

The CommuniQue

WINTER 2017

COLORADO, IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA, NEW MEXICO, NORTH DAKOTA & SOUTH DAKOTA



**EIGHTH DISTRICT
OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.**

ΩΨΦ

81ST GRAND
CONCLAVE
NEW ORLEANS, LA

July 20-24, 2018



The Mighty 8th District
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
755 Oriental Lilly Drive
O'Fallon MO, 63366

2 December 2017

Dear Brothers of the 8th District,

I am pleased to have read and reviewed the fall 2017 edition of the Eighth District Communique. I am proud to read the accomplishments of the brothers and extremely happy to see the various community service activities our chapters are doing! Chapters all over this Mighty Eighth District have selflessly upheld the traditions and mandated programs of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. We are all making difference brothers; please keep up and be sure to document the hard work you are doing!

I strongly urge all brothers of the Eighth District to continue to document and submit all chapter activities to our District Publicist. These submissions document our District's history and highlight our district at the international level via the Oracle. I am aware of the extra work it takes to document and submit chapter activities; however, nothing worth having comes easy. This is why we chose to become Omega Men!

Fraternally,

James Ball

James R. Ball
Eighth District Representative



The Mighty 8th District
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
755 Oriental Lilly Drive
O'Fallon MO, 63366

2 December 2017

Dear Brothers of the 8th District,

I am excited to share this latest volume of the Eighth District CommuniQue! I really would like to thank the brothers that took a few extra minutes to record and document their chapter's community service, fellowship events and mandated programs. The brothers of the Eighth District do a great deal of good in their communities. Let us continue to highlight our impact for all to see.

My District Publicist campaign promise was to increase the visibility of the 8th District fraternity wide. I will continue to do my best to live up to that promise. However, this cannot be done by me alone. All chapters must continue to submit content. If we have content for the CommuniQue, a percentage of those submissions will be our content to submit to the Oracle. This will help the 8th District to reach its goal of increased exposure at all levels of the fraternity.

If you have article submissions, questions or article ideas to highlight the Eight District, I can be reached at 405-503-1324 or paulprosper79@gmail.com.

Fraternally,

Paul Prosper

Paul Prosper
Director of Public Affairs (Publicist)
8th District
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

"Many individuals claim that they fail to document due to a lack of time. But the reality is that they do not fully comprehend the value of creating proper documentation."

Unknown

8TH DISTRICT CHIEF OF STAFF

Participates in Founders Day Festivities at Howard University

On Nov 17, 2017 Omega Men from every District gathered at Howard University to celebrate the Fraternity's Founders Day. Bro Ivy Williams (8th District Chief of Staff) was on hand not only to represent the 8th District, he also served as personal escort to 39th Grand Basileus, Dr. Andrew Ray. Dr. David Marion, the 1st Vice Grand Basileus, gave the keynote address. The 40th Grand Basileus, Antonio Knox, also provided remarks. Dr. Ray officiated the rededication ceremony for over 1,000 Omega Men.



Brother Ivy Williams and 39th Grand Basileus, Dr. Andrew Ray, prepare for the Rededication Ceremony conducted at Howard University.



Brother Ivy Williams, 8th District Chief of Staff, shares a moment with the 40th Grand Basileus, Antonio Knox, and former 2nd District Representative Ben Jeffers, at Howard University.



COLORADO

ΩΨΦ

Xi Pi Chapter Brothers Ordained as Deacons

Colorado Springs, CO.

Two Xi Pi brothers, Bro. Eric Brazell, PhD. and Bro. Karim Fudge were ordained as Deacons on Sunday May 28, 2017 at Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church located at 3615 Vickers Drive Colorado Springs. Both brothers have spent 12 months learning the duties of Deacons embodying Omega's principles of Christian Manhood.



Brother Deacon Brazell



Brother. Deacon Fudge



Brothers of Xi Pi were there in support of Brothers Fudge and Brazell on their big day.



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Xi Pi Chapter

P.O. Box 2288
Colorado Springs, CO 80901



June 17, 2017

Each year the Xi Pi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and its 501©3 Uplift Foundation award scholarships to deserving local high school seniors in the name of Founder and Charter Member of Xi Pi Chapter, Brother Samuel C. Hunter, Jr.. Brother Hunter was born Sept 1, 1919 in Crockett, TX. At an early age, his family moved to Colorado Springs. He graduated from Colorado Springs High School which is now known as William J Palmer High School. After high school he attended West Virginia State College (now known as West Virginia State University) and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration in 1940.

