THE SOURCE

A Newsletter From The Brothers Of The Ninth District Of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Vol. 33 Spring 2022

BROTHER BRYCE DEADMON
EARNS GOLD AT THE 2020 TOKYO SUMMER OLYMPICS

The Brothers of the 9th District would like to send congratulations to Bro. Bryce Deadmon on earning gold in the Men's 4x400 relay at the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympic Games. Bro. Deadmon was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in Fall 2017 through Nu Delta Delta Chapter at Texas A&M University - College Station. ***Bro. Deadmon becomes only the second Omega Brother to earn an Olympic gold medal in Track & Field next to the late Bro. William DeHart Hubbard.***

"A District U9ted"

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

Bro. Harold Bailey

Brothers of the Mighty Ninth District,

I pray this message finds you and your loved ones safe and well. Welcome to the Spring 2022 edition of The Source. I am thankful for all the ways you have continued the work of Omega this year through the pandemic, natural disasters, and calls for racial justice. The Source serves as a means to recognize and celebrate all we have achieved together to advance the principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift. As you read through the pages of this edition of The Source, be encouraged to continue supporting the mandated programs of the Fraternity in your communities. Perpetuate the work of uplifting and motivating our youth, fighting for racial justice, educating and empowering our people toward economic and social freedom, and advancing scholarship for the betterment of all. We know, Brothers, that there is still so much to be done. To every Basileus, district officer, chapter officer, and every Brother on the ground doing the work, thank you. It has been my goal to work with you, equipping and empowering the Brotherhood to do the work of Omega, with clear and concise communication and collaboration. I am confident that we are "A District U9ted", a model District in the Fraternity, evidenced by what follows in the pages of this edition of The Source.

In Friendship,

Bro. Harold L. Bailey
Ninth District Representative

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NINTH DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBERS

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2nd Vice District Representative

Bro. Breland Walker

Keeper of Records & Seal

Bro. David Washington Jr.

Keeper of Finance

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Bro. Frank Watson

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Bro. Asriel McLain

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Oklahoma Graduate Representative

Bro. Lee Young

Arkansas Undergraduate Representative

Bro. Allen Coleman

Louisiana Undergraduate Representative

Bro. Darryl Givens

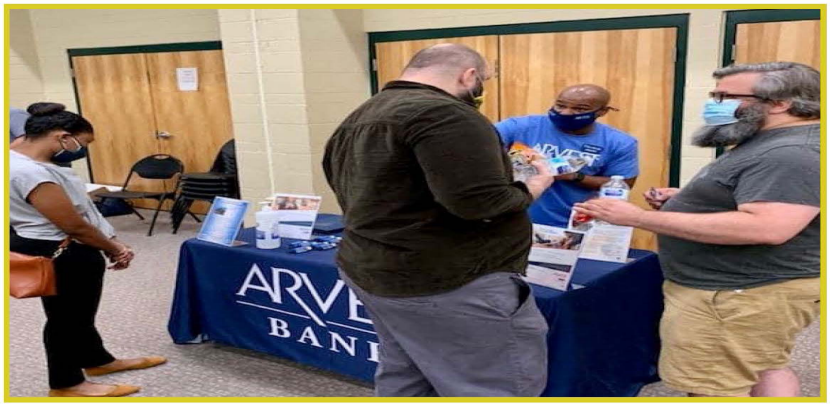
Oklahoma Undergraduate Representative

Bro. Jalen Green-Edison

Arkansas

Natural State Ques Assist Brother in Providing Gift Cards to Local Elementary School
By Bro. Ronald Laurent / Tau Phi / Pine Bluff, AR.

Bro. Ronald Laurent (Tau Phi) solicited brothers from across the state of Arkansas to assist him with providing gift cards to students in his wife's fifth grade class at Southwood Elementary School (Pine Bluff, AR) for their academic accomplishments and promotion to the sixth grade. As a result of brothers' overwhelming support and generosity, Bro. Laurent not only provided gift cards for his wife's class but also provided gift cards for the entire fifth grade. Bro. Laurent and Bro. Quranner Cotledge (Tau Phi) presented Chili's gift cards to the students during Southwood's Fifth Grade Promotion Ceremony. The Southwood teachers and students were appreciative of the uplift provided by Omega Men.



Social Actions: First-time Homebuyers Program – Bro. Thomas J. Williams
By Bro. Derrick Young / Omicron Lambda Lambda / Little Rock, AR.

One September 18, Brother Thomas J. Williams (SPR 18), of Arvest Bank, partnered with the City of Little Rock Down Payment Assistance Program and hosted a First-time Homebuyers Fair. The program provides up to $5,000 for low to moderate-income homebuyers. Brother Williams encouraged low to moderate-income first time homebuyers to apply for down payment assistance of up to $5,000. During this event, they were able to connect with 39 Little Rock residents. This assistance bridges the gap from being a renter to being a homeowner. Brother Williams' Social Action efforts to UPLIFT his community, is a true example of a service-minded Omega man.

Arkansas

Christmas Family Shopping
By Bro. Randy Smith / Phi Mu Mu / Conway, AR.

On December 16, 2021, the graduate brothers came together to spread some Holiday cheer by giving to a family of our community. The chapter was able to supply the family of three children ranging from ages 2 to 8 years old, with some highly requested items from the children's Christmas list. We also took this time to ensure that the family had items that they needed as well for the Holiday season.

Minority Mentorship Program Picnic
By Bro. Randy Smith / Phi Mu Mu/ Conway, AR.

Annually, for the Minority Mentorship Program at the University of Central Arkansas, the brothers of PHI MU MU collaborate with the Director of Diversity and Community on campus to feed and welcome incoming students to UCA. This year the event was held on the 23rd of August 2021. The chapter fed nearly two hundred students including both mentors and mentees of the organization.

Brothers Clean The City
By Bro. Terell Bowie / Epsilon Alpha Alpha / Jonesboro, AR.

The brothers of the Jonesboro, Arkansas graduate chapter, Epsilon Alpha Alpha, cleaned our adopted mile of highway. The event is held multiple times as part of our commitment to community service. Brothers give up a Saturday morning gladly to live up to the Uplift principle of the Fraternity by taking time to improve the community in which we live and work. The "Service" call was on full display as the brothers walked along the highway cleaning debris and other trash as drivers honked and waved to show appreciation. It was an awesome opportunity to show the community that Epsilon Alpha Alpha and Omega Psi Phi is committed to improving the city and available in any time of need.

Arkansas

Brother Bell is Vice President at World's Largest Retailer
By Bro. Lonnie Williams / Upsilon Chi / Bentonville, AR.

Congratulations to Brother Geno Bell on his promotion to vice president of the Consolidation Division, Supply Chain at Wal-Mart USA, the world's largest retailer! Brother Bell has enjoyed a successful career with Walmart Stores, Inc. for almost 20 years. He has worked in areas such as Human Resources, Store Operations, Transportation, and Distribution operations. The company has afforded him opportunities to assume diverse leadership roles within their hierarchy. Brother Bell attended the University of Arkansas in 1993 on a football scholarship. He later played professional football from 1998-2001 (New York Jets, Buffalo Bills, and Cleveland Browns).

Bell attributes much of his professional success to his investment in the success of others. There's a quote that lies under the signature line of his e-mail address, "When it's time to perform, the time to prepare has passed." It's a line he took from his former athletic playbook, but he continues to apply the premise to his business. Bell operates under the belief that success only happens when opportunity meets preparation.

Brother Bell is not all business. Despite the demands of his new role, he still makes time for his first passion, Arkansas Razorback Football. On Saturdays during football season, Bell can be heard as the sideline reporter and an analyst for IMG Razorback Sports Network for University of Arkansas Football. He has been in this role since the kickoff of the 2017 season. Bell is a Life Member of the Fraternity with membership in the Upsilon Chi chapter of Northwest Arkansas. He entered Omega Psi Phi through the Gamma Eta chapter in the Spring of 1994. Bell holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Arkansas and Masters of Science in Management from Indianan Wesleyan University. He is married to Karmen and they have three teenage children.

Xi Rho Bleeds for West Memphis
By Bro. Derrick Sykes / Xi Rho / West Memphis, AR.

