

SPRING EDITION 2023

# THE SOURCE









# T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S

**3** MESSAGE FROM OUR 9TH  
DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

**5** MESSAGE FROM THE  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC  
RELATIONS

**6** ARKANSAS

**19** LOUISIANA

**33** OKLAHOMA

**40** TEXAS

**42** FEATURED ARTICLE

**81** CHAPLAINS CORNER

**85** IMPORTANT DATES

# MESSAGE FROM OUR 9TH DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE



Greetings, Brothers of the Mighty Ninth District,

Welcome to the Spring 2023 edition of The Source. This is truly a great time to be a member of our great Fraternity. The Source serves as a written account of just some of the accomplishments of our Brothers and Chapters throughout the District and provides the recognition due to so many of you working to advance the Cardinal Principles of Omega. I feel great pride, as your District Representative, to see you show up and fight for your communities and to see it documented in this publication. I am humbled by the opportunity to serve alongside you and have been honored to be able to attend many significant happenings and milestones this year across the District.

We are “A District U9ted” - our voice and influence resonate throughout our communities and the Fraternity. As we enter into the spring season, the earth’s physical manifestation of renewal and rebirth, I want to encourage you to stay the course, to see it through, even as we face new and continuing challenges. Because Omega men occupy every space in our society, from education to the arts, in tech and innovation, on the frontlines of both physical and mental health practice, and in every industry in between, we know we must remain diligent. And the following pages confirm that we are well-equipped for the work ahead. Enjoy the Spring 2023 edition of The Source.

Fraternally,

Bro. Harold L. Bailey





# 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: - Bro. 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**



# 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. Since the previous Source, the 9th District Public Relations Committee successfully conducted a Public Relations Retreat for Brothers of the 9th District. The retreat well attended and featured the International Editor to the Oracle Bro. Norm Senior and several other District Directors of Public Relations. 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 Spring 2023 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



# Arkansas

## 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



**Annual MLK Walk/Parade (Social Action)**  
**By Bro. Rufus Woods IV – Kappa Chi – Magnolia, AR**

On January 15, 2023, the Kappa Chi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated participated in their annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. March/Parade in Camden, Arkansas. The Kappa Chi Chapter partnered with Impact Camden and the theme was “Legacy In Motion”.

The reason we march today dates back almost 60 years, when over 250,000 people marched on Capitol Hill in Washington DC, as a part of the Civil Rights Movement. This is where the beloved Dr. King gave his famed “I have a dream” speech, and continued calls for equality and freedom for all people of color. This march is hugely credited to what aided the passing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the ratification of the twenty-fourth amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The men of the Kappa Chi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated walked in unison with all members of the divine nine and community members. Together we continue to stand and fight back against the inequalities and racial discrimination against our people. We will continue to leverage our platform and voice to serve and uplift our communities.



## Kappa Chi Talent Hunt Show

by Bro. Rufus Woods IV & Bro. Terry Calahan – Kappa Chi – Magnolia, AR

On February 25, 2023, the Kappa Chi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, hosted its annual Talent Hunt Show. This talent show is one of the fraternities' mandated programs. The event provides an opportunity for our youth in the community to showcase the full expression of their talents. Furthermore, this program affords opportunities via financial assistance to our talented students to continue to develop and pursue their dreams. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated – Kappa Chi Chapter, will continue to search for and support our gifted and bright youth, in Magnolia, El Dorado, and Camden.



(L-R Bro. Silbert Hyndman, Katherine Morehead, 1st Place winner, Zachery Morehead, 3rd place Winner Micheala Griffith, Shelia Griffith, Bro. Terry Calahan, Talent Hunt, Chair)



(L-R Bro. Rufus Woods IV, Talent Hunt, Co-Chair 2nd place Winner Lemuel Martin, and Bro. Rufus Woods III, Basileus, Kappa Chi Chapter)

## Valentine's Day by Bro. Major Banks, Jr.

The second annual Pi Omicron Valentine for widows of Brothers in Omega Chapter was held on February 11th, 2023. The Brothers of Pi Omicron started a program of giving flowers and candy to the widows of Pi Omicron brothers. This was Basileus Bro. Marcus Waters' idea is to keep in touch with the widows of the chapter and assist them with various tasks such as lawn care, moving furniture, and running errands. Pictured (L-R) Bro. Jay Hartman, Bro. Marion Butler, Vice Basileus Bro. Richard Reed, Basileus Bro. Marcus Waters, Bro. George Hood and Bro. Dwayne Dobbins. The widows were Vera Brownlee(Bro. Leroy Brownlee), Leslie Duncan(Bro. Allison Duncan), Beverly Stuckey(Bro. Plez Stuckey), Crystal Smith(Bro. Jimmy Smith Jr.), Debbie Kimbrough(Bro. Ray Kimbrough) and Pamela Mercer(Bro. Chris Mercer), Vanessa Hampton



## Que Worship 2023 Service by Bro. Major Banks, Jr.

The National Program Committee of Pi Omicron Chapter held its first in-person Que worship service on Sunday, Feb 26th, 2023, at 1st Baptist Church in North Little Rock, Ar. This is the church of Pi Omicron's Basileus Brother Marcus Waters. The committee invites the Brothers to visit a different church each month. This allows Brothers to hear different messages from a variety of dominations. Baptist, AME, United Methodists, and Church of Christ. Pictured 1st row (L-R) Bro. Nathaniel Floyd, Bro. Keith Saine, Bro. Leon Chitman, Bro. Judge Leon Johnson, Bro. Charles Zeigler, Bro. Marcus Waters. 2nd row (L-R) Bro. Eric Buchanan, Bro. Dwyane Dobbins, Bro. McKenzie Davis, Pastor William Robinson, Bro. Raymond Williams, Chairman Bro. Monroe Washington and Bro. John Wiley.