While at West Virginia State College, Brother Hunter was initiated in Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. on Dec 9, 1937 through Theta Psi Chapter. One year after graduating from WV State College, Brother Hunter would receive his Mortuary Science degree from Worsham College in Chicago. Brother Hunter enlisted into the US Army Air Corps (documented original Tuskegee Airmen) and was a graduate of Class 44-J on Dec 27th, 1944. As a newly commissioned 2nd Lt, he was assigned to the 44th Bombardment Group Medium.

On Saturday June 17, 2017, during the luncheon of the chapter's 14th annual golf tournament at Pine Creek Golf Course in Colorado Springs, CO., Brother (Dr.) Eric Brazell (2017 Scholarship Committee Chair) announced that each of the below four (4) high school seniors would receive \$4000.00 or \$5000.00 scholarships from the Uplift Foundation aid in their pursuits of higher education:

1. Mr. Cole C. Pelt (\$4000.00) is a 2017 graduate of Liberty High School with a 2.6 GPA. While at Liberty, Mr. Pelt was a member of the Principal's Leadership Council, received the Citizenship Award 2014-2017, Liberty Spotlight recognition for Great Character, was Liberty's Football Team Captain and MVP 2015-2017, CSU-Pueblo Camp First Team Conference Player 2015-2017, a Platoon Leader in Boy Scout Troop #118, and many other volunteer activities through his church, school and community. This future entrepreneur plans to major business administration at Colorado State University, Pueblo this Fall.
2. Ms. Aimee L. Hatley is a 2017 graduate of Gen William Mitchell Harrison High School with a 3.0 GPA. Ms. Hatley spends her time volunteering at local hospitals, at the Pikes Peak Library reading to children, participating in the Animal Adoption Fair, tutoring her Peers and Freshmen, and was a member of the school's band and First Choir. This future child advocate and social worker plans to major in psychology with a minor in sociology at the University of Colorado, Boulder this Fall.



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Xi Pi Chapter

P.O. Box 2288
Colorado Springs, CO 80901



3. Ms. Kiara D. Mitchell is a 2017 graduate of Sierra High School with a 3.6 GPA. Ms. Mitchell was a member of the drama club, both as a technician and as an actor, the National Honor Society, the Student Government, a peer guest presenter at the Educating Children of Color Summit. Additionally, she served as an usher and on the culinary ministry at her local church. This future doctor plans to major in biology with a pre-med track at Colorado State University, Ft. Collins this Fall.
4. Ms. Samara C. Henderson is a 2017 graduate of Vista Ridge High School with a 4.3 GPA. Ms. Henderson is a member of the National Society of High School Scholars, received Academic Letter all four of years of high school by maintaining an above 4.0 GPA, received college credit for math through Pikes Peak CC, 3 year basketball captain, also played volleyball and participated in track and field, student dance (coach), student council, peer counseling and peer tutoring, and volunteering at Care and Share. This future sports marketing professional/sports agent plans to pursue a business marketing degree with a minor in sports management degree at the Arizona State University this Fall.

The high point of the luncheon occurred when the recipients received their scholarship award from Brother Dr. Eric Brazell (Xi Pi Vice Basileus/Scholarship Committee Chair) and Brother Roy Griggs (Uplift Foundation President) as this was the first time the recipients learned the amount of their respective scholarships awards. Xi Pi is committed to not only being the premier Greek Letter organization in the Colorado Springs community but to deepen and broaden its impact and to positively affect as many lives as possible.



14th Annual Uplift Foundation Golf Classic

Xi Pi Chapter and its Uplift Foundation hosted their 14th Annual Uplift Foundation Golf Tournament on June 17, 2017. The tournament was held at the Pine Creek Golf Club in Colorado Springs. The tournament is a major fundraiser for the Chapter and its Foundation to support the Foundation's High School Scholarship program. Some 90 golfers came out to support this year's tournament.

In addition to the golfers, the Foundation's four 2017 scholarship recipients were present, along with their parents for the tournament luncheon. Each scholar was recognized with a brief bio of high school achievements and presented with their scholarship award ranging from \$4,000 to \$5,000 each.

Over the past 14 years, the Uplift Foundation has awarded over \$125,000 in scholarships to local college-bound seniors.

The tournament first-place prize went to the team of Dwight Howard, Marvin Hires, Ken Kentera, and Don Cross with a score of 54.



The 2017 Xi Pi Chapter Family Cookout...

...was another success although the weather tried to interfere, brothers did not allow the rain stop the event. This annual event was on the 15th of July 2017 and it allowed brothers to meet and mingle with each other's families. This event also welcomes brothers that have been away from the fraternity and gives Xi Pi a chance to reclaim them.

There was great food, great music, great games and great fellowship. We look forward to inviting the Colorado Springs Divine 9 to next year's cookout...