On Saturday, October 23, 2021, the Xi Rho Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., had the pleasure of serving the community of West Memphis, Arkansas by hosting its annual Charles R. Drew blood drive. Due to Covid-19, many blood donation facilities have seen donations reach critically low levels. The men of Xi Rho decided to join forces with Vitalant Blood Donations and reach out to community residents to donate units of blood. This collaborative effort was able to collect 15 units of whole blood, which corresponds to saving 45 lives. Also, during this event, pharmacy students from the University of Tennessee were available to discuss disease states such as diabetes and hypertension with community residents seeking information.

Arkansas

Xi Rho Continues to Serve
By Bro. Derrick Sykes / Xi Rho / West Memphis, AR.

As the people of West Memphis, Arkansas continue to maneuver COVID-19, the Xi Rho Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. wanted to ease the burden of Thanksgiving shopping by providing families with turkey baskets. These men of service came together at Wonder City Boys and Girls Club and constructed over 100 baskets that consisted of turkeys, hams, stuffing, cranberry sauces, gravies, and vegetables. These baskets were donated to families as far as Forrest City and Blytheville, Arkansas. Each year, the goal is to provide more baskets than prior years. Based on this year's figures, the Service Chapter is planning to construct no less than 150 baskets in the upcoming year.

Xi Rho Making Christmas Merry for Tiny Tots
By Bro. Derrick Sykes / Xi Rho / West Memphis, AR.

On December 18, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., chapter of Xi Rho, sent forth a handful of noble men to gather toys and gifts for area youth. The brothers convened at Wal-Mart superstore in West Memphis, Arkansas with Christmas lists from children near and far. Some examples of toys on these list included trucks, board games, stuffed animals, darts, and educational games. This committee felt it was imperative to meet the wishes of these area kids during this COVID-19 pandemic time. A feeling of warmth was bestowed upon the brotherhood knowing their actions of service would bring smiles to the faces of children Christmas morning. It truly is an honor to give rather than receive.

Arkansas

Water and Sanitizer to Maddux Elementary
By Bro. Jeremy Pierre / Xi Rho / West Memphis, AR.

Students in West Memphis, Ark. are returning to in-person learning this morning for the second half of the school year. Many schools across the Mid-South moved to virtual learning last year amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Bottled water and hand sanitizer have become much-needed essentials for schools where in-person learning is happening. Four black Greek-letter organizations helped students and staff at one school stay safe from the spread of the virus. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority delivered nearly 5,000 bottles of water and 2,000 bottles of hand sanitizer to Maddux Elementary. The school is facing what teacher one educator called a "year of adjustments. "We have definitely been faced with challenges as far as our rotation schedule with classes," Principal Kalisha Pitts said. Pitts said challenges include stretching the supplies of water and hand sanitizer the school received from the District. "This was tremendous and extremely important," Pitts said. "Our students aren't able to use the water fountain like they normally would." Brian Didlake, of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, said the organizations wanted to give the kids water to drink throughout the day because hydration is critical. Financial gifts used to purchase supplies also came from Alpha Kappa Alpha and Delta Sigma Theta sororities.

Annual Christmas Feeding
By Bro. Michael Watson / Delta Kappa Kappa / Hot Springs, AR.

The Delta Kappa Kappa Chapter under the leadership of Basileus Tony Hines, participated in its annual Christmas feeding in honor of the late Brother Bobby Freeman on Christmas day in Hot Springs at the Ouachita Children's Center. The Ouachita Children's Center serves children who are currently in foster care from around the state. The brothers typically feed the homeless on Christmas but decided to deviate this year due to Brother Hines' plea to focus on the youth.

Louisiana

Beta Sigma Chapter Celebrates 85 Years of Brotherhood
By Bro. Quincy Snider / Beta Sigma / Baton Rouge, LA.

The Brothers of the Beta Sigma Chapter gathered for Homecoming events and to celebrate their 85th Anniversary on October 22-23, 2021. This homecoming was so special because the brothers of Omega Psi Phi could finally gather on the campus of Southern University after more than a year of covid restrictions. It was also an exceptional event due to the fact that the BETA SIGMA CHAPTER RING was unveiled. Beta Sigma wanted to do something unique and extraordinary to mark this 85th anniversary event. Bro. Terrance Blackwell '99 came up with the idea to have a chapter specific ring that would be timeless, consistent and distinctive to the Beta Sigma Chapter which was chartered February 28, 1936. The Ring is standard on the top (which is a facsimile of the Beta Sigma plot located on the Southern Univ. campus) and on the side where the shield from that era is etched and the other side is where a brother could personalize their ring. Beta Sigma held a ring ceremony on Friday October 22, 2021. Brothers enjoyed food, fellowship, and libations throughout the program. Brothers spoke from each era from the 50's to the modern day. Bro. Melvin "Meatball" Robinson 1957 was the oldest in attendance. Brothers listened to videos from the 41st Grand Basileus (Dr. David Marion) and the 35th First Vice Grand Basileus (Ricky Lewis). Proclamations were read from the 41st GB and the 9th District DR Bro Harold Bailey. The event was held in high esteem in true Omega fashion at the Southern University Presidents house. This event fostered renewed friendships and even some reclamation occurred. The oldest brother to receive a ring was Fall 1950 Bro. Franklin Henderson who resides in Los Angeles California and has been active since 1950 (you can look him up on YOUTUBE and see His story). Beta Sigma will continue to be a shing star and a bright pearl in the fold of Omega. Long Live the Beta Sigma Chapter.

4th Annual Christmas Gift Cards / Storybook Bibles Giveaway
Keith Taylor / Rho Phi / New Orleans, LA

December 21-22, 2021—Rho Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in partnership with the Omega Men Foundation hosted its 4th annual Christmas Gift Cards / Storybook Bibles Giveaway service project by contributing $1,000.00 to the Times-Picayune / Advocate Christmas Doll & Toy Fund and funds to transitional housing shelters in the Greater New Orleans Area. Additionally, Storybook Bibles and gifts cards were also donated to the housing shelters as well.

Louisiana

Brother named President of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives

By Bro. Terrence Marshall / Lambda Alpha / Baton Rouge, LA.

The National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) is pleased to announce Captain Frederick Thomas as its new national president. Brother Captain Thomas is a member of Lambda Alpha Chapter in Baton Rouge, La. Initiated in 2003, he is a Life Member of the Fraternity. "Thank you to all the presidents before me and to those who will come after. Thank you for your dedication to our communities, your commitment to representing our cause, and your focus on the basic principles proven to achieve our goal of equality and public safety in every neighborhood of this great American nation," said Bro. Thomas in his vision speech at the organization's virtual 45th Annual Training Conference.

Thomas' priorities throughout his tenure include highlighting the involvement of NOBLE members throughout every hometown in America and bringing awareness to topics relevant to our communities."Our local chapters are NOBLE blood and they run deep in the veins of the body of this country. NOBLE is a vital breath of life in a community that shows up. Our spirit is found participating in local events for underserved areas. Go ahead and join that Saturday morning walk to raise awareness about diabetes. Go on and march with a group fundraising for sickle cell anemia research. Be the one that gets the first life-saving COVID-19 vaccine in your neighborhood. That's the NOBLE spirit," remarked Thomas in his speech. Brother Thomas is celebrating over 30 years in law enforcement and is currently commander of the Scotlandville Substation with the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office in Louisiana. Captain Thomas is a combat veteran (retired) after 26 years of service with the Louisiana Army National Guard. He holds a Master of Criminal Justice in Corrections from Southern University and a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Grambling State University. He is also a graduate of the Northwestern University Center for Public Safety-School of Police Staff and Command, the Police Executive Research Forum, and the Senior Management Institute for Police.

Hurricane Relief

By Bro. Reginald Weeks / Rho Chi / Lake Charles, LA.

Following the aftermath of Hurricanes Laura and Delta the Brothers of Rho Chi Chapter despite their own personal losses, teamed up with local organizations and neighboring chapters in Louisiana, and Texas to provide needed goods for the disseminated community. We were able to give hot meals, bottled water, canned food, cosmetics and clothing.

Louisiana

Mayoral Proclamation
By Bro. Reginald Weeks / Rho Chi / Lake Charles, LA.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated, Rho Chi Chapter, was awarded a Mayoral Proclamation by the Honorable Nick Hunter, Mayor of Lake Charles, LA. This proclamation was awarded for the contributions made in the community including mentoring, voter registration drives, volunteering, Scholarship donations and philanthropy contributions. Rho Chi stands ready as always to uplift our brothers and provide needed resources to our community.

Christmas Que It Forward
By Bro. Tony Arnold / Rho Omega / Shreveport, LA.

