



# THE SOURCE

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# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

Greetings, Brothers of the Mighty Ninth District,

Thank you all for supporting this edition of The Source and 9th District social media platforms. Since being sworn into the Office of Public Relations, the committee and I have worked diligently to uphold the branding and good work of the Brothers in the 9th District. To name a few, the Public Relations Committee has developed an Article Metric to assist with evaluating and publishing articles to the Source and the Oracle. Secondly, the committee has begun to capture data to support the improvements in community response as it relates to marketing, chapter involvement, and platform impact. Lastly, the committee is working towards a 9th District Public Relations Retreat, which will assist Brothers with developing and improving how they submit the endeavors of chapters in their perspective chapters. Brothers, working for the 9th District has been a pleasure, and the best is yet to come! The Public Relations Committee has worked diligently on the Summer/Fall 2022 Edition of The Source, and I want to thank each of them for their hard work, talent, and time. Enjoy this edition of The Source my Brothers.

Fraternally,

Bro. Na'Shon Z. Edwards, Sr.  
12-17-Rho Theta / Theta Chi





# 9th District Council

**District Representative** - Bro. Harold Bailey

**1st Vice District Representative** - Bro. Van Newborn

**2nd Vice District Representative** - Bro. Jalen Green-Edison

**District Keeper of Records & Seal** - Bro. Antonio Brown

**District Keeper of Finance** - Bro. Cliff Hodrick

**District Counselor** - Bro. Winston Huff, Esq.

**District Director of Public Relations** - Bro. Na'Shon Edwards, Sr.

**District Chaplin** - Bro. Asriel McClain

**District Marshall:** Kamara Washington

**Graduate Representative** - Bro. Lee Young

**Undergraduate Representative** - Bro. Allen Coleman

**Undergraduate Representative** - Bro. Kole Long

**Undergraduate Representative** - Bro. Kamani Semien

**Immediate Past District Representative** - Bro. Patrick B. Smith

**Immediate Past District Marshall:** Bro. Arthur Williams



## **Natural State Ques Executive Council**

State President: Bro. Dwayne Graves

1st Vice President: Bro. Brian Didlake

2nd Vice President: Bro. Ja'Vonn Watson

State Secretary: Bro. Jeremy Pierre

State Treasurer: Bro. Derrick Flowers

State Chaplin: Bro. Leroy Martin

## AR GRADUATE CHAPTERS

### **Delta Kappa Kappa**

Hot Springs, AR

### **Epsilon Alpha Alpha**

Jonesboro, AR

### **Kappa Chi**

Magnolia, AR

### **Omicron Lambda Lambda**

Little Rock, AR

### **Phi Mu Mu**

Conway, AR

### **Pi Omicron**

Little Rock, AR

### **Tau Phi**

Pine Bluff, AR

### **Upsilon Chi**

Bentonville, AR

### **Xi Rho**

West Memphis, AR

## AR UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTERS

### **Alpha Delta Pi**

Little Rock, AR

Arkansas Baptist College

### **Alpha Delta Theta**

Russellville, AR

Arkansas Tech University

### **Alpha Zeta**

State University, AR

Arkansas State University

### **Beta Delta**

Conway, AR

University of Central Arkansas

### **Delta Eta**

Magnolia, AR

Southern Arkansas University

### **Gamma Eta**

Fayetteville, AR

University of Arkansas

### **Pi Kappa**

Little Rock, AR

University of Arkansas-Little Rock

### **Pi Sigma**

Little Rock, AR

Philander Smith College

### **Rho Mu**

Monticello, AR

University of Arkansas-Monticello

### **Tau Sigma**

Pine Bluff, AR

University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff

### **Xi Beta**

Arkadelphia, AR

Henderson State University

## Brothers Reclamation and Retention Cookout

Brother David Bell Sr. / Epsilon Alpha Alpha / Jonesboro, AR

Our chapter's Reclamation and Retention are important to the chapter. The brothers reach out to retain active brothers and return inactive brothers back to the fold. Brothers give their speeches on inviting inactive members. We are uplifting the inactive brothers and letting them know how important they are, and how they can strengthen the chapter. We invite inactive brothers to our social events and cookouts, and send out information on how the chapter is progressing. Brothers remind them of why they choose the fraternity and their intake process. Brothers enlighten the inactive brothers on how it is their duty to do the fraternity's watchword-service. Brothers send cards to inactive brothers during their time of need, invite them to church, and invite them to a lot of our social action events. We had another Reclamation and Retention cookout over Bro. Thomas's residence. Bro. Thomas was on the grill. In attendance were Bro. Bell (Chapter Basileus), Bro. Denishio Blanchett, Bro. Kellen Blanchett, Bro. Kenneth Thomas, and Bro. Uko Ekpe.

## Brothers Participating in the Juneteenth Parade

Bro. David Bell Sr. / Epsilon Alpha Alpha / Jonesboro, AR

Juneteenth is the oldest nationally-celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. On June 19, 1865, a Union General rode into Galveston, Texas to announce that the Civil War had ended, and slaves had been freed. On Saturday, June 18, 2022, the brothers uplifted the community by showing our support of the Juneteenth event by participating in the parade. Bro. Keith Futrell, Bro. Denishio Blanchett, Bro. Uko Ekpe, and Bro. David Bell Sr. (Basileus) are shown on the truck. Brothers also went to the E. Boone Community Center to help with the parade. Brothers enlightened the youth on how Juneteenth came about. Brother also educated the youth and the community on things that took place in that era that is not taught in schools. Brothers will continue to be an activist and solid supporter of this event.



## Brothers Participating in a Blood Drive

Bro. David Bell Sr. / Epsilon Alpha Alpha / Jonesboro, AR

Blood is essential to help patients survive surgeries, cancer treatment, chronic illnesses, and traumatic injuries. This lifesaving care starts with one person making a generous donation. The need for blood is constant. Brothers exhibited the importance of giving blood. Bro. Winfrey (EAA) and Bro. (AZ) are featured giving blood. The age for most donations is 17 years of age. We will be continuing to do blood drives. We will be increasing our blood drives to many different communities.

## Brothers Donating Clothes

Bro. David Bell Sr / Epsilon Alpha Alpha / Jonesboro, AR

Brothers came together and cleaned out their closets and donated what they needed to get rid of. Instead of throwing their clothes out, we donated them to the Goodwill store. In today's times, there are more less fortunate people in the world, and that number is growing by the day. By donating the clothes, we can help our community. This is our 1st Annual Clothes Drive, but not our last. We were blessed to have our State Representative (North), Bro. Dr. Lonnie Williams, supporting our event. We are planning to keep this going to help less fortunate people be able to afford, or have clothes.



## Distinguished Scholarship

Bro. David C. Bell, Sr. / Epsilon Alpha Alpha / Jonesboro, AR

The Epsilon Alpha Alpha graduate chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. held our annual Distinguished Scholar Scholarship presentation on June 12, 2022, here on the campus of Arkansas State University, in the student union. This year's victors of the "Distinguished Scholar Scholarship" are Ms. Thomas and Ms. Rochelle. Ms. Rochelle is the uplifting daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bro. Trent Rochelle. Ms. Rochelle will be attending college at the University of Memphis this fall. Ms. Thomas is the honorable daughter of Pastor and Mrs. Bro. Thomas. Ms. Thomas will be attending Arkansas State University this fall.



## Brothers doing their Highway Cleanup

Brother David Bell Sr. / Epsilon Alpha Alpha / Jonesboro, AR

The highway cleanup initiative is one of the fraternity's mandatory projects. The brother's of EAA take pride in beautifying the community. People just throw everything that you can imagine out of the window and onto the highway. But brothers refuse to let the community look like a landfill. We showed the community that we will keep Uplifting the community. They see Black Omega men out there doing something that probably no one else would come together and do on their own. The community can also see that when a group of Omega men show up, they uplift the community by doing the highway cleanup. They give up the utmost respect. These brothers will continue to uplift and show perseverance to this community. Brothers that were involved were Bro. David Bell Sr. (Basileus), Bro, Adrian Winfrey (Vice Basileus), Bro. Denishio Blanchett, Bro. Turk Edwards, Bro. Curtis Cater, Bro. Trent Rochelle, Bro. Edward Rucker, Bro. Rev. Perry Jackson, Bro. Uko Ekpe.







### **Brothers Serving the people**

Brother David Bell Sr / Epsilon Alpha Alpha / Jonesboro, AR

There comes a time in everyone’s life that people need to do something for others. On February 22, 2022, the brothers of Epsilon Alpha Alpha did that. The brothers got together and volunteered some hours at the local food bank. Brothers were given a task, and as Omega men, we did our due diligence. After a lot of perseverance, we packed 7,980 meals in four hours for the food bank. That was the most packed in a four-hour span. These meals will go out to the people who need them. We will continue to strengthen our volunteer work in our communities. Our volunteer work is very exceptional to our chapter.

### **Brother’s Educating the Community**

Bro. David Bell Sr. / Epsilon Alpha Alpha / Jonesboro, AR

We are operational in different communities in the city of Jonesboro, AR, to enlighten citizens about the important of registering to vote. It is your right. Many people fought hard for people of color to be able to vote. There are many ways to obtain the voter application. We assisted them to retrieve the application via the internet. Bro. Cory Mills and Bro. Kenneth Thomas were two of many other chapter brothers who exhibited the fraternity’s watch word, “SERVICE”. We provided them information on the requirements to become a registered voter. We assisted the community by filling out the voter registration forms. We are arranging more of these proceedings in different communities until we have everyone registered. We are going to do everything in our power to continue to UPLIFT our communities.



### **OLL Brother Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway**

Article by Bro. Derrick Young, Chapter Reporter

On November 22, 2021, the Omicron Lambda Lambda chapter of Omega Psi Phi hosted our annual Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway. We not only provided 30 families with food, but we also opened the door to enhancing the benefits of Thanksgiving, stability during times of stress and transition, improvements to physical and mental health, and overall well-being that creates an attitude of gratitude. The families expressed their appreciation of our “Uplift” efforts. Special thanks to SPRING '21 and the youth who supported. The youth sharpened their life skills and understanding of giving back through community service.



