



Spring 2021

Q & A WITH 34TH 8TH DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE
BRO. OSUMAN O. ISSAKA

HOME OF THE HEAVYWEIGHTS



GREETINGS

From Your
34th 8th District Representative
Osuman O. Issaka

Founders: Dr. Ernest E. Just, Bishop Edgar A. Love, Dr. Oscar J. Cooper, Bro. Frank Coleman
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Eighth District

District Email: 8thdistrictdr@oppf.org Personal Email: 34theighthdistrictdr@gmail.com

www.omegapsiphi8d.org

April 30, 2021

Greetings Brothers,

I greet you in the name of the Supreme Basileus of the Universe and in the names of our beloved Founders: Dr. Ernest E. Just, Bishop Edgar A. Love, Dr. Oscar J. Cooper, Professor Frank Coleman.

I am pleased to share that I have read and reviewed the spring 2021 edition of the Eighth District Communiqué. Brother Jayson Jones has continued to take our communication to the next level for the world to see! We commend you Brother Jayson Jones on your diligent efforts for the Eighth District.

We consistently share all the great work Brothers and Chapters of the Eighth District are executing in their respective cities. All the mandated and special emphasis programs we accomplish, brings a positive light to Omega as well as delivering much needed Uplift to the communities we serve.

These submissions document our Fraternity and District's history along with highlighting the Eighth District at the International level via the Oracle.

I am aware of the commitment it takes to document and submit photographs of your Chapter's activities, and I thank you for your continued efforts to do so. This documentation will be used for celebration and educating the great works of the Eighth District for not only today but for the tomorrow still yet to come.

As your District Representative, I am charged with finding ways to promote Brotherhood and enhance the District's opportunity to better serve mankind in the most positive ways possible. I want the brothers to remember Friendship and Brotherhood, over everything! I choose to do that via the Cardinal Principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift

In Friendship,

Osuman O. Issaka, MIS | 34th Eighth District Representative

Eighth District | Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

www.omegapsiphi8d.org





IN FRIENDSHIP

With Your
8th District Director of Public Relations

Jayson "Jay" Jones

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

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
Eighth District

April 30, 2021

Greetings Brothers,

To say I have been blessed to be your Eighth District Publicist would truly be an understatement. To serve Omega and the brothers of the 8th District has been nothing less than amazing in its purest form. Documenting our stories and our HISTORY has been the theme we begin with, and will continue to be the path forward each day. Working with so many brilliant brothers over the past years has taught me that Omega diversity in talent and leadership has ensured our ship will continue to sail in the right direction.

During my committee's first publication, we recognized the publicists who came before me. Brother Paul Prosper, Brother Greg Labrie, and the first publicist, Brother 34th District Representative Osuman O. Issaka. All these great brothers told and shared our stories to all across "Omega Land". We started as a humble publication and now has grown to be the talk of the 8th District. None of this could have been possible without the support and reporting from the local chapter publicist/reporters and past 8th District Representatives making major contributions to create an "OWTSTANDING" publication.

Thank you for letting me share your stories. Most importantly I want to thank my wife Lisa, my daughters Liyah and Dara and my son, Darien. Without their support and encouragement my foundation as to who I am, and how I serve would not be possible. All things are possible and attainable when faith in God and heart and mind leads us in the right directions. Thank you brothers of the 8th District .

Onward and Upward,

Jayson Jones | 8th District Director of Public Relations

District Representative

1. George D. Brantley *
2. J.A. Jones *
3. Herman Dreer *
4. Ulysses S. Donaldson*
5. Alonzo V. Mercer *
6. Ulysses S. Donaldson*

Omega goes to War II

7. Elza H. Hunter *
8. James A. Harris *
9. H. Monroe Purnell *
10. Curtis C. Crawford*
11. H. Monroe Purnell *
12. Harvey McDaniel*
13. Alonzo Brown*
14. Edgar A. Burnett*
15. William A. Bowers*
16. Lynn Beckwith
17. George I. Williams*
18. Charles "BeBe" Shelton*
19. Jessie I. High*
20. Lloyd J. Jordan
21. Mandrid Williams
22. Doug Williams*
23. Kenneth Carson
24. Delvert T. Neal
25. Robert L. Robinson*
26. Melvin Jenkins
27. Kenneth Patterson
28. Larry Burks Sr.
29. Jeffrey T. Smith
30. Glenn E. Rice
31. Robert C. Scott, Ph.D.
32. William Ray Brown, Ph.D.
33. James R. Ball
34. Osuman O. Issaka

* OMEGA CHAPTER

Term of Office

- 1928 – 1932
1932 – 1933
1933 – 1934
1934 – 1935
1935 – 1936
1936 – 1941

1947 – 1951
1951 – 1953
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2010 – 2013
2013 – 2016
2016 – 2019
2019 -

Chapter

- Upsilon Omega

Upsilon Omega
Upsilon Omega

Upsilon Omega

Pi Sigma
Tau Sigma
Eta Alpha
Upsilon Omega
Eta Alpha
Chi Phi
Eta Alpha
Upsilon Omega
Chi Phi
Upsilon Omega
Nu Rho
Upsilon Omega
Omicron Xi
Upsilon Omega
Beta Omega
Upsilon Omega
Nu Rho
Chi Phi
Eta Alpha
Beta Omega
Upsilon Omega
Gamma Upsilon
Chi Phi
Omicron Xi
Upsilon Omega
Mu Omicron
Upsilon Omega
Beta Upsilon

8th District Council Officers

District Representative	Bro. Osuman O. Issaka	NE
1ST Vice DR	Bro. Ivy Williams	KS
2nd Vice DR	Bro. Lilo Abraham	MO
District Counselor	Bro. Gary Armstead, Esq.	NE
District Keeper of Records and Seal	Bro. Thomas Kitchen	MO
District Keeper of Finance	Bro. Kermit Ervin	MO
District Chaplain	Bro. Rev. Ed Venerable Jr	KS
District Director of Public Relations	Bro. Jayson Jones	MO
Undergraduate At-Large	Bro. Darion Bolden	MO
Immediate Past DR	Bro. James Ball	MO
72nd District Meeting Marshal	Bro. Aaron Robinson	MO
Chief of Staff	Bro. Marvin Dejean	IA
State Representatives		State
Bro. Andre Cook		MO
Bro. Roderick O. Gray Sr.		KS
Bro. Skyler Johnson		NE
Bro. Lawrence Daniel		IA
Bro. Brett Britton		CO
Bro. Jerry Banks		NM
Bro. Johari Hemphill		ND
Bro. D.C. McCauley		SD

CommuniQue Committee

Jayson Jones – 8th Dist. Director of Public Relations / CommuniQue Editor and Chief

Bro. Stefan Hughes – Proof & Copy

Bro. Andre Cook – Proof & Copy

Bro. Stephen Piphus – Assistant Layout

Bro. Ron Johnson – Web Hosting & Distribution

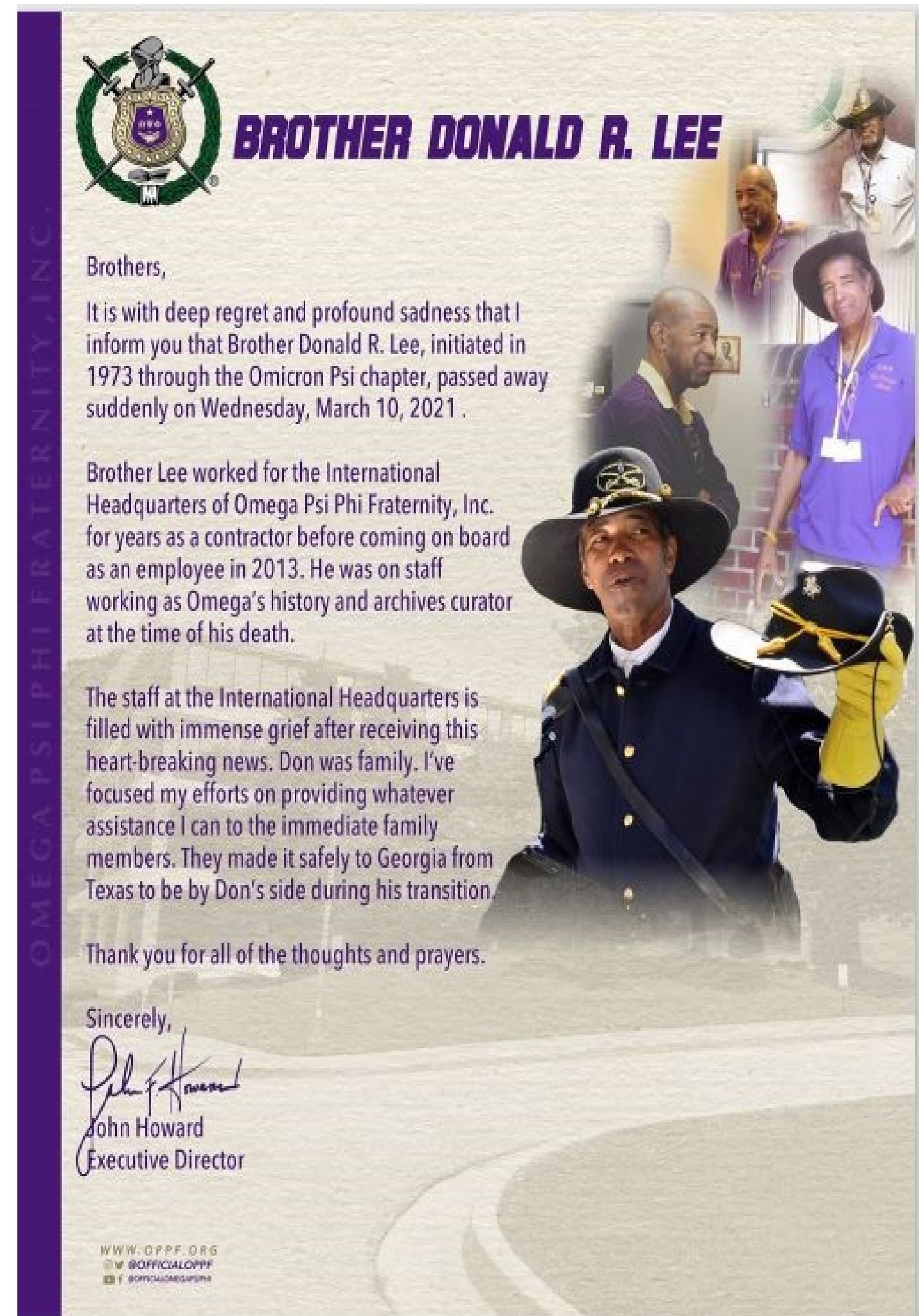
Bro. Ashley Kornegay – Facebook Communication

Bro. Ramon Trice – Columnist (Omega History)

Bro. Rev. Ed Venerable Jr. – Columnist Spiritual (High Aspirations)

Bro. Desmond Bryant – Lead Layout & Design

Bro. Lee Furnance – Columnist



BROTHER DONALD R. LEE

Brothers,

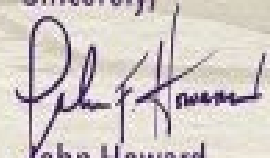
It is with deep regret and profound sadness that I inform you that Brother Donald R. Lee, initiated in 1973 through the Omicron Psi chapter, passed away suddenly on Wednesday, March 10, 2021.