Since its humble beginnings on the Howard University campus on November 17, 1911, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity has sought to champion causes that speak to our four cardinal principles. Those four cardinal principles are: manhood, scholarship, perseverance and uplift. These cardinal principles are essential to the inner workings and the outreach of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity. In response to the rising food prices that are plaguing so many of our disenfranchised families of the community, it was suggested that we use the cardinal principle of uplift to alleviate the financial burden of some of the families for this Christmas season. Rho Omega termed this project "Christmas Que It Forward". The brothers were looking forward to blessing a few families this Christmas by choosing random people and paying for their groceries. "Christmas Que It Forward" was held on December 23, 2021.We met at the Shopper's Value Grocery Store on Greenwood Road in Shreveport, Louisiana. Initially we were hoping to raise $1000.00 through donations from the brothers and help at lease ten families in our city. Fortunately, we were blessed to receive over $2100.00 and exceeded the number of families that we were able to make their holiday season just a little bit better and brighter. Just to show you that the proof is in the pudding and that the men of Omega take to heart the concept that Friendship is essential to the Soul. The brothers of Rho Beta Chapter out of Houston, Texas collaborated with the brothers of Rho Omega and contributed $600.00 from their chapter to help fund and support this noteworthy effort. This endeavor between the two chapters of Omega Men truly expresses brothers living up to the cardinal principle of Uplift.

Louisiana

Upsilon Rho and Gamma Delta Annual Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway
By Bro. Vincent Wiltz / Greater Ques of Acadiana / Lafayette, LA.

The Greater Ques of Acadiana in Lafayette, Louisiana gave out Thanksgiving baskets to (5) families during their annual Thanksgiving Basket Give-Away. The Ques of Acadiana have been distributing their Thanksgiving Baskets for over 15 years. We as Omega men want to serve our community as God intended for us to do. We as Omega men consider it a privilege to be able to bless the community not only during holidays but year-round. We the Ques of Acadiana will continue to be a strong force in the community and continue the legacy of past Omega brothers.

13th Annual Star Reader Program
Keith Taylor / Rho Phi / New Orleans, LA

Rho Phi Chapter along with its partner, The Omega Men Foundation, held their 13th Annual Star Reader Program on December 15, 2021. The program was held at Mary L. Bethune Elementary School. The Star Reader program rewards a male and a female student in the 4th, 5th and 6th grade who's reading skills have improved the most, with a technology tablet and case. Funds to purchase the tablets were donated by Rho Phi brothers along with grant money from Entergy Corporation, Inc. This year 18 students received awards.

Louisiana

Rho Omega Donates Fans
By Bro. Marlon D. Henderson / Rho Omega / Shreveport, LA.

The Rho Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated and Rho Omega and Friends, Incorporated recently held their Annual Summer Fan Drive. With the assistance of Shreveport-Bossier City Junior Lamplighters, a total of 115 fans were collected and donated to the Caddo Council on Aging. Through their effort to uplift the community, many people will be able to "beat the heat" this summer. Brother James D. Rhodes is the Fan Drive Chairman. Brother Fred Moss IV is the Executive Director of Rho Omega and Friends, Incorporated. And, Brother James F. Hawkins is Basileus of the Rho Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated.

21st Annual Thanksgiving Basket Gift Card Giveaway
By Bro. Keith Taylor / Rho Phi / New Orleans, LA

Rho Phi Chapter held its 21st annual Thanksgiving Baskets / gift cards giveaway on November 22-23, 2021. Thanksgiving baskets and gift cards were given to needy families in the New Orleans, and a local women's shelter.

Rho Omega Donates Clothes
By Bro. M. Henderson / Rho Omega / Shreveport, LA.

The Rho Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated recently held their annual clothing drive. The event was held during Rho Omega Chapter's 2021 Founders Week activities. The clothing items collected were donated to local homes and shelters. Brother Darius Z. Kimble is Basileus of the Rho Omega Chapter. And, Brother Dr. Marlon D. Henderson is Rho Omega Chapter Chairman of Founders Day/Week activities.

Fort Sill Department of the Army Civilian Volunteer of the Year
By Bro. Ronnie Mathis / Psi Upsilon / Lawton, OK.

Brother Eugene DeLoach, Sr. was recognized as the Fort Sill Department of the Army Civilian of the Year on April 22, 2021 at the Fort Sill Patriot Club. He did not come to be the Volunteer of the Year by himself," said Eugene." There are so many people who helped him within different organizations. He was recognized for his volunteer work with Psi Upsilon Chapter, the Lawton NAACP #6131, Lawton Public School, and the Union Baptist Church. He loves giving back to the Lawton-Fort Sill community, because there is something inside of him that tells him it's the right thing to do." Giving back and assisting others is the basis of community service. The importance of community service lies in the fact that it connects the organizations he is a member of with the community by improving them. Also, community service makes Lawton a better place to live.

Champion of Children
By Bro. Eugene DeLoach, Sr. / Psi Upsilon / Lawton, OK.

Brother Mark Nash has been a teacher/coach in Lawton Public School (LPS) for 31 years. He currently works at the Comanche County Juvenile Detention Center. On May 4, 2021 during LPS District Celebration, Brother Nash was recognized as a LPS Champion for Children. He received this award for his service "above and beyond" to Lawton's young people and/or the LPS family.

Adopt – A – Highway

By Bro. Eugene DeLoach, Sr. / Psi Upsilon / Lawton, OK.

On March 20, 2021, the Brothers of Psi Upsilon Chapter conducted their Quarterly Adopt a High Program. The chapter is responsible for maintaining a large section of one of Lawton, Oklahoma's main highways which is called Rogers Lane from 52nd Street to 82nd Street.

Salvation Army Feeding Initiative

By Bro. Eugene DeLoach, Sr. / Psi Upsilon / Lawton, OK.

On February 23, 2021, the Brothers of Psi Upsilon Chapter conducted their Quarterly Salvation Army Feeding Initiative. They provided the Salvation Army with two baskets of can goods for their food pantry.

Texas

Bro. Bryce Deadmon Wins Gold at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics

Bro. Deadmon was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in Fall 2017 through the Nu Delta Delta chapter at Texas A&M University. At the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, which actually took place Summer 2021 due to COVID-19, Bro. Deadmon took part in the Mixed 4 × 400 meter relay and the Men's 4 × 400 meter relay. Bro. Deadmon won bronze in the Mixed 4 x 400 and earned gold in the Men's 4 x 400 meter relay. Bro. Deadmon becomes only the second fraternity Brother to earn a gold medal in a Track & Field event. Bro. William DeHart Hubbard was the first Black athlete and Omega Man to win a gold medal when he won the long jump at the 1924 Paris Games. Congratulations Bro. Deadmon. The Ninth District is proud of you!

A.I.I. MEETS F2F

By Bro. Larry Johnson II / Alpha Iota Iota / Dallas, TX.

The global response to the covid-19 virus shut down the world, it was declared, a pandemic. The Alpha Iota Iota chapter along with the entire fraternity suspended all face to face meetings in compliance with the CDC guidelines. February of 2020, was the last time the chapter would meet together in person. Although adjustments were made and the business of Omega continued through virtual execution, it is nothing like meeting as a brotherhood amongst each other. On Friday, August 20, 2021, the North Dallas Ques conducted their first face to face meeting in over a years time, seventeen months to be exact. Nothing can replace the aura of Omega. The atmosphere was as distinctive as only an Omega man could describe and the quality in the atmosphere was nothing less than what the founders had envisioned. As the chapter prepares to proceed in this fashion, the aim is to do so with the vision of all health and safety protocols as the highest priority, while upholding the facet of excellence as only Omega Psi Phi strives to accomplish.

Texas

Houston Area Coalition of Chapters Receive City Proclamation
By Bro. Na'Shon Edwards Sr. / Houston Coalition / Houston, TX.

On November 16th, 2021, the Brothers of the Houston Ara Coalition of Chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. descended into the City of Houston City Hall Chambers dressed in their purple fraternity blazers. The Brothers of the HACOC were being honored by the City of Houston's Mayor Sylvester Turner and City Councilmember Tiffany D. Thomas. This honor came in the form of a proclamation to the HACOC designating November 17th as Houston Area Coalition of Chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Day in the City of Houston. The HACOC is comprised of 7 graduate chapter and 5 undergraduate chapters that service the City of Houston property and surrounding areas. This proclamation came because of the work that Brothers of the coalition have been committed to for almost one hundred years. Bro. Jeffery Williams is the President of the HACOC and shared the coalitions commitment to supporting the City of Houston in endeavors both now and future. As a homage to the Brothers, the City of Houston lit the City Hall and Courtyard purple, it was truly a sight to see. This was truly a tremendous occasion for Omega and the Brothers in the City of Houston.