SAM HUNTER INDUCTION

On September 23, 2017 Brother Samuel C. Hunter, Jr. (Omega Chapter) Was inducted into Colorado Springs, CO's William J. Palmer High School's Hall of Fame. This school has graduated over 41,000 students and to date there are only 113 who have been inducted into its Hall of Fame. The school, once called The Colorado Springs School, was the only high school at that time and did not allow minority participation in team sports. Brother Sam Hunter became a member of the tennis team and excelled in that sport. He completed high school then college and received his pilot wings as a member of the Tuskegee Airmen in 1945. While on active duty, he primarily flew the B- 25 bomber aircraft.

He separated from the Army Air Corps in 1945 and entered into business with his father, a mortician. They successfully developed that business including the local Evergreen Cemetery. He Started the first black realty company in Colorado Springs and was directly responsible for developing affordable housing areas in the city.

While a student in college he became a member of Omega Psi Phi, Fraternity in 1937 via Theta Psi Chapter (West Virginia University). Brother Hunter exceeded the qualifications of most of the previous inductees and is only one of two minorities to ever receive this honor. Lastly, Bro. Hunter was instrumental in the creation of Xi Pi Chapter. He was an active member of Xi Pi Chapter until he passed away in 2013.



(L-R) Bro. Hunter's Daughter Carolyn, his widow, Minnie-Ray Hunter, Brother Lowell Bell and Brother Hunter's daughter Jocelyn pose for a photo in front of Brother Hunter's photograph.



Xi Pi Chapter Achievement Week Activities



Monday, November 13, 2017

The Brothers of Xi Pi attended Colorado Springs Teen Court to teach Life Skills lessons to troubled teens. Afterwards, the Brothers fellowshiped at Buffalo Wild Wings for Monday Night Football.



Tuesday, November 14, 2017

The Brothers of Xi Pi gave away five turkeys to The Women's Resources Agency to help five needy families to have a traditional Thanksgiving meal. The turkeys were provided by Bro. Donald Fleming from the Walmart store he manages.



Wednesday, November 15, 2017

The Brothers of Xi Pi fellowshiped at the bowling alley. The brothers enjoyed each other's company while having a friendly battle on the lanes.



Thursday, November 16, 2017

The Brothers of Xi Pi fellowshiped at the sports bar, Rhino's. The brothers watched Thursday Night Football on the big screens and enjoyed a meal together.



Friday, November 17, 2017

The Brothers of Xi Pi fellowshiped at Bro. Henderson's home while rededicating their lives to Omega for the next year. Xi Pi Chapter is keeping the light shining and shield held high.



Saturday, November 18, 2017

The Brothers celebrated their annual Founders Banquet at The Antlers Hotel. Bro. John Register, the keynote speaker, delivered a powerful message. Eric Hamilton, Chi Phi Chapter (Denver) Basileus and wife attended the banquet.

The Achievement Week Award Winners:

Founders Award - Brother Donald Fleming

Superior Service Award - Brother Tim DeRamus

**Colonel Charles Young Leadership Award -
Brother Robert Smith**

Citizen of the Year Award - Brother Jim Abbott

Omega Man of the Year Award - Brother Dr. Eric Brazell



Sunday, November 19, 2017

The Brothers finished Achievement Week by attending church service at Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church.

Brother Register Negotiates a Donation

Xi Pi Chapter, Colorado Springs, Colorado: Brother Register, a professional speaker, negotiated a part of his speaker fee to be a donation of HP monitors, keyboards and mice. The donations were given to a local literacy project for the Pikes Peak Region through the Urbanites. The donation has an estimated value of \$5,000.



DONATION TO THE URBANITES LEADING THE PIKES PEAK REGION

The Xi Pi Uplift Foundation presented a \$500.00 donation to Janice Frazier, Executive Director of the Urbanites Leading The Pikes Peak Region (ULPPR). The ULPPR is a Colorado Non-Profit Corporation that was established in 1964 and its mission is to promote equality and opportunities for the socio-economically disadvantaged by providing and supporting educational programs fostering economic empowerment and public advocacy. Xi Pi Chapter wholeheartedly supports ULPPR's mission to promote programs and events that ensure the children in El Paso County, Colorado are ready for college, work, and life.



Xi Pi Uplift Foundation Secures A Grant

Bro Roy Griggs, Director, Xi Uplift Foundation in collaboration with Joe Woodford, President of the Limited Government Forum (LGF), obtained a \$5,000.00 grant for the Xi Pi Chapter scholarship fund. The LGF gives grants for economic and educational purposes and is working towards Liberty, justice, and prosperity for all. Mr. Woodford was very impressed with Xi Pi's community involvement and the excellence of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. as a whole. Bro Eric Brazell, Scholarship Chairman, and his committee did a stellar job of selecting a scholarship recipient in Southeast Colorado Springs that is attending a Historically Black University to award the scholarship to.