## OLL Brother Annual Christmas Food Basket Giveaway

Article by Bro. Derrick Young, Chapter Reporter

On December 21, 2022, the Omicron Lambda Lambda chapter of Omega Psi Phi hosted our annual Christmas Food Basket giveaways. Our endeavor provided Uplift to the community. We provided food for 30 families and gifted toys to their children. The young adults who supported this event earned community service hours toward their high school credit, and all youth who helped learned about the importance of giving back. #Service



## OLL Brother Eli Nelson - "We, Not Me" Foundation

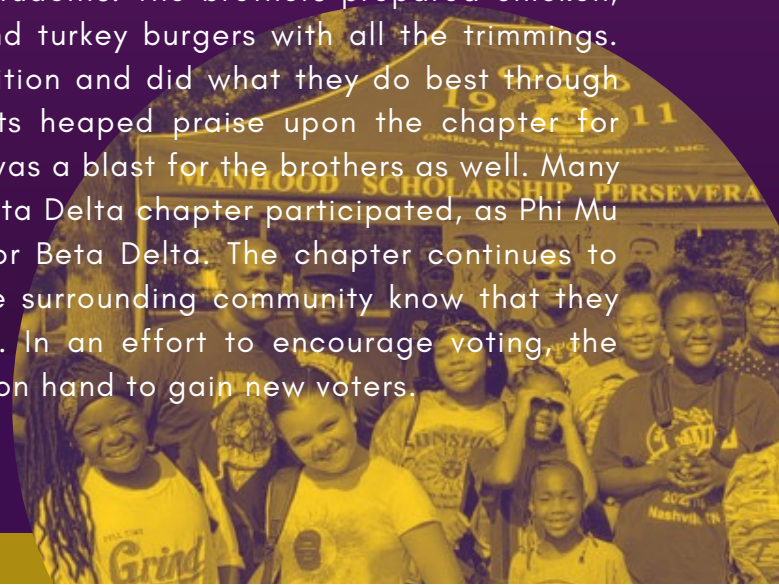
Article by Bro. Derrick Young, Chapter Reporter

Brother Eli Nelson founded the "We, Not Me" Foundation that targets 13- to 17-year-old youth, and fosters them through summer programs and after school programs. This foundation was established to build character, work ethic, respect, life goals, and to establish and/or enhance a relationship with Jesus Christ. The organization also provides counseling and works with youth to create physical and mental health goals. The work that Brother Nelson is doing helps to bring Uplift to our communities.

## Phi Mu Mu Chapter Welcomes UCA Minority Freshmen With Back to School Cookout

Bro. Randy Smith Jr. / Beta Delta (Phi Mu Mu) / Conway, AR

On August 28, 2022, the men of the Phi Mu Mu Chapter, graduate chapter located in Conway, AR, welcomed the University of Central Arkansas freshmen back with a bang. Director of Minority Services, Ms. Angela Jackson, requested the brothers to cook food that was provided by her office, and donated by the chapter, as a way to welcome the new students in and offer a level of comfort of being away from home, which for many, is the first time in their lives. This has turned into an annual service event over the last few years, giving the chapter an opportunity to show service to the UCA students. The brothers prepared chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, and turkey burgers with all the trimmings. The brothers graciously accepted the petition and did what they do best through service and continued uplift. The students heaped praise upon the chapter for excellent food prep and taste. The event was a blast for the brothers as well. Many of the undergraduate brothers from the Beta Delta chapter participated, as Phi Mu Mu is the sponsoring graduate chapter for Beta Delta. The chapter continues to take on challenges such as this to let the surrounding community know that they are dedicated and serious about service. In an effort to encourage voting, the brothers also had voter registration forms on hand to gain new voters.



## Arkansas...Pi Omicron...Park Backpack Event

Bro. Major Banks, Jr.

Bro. Keith Jackson (Pi Delta '86) and President and Founder of P.A.R.K. (Positive Atmosphere Reaches Kids), requested help from the Divine Nine to assist with assembling over 800 backpacks for their annual giveaway. The Brothers of Pi Omicron showed up in the largest number of all the Greek Letter organizations. Bro. Jackson created P.A.R.K. to serve at-risk children in Pulaski County. It offers a five-point program for students, year-round weekly education programs, a five-year commitment to each child, weekly bible study to create a spiritual relationship with Jesus Christ, a community service component to mold productive citizens, and Impressive recreational facilities to entice the at-risk child into learning, studying, and giving. P.A.R.K. serves students from middle school through high school. Pictured (l to r) Bro. Joe Gray...Bro. Major Banks, Jr....Bro. Ed Garland...Bro. Ron Paige..Bro. Tim Dunn...Bro. Leon Chitman...Bro. Keith Jackson...Bro. Chet Lucas...Bro. Morris Williams Sr...Bro. Russ Gray...Bro. Major Banks, III.



## Arkansas....Pi Omicron....Bro. Mike Williams Book Signing

Bro. Major Banks, Jr

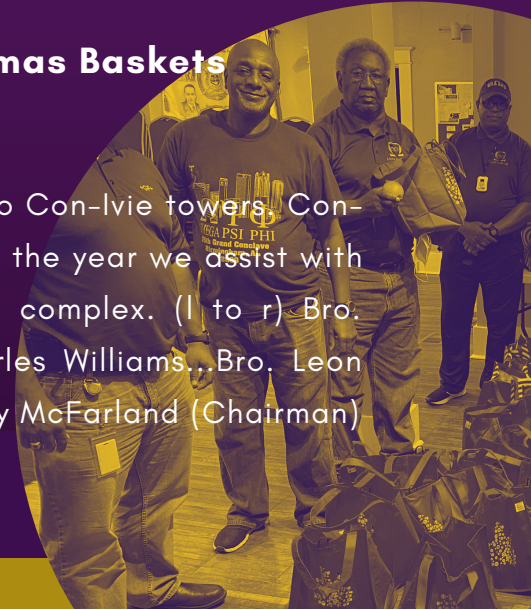
Bro. Mike Williams Sr. at the book discussion and signing of his new book "Black Innocence: A Sample Conservation." Bro. Williams felt it was necessary to write this book due to the state of African American males in our society today. Bro. Williams is the Key Account Manager at PepsiCo. Bro. Williams is the immediate past Basileus of Pi Omicron chapter.



## Arkansas....Pi Omicron....Con-lvie Christmas Baskets

Bro. Major Banks, Jr.

The Brothers of Pi Omicron giving out Christmas baskets to Con-lvie towers. Con-lvie is a senior living center adopted by Pi Omicron. During the year we assist with clean up...reading to the residents....and grilling for the complex. (l to r) Bro. Marcus Waters (Basileus) Bro. Anthony Ellerson...Bro Charles Williams...Bro. Leon Chitman...Bro. Ronnie Page...Bro. Major Banks, Jr....Bro. Billy McFarland (Chairman)





## Arkansas...Pi Omicron....75th Charter Celebration...

Bro. Major Banks, Jr.

The Brothers of Pi Omicron celebrated its 75th Chapter Anniversary on June 25, 2022. Pi Omicron was chartered on December 17, 1946. Bro. Harold Bailey, the 26th Ninth District Representative was the keynote speaker. Pi Omicron has a long and distinguished history since its chartering. Members were involved in the desegregation of Little Rock Central High School, the sit-in protest of the 1960's, and integrating the Arkansas National Guard Band. The chapter projects for the anniversary included Washington Elementary School, 3 Miles of Men, and the Prostate 5K run. The chapter also honored brothers who had 55 or more years of service in Omega Psi Phi. Bro. Richard Mays Sr. A-'63...Bro. Macon Wilson ΠΣ-'64...Bro. Alvin Williams ΤΣ-65...Bro. Willie Brewer ΠΣ-'66...Bro. Jimmy Smith Sr. ΤΣ-'66...Bro. Morris Williams Sr. ΠΣ-'67...Bro. William Davis ΠΟ-'67. Bro. Travis Johnson led the effort to put the program together.

## Arkansas....Pi Omicron....Valentine's Day...

Bro. Major Banks, Jr.



Brothers of Pi Omicron putting together Valentine bouquets for widows of our chapter Brothers...This is the first year Pi Omicron has recognized the widows of chapter brothers. This was the idea of Bro. Marcus Waters. (l to r) Bro. Richard Reed Vice Basileus...Bro. Marcus Waters Basileus...Bro. Marion Butler...Bro. Lyndon Lovelace and Bro. George Hood....picture taken by Bro. Major Banks, Jr.

**Brother Bell is Vice President at World's Largest Retailer**  
**By: Lonnie R. Williams, Ed.D. / Upsilon Chi Chapter / 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.





## United Omegas of Louisiana Executive Council

**State Chairman:** Bro. Quentin Collins

**Chairman Elect:** Bro. Mack McCraney

**2nd Vice Chairman:** Bro. Byron Hall

**State Recorder:** Bro. Calvin Nicholas

**State Treasurer:** Bro. Elliot Searcy

**State Public Relations:** Bro. Willie Siglar, II

**Bro. State Counselor:** Michael Adams

**State Chaplin:** Bro. Rochell Bates

**State Sargeant at Arms:** Lee V. Faulkner

# LA GRADUATE CHAPTERS

## **Chi Kappa Kappa**

Hammond, LA

## **Delta Tau**

Plaquemine, LA

## **Epsilon Chi**

Alexandria, LA

## **Epsilon Lambda Lambda**

Opelousas, LA

## **Gamma Lambda Lambda**

Houma, LA

## **Gamma Omicron**

Minden, LA

## **Gamma Rho**

New Orleans, LA

## **Iota Gamma Gamma**

Ft. Polk, LA

## **Iota Kappa**

Baton Rouge, LA

## **Lambda Alpha**

Baton Rouge, LA

## **Lambda Kappa Kappa**

Baton Rouge, LA

## **Mu Tau**

Monroe, LA

## **Phi Iota Iota**

LaPlace, LA

## **Pi Tau**

Grambling, LA

## **Rho Chi**

Lake Charles, LA

## **Rho Omega**

Shreveport, LA

## **Rho Omicron**

New Iberia, LA

## **Rho Phi**

New Orleans, LA

## **Upsilon Rho**

Lafayette, LA

## **Xi Alpha Alpha**

Natchitoches, LA

# LA UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTERS

## **Alpha Delta Delta**

Ruston, LA

Louisiana Tech University

## **Alpha Delta Epsilon**

Hammond, LA

Southeastern Louisiana University

## **Alpha Delta Omicron**

Shreveport, LA

Louisiana State University-Shreveport

## **Alpha Lambda**

New Orleans, LA

Southern University-New Orleans

## **Beta Sigma**

Baton Rouge, LA

Southern University

## **Omega Kappa**

Thibodaux, LA

Nicholls State University

## **Rho Beta**

Lake Charles, LA

McNeese State University

## **Theta Delta**

Natchitoches, LA

Northwestern State University

## **Theta Kappa**

Baton Rouge, LA

Louisiana State University

## **Gamma Delta**

Lafayette, LA

University of Louisiana-Lafayette

## **Gamma Gamma**

Grambling, LA

Grambling State University

## **Mu Lambda**

Monroe, LA

University of Louisiana-Monroe

## **Theta Mu**

New Orleans, LA

University of New Orleans

## **Theta Sigma**

New Orleans, LA

Dillard University

## **Xi Sigma**

New Orleans, LA

Xavier University

## Lambda Kappa Kappa Chapter Conducts the "Well-Prepared Program" in the Capital City of Baton Rouge

by Bro. Brice Bates

On September 24, 2022 the men of Lambda Kappa Kappa, a graduate chapter located in Baton Rouge, La, hosted a health initiative event titled "Well-Prepared Program". They were 1 of 5 chapters in the fraternity (2 of which are located in the 9th District) to be selected to participate in phase 2 of the program. A total of 10 chapters in the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity have had the privilege of conducting this program for their community, 5 chapters in phase 1 and 5 currently in phase 2. The program is centered around teaching modules on Physical Fitness and Nutrition to students in 3rd - 6th grade and their parents. The aim of the program is to create awareness while educating both parents and students on enlightening information to encourage the creation of better nutritional habits and promote more involvement in healthy physical fitness activities. The Program was led by brother Vice Basileus Brandon Miles and Committee Chairman Derek Wells who also taught the kids modules and had them fully engaged in both the interactive and training portions of the event. Members of the Lambda Kappa Kappa graduate chapter as well as our undergraduate brothers of the Theta Kappa chapter assisted children as they engaged in the program as well as with the parents of the children. Everyone was provided nutritional snacks and Chic-fil-a for refreshments as the program came to a close. They were also able to set a new standard by being the first chapter to complete the entire program in a day. Overall this turned out to be a great event and reminded our community members that the men of the Lambda Kappa Kappa Chapter are dedicated to service and are constantly committed to making a greater impact in all that we do as members of the great Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.