Houston Health Department Vaccine Family & Community Event
By Bro. Kevin Jernigan / Nu Phi / Houston, TX.

The Omega Nu Phi Educational Center (ONPEC) and members of the Nu Phi chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. hosted the City of Houston Health Department Vaccine Family & Community Event on Saturday, November 6, 2021. Free vaccines for COVID-19 were provided to the 3rd Ward community which was held from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm at the ONPEC Educational Center located at2615 Calumet St. in Houston, TX. Sharon Evans-Brooks, Director of Friends of Riverside Park Houston, stated, "What an amazing event today! As usual, you (Omega Men) elevated service with excellence. I shared notice of the event with our Riverside network and several have texted complimenting how professionally it was conducted and more importantly, how warm and welcoming you were." COVID-19 vaccines were available for children from 5-11 as well as teens and adults. There were 100 people who were vaccinated which included 10 Pfizer pediatric doses and 90 adult doses of Pfizer, Moderna & J&J vaccines. The ten children who were vaccinated were amongst the first children in the Houston community to be vaccinated as a result of the CDC recommendation that children 5 to 11 years old be vaccinated against COVID-19 with the Pfizer pediatric vaccine on November 2, 2021.Roselynn Ruth, RN Division Manager with the City of Houston Health Department Community Based Vaccine Clinics coordinated this event with Bro. Glenn Gundy, Chairperson of ONPEC. Mrs. Ruth has worked tirelessly throughout the year to ensure people in the Houston community had the opportunity to get vaccinated for the deadly disease that disproportionately affects the African American community.

Texas

Omega Theta Lyons Unity Food Bank
By Bro. DeCalvis Butler / Omega Theta / Houston, TX.

During the weekend of April 24th, The University of Houston Omega Theta chapter participated and helped with The Lyons Unity MBC by putting together bags of different fruits and cold drinks like milk and cases of waters for the 5th ward Community here in Houston. We served over 500 family and handed out an ample number of bags and food to the people. The Lyons Unity MBC was grateful to have our fraternity come out and help them, because they were short staffed and needed the help that we provided. We are continuing to stay in touch with the Lyons Unity MBC bank to be a part of other services that they provide.

Omega Gents Spring 2021 Mentoring Program
By Bro. Lamon Smith / Omicron Gamma Gamma / Arlington, TX.

Our mentoring program has four primary building blocks that we use to help our Gents become men. The four building blocks are: Manhood, Scholarship, Health and Wellness and Community and Social Involvement. For our spring semester we assigned our mentees with two different projects which focused on two building blocks, Scholarship and Community and Social Involvement. The first project, which focused on the Scholarship building block, tasked them with creating a business plan to develop a business that would serve their community. While working on this project they had to use their peers who were fellow mentees and their mentors. Since several of our mentees have small business that they currently operate, entrepreneurship resulted in the final focus of the Scholarship building block. Needless to say, they presented a very thorough PowerPoint presentation. The second project focused on Community and Social Involvement. In this building block our mentees decided on a can food drive to benefit the Mission of Arlington. This organization assists low income families with basic living needs such as food, job training, furniture and toys. Our mentees hard work and dedication collected over 950 can goods which were donated to the Mission of Arlington.

Texas

20 Years of Adopt – A – Spot

By Bro. Frazier Epperson and Jeremy Neal / Psi Alpha / San Antonio, TX.

On October 21, 2021, the City of San Antonio gave recognition to the Brothers of Psi Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated for 20 years of dedicated service for their efforts with Adopt A Spot. Psi Alpha's designated location at New Braunfels Avenue over the past two years has had over two thousand pounds of trash collected. Brothers Tony Godbee, Jermaine Coleman, and Frazier Epperson were on hand to receive the recognition presented by Mayor Ron Nirenberg and District 2 Councilman Jalen McKee-Rodriguez.

Cheer Team Donation

By Bro. Danilo Martinez / Sigma Tau / El Paso, TX.

The Sigma Tau Community Uplift Foundation, Inc. donated a $1,000.00 to the University of Texas El Paso (UTEP) cheer and dance team on November 3, 2021. The UTEP cheer and dance team got invited to participate in the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade on November 25, 2021. A representative from the student union affairs office stated that the costs to send the dance and cheer team is approximately $25, 000. We wish the UTEP dance and cheer team good luck at the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade.

Texas

Brother Terry Gordon Receives the Annual Drum Major Award in Brazoria County
By Bro. Anthony Edwards / Rho Xi / Freeport, TX.

Brother Terry Gordon a member of RHO XI Chapter in Freeport, Texas received the Annual Drum Major Award from the Brazoria County Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee for his work with the community on Thursday, January 13, 2022. The annual Drum Major award goes to someone in Brazoria County whose life of work best exemplifies the ideals of sacrificial service and leadership in achieving human dignity, racial equality, and harmony in Brazoria County, Public Relations Chairwoman Mary Frances Hall said. The organization chooses the recipient from community nominations."It means that I've done something right," Gordon said. "It's a very prestigious award, and when I look around the committee and see the people that are a part of it and put work into it, they are all deserving." MLKCC President Dorthy Thomas watched with pride during the presentation."He is truly worthy of it because of all the things he has done for the community," Thomas said. "He is a humble servant that follows the guidance of God in his community service. I look to him as a visionary. He saw this years ago to want to create an organization that wants to bring the community together and educate the community on the Life of Dr. King." Gordon started the MLKCC IN 1986 to honor King's life and legacy in Brazoria County, Hall said. Gordon retired from the Dow Chemical Company after 36 years and can be seen volunteering with his fraternity brothers on various projects in the community.

Casa Community All-Star
By Bro. Danilo Martinez / Sigma Tau / El Paso, TX.

Brother Kendrick Lusk was recognized as a Community Casa All-Star Awardee at the El Paso Chihuahuas baseball game on September 25, 2021, in El Paso, Texas. This award was presented to him for his volunteer efforts in the community and mentorship provided to young men. Brother Lusk is from Pine Bluff, Arkansas and graduated from University of Arkansas Pine Bluff. Brother Lusk is a retired Major from the United States Army, avid Triathlete. Additionally, Bro. Lusk currently teaches AP History at Burgess High School, in El Paso, Texas.

Texas

Brother Robert Bostic Receives 2022 District Administrator of the Year Award

By Bro. Anthony Edwards / Rho Xi / Freeport, TX.

The Texas Computer Education Association selected Dr. Robert Bostic as the 2022 District Administrator of the Year. TCEA (Texas Computer Education Association) proudly announces the finalists. and award winners for the 2021-2022 Educator Awards and Scholarships. These awards are given to educators who advance teaching and learning through innovative technology. This year's finalists and winners reflect the spirit of TCEA and the very best of their profession. TCEA (Texas Computer Education Association) is a global, nonprofit, member-based organization. TCEA supports the use of technology in education. Founded in 1980, TCEA has played a vital role in increasing technology funding and access for PreK-16 schools for nearly 40 years. Brother Bostic was chosen out of 57,000-members.

Dr. Charles R. Drew Blood Drive

By Bro. Charles Whittaker, Eddie Chew, and Jeremy Neal / Psi Alpha / San Antonio, TX.

On Monday, Jan. 17, 2022, Psi Alpha Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., in partnership with the South Texas Mobile Blood Center, held our Annual Charles R. Drew Blood Drive during the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Health Fair. Dr. Charles Drew was a blood plasma scientist. Dr. Drew discovered that plasma, or the liquid portion of the blood is separated from the blood cells and is frozen, it can be stored for much longer than untreated blood, which can only be kept for a week. The longer blood can be stored, the more likely it is that it can be used in a transfusion, or process by which stored blood (from a blood donor) is given to someone who is injured and has lost a great deal of his or her own blood. Dr. Drew's discovery contributed to the establishment of blood banks. He set up and ran a blood bank in a hospital in New York City that served as a model for the system of blood banks still in use today by the American Red Cross. Dr. Drew was the first medical director of the American Red Cross; and, while in this position, he came up with the idea of the "Bloodmobile," the bus that travels from blood banks to companies and schools to collect blood. Bloodmobiles can now be seen everywhere collecting blood to be used in emergency situations. The blood drive was a successful event as thirty-four (34) donors were able to help save lives. We would like to thank all those who donated as well as those who registered to donate but could not.