(Left to Right) Brother Brazell, Brother Griggs, Mr. Joe Woodford, Brother Prosper, Brother Britton, & Brother Hines at the official grant presentation ceremony.



KANSAS

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Omicron Xi 40th Anniversary Celebration Weekend

During four days in mid-May, dozens of Omega men from near and far including many from as far away as Florida, Georgia, Texas and California gathered in Kansas City to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the chartering of Omicron Xi Chapter.

The celebration was held at various venues during the weekend of May 19-21, 2017. The festivities kicked off on the afternoon of May 19th when members of Omicron Xi, along with their spouses and significant others visited Phillis Wheatley Elementary School.

Chapter members embraced the “lifting as we climb” philosophy and spent quality time with the students. Female students were given etiquette lessons while a group of male students were taught life lessons and how to tie a necktie. The neckties were given as gifts to the young men at the end of the session.

Organized in April 1977, Omicron Xi was chartered as a graduate chapter in Kansas City, Kansas. Steve Bradford, Joe Brooks, Ray Carlock, DeRay Cole, Jesse High, Garfield McConnico, Eddie Violet and Lyman Washington were its charter members.

“Omicron Xi continues to impact lives in the Kansas City area and elsewhere through Omega, using the foundation that was planted by these bold young captains over 40 years ago,” said Andre T. Butler, chapter basileus. “These men knew that Omega Psi Phi fraternity was uniquely positioned to draw other brothers nigh and execute our mandated programs.”

On Friday evening May 19th, brothers enjoyed a “meet and greet” gathering at Qudos cigar bar and restaurant located in downtown Kansas City. During the event, brothers warmly embraced and excitedly re-connected and caught up on each other’s lives. The excitement that permeated the bar that evening was tangible and very evident.

The mood was further elevated when Brother Benjamin Crump, a noted plaintiff’s and civil rights attorney, attended the event. While there, Crump repeatedly and graciously greeted brothers and guests alike with warmth, friendliness and a humble dignity whether he knew the individuals or just met them that evening.

His grace and humility made the evening very special for the guests who were given an opportunity to rub shoulders and exchange thoughts and ideas with such a highly respected attorney who is doing significant and meaningful work for victims like Trayvon Martin and his family as well as numerous others who have been victims of violent and senseless deaths.

Several of the chapter’s charter members as well as other brothers from Beta Omega and other chapters also attended the meet and greet. Sporting black t-shirts that were graced with gold lettering, the Quettes made a strikingly and theatrical entrance into the Qudos cigar bar. The women played an important and indelible role in the planning of the weekend activities. The Quettes participated in a variety of activities and gatherings independent of their Omega husbands and boyfriends.

Omicron Xi 40th Anniversary Celebration Weekend (cont)

The chapter gave out commemorative cigars to all guests, which was truly a nice touch for the evening. The selection of Steve Kee as the event chairman was a quick and easy choice. Kee has been an active and financial member of Omicron Xi since his initiation in the spring of 1980. He spent months devising and creating the perfect mood for the chapter's anniversary events.

"Brother Kee set the tone for how celebratory activities should be handled. He served with steadfast commitment and uncommon vision," said Butler, the basileus for Omicron Xi. "Brother Kee not only supported activities with sweat equity, he also gave out of his own pocket to assure we carried out a memorable celebration."

On Saturday, May 20th, the chapter hosted a "bragging rights" Bid Whist and Dominoes tournament at the Adams Mark hotel located across from the Truman Sports Complex. Later that same evening, the chapter hosted the 40th Anniversary Banquet at the hotel. Each of the 75 Omicron Xi brothers in attendance wore royal purple blazers that were specially ordered for the event. James R. Ball, 33rd Eighth District Representative, drove to Kansas City so he could attend the event where Ben Crump was the keynote speaker. Ronnie Davis, an event co-chair and former Omicron Xi basileus, served as the master of ceremonies.

"We are here tonight to recognize and pay tribute to eight young men who 40 years ago in April 1977, laid the foundation and blazed an uncertain yet enduring trail that has led us to where we are today," Davis said. "The friendships forged by these tried and true bold young men was unbreakable and knew no bounds. There was a friendship built upon the faith of a friend."