Brother Lee worked for the International Headquarters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. for years as a contractor before coming on board as an employee in 2013. He was on staff working as Omega's history and archives curator at the time of his death.

The staff at the International Headquarters is filled with immense grief after receiving this heart-breaking news. Don was family. I've focused my efforts on providing whatever assistance I can to the immediate family members. They made it safely to Georgia from Texas to be by Don's side during his transition.

Thank you for all of the thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,


John Howard
Executive Director

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Bro. Osuman O. Issaka 34th 8th District Representative

Q+A

A Series of interviews with Brother's of the 8th District

Bro. Jones: What was the most fulfilling moment during your tenure as 8th Districts Representative?

Bro. Issaka: During my tenure as the 8th District Rep., was our our mark in Ghana, Africa, where we funded a borehole in the Senchi Ferry Zongo community to provide clean drinking water for our brothers and sisters. Our refocus on the simple duty of mankind, stressing 'kind' brought joy to my heart.

Bro. Jones: How do you think we need to encourage young brothers to serve in leadership roles at the District level, how should they prepare for the next level of leadership?

Bro. Issaka: I truly believe that we should continue to create a space for young brothers to hold positions outside their comfort zone where they succeed, embrace constructive feedback, and Uplift. (i.e., Committee member, Dr. Lynn Beckwith Leadership Academy, etc.)

Bro. Jones: During your tenure, the entire way the fraternity has adjusted in hosting and communicating with the district has changed. What would you consider a lesson-learn and advice you could give to local chapters to adjust to these changes that confront the fraternity?

Bro. Issaka: The major lesson-learned is change is inevitable, and leaders embrace it. I would recommend Chapters and Brothers remain agile and flexible to this ever-changing world. I would encourage Brothers to be open to unconventional ways of operating and community impact.

Bro. Jones: When did you realize that one day you would like to become DR for the 8th District?

Bro. Issaka: I realize the reality of becoming the 8th District Representative, at the 2014 Conclave in Philadelphia, PA. I had a long conversation with our 32nd Eighth District Representative, Bro. Dr. William Ray Brown outside the hotel about adding value and moving the district forward, which inspired me.

"... change is inevitable, and leaders embrace it.

— Bro. Osuman O. Issaka | 34th 8th District Representative

Photo by Bro. Jayson Jones



Friendship

as told by our 8th District 1st Vice Representative
Brother Ivy Williams

Friendship is essential to the soul. This is a phrase that has been engrained in my head from the moment I decided that I wanted to be a man of Omega. I was taught that friendship takes sacrifice. Friendship takes effort. Friendship takes time. It takes time to get to know a friend. It takes time to allow a friend to get to know you. It takes time for friends to transition into a phrase many of call our extended family.

The dictionary defines a friend as "a person whom one knows and with whom one has a bond of mutual affection. When I became an Omega Man I was told that every Omega Man was not my friend and all my friends were not Omega. Through my years and my travels I have found this to be true.

So what I have also found to be true is that no other organization emphasizes friendship like Omega Psi Phi. What does friendship mean to you? What does it means to me? A friend is someone who I can call when I am at my lowest point and he provides me with uplift. A friend is someone who will not allow my arrogance to overtake my humility. A friend is one who will help me keep my family safe. A person who no place me in an impossible position. A real friend will never ask me to choose between them and that which I hold sacred.

In all the stories I have been told of friendship, I have yet to see a friend demand a sacrifice from another. I have yet to see a friend remind you of the good deeds they have done for you. Real friends offer the sacrifice. They do not hold the deeds over your head. Friends share in you successes and they comfort you in your sorrows. This is what friendship means to me. Every man has his own definition and interpretation of friendship. There are many rituals that we go through. We go through wedding vows, we go through oaths of office, we go through daily routines. The one ritual that every Omega Man should hold sacred is the ritual of friendship. We should not just say it, we should mean it, and we should live it. When you truly believe it and live it, that is when friendship is truly essential to the soul.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

**Brother D.L. Hughley visits the 8th District during stand up performance
at the Helium Comedy Club**



LEADERSHIP

The Warrensburg Omega Story

“The Centaurs”

Campus Environment at the Time:

When the Freshman class enrolled at Central Missouri State College in the Fall of 1967, the three hundred African American students enrolling was the largest number of Black students to had ever enrolled at one time in the school’s history. It could be felt that the school’s perception of African Americans was that they were not equal to whites and that they did not have the same rights that whites had. It was a shame that the school’s white administration could not see that its Black students were the same as they were, even though they came from a different culture, and that all that they wanted was an equal opportunity to get a CMSC education. The Black students understood that the college was located in the small rural central Missouri town of Warrensburg, that the student body consisted mainly of small-town white students and that the college Board of Regents was made up of only wealthy white well-to-do members. Black students did not realize that as mostly middle-class inner-city students that they were in for the most challenging times that we had ever experienced!

Most Black students knew when they were starting the enrollment process that the college only allowed them to enroll at CMSC because the Federal government was giving money to the school for each minority student that they enrolled. They knew that the residence halls housed most Black students in rooms together, sometimes housing as many as four of them in small rooms on the same floor. That practice appeared to allow the Resident Dorm Director to keep a watchful eye on the Black students. Following the assassination of Dr. King, students of color began to notice that the administration appeared to feel a need to protect its white students, especially in the evening hours. The college suddenly lowered the evening curfew hour to 11:00 pm. It was said that they thought that Black students couldn’t easily be seen at night. CMSC then decided to direct its Campus Security to heavily patrol the areas around the dormitories where many of the students of color resided. If a Black student missed curfew at any time, that student would be taken to the campus security office, handed a written citation and then expelled when the citations exceeded some discretionary number that they decided upon. It also appeared that it was some unwritten college guideline to get every Black male student assigned to a work study program of some kind, whether they were on a scholarship or not. That practice appeared to be designed to “keep us busy” whenever our academic studies might be completed for the day. The school even appeared to create assigned library study times for each male student of color! The selected Black students’ behavior assigned to the study times would appear to be monitored by a white student sitting there in the library. Black female students who were in the work study program appeared to be assigned mostly to cafeteria jobs while their white female work study program counterparts appeared to be given assignments working in the school’s buildings, its offices or for its professors.

Black students came to feel that one of the administration’s main missions appeared to be that the college would do everything in their power to remove a student of color from its enrollment rolls once the government had officially given the school credit for enrolling that student (as evidenced by a suddenly more aggressive shift in the requirements needed to pass a course). We noticed that the political assassinations (especially the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King in 1968), the rise of racial tensions in America, the on-going peace disturbances and the Vietnam War protests seemed only to add to the apprehension that we felt growing on the Warrensburg campus, as it was happening throughout America at that time. Central Missouri State’s white faculty and white students appeared to have become more intimidated by the fear of the rise of the Black Power Movement and even of the Black students wearing Afro-centric American hair styles (which were merely hair styles to us students). Black students found that they were met with an increased hostility as the negative perception of them increased, even before they were enrolled in the school!

HOME OF THE HEAVYWEIGHTS

LEADERSHIP

Most students of color felt that the demands of integrating the college, coupled with the Vietnamese War conflict, had resulted in a more tense campus environment, especially for Black students. Male students were also concerned about how the Central Missouri State’s administration rolled out the over the age of eighteen draft registration process. All male students 19 years of age and older were now required to go to a draft board, to take a physical examination and to be given a draft number. If the draft board called that number during the school year, in most cases the student had to leave school and report to the draft board for induction into the military. What developed was a practice wherein the school’s resident dormitory directors would wake many of the Black male students up at 5 a.m. on the morning of their draft board visit day and then oversee that those students of color actually boarded the buses that were waiting outside the dormitories to take them to the Kansas City draft board. Black students never found out why only Black student’s names were randomly selected to board those 5:00 a.m. draft board bound buses!

Students of color evidenced many instances of discrimination on the Warrensburg campus! It could easily be identified in both the academic and housing administrative practices. When registering for classes, Black students saw that the college openly displayed that it was not happy welcoming African American students into its student population! They could even see the subtlety in the way we were being steered toward enrolling in classes taught by the more demanding instructors. Black students quickly learned that if they wanted to stay at CMSC and graduate that they had “better be better than the white student if they wanted to be considered equal to them in class”. They learned that taking classes with the more demanding teachers actually toughened them up and made them even more determined to succeed! Black students did finally discover how they ended up with that more demanding instructor until late in the school year. They found out that many of the white students were being told to “register early” for the classes that were in high demand. That practice allowed white students a better chance to enroll in the less demanding instructor’s classes and to enroll in those classes before many of the Black students even had the opportunity to enroll in them. A lot of Black students were confused, angered, disillusioned and disheartened by the practice once they found out what the system was doing!

Succeeding even when many of the practices were stacked against us ironically resulted in the strengthening the African American student’s resolve! For instance, one of the men of Omega uncovered a library textbook process that helped many Black students pass many of their classes. He informed the other Black students that they could find most of the information that they needed to pass a class in a textbook that was readily found in the library, if they couldn’t find that textbook in the campus bookstore. He personally took students into the library and showed them how to use the library textbooks to obtain the information that they needed to keep up in their classes (which resulted in many of them passing their courses). Other Black students started completing their projects and reports together in the actual classrooms, which fostered closer interactions between Black students on both an educational and a social level, especially when they were in the student center. These interactions began to stimulate the creation of tutorial groups which resulted in the students of color developing the skills that they needed to ensure that our community thrived! It also ensured that the Black students’ stamina would now be strong enough to carry them through until they earned a degree from Central Missouri State College.