Texas

Covid-19 Vaccination

By Bro. Larry Johnson II / Alpha Iota Iota / Dallas, TX.

Each Saturday of March and April, the Alpha Iota Iota chapter partners with the Douglass Visions and provide the Moderna Covid-19 vaccinations to registered citizens of Plano, Tx, and the historic Douglass Community. The Moderna vaccine was 94.1% effective at preventing laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 illness in people who received two doses who had no evidence of being previously infected. Between the hours of 9am-3pm on the Shiloh Missionary Baptist church complex, a very organized process was executed to allow a time effective process to vaccinate as many citizens as possible in the allotted time slot. The North Dallas Ques control traffic and man the areas to eliminate any delivery risks for the healthcare professionals to deliver efficient vaccinations for all who participated.

Houston Area Coalition of Chapters Host Virtual Founders Day Ceremony

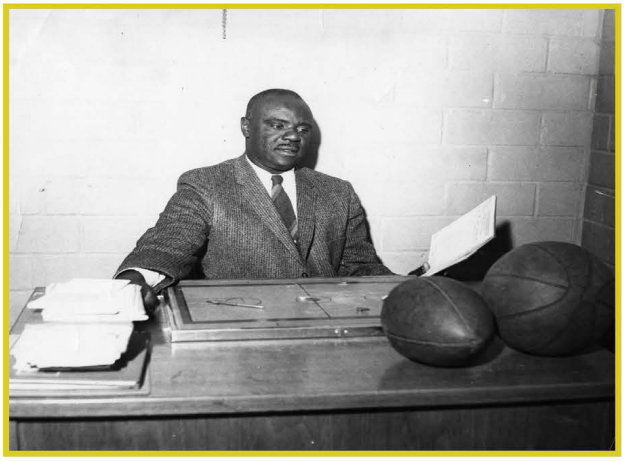
By Bro. Na'Shon Edwards, Sr. / Houston Coalition / Houston, TX.

On November 13, 2021, the Brothers of the Houston Area Coalition of Chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. (HACOC) hosted their annual Achievement Week Awards ceremony. Due to the prioritization of the Brothers and guest health, this event was conducted in a virtual space but was still packed with enthusiasm and true Omega Spirit. This year's Achievement was hosted by the Brothers of the Mu Mu Nu (Conroe, TX) and Chair by Bro. Dyrren Davis. The keynote speaker for this event was Bro. Ricky Lewis currently serves as the fraternity's Vice Grand Basileus. Bro. Lewis's message to the Brothers was simple in delivery but impactful in context because he stressed the importance of Omega, the community, and civic engagement. The Brothers were grateful to have Bro. Lewis as the keynote; moreover, Brothers were recharged to service, community, the Brotherhood, and Fraternity. This year's ceremony was indeed an outstanding way to formally kick off Achievement Week for the Brothers of the HACOC. Thank you to the host chapter for resources and Bro. Davis and committee for your service during challenging times.

Texas

New Health & Wellness Building to be Named in Honor of William Allen Hudgins

Provided By St. Philip's College / Psi Alpha / San Antonio, TX.



The Alamo Colleges District Board voted on Wednesday, October 27, 2021, to name the new St. Philip's College Health & Wellness Building in honor of William Allen Hudgins who contributed nearly 40 years of service to St. Philip's College and his community. Hudgins was the first basketball coach at St. Philip's College where he served as a role model to young men for 18 years. As a coach, he encouraged high academic standards while overseeing the mental health, growth, and development of team members. He was committed to strengthening the development of children of color in the community.

Hudgins (affectionately known as "Coach" and "Meatboy") is prominently displayed as a part of the St. Philip's College Historical Legacy Wall located in the Bowden Center on the Third Floor of the Sutton Learning Center.Hudgins was the fifth child of five children born to John and Artie Hudgins in Mathews County, Virginia on May 9, 1917. At age six his mother moved to Phoebus, Virginia where he attended the Whittier School. After finishing the Whittier School, he went to George P. Phenix High School where he excelled in academics and athletics. When he finished high school, he was offered an athletic scholarship to Virginia State University but opted to take a work-study scholarship at Hampton Institute in 1935. It was at Hampton Institute that he became a legendary "Hampton Pirate" playing for the great coaches during that time, Gideon "Gid" Smith, Charles H. Williams (founder of the CIAA), and Herman "Buck" Neilson. Hudgins was considered one of the premier athletes earning the title "3-LETTER MAN" for his athletic success in football, basketball, and track. When he finished Hampton Institute in 1940, he earned a Master's Degree from the University of Pennsylvania and was also the basketball coach at Cambridge High School in Baltimore, Maryland. In 1942, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps as a Tuskegee Airman but was too tall to fit in the fighter planes during that time. He then became a Tuskegee Airman trainer and applied to Officer's Candidate School (OCS), was accepted, and came to San Antonio, Texas to attend. Hudgins coached track and field and was an assistant football coach at Bishop College from 1948 to 1949. In 1949, he was offered a job as the first basketball coach at St. Philip's College where he served as the only basketball coach for 18 years. He also served as Dean of Student Affairs for 19 years. He retired from St. Philip's in 1982.He lived a long, full, meaningful life and served as a mentor to many African American young adults. One of his major accomplishments was that he taught about 3,000 African American children how to swim during vacations before segregation ended. He was a long-time member of Second Baptist Church, a life member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), a founding member of the Courtiers, a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and a member of the Hampton University Alumni Association. In January 2011, he was inducted into the Hampton University Athletic Hall of Fame.Hudgins passed away on June 13, 2011, peaceably watching television in his favorite chair. He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Artie, sister Lena, brothers Morris, John, and Lindsay, and his beloved wife of 58 years, Vernis. He is survived by his daughter Patricia, son William Allen Jr. (Billy), grandchildren William Allen III (B), Channon Teria, Jenifer Patrice, Sarah Hollie, great-granddaughter Morgan Simone and a host of other relatives and friends. The new William Allen Hudgins Health and Wellness (WAH) Building will replace the existing college fitness center built in 1949. The 57,000-square-foot two-story gymnasium and natatorium will include an elevated track, short course swimming pool, therapy pool, weight, cardio training spaces, aerobic studio, cardio studio, teaching labs for kinesiology, first aid/ CPR, massage therapy, gathering spaces, and staff offices. The building will be completed in 2022.

The "Good Neighbors" Program
By Bro. Kevin Jernigan / Nu Phi / Houston, TX.

The Nu Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. volunteered for the City of Houston "Good Neighbor" project which occurred on Saturday, August 21, and August 28, 2021. Fraternity members volunteered to mow lawns of 12 senior citizens in the Houston community. Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner kicked off the Houston Department of Neighborhoods (DON) Good Neighbor event in Independence Heights. The inaugural lawn maintenance service was carried out by the members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Nu Phi Chapter beginning at the home of longtime resident Ms. Warzell Upshaw. "This project is about neighbors helping neighbors, especially our seniors who are not able to maintain the upkeep of their lawns," said Mayor Turner. "I want to thank the Omega Psi Phi brothers for partnering with the Department of Neighborhoods to serve our seniors and for their work on this hot summer day. They have been with me on several events over the last, (well), since I've been in office. They set a fine example for us, inspiring us all to be good neighbors." Administered by the City of Houston's Volunteer Initiatives Program (VIP), the project provides free lawn maintenance services to 20 pre-selected seniors in several neighborhoods during the months of August and September.

This effort is sponsored in partnership with the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. "The Department of Neighborhoods is pleased to partner with the men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity to provide this service for seniors over these summer months when grass and weeds flourish," said DON director TaKasha Francis. "We're not only helping senior residents maintain safe and sanitary yards in compliance with city codes, but we're also encouraging others to do the same. We thank them for their community service and for helping us kick off this vital undertaking for our seniors." Brother Keoni Josiah, Social Action Committee Chairman, who coordinated the event stated, "Omega Psi Phi's four cardinal principles are Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift. Our watch word is Service which we are committed to." The Houston Area Coalition of Omega Psi Phi in conjunction with the Nu Phi Chapter will continue to work with the City of Houston to determine other ways where Omega Men can provide service to the Houston community.

Nu Phi Chapter Purple Blazer Ceremony for 28 Sons of Perseus
By Bro. Kevin Jernigan / Nu Phi / Houston, TX.