## Mentorship at University Terrace Elementary School by Bro. Safiyy Raof

The Brothers of the Lambda Alpha Chapter visited University Terrace Elementary School on 12/12/22 to give away books to the entire school through our Reading is Fundamental program. The Chapter has adopted seven schools in the Baton Rouge area. Reading is Fundamental is committed to a literate America by inspiring a passion for reading among all children, providing quality content to make an impact and engaging communities in the solution to give every child the fundamentals for success.





## Oklahoma State Ques Association Executive Council

**State President:** Bro. Ulysses Allen

**1st Vice President:** Bro. Michael Forrest

**2nd Vice President:** Bro. Marshall Cry

**State Treasurer:** Bro. John D. Veal

**State Chaplin:** Bro. Terry Benjamin

## OK GRADUATE CHAPTERS

### **Eta Iota**

Oklahoma City, OK

### **Gamma Mu Mu**

Stillwater, OK

### **Phi Pi**

Muskegee, OK

### **Psi Upsilon**

Lawton, OK

### **Upsilon Iota**

Langston, OK

### **Xi Omega**

Tulsa, OK

## OK UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTERS

### **Kappa Zeta**

Durant, OK

Southeastern Oklahoma State University

### **Omicron Lambda**

Stillwater, OK

Oklahoma State University

### **Phi Psi**

Langston, OK

Langston University

### **Pi Delta**

Norman, OK

University of Oklahoma

### **Sigma Kappa**

Edmond, OK

University of Central Oklahoma



## Fall Activities

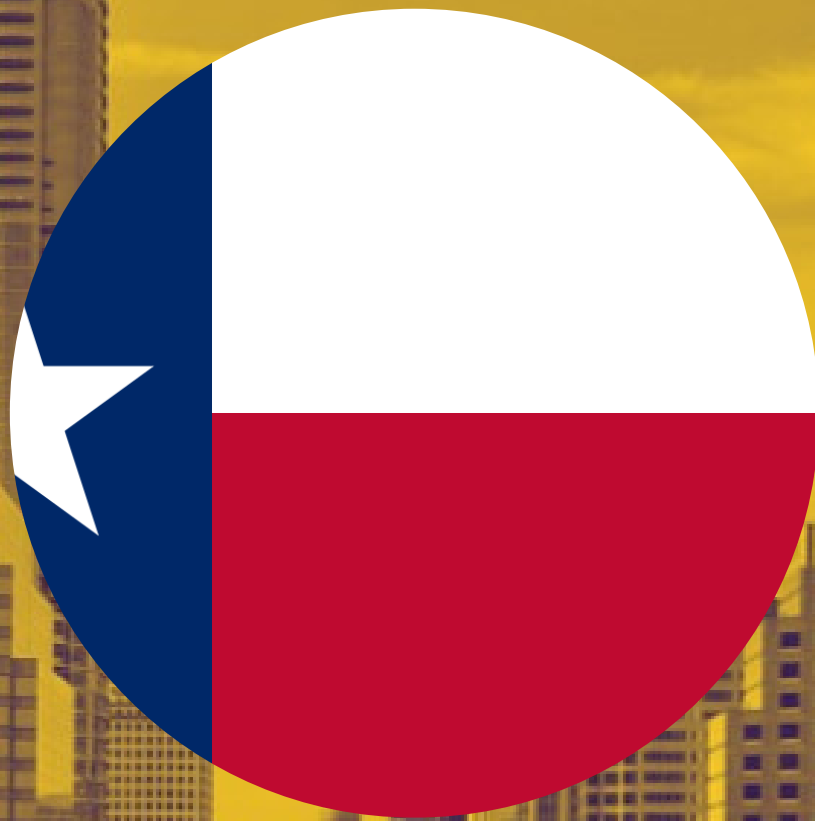
By: Bro. Elton Skyes, Xi Omega Chapter, Tulsa, Oklahoma

The Xi Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. has been busy this fall with several events such as:

AKA Breast Cancer Walk - The Ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Alpha Chi Omega Chapter, held the Twentieth (22th) Annual Breast Cancer Awareness W.A.L.K. and Health Fair. This event focuses on community awareness and the importance of early diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer. It was great time and fellowship to remember those who were lost to Cancer and those who are survivors. This event was a blessing.

Partnered with Oasis Grocery Store - The purpose was to give out candy for Halloween. Xi Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. and other Divine 9 organizations help pass out over 1,000 pieces of candy and memories kids will have for a lifetime. The chapter donated money to 2 local churches for their youth programs. Metropolitan Baptist Church and Friendship Baptist Church received 250 dollar checks from Xi Omega to help fund youth initiatives in their respective churches. Over the Fall months Xi Omega chapter continued its service to the Tulsa community and Duty to ensure the Tulsa community continues to improve for the betterment of its citizens.





## Lone Star State Ques Executive Council

**State President:** Bertrand Simmons

**1st Vice President:** Bro. Antonio Brown

**2nd Vice President:** Bro. Willie Henderson

**State Secretary:** Bro. Kevin Randolph

**State Treasurer:** Bro. Charles Lovelace

**State Chaplin:** Bro. Rev. Ernest Brown

**State Parliamentarian:** Bro. Glen Gowans

**Immediate Past State President:** Bro. John Cooper

# TX GRADUATE CHAPTERS

Nu Phi - Houston, TX  
Epsilon Alpha - Fort Worth, TX  
Theta Alpha - Dallas, TX  
Psi Alpha - San Antonio, TX  
Epsilon Iota - Austin, TX  
Nu Iota - Marshall, TX  
Delta Omicron - Beaumont, TX  
Epsilon Omicron - Wichita Falls, TX  
Sigma Omicron - Tyler, TX  
Theta Upsilon - Texarkana, TX  
Xi Upsilon - Port Arthur, TX  
Omicron Upsilon - Waco, TX  
Pi Upsilon - Hawkins, TX  
Gamma Chi - Corpus Christi, TX  
Eta Chi - Longview, TX  
Theta Chi - Missouri City, TX  
Mu Gamma - Irving, TX

Lambda Chi - Amarillo, TX  
Epsilon Tau - Lubbock, TX  
Sigma Tau - El Paso, TX  
Iota Rho - Odessa, TX  
Rho Nu - Galveston, TX  
Omicron Pi - Killeen, TX  
Delta Xi - Rowlett, TX  
Rho Xi - Freeport, TX  
Rho Beta Beta - Houston, TX  
Omicron Gamma Gamma - Arlington, TX  
Alpha Iota Iota - Dallas, TX  
Eta Kappa Kappa - Lufkin, TX  
Eta Lambda Lambda - Red Oak, TX  
Alpha Mu Mu - College Station, TX  
Eta Mu Mu - Denton, TX  
Mu Mu Nu - Conroe, TX  
Omicron Nu Nu - Round Rock, TX

# TX UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTERS

Theta - Marshall, TX - Wiley College  
Alpha Psi - Austin, TX - Huston-Tillotson University  
Sigma Sigma - Tyler, TX - Texas College  
Tau Epsilon - Houston, TX - Texas Southern University  
Phi Gamma - Denton, TX - University of North Texas  
Omega Gamma - Canyon, TX - West Texas State University  
Eta Theta - Austin, TX - University of Texas at Austin  
Theta Theta - Commerce, TX - Texas A&M Commerce University  
Rho Theta - Prairie View, TX - Prairie View A&M University  
Upsilon Theta - Beaumont, TX - Lamar University  
Omega Theta - Houston, TX - University of Houston  
Mu Beta - Arlington, TX - University of Texas-Arlington  
Phi Beta - Hawkins, TX - Jarvis Christian College  
Omega Beta - Nacogdoches, TX - Stephen F. Austin

Alpha Delta - Dallas, TX - Dallas Baptist College  
Xi Delta - San Antonio, TX - Texas State University  
Rho Delta - Kingsville, TX - Texas A&I University  
Zeta Eta - Waco, TX - Paul Quinn College  
Xi Eta - Lubbock, TX - Texas Tech University  
Nu Kappa - Dallas, TX - Southern Methodist University  
Pi Lambda - El Paso, TX - University of Texas-El Paso  
Sigma Lambda - Fort Worth, TX - Texas Christian University  
Eta Mu - Huntsville, TX - Sam Houston State University  
Nu Delta Delta - College Station, TX - Texas A&M University  
Chi Delta Delta - Waco, TX - Baylor University  
Alpha Delta Lambda - San Antonio, TX - University of Texas at San Antonio

# LONE STAR STATE CHARTERS NEW CHAPTER

BY JAVI LEWIS



Chartered on June 17, 2022, Omicron Nu Nu continues its celebration by dwelling in unity with the brothers of Texas at the Lone Star State Picnic. The ONN Ques recently celebrated their chartering weekend during Juneteenth festivities hosted by the city of Round Rock, Texas some social action events included a Voter Registration drive, Scholarship giveaway, career fair, and community engagement for this historical occasion.

As a member organization of LSSQ, Omicron Nu Nu strives to continue the overall mission of the Lone Star State Ques of educating, training, and preparing future leaders for leadership roles within the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. at all levels.

Our chapter mission is to effectively impact the lives of families in Round Rock and Williamson County by developing effective scholarship attainment systems and partnership networks to mentor learners of all ages, offer substantial scholarship opportunities, provide connections to career advancements, and connect to volunteer services that bridge social and economic mobility gaps.