Now even though the Black students had faced many obstacles on the Warrensburg campus, they were now learning how to get around or over those obstacles. We now were becoming a galvanized stronger community! Students of color began to learn how to grow closer to their brothers and sisters, they learned when to encourage each other and they learned collectively never to give up the fight! They also learned that no matter what pressure was put on them by administration, the faculty, the white student body or the outside community, that the Black student body was born with the ability to overcome it. Our parents had instilled in each one of us that “A mind was surely a terrible thing to waste”! Students of color came to the understanding that we are indeed “one Black student body”. We knew that it was by God’s grace that each of us was placed here on the Central Missouri State College campus and that we would allow Him to use us to break the segregated mindset of the white administration, the white instructors, the white student body, the white coaches and all of the other white personnel at the school and of the town’s people. The students of color now chose to work closer together so that we could enrich the college experience of ourselves, of our student community and of each of the Black brothers & Black sisters that would follow us!

HOME OF THE HEAVYWEIGHTS

LEADERSHIP

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity at the Time:

Stepping onto the Central Missouri State College (CMSC) campus for the first time was one of the most memorable experiences of my life! It also was my first introduction to a Black Greek community. As I eagerly entered the college's student union building, I saw that each African American student was being greeted and unexpectedly welcomed by the Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated, which had only been established on the Warrensburg campus since the spring of 1966. I later found out that the line name of the founding members of the fraternity was "The Immortals". The fraternity's vibrant colors of purple and gold caught my eye that day. The men of Omega standing in the vestibule emitted a fraternal energy that I could sense and it seemed to project an image that conveyed that they had an active voice here on the Warrensburg campus.

Later as I enrolled in some of my freshman classes, I happened to again notice the organized and unified posture of several other Omega men waiting to register for their classes. They didn't appear to be affected by the administrative student's inattentiveness to them whenever they asked questions. When short breaks in the registration process occurred, the Omega men would warmly share some of their freshman enrollment, pledge line and fraternity experiences with me. They told me and several other Black students that they were willing to help us in any way that they could to understand what the CMSC campus life was like. They communicated to us that we freshman would have to learn to adapt to the racially different campus environment that we were about to become a part of and to helped us better understand the position of the small-town which we would find was vastly different from the middle-class inner-city culture that we knew. I didn't know that my introduction to these men of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity would become an integral guiding force and an inspiration as I embarked on my personal Black Greek organization journey. I came to realize that this fraternity had truly laid a cornerstone that CMSC's Black fraternity and sorority life build itself upon! I also learned later that the leadership provided by the Black Greek organizations at Central Missouri State is what prompted the African American student body to come to know and to see itself as having the same rights as other student had on the campus. The men of Omega Psi Phi helped our student community gain a better understanding of how important our African American heritage was to America's success and how each student of color needed to elevate their level of respect for themselves, a level of respect that they richly deserved!

I continued to watch and saw that the men of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity cherished and ensured that they held fast to maintaining the observance of their four cardinal principles - Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift. And a principle that seemed evenly as important to each brother was displaying their respect of womanhood. In 1968, the thirteen member "The Argonauts" pledge line was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. In the Spring of 1968, those 13 new Omegas, and The Immortals and The Argonne lines, finally had enough members on campus to establish the Iota Sigma Chapter. Up until that time, "The Argonauts" pledge line was the largest number of pledges to ever be initiated into the Omega Psi Phi fraternity on the CMSC campus in one pledge line. The Argonauts continued to carry on the legacy and the sacred Omega traditions handed down to them by the original 1966 and subsequent 1967 lines! The Argonauts had a stellar athletic dimension to its credit. They not only had a Hall of Fame basketball player and several All-American football players amongst their brothers but they also had one member who was on the CMSC wrestling team. The Argonauts soon became widely known as the singing, step-marching Ques and were well known as they performed on many colleges and university campuses in Missouri and Kansas. They won first place trophies wherever they performed! The "Warrensburg Ques", as they were nicknamed, sang and performed as they hosted local social events on or near the campus. They were also known as perfect gentleman, ensuring that any Black female students that attended one of their affairs was either walked or driven safely back to their dormitories before the school's curfew hours were imposed.

HOME OF THE HEAVYWEIGHTS

LEADERSHIP

After seeing continuing examples of the love, hope and community involvement of the men of Omega, four Black male students petitioned to be admitted into the fraternity. Larry Bogan, Robert Robinson and Milton Jerry Patton Jr. were accepted as Lampados and their line was given the name "The Centaurs". They pledged under the guidance of the newly initiated Argonaut neophytes and were initiated into Omega Psi Phi in the Spring of 1969 after crossing the burning sands. One of the line members, Milton Jerry Patton, was a recognized and honored by the NCAA for his outstanding performance in the 440 yard dash Track & Field event. The Centaurs were a spirited addition to the fraternity and they immediately joined in and immersed themselves in the fraternity's volunteer activities. Following the Centaurs' concern for a way to bring the entire CMSC student body closer together, the fraternity's Basileus, Brother Frank Toombs, approached Warren Lovinger, the President of the college, and asked him if he would allow the members of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity to sing Christmas Carols outside of each of the women's dormitories and in the college's plaza yard during the holiday season. Toombs explained that the fraternity hoped that their caroling would brighten the holiday spirit for the college's women students. He stated that the women could easily listen from their dormitory windows before leaving on their Christmas breaks. The President saw the Omega's proposal as a great idea! The Omega's serenade not only brought the entire student body closer together but it also resulted in many of the college's white male students joining in with the Omegas to sing to the women. The singing Ques performance was received so well that they were asked to sing around the women's dorms for many subsequent years to come, to sing at the President's residence and to sing during the CMSC's Advent celebrations. The Centaurs ideas, voices and talents had become an integral working part of the singing and march-down activities of the Warrensburg Omega Psi Phi Fraternity as the fraternity traveled throughout Missouri and Kansas!

Submitted by: Milton Jerry Patton Jr.

HOME OF THE HEAVYWEIGHTS



Bro. Rev. Ed Venerable



A True Friend

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

John 15:13-15

We live in an age of deception and mistrust. It is very difficult to find a true friend. In the world there are all kind of friends. Bat friends that come out at night. Faucet friends who turn off and on. Fake friends who will fake you out when you need them most. Summer friends who will be there some of the time. Telephone friends who will turn on the answering machine. Bubble friends who will burst when the pressure is on. Nosey friends are those who live in your business. Jealous friends who want your possessions. Lying friends who will lie on you. Unsaved friends who will lead your soul straight to the pit of hell. But a true friend will not wait on your call, he will call you. A friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out. A true friend is one who knows the song in your heart and can sing it back to you when you have forgotten the words. True friendship is one mind in two bodies. A true friend is one who reaches for your hands and touches your heart. In prosperity our friends know us but in adversity, we know our friends. Walking with a friend in the dark is better than walking alone in the light. A true friend does not have to tell you he loves you, you know he does.

In the first place, A True Friend Loves With His Heart.

- A. He loves with a regenerated heart.
- B. He loves with a bible filled heart.
- C. He loves with a Spirit filled heart.

In the second place, Let us look at The Essentials of a True Friend.

- 1. True friendship is independent of time.
- 2. True friendship is independent of circumstances.
- 3. True friendship is unshaken by slander.
- 4. True friendship outlives unworthy treatment.
- 5. True friendship is not hindered by distance.
- 6. True friendship is not based on occupation and image.
- 7. True friendship is not affected by a reduction in status.
- 8. A true friend will not let his friend die without Jesus.

In the third place, A True Friend Will Reveal Himself in Adversity.

- A. In adversity a friend becomes a brother.
- B. A friend in need is a friend indeed.
- C. When in trouble the first thing you will see is his heart.

In the fourth place, A True Friend is a Friend From A to Z.

- A. He accepts you as you are.
- B. He Believes in you.
- C. He calls you just to say "hi"
- D. He doesn't give up on you.
- E. He envisions the better part of you.
- F. He forgives your mistakes.
- G. He gives unconditionally.
- H. He is there to help you.
- I. He invites you over.
- J. He'll just be with you.
- K. He'll keep you close to his heart.
- L. He loves you as you are.
- M. He'll make a difference in your life.
- N. He'll never judge you unfairly.
- O. He'll offer support when you need it.
- P. He'll pick you up when you're down.
- Q. He'll quiet your fears.
- R. He'll raise your spirit.

- S. He'll sooth your trouble soul.
- T. He'll tell you the truth even when it hurts.
- U. He'll understand you.
- V. He values your friendship.
- W. He walks besides you.
- X He x-plains the hard stuff.
- Y. He yells when you won't listen.
- Z. He zaps you back to reality.

In the fifth place, A True Friend Will Give His Life for His Friend.

Conclusion: Calvary reminds us of what a true friend will do to save his friends. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

No greater sacrifice....
No greater Purpose...
No greater example...
No greater revelation...
No greater friendship...
No greater cause...
No greater love...
No greater gift...
No greater God...

“... I got my ol man back...”
— Bro. DL Hughley

Bro. D.L. Hughley

Actor, political commentator, radio host, author & stand-up comedian.

Q+A

A Series of interviews with Brother's of the 8th District

Bro. Jones: Thanks good brother for the opportunity to have this sit down. You could have relaxed from your last show , but you given me the opportunity to shoot the breeze with you. Thank you....

Bro. DL: Not a problem Brother Jayson, the pleasure is all mines.

Bro. Jones: Growing up in the same neighborhood as Brother Hubbard, next expected to be sitting here with you and Hub. God is truly amazing. First thing I notice was the dog, I love dogs but due to my work schedule, its just not possible . What lead to you having a dog accompany you during your travels. When I see your dog, I immediately think of loyalty.

Bro. DL: I use to say, "Man I want me a dog", so my wife brought me a dog and then took it to school to train it could travel with me. I always had dogs all my life. One of my greatest regrets was not spending enough time with my dog, Rodney. I would be gone 3 to 4 weeks at a time and he would be home. I said the next time I get a dog, I will be able to go on the road with me. One day my daughter was showing me some pictures and one day I was kinda down because I was missing my father, who I had lost a couple years ago. So they bring this dog in, and I knew the first time I saw the dog, I knew this was my dog. So, I named him after my father. So he just travels with me.... "I got my ol man back".

Bro. Jones: At what point in your life did you realize you could do stand up for a living?

Bro. DL: I know I love what I do, and work hard at what I do. Every time I go on stage I ask for permission to be there for the people who employee me. So I never thought I thought I knew I could do it. I just know I work hard, I try to stay current, trying to give an insight to what I'm thinking.

Bro. Jones: Yesterday I told you that you reminded me of Dick Gregory, who was a neighborhood brother. You have a way of captivating your audience.

