

# ORACLE

SUMMER 2017  
CIVIL RIGHTS EDITION

A portrait of Brother Dr. Moses C. Norman, an older man with glasses and a mustache, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and striped tie. He is looking slightly to the left. The background is dark and out of focus.

THE 33RD GRAND BASILEUS (OMEGA CHAPTER)  
**BROTHER DR. MOSES C. NORMAN**  
JANUARY 3, 1935 - JULY 11, 2017

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Brother Mitchell Smith of Tau Pi Graduate Chapter throws the ball to first base. Bro. Smith played in the Tau Pi and Pi Omega Softball Classic this summer. More information in 2nd District News section.

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## The Oracle

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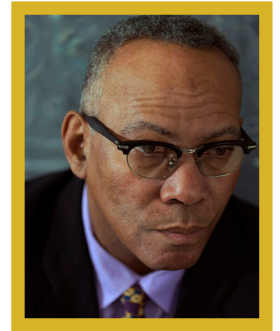
Brother Kenneth Barnes

**40th Grand Basileus**

**Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr.**

## EDITOR'S NOTES

Our hearts are heavy as we reflect on the life of Bro. Dr. Moses C. Norman, Sr., the 33rd Grand Basileus. Dr. Norman joined Omega Chapter in July 2017. We are thankful to have been blessed to have had a true Omega Man, a legend, a giant, and a person that earned the highest praise while serving Omega for 62 years.



This edition also focuses on civil rights and hero, Brother Ernest G. Green. As a high schooler, a young Ernest Green helped to intergrate Little Rock's Central High School 60 years ago. He and eight other Black students were known as the "Little Rock Nine." During my interview with Bro. Green, I learned of his undying passion for Omega as a founding member of Sigma Chapter at Michigan State University. After graduating from Michigan State, Green's first job was at the A. Phillip Randolph Education Fund which included working with Brother Bayard Rustin.

Both Omega men were recognized by U.S. Presidents. The 44th U.S. President Barack Obama posthumously awarded Brother Rustin, the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2013. President William J. Clinton presented Brother Green and the other "Little Rock Nine" members with the Congressional Gold Medal in 1999.

Other stories in this issue that presents civil rights interests to the Brotherhood includes the *Grand Basileus Message, Omega's First Inter-Racial Group*, and a profile article on Brother Arthur L. Burnett entitled *Top Judge*.

FIETTS,

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

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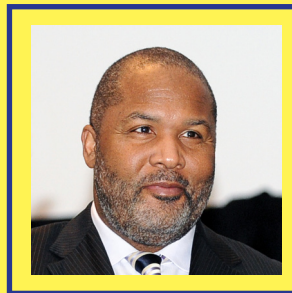


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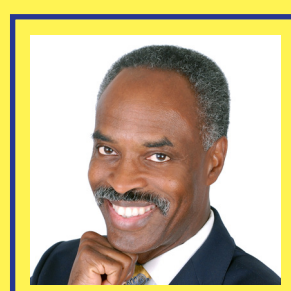
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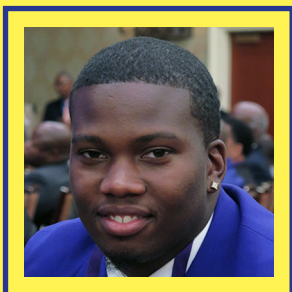
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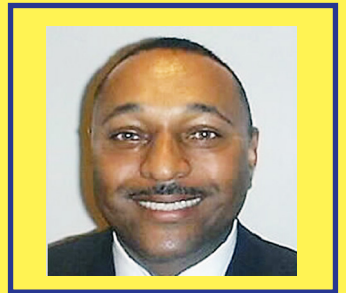
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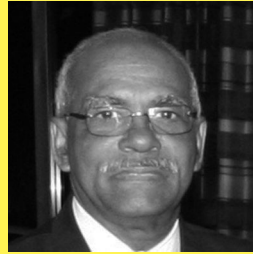
# Omega's Past Grand Basilei



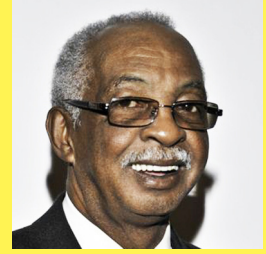
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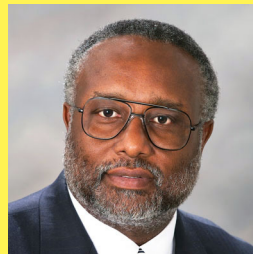
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Tony Knox, 40th Grand Basileus

July 10, 2017

Giving Honor to God and My Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

To the men of Omega, I pray that you and your families are in the best of God's loving care. These perilous times require fervent prayer and the Fraternity's Chaplains host a prayer call Monday through Friday at 6:30 a.m. to pray for us all and for mankind. The world is in dire straits and we need God's covering now more than any other time in my life. As said by many long before me, "There are far too many of us dying!" Great focus continues to be placed on foreign conflicts and foreign affairs but let's be very clear, "War is not the answer!" There is a conflict going on right here on American soil that is well underway that appears to be aimed directly against young African American men and children.

Smartphones continue to be the tool used to produce indisputable and critical visual evidence from eyewitnesses to senseless acts of violence and murder. The videos are disturbing but the convictions against those sworn to defend our wellbeing are non-existent. The senseless death of Alton Sterling was alarming when it happened and it was heart wrenching to see the video and then hear that his death would not be considered a violation of his Civil Rights by Federal Law. The officers though criticized are at home with their families, unscathed. As difficult as it may seem, I pray that the families and citizens of Baton Rouge, Louisiana will maintain hope even though they failed to convict the two officers responsible for his death. Brother Anthony Scott and his family had a different outcome. Though it will not bring Walter Scott back, the Scott family and the citizens of Charleston, South Carolina were able to see justice served. Ms. Scott, the matriarch, is a strong woman of faith and extended forgiveness to the officer who confessed and pleaded guilty to committing the crime and violating Walter's Civil Rights. The rendered verdict allowed the justice that she and her family were seeking.

The violence of these and countless other cases have helped to create division within our cities and nation over the treatment of Black Men by those sworn to serve and protect. Two days ago the violation of life against another African American child was unfathomable. Jordan Edwards was an outstanding young man who embraced excellence and took careful steps to honor and respect his family, teachers, friends and his peers; he did everything right. An outstanding student with a 3.5 GPA in a challenging Independent School, he was an outstanding athlete, a team player, the student that every teacher dreamed of teaching and the one who was so well liked for his humanity and humbleness by classmates, teachers and the community. I pray that his parents will maintain their faith and keep teaching because they have done an outstanding job with their children who were doing just what they should have been when Jordan's life was taken. Today, the world knows his name. I hope the family and his brothers will be able to take peace in knowing that the Lord recognized his greatness and his sacrifice will be the answer to save other lives because this time there will be no escape from justice. Though the scales of justice are unbalanced, Jordan Edwards was great enough that there will be a difference in the outcome of this case. Not only will his family fight for right, but I hope his school, coaches and his community will lead the rest of this nation in saying that enough is enough! Please note that an offer of financial compensation might very well be an attempt by the City officials at reconciliation. This offer will fall far short of this family's opportunity to continue to raise this fine young man toward certain success and it will never measure up to their phenomenal loss. I hope Balch Spring, Texas will insure that America remembers them for getting it right in trying and convicting this officer for taking the life of this most outstanding and promising young man, one of their very own that was destined for prime time! I pray that justice is the certain outcome.

I thank God for the body cameras because the initial report was inaccurate and declared that Jordan and his brothers were driving aggressively toward the police when they were driving away. Brothers, we must keep fighting the fight to get body cameras on every officer in every city as a critical priority. We must keep fighting for what is right and not let the many distractions turn us around because "We are One" and together we will be the bridge over these troubling times and we will continue building bridges toward a better way of life!

Faternally,

Since its humble beginnings on the Howard University campus, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity continues to be on the front line, leveraging its power, influence and more than 100 years of commitment to the uplift of our people and our communities.

*Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. was founded on November 17, 1911, at Howard University in Washington, D.C., and is the first international fraternal organization to be founded on the campus of a historically black college.*



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

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Dr. David Marion,  
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My Brothers in Omega,

Typically when I submit my article to the Oracle, I thank you for your support in the forward movement of our beloved Fraternity. I encourage each of you to continue on your paths of success, lift as you climb, and understand that you are vital to the positive proliferation of our brotherhood. I also remind you that the legacy of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity carries with it a heavy responsibility. It is imperative that we walk as leaders and communicate with a clear, consistent public identity. At this moment in history, we are faced with challenges like never before and our efforts are needed more than ever. Typically, that is what I would say.

However, the gravity of the hour requires that I spend a moment to reflect on my mentor, Brother Dr. Moses C. Norman, Sr., the longest serving Grand Basileus in our history. Grand Basileus Norman died on July 11, 2017. There were hundreds and hundreds of Omega Men at his memorial and funeral. More than 297,000 received the video of the memorial and more than 36,000 viewed the memorial on line.

During his lifetime, Brother Grand Norman interacted with the Founders. Amazingly, when he talked about them, he called them by their first names. Brother Grand Basileus Norman always brought good sense, sound judgment, levelheadedness, prudence, wisdom, and insight to any discussion or debate. The impact he's had on our lives cannot be measured.

In 2005, I was appointed the 7<sup>th</sup> District Historian. I had the pleasure of interviewing Brother Grand Norman. I never forgot that day. Since that initial 1 ½ hour interview, I could talk to him freely about fraternal and non-fraternal matters. He always kept our discussions in confidence, whether I asked him to do so or not. He did not issue consequences to me, when on occasion, I would not heed his advice. Instead, he always stood ready to advise me again. He was a class act and the epitome of our four cardinal principles.

The writer, Allphonse de Lamartine, reminds us that sometimes, when one person is absent, the whole world seems depopulated. We thank you Bro. Norman. We love you. We miss you. We will never forget you.

May God continue to bless the Norman family and our great fraternity!

Fraternally,

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



# Brother, You're on My Mind

## *Changing the National Dialogue About Mental Health Among African American Men*

**A Message from Brothers Dr. David Marion and Dr. Melvin Pinn**

### **A Crisis Facing African American Men**

Over the years, we have seen many African American men struggle with stress and mental health disorders, especially depression. Mental illness affects one out of every five Americans of all races every year.

Suicide is the third leading cause of death among African Americans 15 to 24 years old, and African American men are four times more likely to commit suicide than African American women. Mental illness can make African American men more vulnerable to substance abuse, homelessness, incarceration, and homicide.

Unfortunately, only 25 percent of African American men who suffer from psychological stress and mental illness get the help they need. Some men think that reaching out for help could be seen as a sign of weakness, but ignoring the problem isn't going to make it disappear.

We are here to tell you that taking action is a sign of strength and resourcefulness and that it is possible to deal with mental illness and become stronger than ever with the right kind of treatment and support.

### **A New Partnership Brings Hope**

As Omega brothers, we need to understand mental illness, and we need to be equipped with the right tools to deal with it. That's why Omega has partnered with the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), part of the National Institutes of Health, on an initiative called *Brother, You're on My Mind*. "*Brother, You're on My Mind*" is raising awareness of the mental health challenges associated with depression and stress that affect African American men and their families. The initiative has two major goals:

**Goal 1:** To collaborate on efforts to educate Omega members, their families, and related communities on the effects of depression and stress.

**Goal 2:** To communicate the importance of seeking help for mental health problems and to encourage affected individuals to get information, possibly by talking with their healthcare providers to obtain appropriate treatment.

### **A Call to Action**

We're asking all chapters of Omega Psi Phi, Fraternity, Inc. to plan community outreach events to help our brothers, our families and our communities learn about mental health problems and stress in African American men.

To support event planning and evaluation, we worked with NIMHD to develop a toolkit of materials that Omega chapters can share with members, their families, and their communities. The toolkit is available on an NIMHD webpage dedicated to the Brother You're on My Mind program at <https://www.nimhd.nih.gov/programs/edu-training/byomm/toolkit.html>

The toolkit includes the following materials:

- Depression fact sheets
- Community outreach checklist
- Partnership development tips
- Event planning checklist
- PowerPoint slide presentation on mental health
- Event group activities
- Social media guidelines and sample social media messages to post on Facebook and Twitter
- Event evaluation forms

In keeping with our fraternity's cardinal principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift, we must help each other deal with the very real problems of mental illness and psychological stress.

We need to:

- Understand that depression and other mental illnesses are not signs of weakness. They are diseases that affect many people. Effective treatments are available to help us overcome the challenges of mental illness and be the best men we can be.

Story continues on next page

# Heart Disease Top Medical Problem

- Educate ourselves about stress and mental illness and help others learn from reliable sources of information.
- Equip ourselves with the tools to help our brothers who are at risk of developing mental illness or dealing with this condition.
- Persevere to overcome challenges like being reluctant to ask for help, seeking out help, and sticking with treatment over time.
- Lift-up our brothers by reducing the terrible consequences of mental illnesses, especially depression, and spreading the hopeful news that, with help and support, these conditions can be controlled and life can be better.

With the help of NIMHD, Omega will be evaluating the initiative to see how well it is working. For the evaluation, Omega is planning to collect data from the chapters, starting in the next few months. We're encouraging all Omega chapters to help with the data collection by being part of the national count of future *Brother, You're on My Mind* efforts. Some chapters have already begun planning events, and we are beginning to hear about the impact these activities are having on our members.

This is the time for all chapters to incorporate *Brother, You're on My Mind* outreach events into their spring and summer planning. Download the toolkit materials and reach out to your District Representative for questions and/or guidance on planning local events.

Together, we can help put an end to the devastating effects of untreated mental health disorders and unmanaged stress among African American men. By building awareness and starting dialogues, we can encourage men to reach out for help to improve their own lives and the lives of those around them.

**H**ear disease is the number one killer of all Americans. The prevalence of high blood pressure in the African-American community is greater than any other group in the world. African-Americans have a higher death rate from heart attacks, strokes, heart failure, and kidney failure than the majority white population here in United States.

Forty-eight percent of African-American women and 44% of African-American men have some level of cardiovascular disease including heart disease and a history of stroke. African-Americans are more likely to develop elevated blood pressure and to develop it earlier in life. 2 out of 5 African-Americans have high blood pressure and less than half of them have it under control according to statistics.

African-Americans have a higher risk of developing heart failure which can lead to increased rates of hospitalizations, earlier physical disability, and premature death. African-Americans have their first heart attack and/or first stroke at an earlier age than any other group in United States. African-Americans have a higher rate of developing heart failure before the age of 50 than do whites.

Also, African-Americans have a higher incidence of hypertension, hyperlipidemia, type 2 diabetes, sedentary lifestyle, and obesity. Other risk factors that play a role in the higher incidence of cardiovascular disease in African-Americans

are inadequate health literacy, and smoking. These statistics demonstrate the significant cardiovascular risk that African-Americans carry. This means that we have to take a preventive approach to our cardiovascular health. Most of us utilize our doctors for illness purposes. This means that we usually go to the doctor when we are feeling sick, however how many of us utilize our doctors for prevention.

Another point is that Black patients must have a relationship established with a primary care physician. When speaking of cardiovascular health, if one waits until symptoms occur in most cases the disease is already advanced. Unfortunately hypertension is referred to as "*the silent killer*." This means that most with hypertension have no symptoms at all. It has been shown that aspirin has a beneficial effect in preventing heart disease. Patients should also be aware what their blood pressure is and if medication is needed. Smoking is a major risk factor for heart disease, so it important to quit. Other improvement strategies include healthy diet choices and increasing physical activity is crucial.

---

Article by Bro. Dr. Jedan Phillips

*Brother Jedan Phillips, MD., is a Family Practitioner at Stony Brook University Medical Center and a Clinical Associate Professor, Stony Brook University Medical School.*

# Breast Cancer Affects Black Men



**Brother Stafford Brown, Jr., M.D.**

**B**reast cancer is usually synonymous with women and pink ribbons. Part of this is due to the well-funded Susan G. Komen for the Cure campaign that has spent nearly \$1.5 billion for breast cancer education, research, and advocacy since its inception. Although much attention is focused on women's issues with breast cancer, little attention is given to its pernicious effects on men.

Unbeknownst to many, there are risk factors that make men more susceptible to developing breast disease than women. In order to avoid the ills of breast cancer, men also need to be equipped with the information necessary to make informed decisions about their treatment and options.

The American Cancer Society estimates in 2017 there will be approximately 2,470 new cases of male breast cancer diagnosed in the United States and about 460 men will die this year. It is a well-known fact that African-American males in the United States experience

socioeconomic and racial disparities. Likewise, Black men are disproportionately affected in regards to male breast cancer. In a recent article published in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, Black men were reported to have higher incidence rates and were more likely to be diagnosed with breast cancer at a younger age than their white counterparts (*J Clin Oncol* 2015 Jul 20;33(21) 2337-44).

Another study also reported poorer outcomes among black men, including advanced-stage disease at presentation, larger tumor sizes, more lymph node involvement, and higher tumor grade (*J Clin Oncol* 2007 Mar 20-25(9) 1089-98).