During his keynote speech, Crump spoke about the necessity and "moral imperative for each of us to speak out whenever we see an injustice." Following dinner, the Quettes graciously gave each brother an Omega pin to affix to the purple blazers each chapter member wore for the banquet. The evening concluded with a 40th anniversary after-party at the Adams Mark. Brothers and guests enjoyed the D.J. and dancing and eating and sharing a few cocktails.

On Sunday May 20, 2017, the chapter gathered at St. Stephens Baptist church to worship together. Rev. Eric Belt, a member of Beta Omega Chapter, is the pastor of this church and he gave a rousing sermon. Brothers also gave the church a generous cash donation.

The 40th Anniversary weekend was a tremendous success. Likewise, the weekend's events sparked a new momentum and hence inspired several brothers to return to the fold and recommit to Omega. As a result, this weekend went a long way toward fulfilling the chapter goal of "relationship building," Andre Butler, Omicron Xi chapter Basileus has made one of his priorities since being elected.

Omicron Xi 40th Anniversary Celebration Weekend (cont)



**Brothers Benjamin Crump and
Lavell White after 40th
Anniversary Banquet**



Brother Greg Stegall teaching a young man to tie a tie



Bid Whist and Domino Trophies



Brother Ben Suber teaching young man to tie a tie



**Brother Davis making his case during
the bragging rights Bid Whist
and Domino's tournament.**



**Brothers Andre Butler (left),
Steve Lee (right) and
Ben Crump (center)**



Quettes at Qudos Meet and Greet



**Omicron Xi 40th Post-Banquet
Group Photo with Brother
Crump**

Bro. Rivette Completes His Doctorate

Bro. Dr. Milan Rivette of Kansas City, Kansas successfully defended his Doctoral Dissertation and graduated from William Woods University of Fulton, Missouri on May 6, 2017 earning a Doctoral Degree in Education Leadership and Policy Analysis (Ed.D.). The title of his dissertation was “The Influence of Race in the Relationship and Responsibilities of School Administrators towards African American And Latino Students”.

He started his doctoral program in August of 2010. Due to personal and professional issues, he became discouraged and stopped working on his dissertation for two years. However, with some encouragement from a family friend and fellow educator, and more importantly, being reminded of what the Holy Bible (God’s word) and our fraternity’s belief regarding faith and perseverance, he managed to see it through and complete his doctoral work.

He has been an educator for the past 23 years which included 9 years as an elementary and middle school teacher and 10 years as a middle and high school vice principal in the Kansas City, Missouri School District and one year as an acting principal and summer school director in the Hickman Mills School District in Kansas City, Missouri. He will be resuming his career as an adjunct professor teaching a graduate course in school and athletic administration as well as transitioning from K-12 Education to the Federal Government.

Dr. Rivette was initiated through Omicron Xi Chapter on May 30, 2009 where he currently serves as the Chaplain and Chairman of Achievement Week Committee. He is a second-generation Omega Man with his father and educator, John L. Rivette (Omega Chapter) being initiated through Gamma Gamma Chapter (Grambling College) in 1962. He was also supported with this outstanding accomplishment of scholarship by his wonderful wife Raylan Rivette and their remarkable 10-year-old son Kendall.



Bro. Rivette received an award for scholarship and achievement from his church. The award was presented to by (left to right): Mrs. Jamie Johnson, church Scholarship Chairperson for his church and the Pastor’s wife, Mrs. Marian Thuston.

OMICRON XI

Trimester Worship Sundays is an 8th District initiative. Three times a year, brothers from each chapter across the district attend a chapter brother's church and worship together in unity. Our last worship Sunday for the 2017 calendar year was November 19th.

The Brothers of Omicron Xi Chapter culminated another great Founders' Day /Achievement Week Observance by attending a worship service together with the brothers from Beta Omega Chapter at Ebenezer AME Church, 3808 Emanuel Cleaver Blvd, Kansas City, Missouri 64130 where Brenda Hayes is the Pastor.

The congregation was impressed with the positive impact Omega Psi Phi makes throughout the greater Kansas City area. Two of the church members commented on how majestic the brothers looked in their purple blazers and how it represented royalty! The chapter was privileged to make a substantial monetary offering to the church.



In the photo, from left to right are: Front Brothers Donnie Graves, Mandrid Williams-Former District Representative (Beta Omega), Andre Butler-Basileus, Dr. Larry E. King, Sr.-8 th District Chaplain, Brenda Hayes-Pastor, Dr. Milan Rivette-Chaplain, Walter Haith, and Eric Copeland Back Brothers Steve Kee, Terry Williams, Robert Champ, and Kelly Walker (Beta Omega).

The next Trimester worship service will be March 18, 2018.

