26 year career with the Fairfax County Public Schools as an elementary teacher and human development specialist.

In 1987, he was selected as Woodland Elementary School's "Teacher of the Year." McMillan graduated from St. Paul's College with a B.S. in elementary education. He later earned a Master of Education from George Mason University. He was also a member of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Alexandria, VA serving as a deacon, and president of the usher board.

Brother J.D. Olford

Taekwondo Instructor

Brother Olford entered Omega Chapter on May 30 2015. He was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity through Beta Delta Chapter at the University of Central Arkansas in 1975. Bro. Olford had been a member of the American Taekwondo Association since 1978. Brother Olford was a sixth degree Black Belt-Master Instructor. He stated the first American Taekwondo Association (ATA) School in the State of Texas. Olford held numerous titles, including the Regional ATA Vice President, Chief of Instructions and International Judge.

Brother Adedire O. Ososanya

Devoted Member

Brother Ososanya entered Omega Chapter on December 17, 2015 after a fatal car accident. He was initiated into Omega through Pi Chapter at Morgan State University in 2015. Ososanya was a business major in the Earl G. Graves School of Business and Management. He was known to the world as simply "Dire."

Brother Harrison Parker

Educator

Brother Parker entered Omega Chapter on April 28, 2016. He was a member of Alpha Omega Chapter. Parker received his B.A. degree in history and political science from Morgan State College. He also earned a Master's degree in counseling and guidance from George Washington University. He dedicated most of his career to education. Brother Parker served as guidance counselor and special education teacher in the District of Columbia Public Schools.

Brother Sherman J. Polley, Jr.

District Manager and Golfer

Brother Polley entered Omega Chapter on August 18, 2016. He was initiated into Omega through Theta Psi Chapter at West Virginia State College in 1946. Polley also earned a Master's degree in Economics from Butler University.

After graduation he began a career in business. Sherman Polley worked for Food Fair, a grocery store chain in the Philadelphia area. In late 1960s he moved to Columbia, MD and helped to establish Tau Pi Graduate Chapter in the mid-70s. He also worked in several executive capacities for organizations that developed housing for low-income families in Baltimore and Washington, D.C.

Brother Polley was an avid golfer and relocated to Florida to play more golf. He was the recipient of many golf awards, and was a member of the National Negro Golf Association.

Brother Jermery Taylor

Omega Man

Brother Taylor entered Omega Chapter on October 21, 2015. He was initiated into Omega through Nu Epsilon Chapter at Alabama A&M University in 2007. Taylor was a member of Mu Iota Graduate Chapter.

Brother Murray L. Townsend, Jr.

Army officer and government employee

Brother Townsend entered Omega Chapter on June 5, 2016. He served the Fraternity as a member with 27 years of service. Brother Townsend was born in Indianapolis, Indiana and later moved to Baltimore, MD. After graduation from Baltimore's Frederick Douglass High School, Townsend attended Morehouse College. While at the Atlanta school, he was initiated into Omega Psi Phi through Psi Chapter. He graduated from Morehouse with a degree in business in 1942.

During his senior year, Murray was drafted into the U.S. Army where he served during World War II as an infantry officer. As a member of the 366th Infantry Regiment during combat he received the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. Later, in the Korean Conflict, U.S. Army Captain Townsend received a Silver Star. In between his service, he attended Boston University's Law School.

Brother Robert S. Vaughter

An Omega Man

Brother Vaughter entered Omega Chapter on April 30, 2016. He was educated at Norfolk State University where he was a member of the swim team.

Brother Michael A. Yarbrough

An Omega Man

Brother Yarbrough entered Omega Chapter on July 28, 2016. He was initiated at Epsilon Eta Chapter at Chicago State University.

Brother Steven K. Graham

Master Sergeant, U.S. Army

Brother Graham entered Omega Chapter on September 12, 2016. Bro. Graham was initiated into Omega through Eta Mu Mu Chapter in 2003. He graduated from Morehouse College with a degree in Business Administration. Graham began his military career in the United States Army Reserves in 1998. After relocating to the State of Georgia, Brother Graham became an active member at Zeta Mu Nu, where he was a recipient of the chapter's Colonel Charles Young Award.