Breast cancer awareness starts with knowing risk factors for this disease. Risk factors for breast cancer in men include advanced age, inherited breast cancer gene mutation (BRACA 2), obesity, gynecomastia, family history, Klienfelter's syndrome (a rare genetic disorder), excessive alcohol intake, liver disease, high levels of estrogen and prior radiation exposure. While this list may seem exhaustive, it is necessary for unsuspecting males to know what may increase their risk.

The signs and symptoms for breast cancer in men are similar to those reported in women. They include feeling a breast lump or mass, pain, tenderness, and nipple discharge. If symptoms are noted, a primary care physician should be consulted.

This visit may result in a referral for a diagnostic exam by a radiologist. Initial radiology workup will include a mammogram and if necessary an ultrasound. Depending on the results, this may lead to additional

testing and a biopsy if there is a concern for cancer.

The most common reason for men being seen by a physician with a breast symptom is gynecomastia. Gynecomastia refers to enlargement of breast tissue in men. This disease usually presents as a unilateral mass, tenderness or pain. Most commonly it occurs spontaneously and will resolve without treatment.

Often gynecomastia results from hormone diseases that increase estrogen levels imbalance and medications. Typical medicinal culprits include those used to treat heart disease, high blood pressure, depression, anxiety and cancer. Many of these diseases disproportionately affect African-American males.

Although the majority of breast symptoms in males are noncancerous, early diagnosis and proper treatment can reduce one's chances of dying from cancer. Seeking a consultation with your primary care physician at the first sign of breast tissue change is the best first step in fighting the disease. Other steps include knowing ones' family history, maintaining a heart healthy diet, exercising and reducing alcohol consumption. Remember, breast cancer can affect men too!

---

*Brother Stafford Brown, Jr., M.D. is a Radiologist specializing Breast Imaging. Dr. Brown is an Associate Professor at Eastern Virginia Medical School, and works in private practice in the Hampton Roads, VA area. The Life Member was initiated at Lambda Zeta (University of Virginia) in 1990. He currently a member of Alpha Iota Graduate Chapter in Suffolk, VA.*

# *The 33rd Grand Basileus Joins Omega Chapter*

## **Brother Dr. Moses C. Norman, Sr.**



**I**t is with profound sadness that Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. regrets to inform the Brotherhood that our 33rd Grand Basileus, Moses Conrad Norman Sr., has transitioned from labor unto eternal rest.

Omega's beloved past Grand Basileus entered Omega Chapter on July 11, 2017. Brother Norman was born on January 3, 1935 in Gray, Georgia.

Brother Norman was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity on December 13, 1954 through the Beta Psi Chapter at Clark College in Atlanta, Georgia.

Brother Norman's three sons are also Omega men, Brothers Moses Conrad, Jr.; Christopher Kent; and Jeffrey Brenton.

Brother Grand Norman was a lifelong educator. In 1978, Brother Grand Norman earned a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Management from Georgia State University in Atlanta.

Prior to his death, Brother Grand Norman had served as associate professor and Interim Dean of the School of Education at Clark Atlanta University.

In 1984, Brother Grand Norman was elected the Fraternity's 33rd Grand Basileus during the Grand Conclave held in Louisville, Ky. He was elected to three consecutive terms, the longest tenure of any Grand Basilei. Brother Grand Norman concluded his tenure in Detroit in 1990.

Brother Grand Norman has held many offices within the fraternity, including Vice Basileus and Basileus of Eta Omega Chapter; Director of Public Relations for the Seventh District; First Vice District Representative and then District Representative of the Seventh District.

On the international level, Brother Grand Norman was elected Grand Keeper of Records and Seal and later First Vice Grand Basileus. He also served as chair of the Council of Former Grand Basilei.

As news spread of his passing, accolades abounded from Omega's leaders.

Lloyd J. Jordan, the Fraternity's 36th Grand Basileus, said, "I do not know whom our Founders were thinking of when they thought of our Cardinal Principles, but after knowing Moses Norman, I must think the Founders were thinking of him."

George H. Grace, 37th Grand Basileus, said, "Grand Basileus Moses Norman was never at a loss for words, and he brought dignity to any situation."

Warren G. Lee Jr., who followed George Grace as Grand Basileus, said, "Bro Norman was a great friend and mentor particularly as he encouraged me and others in both our professional and fraternal development. He will certainly be missed but never forgotten."

First Vice Grand Basileus David Marion, who like Brother Grand Norman served as the Seventh District Representative, said, "among others. "He was like a father to me.



He was someone whose advice I sought and heeded. He will be missed."

On a personal level, Brother Grand Norman was heavily involved in the civic arena, having served as president of the West Fulton Rotary Club of Atlanta; as a founding member of the Atlanta Partnership of Business and Education; the Education Task Force of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce; and Vice President of the National Assault on Illiteracy; the YMCA; NAACP; and the Boy Scouts, among others.

For more than 30 years, he was an NCAA college football official in the SIAC and the MEAC, having worked more than 20 NCAA Championship playoff games, including the Division II National Championship game in 1993.

Brother Grand Norman served as chair of deacons at Christian Fellowship Baptist Church in College Park, Georgia, where he was a Sunday Morning Bible Study teacher and served as a member of the Sanctuary Choir, as church parliamentarian and as Director and Instructor of Wednesday Night Bible Study.

Brother Grand Norman is survived by his wife Gertrude, three sons – Brothers Moses Conrad, Jr.; Christopher Kent; and Jeffrey Brenton- and is grandfather of Conrad, III; Jeffrey Brenton, II; and Chloe Genevieve.

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*Report by Bro. Glenn Rice  
Photographs by Bro. James  
Witherspoon.*

# LITTLE ROCK NINE

# PIONEER

*BROTHER ERNEST G. GREEN*

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

The skeletons of segregationists rose with glorious zeal when nine of America's dark-hued students known as Negroes sought entrance to an Arkansas schoolhouse in the late-1950s.

The harsh attitude toward them "colored kids" considered neither their innocence nor the fact that they merely wanted a better education. The hatred—spawned by the decades of Jim Crow, was a stark reflection of the disenfranchisement of millions of Blacks and set the stage for an explosive and revolutionary confrontation that would shake the foundation of American legal and educational institutions.

On May 17, 1954, the Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas Supreme Court decision overturned the 1896 Plessy v. Ferguson "separate but equal" policy of legalized segregation. In short, the landmark decision by the highest court in the land declared segregation in public education unconstitutional.

The decision also consolidated five segregation cases from throughout the country. America, and the Land of Opportunity, one of the nicknames for the southern State of Arkansas, which once boasted a slave population of more than 110,000 and where one in five white citizens once were slave owners, had to abide by the ruling.

However, Little Rock's city fathers attempted to take a moderate approach to the decision, but were pushed by Daisy Bates and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). The board of education asked if any Negro students were interested in transferring from an all-black school with limited resources to the all-white Central High, and if they would sign a petition. Nine students signed up.

In 1957, Ernest Gideon Green and eight other black teens would forever come to be known as the "Little Rock Nine" for their courage in helping to tear down the walls of segregation in U.S. schools.

Generations of children—especially Black students trapped in the snare of educational inequity--would follow the trail blazed by those nine beacons and be uplifted by the physical and emotional risks they took to illuminate pathways of opportunity.

Green, whose attractive smile and small frame were forced into history's arms. Ernest would become a pioneer of one of America's major civil rights confrontations. After a yearlong midnight-a year of fear (1957-1958), he would rise as the first black graduate of Central High School. *(Continues on next page)*

PHOTOGRAPH: Bro. Ernest Green, a member of Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C., sits in the pew once regularly occupied by civil rights leader Frederick Douglass. Oracle photograph by Bro. Milbert O. Brown, Jr.



**“We wanted to widen options for ourselves, and later for our children,”** *Bro. Ernest G. Green*



PHOTOS: The “Little Nine” students escorted by the U.S. Army.  
Ernest Green, the first Black graduate of Central High School.

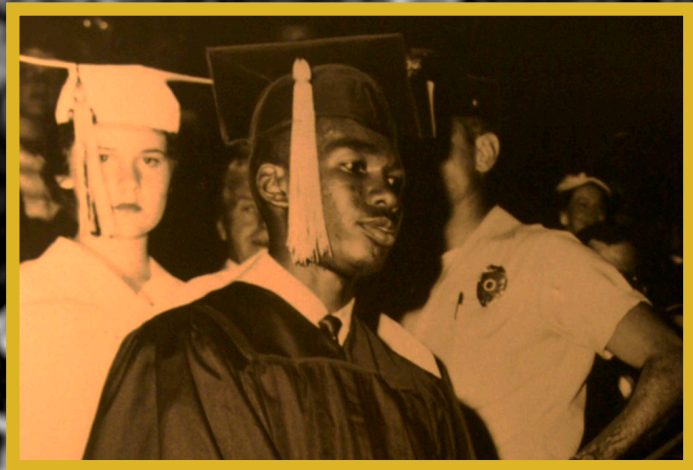
And when the school bell rings this fall, it will mark the 60th anniversary of the historic moment in U.S. history when “separate but equal” education was banned.

In a recent interview, the soft-spoken, Green, now 75, reflected on his experience as one of the “Little Rock Nine” and the challenges of growing up in Little Rock, the capital city of Arkansas on the Arkansas River.

Against the picturesque backdrop of a street lined with apple blossoms, Green said the ugliness of the city remains just beneath the surface. “If you scratched Little Rock deep enough—racism comes out.”

**D**ecades later, in 1999, Arkansas native President Bill Clinton presented Green and the other “Little Rock Nine” members with the Congressional Gold Medal.





Green hails from the central district and skipped a grade in school. “If you came to the first grade, and you could read, they bounced you on to the next grade,” Green said.

His mother was a schoolteacher, and his father a janitor at the post office. Green was the oldest of three children, but had to become a man faster than he would have wanted when at 13, his father died. Because of his mother’s limited teaching income, Green took a job during the summer to help support the family. “I worked at a Jewish country club because, in Little Rock, the other country clubs wouldn’t accept anybody that wasn’t a white Christian,” he said. “I handed out towels, mopped the floor, and kept the place reasonably clean.”

A socially conscious student, Green said he was aware of the racial storm brewing across the nation.

“I remember the picture vividly in ‘Jet Magazine’ of Emmett Till laying in a coffin; Jackie Robinson breaking into baseball, and the Montgomery Bus Boycott were all indications of what was going on and how black people were at the forefront of some of those changes,” commented Green.

A year before attending Central High School, Green became an Eagle Scout. His neighbor, Louis Brunson, served as scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop #73 at Mount Zion Baptist Church. Green said his scout training provided him with the endurance—and awareness—to tackle his daily school confrontations. “Being an Eagle Scout helped me to navigate and realize the importance of what we were doing once we finally got into Central,” said Green, who was an incoming member of Central’s senior class. “It also gave me some perspective of how we [the Little Rock Nine students] were viewed and our importance in terms of history.”

The harsh climate of Little Rock in the fall of 1957 served as a catalyst in the Supreme Court’s *Brown v. Board of Education* desegregation order. That tension was palpable at Central during Green’s senior year, which he said was very intimidating. “We would walk through the crowd as the troops guarded us,” he said. “People would be hollering using every use of the N-word they could figure out. The Arkansas governor [Orval Faubus] put in the National Guard to keep us out, then they used the local police who couldn’t keep the mob in order. Finally, Eisenhower sent the troops in.”

After two weeks of being unable to attend classes at Central High, President Dwight D. Eisenhower ordered the U.S. Army’s 101st Airborne Division to escort the “Little Rock Nine” into the school. The 34th president was the former supreme commander of the Allied Forces in Europe during World War II and a five-star Army general.

However, during the Little Rock crisis, Gov. Faubus ignored the Supreme Court’s ruling—and Eisenhower’s orders. Eisenhower was a conservative and a reluctant supporter of civil rights, but became the first president since Reconstruction to use federal troops in support of civil rights. He also later signed the Civil Rights Act of 1957.

At Central High, the “Little Rock Nine” faced challenges that would test their resolve.

(CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE)



Brother Ernest Green (center) shares his experiences with Omega men during their visit to Central High School during the 2006 Grand Conclave in Little Rock. Other “Little Rock Nine” members at the special event were Minnijean Brown and Elizabeth Eckford.

It was inside the school when we were really harassed,” Green said. “They would throw steamed wet towels our way, and at night we would get threatening phone calls. One of the conditions that was imposed on us was that we couldn’t do any extracurricular activities which meant no sports or club memberships.”

Bates, president of the Arkansas NAACP, and her husband owned the black weekly newspaper, the Arkansas State Press. “Daisy was a tough lady, and she was willing to use the pen, as well as her connections around the state,” Green said. “She was very helpful in getting us through that year.”

She also was a general in the struggle and the NAACP her army. Its foot soldiers included attorneys Thurgood Marshall and Wiley Branton. Marshall would become a Supreme Court judge, and Branton, an Omega man, served as lead attorney for the “Little Rock Nine.” He later became dean of Howard University’s Law School.

Other Omegas who were part of the NAACP legal army included Brothers Oliver W. Hill and James Nabrit. Brother Hill, was one of the lead lawyers in the Davis v. County School Board of Price Edward County. The suit challenged a Virginia state law of segregated schools for 117 black students.

In 2005, the NAACP awarded Hill its highest honor, the Spingarn Medal. Brother Hill was also selected by Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., as the recipient of the “1957 National Omega Man of the Year Award.”

Brother Nabrit also was the attorney who argued the *Bolling v. Sharpe* Supreme Court case, which presented the problems of segregation within the District of Columbia’s public schools. Omega’s Nabrit would later become the president of Howard University. Both Brothers Hill’s and Nabrit’s cases were part of the five suits that were combined into the 1954 Supreme Court case *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*.

In 1958, Green became the first black student to receive a diploma from Central High School.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. wanted to witness Green’s graduation that night as he sat with the Green family.

Green fondly remembered Bates and King visiting his home after the ceremony. “As the family set the table with fried chicken, corn on the cob, lemonade and sweet potato pie, Martin Luther King Jr., expressed how proud he was that I had completed the year,” Green said. “Dr. King and I didn’t talk too long because I was trying to get out with my buddies and celebrate.”



*Brother Ernest Green (left) worked with Brother Bayard Rustin at the A. Phillip Randolph Education Fund in the 1960s.*

After graduating, Green was awarded a scholarship to Michigan State University from an anonymous donor. Years later, he discovered the donor was John A. Hannah, president of the university. Hannah was the first chairman of the Civil Rights Commission under the Eisenhower administration.

“I guess he thought that this was something he could do and I’m grateful that he did,” Green said. “Funny thing, in my role as student leader, I picketed Hannah’s home many times during the height of the early 1960s Civil Rights movement,” Green said, with a laugh.

Green’s activism at Michigan State increased as he served as the NAACP campus president and a member of the student government. “We were in support of the students in the South, the lunch counter sit-ins and voter registration. The City of East Lansing [Michigan] had a restriction on selling homes to black folks, so we picketed in East Lansing as well,” Green said.

He added to his leadership portfolio when he decided to join Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. A mathematics graduate student named Brother Square Partee helped them organize the Omega chapter on campus, Green said.

Ernest, with five other line brothers, became the founding members of Omega Psi Phi’s Sigma Chapter at Michigan State in 1961.

Another famous Omega man on that founding Sigma Chapter line was Brother Herbert Adderley. Brother Adderley was an All-American halfback, and the only player to appear in four of the first Super Bowls with the NFL’s Green Bay Packers and the Dallas Cowboys. The Philadelphia native switched to the cornerback

position during his pro career and was known as part the “Doomsday Defense.” He was inducted into the NFL’s Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1980.

“I saw Omega has a way to expose to the university that there were solid African American males that could make a contribution,” Green said. “I became an official lamp in 1960—and we pledged about a year.” Green noted, “I saw the Fraternity as an important part of my upbringing. I loved the connection, contacts, and the history of what the Fraternity stood for.”

After graduation from Michigan State University with a bachelor’s in social science and a master’s in sociology, Green began his professional career. His first job was working for the A. Phillip Randolph Education Fund in New York City. His boss was Bayard Rustin, key organizer of the 1963 March on Washington, and an Omega man initiated at Wilberforce University’s Upsilon Chapter.

Green said Brother Rustin “was a great person to work with. We were preparing young brothers for the building trades as electricians, plumbers, and steamfitters. My job was to help place applicants in an apprenticeship program and get their union cards.”

After his job with Brother Rustin, Green was appointed assistant secretary of labor by President Jimmy Carter. Later, Green became a managing director at Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc.

“It was my relationships that I established with job training programs that allowed me to have a client base on the municipal and public finance side,” Green said.

In many ways, Green’s life has come full circle, from hurtling educational barriers in Little Rock to attending meetings at the White House.

Green was pressed into becoming a pioneer at an early age.

But, “we [Little Rock Nine students] recognized the importance of being at Central, and the manner in which folks tried to keep us out underscored how important this was for us as black students,” he said. “They worked so hard to keep us away [that] it confirmed to me that we were doing the right thing.”

On the grounds of the State Capitol in Little Rock, a plaque inscription mirrors Green’s sentiments about his experiences. “We wanted to widen options for ourselves, and later for our children.”