INTERNATIONAL DAILY PRAYER CALLS: 5:30 A.M. CST

We Pray M-F even if a Holiday occurs during the week

712.775.7031 passcode 674166340#

The 8th District is in charge of presenting the lesson every other Monday.
Behold; how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwelt together in unity

May God Richly Bless You and Keep You in His care.

Dr. Milan Rivette

Chaplain, Omicron Xi

816-803- 7478

milanrivette@hotmail.com

Upsilon Omega Makes History during Rhapsody in Black Legacy Scholarship Luncheon

By Jayson "Jay" Jones

Upsilon Omega Chapter, Saint Louis MO.

On June 3, 2017, The Men of Upsilon Omega Chapter celebrated the achievements of 23 local high school seniors by awarding each with a \$1,000.00 scholarship for their college studies. A packed crowd of 268 were in attendance to witness this historic event. With many of the donations coming from the men of Upsilon Omega chapter and family members of brothers who entered "Omega Chapter". Additional donations were provided by Christian Hospital, People's Health Clinic, and a generous \$7,000.00 donation was made by Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority.

The event's Master of Ceremonies was none other than Brother Dr. Derrick Mitchell Sr. and current Principal at Normandy High School located in St. Louis, Missouri. Scholarship Chairman, Dr. Jarrett Smith, and Rhapsody Chairman, Brother Jayson Jones, along with the men of Upsilon Omega Chapter, exceeded last year's goal by \$6,000.00. The chapter is looking forward to having another stellar outcome for next year's event.



Some of the 23 High School Seniors who received \$1,000.00 Scholarships



Rhapsody in Black Committee Members presenting Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MOHELA) award for their outstanding work in the community. Picture LtR Bro. DeRon Johnson, Scholarship Chairman Brother Dr. Jarrett Smith, Representative from MOHELA, Rhapsody in Black Chairman Brother Jayson Jones, Bro. Chris LaGrone, and Bro. Asim Manual



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Upsilon Omega Chapter & Omicron Sigma Initiation

**The Fall 2017 Initiation lines of Upsilon Omega and Omicron Sigma, St. Louis Chapters,
November 11, 2017. Nine Graduates and Four Undergraduates.**



Upsilon Omega

- 1. Rodney Leftwich**
- 2. Byron Norman**
- 3. John Edwards**
- 4. Lewis Washington**
- 5. Leon Essex**
- 6. Ranford Williamson**
- 7. Jose Velez**
- 8. Marlow Chile's**
- 9. Ladon Champagne**

Omicron Sigma

- 1. Malik Stewart- Washington University**
 - 2. Prentis Broyles - Harris Stowe State University**
 - 3. Reginald Richardson - St. Louis University**
 - 4. David Glenn - Columbia College St Louis Campus**
-

Room Dedication at the Lacy Clay Center for Children's Health

By Brother Dan Redden, Jr.

Upsilon Omega Chapter, Saint Louis, MO

On Saturday, July 15th the Brothers of Omega and the Squires were in full force at the dedication of a room in honor of Dr. Ernest E. Just. Brother Dwayne Butler, CEO of People's Health Center, spearheaded the \$6 million project to build a place for children and adolescent behavioral health care within the City of St. Louis.

"This building is going to be one that we hope will break down the walls of stigma," said CEO Dwayne Butler.

The Project Hope facility was recently named the Lacy Clay Center for Children's Health. The facility will have 20,000 square feet of clinical and counseling programming. Butler said People's Health Center serves more than 50,000 St. Louisans and the new facility will also provide help to kids who sometimes struggle to deal with violence in their neighborhoods.

Brother Butler presented the room to the Omega brothers in a private showing and gave them a brief tour of the facility. The dedication took place during a community fair that was held at the overall complex.

Families were able to get health tips and screenings. Music, prizes and food were served as the community gathered for the event. Many public officials were on hand to help dedicate the grand opening of the new center including Congressman Lacy Clay.



ETA ALPHA, EPSILON DELTA & ETA SIGMA CHAPTER'S JOINT ACHIEVEMENT WEEK BONQUET

On 11/19/2017, the Eta Alpha, Epsilon Delta, and Eta Sigma Chapters came together for a joint Achievement Week program on the campus of Lincoln University in Jefferson City, MO. Brother James R. Ball the 33rd 8th District Representative provided the keynote address. During the program, each chapter recognized their Citizen of the year, and their Omega Man of the Year. Additionally, Eta Alpha awarded three \$800 college scholarships to high school seniors. Members of the Divine Nine were also recognized.

Epsilon Delta Chapter recognized Brother Kelly Walker as their Omega Man of the Year. Brother Walker was initiated in to Epsilon Delta in 1992 and continues to offer support and guidance to the chapter. Brother Walker has tirelessly given of himself to serve Omega as well as his community.