# THETA CHAPTER CELEBRATES CENTENNIAL

BY ERICK WILEY



On December 17, 2022, at 9 a.m., men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. gathered in ceremony to honor the Centennial milestone of Mother Theta Chapter (chartered Dec. 17, 1922) at Wiley College. The history of Theta and it's initiated runs long and deep as it can be traced back to 1919 when first chartered at the University of California. However, it's richness can be glimpsed in the eyes of young boys growing up to become Omega men after being impacted by the community outreach efforts collegiate Omega men in Marshall, Texas. Its joy can be found in feeding the homeless and providing Thanksgiving meals to underprivileged families. Its compassion is seen in caring for the elderly Similarly, the wisdom of Theta can be found in the words of 97-year-old man of Omega that remembers the hope of friendship glowing in the eyes of strangers that became lifelong friends.

Among those in attendance was Keynote Speaker, Brother Harold Bailey (33rd Mighty 9th District Representative), Brother Willie "Mercenary" Hinchin (former 9th District Representative), and Brother David "Petro" Washington (former 9th District KRS), and our oldest living chapter member, Brother London Wilson (Theta 1948). At the outset of the ceremony, brother Wilson shared his joy of being amongst brothers and friends while uplifting those of us in attendance to live a life based on a foundation of love and friendship. His words of encouragement resonated with those in attendance as they echoed his sentiments on life and love in service to Omega.

In commitment to the life of service we have taken during our walk in Omega, we are oftentimes blessed to witness historical moments that intersect with our own strides toward greatness. While seeking to uplift our communities, our families, our brothers, and friends; these are the moments where the value of our beloved fraternity shines most bright. The truth of this is not always documented in history books but rather etched in the hearts and minds of people touched by men of Omega daily. Our respective chapters both graduate and undergraduate alike serve as a depot station of service agents. Men that are committed to enhancing the reach of Omega with collective efforts designed to amplify the fact that our best resources are the people in our lives and the bonds we have established. The brothers of Mother Theta continue to walk in this purpose with the ever-present reminder that the value of our fraternity is not in numbers, but in real men of Omega.



## **Mental Illness: The Tough Discussion**

**By: Bro. Marcus McCoy, Sigma Tau Chapter, El Paso, Texas**

Brothers of the Mighty 9th District, we have lost one too many of our beloved brothers to the fight against mental illness. Please make no mistake about it; it is indeed a fight. Often there is a negative stigma attached to mental illness, especially when it comes to men. Many of us are ashamed to admit we are dealing with something. There is a fear associated with vulnerability. It makes some of us feel helpless, and so we shy away. What can we do to eliminate this stigma and ensure we do everything possible to get our brothers the help they need? It starts by recognizing that there may be an issue with your or your brother's mental state of mind. Next, we should identify the resources and services accessible to combat the problem/issues. Lastly, the individual should receive continuous treatment from licensed/certified mental health professionals. Other options include holistic approaches, meditation, venting to a fellow brother or friend, or support groups, among other possibilities.

We must all realize that this process is an ongoing evolution and treat it as such. Everyone does not respond to treatment the same. The most important part is getting the help that is warranted. We often say, "brother, you're on my mind." We as a brotherhood must continue to put this phrase into action and not allow it to be a phrase simply. We know friends and brothers who are or have been suffering in silence. You are not alone in this battle. We stand with you shoulder to shoulder and will be with you every step of the way. Your joys will be our joys, and your sorrows will be our sorrows. Always remember that "Friendship is Essential to the Soul."

Resources: <https://www.nami.org/Home>  
<https://www.va.gov/health-care/health-needs-conditions/mental-health/>  
<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/find-help>  
<https://nicic.gov/national-suicide-prevention-lifeline>  
<https://www.cdc.gov/suicide/index.html>  
<https://taskandpurpose.com/military-life/truth-22-veteran-suicides-day/>  
[https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/nchs\\_press\\_releases/2022/20220930.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/nchs_press_releases/2022/20220930.htm)  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6109884/>  
[www.988lifeline.org](http://www.988lifeline.org)  
[www.samha.gov](http://www.samha.gov)  
<https://mhanational.org>  
[www.mentalhealth.gov](http://www.mentalhealth.gov)  
[www.militaryonesource.mil](http://www.militaryonesource.mil)  
[www.mentalhelp.net](http://www.mentalhelp.net)  
[www.helpguide.org](http://www.helpguide.org)

## Field Day with Friends

By Bro. Larry Johnson

The Men on Alpha Iota Iota chapter solidify their presence at Rasor Elementary in Plano, Texas, with the second volunteer effort of the school year. This event was the beloved Field Day. The entire school experienced a full day of activities led by the staff and seventeen Omega men. Split into two morning sections (K-2nd) 8:30am-10:30 and (3rd-5th) 12:05pm-2:05pm, the activity stations were Sponge Relays, Hippity Hop, Heisman Race, Sack Race, Obstacle Course, Tug-O-war, Wet Newcomb, Star Wars, Cone Flip Relay, and Make It take. A wide range of brothers participated from '61 to the newest brothers of Spring '22! Along with providing the service, The North Dallas Ques also donated 30 cases of bottled water!





## Epsilon Alpha Chapter celebrates 90 years of service to Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

By Bro. Brandon Kitchin, Fort Worth, TX

On October 1, 2022, the Brothers of Epsilon Alpha Chapter, Ninth District of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. celebrated 90 years of service to the city of Fort Worth, TX.

Epsilon Alpha Chapter was chartered October 1, 1932, under the direction of Brother William C. Paul, 5th Ninth District Representative (1931-1933). It is the oldest chapter in the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) Metroplex.

To commemorate the milestone celebration, Epsilon Alpha hosted a series of events including a cigar lounge fellowship, golf tournament, volunteering at Tarrant County Food Bank, a community cookout, and attending worship service at a local church. The highlight event occurring the evening before the 90th was the scholarship fundraising banquet featuring several distinguished guests and special moments.

In theme with Epsilon Alpha's moniker, "the Cornerstone Ques", Ninth District Representative Bro. Harold Bailey spoke on the significance and symbolism behind the cornerstone when used during the process of construction as it is the first stone set in a structure. Before it is placed, it is carefully evaluated both on its own and in relation to what is to come around it, ensuring proper alignment and stability when the building is complete. Bro. Bailey likened the metaphor to Epsilon Alpha being the foundational start of Omega's presence within DFW that provided the opportunity for growth in surrounding areas to occur in the form of other chapters.

The keynote address was provided by Grand Counselor Bro. Clement Osimetha, who gave a passionate and moving speech reflecting on how far Fort Worth has evolved in 90 years. He challenged the audience to consider the past; recognizing the efforts of those brothers who established the charter in an era of the city that was deeply segregated and hostile toward African-Americans, and how we, benefit today from their bravery and collective leadership.

In attendance was Loraine Lee, widow of 38th Grand Basileus Bro. Dr. Warren G. Lee Jr. She was presented with the chapter's resolution following her husband's entrance into Omega Chapter on July 18, 2022. A special tribute and standing ovation was given to Bro. "Judge" L. Clifford Davis. Initiated through Tau Chapter in Spring 1947, Bro. Davis celebrated his 75th anniversary in the fraternity this year and is an active and financial brother in Epsilon Alpha at the age of 98. Bro. Davis was one of the first two Black lawyers in Fort Worth; two notable lawsuits he filed were the cases that ultimately led to the desegregation of both Fort Worth and Mansfield school districts. He also assisted Thurgood Marshall in the landmark case *Brown v. Board of Education*. As Epsilon Alpha looks to the future of serving its community and surrounding areas, the chapter does so with the desire of being a positive influence to all and showcasing service and leadership lead by our four Cardinal Principles: Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.





## **Recognizing Bro. L. Clifford Davis on 75 Years in Omega**

**Written by: Bro. Brandon Kitchin, Fort Worth, Texas**

Bro. L. Clifford Davis (Fall 1947, Tau Chapter) received his Service Award from the fraternity for 75 years in the Fraternity during the Ninth District Meeting held in Dallas, TX on Friday, April 29, 2022. Bro. Davis is currently an active member of the Epsilon Alpha chapter in Fort Worth, Texas; he is 97 years old. During Day 1's first plenary session, Ninth District Representative, Harold Bailey, suspended his report for several minutes to recognize Bro. Davis upon his arrival into the conference room. Bro. Davis was brought to the Sheraton Hotel and escorted to the front of the conference room by fellow brothers from Epsilon Alpha.

During his recognition, Bro. Davis received an honorary plaque as well as a standing ovation from the constituency of brothers in attendance. Bro. Davis then stood before the brothers to express his gratitude on being recognized as well as what it meant to him to be amongst so many brothers. Bro. Davis spoke about his fraternal career and the importance of remaining active and involved in Omega, as he stated that he has attended at least 80% of all chapter, District and Conclave meetings during his 75 years in the Fraternity.

Prior to his recognition at the Ninth District Meeting, Bro. Davis received a celebration hosted by his Epsilon Alpha brother in a night of fellowship at Cigar International in Fort Worth on March 8th. Bro. Davis thoroughly enjoyed himself and was quoted as saying he has "enjoyed the taste of a good cigar since the age of 14 and he would have liked nothing more than to puff on one around his brothers and friends."

We applaud Bro. Davis for your commitment to Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Thank you for being an inspiration to countless brothers over your decades of service!

# Paq'd Lunch Grocery Giveaway

By Bro. Walter Hunt

Leading up to Thanksgiving 2022, the Rho Beta Beta Chapter held their 3rd annual Paq'd Lunch Thanksgiving Grocery Giveaway. While it has been said many times before, it was never more apparent during this community service project that we can't beat God Giving. As you can imagine, the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, the grocery stores were packed with last-minute shoppers looking for those ever-important items still needed to cross off their grocery list for their upcoming Thanksgiving feast. Well, on Wednesday, November 23, 2022, those last-minute shoppers in southeast Houston received a surprise they won't soon forget! Their groceries were completely paid for by the Rho Beta Beta Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

This year's Grocery Giveaway held an ambitious goal, which was to raise at least \$2,000 more than the \$5,000 raised the previous year. Let's just say, the mission was accomplished as the brothers raised over \$7,500 to be used in the Grocery Giveaway. The monetary donations afforded the fraternity the opportunity to bless numerous families with the gift of covering the cost of shopper's groceries in preparation for Thanksgiving. One recipient said it best, "To be blessed to have this happen to me, and someday, I hope to turn around and give this to someone else. This is just amazing!" While the fraternity gave away \$7,500 in groceries for Thanksgiving, we're definitely not stopping there. We plan to do this again before the Christmas holidays. In all, we hope to give away more than \$25,000 in groceries and gifts to families in need.