# 1949 Omega's First Inter-Racial Group

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

A few years after World War II, several veterans hurriedly rushed to America's post-secondary institutions for an education after serving their country. One of the schools that attracted soldiers and sailors was an all-male school called Rutgers University.

The school was distinguished as the "birthplace of college football," when the team played in the first intercollegiate football game against Princeton in 1869. After the 1919 graduation of athlete, singer and civil rights activist Paul Robeson more Black Americans considered attending the New Jersey campus.

Fraternal life had always been a part of the institution's history. Near the end of the 19th century, all fraternities were removed because of hazing. Later, the school reestablished fraternal ties, and in the late 1940s, there were 21 fraternities none of which were African American.

According to the September 1949 Oracle Magazine, "nine Rutgers men represented a milestone in Omega history by their initiation through Upsilon Phi Chapter.

Six African Americans [Negroes] and three white students banded together to bring to Rutgers something which had been lacking ... for more than 100 years of fraternity life—the practice of brotherhood."

On June 4, 1949, the group of nine, broke through fraternal barriers when they became the first Inter-Racial Group in Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. The new Omega men included: William McCullough, an engineering student; Joseph Seward, the sports editor of The Targum; Arthur Seward, Joseph's brother, was a star performer on

the school's cross-country and track teams. Another outstanding athlete was William "Bucky" Hatchett, a three-sport performer and the first Negro elected as president of the senior class. The three white brothers that helped to integrate the group were Brothers Antonio Doganiero, Vincent Appruzzese, and Norman Ledgin. Two prominent members of the group were Robert N. Boyd and Harvey Grimsley. Boyd was to attend dentistry school in the fall, and Grimsley was a starting halfback on the football team.

(Story continues on page 22).

**PHOTOGRAPH:** Bro. Norman Ledgin (seated) with members of the 8th District's Omicron Xi Graduate Chapter. Next page: Bro. Ledgin's editorial which appeared in the September 1949 Oracle Magazine issue.



# ...The Oracle...

## Official Organ of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity

VOLUME XXXIX

September 1949

NUMBER 3

### Fraternity Life at Rutgers

*Editor's Note—Brother Norman Ledgin, one of Omega Psi Phi's new white brothers, recently initiated at Rutgers University in New Jersey is guest editorial writer for this issue of the ORACLE. He writes on "Fraternity Life at Rutgers." Brother Ledgin is editor of the "TARGUM," the student newspaper at Rutgers.)*

WITH THE EXPULSION of its Amherst chapter by Phi Kappa Psi fraternity last Fall over the matter of initiating a Negro, Rutgers was awakened to the fact that certain democratic principles were being violated on the social level of the campus. Few had raised the cry of "discrimination" before national magazines took up the sword against the racial practices of Greek-letter societies.

The Rutgers Student Council moved to clean its own house, while the Interfraternity Council warned, "Hands off!" Above the protests of undergraduate and alumni fraters, the Student Council asked the Rutgers Board of Trustees to bar all new fraternities whose charters were restrictive on the basis of race and religion. Furthermore, those fraternities already operating under such charters were to be placed on immediate probation for a certain number of years, at the end of which time they were to have cleaned out the restrictions or face ouster from the campus.

It has been almost a year since the trustees received the recommendations, and no word has been released by them pertaining to the suggested rules.

Action was taken unexpectedly, however, by a group of men who had hitherto been silent on the issue—the 33 Negro students at Rutgers. They served notice that they intended to bring two fraternities to the campus, Omega Psi Phi and Alpha Phi Alpha, and set them up on an inter-racial basis. Also, Rutgers' only inter-faith fraternity, an unaffiliated group known as the Georgian Society, went inter-racial with the initiation of a popular Negro student.

These steps were taken amid the din of controversy among the 21 fraternities at Rutgers and between pro and anti-fraternity groups, and they served to illustrate that the principle of fraternity could be perpetuated in a manner free of discriminatory practices. As it was stated editorially in the student newspaper, The Targum, "For these men (the Negro students), the world 'fraternity' runs the gamut of races and religions—from Alpha to Omega."

SEPTEMBER, 1949

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## NEW INTER-RACIAL GROUP



**Photograph from the 1949 Oracle featured nine new Omega brothers that formed the nucleus for a new chapter at Rutgers University. The group were initiated by Upsilon Pi Graduate Chapter.**

The 1949 Oracle mentioned that Brothers Boyd and Grimsley were responsible for bringing Omega to Rutgers. They served as liaisons between Rutgers and Upsilon Phi Graduate Chapter until they could establish an undergraduate chapter on campus.

Omega's Brother Norman Ledgin, the editor of the student newspaper, *The Targum* was instrumental in forcing the university to accept African American fraternities. Because there were less than 35 African American men on campus at the time, the administration wanted to combine Omega Psi Phi and Alpha Phi Alpha new members into one single African American fraternity. At the time, both new fraternities had accepted white members.

Brother Ledgin wrote an editorial that was published in the 1949 Oracle entitled, "Fraternity Life at Rutgers," which mentioned the discriminatory practices on campus.

"The Dean of Men didn't like our decision to start the new Omega inter-racial chapter. "We demonstrated that brotherhood is colorblind. What we were doing was revolutionary, and we knew it," commented Bro. Ledgin.

He also added that "we were not anti-fraternity, but we were against bigotry, discrimination, and racism. What we did was more like social action. There was a terrible reaction by white fraternities and the Rutgers administration. They simply hated what we did, but in a very short time, fraternities at Rutgers began to integrate. It was more than an experiment, and we knew that we would succeed."

Norman Ledgin grew up in a Russian Jewish culture, much different from his best friend and pledge

brother, Joseph Steward. Similar to Steward, Ledgin was also a victim of American Jim Crow traditions. One day he was called into the Ed Curtin's office, the Dean of Men after circulating a petition against nuclear weapons. Curtin replied 'that's the trouble with you Jews, you all want something for nothing.'

"They kept a file on all of us. The white fraternity pledge masters would come to the Dean of Men's office to go through the files to pick potential candidates. The files of Black students were rejected. Only a few fraternities were interested in prospects with a Jewish heritage. So, the Dean of Men's office was complicit in continuing fraternal segregation," Brother Ledgin said.

Ledgin, now 89, is the only known remaining brother from Omega's historical inter-racial group. He recently met with Omega men from Kansas City's Graduate Chapter, Omicron Xi. As Ledgin recalls, "there was no period of pledge activity. We decided to go up to Newark, and the chapter, Upsilon Psi initiated us into Omega Psi Phi. We didn't have a separate chapter for years. We didn't have activities, nor did we attend national meetings—we were just a club.

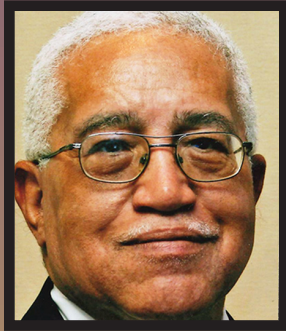
The Oracle's 1949 issue also noted that the group had set a goal of gathering new members, but there was limited interest. The university required that the group had to have 20 members before a chapter could officially operate on campus. At Rutgers, there were only 24 African American men eligible for membership not including Black men who had joined Alpha Phi Alpha. After the 1949 inductees, no other white students expressed an interest in joining Omega.

On April 24, 1974, several years after the initial interracial group, Omega's undergraduate chapter, Tau Zeta, was established as the official Omega chapter at Rutgers University.

## Omega's Arthur L. Burnett named 2017's

# TOP JUDGE

Omega Psi Phi's Brother Arthur L. Burnett, Sr., has been at the head of his class throughout his life. Bro. Burnett graduated from Howard University (Summa Cum Laude) with a major in Political Science. In his junior year, he was selected as a Phi Beta Kappa honoree. When he completed his studies at New York University's School of Law he graduated again at the top of his class.



The Honorable Arthur L. Burnett, Sr., (Retired ) Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, was selected as Top Judge of the Year for 2017 by the International Association of Top Professionals (IAOTP).

While inclusion with the IAOTP is an honor in itself, only a few members in each discipline are chosen for this distinction. These special honorees are distinguished based on their professional accomplishments, academic achievements, and leadership abilities. All honorees are invited to attend the IAOTP's annual award gala at the end of this year for a night to honor their achievements.

Judge Burnett is currently the National Executive Director and National Spokesman for the National African American Drug Policy Coalition Inc. He flew to the top of his legal profession on June 26, 1969, when he was appointed as the *first African American United States Magistrate*. The position subsequently was renamed by Congress as "United States Magistrate Judge" in the United States, in which capacity he served until December 1975. He then became the Legal Advisor for the United States Civil Service System and served as a principal legal advisor to the President of the United States. In that position, Burnett oversaw all civil service and personnel law issues in dealing with all bills pending before the U.S. Congress.

In January 1980 he was again appointed United States Magistrate (now called United States Magistrate Judges) in the United States District Court for the District of

Columbia, where he served until appointed by President Ronald Reagan to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia in November 1987. He retired in October 1998 from active Associate Judge status and became a Senior Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia and continued to serve actively hearing cases until August 1, 2004. During this period, Brother Burnett also served as Judge-in-Residence to the Children's Defense Fund and as Co-Chair of its Judges' program in the Children's Defense Fund.

Throughout his illustrious career, Burnett has received numerous awards and has been recognized worldwide for his outstanding leadership and commitment to the profession. In 1963 while he worked as an adviser directly to Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, he received the Sustained Superior Performance Award for his work in keeping the Attorney General advised of developments in major government corruption cases and in monitoring the Civil Rights Movement.

In December 1978, he was awarded the Distinguished Civil Service Award for his work in advising the President of the United States, and the U.S. Civil Service Commission. His work helped to secure the passage of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978. He also has been recognized by the American Bar Association's National Conference of Special Court Judges as the "*Most Outstanding Special Court Judge in America*."

Brother Burnett has been the recipient of several awards for civil rights. He was presented the "*ABA Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession Spirit of Excellence Award*" for his civil rights history by the American Bar Association. Burnett was also acknowledged as a WAYMAKER in the American Bar Association Judges' Journal for his civil rights and judicial performance.

Now retired, Judge Burnett continues to serve as a citizen volunteer advisor to several offices in The White House and he was recently appointed by the Mayor of the District of Columbia as a member of the District of Columbia Commission on Fathers, Men and Boys. He is a member of Alpha Omega Graduate Chapter.

# Omega Hosts NC Legislative Day



*North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper welcomed the Divine Nine leadership at the Governor's mansion.*

The Divine Nine made history in Raleigh, NC during the 2nd Annual Divine Nine Legislative Day held on May 17, 2017 at the Raleigh Convention Center.

Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr., the 40th Grand Basileus said “we experienced the best in international leadership, collegiality and unity among 848 members in record attendance to discuss the critical issues that affect North Carolina and the nation that included voter registration and suppression tactics, body cameras for police officers in every city, getting the legal age limit changed from 16 to 18 for teenagers not to be tried as adults and so much more.”

Brother Knox also added, “It was a very historic and heartfelt day of kindred but progressive action, thought and tireless commitment as International Presidents, Regional leadership, Presidents and Administration from HBCU’s, smashing speakers, elected officials from the North Carolina House and Senate and across the state and attendees lifted our voices, plan of action and unyielding commitment forward.”

On May 16th, North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper graciously welcomed the Divine Nine leadership as they engaged in a dialogue of the issues. National leadership included: Jonathan A. Mason, Sr., International President of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated; Thomas L. Battles, Jr., Grand Polemarch of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated; Dr. Everett B. Ward, General President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated; Brother Antonio F. Knox, Sr., 40th Grand Basileus of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated and Jennifer Jones, President of the National Panhellenic Council. Also in attendance were Dr. Glenda Glover, International First Vice-President of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated; Juanita Massenburg, South Atlantic Regional Director, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated; Rachel Morris, Executive Director, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated; T. Diane Surgeon, Esq., Eastern Regional Director, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated and Keivin Clayton, NC State Director, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Incorporated represented their organizations on behalf of their National Presidents who



# OMEGA DELEGATION ATTENDS CONFERENCE

apologetically could not attend. Other Regional leadership included Eston Williams, Southern Regional Director, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated; Tejuan Manners, ANCA District Director, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated; Joyce Henderson, Mid-Atlantic Regional Director, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated; Carlos Watson, Esq., Regional Director, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated; Nakisha Boulware, NC State Director, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated and Brother Howard Jackson, Sixth District Representative and Brother Rev. Dr. Staccato Powell, the Grand Chaplain of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity was the keynote speaker.

Andrea Harris, member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, delivered a dynamic address on the State of NC HBCUs. Cassandra Deck Brown, Raleigh Chief of Police and a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated stopped by to render greetings.

Brother Knox commented that “the Garner Road Community Center was blessed as the community partner with financial support from each organization as we visited and toured the facility with Mozetta Johnson, CEO and member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.” The Divine Nine was recognized in the Senate Chambers. Many critical issues were discussed by each of the organizations.

***“Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated was honored to host this amazing and overwhelmingly successful event. “WE ARE ONE!”***

**Antonio F. Knox, Sr.  
40th Grand Basileus**

**BOSTON, MA--**Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., had a significant presence at the Association for Fraternity and Sorority Advisors Conference on November 30th through December 3, 2016. The purpose of the national conference was to support and advocate for fraternity and sorority advising professionals. The Boston conference also encouraged skill development for university professional advisors.

Omega’s international delegation was led by Executive Director Brother Kenneth Barnes and 2nd Vice Grand Basileus Brother Cody Charles. Other members included International Chapter Advisors Committee Chairman Brother Dr. Michael Bowie, Brother Dr. Paul D. Adams, and First District’s 1st Vice District Representative, Brother Francois Fils-Aime. Brother Barnes represented Omega Psi Phi during the National Pan Hellenic Council Roundtable. During the forum, each representative discussed their organization’s structure.

The delegation also participated in the conference’s Fireside Chats session. The three-hour session included conference participants, student affairs personnel, college and university professional advising administrators.

Members of the delegation were also able to offer advice, assistance, and suggestions to student affairs officials. The Omega delegation also provided how information about how the infrastructure of Omega works within the Greek life affairs administrators.

The delegation also discussed the roles, responsibilities, and requirements of Omega’s chapter advisors. The Brothers noted that there must be a better understanding of what Omega chapter advisors are doing to positively serve as liaisons between the university and the Fraternity.

## Chapter Started 37 Years Ago

**ORANGE COUNTY, CA--**Mu Alpha Alpha Chapter was chartered on March 15, 1980 and is the only Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. graduate chapter in Orange County, California.

The 12th District Representative in Fall 1979 was Brother Arnold Butler. He assigned then Southern California Area Representative, Brother Ernie Bridges, to work with a group of graduate Brothers from U.S. Marine Corps Air Station-El Toro (MCAS El Toro).

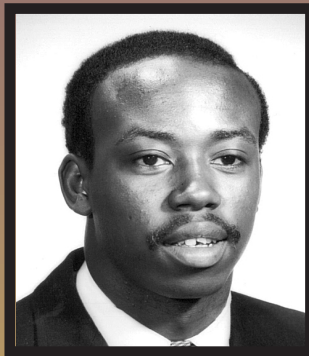
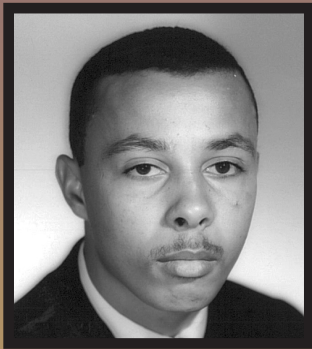
The group organized and completed the steps necessary to charter a new chapter. Brother Bridges later transferred his financial membership to Mu Alpha Alpha and has been a beloved Brother and leader in the chapter since.

On March 18, 2017 Brother Tony Moore organized a Mu Alpha Alpha Chapter special recognition and social event featuring Brother Bridges’ service to Omega and Mu Alpha Alpha over the years.