13TH DISTRICT'S CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

Story continues from page 65

Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter called the "Home of the Far East Ques" was founded on February 28, 1987. The chapter has served the Okinawa community through years of dedication, often leading the way in the preservation of the human race. The brothers have participated in all aspects of the community, from raising money for scholarships to cleaning local orphanages.

The commitment of Sigma Gamma Gamma members has always been to keep the great light of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. burning brightly throughout its military community.

Story by Brother Michael Robinson

Omega's Pree Named Top Coach at Football Camp

Sigma Gamma Gamma's Brother Cortez Pree was selected as the "Most Outstanding Coach" at the Jonathon Stewart Professional Football Camp in March 2016.

The two-day camp was held at Ryukyu Middle School's football field. The field is located on Kadena Air Force Base in Okinawa, Japan.

Proctor and Gamble sponsored the football camp which featured Carolina Panthers' Jonathon Stewart. The National Football League running back provided football techniques to over 150 camp attendees.

The participants included boys and girls, ages 5 to 13. Stewart, a star NFL player along with other staffers, selected Brother Pree as the best coach from the spring football camp.

Story by Brother Michael Robinson

Celebrating the Life of Bro. Harold Cook

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Second National Executive Secretary

Omega's "Life Member Number 80," Brother Harold James Cook was royally ushered into

Omega Chapter on December 13, 2016. Harold was born on February 2, 1946 as one of four children to the Reverend Phillip Cook and Ruby Cook union. In 1964, Harold graduated from Armstrong High School located in Richmond, VA.

Harold J. Cook was initiated into Omega Psi Phi through Alpha Chapter in April 1966. He was a member of Mother Pearl's "Unequivocal Eleven" line. While at Howard he served as the chapter's Keeper of Record and Seal, graduating in 1968. Brother Cook also graduated from Howard University's School of Law in 1971.

Later, Brother Cook was selected as Special Assistant to the the Honorable H. Carl Moultrie, the First National Executive Secretary of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. When Brother Moultrie was appointed Judge in the Superior Court of Washington, D.C., Cook was appointed as the Fraternity's Second National Executive Secretary.

He also worked as a hearing officer for the District of Columbia Public Schools over 15 years. He was dedicated to making sure students received fair and equal treatment. One of the school systems administrators noted that Cook handled his cases with the 'quickness of a fair hand.'

Brother Harold J. Cook had an active and spirited life, as he traveled the world, learning several indigenous languages.

Harold's African Ancestry genetics test led straight to the Mende people living in Sierra Leone. He said, "I am an

African King." His main occupation and avocation was "World Traveler." Cook served as the consummate travel agent at Henderson Travel for over 30 years.



Brother Cook opened up the world of foreign travel to hundreds of people. His love of travel provided others the opportunity to experience unique adventures including a wedding in the Caribbean; to the back roads in Nigeria, or on a school bus to see ornate Islamic palaces.

He also gave travelers an enlightened journey on a chartered helicopter ride to the mountains of Papua, New Guinea to attend a festival.

Cook traveled to nearly all of the 50 states in America and to all of the continents except the Antarctica. He never viewed travel as work, rather a gift to see the world, meet new people, eat different foods, and shop for unique artifacts. Earlier in 2016, Harold viewed Mount Rushmore, and visited South Africa.

Harold Cook was always involved, and connected with improving the lives of others. Much of his work focused on mentoring young people. As a Big Brother to many kids in the Washington area, he supported their education, and provided sponsorship for youth in Africa.

Brother Harold James Cook distinguished himself by living an extraordinary life as a change agent, world citizen, and a gatherer of cultures, and lasting friendships.

PHOTOGRAPH ABOVE

One of Harold's great friends, Brother Sam Williams (right) adjust Brother Cook's Fifty Year Service pin at the 80th Grand National Conclave in Las Vegas, NV, July 2016.

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



2017 Leadership Conference

CINCINNATI, OH

AUGUST 2 - AUGUST 6
HYATT REGENCY CINCINNATI

4TH DISTRICT (OHIO & WEST VIRGINIA)
BETA IOTA CHAPTER
TAU XI CHAPTER



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