On Tuesday, August 31, 2021, The Nu Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. held its Purple Blazer Ceremony for its Fall 2020 new members to the chapter. The event took place at South Union Baptist Church in Southeast Houston, TX.
The Executive Council of Nu Phi chapter along with 9th District Chaplain Bro. Asriel McLain and Texas State Representative Bro. Kenneth Broughton presided over the ceremony. The new members were joined with other members of Nu Phi Chapter as well as a host of family and friends to witness the official "Purple Blazer" ceremony of the "28 Sons of Perseus". The newly inducted members were actually initiated on November 8, 2020; however, they were unable to be publicly recognized due to restrictions on in-person gatherings caused by COVID-19 protocols. Notable speakers included but were not limited to Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. International Membership Selection Process Committee Chairperson, Bro. Raymond Bourgeois and Nu Phi Basileus, Bro. Brucus Owdley, PhD. In addition, MSP Chapter Sponsor Bro. Damon Barone encouraged the new members to live according to Omega's four cardinal principles and to serve our community. Family members cheered loudly as sponsors adorned each of the 28 men with their purple blazers. The 28 Sons of Perseus greeted brothers with an enthusiastic rendition of See it Through, and Omega Dear was proudly sung by all Omega men in attendance. The new members are enthusiastic for their chance to perform service and fellowship alongside the tried-and-true members of Nu Phi.

Feed The Homeless

By Bro. Larry Johnson II / Alpha Iota Iota / Dallas, TX.

In 2020, the State of Homeless Address reported that in the City of Dallas there were 3,722 people were reported homeless of which 1,153 were unsheltered. Each Sunday of the month, The North Dallas Ques and Bro. Christopher Simmons of Quinary Catering, execute the feed the homeless community engagement initiative. 110 individuals were able to receive free food prepared and distributed by the brothers of Alpha Iota Iota chapter. A plethora of brothers show up to distribute food and organize the event to make sure each person receives food. Community engagement during this time is a must. Coming off a brutal winter storm, this is indeed a blessed opportunity for the individuals who braved the storm.

Achievement Week Worship Service 2021

By Bro. Vincent E. Hardeman / Psi Alpha / San Antonio, TX.

This was the Day the Lord had made and Psi Alpha Chapter started our Achievement Week in great service by worshiping together in celebrations of 110 years of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Services were held at New Light Baptist Church in San Antonio. Pastor Paul G. Wilkinson, Sr. provided the message "Promise and the Purpose" from Romans 8:28-31. What a blessing to each one of you who came together for this purpose. We know this was a tremendous sacrifice for your own Sunday services as well as other important obligations to attend this worship service. We thank those who wanted to come but was unable to do so because the Holy Spirit guided you in various directions. This was our first time out in a while, and we adhered to our COVID Policy and Procedures as directed. Our presence as Omega Men showed our community the commitment in unity as we worship together our Lord and Savior as believers to the transcendent, just, Holy, merciful, and true and living God. "A frat that worship and pray together stays together;" supported by Mathew 18:20 and Hebrew 10:25.

Texas

Blue Triangle Historical Site Renovation Preparations
By Bro. Kevin Jernigan / Nu Phi / Houston, TX.

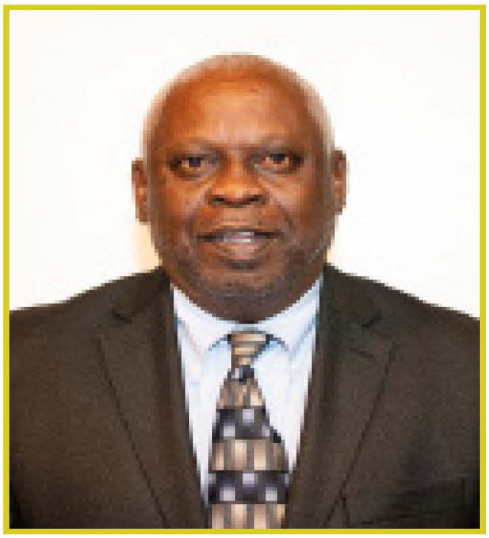
Brothers of the Nu Phi and Tau Epsilon chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. volunteered to move furniture and help prepare the Blue Triangle Community Center for major restoration. The event occurred on Saturday, December 11, 2021, at 3005 McGowen St. in Houston's historic 3rd Ward community. The Blue Triangle is a Texas Historical site and was originally founded in 1919 during World War I as the first branch of the YWCA in Houston, TX. Mrs. Charlotte Bryant, Director of Blue Triangle Community Center, stated, "Being a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha and part of the Devine 9, I can always count on the brothers of Omega Psi Phi to volunteer and provide service to the community." The Blue Triangle Multi Cultural Association, Inc. has provided educational and recreational services to the Houston community for decades. Bro. Andre Stokes, who coordinated the volunteer effort, stressed the importance of investing into predominantly African American inner-city institutions so that they may continue to help enrich our seniors and empower our youth. Brothers and other volunteers spent sweat equity and donated their time to improve the community. Ms. Jones, Program Coordinator, provided the marching orders and laid out plans for the placement of furniture and other items that filled five large shipping containers. The Blue Triangle Community Center received a grant to renovate the property while maintaining certain areas for historical purposes. One such area includes the $1 million mural called "The Contribution of Negro Women to American Life and Education" by Dr. John Biggers which features historic African American women such as Sojourner Truth and Harriet Tubman. Renovations are targeted to be completed in 2022.

Brothers in the Community
By Bro. John Cooper and Jermey Neal / Psi Alpha / San Antonio, TX.

The word uplift depending on the source that you use means to raise the level or improve. Each minute, day, week, moment, or hour you can change someone's life for the positive. Brother John Cooper continues to provide service in many forms throughout the San Antonio Metropolitan Area. On January 25th and 27th, Bro. Cooper provided his services to West End Baptist Church for their free food distribution and giveaway. Approximately one hundred (100) needy families were provided food and other essentials during the bi-monthly outreach program. Along with his contribution to West End Baptist Church and Blessed Angels Community Center, Brother Cooper takes it upon himself to provide uplift and spiritual wellness visits for Bro. Bernard Hartfield at least 3-4 times out of the month. This serves as an opportunity to provide fellowship to a friend over a hot plate of food. Thank you Bro. Cooper for your continued services in the community and in Omega!

Texas

Brother Kirk Jackson Community Leader
By Bro. Kevin Jernigan / Nu Phi / Houston, TX.



Brother Kirk Jackson transitioned to Omega Chapter on November 21, 2021. Brother Jackson was initiated into Eta Psi Chapter in the Fall of 1978 at Fisk University. Born on January 15, 1959 in Houston. Texas, he received his Bachelor of Business degree from Fisk University and his Master of Urban Planning and Environmental Policy degree from Texas Southern University. He worked at LINK Houston as a Community Engagement Specialist where he ensured communications and project engagement between community organizations, civic leaders, and LINK Houston. Brother Jackson was an active member of Nu Phi Chapter where he served in various volunteer capacities for the Chapter. He helped in fundraising and community engagement for resource distribution to community members and in strengthening the bond between Nu Phi and community-based organizations in the area.

Brother Jackson was any active member of Holy Rosary Catholic Church and St. Mary's of the Purification Catholic Church. Brother Jackson exemplified Service thru his passion to the Urban community of 3rd Ward in Houston, TX. He Persevered thru his illness and worked tirelessly while in failing health, placing his faith, community and family clearly as his focus. Brother Jackson leaves behind his wife, son, sister and brother as well as a host of nieces, nephews and others, who loved him and will cherish his memory.

New Initiates Post-Education Workshop
By Bro. Kevin Jernigan / Nu Phi / Houston, TX.

On Sunday, December 12, 2021, The Nu Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. held its annual New Initiates Post-Education "Omega Oil" Workshop for Fall 2021 new members of Nu Phi and Tau Epsilon chapters. The workshop, which was open to all brothers, took place at South Union Baptist Church in Southeast Houston, TX. Bro. Raymond Bourgeois, International Membership Committee Chairperson, led the workshop and provided Brothers with the knowledge of the inner workings of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Bro. Bourgeois hosts these workshops throughout the country to ensure that Brothers are provided with consistent knowledge and information about the Fraternity. He stressed, "Though there are many different traditions nationwide, my goal is to teach what is written and sanctioned by the Fraternity." Bro. Ed Jackson, Southeast Texas MSP Chairperson, provided the newly inducted members their fraternity certificates, pins, cards, and history books. He advised all brothers to place the Watch Word of Service in their hearts. Bro. Jackson also encouraged the newer brothers to reach out to seasoned Brothers in order to seek knowledge, to serve, and to socialize so that they may be fully emersed in Omega.