## Duquesne University's Basketball

# Hall of Fame

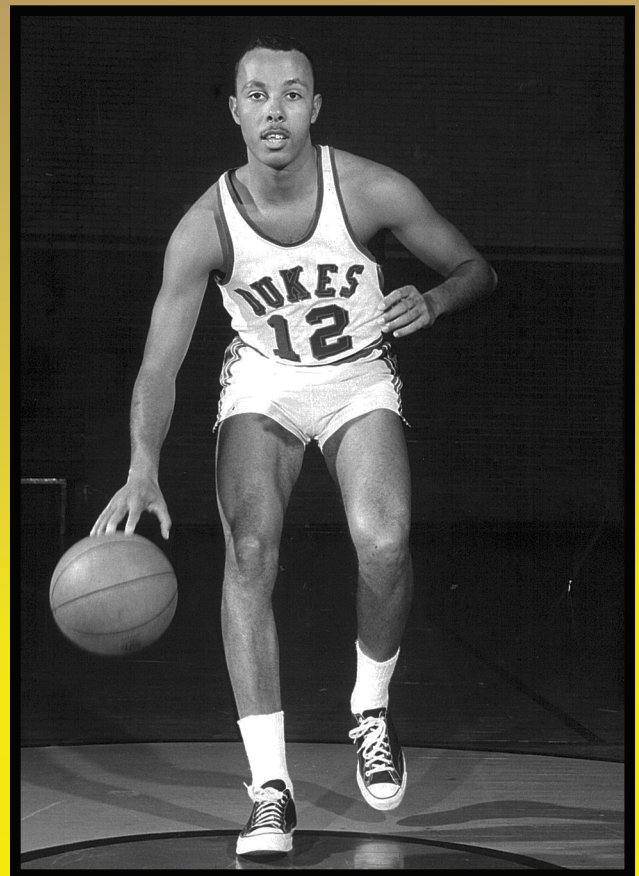
## Three Omega Men Inducted

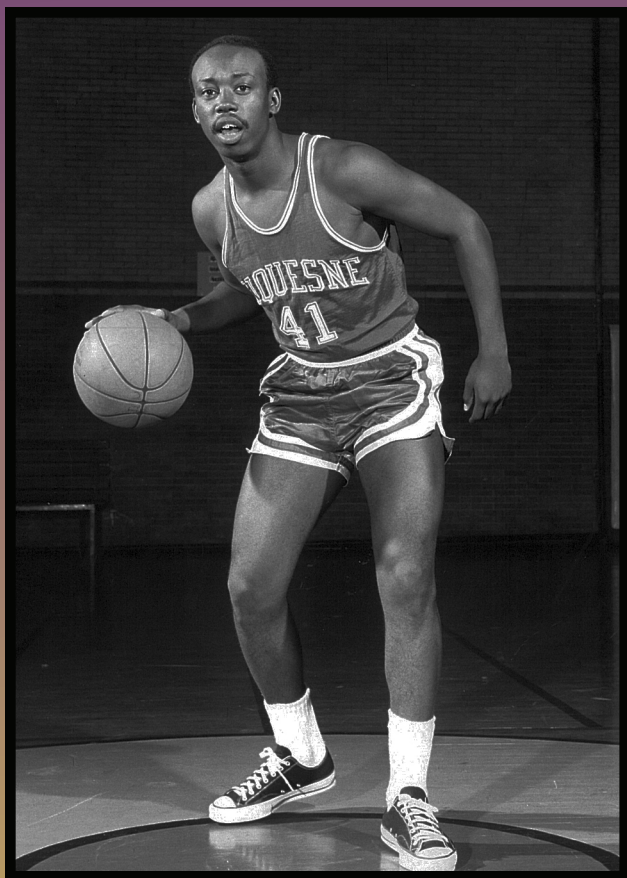


**G**eorge Gilbert was a tall slim kid that grew up in the projects of a nurturing Black Pittsburgh community. In the blue-collar town, Gilbert excelled at Carrick High School. Armed with a good jump shot, a 6'4" skinny frame, and an All-City honor, Gilbert selected Duquesne University.

At the time Gilbert was on the basketball team with only two other Black males. All three men, George Gilbert, Wilbur Hines, and Jarrett Durham decided to pledge Que. "We were big men on campus and well-known because we were basketball players. The Alphas and Kappas wanted us to be part of their fraternity, but we had an interest in Omega Psi Phi because we viewed them as the men we wanted to become," said Brother Gilbert. He also added, "during our pledgeships, we had to keep our interest in the Fraternity a secret from the coaching staff."

Duquesne University is nestled in the city's iron industry





landscape, and was an excellent academic environment for the three future basketball Hall of Famers. Gilbert majored in Education with Hines and Durham majoring in Business. Wilbur Hines, a native of Princeton, NJ was at first a walk-on before receiving a basketball scholarship at Duquesne. Jarrett Durham was recruited from Aliquippa, PA.

The three Omegas' best basketball season was in 1969. Because of their outstanding play during their university years, they were enshrined in Duquesne University's *Basketball Hall of Fame* on January 13, 2017.

The team finished with a 21-5 win-loss record, and was ranked ninth in the nation by the Associated Press poll. The team was also part of the Elite Eight, but lost to the University of North Carolina and player Charlie Scott. North Carolina advanced to the Final Four, but lost to Coach John Wooden's UCLA team, which featured player Lew Alcindor.

Brothers Gilbert, Hines and Durham were all initiated through Omicron Psi Chapter, a city-wide chapter based at the University of Pittsburgh. Brother Gilbert is a current member of Eta Omega Graduate Chapter, and provided information for this report.

**PHOTOGRAPHS (L to R):** Brother George Gilbert, Jr., Brother Wilbur Hines, and Brother Jarrett Durham holding their Hall of Fame Basketballs.

**OTHER PHOTOGRAPHS/WITH JERSEYS-** Bro. Gilbert (12); Bro. Hines (41) and Bro. Durham (20).

*Photographic Courtesy of Duquesne University's Media Relations Department*

# An Omega Advances Tennis

**O**mega Psi Phi Fraternity's Dr. Robert W. "Whirlwind" Johnson was the force behind integrated tennis. The former football All-American built a tennis dynasty in Lynchburg, Va. that produced the first two African-American Grand Slam champions, Althea Gibson and Arthur Ashe.

Bro. Johnson, a human dynamo, did not hesitate once Althea's course was set. He immediately spun into action and established the Junior Development Tennis Program under the aegis of the American Tennis Association. Each summer, he invited dozens of talented juniors to train on his backyard court.

They traveled the country, winning titles and making history. In 1953 (Ashe's first year at camp), the USLTA extended an invitation to Dr. Johnson's team to play the Nationals at Kalamazoo, M.I., using ATA credentials.

That same summer, Bobby Riggs conducted a clinic on Dr. Johnson's court. Five Grand Slam champions, Riggs, Gibson, Ashe, Pauline Betz-Addie, and Manuel Santana, would succumb to the charisma of this man and grace his Lynchburg court with their presence. He embraced diversity as an integral part of America's future; his camp was open to all races. It was the precursor to today's tennis academy, with one exception: Dr. Johnson ran it with his own money.



Players traveled first class. In the spring of 1951, he integrated his first junior event; the USLTA Inter-scholastic Championships. Dr. Johnson, a soft-spoken man of unflinching determination, carried a "big racquet" and quietly "aced" the tennis world. He had the uncanny knack of influencing people and organizations to buy into his vision of a new tennis world.

This unlikely pioneer was so influential in the game that

he could get black players into the main draw of the US Nationals at Forest Hills. This period of unprecedented opportunity for blacks on both the junior and adult circuits of the USLTA lasted until Dr. Johnson's death in 1971.

"Dr. J" as players called him, was more than a coach. He was a teacher and role model. He was a talent scout par excellence who could spot and develop untapped potential.

He preached perseverance, patience, sportsmanship, etiquette, humility, and hard work. He valued education and garnered for his campers college scholarships through his network of associations established during his college football playing and coaching days. His lasting legacy is that he made tennis accessible for everyone by relocating it from private, segregated country clubs to integrated public facilities. (Continues next page)



**NEW NFL HEAD COACH-***In early 2017, Brother Vance Joseph was introduced as the Denver Broncos' 16th head football coach. Brother Joseph was initiated through the Eighth District's Lambda Delta Delta Chapter (Denver, CO).*

**TENNIS- Bro. Dr. Johnson**

Tennis historians have lauded the noble efforts of Althea Gibson, and Arthur Ashe in breaking down racial barriers. Without the guidance of Dr. Johnson, however, Gibson, Ashe or countless others might not have succeeded so mightily. Dr. Johnson trained, coached, and mentored African Americans from his home in Lynchburg, Virginia for more than two decades.

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*This article was published in Lincoln University's Alumni publication, the Laureate Lions.*



**PHOTOGRAPH (above):** *Brother Dr. Johnson with members of Omega Psi Phi. (Previous page): Brother Dr. Robert W. "Whirlwind" Johnson with a young Althea Gibson.*

Photo Essay by Bro. James Witherspoon, IHQ Director of Photography

# *Brothers Share Ideas at Summit*

**Young and Older Omega men working together to improve the Fraternity**

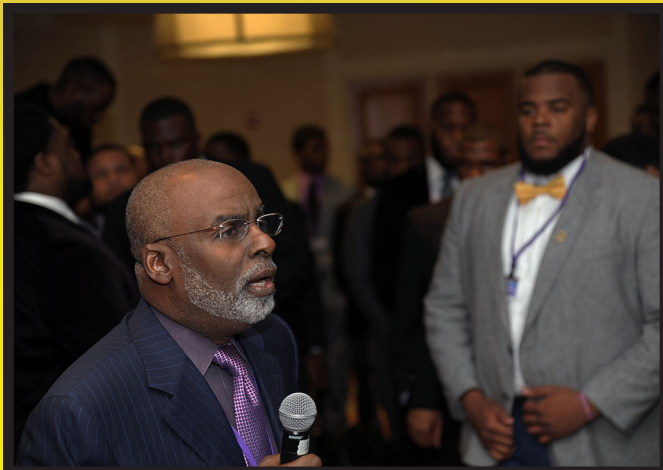


In January 2017, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. held our Undergraduate Summit in Houston, TX. All of the Fraternity's Grand Officers, District Representatives, and some of the International Committee Chairmen were in attendance.

*Bro. James G. Witherspoon's unique vision captured Omega's Undergraduate Summit in pictures.*



UNDERGRADUATE SUMMIT





## AT SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY KAPPA CHAPTER CELEBRATES 95TH YEAR

**O**n February 11, 2017, Kappa Chapter, the undergraduate chapter at Syracuse University, celebrated its 95th year on the New York campus.

Brother Dr. Andrew Ray, the Fraternity's 39th Grand Basileus was the chapter's keynote speaker. At the gala event, Brother Justin Alvarez was named as the "Undergraduate Omega Man of the Year." The recipient of the "Graduate Omega Man of the Year" Award was Brother Benjamin Jeffers. Brother Jeffers, the 28th Second District Representative was initiated through Kappa Chapter in 1971.

In November 2016, the chapter assembled together in the campus' quad area for the ribbon cutting ceremony of the newly completed

National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) marble bench. The bench represents the impact Omega's Kappa Chapter and NPHC organizations have played at Syracuse University. The NPHC was established in 1930 at Howard University. The NPHC is a group of historically African American Greek lettered fraternities and sororities. Presently, the National Pan-Hellenic is composed of nine organizations referred to as the "Divine Nine."

*Photograph above (L to R):*

*Kappa Chapter's Bro. Anthony Haynie, (2016); Bro. Tim Crossin, (2016); Bro. Benjamin Jeffers, (1971) seated on the NPHC bench and Bro. Leroy Antoine (2013).*



## Gamma Eta Promotes 100 Suit Initiative



Gamma Eta Chapter Brothers at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville.

The Brothers of Gamma Eta Chapter led a 100 Black men in suits initiative on October 12, 2016. The theme adopted by the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville chapter was *“There is no stability without solidarity.”*

The chapter’s Basileus Brother Jalyn Porchay said he wanted the initiative to provide a positive image on campus.

“We also wanted to show our university and the community that we stand together as Black collegiate men,” Porchay added.

Parice Bowser, Director of Greek Life at the University of Arkansas stated “I commend our National Pan-Hellenic fraternities for uniting as well as encouraging all African American males on campus.”

## Second District Honors Kappa Chapter

At the 69th Second District Conference in May 2017, Kappa Chapter (Syracuse University) was the recipient of several District Awards. The District Meeting was held in Rye Brook, NY.

The chapter was named as the *“2nd District Undergraduate Scholarship Chapter of the Year.”*

### Other Chapter honors included:

\*Bro. Timothy Crossin elected as the *“2nd Vice District Representative.”*

\*Bro. David Fitzpatrick-Woodson elected as an *“Undergraduate Rep.”*

\*Bro. David Gillstrap, *“Education Award.”*

\*Bro. Justin Alvarez, *“2nd District Scholar of the Year.”*

\*Bro. Benjamin Jeffers, *“2nd District Undergraduate Advisor of the Year.”*

## Upsilon Beta Chapter Holds Blood Drive

The Brothers from Omega Psi Phi Fraternity’s Upsilon Beta Chapter sponsored a blood drive with the American Red Cross on Valentine’s Day. The theme from the Tenth District’s Ball State University chapter on February 14, 2017 was *“Hope Begins With You.”*

In attendance at the campus event were 55 people. Collected were 48 units, having the potential of saving up to 144 lives. This was the Indiana chapter’s second blood drive. Programs like the blood drive are part of the Fraternity’s Health Initiatives. The Health Initiatives program is one of ten of Omega Psi Phi’s international mandated programs.

## Chapter Helps Community

On January 22, 2017, a devastating tornado hit the Southwest Georgia area and the city of Albany was severely affected. Several homes were destroyed and power was lost for several days.

The men of the Chi Epsilon Chapter at Albany State University helped storm victims by preparing plates of food. Over 500 meals were prepared at the Albany Civic Center.

Brother Bobby Andrew said, “The least that we can do is uplift the Albany community during their time of need.”

Story by Bro. Shahid Abdul-Karim, the First District Director of Public Relations

# Chapter Provides College Funding

James Hillhouse High School senior Diamonique Russell wants to major in retail marketing in college.

Russell, 18, is attending the University of Connecticut in fall and has a jump start with some of the burden of college expenses. She won a \$1,000 scholarship from the Epsilon Iota Iota chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. as part of the chapter's scholarship initiative program.

"I was excited because I need all the money I can get; schools are really expensive," said Russell, who said her family is full of Omega men. "It's a blessing that Black organizations have stepped up to help our community and students," she said. "They're making sure we go to the next level in our education."

Since 1990, the chapter has awarded more than \$60,000 in scholarships. The chapter was chartered Nov. 16, 1990. It's something the chapter's scholarship chairman Brother David Canton said he's proud of. "Higher education is necessary in today's competitive environment," said Canton, who has a doctorate in history from Temple University and teaches at Connecticut College.

"Unfortunately, these national scholarships are very hard to obtain, yet, local organizations give tons of money to students, which increases their chances for scholarship opportunities," he said. Brother Canton believes awarding scholarships continues to expose the good work of the chapter.

"Students get a chance to be around professional African-American organizations, said Brother Canton. "Whether they join or not is not the real issue, the issue is seeing the black community .... helping our students," he said. Engineering and Science University Magnet School senior Nile James, who is attending Howard University in fall, said the Omega scholarship is another opportunity to help him reach his education goals.

"It's perfect, because a lot of us need money to attend school and some of us have to change our first decision about going off to school due to the financial situation," said Nile, who's planning to join the fraternity while in college. Nile said, "scholarships are available for students who really want to go college. Sometimes, we change course about going to college due to cost, but if they get these local scholarships, they know there is more out here." More importantly, he said, "they already meet the criteria to get those scholarships."



One problem, according to Nile, is students need to do more community service work with these organizations to learn about what other scholarships are out here for us. He said friends of his don't apply for scholarships and are sometimes discouraged by the process. But, "if they knew these opportunities were out here, they could get that money and make other decisions — it gives people motivation when they win a scholarship," said Nile James.

Each student must demonstrate a strong academic record, complete an essay, and be engaged in community service projects to be considered. Hamden High School senior Alana Cooper said she was extremely excited and thankful when she found out she was selected. It's going to be a great help to pay for college," said Cooper, 18, who's attending St. John's University and is majoring in business.

"It's important that black organizations help African-American students attain higher education. It's great when different sororities and fraternities in our community make this available to seniors." Brother Ruel Dixon, who serves on the chapter's scholarship committee, said, "the chapter is obligated to alleviate some of the financial stress for parents and students. While college can be expensive, Brother Dixon said, "going to school increases earning potential. It's an investment you have to make — it's a heavy burden financially, but how else are we going to measure up?"

# Bro. Jefferson Reimagines Reconstruction

It's traditional in black literature to rewrite history. And author Michael Jefferson did just that when he penned his book of historical fiction "Deo Vindice: The Resurrection."

"There are trailblazers and contemporary writers that have done this," said New Haven native Catina Bacote, a creative writing professor at Warren Wilson College in Asheville, North Carolina.

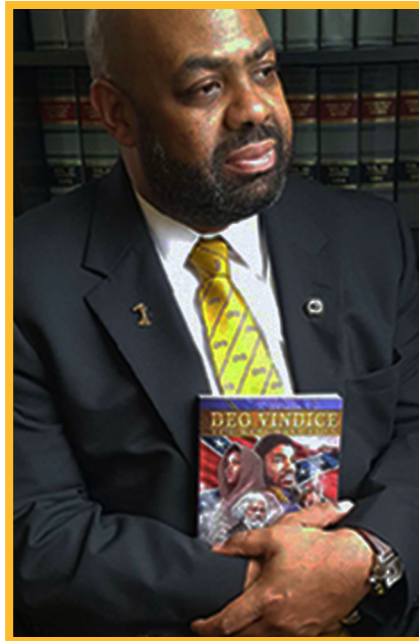
"What I respect about Michael Jefferson's work is he's using both history and the imagination in an effort to reimagine the past. I believe the past impacts the present and what happens in the future," said Bacote.

"This type of work is respected and most people seem to respond well to it; it has a place and lots of value," added Bacote. "Deo Vindice: The Resurrection" is about one man's obsession to right the wrongs of a horrible racial injustice by empowering its victims to take matters into their own hands, according to [www.deovindicethebook.com](http://www.deovindicethebook.com).