## **Shekinah Project – Thanksgiving Edition** **By Bro. Walter Hunt**

On Monday, November 21, 2022, the Rho Beta Beta Chapter held its 12th Annual Shekinah Project - Thanksgiving Addition. This event amounted to a rewarding evening of fellowship and service with brothers and sisters from other Divine 9 organizations, that benefited several families in the greater Houston area. In total, over 100 volunteers assisted to help make sure this two-day initiative was a success. On Monday, November 21, 2022, volunteers assisted to ensure that Thanksgiving dinner was provided for approximately 181 families.

On Tuesday, November 22, 2022, additional volunteers provided those less fortunate with gift cards to be used at specific dining locations in the greater Houston area. The gift cards allowed those families an opportunity to still be blessed with a hot meal despite their current financial hardship. The Shekinah Project has always been considered a family affair, and this year was no different! Husband and wife duos assisted, accompanied by their children, all intent on serving their community and being a blessing to others. We are serious about servicing our community as evidenced by the turnout of those in attendance and the meals provided. This Thanksgiving will be a memorable one for several families in the greater Houston area courtesy of the Rho Beta Beta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

## Delta Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Food Drive

By Bro. Steven Singleton, Sr.

Dallas, TX- The Delta Xi Chapter held their Achievement Week Turkey Roundup on November 15, 2022 by providing turkeys and can goods to the Head Start of Greater Dallas, TX. The mission of the Head Start School is to provide children with the foundation of skills and knowledge they need to be successful in school and life, and to foster self-reliant families and communities. This is the 4th year Delta Xi has supported the families who receive a variety of assistance at the Head Start School. Brother Willie Reed worked with his planning committee to ensure this occasion was organized to meet the subsistence needs of immediate families. The chapter brothers collected 30 turkeys and several cases of can goods to fulfill a wonderful Thanksgiving meal.

Ms. Rhonda Daniels, School Administrator, thanked the brothers for continuing to support this small community, which is often overlooked. One of Delta Xi's chapter goals is to evolve the program into a dual purpose program, where brothers can mentor young men, provide life skills that will help them prepare for sustainable employment and financial independence. A big thank you to the brothers of Delta Xi Chapter for making this community service project impactful and life changing.

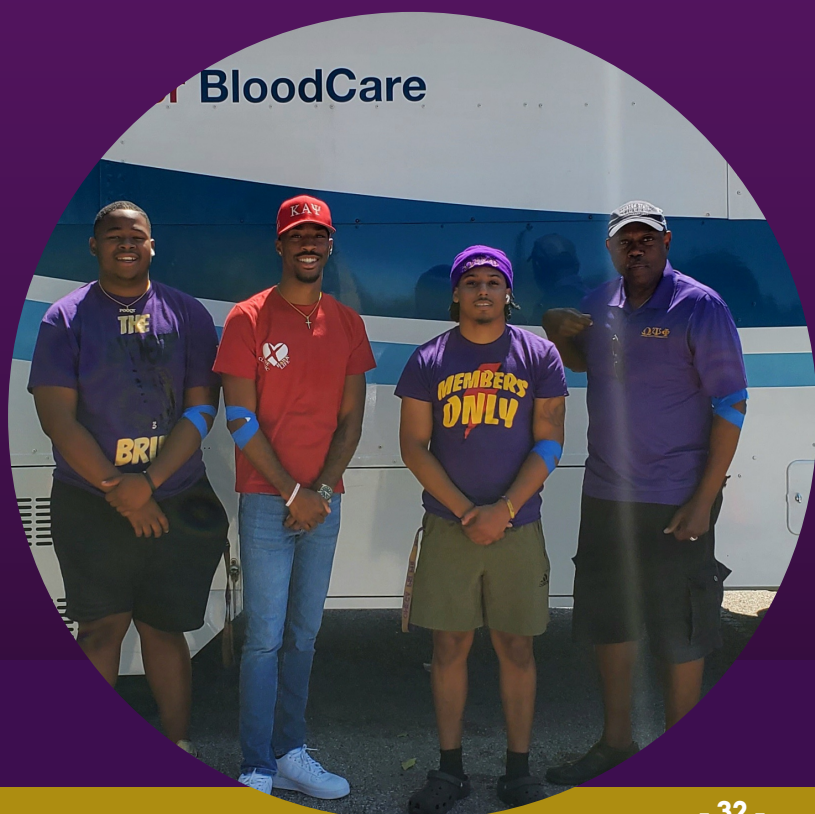


## Brothers Meet Community Need with Charles R. Drew Blood Drive By Bro. Steven Singleton, Sr.

Dallas, TX- On September 13, 2022, the Brothers of Delta Xi Chapter, in partnership with the Brothers of Theta-Theta Chapter (Greenville, TX) of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., held their second blood drive of 2022. Every day, blood donors help patients of all ages: accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer. Getting blood donors to show up and participate can be a challenge. "What's in it for me?" is often a phrase coined when asking someone to participate, even when it comes to saving lives.

On the Campus of Texas A&M Commerce, Greenville, TX, as an incentive to increase participation, Delta Xi Chapter offered a cash prize for the first and second place organization that donated the most units of blood. Additionally, Theta-Theta Chapter brothers displayed their devotion to the cause by hustling through the student union recruiting potential donors. With a time limit of 2 hours, Carter BloodCare (a 501 nonprofit organization that operates in approximately 50 Texas counties), collected 16 units of blood to add to their general supply for the purpose of responding to a specific shortage or emergency.

In addition to the Texas A&M Commerce blood drive, during the spring of 2022, Delta Xi held a blood drive on the campus of Southern Methodist University (SMU), Dallas, TX, where they collected 28 units of blood, giving the chapter a total of 44 units for year 2022.





## Brothers Serve at Pancake Breakfast and Distribute Backpack Kits By Bro. Steven Singleton, Sr.

Dallas, TX- On August 13, 2022, the Brothers of Delta Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., kicked off their annual school supply kit drive by hosting a pancake breakfast for students and staff members of Open Hearts Children and Family Services, headquartered in McKinney, TX. Delta Xi Chapter partnered with Buckner International to donate 40 Mesh backpack kits complete with: writing paper, spiral notebooks, pens, pencils, glue and glue sticks, rulers, crayons and other essential items for elementary students. Hosting this annual event at Apple Bee's allowed chapter members to interact with the children and provide professional and educational wisdom for these future stars of our great country.

Open Hearts Children and Family Services provides child welfare and social assistant service to the ever-growing foster care crisis. Ms. Gayun Matthews, Executive Director of Open Hearts Children and Family Services said, "Wow, we've been doing this with the Omega's of Delta Xi Chapter almost as long as this agency has existed. You guys have been there with us through the pandemic, to include giving care packs that provided food to our families. Delta Xi has been instrumental in helping us provide a safe and loving home for our families."

Over 60 participants, including 22 chapter brothers, attended this event and gave rave reviews. A huge thank you to all our members and donors who supported the chapter in making the Backpack Community Service project a huge success! As a future project, the brothers of Delta Xi Chapter will travel to Tyler, TX, another location for Open Hearts Children and Family Services, to purchase and install two basketball goals for youth recreation.





**Mu Mu Nu and Bridge Builder Charity Foundation Honor Top Scholars at Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony**

**By Jeffrey L. Boney**

The Bridge Builder Charity Foundation (BBCF) recently held its annual BBCF Scholarship Ceremony, in partnership with the Mu Mu Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

The organization selected 16 outstanding BBCF scholarship recipients and provided Mu Mu Nu scholarship awards to high school graduates who represent Omega’s Cardinal Principle of SCHOLARSHIP, as all BBCF scholarship recipients have a combined 3.87 Grade Point Average!

**Here is a list of the Scholarship Recipients:**

**Bridge Builder Award**

Zion Alexander

**Inaugural Bennie Isabell Scholarship**

- Vintrent Brisby
- Madison Brown
- Kennedy Colen
- James Darden III
- Joshua Davis
- Lynton Edwards
- Samaria Gaul
- Taylor Howard
- Malcolm Hubbard Jr.
- Kyli Ervin
- Daniel Montanez
- MacKenzie Morgan
- Sydney Snipes
- Gavin Tolbert
- Lauren Williams

**Mu Mu Nu Chapter Award**

- Vintrent Brisby
- Kyli Ervin
- Samaria Gaul
- Taylor Howard
- Malcolm Hubbard Jr.
- Daylon Manuel
- MacKenzie Morgan
- Israel Scott
- Aayren Thomas

**Omega Gents Award**

- Malcolm Hubbard Jr.
- Daylon Manuel
- Aayren Thomas
- Delrick Williams

## Mu Mu Nu and Omega Gents Mentees Team Up to Host Blood Drive to Save Lives

By Jeffrey L. Boney

Blood is a Gift of Life and Donating Blood is an opportunity to Save of a Life.

On Saturday, June 11th, the Mu Mu Nu Chapter partnered and participated in the 2022 Charles R. Drew Blood Drive to do just that—Donate Blood and Save Lives.

The Houston Coalition of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. gave the responsibility of hosting a blood drive to the Mu Mu Nu Chapter, and the chapter's Health Initiative Committee planned, organized, and facilitated a worthy and successful event.

At the end of the day 37 brothers of Mu Mu Nu came out to work, along with 17 members of Mu Mu Nu's Omega Gents mentoring program who participated as well. Citizens from the community came out to donate blood, along with some parents of Omega Gents participants and a couple of age-appropriate Omega Gents.

The biggest achievement of the effort was facilitating the collection of 28 pints of blood from a total of 30 donors, which was higher than the goal of 10 donors that was anticipated.

Thanks to all that came out and supported this community service health initiative that is aligned with one of our fraternity's mandated programs.



## Charter Celebration

Written By: Scott L. Earle, Sr.

This year Psi Alpha celebrated it's 82 years of serving the Alamo City differently than we have done in the past. The Chapter held several events leading up to November 1. The festivities started on October 25th when the Chapter had two Proclamations presented by Bexar County Commissioner Judge Nelson Wolff, one Proclamation was for Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated celebrating 111 years as an organization, and the second Proclamation was for Psi Alpha Chapter celebrating 82 years as a Chapter. He read the proclamation about Psi Alpha and then spoke about how Charter Brother, Valmo Bellinger assisted with his first win in politics. He spoke proudly of his relationships with the Bellinger family. Judge Wolff is one of two men to have the distinction of being the Mayor of San Antonio and the Bexar County Commissioner.

On October 26 we had the pleasure of being recognized by Communities in Schools for being the top Group donor for Stuff the Bus. We were the only organization that was not a corporation in the top 10 in donations. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated, Psi Alpha Chapter - "The Alamo City Ques" have been assisting Communities in Schools of San Antonio annual Stuff the Bus School Supply Drive for over 15 years providing free school supplies to thousands of underserved students and families throughout the school year. This is a great effort we see firsthand as we mentor throughout the city and every little bit helps! Our organization raised \$6800.00 among less than half of our 220 members which is very special. What does \$6,800.00 mean to a school district? Rogers Middle School hosted the event and showed us where the donations are utilized. The school administration and Community in Schools site coordinator explained that the supplies and cash that each coordinator receives enables a student to have all the tools needed to succeed. Many of our member assumed it was just a backpack and a few pens but seeing the computers, earbuds, deodorant, and other items each student received educated us a great deal. We are one of the longest tenured organizations with Communities in Schools and hearing from teachers and administration who state that giving through Communities in Schools assists them better than us giving to them through the schools as a discretionary donation was great to hear.