Annual Christmas Toy Drive

By Bro. Tony Godbee / Psi Alpha / San Antonio, TX.

The holidays are a joyous time for most, however, for struggling families, the holidays, at times, can be incredibly stressful. Providing toys/gifts for children becomes a struggle for many low-income families; adding to the stress and anxiety, we are in our second year of the Covid-19 Pandemic. Thankfully, help was on the way for the 50+ children of the Miller Child Development Center. Friday, December 17, 2021, 9:30 a.m. Leadership and Brothers of Mighty Psi Alpha Chapter conducted its Annual Christmas Toy Drive to benefit children ages 6 months – 11 years old, enrolled at the Miller Child Development Center. The Brothers of Psi Alpha Chapter, as always, made it their mission to ensure each child received a special gift from Psi Alpha Chapter. In advance of the Toy Drive, Brothers donated monetarily and/or purchased toys; special thanks to Brother Scott Earle, who donated twenty (20) new bikes. Saturday, December 11, 2021, members of the Social Action Committee, met at Walmart to shop for additional age-appropriate gifts that were presented. Monday, December 13, 2021, the Brothers met at the Fraternity House for the "Gift Wrapping Party," armed with toys, wrapping paper, scissors, and tape, each toy, specially selected based on the recipients age and gender was wrapped. On Friday, December 17, 2021, we delivered and presented the toys; the presentation was highlighted by greetings to the children and staff, from Psi Alpha Chapter Basileus, Brother George Mayers; the Vice Basileus, Brother John Lester, and Brother Scott Earle provided uplift by reading two stories: "The 12 Days of Christmas" and "The story of Jesus", in addition, a visit from "Brother Santa-Que" (Frazier Epperson) presented the toys. As each child was presented their gift, the Brothers were rewarded via the smiles and sentiment of the Children. This year, the Psi Alpha Chapter of the Omega Lamplighters donated eight (8) bikes to the Miller Child Development Center, After School Program participants. In total the Chapter gifted over $2,200.00 in toys, with over fifteen (15) Brothers lending support to this noble project. It is still great to know even during the COVID-19 Pandemic, Psi Alpha Chapter is still making a real difference for children in our community, helping families this holiday season. Big thanks go out to the Social Action Committee, Chaired by Brother Tony Godbee.

Ninth District Life Membership

Join Today!

Chairman: Mack McCraney Jr.

The Ninth District Life Membership Program was approved at the 77th Ninth District Meeting in Oklahoma City, OK in April 2014. As such, Ninth District Life Membership Status became effective beginning Nov. 1, 2015. The program is an extension of the WLD Johnson, Jr. Foundation, a 501(c)3 entity, which was chartered to aid organizations involved in charitable, educational, scholastic and scientific pursuits. The program is open to all fully-financial members of Ninth District chapters who are in good standing at all levels of the Fraternity. Life Members of the Ninth District will be exempt from all future annual Ninth District dues.

The current fee for the Ninth District Life Membership Program is 20 times the current annual dues rate, which totals $1,000.00 at this time. A single payment of $1,000 or two (2) payments of $500 each within 6 months can be made via the link provided below. Brothers will not be recognized as Ninth District Life Members until the application is processed and all payments are received in full and within the allotted time frames.

All Ninth District Life Members receive:

- Exemption from all future Ninth District Dues.
- Ninth District Life Membership Plaque.
- Metallic Ninth District Life Membership Card.

In addition, Life Members will also be able to purchase a personalized Ninth District Life Membership Lapel Pin and other items.

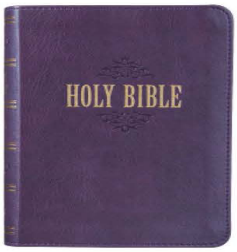
****** You must be logged in and financal to apply. ******

UNDERGRADUATE SUMMIT

Ninth District Undergraduate Summit

On October 9, 2021, in Houston, Texas, undergraduate brothers and advisors across all corners of the Mighty 9th District gathered on the campus of Texas Southern University for the annual 9th District Undergraduate Summit. This effort was led by 2nd Vice District Representative Breland Walker and the 9th District Undergraduate Representatives. Thank you to the brothers of the Tau Epsilon chapter for hosting such an intentional and powerful summit. Picture below to the left is Bro. Harold Bailey Ninth District Representative and to the right Bro. Breland Walker 2nd Vice District Representative.

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE



Chaplain's Corner
Subject: Testimony of a Tattoo
Isaiah 49: 14–17

A tattoo is a mark with an indelible design by inserting pigment into punctures in the skin. Tattoos when we see them on the skin of people may memorialize an event such as membership in an organization such as a branch of the military or a fraternal one. They may also celebrate a love one such one's mother, wife or sweetheart or even a child. Tattoos may be also show forth one's theology or philosophy life even his favorite personality, either fact or fiction. And obviously when you or the wearer of that tattoo, it brings to mind who or what it is one desires to remember. While the Bible in the Old Testament frowns on tattoos, the prophet Isaiah uplifts the pagan custom of tattoos to remind his people who were in exile or about to return from Babylon that though they may feel forgotten, yes forsaken by the Heavenly Father, He had not nor would not.

Listen to the words of the gospel prophet, Isaiah, chapter 49, verses 13–17:

Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the Lord hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted.
But Zion said, The Lord hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me.
Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.
Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me. Thy children shall make haste; thy destroyers and they that made thee waste shall go forth of thee.

Notice verse 16 of Isaiah 49:

Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me.

Now that phrase graven thee upon the palms of my hands, pictures an engraved object, perhaps a tattoo on the hands of the mother. Isaiah uses this image of a tattoo in the hands of the mother of an Assyrian soldier who had left home to go into battle. Every time the mother saw her sons's name in her hand, she remembered he was in harm's way perhaps on foreign soul. Since it was also believed there was a link between the hand and heart she constantly thought of him and what he may be enduring in the heat of battle. And like any mother she desired his safe return. And this next phrase in verse 16, of Isaiah 49, thy walls are continually before me says that though Jerusalem and its walls had been destroyed, God looked at the present situation in terms of what the future held for them, restored walls, not the present condition.

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

This image, testimony of the tattoo says that God will never forget not forsaken his children just as a mother would never forsake nor cease to love her child whether dead or alive. In a world of so much fear and anger this Assyrian mother's tattoo testifies several truths.

First, God's mind is constantly on us: Just as that mother looked at her hand or hands and her son's name and thought of him immediately and consistently, his mind, his thoughts are on us. We not feel this is true. But remember feelings can be deceptive. How many of us have felt one way about a matter but later discovered our attitudes were dead wrong and totally unfounded. Remember this truth as told in the Bible in Jeremiah 29, verse 11 and Romans 8, verses 37-39:For I know the plans that I [a]have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.

But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.Second, we are not only on God's mind but he identifies with our hurts. In order to get a tattoo engraved anywhere on the body one must endure a little pain, and I am told some swelling. Imagine the Assyrian mother's discomfort had having her son's name engraved on her hand. Many people believe God is detached from our pain. But nothing could be farther from the truth. In Exodus, chapter 3 verse 7, when God speaks to Moses at the burning bush we hear him say these words of identification:

The Lord said, "I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt, and have given heed to their cry because of their taskmasters, for I am aware of their sufferings. In other translations the words I am aware are rendered I know, or I have intimate knowledge or feel what they feel. The fact that God feels our hurts underscores the fact he wants his children to approach him boldly, fearlessly. All of us perhaps as little children have suffered injuries of a sort.
And the first thing we did was to cry, and then go an adult if not a parent for treatment. That parent might be busy with other things but they would drop what they were doing to give us attention. They did not fuss but either went to the first aid kit, medicine cabinet in the bathroom or they took us to the doctor. The psalmist pictures this loving concern to us by our God when we read in Psalm 3,verse 3: But You, O Lord, are a shield about me, My glory, and the One who lifts my head. Another translation renders that verse, But thou O Lord art a shield for me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.