The book takes the reader to 1868, when Benjamin "Bluff" Wade is president pro tempore of the United States Senate. After the impeachment and subsequent conviction of President Andrew Johnson, Wade assumes the presidency due to a never-before-used constitutional quirk.

Jefferson said the idea of the book came from a response to a question asked while he was taking a civil rights course in law school. "The professor at the time posed the question 'If you were president at the time of reconstruction what would you do differently?'" said Omega's Brother Jefferson, a New Haven criminal defense attorney.

"We had to write about this, and one of the things I talked about was arming blacks or the ex-slaves to protect their interest, which I thought was incredibly important," he said. Jefferson said the reason he treats Wade as a hero in the novel is because he empowers the ex-slaves to take matters into their own



hands.

"This is not about white soldiers coming to the rescue of black people; this is about an armed struggle led by black people against a ferocious enemy determined to maintain the status quo," he said.

According to the book, Wade is determined to implement his newly drafted Fifth Reconstruction Act. This Act authorizes widespread reform in the social, political and economic life of citizens in the former Confederacy. This sweeping act also approves the militarization of blacks living in those states, the website said.

For too long, Jefferson said, "others have been writing our story, both fictional and nonfictional; I wanted to provide a black perspective."

The book also is an opportunity to challenge certain aspects of black culture, according to Bro. Jefferson. "It was important for me to challenge the existing norms in our community," Jefferson said. "I wanted to challenge the standards of beauty and homophobia in our community; these are the essential elements of the book."

Attorney Robert Pellegrino said Jefferson's book is an incredible melding of American history and race.

"As historical fiction, it is a fascinating account of what America could have become had blacks come into power after the Civil War," said Pellegrino, 58, who recently published a book called "I See Color," which documents his journey educating himself on the issue of race — from personal relationships and experiences.

Jefferson's vast knowledge of both American history and race relations provides a provocative story that both teaches and engages the reader — and one comes away with a greater knowledge of American history and a deeper understanding of the role of race in that history.

Other characters in the book are Lisa Stewart, an exceptionally brilliant and strikingly beautiful change agent, and Aurelius Foginet, an unassuming military and political genius. With Stewart at his side, the powerful and determined black duo, along with a black political organizer, Randall McArthur, and the elite troops of the feared southern guard attempt to establish a safe haven for blacks in the former Confederacy, according to the book.

Connecticut State Conference National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Youth and College Division adviser Karrol-Ann Brown said Jefferson, "has been very supportive of our NAACP unit and has been a role model for our young people." Omega's Jefferson noted that the book also serves as an alternate history and students can learn valuable lessons.

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**AUTHOR**-Bro. Jefferson is a Life Member, a charter member of Epsilon Iota Iota Chapter and the First District's Immediate Past District Representative.

**Story by Bro. Shahid Abdul-Karim, the First District Director of Public Relations**

**The book is available on Kindle for \$7.99 and \$16.99 in paperback at [www.deovindicethebook.com](http://www.deovindicethebook.com). For book signings and speaking engagements, call 203-787-5683.**

## Tau Pi & Pi Omega Plays Softball Classic



Two Maryland Omega Psi Phi Graduate Chapters, Tau Pi and Pi Omega participated in their first Softball Classic in June 2017. The classic featured the pitching brilliance of Tau Pi's Brother Calvin Zellars, a former 2nd District Representative. Bro. Zellars (on far left) was unable to quiet Pi Omega's batting giants during their softball game held in Jessup, Maryland.



## Bond Makes History in Delaware

Omega Psi Phi's Brother Vaughn M. Bond, Jr., was promoted to the rank of Colonel, becoming the first African American Chief of the New Castle County (DE) Division of Police.



Bro. Colonel Bond has 25 years of progressive law enforcement experience, including more than 13 years of police supervisory and management roles within the Division of Police. In 1991, Colonel Bond began his law enforcement career as a police officer with the New Castle County Division of Police.

During the next 25 years, he rose through the ranks and managed the Uniform Patrol Section, the Criminal Investigative Unit. He recently served as

the Police Major, the Commander of the Division's Operations Branch.

He is a highly-decorated officer, receiving a Distinguished Unit Citation; several letters of commendation; 1997 Crime Stoppers Detective of the Year; 1999 runner up for the Crime Stoppers Detective of the Year, and the Mothers Against Drunk Driving Award. Colonel Bond was also recognized as a YMCA Black Achiever for his accomplishments in Law Enforcement.

In addition, Colonel Bond was the recipient of the "2014 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year" by Omega Psi Phi's Psi Iota Chapter. Brother Bond graduated from Delaware State University with a B.S. in Psychology.

He was initiated into Omega through Psi Epsilon Chapter in 1988. He is currently active with Psi Iota Graduate Chapter. He also a member of the Delaware Chapter of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives. Brother Bond has been married to his wife, Darlene for 22 years, and they have two daughters.

# Chapter Sponsors Career Day

When it comes to working with young people, the Brothers of Gamma Pi Chapter enjoy sharing their knowledge and connecting young students with mentors and others who can help them chart a course to success. That philosophy is most evident in Gamma Pi's Project ENRICH program that meets monthly at Bowie State University and was on display Saturday, January 21st, during a careers presentation.

In a different twist this year, Project ENRICH director Bro. Willie Hines arranged for students to hear from just two presenters for Career Day. The focus this year was on entrepreneurship. In featuring just two professionals, Project ENRICH was able to turn the spotlight on business ownership rather than type of occupation.

Brother Anthony Stewart connected quickly and directly with students when he "got real" and told them that his success today was a direct contrast to his rural farm upbringing on Maryland's Eastern Shore. He talked openly about his status as the lowest-performing child academically among nine siblings in the household. "Everybody in my family has a graduate degree and they all graduated Magna Cum Laude and Summa Cum Laude and I graduated, 'Thank you Lawdy.' I barely got out of here" (Bowie State, 1985), he said to laughs from the full auditorium.

Brother Stewart, owner of Stewart Financial Services, Inc., shared his story about how he ambled around early in the years immediately after college not knowing what he really wanted to do with his life. A Business major, he initially was consumed

with becoming a Xerox salesman. He pursued that dream as long as he could – coming "close, but no cigar." He recalled how with a pregnant wife and living in a small condo, he struck out on his own knowing very little about how money works or the financial services industry, but with a strong curiosity and a willingness to learn. He found himself very interested in the topic and it led him to his own financial services business

part-time part-time initially and then full-time.

To the Project ENRICH students, Brother Stewart's story was an example of a creative way to put your college education to work even if your GPA is not very high. Brother Stewart's main message: "Don't ever chase money; chase your dreams."

## Xi Phi Chapter Promotes Omega Black College Tour

Since its inception in 1986, the Omega Black College Tour (BCT) has become arguably one of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's most successful and recognized programs.

The Omega Black College Tour program identifies and prepares students of color for visitation and academic review of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). The program also introduces a multitude of students, eager to learn about higher education opportunities, to HBCU college admissions administrators.

The chapter's comprehensive approach begins with an aggressive city-wide talent search from a pool of over 300 New York City high school students. Only 50 students are selected for the Omega College Tour Program. The selected students must complete a five-weekend workshop session which includes two parent workshops.

During the tour, each student's academic portfolio is presented to admissions administrators.

Their portfolios must meet the highest standards as they are viewed by some of Black America's most prestigious institutions. Some the HBCUs schools on the college tour included: Clark Atlanta, Delaware State, Howard, Hampton, Spelman, Morehouse, North Carolina A&T, Morgan State, North Carolina Central, and the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore.

"To those who donate, you turn dreamers into achievers, and turn hopeless thoughts to hope," said Naliah Wright, a freshman at Hampton University. Wright, a 2016 BCT alumna also added, "I would not be at Hampton without the men of Xi Phi Chapter and the Omega Black College Tour. I made the Dean's List this year as a freshman, and I plan to do even better as a sophomore."

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To learn more about Xi Phi's Omega Black College Tour contact Bro. Jesse L Askew, Communications Director via email: [jesse\\_askew@hotmail.com](mailto:jesse_askew@hotmail.com)

# Omega Academy Reaches Youth

One of Alpha Omega Chapter's shining lights in the Washington, D.C. community is the Omega Academy program. The program is a model for how non-profit organizations can work with local public and private organizations in building bridges for African-American youth.

Dr. Ben Carson, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) mentioned during his confirmation hearing that education, training and jobs are key factors in addressing poverty, and fair housing issues.

Omega Academy's Director, Brother Major Galloway, a program analyst for the Office of Policy, Programs and Legislative Initiatives at HUD embraced some Dr. Carson's ideas as solutions to problems in the community. "Our goal is to help the youth develop a 'personal road map to life after high school and to help them acquire life-skills to become ready to pursue careers through college, the military or vocational training," said Brother Galloway.

He also added that, "the purpose of the Omega Academy, is to help participants develop a personal roadmap and action-plan toward their career goals." Galloway created a curriculum for the academy that inspires and

impact life skills for African American youth. In addition, his position at HUD provides him with a unique understanding of Black males as they transition from teenagers to adulthood. Galloway said that "we are fortunate to have professional members in the chapter that work is a variety of career fields."

Brother Galloway commented that the academy's workshop presenters have included a Federal Judge, a NASA engineer and a Deputy General Counsel member for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs.



The Omega Academy program's goal is to bring together African American males and their parents as they learn about science and politics through speaker presentations and tours. Galloway hopes to increase participation in the academy's outreach program. "In light of the low graduation rate and performance gap, particularly for African-American male youth in the District, we recognize there is a tremendous need to provide academic enrichment, literacy, and life-skills services that support young adolescent men in need of direction," also commented Brother Galloway.

**PHOTOGRAPH:** Bro. Lou Camphor of Alpha Omega Chapter's Omega Academy discussing ideas with African American youth. Photo by Bro. Delray Brown Story by Bro. Norm Senior, 3rd District Director of Public Relations.

# Chapter's Reading Program

## Sigma Mu Mu Serves Meals



Brothers Jeffrey Owens and Jerry Hubbard ask the student's questions about book stories at Riverside Elementary School in Alexandria, VA.

**O**mega Psi Phi's Psi Alpha Alpha Graduate Chapter placed an importance on reading to school age children.

The Psi Alpha Alpha Brothers called "The Sirs," read to a half dozen third-grade classes at Riverside Elementary School in Alexandria, VA. One of the featured books read was "*Joanie's House Becomes a Home*," on April 6, 2017.

The book tells of the incredible story of a girl named, Joanie Chen who is moving from San Francisco to Boston with her family. The story presents Joanie's ordeal of leaving San Francisco and adjusting to finding new friends in a different environment.

The book was selected as the eighth book from the school's library. Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter was represented by 14 brothers who served as reading mentors. "The Sirs," included: Brothers Marion "Barney" Barnwell, Bradford Caldwell, James Cherry, Richard Garner, James George, Jerome "Duke" Haggins, Willard Jasper, JD Leverett, Ronald Lofton, Sr., Frank Matthews, Richard Morris; Sheldon Schanck and Charles Sias. To date, Psi Alpha Alpha have donated over 988 books in connection with the reading program. The overarching goal of this social action effort was to inspire the third-graders to be excited about reading.

**LOUDOUN COUNTY, VA-** On February 24, 2017, Sigma Mu Mu Chapter provided breakfast for the residents of the Loudoun Homeless Emergency Shelter in Leesburg, VA. The chapter's "Breakfast by the Bruhs", is a regular meal service, and a social action initiative led by Brother Drew Gerald.

"The Brothers cooked, served and catered to all the needs of the residents. On the menu was an old-fashioned breakfast of scrambled eggs, grits, french toast, bacon, sausage, fresh fruit, and orange juice. This breakfast is quite popular and was well received at the homeless shelter. It allows residents to partake in a hearty meal, while giving Brothers an opportunity to interact directly with the residents and hear their stories," said Bro. Gerald.

Gerald also added that the chapter's involvement, outreach and assistance is beneficial to the community. The chapter's partnership with the Volunteers of America help provide basic needs to the residents at the Loudoun Homeless Emergency Shelter. It also allows VOA to carry out its broad mission of inspiring self-reliance, dignity and hope for its homeless clients, said Brother Gerald of Sigma Mu Mu Chapter.

# *Theta Psi, Xi Alpha and Gamma Lambda Chapters Celebrate Anniversaries*



*Omega men representing three chapters meet at Theta Psi's plot for their Rededication Ceremony in Institute, WV.*

**T**hree Omega Psi Phi Chapters assembled together during West Virginia State University's Homecoming in September 2016 in Institute, WV.

Celebrating their chapter anniversaries were: Theta Psi, 90-years; Xi Alpha, 80-years, and Gamma Lambda, 40-years.

Representing members from each of the chapters met at Theta Psi Chapter's plot for their Rededication Ceremony. In attendance was Xi Alpha's (1989), Brother Daniel Jones, the Grand Keeper of Finance.

Also, at the Saturday morning event was Brother Daryl Cameron, the Fourth District Representative. Gamma Lambda's (1985) Brother Bobby Robinson, the First Vice District Representative of the Fourth District was also at the rededication. The ceremony also welcomed three former District Representatives.

They included: Brother John L. Fuller, the 6th Fourth District Representative, (Xi Alpha, 1967); Brother Dr. R. Charles Byers, the 9th Fourth District Representative, (Theta Psi, 1965) and Brother Dr. Gregory D. Epps, the 20th Fourth District Representative (Theta Psi, 1978).

Three Omega men were inducted in the the West Virginia State University's Sports Hall of Fame. Brother Ted Childs, (Theta Psi, 1964) was inducted into the Omega Business Hall of Fame.

After the Rededication Ceremony, over 200 Omega men sang the Hymn, and the Brothers joyfully began to march in a step-show routine.

There were a host of social activities throughout the historical three chapter anniversary celebration. On Sunday, representatives from all three chapters attended a worship service. The Fourth District's Vice District Representative, Brother Elder Bobby Robinson presented a spiritual message during the service.



# Army Promotes Bro. Thomas To Colonel



*Bro. Colonel Jarrett A. Thomas, II, with his father, Bro. Jarrett A. Thomas..*

**O**n December 14, 2016, the United States Army promoted Brother Jarrett A. Thomas, II, to the rank of Colonel in Huntsville, Ala.

Colonel Thomas, a Bronze Star Medal honoree was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant into the Army's Adjutant General's Corps. The 1985 Hampton University graduate's early assignments included duty with Detachment A, 55th Personnel Services Battalion in Hanau, Germany, where he served as an Executive Officer, Battalion S1/Adjutant, as well as the Commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment.

Following command, he was assigned to the El Paso Military Entrance Processing Station in Fort Bliss, Texas where he served as the Operations Officer. Thomas then assumed command of Detachment A, 546th Personnel Services Battalion in Fort Hood, TX. While in command, he deployed his unit in support of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM in March 2003.

Colonel Thomas became the first Commander of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, United States Army North (Fifth Army) in Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Following his third command, he served as the Chief of G1 Plans and Operations, United States Army North (Fifth Army).

Brother Thomas was first assigned to 82nd Airborne Division as the Brigade S1 for 2nd Brigade Combat Team in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. While assigned to the Falcon Brigade, he deployed to Haiti as a member of the Global Response Force in support of OPERATION UNIFIED RESPONSE.

Following his assignment with the Falcon Brigade, he deployed with 18th Airborne Corps during OPERATION NEW DAWN. There he served as the J1 Forward and later as the Secretary of the Joint Staff to the Deputy Commanding General (Advising and Training), Forward Operating Base Union III, Iraq. Following deployment, he served as

the Corps Strength Manager for 18th Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Later, Colonel Thomas assumed command of the 82nd Airborne Division's Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion. After relinquishing command, he served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for the 82nd Airborne Division.

Upon graduation from the United States Army War College, Colonel Thomas became the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1 (Military)/Adjutant General for Army material Command.

Colonel Thomas is also a graduate of the United States Army War College, the Command and General Staff College (CGSC), the Combined Arms Services and Staff School, and the Adjutant General's Officer Basic and Advanced Courses.

He holds a Master's Degree in Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College as well as a Master's Degree in Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix.

Among his other awards were the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters. He has earned the Master Parachutist Badge as well as the German Parachutist Badge.

Brother Colonel Thomas and his wife, the former Telisha Glover of Houston, Texas, have been married for 20 years and have two children – Jarrett III and Christian. Brother Col. Jarrett A. Thomas, II is the son of former Fourth District Representative Brother Jarrett A. Thomas. Both are members of Xi Iota Iota Chapter in Sidney, OH.

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*Story by Bro. Paul Lucas,  
Xi Iota Iota Chapter Reporter*



Bro. Jason Turner of Epsilon Phi Chapter (center) talks to a group of Black males about making wise life decisions.