Epsilon Delta honored Dr. Stephanie Shonekan as their Citizen of the Year. Dr. Stephanie Shonekan is the Chair of the Black Studies Department at the University of Missouri-Columbia. In response to the racial events on Mizzou's campus in 2015, Dr. Shonekan built a program to address all incoming and transfer students. This program, Citizenship @ Mizzou, is designed to create an open dialogue between students and faculty in order to talk about tough subjects in a safe environment and encourage students to look past their biases to be better citizens on Mizzou's campus. Recently, this program has expanded to now address MU faculty and staff.

Eta Alpha honored Mrs. Donna Westhues who was an instrumental part of building a new Boys and Girls Club in Jefferson City. This was a partnership with Lincoln University, where she raised to raise millions of dollars to create a new home for the Boys & Girls Club. No job was too big or too small for Donna Westhues. She has never said no when it comes to helping someone in need. Not even 3 battles with cancer could keep her down. She sees each challenge as an opportunity to showcase the giving spirit of the Jefferson City community

Eta Alpha's Omega Man of the Year is Brother Glenn Bonner. He has been a member of the fraternity since 1999. Brother Bonner works hard for the chapter and for Omega. He is an active member of the Jefferson City NAACP Chapter as well as being the Treasure of the Missouri State Chapter of the NAACP.

Eta Alpha also honored three high school seniors with an \$800 scholarship. These students had grade point averages from 3.5 to 4.0. They are DJ Frost, son of Brother Damon Frost, of Blue Springs, and grandson of Brother Clark Frost Jr., of Jefferson City. The second recipient was Elijah Jackson, son of E.J. Jackson, of Jefferson City. The final recipient was Cheyanne Mornan, daughter of Jervis Mornan, of Jefferson City.



Brother James R. Ball 33rd 8th
District Representative.



Dr. Stephanie Shonekan and the
Brothers of Epsilon Delta



Scholarship recipient DJ Frost



Scholarship recipient Elijah Jackson



Scholarship recipient Cheyanne Mornan

Street Named in Honor of Dedicated Brother

by Brother Dan Redden, Jr.

On Friday, August 25 at 10:00 AM, The Board of Alderman for the City of Saint Louis, MO honored Brother Terry "Chip" Jones with a street naming ceremony. Alderman John Collins Muhammad, of the 21st Ward headed the celebration to honor Brother Jones for his dedicated service. Brother Jones has served as Executive Director of the Wesley House Association for 31 years where the association has served the 21st Ward for over 60 years.

Under the leadership of Brother Jones, the Wesley House has aided senior citizens and oversees a home food delivery program. The Wesley House has helped over 10,000 elementary and high school students with educational and social activities. Brother Jones has played a key role in the continued development of the Wesley House. They also provide space for civic and community engagement along with food assistance to struggling families in need.

Dignitaries on hand were the Mayor of the City of Saint Louis, Mayor Lyda Krewson; Lewis Reed, President of Board of Alderman as well a host of family and friends to witness the ceremony.



3rd ANNUAL UPSILON OMEGA COLORING BOOKS & CRAYONS INITIATIVE BENEFITING ST. LOUIS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

By Bro. Jayson "Jay" Jones

Upsilon Omega Chapter: Saint Louis, MO On Friday, September 8 at 10:00 a.m., the men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Upsilon Omega Foundation, Inc. and Upsilon Omega Chapter presented the Child Life Department at St. Louis Children's Hospital with a generous donation of over 400 coloring books and crayons.

Upsilon Omega's goal during the month that follows is to ensure that every child who is admitted to St. Louis Children's Hospital receives a coloring book and a box of crayons to lift their spirits and bring a smile to their face during a difficult time. The Men of Upsilon Omega Chapter hopes this small gesture helps to brighten the experience of any child visiting the hospital.



(Ltr) Upsilon Omega Foundation Children's Hospital Project Chair, Jayson Jones, Upsilon Omega Chapter Basileus Ashley Komegay, Children's Hospital Child Life Member and Upsilon Omega KRS Bro. Donald Gage.

Thanksgiving Basket Deliveries

On 11/21/2017, brothers of Eta Alpha Chapter delivered Thanksgiving baskets in Columbia, MO to local in-need families. These residents were deserving of a complete dinner with all the trimmings. The baskets contained a turkey, a ham, potatoes, stuffing mix, Macaroni and Cheese, gravy, vegetables and a pie. Most of the families were single parent families who may not have been able to provide a Thanksgiving meal. Brothers were greeted with open arms as these meals were delivered. The families were extremely grateful for the blessing. The men of Omega found great joy in purchasing and delivering all the necessary items that afforded each family a nutritious meal on this very special day. This Social Action project made a direct impact the lives of community members.