On October 29th the Chapter headed to the Westside of the city to assist at the San Antonio Food Bank. The San Antonio Food Bank takes pride in fighting hunger, feeding hope in the 29-county service area. They believe that no child should go to bed hungry, adults should not have to choose between a hot meal and utilities, nor a senior sacrifice medical care for the sake of a meal. Founded in 1980, The San Antonio Food Bank has quickly grown to serve 100,000 individuals a week in one of the largest service areas in Texas. Their focus is for clients to have food for today but to also have the resources to be self-sufficient in the future.

Fighting hunger is their number one priority but they also serve to educate and aid in many other ways. They achieve this through our variety of programs and resources available to families, individuals, seniors, children, and military members in need. Today's work by Psi Alpha assisted thousands having items they would not have had without the South Texas Food Bank and volunteers such as ourselves.

On October 30th Brothers Jamal Hasty and Kevin Grant hosted us at their church for Sunday service. Life Point Church under the leadership of Pastor Danny Rivers hosted the Chapter to a beautiful service and the sermon "If Money Talked" resonated with all of us. Following service, we ate brunch with our families and it was a beautiful time spent by all in attendance.

On October 31st we set aside time to visit the graves of 6 of the 8 Charter members laid to rest in the Alamo City. The Chapter ensures all graves in the city have been adorned with flowers. All locations are shared with the Chapter members to visit, and times are set aside at each cemetery. Two Charter members, Brother Dr. William V. Hurd DDS and Brother Valmo Charles Bellinger are buried at Eastview Cemetery. Two Charter members, Brother Dr. Madison L. Preacher, and Brother Ernest M. Foxx are both interned at Sunset Memorial Park in the same area of mausoleums. The remaining 2 Charter members, Brother George P. Inge Jr., and Brother Joseph P. Chretien Jr. are buried at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.

This is a great tradition I hope the Chapter continues. It is important to know whence you came. The poet James Arthur Baldwin stated: "Know from whence you came. If you know whence you came, there are absolutely no limitations to where you can go". As November 1 creeps closer I hoped the reflection had begun within our minds and souls. We must look back and reflect on our proud pasts. We have 6 of our 8 Charter Brothers buried in San Antonio and the other 2 out of state and October 31st is set aside to honor their memories.

Later that evening the brothers not participating with Halloween met to watch Monday Night Football. Four9 Cigars is an Omega Brother owned business, they regularly arrange various events, meetings, and special private events such as cigar samplings, pre-event parties, and other Member only events. Members are also able to rent out the lounge for special and private events. The classy venue was just the place needed to unwind after a hard day.

November 1, 2022, marked 82 years of service to the Alamo City by Psi Alpha Chapter. Over 100 Brothers met at the Psi Alpha Chapter Fraternity House to celebrate this momentous occasion. The fellowship was genuine and after being locked up since COVID-19 shut down events like this it was great to see and be seen by so many of your friends. From our humble beginnings we are now a Chapter of close to 200 financial members. San Antonio is a Chapter influenced by the large active duty and retired military who reside in our city.

These 8 Great Men who chartered our Chapter, they did not find or found anything. So many articles call them our "Founders", but Omega Psi Phi only has 4 Founders and countless others who have Chartered Chapters, but they did not find anything. In 1940, eight professional men from varied careers ranging from 4 educators, a dentist, a civil servant, a physician, and a businessman who had become members of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated during their college years, decided that the time was right to form a Graduate Chapter here in the City of San Antonio. They were as young as 24 years of age to as old as 49 years of age. They all had attended historically Black Colleges and University's (HBCU's) due to segregation in the United States at this time in history. Some were raised in San Antonio, some from other cities in the state of Texas, one from Georgia, and one from Virginia. Two were Veterans of WWI and one went on to serve in WW II after the Chapter was chartered. After compiling all the necessary information, paperwork and complying with the National Body's Guidelines, the Local Chapter was chartered by the Supreme Council of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated on November 1, 1940, and given the name of Psi Alpha. "Long Live the Alamo City Ques!"

### Charter Members of Psi Alpha Chapter

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Dr. William Virgil Hurd DDS 1894-1961 WWI - Ω                | Fort Des Moines War Chapter/Delta Chapter 1917       |
| Valmo Bellinger Businessman and Editor 1899-1994 - Ω         | Beta Chapter, Lincoln University 1922                |
| Ernest M. Foxx Educator 1906-1995 - Ω                        | Theta Chapter, Wiley College 1926                    |
| Dr. Madison L. Preacher Physician and Business 1904-1982 Ω   | Eta Psi, Fisk University 1926                        |
| Samuel D. Kane Educator/Principal 1908-1984 - Ω 1st Basileus | Theta Chapter, Wiley College 1928                    |
| G.P. Inge Jr. Educator/Principal 1891-1973 WWI - Ω           | Sigma Psi, Samuel Huston College 1932 per the Oracle |
| Joseph P. Chretien Civil Servant 1916 - 1989 WWII - Ω        | Theta Chapter, Wiley College 1935                    |
| Dr. (PhD) Richard D. Kidd Professor and Dean- 1913-1973 - Ω  | Alpha Alpha 1933-1935                                |





**"The Bellinger Legacy"**  
**Written By: Scott L. Earle, Sr.**

Although many drive down the street in San Antonio named after the Bellinger's their legacy is being forgotten. There are many dynasties in American culture. San Antonio had a family that were millionaires in the early 1900s. 35 years after slavery a black family was on their way to being one of the richest families in the Alamo City regardless. Whenever you're riding on New Braunfels on the Eastside of San Antonio look at Greater Corinth Baptist Church, this huge gated building and all its land was the residence of the Bellinger family.

Charles Valmo Bellinger Sr.- The patriarch from Lockhart, Texas was the unofficial "Black Mayor" of San Antonio who came here on his way to Nevada to gamble and decided to stay after winning so much money and opened a great deal of businesses. Let's bring this into perspective: it is 1906, and this young black man at the age of 21 (born and raised in the South shortly after slavery ended) is a business owner. He expanded his activities to include: a pool hall, a cafe, a cab company, a Real Estate and Construction Company, a theater, a barbershop, a private lending service for Blacks, a lottery, and a bootlegging operation that operated during Prohibition. Bellinger Sr. was known more as a political party boss than any of his legal and illegal businesses.

Charles Valmo Bellinger Jr.- Valmo took over all his father's businesses in 1932 and was a Political Party Boss until 1972. He went to Harvard after prep school in Minnesota then graduated from Lincoln and started law school at Penn but left early to take over the family business. Although he continued his family's legacy in politics he is known for the San Antonio Register. Founded by Valmo, the paper began printing in 1931, running without interruption for 47 years. Though its initial goal was preserving the political influence of Bellinger's father, the paper later focused on local, state, and national news of specific concern to San Antonio's African-American community. The archive consisted of 22,000 issues and offered an almost complete run of issues from 1945 to 1978. If you ever have a chance to look over these archives, the Black History of South Texas is remarkable.

Harry Middleton Bellinger - 19 years younger than Valmo, Harry went to Wheatley High School graduating at 16, and then went to Wiley College graduating in 3 years, graduating at 19. After Wiley he followed his brother's path to the prestigious University of Pennsylvania and entered the Wharton School of Business, he could not attend Graduate school in Texas because blacks could not attend the major White Colleges in Texas at this time in history. Harry attended Wharton from 1939-1941 and received his MBA and tested for and passed his CPA. Harry was the first black graduate with an MBA from Wharton. It was a huge accomplishment that a young man 22 years of age from the segregated South who attended an all-black high school, an all-black college, and was shunned by white schools in Texas would accomplish what he did at a premier Ivy League school. After these accomplishments, he could have easily gone into the Accounting and Business field but decided to attend the same law school his brother had attended at the University of Pennsylvania.

In 1945 he became the first black to graduate the law school at Penn and passed the Texas State Bar immediately after graduation. At the age of 26, he had his Law degree, MBA, CPA, and was certified by the Texas Bar. From 1945 until 1991 he practiced law at his own practice in San Antonio, Texas. During the late 40s throughout the 1950s, Harry was active in Civil Rights cases and was the legal counsel for the San Antonio Chapter of the NAACP. While serving in this role Harry was the lead attorney in the Wendell Sweatt case which involved the legality of Blacks not being admitted to state-funded universities. His brother Valmo supported the creation of Texas Southern University, but also aided the Sweatt case that desegregated Texas public colleges and universities. Texas Southern as we know it today was created when Sweatt sued the University of Texas law school. The state had no law school for African Americans, and in an attempt to not integrate the University of Texas Law School, the state established the Texas State University of Negroes which would include a law school. As a result, the Fiftieth Texas Legislature passed Texas Senate Bill 140 on March 3, 1947, authorizing and funding the creation of Texas State University for Negroes as the first state-funded black university.

The case Sweatt vs Painter (Theophilus Painter was the president of the University of Texas) went all the way to the Supreme Court where Thurgood Marshall argued and won the case and this case set up Brown vs the Board of Education. The Supreme Court ruled that schools could not be separate and yet equal and that state-funded educational institutions could not exclude Blacks. On June 1, 1951, the name of this new university for Negroes was changed from Texas State University for Negroes to Texas Southern University after students petitioned the state legislature to remove the phrase "for Negroes".

After reading this article and being shocked you have been in San Antonio all these years and knew nothing of this family, please pass the information to our youth to ensure that this history is not forgotten.

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

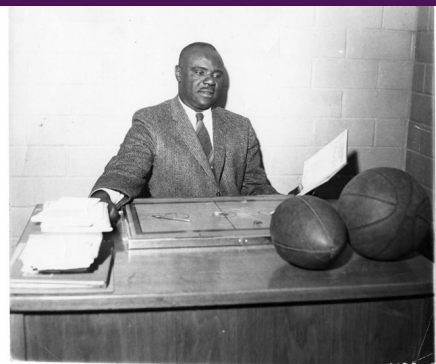
Written By: Scott L. Earle, Sr.

I always say Reading is Fundamental (RIF) but when you can witness history that supports something you have read your educational experience is enhanced. On October 27, 2021, it was announced that the new Health and Wellness building on the Campus of St. Phillips College was going to be named in honor of William Allen Hudgins. I began to read all I could read about this man who earned this great honor. Attending the grand opening on August 18, 2022, was a thrill.