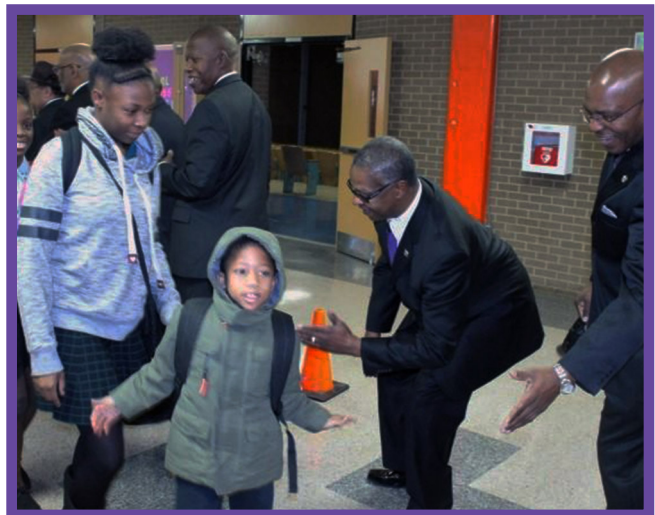
## ***Manhood Project Involves Youth***

**E**psilon Phi Chapter's Manhood Project was born out of a conversation about the Black Lives Matter movement during the civil unrest in summer 2016.

During that summer, Brother Irwin Todd and Quincy Snider discussed methods to get their chapter involved with Memphis' young Black males. Riverview Middle School was selected as the site of the chapter's project.

Epsilon Phi Omega men invested their time in speaking to young men on how to engage with law enforcement; rejecting gang activity, and understanding the importance of community involvement. The Manhood Project name symbolized how chapter brothers wanted to address young Black males in the community--man to man. Other topics that were discussed during the sessions included: personal hygiene, respect for women, careers, and self-esteem.

Chapter members that are members of the Memphis City Council and the Memphis Police Department provide an added insight to city government.



**Photograph:** At Riverview Elementary, several Omega men welcomed students as they showed children positive examples of manhood in the community during the school's "100 Days of Excellence."

The chapter also spent extensive hours mentoring school age children at the Riverview School.

## *Xi Xi Chapter Protests Kentucky Legislation*

**O**n February 27, 2017, Brothers from Xi Xi Chapter supported a Charter School Rally in Elizabethtown, KY.

The purpose of the event was to protest and discuss pending legislation (HB 520) in the Kentucky House that would have introduced charter schools in the state.

Organizers and community allies joined together to educate the community on how charter schools would take resources away from already underfunded public schools. Some of the issues included the potential for segregation of schools and the board being able to appoint officials rather than locally elected representation.

## *Brother Dr. Joseph Heads Nashville School District*

**I**n May 2016, Bro. Dr. Shawn Joseph was selected as the new director of schools for the Metro Nashville Public Schools (MNPS) in Nashville, Tennessee. He becomes the first African-American to lead the MNPS district of 86,000 students.



He is a career educator whose leadership roles included his most recent position as the former deputy superintendent in the Prince George's County, MD Public Schools and prior to that, he was superintendent of the Seaford School District in Seaford, DE.

Bro. Joseph earned his Bachelor's degree from Lincoln University, a Master's from Johns Hopkins University, and his Doctorate in Education from George Washington University. Bro. Joseph is a member of Mu Nu Graduate Chapter and was initiated into Omega at Beta Chapter.

## *Psi Pi Chapter's MLK Events*

**CLARKVILLE, TENN--**In January 2017, Psi Phi Chapter marched with over 500 members of the Clarksville community during the Dr. Martin Luther King (MLK) Day Program.

Members from all of the historically Black fraternities and sororities participated in the MLK Program. Each of the Divine Nine members conducted classroom sessions on academic success, bullying, leadership, and peer pressure.

Two-days later, the chapter participated in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Celebration. The theme of the celebration was "Pursuing liberty in the face of injustice." The event was sponsored by Clarksville National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the Greater National Panhellenic Council of Clarksville.

## *Board Chair Bro. Royal Retires From Meharry*

**NASHVILLE, TENN--**Brother Frank S. Royal Sr. stepped down as chair of the board of trustees of Meharry Medical College in January 2017. Dr. Royal has chaired the board of the historically Black medical school for 30 years.

During his tenure, Dr. Royal personally contributed \$2 million to the medical school and presided over a successful \$125 million fundraising campaign. James E.K. Hildreth, president and CEO of Meharry Medical college stated that "Dr. Royal is an alumnus who has dedicated his entire life to advancing Meharry and the betterment of others, often at great personal sacrifice. Dr. Royal was always willing to share his successes with Meharry through his leadership, contributions and recognition of the College."

Brother Frank S. Royal, Sr. is the son of Brother Harry Royal (Omega Chapter).

# Bro. Wilson Receives Rank of General

*Citadel Graduate Returns Home For His Star*

**O**n April 13, 2017, Omega's Colonel David Wilson was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General. The ceremony was held at the Mark Clark Auditorium on the campus of the Citadel Military College.

It was a homecoming for Colonel Wilson, a Charleston native. Wilson graduated from Burke High School near the site of the promotion event.

Brother Wilson attended Morris Brown College, but transferred to the Citadel Military College. He was commissioned as an Army Second Lieutenant upon graduation from the Citadel in 1991.

After 27 years of dedicated service, combat tours, and various commands, Congress approved the rank of Brigadier General to Brother Wilson making him the first African-American Citadel graduate to earn the rank while still in active duty.

A month prior to the promotion Brother Wilson reached another milestone by being named chief ordinance officer of the United States Army Ordinance School in Fort Lee, Virginia. He is only the third African-American to head the school since its inception in 1812.

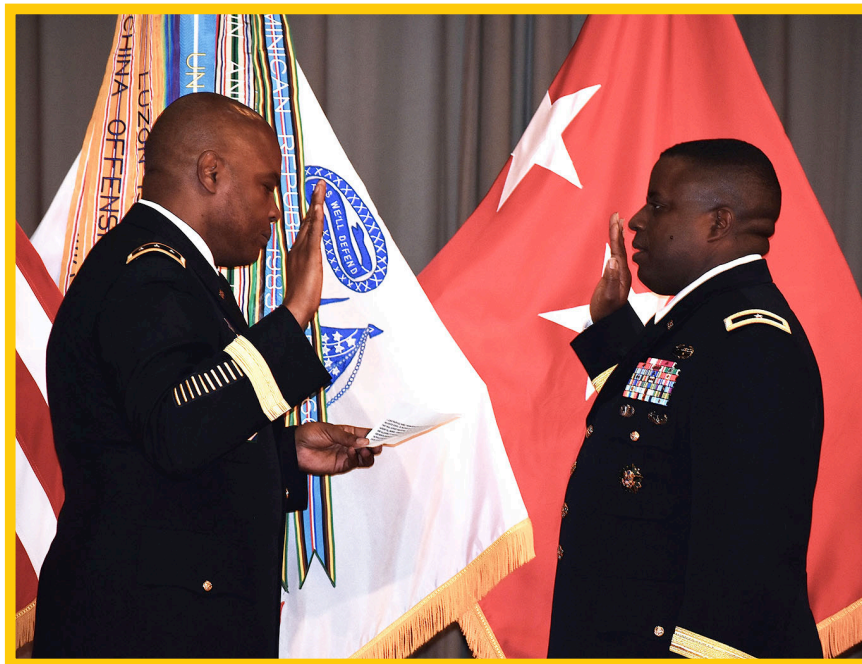
The audience in attendance did not consist only of family and friends, but several retired military personnel who served with Wilson. Brother Earl Brown who coached Wilson during his high school years also attended the promotion ceremony.

Members of the Beta Mu and Mu Alpha Chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity also attended the historical ceremony. Opera vocalist Brother

Morris Derhon Robinson performed a stirring rendition of the national anthem and shared some thoughts on Brother Wilson. "It was wonderful to see him come back full circle. He was a leader back then... and its great to see it all came to fruition" said Brother Robinson.

He also added "to rise to the rank of general is a tremendous accomplishment."

*PHOTOGRAPHS: Omega's David Wilson sworn in as a General. After the ceremony Bro. General Wilson was presented with a special award from Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.*





Brother Dr. David Marion, Omega Psi Phi's First Vice Grand Basileus stands with Brothers at the Seventh District Meeting held in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. *Oracle photo by Bro. James Witherspoon.*

## Academy Honors An Omega Man



**COLUMBUS, GA**—The Liberty Theatre and Cultural Center named a new academy after its longtime theatre champion, Brother Robert Lamar Anderson. Anderson is the chair emeritus of the Liberty Theatre Board of directors.

The Robert Lamar Anderson Academy of Excellence: Arts Immersion Program will serve about 60 Black and Hispanic at-risk-males entering eighth grade beginning this summer. The program will be art-based including: academic support, arts training, counseling and leadership training.

Bro. Anderson is a graduate of Fort Valley State University and received a Master's in education from Georgia State University. After 36 years, he retired from CB&T as the Senior Vice President of Governmental Affairs. Omega's Anderson was initiated through Upsilon Sigma Chapter in 1962. He is currently a member of Lambda Iota Graduate Chapter.

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*Alva James-Johnson and Bro. Herb Ford contributed to this report.*

## PKK Celebrates Black History

**T**he Brothers of Phi Kappa Kappa Graduate Chapter held their Black History Program in February 2017. The program celebrated the legacy of Brother Dr. Carter G. Woodson. Dr. Woodson is considered as the "Father of Black History." Bro. Woodson was elected to honorary membership into Omega Psi Phi on February 10, 1917--one hundred years ago.

The event featured traditional chants from Africa and a tribute to Hip Hop music. Also, performing at the Atlanta event was Brother Harrison Thacker, a local rapper, followed by Jazz Standard, a high school musical group.

The keynote speaker for the event was Brother Phillip Neeley. Omega's Bro. Neeley emotionally spoke about his challenges during childhood.

Neeley, a law enforcement officer mentioned that he grew up with his father sitting in a prison cell as he was raised by his mother and grandmother. "I was always told that I would end up just like my father as a kid. I will never be nothing was something I always heard," said Neeley.

Bro. Neeley said that there was a big fight, and he and his friends ran away from the scene before the police arrived. What Neeley didn't realize, his running away placed him in a life changing moment. The track coach from Clark College saw Neely running and later asked him to join the track team. Neeley would go on to become a track All-American at Clark College. He was the first in his family to graduate from college, became a Chief of Police, and the rest is history-- Black History.

**Story by Bro. Marc Styles**

# Xi Pi Chapter Leads Community

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

At the beginning of 2017, the Xi Pi Graduate Chapter supported three major activities in the Colorado Springs, Colorado community.

In January, the chapter was part of the registration team for the Educating Children of Color Summit (ECOC). Also, a few Brothers were conference presenters.

Brother Walt Glover gave a presentation about following your dreams. An inspirational Leadership presentation was provided by Brother John Register. The chapter's Uplift Foundation donated

The African American Youth Leadership (AAYLC) Conference was also held during the first part of the year. The chapter members served as classroom monitors, tech assistants, and presenters. Also, Bro. Paul Prosper served as the chairman of the conference's Leadership Institute.



In March, the chapter provided mentorship for 28 Black male Air Force Academy cadets. The mentorship session centered on a discussion about Lt. Colonel Remo Butler's

article. **Photograph above:** Xi Pi Chapter at the African American Youth Leadership Conference.

## Delta Gamma Gamma Holds Blood Drive

On February 18, 2017, Delta Gamma Gamma chapter collaborated with the University of Nebraska – Lincoln and the Red Cross. The chapter honored Brother Dr. Charles R. Drew by hosting a blood drive on the campus.

This was Delta Gamma Gamma's second blood drive in four months with community involvement. The community involvement demonstrates the chapter's steady growth and nurturing of relationships with local partners. Delta Gamma Gamma's first Blood Drive was held in November 2016, at Mt. Zion Baptist Church located in Lincoln, Nebraska.

The goal was to educate students and the general public about Brother Dr. Drew's significant impact on the health-care profession.

As a result of the partnership with the university, the chapter raised the goal to get forty donors for the second blood drive. However, the brothers were pleased that sixty people donated blood.

Many of the blood donors were on-campus residents of the University. Consequently, the blood drive highlighted Omega Psi Phi's commitment to universal health, and Delta Gamma Gamma's obligation to educate and uplift the community.



At Upsilon Omega's City of St. Louis Mayoral Candidates Public Issues for the People" forum Brother Osei Kweku lead questions during the Q & A session held at the chapter's Omega Center.

so that students know there are consequences to endangering the health and safety of others."

Brother Jewell noted that New Mexico is one of only six states in the nation that does not have an anti-hazing law on the books. Bro. Jewell, a Nu Rho Chapter member also said, "students must know that this type of activity is not okay, and they should not be subjected to this behavior when joining a club or organization."

Representative Williams-Stapleton credits Brother Jewell, who is a retired judge, for helping her respond to objections from fellow legislators as the bill was debated on the house floor.

"He was there on the third day that I presented the bill on the floor," she said, "and just his presence was a major help. The distinguished judge was recognized on the floor, with many house members commenting on how fair and honest he has always been."

Beyond that, she said, "his legal mind gave me an extreme advantage in terms of responding to questions that other legislators posed on the floor." She recalled a specific instance in which Judge Jewell explained to her how a proposed amendment would have severely narrowed the scope and intent of the bill. Using that argument, she was successful in defeating the effort to add that amendment.

With Judge Jewell's help, the bill was approved by the New Mexico House of Representatives in a 60 to 7 vote. Unfortunately, the bill was stalled in the Senate's Judiciary Committee, preventing it from becoming law. However, the bill's supporters have vowed to reintroduce it during the next legislative session, which begins in January 2018.

## Counselor Pushes for Anti-Hazing Law

**T**he Honorable Brother Tommie Jewell Jr., Eighth District Counselor is playing a critical role in an ongoing effort to pass an anti-hazing law in New Mexico.

The proposed measure would make it a crime for any person who is a student at a public or private college within the state to intentionally or recklessly endanger the mental or physical health of another.

This law would include current or prospective students during activities related to the initiation, induction or maintenance of membership in any student organization, club or team.

The law would apply regardless of whether the organization in question is sanctioned or authorized by an educational institution.

This legislation is sponsored by New Mexico State Representative Sheryl Williams-Stapleton, the first African American Majority Floor Leader in

the New Mexico Legislature, and a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

Representative Williams-Stapleton, a Democrat, was spurred to sponsor this legislation by members of the Albuquerque Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

"This type of legislation is overdue," the representative said, noting that she was drawn to this cause not only because she is a member of a Greek letter organization, but also because she is the mother of a son who played high school football.

"If you look across the state of New Mexico, in at least 80% of our sports clubs some sort of hazing takes place," she said.

"In addition, at both the University of New Mexico and New Mexico State University students have died as a result of hazing. The state needs to have some sort of deterrent,

# Omega Man Selected As Tulsan of the Year



African-American men used to approach decisions about their future.

Since 2009, Bro. Solomon-Simmons has filled a void in today's African American youth. Through his organization, the MVP Foundation, Solomon-Simmons' high profile NFL clients provide an elite football training camp for hundreds of boys from north Tulsa.

In 2013, the MVP Foundation hosted its first Manhood Summit as part a weekend of events for eighth-grade boys from single parent households. Over time, the foundation began partnering with schools that serve its target demographic. Schools identify students who would benefit from the Manhood Summit, coordinate permission slips and provide transportation.

The MVP Foundation has provided intense manhood training to over 400 boys. The foundation currently has a database of approximately 115 mentors ranging from ages 16 to 70. Also, more than 200 men have received mentoring opportunities. Brother Solomon-Simmons is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma and a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Xi Omega Chapter.

Attorney Brother Damario Solomon-Simmons was named as the "2017 Tulsan of the Year," by TulsaPeople's Magazine. Brother Solomon-Simmons, a Tulsa native and former University of Oklahoma football player is currently completing his book entitled *How the sports lottery is destroying Black communities*. According to TulsaPeople, the book will present a paradigm shift in the methods young

## *Bro. Robinson Educates With Music*



Brother Anthony Robinson of Nu Iota Graduate Chapter was recognized by the Texas Music Educators Association. He has served over 20 years as an outstanding Clinician/Percussion Organizer for the Texas All State Bands and Orchestras.

Robinson is a Professor of Percussion Studies at East Texas Baptist University. Professor Robinson also serves as a percussionist with the Shreveport Symphony Orchestra (38 years) and as an Assistant Conductor/Principal Percussionist with the Marshall Symphony (35 years).

Additionally, Bro. Robinson is a Performing Artist for Yamaha Inc., Vic Firth, Encore Mallets, and he performs regularly with the South Arkansas and Texarkana Orchestras.

Brother Anthony Robinson performs before fifth-graders at Everhart Elementary School. The school is located in Longview, Texas. Robinson is also a professor of percussion studies at East Texas Baptist University in Marshall, Texas.



## Rho Gamma Gamma Celebrates 30 Years of Service



Photo (L to R): Brother Darrell Comer, (Alpha Chi Chapter); Brother Burnel E. Coulon, the 31st Grand Basileus (Zeta Phi Chapter), and Brother Marvin McNeil, one of Rho Gamma Gamma's charter members and the chapter's first Basileus.

**O**mega Psi Phi Fraternity's Rho Gamma Gamma Graduate Chapter celebrated its 30 year anniversary in March 2017. The Fraternity's First Vice Grand Basileus Brother Dr. David Marion served as the event's keynote speaker.