JAY JONES | 5 PHOTOGRAPHY

Bro. DL: I know I love what I do, and work hard at what I do. Every time I go on stage I ask for permission to be there for the people who employ me. So I never thought I thought I knew I could do it. I just know I work hard, I try to stay current, trying to give an insight to what I'm thinking.

Bro. Jones: Other than your uncle, what other Omega Man has influence you, or made an impact on you?

Bro. DL: Charles Young, and before than, I didn't even know he was a brother I knew he was a Buffalo Solider. I knew the aspects, but not in the term of Omega. Funny because he's always been a figure that I spark to. Then when I became an Omega, I understood he was also the 2nd honorary member. And the day he came in, March 6th, is also the day of my Birthday. I can say him historically. Culturally perspective he meant more to me than any other Omega.

Bro. Jones: Again, its been a pleasure....thank you good brother

Bro. DL: ... No, thank you.

The Spirit of the Eighth District - Borehole in Ghana

Brothers of the Eighth District -

I greet you in the name of the Supreme Basileus of the Universe and in the names of our beloved Founders: Dr. Ernest E. Just, Bishop Edgar A. Love, Dr. Oscar J. Cooper, and Professor Frank Coleman. I hope this email finds you hopeful and in great spirits.

The COVID-19 global health pandemic has and is continuing to disproportionately affect black and brown people. Our District has not been spared of the crisis as this virus impacts fellow Brothers and families.

The state of emergency in the United States and the entire world due to 'social injustice' and unfair treatment of black people has made its way to several doorsteps. The Eighth District and our Chapters are working through the respective communities to combat these current dilemmas. Bravery over Courage will provide a center of hope and peace within the Brotherhood.

Please, please take care of each other before continuing the tireless work of Omega. With that said, the Eighth District has made our mark in Ghana, Africa. We have funded a borehole in the Senchi Ferry Zongo community to provide clean drinking water for our brothers and sisters. This aligns with my **'Low Investment, High Impact'** strategy. Hence, The mark of the Eighth District will be forever celebrated and shared.

Please view the attached pictures and videos during the commission ceremony.

God Bless and Thank you for dedication and commitment to Omega.

--

In Friendship,

Osumanu O. Issaka, MIS | 34th Eighth District Representative

Eighth District | Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.



Photo By: Bro. Jayson Jones



OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY INCORPORATED
UPSILON OMEGA CHAPTER
100 YEAR CELEBRATION

On January 22-23rd of 2021 the Brothers of Upsilon Omega Chapter, St. Louis Mo. Celebrated their 100 Year Centennial highlighting events and Brothers who have made contributions that are sketched into St. Louis as well as Omega History virtually through Zoom and YouTube Presentation. The Committee Spearheaded by Brothers Anthony Jackson, Ashley Kornegay, and Ramon Trice presented the theme of the celebration as Preserving the Past, Managing the Present, while Securing our Future. Upsilon Omega has given back to the community in the form of their Youth Program where brothers teach young men from middle school to high school to be young men and how to carry themselves and those around them: The Squires, Rhapsody in Black Program where Upsilon Omega has awarded over \$20k in scholarships annually, Food Drives, Blood Drives, as well as donate hundreds of dollars in the form of coloring books and crayons to St. Louis Children’s Hospital annually just to name a few. Some of Upsilon Omega’s notable members as well as St. Louis natives are George L. Vaughn a black lawyer, civic leader in St. Louis, Missouri, and past Grand Basileus of the Fraternity best known for representing J.D. Shelley and Herman Willer in the landmark civil rights case *Shelley v. Kraemer*. Also, Homer G. Phillips who founded the Homer G. Phillips Hospital which was the only hospital for [African Americans](#) in [St. Louis, Missouri](#), from 1937 until 1979, when the city still had segregated facilities. Upsilon Omega Chapter of was chartered 10 after the founding of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, in St. Louis, MO on January 23, 1921.

On January 22nd the Brothers hosted a Reclamation, Retention and Rededication Program as a way to ignite the brother’s flame to Serve Her Cause for another 100 yrs. Friday night highlighted events through each decade from the 1920’s to present day. As well as how the chapter should proceed for the next 100 years. The night was ended with rededication lead by the 8th Districts most senior District Representative and Upsilon Omega Member Brother Dr. Lynn Beckwith, Jr. 16th 8th District Representative.

January 23rd was a cinematic presentation on YouTube which featured dignitaries of the City of St. Louis, the State of Missouri, the Divine Nine, the Upsilon Omega Chapter, the 8th District, and International Headquarters. The star studied displayed Upsilon Omega at its finest. Some of the high lights where the Chapter was presented with numerous Proclamations by the City from the Mayor and numerous local Aldermen. There were vignettes that highlighted the contributions on famous Omega men who touched City, Black, and Omega History. The Co-Speakers of the Night were 36th Grand Basileus Bro. Lloyd Jordan, Esq., and 16th District Representative Bro. Dr. Lynn Beckwith, Jr. Acknowledgements and Congratulations were given by the Superintendent of St. Louis Public Schools Dr. Kelvin Adams, The NAACP Chairman Bro John Bowman, 1st Congressional District of Missouri Congresswoman Cori Bush, The current 34th 8th District Representative Osuman Issaka, and The current 41st Grand Basileus Dr. David Marion just to name a few. This indeed was a historical weekend for the Brothers of Upsilon Omega Chapter.

Upsilon Omega Brothers help fight Covid-19 one vaccination at a time

Upsilon Omega Chapter | Saint Louis, Missouri

On February 27, 2021, the Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Upsilon Omega Graduate Chapter of St. Louis, Mo. partnered with the City of St. Louis Health department. Our task was simple, to distribute vaccines to an underserved North City community, the footprint in which the Omega Center resides. One week prior to the event, The Vice Basileus Bro. Dr. Derrick Mitchell received a phone call requesting the use of the Omega Center to administer vaccines, 2500 doses to be exact. Without reservation, Bro, Mitchell contacted the Omega Center’s manager Bro. Phillip White and Bro. Craig Lucas the Foundation’s President to inquire about the use and potentially partnering with the City Health Department. They unanimously voted to permit such. The weather was idea, the assistance was plentiful from the SLPD and the Brother of the Upsilon Omega Chapter. From 6:30am until 6:30pm, the brothers worked relentlessly to ensure we served the community with dignity and pride. There were numerous compliments from the Mayor of the City of St. Louis and the people receiving the vaccine as well. They eluded to how professional the brothers were and the cadence in which served. For examples, elderly folk were escorted from their vehicles, given a seat as not to “stand” in line. Upon check-in, they were escorted from their seats to the first step in the vaccination process. The entire process lasted for approximately 20 minute per person, phenomenal. Cars lined both Goodfellow north and Natural Bridge east as far as the eye could see. One would believe at first observation that this process would require many hours of waiting. That was not the case. The healthcare workers were able to vaccinate at least 30-40 people at a time. Amongst those receiving the vaccine were members of the Upsilon Omega Chapter. On this day, the first of two shots were administered, and the second dose will be administered on March 27, 2021 at the Omega Center as well.



Photos of event organizers

(LtR) Brother Dr. Derrick Mitchell (event project manager) and Brother Craig Lucas (Upsilon Omega Foundation, Inc. President)

Photo by Bro. Jayson “jay” Jones | IHQ Staff Photographer

What Impact Does A Small Chapter in Missouri Have?

By Robert Fontaine-Holman 2-18-HA

Ask 1934 and the communities we serve. On February 1st 2021 Eta Alpha was awarded the Columbia Values Diversity Award. Presented by Mayor Brian Treece to Brother Andre Cook, Eta Alpha Basileus (2019-2020). Under his leadership and the persevering spirits of Her members, our chapter was able to see it through unprecedented times and accept the challenges as a call to action. The Columbia Values Diversity Award is a prestigious honor earned through merit and community service. It is without doubt the exceptional men of this chapter gave definition to ‘small, but mighty’. Through the years Eta Alpha has not only identified disparities in the Mid-Missouri areas, but has sought to alleviate them. This award is a testament to the work from 1934 here on: Voter Education and Registration Drives, Assault on Illiteracy-Reading Nights, Christmas Toy Drives, Scholarship Fundraisers, Delivering Food to Needy Families and other countless services and community collaborations. The recipe to our large presence is moving as a compact unit and living unselfishly as any noble man should. Small chapters are rare stock and even more rare, are the members that make it extraordinary. Leadership is a privilege bestowed upon those of us whom balance service and duty. We are grateful to be recognized by the city of Columbia, Missouri for our efforts to build bridges. Eta Alpha will always answer to Her calls.