From 1949 until 1982 Coach Hudgins worked at St Phillip's College. 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. Today I had the opportunity to meet individuals who he taught to swim during segregation. His family commented that one of his greatest accomplishments was that he taught about 3,000 African American children how to swim during his vacations before segregation ended. When there were not many places that Blacks could swim or have certified swimming instructors who would teach Black children, Coach Hudgins filled that void.

The College and High School students who share the campus and will utilize this facility will now ensure Coach Hudgins's life is always remembered. 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.

Having the opportunity to attend the ceremonies with members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, Psi Alpha Chapter which is an organization that Brother Coach Hudgins joined in 1957 was a great honor to be able to share with my brothers in the great legacy of Brother Coach!



10:00 a.m.

- Ribbon cutting
- Welcome
- Tribute to Coach Hudgins
- Family Acknowledgement
- Mason's Cornerstone Laying Ceremony
- Building Tours
- Scholarship Presentation

The 57,000-square-foot facility will replace the existing college fitness center built in 1949. The two-story gymnasium and natatorium will include an elevated track, short course swimming pool, therapy pool, weight and cardio training spaces, aerobic studio, a cardio



**Psi Alpha Chapter  
Fatherhood Initiative  
Written by: Bro. Archie "Ice" Peay Jr.**

On August 30, 2022, the Fatherhood Initiative Team, led by Brothers Le'Marc Holcombe and JacQuezs "Jazz" Shinault conducted an interview via Zoom with Bro. Eddie Pinchback, 16-80-ΨA. During the interview, one of the things that he was most proud of was raising God Fearing children, the same fear that was passed on to his grandchildren. His grandchildren will pray for him and the family all the time. Additionally, one of the biggest life lessons that he learned was to show humility. As a police officer and detective for over 30 years in homicide, he has many stories that he could tell us about where if he didn't show humility that he wouldn't be here with us today. Lastly, when asked what advice he would give to young fathers out there, Bro. Pinchback stated he would want young fathers to have patience and be flexible because the tables will turn as life goes on and as a father, you will have to listen to your children. There is much responsibility to be a husband and a father. This was an excellent and heartfelt interview, and the committee will publish the video for other fathers out there to enhance and educate fathers locally and worldwide.



On August 31, 2022, Bro. Archie "Ice" Peay Jr. (Chairman, Psi Alpha Chapter Fatherhood Initiative Mentoring Committee/FIMC) and Bro. Anthony G. Peay (Vice Chairman, FIMC) facilitated a Zoom conference to present the Father of the Quarter winner for the 3rd Quarter of Omega Year 2022 (May 1, 2022, thru July 31, 2022) to Mr. (Reverend) Kenneth O. Fowler. There were several individuals in attendance, including Bro. George M. Mayers Jr. (Basileus, Psi Alpha Chapter), Bro. John Lester (Vice Basileus, Psi Alpha Chapter), Ms. Kalisa Fowler (Wife), and Mr. (Reverend) Fowler himself.

Mr. (Reverend) Fowler serves as the Youth Pastor, of Cleft of the Rock Church, San Antonio, TX. One of the accomplishments highlighted in Reverend Fowler's package conveyed that he superbly established and spearheaded the annual Cleft of the Rock Community Kite Day. He personally solicited sponsors and vendors to support and provide for the event. Over three hundred community members attended with fun, games, and food provided for all! Reverend Fowler is a father whom others are trying to aspire to be! As a quarterly winner, Reverend Fowler will be an automatic nominee for the Father of the Year award during the Annual Achievement Awards Ceremony, as well as receiving an engraved fatherhood initiative mug and certificate of appreciation from the Basileus for winning this quarter.

On September 17, 2022, the Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee (FIMC) teamed with the Houston Coalition of Omegas (Houston, TX) in support of their Inaugural Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) and newly mandated Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Program. This 1-day dynamic conference targeted young men and ladies of color and took place at the historical Booker T. Washington High School. The YLC portion of the conference focused on four areas - Faith, Fitness, Finance, and Future, while the STEM portion consisted of the youth building a solar-based car. The conference's goal was to host at least 100 young men and ladies and 60 volunteers. The goal was exceeded in both youth and volunteers, with the Psi Alpha Chapter alone having 6 volunteers (4 being FIMC team members). The FIMC team truly believes in SCHOLARSHIP and "United We Stand, Divided We Fall" and growing our youth.



## **"The Restart"**

**Written By: Greg Thompson and Joe Monroe**

After two years of concerns about people getting together to celebrate and party in a safe environment, the Psi Alpha Scholarship Foundation in conjunction with the Psi Alpha Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. thought it was time.

The "Restart" of the White Martini Party XIII (All-White Attire) at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center was just what the citizens of San Antonio and our Out-of-Town guests needed to bring some normalcy back to all things Omega. At the same time proceeds from the event helped to boost the Psi Alpha Scholarship Foundation funds necessary for the PASF High School Scholarship program.

The "Restart" was bigger and better than ever with close to 3000 enthusiastic guests. DJ Music was provided in the main facility, as well as, an Old School lounge in a separate room. There was food and drink at multiple stations and numerous bars for those thirsty attendees. Vendor items ranging from sports memorabilia to jewelry were available in the lobby, along with a Photo section to take home some evidence of the All-White Attire.

Our Committee Chairman Brother Joe Monroe was quite impressed with the way the event turned out considering there was uncertainty as to whether or not the people were ready to come out to such a large event.

PASF would like to thank the Brothers of Psi Alpha Chapter who were excellent hosts starting on Friday with a Mixer for in and Out-of-Town guests, going all the way through Saturday, and the White Martini Party until the doors closed early Sunday morning.

The PASF showcased the 23 Scholarship recipients who received a combined \$52,000 in scholarship awards in May of 2022 and are now headed to college. Through the advanced/at-the-door ticket sales, vendor donations, and other contributions the Scholarship Program is in good financial shape for School Year 2023 - 2024.

The White Martini Party will be even better in August of 2023, "Save the Date".



**Psi Alpha Chapter Awarded with Proclamation**  
**Written By: Scott L. Earle, Sr.**

On September 26th at 915 AM, Psi Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated was awarded a Proclamation from Mayor Ron Nirenberg for outstanding service in the San Antonio Metropolitan Area. Ron Nirenberg is the Mayor of San Antonio, which as the 7th largest population in the United States and is one of the nation's fastest growing cities. The ceremony took place at the Council Briefing Room in City Hall at 100 Military Plaza. Brothers were dressed in their Purple Blazers and Black Slacks to celebrate this prestigious event.

On October 25th at 0900, the Bexar County Commissioner's Court will present Psi Alpha with Proclamations from the County. Commissioner's Court is held at 100 Dolorosa St, San Antonio, TX 78205, on the second floor.

On October 26, 2022 Psi Alpha will be recognized by Community and Schools at Roger Middle School. The presentation will be held at the Rogers MS library. The school is located on 314 Galway, San Antonio, TX, 78223.



**Psi Alpha Chapter Recognized "Community Hero"**  
**Written By: Jeremy L. Neal**

On September 9th, 2022, Psi Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated was recognized as a "Community Hero" by Cleft of the Rock Church during their 6th Anniversary Celebration. A certificate and trophy were awarded to the chapter. The certificate read, "We honor you! For countless acts of excellence and outstanding selfless service during a time of global crisis. Your leadership and team are worth of double honor. YOU ARE A COMMUNITY HERO." In the past year, Psi Alpha Chapter has awarded over \$57,000 in scholarship to assist students in their next level education. \$6,800 was raised for the Stuff the Bus School Supply Drive and sponsorship of 77 free back to school haircuts were provided to youths.



## **The Light of Omega Shining Bright in East Texas**

**By: Eric M. Wiley**

On December 17, 2022, at 9 a.m., men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. gathered in ceremony to honor the Centennial milestone of Mother Theta Chapter (chartered Dec. 17, 1922) at Wiley College. The history of Theta and it's initiated runs long and deep as it can be traced back to 1919 when first chartered at the University of California. However, it's richness can be glimpsed in the eyes of young boys growing up to become Omega men after being impacted by the community outreach efforts collegiate Omega men in Marshall, Texas. Its joy can be found in feeding the homeless and providing Thanksgiving meals to underprivileged families. Its compassion is seen in caring for the elderly. Similarly, the wisdom of Theta can be found in the words of 97-year-old man of Omega that remembers the hope of friendship glowing in the eyes of strangers that became lifelong friends.

Among those in attendance was Keynote Speaker, Brother Harold Bailey (33rd Mighty 9th District Representative), Brother Willie "Mercenary" Hinchey (former 9th District Representative), and Brother David "Petro" Washington (former 9th District KRS), and our oldest living chapter member, Brother London Wilson (Theta 1948). At the outset of the ceremony, brother Wilson shared his joy of being amongst brothers and friends while uplifting those of us in attendance to live a life based on a foundation of love and friendship. His words of encouragement resonated with those in attendance as they echoed his sentiments on life and love in service to Omega.

In commitment to the life of service we have taken during our walk in Omega, we are oftentimes blessed to witness historical moments that intersect with our own strides toward greatness. While seeking to uplift our communities, our families, our brothers, and friends; these are the moments where the value of our beloved fraternity shines most bright. The truth of this is not always documented in history books but rather etched in the hearts and minds of people touched by men of Omega daily. Our respective chapters both graduate and undergraduate alike serve as a depot station of service agents. Men that are committed to enhancing the reach of Omega with collective efforts designed to amplify the fact that our best resources are the people in our lives and the bonds we have established. The brothers of Mother Theta continue to walk in this purpose with the ever-present reminder that the value of our fraternity is not in numbers, but in real men of Omega.

## Brother Jacob Sanders wins ACC Best Warrior Competition

By: Brother Terrance Kinard, Sigma Tau Chapter, El Paso, Texas

Brother Jacob Sanders, a 2020 initiate of Sigma Tau Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated and a Contract Specialist assigned to Fort Bliss, Texas won the Army Contracting Command Best Warrior Competition. The events were held over a five-day span, May 9-13, 2022, and Brother Sanders was declared the winner on May 16, 2022, by Brigadier General Christine Beeler. We wish Brother Sander's the best in the U.S. Army Material Command Best Warrior Competition in August.

Brother Sanders, a native of Santa Ana, California, enlisted in the Army as an Infantryman in August 2010 and reclassified as a Contracting Non-commissioned Officer nine years later. He's a proud graduate of Grand Canyon University, with a Masters in Leadership and a Bachelors in Public Safety and Emergency Management. Brother Sanders has received numerous military accolades and awards in his career, to include the Purple Heart. In Brother Sanders' words, "It is truly one of the biggest moments in my career, and I am truly grateful for all the leaders, mentors, Soldiers, and friends who got me where I am today. "I hope I can be an inspiration to other 51Cs to step outside of their comfort zone and compete."