The Chicago chapter also honored Brother Burnel E. Coulon, 31st Grand Basileus and Brother Lloyd J. Jordan, the 36th Grand Basileus.

Also in attendance were the Tenth District's District Representative, Brother Darryl Jones; Brother Robert Steele, the Cook County (IL) Commissioner, and Brother Gregory Mitchell, Vice President of NBC Universal.



Bro. Dr. David Marion, the 1st Vice Grand Basileus was the keynote speaker for the Rho Gamma Gamma's celebration. On left Brother Art Norman, the Master of Ceremony.

"This celebration was a milestone" said Brother Marvin McNeil, the chapter's first Basileus. He also stated the importance of using Black businesses during signature events

Dr. Marion stressed that Omegas must take a stand in strengthening Black communities. Brother Jordan, a Chicago native spoke of his close connection with Rho Gamma Gamma Chapter. Brother Art Norman, a reporter at NBC-TV Chicago served as the anniversary's Master of Ceremony. Bro. Norman was also a recipient of Rho Gamma Gamma's Lifetime Achievement Award. The event was held at Chicago's St. Ignatius College Prep High School.

# ELI Provides Training For Future Leaders

**T**he Emerging Leaders Institute (ELI) program was created to identify, foster and produce leadership within the 12th District. This initiative also will provide ELI Fellows the opportunity to enhance their skills through a leadership- based curriculum.

The ELI program would create a deeper resource of effective leaders among Omega men and in the communities they serve. With previous leaders within the District, many former District Representatives, District Committee Chairs, and Chapter Officers provide instruction to the ELI Fellows.

The leadership mentors collaborate and expose ELI Fellows to the importance of Omega Psi Phi's mission. The program was established in 2014. The first ELI Fellows included Brothers Geary Bleasoe, Saeed Gallaway, Raphael Irving, Omar Staples and Ed Young. The inaugural class also provided the District with a leadership template. Each Omega man in the first group learned through leadership webinars and books. Currently, Brother Ed Young and Brother Geary Bleasoe serve as ELI faculty members.

The second class included Brothers S. W. Bowen, Paul Hodson, Jason Jones, Eien Williams, and Walter Torrence III. The updated curriculum contains materials which will provide new and seasoned members about information on scheduling, code of conduct, mandated programs, and fraternal policies. The ELI instructors and fellows will compile a detail reference handbook.



*Brother Lymus Capehart, a former 12th District Representative speaks to ELI Fellow during a training session. Photo by Bro. Myron Reed, the 12th District Director of Public Relations.*

The handbook will be approved after the 12th District Executive Board's recommendations.

**Q&A** with Brothers S.W. Bowen and Ed Young – both past ELI Fellows and current Institute Leaders.

**Q:** What advice would you give to Brothers interested in becoming ELI Fellows in the future?

**A:** Brother Bowen – “I would encourage everyone to explore ways to make yourself better by going outside of your comfort zone to challenge yourself and accomplish something different. You will find yourself rising to the occasion and exceeding your goals.”

**Q:** What has been your most significant takeaway and lesson learned from your ELI experience?

**A:** Brother Young – “Realization that most important decisions made at the District level are not by chance.”

**Q:** How does ELI fit into your overall experience as an Omega Man?

**A1:** Brother Bowen – “ELI has provided me an opportunity to network and leave a mark.

**A2:** Brother Young – “This experience has allowed me to deconstruct personal ideologies and develop a broader more wide-ranging fraternal view leading to an organic development of succession planning and growth.

**Q:** Any final thoughts?

**A:** Brother Bowen – “I would like to thank the leadership for creating ELI. It has provided me with the insight needed as I take on leadership roles with the Fraternity and my professional career.

A think tank of capable leaders building programs for current and future leaders will cultivate strong candidates for leadership roles.

I also enjoyed the camaraderie it built allowing our different backgrounds, ages, and experiences to come together and create a lasting mark to commemorate such a program as grand as ELI.

## PHOTOGRAPH

*On December 20, 2016, Brother William "Bill" Scott (right) was named as the new Chief of the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD.) He was a 27-year veteran of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD.) Previously, Scott was the LAPD Deputy Chief, South Bureau. With Brother Scott is Brother Dennis Martinez, the 12th District's First Vice District Representative (on left).*



## Clark Stars in Reality Show

**B**rother Robert Clark of Rho Iota Iota Chapter is starring in a new reality TV program.

The show called "Hunted" will be airing on the CBS Network. Hunted is a show in which teams of fugitives must evade law enforcement for 28 days. Each team that dodges the law wins \$250,000 in prize money. The fugitives are reality show cast members and not real criminals. The law is a team of retired law enforcement officials and consultants with a variety of skill sets such as counterintelligence, cyber-crime, fugitive apprehension and others.

Brother Clark is a law enforcement commander in charge of the team. He directs his team from an operations center in an undisclosed location in Georgia. The fugitives are on the run in southeast United States in an area which includes South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. Brother Clark's team utilizes a variety of methods to track and capture the fugitives before that 28 days expires. Although the fugitives are not real criminals, Clark said "Once the action starts we track the fugitives. Our team takes the job very seriously as we are professionals with a mission to accomplish and our professional pride is at stake."

According to Bro. Clark, Hunted has been very successful as viewer ratings far exceeded the expectations of CBS executives. After nearly a decade with local law enforcement agencies in the Youngstown, Ohio area, Clark joined the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and recently retired as Assistant Special Agent In Charge (ASAC) of the FBI's Los Angeles Field Office. Clark retired after 21 years of service.

Brother Clark is supremely qualified for his newly minted role as a reality TV star. When the idea of Hunted was initially floated, Clark did not take it seriously at all. Before production, the pace quickened and he endured a series of interviews and meetings.

Clark mentioned that when he had a meeting with the President of CBS, he knew there was a real possibility of landing a role on the TV show. Soon after that important meeting, he was cast as the Commander of the team.

Brother Clark is a member of Rho Iota Iota Chapter. The chapter is located in Long Beach, CA. Omega's Clark serves as the chapter's Chaplain and on several chapter committees.

## SFUSD Elects Bro. Walton

**I**n January 2017, Brother Shamann Walton was elected president of the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD). In addition to his presidential post, Walton is serving his third year as the SFUSD Commissioner.

"I just want to thank my colleagues for electing me to serve as president of the San Francisco Board of Education. There is no greater honor than to be chosen for leadership by your peers. I am truly humbled and excited about our work. We will move closer toward our equity goals for our students over the course of the year," said Brother Walton.

Since serving on the San Francisco Board of Education, Brother Walton has been a strong advocate for African-American students and implemented pathways for Arabic and Vietnamese language programs within SFUSD.

Brother Walton, a San Francisco native, is a product of the San Francisco public school system. Brother Walton was initiated into Omega in 1996 through Alpha Sigma Chapter while a student at Morris Brown College. He is a member of Pi Chi Chapter.

# *Sigma Gamma Gamma Hosts Several Activities in Japan*



*Brother Michael Robinson, the chapter's Basileus handing out candy for children at the 2nd Annual Veteran's Day Parade held on the Kadena Air Force Base in Okinawa, Japan. "Honoring those who served and those now serving," was the theme of the Veteran's Day event in November 2016.*

**D**uring the month of October, Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter participated in several events to help promote Breast Cancer Awareness in Okinawa. At Camp Lester Marine Corps Base, Omega men were involved in the 2nd Annual 5k Walk sponsored by the Okinawa Naval Hospital.

Brothers also attended a Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon sponsored by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's Phi Omicron Omega Chapter. The chapter also supported the Daughters of Obelish Court No. 170's Strawberry Tea event at Camp Foster Marine Corps Base. October is the national Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

In November 2016, the chapter volunteered

as 100 Meter Dash race monitors during the Special Olympics. The event, held at Kadena Air Force Base, started in 1999 as a one day sporting event for special needs children. The activity also provides a relationship with the local community and military members.

At Camp Foster Marine Corps Base, the chapter brothers served Thanksgiving dinner to military members stationed at the Japanese facility. Also in November, the chapter held their Achievement Week Banquet. Brother Michael Robinson was named as the "Omega Man of the Year." Other award recipients included: Bro. Anthony Gannt, Superior Service; Bro. Cortez Pree, Founders; and Bro. Damien Seals recieved the "Colonel Charles Young Award."

## Chapter Provides Support for Orphanage

Lambda Xi Chapter visited the Donducheon Orphanage in February 2016. Each month the chapter visits the South Korea facility to play games, provide music lessons and just eat pizza with the children.

Dongducheon is home to over 20 children. While the language barrier is sometimes challenging, there is warmth, camaraderie and caring provided by the chapter during their monthly visits.

“Helping the orphanage promotes friendship and enhances relationship between the United States and the Republic of Korea,” said David H. Patterson, Jr., the chapter’s Basileus. Lambda Xi also conducts community service with the orphanage and the greater South Korea community.

## Eta Iota Iota Helps During Voting Drive

In September 2016, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity’s Eta Iota Iota Chapter based in St. Croix, US Virgin Islands collaborated with the Virgin Islands Board of Elections in co-sponsoring two Voter Registration Drives.

Omega men from the St. Croix Chapter and three board members from the St. Croix Board of Elections staff helped to facilitate the success of the drive.



Bro. Paul Otto of Lambda Xi Chapter teaches a student how to play the piano. Story (on right) about the chapter’s involvement with an orphanage in South Korea.

## SGG work to stop bullying

The brothers of Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. held its 4th annual Que-Nic Anti-Bullying Campaign in September 2016 at the Ryuku Middle School football field.

The event was held in conjunction with the Okinawa Youth Football League Pep Rally. Various organizations set up booths around the football field to provide parents and students with information about bullying, scholarships, talent hunt and upcoming community events.

The Anti-Bullying Campaign is held during the month of October and unites communities nationwide to educate and raise awareness of bullying prevention.

Last year the brothers of Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter continued spreading their motto “Bullies Never Win” with information booths set up at three different locations on Okinawa.

Each child that participated in the Anti-Bullying Campaign received a free purple and gold bracelet, bookmark and candy. Over 300 children from elementary, middle, and high schools signed the Anti-Bullying Pledge:

### As A kid Against Bullying, I will:

- \* Speak up when I see bullying.
- \* Reach out to others who are bullied.
- \* And be a friend whenever I see bullying.

Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter is focused on providing service, scholarship, and uplift to the Okinawa community.

### Story by Brother Michael Robinson

Also published in the Okinawa Stars and Stripes Newspaper.  
[https://epub.stripes.com/Stripes-Okinawa\\_031116](https://epub.stripes.com/Stripes-Okinawa_031116)

# 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.*

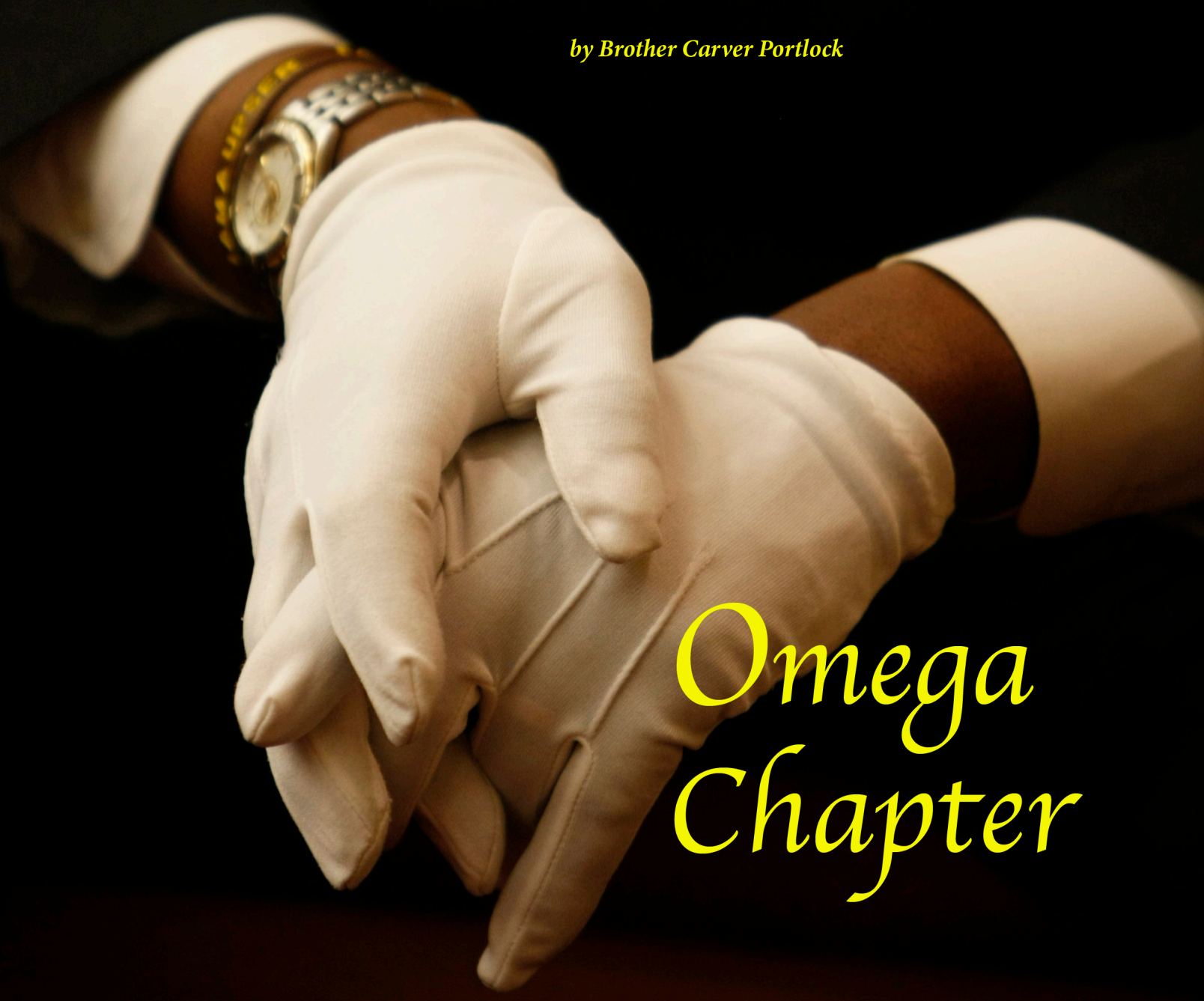
*The circle has an empty place, A voice will raise no more. The song of fellowship and love Uplift  
forevmore. When we wear the gloves, A light goes from this earthly life. The visor closed again.*

*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 Wendell L. Boyce**

*Founding member of Xi Iota Iota Chapter*

Brother Boyce entered Omega Chapter on January 4, 2017. He was initiated into the Fraternity through Eta Gamma Chapter at Central State University in 1968. The Life Member # 4172, held several offices as a member of Delta Alpha and Xi Iota Iota Chapters. Brother Boyce served as the Fourth District's 4th Region Representative of Omega Life Membership Foundation, Inc.

## **Brother Charles L. Brown**

*Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired)*

Brother Brown entered Omega Chapter on January 22, 2017. He was initiated into the Fraternity through Upsilon Psi Chapter at Florida A&M University (FAMU) in 1951. While at FAMU, he was commissioned as Second Lieutenant in 1954. Brown later retired from the Army in 1974, receiving two Bronze Stars. The Life Member received his 65th Year of Omega Service Award at the 80th Grand Conclave in 2016. In 1975, Brother Brown was a founding member of Tau Pi Graduate Chapter. He was the recipient of two Tau Pi awards, the Omega Man of the Year and the Business Man of the Year.

## **Brother Thomas J. Brown**

*Author and Educator*

Brother Brown entered Omega Chapter on April 7, 2017. He was initiated into the Fraternity through Pi Chapter, Morgan State College in 1952. He graduated from Morgan State with a B.S. in Elementary Education. Brother Brown later earned an M.S. in Elementary Education, and an M.S. in Educational Administration, also from Morgan. The U.S. Army veteran was a teacher in the Baltimore City Public School System. He also served as a principal for the school system in Baltimore and Howard County (MD). Brown was the author of over five books, and he traveled to six continents. Brown established a mentoring programs for disadvantaged boys. As a member of Pi Omega Graduate Chapter, Brother Brown served as a volunteer for the chapter's mentorship program.

## **Brother George W. Bouldin, Sr.**

*4th District Omega Man*

Brother Bryant entered Omega Chapter on July 31, 2016. He was initiated into the Fraternity through Lambda Epsilon Chapter, Tuskegee University in 1950. He was a member of Mu Iota Chapter.

## **Brother Wiley H. Clodfelder, Esq.**

*4th District Omega Man*

Brother Clodfelder entered Omega Chapter on September 22, 2016. He was initiated into the Fraternity through Iota Psi Chapter in 1950. He was a member of Mu Iota Chapter.

## **Brother Alonzo E. Franklin, Sr.**

*Administrator and College Professor*

Brother Franklin entered Omega Chapter on February 13, 2017. He was initiated through Kappa Psi Graduate Chapter in 1962. During the Vietnam War, Bro Franklin served as a First Lieutenant in the Army Reserves. He received a B.S. degree from Howard University, a Master in Public Administration from Northeastern University and a PhD in Education from LaSalle University. Bro. Franklin was a member Pi Omega Graduate Chapter, before transferring his chapter affiliation to Tau Pi Graduate Chapter.