KANSAS

88TH

Gamma Upsilon Chapter Memorial Service 2021

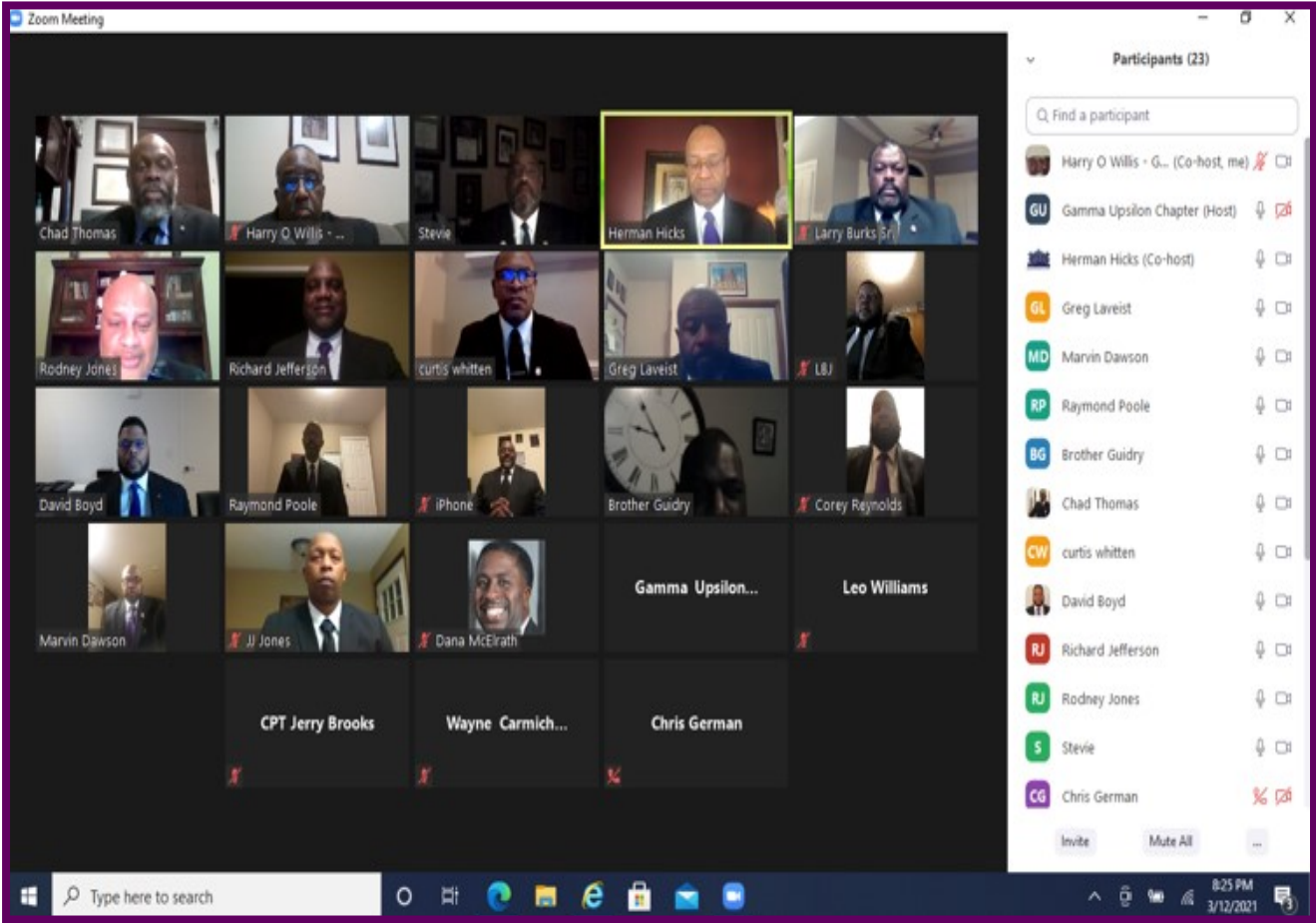
On Friday, March 12, 2021 Gamma Upsilon Chapter, Wichita, Kansas conducted its first-ever Virtual Memorial Service. Due to the World-wide COVID-19 Pandemic we were not able to gather in person for our annual Memorial Service to honor brothers who have transitioned from life to Omega Chapter. During the Virtual Memorial Service, Gamma Upsilon paid respect to one brother who died since our last memorial service, Bro Carl Brewer, the former Mayor of Wichita, Kansas.

Brother Richard Jefferson, Gamma Upsilon Chapter Basileus, and Brother, Pastor Herman Hicks, Gamma Upsilon Chapter Chaplain conducted an outstanding solemn memorial Service. This was Brother Jefferson and Brother Hicks first Memorial Service as chapter Basileus and Chaplain, respectively. The State and County's requirement for minimum in-person gathering (due to COVID-19) did not stop the brothers of Gamma Upsilon from gathering and honoring the good works of a deceased brother by reading his name and information out loud one last time.

Brother Carl Brewer was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated on November 29, 2018, thru Gamma Upsilon Chapter in Wichita, Kansas. He was born on March 8, 1957 in Wichita, Kansas and transitioned to Omega Chapter on June 12, 2020. Brother Brewer proudly served in the Kansas Army National Guard from 1977 to 1989, retiring at the rank of Captain. In 1980, he married Kathy, and they had four children. From 2001 to 2007, Brother Brewer served in the Wichita City Council for District 1. In 2007, he was elected the 100th mayor of Wichita, becoming the city's first elected black mayor. He was reelected in 2011, completing his second term of office in 2014.

Governor Laura Kelly of Kansas stated: "Carl Brewer truly embodied all of the best qualities of what it means to be a Kansan, and he will be dearly missed." Brother Brewer supported Gamma Upsilon in numerous community service projects, spoke at several events (including our Chapter's Founders' Banquet) and volunteered to barbeque at our annual golf tournaments. As a member of our Achievement Week Committee, he was instrumental in the success of many of the projects put on by our Gamma Upsilon before and after becoming an Omega. His presence and level of dedication was second to none. Brother Brewer was posthumously selected as our Omega Man of the Year for 2020. He was truly the personification of our cardinal principles. One of Omega's strong voices has been silenced here on earth, but his presence and loving spirit is Heaven's gain.

Omicron Xi Social Action Committee



Dear Omicron Xi Brothers,

We would like to thank you for your volunteer work at Flourish Furnishings Ministry on Saturday, March 6th. Your time and effort supporting families in need was greatly appreciated. Our beloved Omega expects us to provide service to the communities in which we live. Omicron Xi chapter will continue to fulfill this commitment through the selfless volunteer efforts of Brothers such as yourself. You are appreciated my Brothers. RQQ.

In Friendship,
Bro. Rick Washington, Social Action Co-Chair
Bro. Tyrone Taylor, Social Action Co-Chair



Omicron Xi Social Action Committee

Dear Omicron Xi Brothers,

We would like to take the time to thank you for your volunteer efforts at St. James Renaissance Campus Church on Saturday, March 27, 2021. Your time and effort are not taken for granted. Our beloved Omega requires its members to be actively involved in their communities, and the selfless volunteer efforts of Brothers such as yourselves will allow Omicron Xi to continue to fulfill this requirement. You are appreciated my Brothers.

Fraternally,

Brother Tyrone Taylor

Brother Rick Washington

Social Action Co-Chairs



COLORADO



Chi Phi Chapter 2020 Achievement Week Activities – Jeffrey T. Smith, Chairman – November 30, 2020

Chi Phi Chapter's 2020 Achievement Week activities were held high for all to experience receiving numerous compliments from Brothers and the general public for a purposeful planned, creatively coordinated and excellently executed program. Here is a summary of the successful endeavors:

On Thursday afternoon, October 22nd, Chi Phi Chapter supported the local VA group home as part of its annual Veterans Outreach initiative. A donation of non-perishable food was provided for gift bags that were distributed on Veterans Day. Brothers Aaron Chandler and Hendrix Lewis collaborated on the project and Brothers Quintin Baxter and Hendrix Lewis delivered the donation to the home.

On Saturday afternoon, November 14th, Achievement Week dinners for seasoned brothers, their sweethearts and widows were prepared and delivered. 11 members helped transport a total of 34 meals throughout the Metro Denver community to the selected group. Brother Aaron Chandler spearheaded the project along with his sweetheart, Ms. Tamara Anglin who cooked the delicious food. The endeavor was well received with commendable comments on the tasty and plentiful entrees.

On Sunday morning, November 15th, Brothers attended the worship service of New Hope Baptist Church, Denver, CO, via their online service. A love offering was donated to the church and the chapter was acknowledged during the service by Rev. Dr. Eugene Downing, Pastor. Brothers Stanley Bey and Eric D. Dennis coordinated the church visit.

On Monday night, November 16th, Brothers were online via Zoom watching Monday Night Football, fraternizing one with the other, playing football squares and answering chapter trivia via Kahoot. Over 23 Brothers engaged in fellowship and fun during the first half of the game between the Bears & Vikings which was a collective effort by Brothers Greg Labrie and Jeffrey T. Smith. A fantastic time was had by all.

On Tuesday, November 17th, Chi Phi Chapter participated in two affairs during the day. First, the chapter conducted 'Call a Brother Challenge,' an opportunity for Brothers to contact Omega men throughout the fraternity and extend friendship on Founders' Day. Brother Vermeil Hill managed the activity; prizes were donated by Brother Daoud Hadee, a car cleaning package by Chemicals Unlimited and an Amazon gift card by Brother Hill. Brother Delvert T. Neal, 24th Eighth District Representative won first prize for making the most calls. Second, members joined and viewed the 2020 Virtual Founders' Day Program at 19:11 PM via the fraternity's YouTube platform. Brothers shared accolades about the historic program which has been shared publicly via social media for all to see.

On Wednesday night, November 18th, the chapter participated in The Omega Rally, an online event with three sessions and facilitated by Brother Ronald Reeves. The program included: Forum on Consulting Careers (Brother Eric Bailey, a Deloitte employee); Social Justice (Brother Omar Montgomery, President, NAACP/Aurora Chapter); and Fraternity Protocols (Brother Ivy Williams, Eighth District 1st Vice-DR). 30+ members attended the event, providing positive and praiseworthy feedback on the presenters and activity. Brothers Eric Bailey, Kendall Gregory McGhee, Vernon Tabor and Jeffrey T. Smith prepared and produced the evening meeting.

On Thursday evening, November 19th, the chapter held a successful Health Forum on COVID 19, a panel discussion on health, mental and economic challenges on staying safe during the pandemic. Brother Charles 'CJ' Johnson moderated a session of health professionals who shared their perspectives and addressed questions on the coronavirus to an audience of 50+ attendees. The panelists were: Brother Dr. Jedan Phillips; Brother Dr. Harry Lightfoot, Jr.; Dr. Tywanda E. Lightfoot; Mrs. Antoinette B. Dow; and Ms. Michelle Simmons, LPC. Complimentary remarks were received about the moderator, panelist team, and overall program. We were fortunate to have the following

8th District Officers in attendance: Ivy Williams 1st VDR, Thomas Kitchen DKRS, and Edward Venerable Chaplain. Brothers Aaron Chandler, Eric D. Dennis, Greg Labrie, Hendrix Lewis and James Sykes assembled the group and coordinated on the endeavor to yield an outstanding program.

On Friday night, November 20th, Chi Phi Chapter conducted its Founders' Day Observance, honoring the Founders, sharing fraternity and chapter histories, recognizing members' works and listening to Brothers' reflections on Omega Psi Phi. The Brothers who stood in for the Four Founders were: Ronaldo Babb (Founder Just); Stanley Bey (Founder Love); Dr. Gerald Glenn (Founder Cooper); and Aaron Chandler (Founder Coleman). Brother Dennis rewarded 20 Omega men with the Basileus Award for service to the chapter and community. Brother James Sykes hosted the session with 36+ members in attendance. The event was organized by Brothers Eric D. Dennis, Kendall Gregory-McGhee, James Sykes and Jeffrey T. Smith.