## **Sigma Tau Participates in National Read Across America Day**

**By: Brother Terrance Kinard, Sigma Tau Chapter, El Paso, TX**

On March 2, 2022, the Brothers of Sigma Tau Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated participated in the National Read Across America Day. National Read Across America Day is a national observance that was started by the National Education Association (NEA) in 1998 to encourage children to read through events, partnerships, and reading resources with a different theme each year. This year's Read Across America theme was diversity and inclusion. As part of the Fatherhood Initiative, Sigma Tau Brothers coordinated with the school librarian, Mrs. Bernadette Valenzuela to select age-appropriate literature.

Brothers Antone Reese (not pictured), Robert Robinson, Jamaar Redd, Marcus McCoy, Terrance Kinard, and Jeromy Hamilton (not pictured) read to the students at Western Hills Elementary School in El Paso, Texas. The children ranging from ages 5-12 actively participated with the Brothers as the stories were virtually narrated. Due to COVID protocols the Brothers read their books over Zoom as Mrs. Valenzuela hosted the event from the school library. The Brothers of Sigma Tau was afforded the opportunity to meet the students, and faculty members after the event concluded.



## Stepping for Success

By: Brother Terrance Kinard, Sigma Tau Chapter, El Paso, TX

On November 5, 2022 the Fatherhood Initiative of Sigma Tau Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated partnered with the El Paso-Southern New Mexico Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated for the Inaugural Stepping for Success event. The intent of the event is to provide mentorship by educating the youth on the origination of stepping in Black Greek Letter Organizations. Stepping is an art of self-expression and sharing this with our youth is undoubtedly a testament of our history that needs to be spotlighted.

With the partnership of the El Paso Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated and the Brothers of Omega Psi Phi, Incorporated we taught the kids basic step tactics and had a transparent discussion of their future goals and objectives in life. The event was a success, and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Jack and Jill invited the Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated and the Sisters of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated to attend their annual Christmas party where the youth will be performing the steps that they learned.



# Chaplains Corner

From the turbulence we see on television, and hear on radio, the world is topsy turvy. And such a sad state of affairs, causes our world to get upside down. Our world being turned upside down, not only seen in the terrible news of mass shootings, the force who seek to undermine our democracy, as well as the present state of our economy with shortages of baby formula, high price of gasoline, yes, inflation. Even we personally experience our world being upside down in terms of lay off notices, sickness, family problems, etc. How then do we face such realities as our world being turned upside down? For answer we put need to look in the book of the Psalms. The Book of Psalms is the hymnbook of the Bible and therefore actually the hymn book of the church. Proverbs, often seen as a twin to the Psalms is to be read on the feet, as its practical advice. But Psalms is to be read on the knees, as it is a book of worship. And the Psalms covers every emotion conceivable—fear, anger, joy, but also loneliness and depression. And it is this book that we find the answer on how to handle such a situation in Psalm 42, verse 11 which is as follows:

Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

Or heard in the New Living Translation

Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again— my Savior and my God!

The psalm begins with psalmist describing his thirst for the living God during trouble or even exile he has a deep uneasiness as heard in the text, that his soul is cast down. The image of being cast down in the Hebrew, describes a sheep on his back with its legs dangling in the air. And when it is on its back with its legs dangling in the air, if not back on its feet, it die either by being eaten by wild animals or gases can build up in its body, causing it to have a heart attack and die.

# Chaplains + Corner

As we look at our world, we too feel cast down, loneliness, depressed that is not good for a spiritual, mental and even physical well being. What then does for us to be like upside sheep?

First, when one views the world upside down, his vision is distorted as he does not see things as they really are, the way God's see them. Again in Psalm 42, verse 11: Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God. In left in that condition, our hope would go on holiday; life instead of being a festival, would be the solemnness of a funeral. We would find ourselves focusing solely on valuables, treating one should be held as treasure like it is trash, and trash like treasure. We see this all over the landscape: wrong is right; right is wrong. People would rather die for a lie rather live in and by the truth; education instead of being loved is loath, as good students are often put down, and called "nerds" yet their critics forget that nerds sign a whole lot of paychecks.

When one's world is turned upside down, it will even distort his faith, causing him to see the problem he faces bigger than the God who can solve them. His faith rather than be one of maturity and grow in the likeness of our Christ, is a mere reflection of the fads of the culture: Sometimes the church fails to produce mature saints, rather we are producing spiritual adolescents. If one desires to see the mind set of the church, look at teenagers: Teenagers pick up and put down fads at will; Teenagers, don't get the total picture as they will only see only one portion of it, rather than the whole view; Teenagers speak of rights, but don't want to hear responsibilities, as they will speak of using the car but will not take out the trash; and teenagers have misplaced priorities: If not put in check they will listen to music or play video games, rather than do their homework and many in the church desire entertainment rather enlightenment, noise, rather knowledge, sugary candy cotton and pop psychology preaching and teaching rather than spiritual and mental nourishment of sound doctrine.

Second, sheep end up on their backs for a number of reasons. Hear again the words of the text, Psalm 42, verse 11: Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God. We as his sheep can get in an upside down or "cast" down position for a few reasons:

# Chaplins Corner

One, the season of the year that sheep get in this condition is spring during the lambing season, when lambs are born. Sometimes the weight of that upborn lamb can cause it to lose its balance. Often when we are on the verge of new achievements we can lose our balance, finally about to fulfill our dreams, hopes, aspirations, one slip, one mistake or misjudgment can instantly cause us to land on our backs. That is why many of our youth who live with promise mistakenly believe that some things cannot happen to them. One wrong move, one bad decision, can change things forever. And slipups like that sometimes occur when youth feel it cannot happen to them, act wrongly because of loyalty to friends or peers.

Just as in the natural one must always do what we see on signs near steps or uneven surfaces: WATCH YOUR STEP. Or remember another sign we often see in either construction zones or a bad weather: PROCEED WITH CAUTION. Keep in mind these words from Proverbs, chapter 12, verse 14: There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.

Two, excess weight caused by too much wool can cause the sheep to stumble on and land on its back. Life is likened to a journey. And like any trip we carry a lot of excess baggage that adds weight or slows us down from reaching the destiny God has chosen for us. I remember when I worked in the school system at a middle school. Some students from grades 6, 7, and 8 would carry their bookbags all day from their arrival for class through lunch period till dismissal. I would encourage them to lay down the bags, and relax. But also it was a strain on their backs at such a young age. We can in this life carry burdens that the Lord desires to give to back to avoid such a situation. Many of us carry knapsacks that we have been burdened down with for years: Old grudges, old hurts, old failures, old disappointments. Yet we carry a heavy load within that can cause us to stumble and fall as we have let go and let God. The apostle Peter writes in his letter at large, chapter 5, verses 6-7: Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. The term casting all your cares upon pictures a traveler dropping a load off of his back. And sentiment is heard in a line from this song: Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

Three, sometimes sheep land on their backs because they stumble into a hole that they did not see ahead. Ever wonder the Bible pictures human beings as being like sheep? Because in some ways we are like sheep: Sheep cannot see far ahead. Sheep are easily led astray. Sheep are defenseless. Mortals then cannot see far ahead in terms of what is to come in the next minute, let alone, next day, next week, next month, and even next year. Mortals are easily misled as seen in people who believe rumors which can cause havoc in our church, our community as well as our nation. Mortals are in most cases defenseless as certain things we cannot defend ourselves against such as toxics in our air and water as well as natural forces. So obviously we cannot see ahead nor think ahead. We too will fall into holes. And some holes are left open because of the negligence of others, who fail to secure paths ahead for those who come behind.

# Chaplins Corner

A shepherd as he leads the flock will go ahead and take his staff and drive it into the ground as he searches for holes. When he finds them he will lead the flock around them and pour oil in them so as the drive snakes out. God's Word and God's Spirit will if we listen to them will steer us clear of them to avoid falling into them, putting us on our backs or worse to be bitten by old serpent, the Devil.

Fourth and finally, a sheep cannot get off of his back under its own strength. Someone else must come along and gently turn him upright. That is what the Savior does: He shows up and gently resets us and sets on our feet and leads us in the right direction. We too are to help those who find themselves in a world where they are upside down as taught in Galatians, chapter 6, verse 1 where the Apostle Paul, writes, Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. When a sheep is set right side up, he will stumble trying to get its balance and footing. And that says to us that restoration will take time, but ultimately by His grace we will make it. That word restore in the Greek New Testament, has three meanings:

a.) It pictures setting a broken bone. Those of us who have suffered broken bones, be it a leg or an arm, know it takes weeks, if not months to heal. Some hurts especially those within take time to get over and/or get through. They is not pill that can heal the broken spirit or broken heart. Only doses of the Balm in Gilead can do that in time.

b.) It pictures fixing a fish net. In biblical times and in some places today, people still fish by casting a net. But in time that net breaks. And it must be mended so as to be used again to catch more fish. The restoration of a child of God allows him to be recycled in winning souls, yes, fishing for souls.

c.) It also means mental restoration, as one in times has his mind restored and his strength and faith renewed.

# Important Dates

## **86th Ninth District Meeting (Regular Registration)**

March 29

2023 – April 1, 2023.

Tulsa, OK

Regular registration has started on July 1st and end December 31st at 11:59 PM. You will need to login to the Ninth District website to register for the meeting.

## **9th District Chapter KRS Retreat**

New Orleans, Louisiana

January 13-15, 2023

## **9th District Winter Council Meeting**

Tulsa, Oklahoma

January 21, 2023

## **International Undergraduate Summit**

Atlanta, GA - January 25-28, 2023

MCNSLC - Nassau, Bahamas

July 11-17, 2023

## **84th Grand Conclave**

Tampa, FL - June 26 - July 2, 2024

## When We Wear the Gloves

by Bro. Dr. Carver A. Portlock

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.

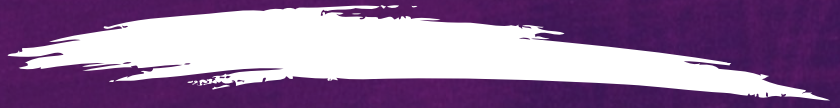
When we wear the gloves  
A Brother leaves the chapter rolls  
And moves to other worlds  
For when we say our last goodbye  
He walks on streets of Pearl.

When we wear the gloves





# Public Relations Committee



**Director of Public Relations** – Bro. Na'Shon Z. Edwards, Sr.

**Vice Chair** – Bro. T. Terell Bowie

**At-Large** – Bro. Marcus McCoy

**At-Large** – Bro. Fredrick D. Wilson, III

**At-Large** – Bro. Jeremy Neal

**At-Large** – Bro. Jeffery L. Boney

**At-Large** – Bro. Elton Skyes

**At-Large** – Bro. Georrein Dupre

**At-Large** – Bro. Jeremy Pierre

**At-Large** – Bro. Frank Watson







# UNVOTED

Arkansas | Louisiana | Oklahoma | Texas