## **Brother Steven K. Graham**

*Master Sergeant, U.S. Army*

Brother Graham entered Omega Chapter on September 12, 2016. Brother Graham graduated from Morehouse College with a Bachelor's in Business Administration. Graham began his military career in 1998. As a member of Zeta Mu Mu, he was a recipient of the chapter's Colonel Charles Young Award.

## **Brother Albert L. Harrington**

*4th District Omega Man*

Brother Harrington entered Omega Chapter on July 16, 2016. He was initiated into the Fraternity through Eta Gamma Chapter, Central State University in 1950. He was a member of Mu Iota Chapter.

## **Brother Charles E. Harry, IV**

*Educator*

Brother Harry entered Omega Chapter in April 2016. After 33 years of service as a teacher, guidance counselor, and director of guidance & mentoring, he retired from the Indianapolis Public School System in 1990. He graduated from Indiana University with an undergraduate degree in 1956. A year later, he received his graduate degree from Indiana University. Brother Harry, a Life Member, was a member of Zeta Phi Graduate Chapter.

## **Brother Kimberle D. Holsey**

*Social Work Supervisor*

Brother Holsey entered Omega Chapter on February 18, 2017. He was initiated through Mu Omega Chapter in 1983. He graduated from Morgan State University with a B.S. in Business. Bro. Holsey also received a Master's Degree in Social Work from Widener University. Holsey served as a Social Service Program Analyst and Social Work Supervisor for the Department of Human Services in Philadelphia for many years. He was also a member of the National Association of Black Social Workers

## **Brother Walter I. Johnson, II**

*Professor of Psychology*

Brother Johnson entered Omega Chapter on February 28, 2017. He was initiated into Omega through Beta Chapter, Lincoln University in 1936. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from Lincoln. He also received an M. S. from Howard University in 1941. Bro. Johnson also studied at New York University. He held faculty positions at Barber-Scotia College and West Virginia State College as a psychology professor. Johnson was a founder of Upsilon Alpha Graduate Chapter before joining Nu Beta Beta Graduate Chapter in Teaneck, NJ.

## **Brother Ermon K. Jones**

*Engineer*

Brother Jones entered Omega Chapter on May 7, 2016. Jones graduated from Neptune High in 1943 where he was the first black basketball player to start for the school. Bro. Jones served in the Armed Forces, attended Monmouth University. He received a BS degree from Morgan State University, and a Master's degree from Columbia University. In 1951 he started his career at Fort Monmouth as an engineer, and retired in 1985 after fifteen years as head of the Fort's Office of Equal Employment Opportunity's, 5000 civilian and military personnel.

## **Brother Malvin Jones**

*Former Fourth District Representative*

Brother Jones entered Omega Chapter on November 27, 2016. He was initiated into Omega through Omicron Sigma Chapter in 1962. The Cairo (IL) native was educated at Southern Illinois University majoring in Industrial Engineering. He worked in the Dayton (OH) area for IBM and Monsanto. The Life Member was active member of Delta Alpha, and the 15th Fourth District Representative.

## **Brother Ronnie H. McKay**

*Railroad Engineer*

Brother McKay entered Omega Chapter on March 20, 2017. He was initiated into Omega through Pi Chapter, Morgan State University in 1977. McKay also received a Masters degree in Human Services from Lincoln University. Brother McKay worked for B & O Railroad as a conductor, brakeman and engineer. He also worked for the State of Maryland receiving certifications including: Certified Criminal Justice Professional, Certified Associate and Counselor, and Therapist- Alcohol and Drug Addiction.

## **Brother Abraham K. Mitchell**

*Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy (retired)*

Brother Mitchell entered Omega Chapter on March 11, 2015. He was initiated into Omega through Omricon Nu Chapter in 1997. He was a member of Tau Lambda Lambda Graduate Chapter. Brother Mitchell's Navy career spanned over 20 years.

## **Brother John H. Nash**

*Championship Coach and Educator*

Brother Nash entered Omega Chapter on February 27, 2017. He was initiated into Omega through Nu Psi Chapter (Virginia State College) in 1952. The Life Member was very active in Pi Omega Graduate Chapter. Brother Nash spent over 40 years in education and coaching in Baltimore. He was named as the Baltimore Sun's All-Metro Basketball Coach of the Year in 1994. One of Nash's teams won a Maryland State Athletic Association Basketball Title. He was known as a dedicated coach and educator who cared deeply about his players. Brother Nash was on the Virginia State College's 1952 CIAA Championship Football Team. He was selected as a CIAA First Team All-American in 1954 and 1955. He was also the 1955 CIAA Long Jump Champion and a member of the Virginia State Basketball Team. In 1993, Brother Nash was inducted into the Virginia State Athletic Hall of Fame.

## **Brother Derek L. Price**

*An Omega Man*

Brother Price entered Omega Chapter on December 27, 2016. He attended Canisius College, later graduating with a B.S. degree in History from the University of Cincinnati.

## **Brother Bobby L. Scales**

*Business man*

Brother Scales entered Omega Chapter on February 9, 2017. He was initiated into Omega through Theta Psi Chapter at Virginia State College in 1961. He graduated from the school in 1966 with a degree in Business Administration. During his business career, Scales worked at IBM and GB Tech, Inc. Brother Scales was a founding member of Tau Pi Graduate Chapter (MD), serving as the chapter's first Keeper of Finance. Bro. Scales is survived by his wife Sylvia; daughter Julie Mathews; grandson, Jaden Mathews; Sisters Phyllis Royster and Shirley Epps (Joseph); Brother John Scales (Juliette), and a host of relatives.



## **Brother John Scott, Jr.**

*Assistant Principal and Educator*

Brother Scott entered Omega Chapter on January 17, 2017. He was initiated into Omega through Pi Chapter (Morgan State College) in 1953. After graduation from Morgan State, Brother Scott was commissioned as U.S. Army officer. Scott, later received advanced degrees from the University of Maryland, Loyola and Johns Hopkins University. After 32 years of service in education, Scott retired from the Baltimore City Public School System. His last position was as an Assistant Principal at Southwestern High School. Scott, a Life Member with over 63 years in Omega, was active on the Social Action and Scholarship Committees in Pi Omega Chapter.

## **Brother Samuel W. Scriven**

*Educator*

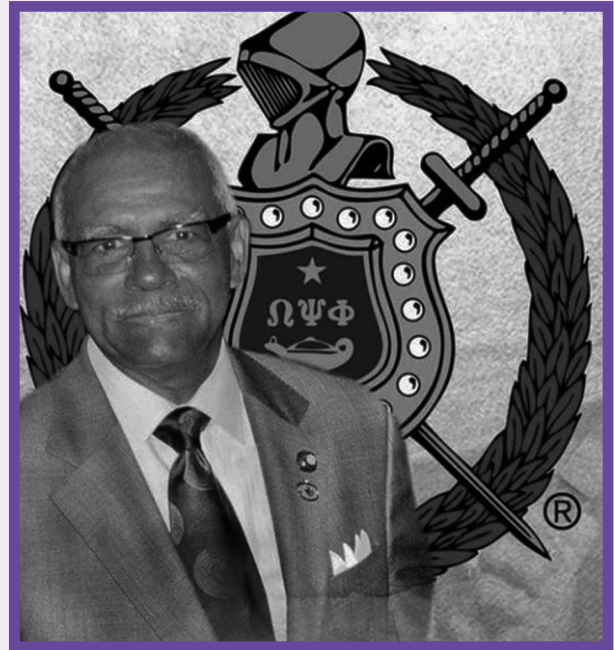
Brother Scriven entered Omega Chapter on October 7, 2016. Scriven attended Rutgers University on the GI Bill after serving in the Army during World War II. Brother graduated from Rutgers with a Bachelor's degree in Economics. He began his career in education with the Trenton School System as an elementary school teacher. He later received a Master's from Trenton State College later becoming an administrator for the school system in Trenton. Bro. Scriven received his 60th year of Fraternity Service Award in 2015. He was a member of Delta Upsilon Chapter.

## **Brother Robert Steele**

*Cook County Board Commissioner*

Brother Steele entered Omega Chapter on June 19, 2017. He was initiated into Omega through Pi Chapter (Morgan State University). The Commissioner and President Pro Tempore for the 2nd district of Cook County, IL was an important figure on Chicago's Westside. As a board member, Brother Steele was the chairman of the Environmental Control Committee, the Contract Compliance Committee, and the Health and Hospitals Committee's vice chair. Brother Steele previously served as a Community Outreach Manager for the Chicago Park District. He also was the Executive Director of the Lawndale Business and Local Development Corp.

Brother Steele attended many Chicago Omega events sponsored by Rho Gamma Gamma and Sigma Omega Graduate Chapters. Each year, the Commissioner would sponsor the Feed the Elderly event and a Thanksgiving Feast for Seniors on Chicago's Westside.



*The late Brother Dr. Moses C. Norman was Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's 33rd Grand Basileus. He was elected to three consecutive terms, the longest tenure of any Grand Basileus. Cover story on page 12.*

## **Brother Dr. George B. Thomas, Sr.**

*College President and Community Educator*

Brother Thomas entered Omega Chapter on December 25, 2016. He was initiated into Omega while attending South Carolina State College. He received his B.S. in Business from South Carolina State. Later, he received a Doctorate Degree from George Washington University. The U.S. Air Force veteran served as the Area Superintendent for the Montgomery County Public Schools System. Bro. Thomas was the President of Voorhees College. Recently, he was the President of the Thomas Learning Academy, a mentoring program founded with Omega Psi Phi's Mu Nu Chapter.

## **Brother Joseph L. Woods, Sr.**

*Educator*

Brother Woods entered Omega Chapter on September 20, 2015. He was initiated into Omega through Nu Psi (Virginia State College) in 1938. He graduated in 1940, and served in the Army Air Corp as PT trainer for the Tuskegee Airmen during WWII. The Pittsburgh native returned home and began coaching the track and football teams. As an educator, Woods was one the first Black teachers in the Pittsburgh Board of Education. He rose to become Vice Principal in the Pittsburgh School System.

## **Brother Aldon Coefield**

*Coach and Hall of Famer*

Brother Coefield recently entered Omega Chapter. He was a 50 year member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Brother Coefield was the captain of the 1958 and 1959 CIAA-Football Championship team at North Carolina A & T University. He earned both his B.S. and Master's degrees in Physical Education from the school. Coefield was a high school football coach and athletic director. Later, he become the head basketball coach at Baber-Scotia College. Brother Coefield was inducted into the Cabarrus County Schools Hall of Fame. In 1984, he was inducted into the North Carolina A&T University's Sports Hall of Fame, and the Barber-Scotia College Sports Hall of Fame.

## **Brother James E. Moody, Jr.**

*U.S. Army, Major (retired)*

Brother Moody entered Omega Chapter on October 25, 2016. He was initiated into Omega through Tau Delta Chapter (Wofford College) in 1980. Brother Moody was a charter member of Phi Kappa Kappa Graduate Chapter. He graduated from Wofford College, and held a M.S. in General Administration from Central Michigan University. He served in the United States Army, retiring with the rank of Major. Moody was a bible study teacher, and was active with the Boy Scouts troop at his church. He later served as a Police Officer at Morehouse College.

## **Brother Harold Newsome**

*Assistant Principal and Educator*

Brother Newsome entered Omega Chapter on December 19, 2016. He was initiated into Omega through Xi Psi Chapter (South Carolina State College) in 1949. He received his Bachelor of Science from South Carolina State University.

In 1974, he became a charter member of Mu Pi Graduate Chapter in Greenville, SC. Brother Newsome served as Mu Pi Chapter's Keeper of Finance and he was a devoted member of the Mardi Gras committee. Brother Newsome regularly attended the 6th District and Council Meetings. Brother Newsome served Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. for 67-years.

## **Brother Joseph Pinckney**

*Coach*

Brother Pinckney entered Omega Chapter on February 3, 2017. He served the Fraternity as a member with 59 years of service. Brother Pinckney was initiated through Mu Sigma (Allen University) in 1957. He received his Bachelor's Degree from Allen University in 1960 and a Master's Degree from Indiana University in 1962. Brother Pinckney was a long-time educator and coach for over thirty years at various high schools including: Spearman Wren, Mauldin, Riverside and J.L. Mann High School. He became a charter member of Mu Pi Graduate Chapter in 1974. He served as Mu Pi's Basileus, Vice Basileus and on many other committees. Brother Pinckney spearheaded the search committee in purchasing Mu Pi's Chapter's first Fraternity house.

## **Brother Wiburn Sanders**

*Pastor and Postal Worker*

Brother Sanders entered Omega Chapter on September 28, 2016. He was initiated into Omega through Rho Chapter (Johnson C. Smith University). Later, Brother Sanders joined Pi Phi Graduate Chapter. He worked for Charlotte's United States Postal Service for 33 years. Brother Sanders also served as supply minister for Covenant Presbyterian Church in Kannapolis, NC. He was also the pastor of New Hampton Presbyterian Church and later pastor of Statesville Avenue Presbyterian Church. Sanders was also a Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.

## **Brother Ronald Williams**

*Coach*

Brother Williams entered Omega Chapter on September 28, 2016. He was initiated into Omega through Rho Chapter (Johnson C. Smith University). Later, Brother Sanders joined Pi Phi Graduate Chapter. Brother Williams' teaching career spanned over 35 years working as a physical education teacher and coach. He received his first coaching assignment at Wando High School, coaching football.

He later coached football and basketball at Lincoln High School. At Academic Magnet High School (AMHS), he became the first African American to coach the boys' basketball team. While at AMHS, he also coached football, track and girls' tennis.

# Knowing Where to Turn as a Caregiver

**C**aregiving is the highest expression of love and commitment. At the same time, it can present difficult challenges to the well-being and financial security of the caregiver.

There are about five million African-American family caregivers in the US. They perform tasks that include shopping, providing transportation to appointments, handling finances, and helping with bathing, dressing, and getting out of bed. They also carry out such complex tasks such as managing medication, preparing special diets, and providing extensive care for wounds.

A new study by AARP shows that the average family caregiver spends about \$7,000 a year on out-of-pocket costs related to caregiving. About nine out of 10 people want to age in place, at home. About 85 percent of family caregivers are caring for someone who lives at home or shares a home with them. There are a number of modifications that can make the home safe and comfortable for a loved one with limited mobility, such as wide hallways and doors, controls, switches, and countertops that can be reached from a wheelchair, lever handles, and a raised toilet and grab bars in the bathroom.

**AARP suggests following these five steps in caregiving:**

- **Start a conversation about possible future needs without waiting for a crisis to occur.**
- **Put together a team so you don't have to meet all the responsibilities of caregiving alone.**
- **Make a plan to meet those responsibilities, a plan that can get everyone on the team on the same page.**

- Reach out to professionals and organizations for support. In this regard, Amy Goyer, AARP's caregiving expert, offers these tips: Examine home-based services, such as physical, occupational, speech and music therapy, as well as mobile doctors and lab tests, home health aides, and meal delivery. To find these services, you can contact your local area agency on aging at <http://www.n4a.org/> or another community-based organization or Veterans Affairs. If you are hiring a paid caregiver, make sure you conduct background checks and get references for them. It is also a good idea to check on their work, including through unannounced visits.

- Take care of yourself. It is easy to overlook your own needs when you're caring for a loved one and pulled in so many different directions, but maintaining your own health and well-being is a critical part of caregiving. Don't forget your own needs for exercise, sleep, and healthy eating. Take steps to reduce stress and enjoy life. Consider using social networks such as [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and [www.caringbridge.com](http://www.caringbridge.com) for support. You have to take care of yourself in order to provide patient and loving care to your loved ones.

For information, tools, and resources for caring for a loved one, visit [www.aarp.org/caregiving](http://www.aarp.org/caregiving). You can get a helpful planning guide for families at [www.aarp.org/preparetocare](http://www.aarp.org/preparetocare).

*Look and listen for AARP's outreach on caregiving—on television, radio, in print, and online. For more information on AARP's commitment and outreach to the black community, Go to: [www.aarp.org/blackcommunity](http://www.aarp.org/blackcommunity).*

**By Jim Taylor, Vice President,  
Multicultural Leadership, AARP**



**AARP**  
Real Possibilities

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

## WAY BACK WEEN



**A**ccording to Brother Dr. Robert L. Gill's book entitled *"The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and the Men Who Made Its History,"* the 40th Grand National Conclave was held in the City of Atlanta in 1954. One of the guests at the 40th Conclave held between December 27th thru December 30th was Brother Dr. Benjamin Mays.

*The Oracle* research team discovered that the featured photograph of Omega men at the 1954 Grand Conclave was incorrectly labeled as the 41st Conclave.

This picture was also taken a few weeks after Brother Moses C. Norman was initiated into Omega through Beta Psi Chapter at Atlanta's Clark College on December 13, 1954. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., celebrates the life and service of the Fraternity's 33rd Grand Basileus Brother Dr. Moses C. Norman, Sr.