On Saturday afternoon, November 21st, the Achievement Week Recognition Ceremony was held, a public program highlighting the accomplishments of Chi Phi members. Brother Ricky Lewis, 1st Vice-Grand Basileus was the keynote speaker and shared a concise, consequential speech with actionable steps for Omega men to help youth, schools and communities. The Brothers who stood in for the Four Founders were: Daoud Hadee (Founder Just); Jim Foster (Founder Love); E.J. Wilson (Founder Cooper); and Clint McCree (Founder Coleman). Ms. Zeah Loren, Chi Phi's 2018 Talent Hunt winner provided vocals via video during the Zoom session which was facilitated by Brother Kendall Gregory-McGhee. Chapter award recipients were: Omega Man of the Year – Bro. Eric D. Dennis; Superior Service Award – Bro. Ashley Pickens; Founders' Award – Bro. Delvert T. Neal; Colonel Charles Young Military Leadership Award – Lamont Shannon; Citizen of the Year – Bro. Marcus Dudley; and Chapter Service Award – Brothers Jason Butler, Christopher Gantz, Jr., Jayde Henderson and James Sykes. The program was viewed by 37+ attendees and arranged by Brothers Eric D. Dennis, Kendall Gregory-McGhee, Greg Labrie, Hendrix Lewis, James Sykes and Jeffrey T. Smith.

On Sunday morning, November 22nd, Brothers attended the worship service of St. Paul Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC, via their online service. A love offering was donated to the church and the chapter was acknowledged during the service by Brother Rev. Dr. Robert C. Scott, Senior Pastor and former 8th District Representative. Brothers Stanley Bey and Eric D. Dennis coordinated the church visit.

The Achievement Week committee worked over two months to put together the quality program for Brothers to experience the annual mandated program via Zoom while remaining safe in their homes. Special thanks to Brothers: Eric Bailey, Stanley Bey, Aaron Chandler, Eric D. Dennis, Kendall Gregory-McGhee, Jayde Henderson, Vermell Hill, Charles (Ohio) Johnson, Greg Labrie, Hendrix Lewis (co-chairman), Delvert T. Neal, Roberto Roena, James Sykes and Vernon Tabor.

Black History Month Program

By Jeffrey T. Smith

The Black History Program, a collaboration between Chi Phi and Xi Pi Chapters, was held on Thursday evening, February 25 th 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM via Zoom. There were approximately 50 brothers in attendance, an event for Omega men only. The endeavor was deemed very successful based on commendable comments after the program and the complimentary remarks received by phone and email.

The program featured Brothers Omar Montgomery (Chi Phi) and Dr. Michael Sawyer (Xi Pi) who discussed the topic “What’s Needed in the Pursuit of Education Empowerment, Economics Enlightenment and Cultural Change” and answered questions from members throughout the evening. Brother Omar Montgomery is the Director of Black Student Services, CU Denver and the President of the Aurora Branch of the NAACP. Brother Dr. Michael Sawyer is an Assistant Professor of Race and Ethnic Studies, Colorado College and the author of Black Minded: The Political Philosophy of Malcolm X (Black Critique).

Brother Ricky L. Lewis, First Vice-Grand Basileus (FVGB) joined the session and provided opening remarks. The two chapter Basilei, Eric D. Dennis (Chi Phi) and Tim DeRamus (Xi Pi), closed with comments. In attendance were 27 Chi Phi and 20 Xi Pi members, two 8th District officers (Brothers Ivy Williams, First Vice-DR and Ed Venerable, District Chaplain), four Chi Phi Chapter officers, and 15 past Chapter Basilei (9 Chi Phi, 4 Xi Pi and two guests).

There were several key takeaways articulated during the program:

- Create a public newsletter to promote and report on chapter activities and programs.
- Develop an Omega state theme involving all four chapters on common issues/projects/tasks the group will take action on during the year.
- Host a summit for the two chapters to learn more about Omega Psi Phi Fraternity operations and programs.
- Identify opportunities to partner with the NAACP, Urban League, and other organizations.

Establish a regularly forum for the two chapters to discuss substantive topics similar to the Black History Month event.

A committee of three planned and coordinated the event. Brother Maurice Brown (Xi Pi) did a fantastic job moderating the program and Brother Ishmael Thomas (Chi Phi) skillfully handled the Zoom administrative duties. Brother Jeffrey T. Smith prepared the email announcements and communicated the event to both chapters. Special thanks to Brothers Montgomery and Sawyer, the FVGB, 8th District officers, the chapter Basilei and all members in attendance.

Fraternally,
Jeffrey T. Smith

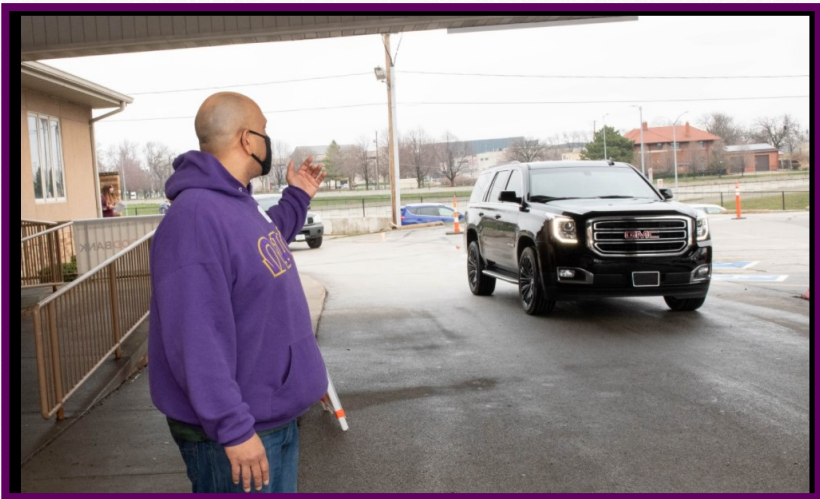
IOWA

8TH

Mu Omicron Chapter

Vaccination Clinic at Corinthian Baptist Church

On March 27, 2021, Corinthians Baptist Church, Broadlawns Medical Center and United Way put on a clinic to vaccinate 1,000 plus individuals, with an emphasis on the minority community. The initial registration process saw all appointments filled in 24 hours. This event was especially important considering how disproportionately the minority community has been affected by Covid-19, while also making up a smaller percentage of those receiving vaccines. All participants received the Pfizer vaccine and were automatically schedule for their second dose in a few weeks. During the event, the Brothers of Mu Omicron Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. volunteered in multiple capacities to help ensure a smooth and successful operation.



Brother Marvin Dejean directing traffic



Brother Leroy Bottley helping out with registration forms



Brother Micheal Dean assisting with patient forms



Brother Reggie Bell directing people to the proper locations



Brothers of Mu Omicron Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.



Aviation Ground School for our Youth - The 99th Squadron

Ramone D. Hemphill, Sr.

April 1st, 2021

On April 29th, 2007 in a small Iowa town called Marion, I took my very 1st flight in a small aircraft. I was able to take the controls and begin what would become a life-changing experience. I completed ground school around that time, took a few more introductory lessons the following year, and officially committed to flight training a few years later when I moved back to North Carolina. Fast forward to today, I've taken 114 passengers, logged just under 500 hours in at least 10 different aircraft models with 823 landings and an average downtime of 12 days. These numbers are not extraordinary by any means for any "General Aviation" pilot, but it collectively illustrates a commitment to the practice itself.

Over the last decade, the one passion that has remained the most consistent is the joy of introducing black boys and girls to the world of aviation and aerodynamics. Back in 2013, I started posting [annual video compilations](#) flooded with footage of first-timers taking the controls as well as my own endeavors of challenging maneuvers, teachable moments and lessons learned. It wasn't until late last summer that the idea of teaching an actual fundamentals course even came to light. It started with a simple conversation between myself and two established non-profits that were already engaged in other facets of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).



From that point, my purpose became abundantly clear, and after the 1st cohort of students completed The 99th Squadron's youth ground school [curriculum](#), my wife and I started going through the paperwork in getting established with the State of Florida as a non-profit. Each group of students who complete the program is given their own squadron name to continue an ongoing lineage. The 1st group was named "Blue Side Up", to represent the temporary name we were operating under to kick things off.

The 99th Squadron namesake comes from one of the designated squadrons that formed the 332nd Fighter group, more commonly known as the Tuskegee Airmen. Coincidentally, in the process of deciding on that name, I was introduced to Leigh Roberts, daughter of Col. George S. "Spanky" Roberts, who was an [Omega Man](#) and former commander of not only the 99th Squadron, but eventually the 332nd Fighter Group altogether. I wanted to ensure that we had the support of such a legacy that has been successfully continued through the years from countless initiatives under the Tuskegee Airmen Incorporated (TAI), as this independent concept was being introduced.

The support that we've received from Brevard County, the current area of Florida in which we serve, has been nothing short of amazing. Combine that with the tremendous amount of encouragement we've received throughout the country, including [statewide](#) and [national](#) news outlets, and we're quickly realizing the growth potential to expand beyond our current borders in the future.

For more information on how you can support, go to [The99th.org/donate](#), which includes a chart of this year's fundraising goals as well as sustainment to keep these young minds engaged via [future flights](#), facility visitations, aviation museums, and flight training scholarships. Long Live the 8th District, my birthplace in Omega.



Ramone D. Hemphill, Sr.
Ace-MD-Fall07, Life Member #7010
Eta Upsilon Graduate Chapter - Eastern Iowa

squadron.99th@gmail.com | [The99th.org](#)



The men of the Beta Upsilon Chapter worked to get voter registration numbers up

Campaign season can be fatiguing for many people involved. Candidates, canvassers, poll workers and many others. With the fate of the country on the line, people all over the political spectrum worked to get people registered in hopes their candidate would be pushed to take various local and national offices, including the United States Presidency.

The men of the Beta Upsilon Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity worked to get voter registration numbers up for Nebraska’s 2nd Congressional District (Omaha and part of suburban Sarpy County).

Brothers of Beta Upsilon concentrated their efforts within the North Omaha community and worked a little over one month before the general election on November 7th to get a number of “North O” residents registered for the general election. North Omaha has historically had a relatively low voter turnout. The chapters movement was spearheaded by Brother Barry Thomas, Chairman of the Voter Registration, Education and Mobilization committee for BY, and sought to reverse the trend.

The efforts proved to be fruitful as a number of new voters got information about what was on the line in the General Election and why their vote mattered in the grand scheme of things. This was the other pivotal movement of the year by Beta Upsilon chapter. Earlier in the year, Brothers manned phones and informed North Omaha residents of their polling place for the Nebraska Primary and got mail-in ballots to residents who needed them.

The work ended up being successful. For a moment in time, the eyes of the political world were on District 2 in Nebraska to see if voters would turn the district blue. Ultimately, one electoral vote ended up going to the eventual winner, President Elect Joe Biden.