Bro. Ernest Wilson and Bro. Hans Overton pictured with some of the Thanksgiving baskets.



L-R Bro. Jonathan Ferguson, Bro. Sterling Brown, Bro. Hans Overton, Bro. Joe Collier delivering a meal.



L-R Bro. Jonathan Ferguson, family member receiving a basket, Bro. Joe Collier, Bro. Andre Cook, Brother Sterling Brown, Bro. Ernest Wilson.



L-R Bro. Ernest Wilson and Bro Jonathan Ferguson getting the baskets ready for delivery.



NEW MEXICO

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Habitat for Humanity is Part of Nu Rho Chapter's Community Service Routine

In New Mexico, the Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity affiliate is going a step further. It has acquired most of the lots on an entire city block and is building a community one house at a time. The brothers of the Nu Rho Chapter have taken an active role in this project.

On November 11, 2017, as part of the chapter's Achievement Week activities, a group of Nu Rho brothers picked up tools and went to work on a Habitat Home. This was the third home the brothers have worked on, and they plan to make this a regular chapter activity.

"We will have Habitat for Humanity days at least twice a year, and more often if we get enough brothers willing to participate," said Nu Rho Chapter Basileus Sidney Hill. "When you think about doing house construction, you might think you need special expertise, but the Habitat folks have the process down so well that all we really have to do is so show up and follow directions."

Those directions range from pounding nails, standing up walls or working power tools, depending on what's needed, and how much confidence the site foreman has in a volunteer's ability to perform a task.

Making a real impact

"Sometimes it's hard to get brothers to commit to these projects, because it seems like a lot of heavy work," Hill said. "But you only work about six hours, and once you're done, you realize you actually had fun. It's also a good feeling knowing that you are making a real difference in the community by helping people get a home."

At the start of their November 11 build day, the brothers of Nu Rho saw exactly the impact their efforts are having on the community. Habitat officials held a ceremony in which they presented the key to the family that owns the home the Nu Rho brothers worked on in May 2017.

"We got to walk through the house and see the finished product," Hill said. "It was really cool when we got to the second floor and saw a wall that we actually stood up the last time we were there. It also was great to hear how grateful the family was to be able to move into their new home."

Hill also pointed out that the Nu Rho brothers consistently invite other Divine Nine organizations to join them on their Habitat projects. "We have had members of Delta Sigma Theta, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Zeta Phi Beta and Phi Beta Sigma join us on these projects," he said. "We want to continue fostering this type of collaboration among Black Greek organizations. The more we work together, the more we can do for the community"



Nu Rho Brothers Ronald Shinault, Booker Wright, Bryan Holmes and Sidney Hill participated in a Habitat for Humanity Work Day as part of the chapter's Achievement Week activities.

Eighth District CommuniQue Submission Guidelines

Why should I Submit an article?

Do you want to highlight your chapter's accomplishments? Do you want to highlight a personal or professional accomplishment of a brother in your chapter? Do you simply want to share how you feel about Omega? Do you want to offer your insight about current socio-economic issues? These are all perfect reasons to submit an article to the Eighth District CommuniQue!

What should be in my article?

Submitted CommuniQue articles **MUST** answer the following questions:

Who: What chapter? What brother? What issue?

What: What did the chapter/brother do?

When: When did the chapter/brother do it?

Where: Where did the chapter/brother do it?

Why: Why did the chapter/brother do what they did?

Impact: Why should the reader care? How does this event/action/issue align with Omega's Cardinal Principles, Mandated or Special Emphasis Programs?

What else needs to be submitted?

Along with your article covering the "5-Ws" and impact above, your submission should include photos as separate attachments that support the event/achievement and captions.

Photos: If the brothers supported a Food Bank, the photos should be of brothers packing food into boxes. Photos should not include "hooks" or tongues. High resolution photos are best. Do not insert photos into the word document article.

Captions: At the end of your article, include a line referencing the photos you attached. "Photo 1: Left to right: Brother Hardiman, Brother Johnson and Brother Steele helped the Food Bank to pack and distribute 5,000lbs of food on May 11th 2019"

In conclusion, 5Ws, impact, photos and captions are the necessary components for a solid article submission. Well-written submissions that meet these guidelines will be forwarded to the International Editor for Submission in the Oracle.

Questions? Submissions? Contact your friendly Eighth District Director of Public Relations (Publicist), Bro. Paul Prosper at 405-503-1324 or paulprosper79@gmail.com.



**MANHOOD, SCHOLARSHIP,
PERSEVERANCE, UPLIFT**

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