Look at that imagery of the psalmist: Shield to protect us from the onslaught of enemies as we read in Psalm 3, verse 1 he is outnumbered by foes, yet he looks to God for protection, for the Lord knows the damage that can be done; my glory, my focus alone, or my weight my strength as you show yourself as Redeemer; and the Lifter of my head pictures a subject of a country going into the throne room of a Ruler, and when entering his presence, he falls flat on his face or bows the knee to give him respect or homage. What does the Ruler do? Tell the subject to rise and state his case? No, the King gets up off of his throne, steps down and walks to the bowed subject, and lifts up his head to hear his pleas. The ruler did not care how he was dressed or what the problem was. That is what God does for us in His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ for read in the letter to the Hebrews, chapter 4, verses 14-16:

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.Third, we are not only on God's mind, not only does he identifies with our hurts, but we are not just on his hands we are IN his hands. The Assyrian mother put the tattoo on her hand to remind her of him and as expression of love for her son. In ancient Semitic thought it was the believed that the hand and heart were linked as wedding ring on the hands of the man and woman, links their hearts together in a bond of love. However, just having his name on her limited her to just wondering how he is doing, would he survive battlefield injuries or sickness. Despite her love and concern, distance prevented her from being there with him. But when we look at the tattoo we can go a step further and praise God that he thinks about us always, but then we not only engraved on his hands but WE ARE IN HANDS. And the good news is than anything that is the hands is under the control of the one to whom the hand belongs. Human hands very in capacity to hold yes control some things: They may weak, crippled; sometimes disinterested because they don't have a tight grip on the object, hence men and women often drop what ought to be precious and treated as priceless. As our country battles this deadly virus, it is obviously that someone dropped the ball not did they care to catch it; some one's hands just were not on the steering wheel; no they never behind the wheel.

But we are in God's hands and his is a loving but firm grip on us and on the situation that no power can knock us out his hands. He may move slow but he has a grip; and if he moves fast he will tighten the grip so as not to drop us. We read of his grip on us in John 6, verse 37 and Jude 24 respectively: All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away (or cast out). To him who is able to keep you from stumbling (or falling) and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy: Jude pictures here a man on a horse but he has a guide to hold the reins insuring the horse does not stumble and the passenger on the beast falls and has a terrible accident despite the terrain.God remember has never promised a trouble free trip, but he guarantees a safe arrival or safe landing.

Fourth, we are not only on God's mind, not only does he identifies with our hurts, and we are not just on his hands we are IN his hands but the tattoo reminds of an identification, a link between mother and son, or between members of an organization. Earlier I stated that men even women get tattoos to remind them of their connection with some one dear and/or organization. Members of Greek organization will get tattooed or branded to show their love for the brotherhood or sisterhood.
Well, when I behold by faith the one who was stretched wide and hung high and see the wounds in his hands and feet and the spear wound on his side, that tells me he identifies with us as our elder brother, that he picks up our pain, bears our burdens, liberates us by his lacerations, injured for our iniquities, tortured for our transgressions, reviled for our righteousness, wounded for our wrongs, died our death as we hear Isaiah say in chapter 53, verses 4-7:

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

And for those who received him by faith and acceptance his sacrifice for our sins, when we behold those wounds, those "tattoos" on his body, he engraves, yes tattoos his name on our hearts that can never be removed.So beloved we face this crisis, again, we remember the tattoo on the hands of that Assyrian mother remembers us of another set of handsHands we cannot see, but every now and then we feel the touch of his hands of which the older generation said, that "It runs like lightning and it burns like fire."We see the results of the movement of those hands orchestrated the movements of the universe guiding and controlling the procession of history Those hands the fingerprints of which we cannot see except by the forensics of faith and sense the presence via his grace.

Sincerely, His servant, and your District Chaplain,

Bro. Asriel Gamaliel McLain

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

"WHEN WE WEAR THE GLOVES"

WHEN WE WEAR THE GLOVES
A BROTHER HAS GONE FROM OUR MIDST
AND SAILED TO GOLDEN SHORES.

WHEN WE WEAR THE GLOVES
A FRIEND HAS PASSED THE FINAL TEST
AND WALKS THROUGH PURPLE DOORS.

THE CIRCLE HAS AN EMPTY PLACE
A VOICE WILL RAISE NO MORE
THE SONG OF FELLOWSHIP AND LOVE
UPLIFT FOREVERMORE
WHEN WE WEAR THE GLOVES

WHEN WE WEAR THE GLOVES
A LIGHT GOES FROM THIS EARTHLY LIFE
THE VISOR CLOSED AGAIN
YET ALL THE HEAVENS OPEN WIDE
TO LET A NEW STAR IN.

WHEN WE WEAR THE GLOVES
A BROTHER LEAVES THE CHAPTER ROLLS
AND MOVES TO OTHER WORLDS
FOR WHEN WE SAY OUR LAST GOODBYE
HE WALKS ON STREETS OF PEARL.

WHEN WE WEAR THE GLOVES

BY BROTHER DR. CARVER A. PORTLOCK

PUBLIC RELATIONS
IN THE NINTH DISTRICT

Bro. Frank Watson

Brothers! I hope you enjoyed this edition of The Source Newsletter. Thank you for your content submissions and dedication to contribute to this cause. As you may know a new public relations outlet for the district has been created called The Source TV a videocast from the brothers of the Ninth District. Below are details about how to submit content to the newsletter and videocast. It has been a pleasure to serve the District over the past three years. Together we promote the positive works of Omega within the communities we serve.

How to submit an article for The Oracle & Source Newsletters

1. When writing the story use merriweather font and 11pt size. The first line of your story should be the title in regular print no caps or bold letters, for example Brothers Uplift the Community. The Second line should be the brother who wrote it, chapter name, and city the chapter is in for example, Bro. Frank Watson / Rho Xi / Freeport, TX. The suggested length for the body of your story is between 150-300 words. Do not put pictures or graphics within the story, it should only contain words, punctuation, and characters in the format explained above. Do not combine multiple stories within one word document. See the articles within The Source as a reference for the writing format required for submissions.

2. Draft an email. Your email should contain word document and picture attachments. Each word document and picture must be labeled with state, chapter, and event name for example (TX-Theta Alpha- Voter Registration) so that they can be properly saved within the database.

3. Send your email to flwatson31@gmail.com.

4. You will receive a reply within 24 hours stating "Received, Thank You". If you do not receive a reply double check to ensure your email was received.

5. Please only submit noteworthy articles from your chapter on a monthly basis.

How to submit a video for The Source TV Videocast

1. Record content by cell phone or tablet with the I Movie (Apple) or FilmoraGo (Android) application. Filming the video within these applications will give you edit capabilities that are compatible with what the PR Committee uses. Also, while recording content be sure your device is facing sideways because the final video will be widescreen.

2. Edit your video clips to create one 30 second to 2 minutes long video. Name the video file with state, chapter, and event name. (AR - Phi Mu Mu - Adopt-A-Highway)

3. Upload your video file to a google drive or i cloud folder to provide download capability.

4. Share the video file with flwatson31@gmail.com so that it can be downloaded, reviewed, and added to The Source TV google drive folder. I you upload to a google drive you can send it to be shared as a google file video via email.

Ninth District Media @Mighty9th & The Source TV (YouTube Only)

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BRO. CLEMENT
"OSMOSIS" OSIMETHA
Grand Counselor

83rd Grand Conclave,
Charlotte, N.C., 2022

FRATERNITY SERVICE

- 31st Second – Vice Grand Basileus
- U/I Representative to the Supreme Council
- Honorary Chair – Omega Centennial Celebration
- Chairman – International Constitution & By-laws
- Member – International Membership Intake Team
- Second – Vice District Representative
- Keeper of Finance – Mu Beta Chapter

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PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- VP & Acting General Counsel – DPT Labs
- VP & Associate General Counsel – Mary Kay
- Corporate Counsel – Accor, N.A
- Asst. City Attorney (prosecutor/litigator), Dallas
- VP & Chief Compliance Officer – Ciber, Inc.
- Member – Grable Martin Fulton, PLLC
- Board of Disciplinary Appeals (BODA) – Appointed twice by the Supreme Court of Texas

ANSWERING OMEGA'S CALL TO SERVICE

Omega Century Award of Excellence – Centennial Celebration, Washington, D.C.
Omega Man of the Year – Theta Alpha Chapter, Dallas, TX
District Undergraduate Omega Man of the Year – 9th District
Grand Basileus' Distinguished Service Award – National Membership Intake

Life Member #: 7621 • Initiated: Spring 1988 – Mu Beta Chapter, UTA • Current Membership: Theta Alpha Chapter, Dallas

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