The men of BY ultimately did not let fatigue get the best of them and saw it through to the end to help Nebraska’s 2nd Congressional District



2021 NU RHO TALENT HUNT

THE CHAPTER held its 4th **ANNUAL Talent Hunt** on Sunday March 7, 2021. Again, this year the event was planned and executed with the assistance of the NM Black Coordinating Council. Chapter program chairs were **Brothers Dennis Ballard and Rodney Bowe**, and we thank them for an excellent job in organizing a successful virtual event despite the COVID Pandemic.



TALENT HUNT WINNERS AND AWARDS

FIRST PLACE \$1000 Winner	Simon Ballard Category: Spoken Word
2ND Place \$500 Prize	Brandon Alvarado Category: Dance
Audience Favorite \$250	Brandon Alvarado : Dance
Honorable Mention \$250	Anele Coleman : Spoken Word

CHAPTER RESPONDS TO COVID-19

In response to the devastating effects of the pandemic on Communities of Color and the lagging percentage of vaccination in this group, the Brothers of Nu Rho determined that action was needed.

Brother Marc Gladney, DDS., Chapter Vice Basileus, has spearheaded the effort to enroll interested members as New Mexico Dept of Health Volunteers for a:

Nu Rho INFORMATION AND VACCINATION EVENT

SATURDAY June 19, 2021

9AM til 3PM at

Location to be Announced

Anyone not yet registered with the NM DOH is encouraged to do so. You may be asked to participate in a vaccination event prior to our Juneteenth Event will serve as practice for our event. The DOH is providing all supplies, training and support services.

Register as a volunteer at <https://volunteer.nmmmrccserves.org>

We are emphasizing and focusing on men of Color who have not received a vaccine for whatever reason. We hope to have vaccine as well as medical professionals to answer questions and hopefully dispel any vaccine hesitancy. We hope to be able to administer the ONE DOSE J&J Vaccine and would like to offer Vaccine to all comers.

This event is still in the planning stage

OUTSTANDING OMEGA OF NU RHO CHAPTER

As a periodic feature of the News, one of our members will be featured from time to time in an effort to publicize the outstanding accomplishments of our Brothers. If we seem exceptionally proud, it's because we are.

since organization, Nu Rho highlights in this issue:

BROTHER TOMMY JEWELL SR



Brother Jewell recently celebrated his 96th birthday. Born in Milwaukee, WI in 1925 his family moved to Arizona when he was about 5 years old. He finished public schooling in Arizona and like so many young men in the early '40s served in the US Army during WWII. He saw duty in the South Pacific on Saipan. Taking advantage of the "GI Bill" after the war, he attended Phoenix College and the Univ. of Arizona at Tucson where he earned a B.A. Degree and later a M.A. in Education at the Univ. of New Mexico.

Brother Jewell was "made" at Alpha Epsilon in 1948 and has been an Omega Man for 73 years!

He migrated to New Mexico for work and held several education positions over the last 60 years. He has served in EVERY OFFICE IN NU RHO over the years and is currently our Chaplain. He remains an inspiration to every Brother and all in the community who have been touched by his good works (too numerous to list here).

He was a loving husband to his late wife of 56 years. Together they raised 3 successful Children.

Our Chapter has named the Tommy Jewell Sr Scholarship in his honor.

Submitted by

B.T. Wright 1Nu Sigma '67

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

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

On Wednesday, September 2, 2020 Brothers DeValon Whitcomb (Tau Kappa Sp. '17, now Kappa Mu Nu Graduate member) and Darion Bolden (Tau Kappa Sp. '19) lead the charge for change on the campus of the University of South Dakota and the surrounding community. Both Brothers Whitcomb and Bolden are members of the newly formed and recognized student group Cultural Wellness Coalition at the University of South Dakota. Brothers Whitcomb and Bolden both understand that being at a PWI in a predominantly white community can often lead to issues that black people in America are facing being overlooked. These brothers wanted to put an end to that and decided with other members of the Cultural Wellness Coalition to put together a march on campus that will spread the message that Black Lives Do Matter and the need for Equality in America.

One way the brothers of Kappa Mu Nu and Tau Kappa has found ways to seek more understanding from those of the majority race is by showing movies that shows the disparities in today's society. That were present when those who came before us had to face. Within the Cultural Wellness Coalition, Bro. DeValon Whitcomb serves as Co-President and Bro. Darion Bolden serves as Secretary. Recruiting allies to help combat the difficulties that the people of color face in South Dakota has been the main battle while also pushing the presence of Omega within the area.

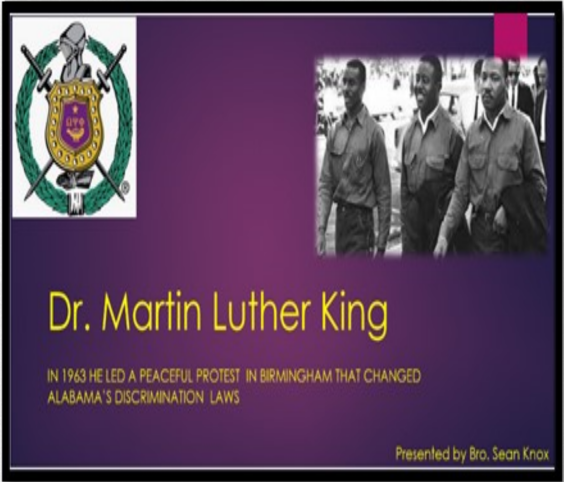


NORTH DAKOTA

ND – Martin Luther King, Jr Day is celebrated the third Monday in January every year as a day to remember the life and legacy of a great American who fought for equal opportunity for humankind. It has been 53 years since we lost Dr. King, however, we see his quest for change in the recent Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement, where all races came together to fight for justice. The world watched the U.S. in turmoil over the vicious killings of black people reminiscent of the 1950s and 1960s, then the community came together in solidarity to protest. The movements' impact was felt around the world with demonstrations on all 7 continents and over 60 countries. Dr. King would be proud to see the peaceful protests of so many fighting for justice so those who lost their lives was not in vain. Omega Men were move-strength-tive com-aware-many, to ment cam-the focus cifically, Black one of us



and their families and are part of the ment and displayed within their respec-munities to bring ness and activism to stop the injustices that are being perpetrated by so include law enforcement, business owners, and even elected govern-officials. As Dr. King stated, "Every march, peaceful protest, sit-in, and paign was driven by the hope of "liberty and justice for all." To maintain on the words and actions of Dr. King the brothers of Epsilon Mu Nu, spe-Bro. Sean Knox, gave a powerful presentation that included the "Why" of History Month, the "I Have a Dream" speech, and what it means for each going forward.



Bro. Knox framed the moment by paying homage to Bro. Dr. Carter G. Woodson for his foresight to create Negro History Week and moved forward through history to the significance of Dr. for non-violent protest, but for his activism leading to opportu-to even compete in athletics nationally. Bro. Knox is a Coach about athletics and the impacts it makes on our youth from a its psychological impact. It was the efforts of Bro. Woodson, Dr. others who cleared a path for us to move on the battlefield of or as Bro. Knox says, they layed down the "suppressive fire" for vancing in life. As we advanced across the battlefield we re-"blitzkrieg" moment (swift victory) with the election of Vice la Harris. This is another milestone marker in the history of not the entire U.S. We can say wholeheartedly, the dream became Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" wasn't really a dream, it was a real-sioned. We have consistently made progress as a human race, suffered through recent acts of hatred once again. Bro. Knox tells us to keep dreaming because those aspirational thoughts are great, but you have to make it reality with a vigorous action plan. Better said, "The Dream is free...Hustle sold separately."



King, not only nities for blacks passionate team aspect and King, and many social injustice, us to keep ad-cently had a President Kama-only blacks, but reality! ity he truly envi-even though we



OMEGA PSI PHI
FRATERNITY, INC.



History of Memorial Service

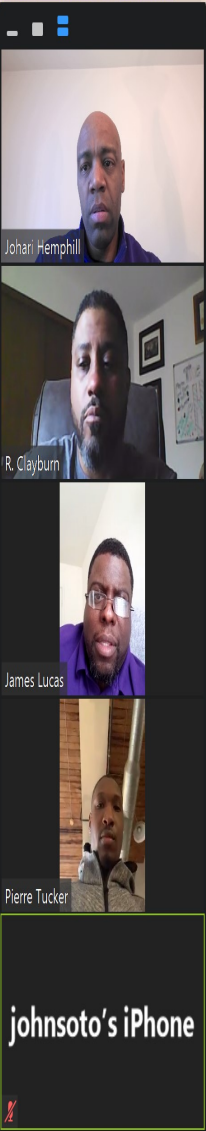
Annually we celebrate Memorial Day on March 12 in honor of Colonel Charles Young, his birthday. Colonel Charles Young graduated from West Point Military Academy in 1889. He endured many pangs of race prejudice at West Point and in the army, but he was always patient with his Country and urged all he met likewise to be loyal.

The Fraternity took the initiative in a campaign to erect a monument at his grave in Arlington, the National Cemetery. For several years the chapters, on or about March 12, commemorated the career of Colonel Young. Today, however, the memorial has been extended to include our other eminent dead; but March 12 continues to be the day for the celebration.

References
The History of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Page 137 and 138

Epsilon Mu Nu

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4th Annual Xi Pi Chapter Uplift Foundation Golf Tournament By Brothers Marcus Gipson & Brett Britton

The men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Xi Pi Chapter, chaired by Marcus Gipson, extended a personal invitation for our 4th Annual Uplift Foundation Golf Classic hosted on Saturday morning June 4, 2005. The Chapter was extremely excited because this year the tournament was held at the brand new Antler Creek Golf Course in Falcon, Colorado - the longest course in the state and the second longest in the country. The tournament hosted a four-person scramble that began at 9:00 a.m. The proceeds from the tournament benefited the Uplift Foundation, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt public charity that provides scholarships to



qualified college-bound high school seniors in the Colorado Springs area. Over the past three years, the foundation has awarded \$20,000 in scholarships.

As always, great prizes, great food, excellent golf, the superb opportunity to network, and a chance to meet new and old friends presented itself. The entry fee included green fees, cart, range balls and a sit-down lunch at the Awards Reception. Once again, there was a chance to win a luxury car. This year it was a 2005 Lexus automobile for a hole-in-one, but no one was able to take home the prize. All players received a gift bag that included golf balls and other golf accessories. Prizes and raffles were awarded to winners throughout the day that also included a putting contest.



Winners also received gift certificates. There were 82 participants in the tournament. When the tournament was over, the brothers gathered for a cookout to top off the day.



Project Manhood Ends School Year With A Banquet

Omaha, NE -- On May 15, 2005 the brothers of Beta Upsilon Chapter sponsored an "end of the year banquet" for participants of the "Project Manhood Mentorship Program" and their parents. Fifth Grade student Cris Robinson opened the ceremony by welcoming approximately 100 family members and friends to the occasion. Musical performances were delivered by Central Park Elementary's own "Heartbeats." Brother Sallis gave an overview of the program and the importance of its success in the community. The Honorable Judge Vernon Daniels of the Douglas County Juvenile Courts gave the keynote speech. His message was loud and clear to the



students and parents. Simply, if he was going to have future conversations with anyone in the audience, he did not want the conversation to occur at his job in the courtroom, but in a happy or educational environment such as this event. Mary Austin, Central Park Elementary Principal, was presented an award on behalf of the Beta Upsilon Chapter for her relentless time and effort she has



BIG WIN FOR LIL' PUPS

Omaha, NE -- On May 14, 2005 the brothers of the Beta Upsilon Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. sponsored four teams in a 3-on-3 basketball tournament at North High. The teams consisted

(cont. on pg. 64)



OMEGA HISTORY



(LIL' PUPS r continued from page 63)



of 10-12 year old participants of the chapter's mentorship program, Project Manhood. Last year, the "Lil' Pups" came away without one victory. This year, Project Manhood had teams to make it all the way to the Sweet 16. The teams showed vast improvement under the leadership of coaches Brother Malek Winfrey and Brother Barry Thomas.



Brother Barry Thomas shows off big catch of the day



BROTHERS CONQUER FISHING

Omaha, NE -- The Brothers of Beta Upsilon recently co-sponsored, with members of Zion Baptist Church, a fishing outing that allowed the young men from Project Manhood to enjoy the experience of fishing at DeSota Bend Wildlife Refuge. The event gave some of the young men their first taste of fishing and the wildlife experience. This excursion was intended to show students a different form of recreation other than playing video games.



Bro. Heru, Bro. Stancil, Bro. Watson, Bro. Wilson



Bro. Kinney, Bro. Babb



Group picture with Chi Phi Chapter



Bro. Babb & wife Cynthia

Denver CO -- On May 27, 2005 the Brothers of Chi Phi Chapter sponsored a formal "Masquerade Ball." This event attracted hundreds of Denver's finest for a night of elegance. Brother Babb, Chapter Basileus, and Brother Kinney, event coordinator, spared no expense to ensure that guests enjoyed themselves to the fullest. The night consisted of dancing and a Casino-like environment. This event is just one of several future events to be sponsored by the Chapter.



Bro. Tony Gorman helps kids read one of their favorite stories as a part of small group work during the chapter's Assault on Illiteracy Program.

DELTA GAMMA GAMMA "STAR CITY QUES" CONTINUE TO SHINE IN NEBRASKA

Lincoln, NE -- Since its chartering in August 2004, the Delta Gamma Gamma Chapter has worked diligently to shape its identity within the Fraternity. The Brothers have utilized with "service" and "duty to the community" as their guide. With a large contingent of the Brotherhood, either Undergraduates or recent graduates of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the Brotherhood focused its efforts throughout this inaugural year on the campus of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Recently, the Brother's have realized the reach of their efforts and have sojourned outward to the greater Lincoln community.

Events started off fast and energetically, as less than a week after obtaining their charter the Brothers were distributing information on STD Awareness/Prevention and prophylactics at the University's Student Welcome. This activity was followed by a fundraiser for chapter expenses and to establish a scholarship. October saw the Brothers organizing a Halloween Carnival at the Cylde Malone Community Center. The Brotherhood raised monies to provide over 300 children with an evening of

(cont. on pg. 65)

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? Who wrote the article?

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 MS Word document 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. Photos should be submitted as attachments.

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. Jayson Jones at 314-220-7428 or jaysonjones5@yahoo.com



"... I was blessed to have the wise counsel and sage advice of the men who served in this honored office before me. They all laid the foundation for my service and life as an Omega man.

— Bro. Glenn E Rice | 30th Eight District Representative

Bro. Jones: Those who know you, know you are keen on Omega History. What drives you to continue to share your historic knowledge of Omega history to others?

Bro. Rice: Knowledge is power. I have been a certified history buff my entire life and I thoroughly love reading, studying and learning about history, specifically Black history. My transition into Omega only increased my desire to read, study and learn about the many great leaders within our great fraternal body.

As a journalist, I have written extensively about the history of people and our never ending quest for racial and legal equity and equality. I love Black history and I am constantly “reading” news books or re-reading old ones.

I have been blessed to have served as a member of both the Eighth District and the International History and Archives committees.

That has afforded me the profound privilege and opportunity to learn from a number of stalwart members within the Eighth District as well as several internationally. Among them are Lucius Jones, Lynn Beckwith, Jeffrey T. Smith, Ramone Trice, Clark Frost, Larry Burks Sr., Mandrid Williams, Jonathan “Flash” Matthews, Carl Blunt, Alfonso Morrell, Judge Rohulamin Quander and countless others.

A few years ago, I was tasked with writing the biographies of three past grand basileis - George Vaughn, Harry T. Penn and Lloyd Jordan. I was deeply fascinated to learn about each of their upbringings and the many challenges they endured leading our great organization.

As a fraternal leader, it has been my goal to share what little I’ve learned with others. I had the privilege recently to lead the Lynn Beckwith/Eighth District Leadership Academy during the past year. I am thankful and cherish that opportunity to engage our fraternal leaders and share with emerging leaders in the Eighth District our history as well as our many practices and standards.

Aside from the foundations of fraternal leadership, the Beckwith Fellows had the opportunity to learn about the life and fraternal legacy of Jasper Alston Atkins, who in my opinion should be considered our greatest fraternal leader outside of our founders.

I wouldn’t get into a lot of details of the life of Brother Atkins but many of our administrative directives and ritualistic practices were launched during his administration are being used today.

I certainly hope that the Beckwith Fellows share what they learned within their fraternal spheres of influence.

Bro. Jones: Often, we are asked to serve Omega in some capacity, how do you prevent burn out when serving on so many committees?

Bro. Rice: I love Omega and pledged to serve her unconditionally. This is a lifelong commitment. It continues to be a humbling experience to be asked to serve in various capacities. I have never turned down an opportunity to lift as I climb.

Bro. Jones: As our past 30th 8th District Representative what was one of your most memorable moments?

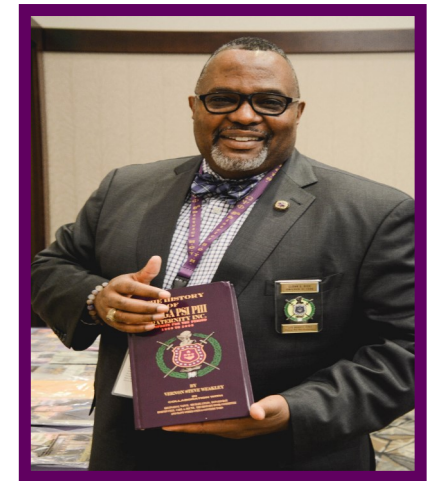
Bro. Rice: I was blessed to have the wise counsel and sage advice of the men who served in this honored office before me. They all laid the foundation for my service and life as an Omega man. Is on their broad shoulders for whom I stand on. Admittedly, I become emotional thinking about brothers like Lucius Jones, Edgar A. Burnett, Leon Ashford, Dr. William Bowe, Lynn Beckwith and Charles “Be Be” Shelton, each of whom provided indelible service to Omega.

There is a reason that we all hold our dean, Dr. Lynn Beckwith Jr., in such high regard and conduct ourselves in the most appropriate manner when we are in his presence.

I was particularly fortunate to have the Rev. Dr. Robert Charles Scott (Bobby Chuck - as I call him) to serve as my first vice. Robert was an incredible resource, a true friend and an unconditional loyal son of Omega. His patience, trust, understanding and brotherly affection were deeply appreciated and invaluable. He made me a better Omega and a better man. He helped me execute our shared vision for the Eighth District. Most importantly, Chuck ran an efficient meeting and managed the district council with a firm, yet gentle hand. Along the same vein, Jeffrey T. Smith continues to be my hero and mentor. I constantly seek his counsel on matters pertaining to the Supreme Council, the Eighth District and my personal Omega journey.

Q+A_{continue}

A Series of Interviews with Brother's of the 8th District



During my two years in the seat - we saw our undergraduate chapters increase dramatically, That would not have been possible without the hard work, dedication and fraternal spirit of our second vice district representative - Skyler Johnson. I can’t say how much I appreciated his service to our district and our undergraduate members.

Michael Short served as our District Keeper Records and Seal during that period. Short helped accelerate the district’s push to embrace new and emerging technology.

Thomas Smith provided me with immeasurable spiritual guidance and strength. J.R. Ball demonstrated "service over self" in many countless ways as did Renaldo Johnson, DeJuan Beasley, Marvin DeJear and Whitney Connor.

I am pleased that our membership numbers increased to over 550 members; active undergraduate chapters expanded from three to 13; nearly 150 members were initiated and the district obtained its federal exempt status. We launched the Eighth District Stalwarts honors program to recognize longtime members of the district. Additional emphasis was placed on technology, history and sustaining administrative efficiencies.

Lastly, none of this would not have been possible with the unwavering support of the brothers who made me - Omicron Xi Chapter. I have sought to live my personal and fraternal life squared on the principles in which they taught me. Brothers such as Greg Stegall, Larry Tircuit, Leonard Searcy, Terry Williams, Donald Bing, Ray Edgerson, Stefan Hughes, Andre Butler, James Burch and the late Lawrence Lee have been my lodestar over the years.

Hopefully, in some way, I have made them proud.

Bro. Jones: What advice would you give a young brother who has joined the brotherhood of Omega?

Bro. Rice: Never stop serving, never stop learning and never stop seeking knowledge. Seek out brothers who will teach you the true Omega traditions. Always remember, we are passing this way but once.

PARTING WORDS

Never even dreamed I would be where I'm at today, working and giving my all to produce the best product for the 8th District. This effort has been nothing but God's work, his plan, his blueprint. For that I'm forever grateful. But in the end, he provided me with the best committee and outstanding group of men to work with. Without the support of so many brothers, I would be nothing.

When its all said and done, I would like to thank every 8th D Brother, Past DRs, and Brothers I've met in passing during my journey. You have shown nothing but support and love.

Most importantly, Thank you to my committee... I know I could be a butt head to work with, but excellence was our main objective from the very beginning, and excellence is what we brought to the 8th District.

- Brother JAY | 5YQ99 | LM6199