**Park Backpack Event  
by Bro. Major Banks, Jr.**



Bro. Keith Jackson Pi Delta '86 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 backpack 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-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.

**Fire Assistance  
by Bro. Major Banks, Jr.**



On Friday, Oct 7th the Brothers of Pi Omicron Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Inc.... in conjunction with McAlmont Church of Christ and American Freight donated and furnished two apartments at Shorter Gardens after a fire destroyed several apartments...In addition American Freight Furniture( Alisaa Smith and Tricia Darden) 6527 Warden Rd donated over \$40,000 in additional furniture...Brother Michael Williams Sr spearheaded this project along with Brother George Hood...Brother Morris Williams Sr...Vice Basileus Brother Richard Reed and Brother Major Banks Jr.



## **Frat Friday Que Lunch by Bro. Major Banks, Jr.**

Pi Omicron Chapter held its monthly Frat Friday luncheon. The Brothers choose a local black-owned restaurant to visit and fellowship each month.

The February restaurant was Sims Bar-B-Que, a local establishment in Little Rock since 1937. Pictured 1st row (L-R) Bro. Marcus Waters Basileus and Bro. John Wiley chairman...2nd row Bro. Leon Chitman, Bro. Ed Garland, Bro. Major Banks, Jr., Bro. Morris Williams Sr., and Bro. Jay Hartman.

### **Brother Dondre Harris: Awarded the 2022 Service Above and Beyond Award by Bro. Derrick Young, Chapter Reporter**

Brother Dondre Harris was selected by the Arkansas Association of Elementary School Principals (AAESP) as the recipient of the 2022 Award for Service Above and Beyond. Each year, AAESP selects an Arkansas principal, PreK-12th grade, who has made a personal contribution or sacrifice that has resulted in a significant impact on his or her school community. What an awesome accomplishment.







**OLL - Honoring 9th District  
Representative -Brother Harold Bailey  
by Bro. Derrick Young, Chapter  
Reporter**

On June 4, 2022, brothers of Pi Omicron and Omicron Lambda gathered for a surprise party to honor the 9th District's Representative, Brother Harold Bailey, to express appreciation for his distinguished leadership. There were plenty of memories and laughs shared. Everyone enjoyed the good food and great fellowship. We salute this fine Omega Man, for making a difference.

**OLL Back to School Athletic Camp/ Backpack Drive  
by Bro. Derrick Young, Chapter Reporter**

On August 13, 2022, the brothers of Omicron Lambda Lambda conducted a Back-to-School Athletic Camp and Backpack Drive. The event took place at Little Rock Christian Academy. It was a free event that served young Athletes in the community. The camp provided an opportunity for the youth to learn skills and drills. NFL players, Martrell Spaight and Javion Williams, special guests at the camp, spoke to the youth about life skills and the importance of education. During camp, food was provided, and the youth also received backpacks with school supplies and a gift card to Academy Sports. The youth had fun and were truly thankful for the donations.





**OLL - Brother Trevor Wine: Awarded Teacher of The Year**

**by Bro. Derrick Young, Chapter Reporter**

Brother Trevor Wine, a teacher at J.A. Fair Preparatory K-8 Academy in the Little Rock School District, was awarded Teacher of The Year for his school. What a great honor; to be well thought of and selected by peers.



**OLL Brother Derrick Young - Graduate of Leadership Greater Little Rock**

**by Bro. Eli Nelson, Assistant Chapter Reporter**

On May 6, 2022, Brother Derrick Young became a graduate of the Leadership Greater Little Rock, Class XXXVI. This program develops community leaders by training and informing participants on a wide array of local, and public policy issues and concerns. The program covers a full slate of topics, including government, the area's economy, education, and social services. It is a proven training ground for future leaders of Little Rock. We congratulate Brother Young on such a prestigious accomplishment.



**OLL - Step to the Conclave Health Initiative  
Article by Bro. Derrick Young, Chapter  
Reporter**

On June 6, 2022, in support of the Fraternity’s mandated health initiative, Omicron Lambda Lambda hosted the first of four “Step to the Conclave” challenge events at Forest Heights STEM Academy. The goal is to walk 800 miles, which is the distance +/-, to Charlotte, NC.

**OLL - Black History Program at Miles Memorial  
C.M.E. Church**

Article by Bro. Derrick Young, Chapter Reporter

On February 27, 2022, Omicron Lambda Lambda, along with other fraternities and sororities, attended the 30th Annual Black History Program at Miles Memorial C.M.E. Church, the church of Brothers Winfred and Arthur Batch. The speaker was the Honorable Judge Tjuana Byrd Manning, 6th Judicial Circuit judge and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. The message title was “Health and Wellness - God’s Plan to Defy the Odds”, 1 Corinthians 12:27. Judge Byrd emphasized that the body is God’s temple and proper nutrition contributes to how we praise the Lord. Unhealthy nutritional habits can lead to mental and anxiety issues. She mentioned that, in the past, because of disparities, we were forced to make unhealthy nutritional choices; but, now through education and health equity, we can make better health choices. It was an awesome afternoon of celebrating black history through song and fellowship.





**OLL Brother Thomas Williams -  
Selected Central Arkansas Finest Gala  
Honoree**

**Article by Bro. Derrick Young,  
Chapter Reporter**

Brother Thomas Williams was selected as a Central Arkansas Finest Gala Honoree. He was voted as the 2022 Finest Young Professional with Arvest Bank. We congratulate Brother Williams on being held in such high regard.

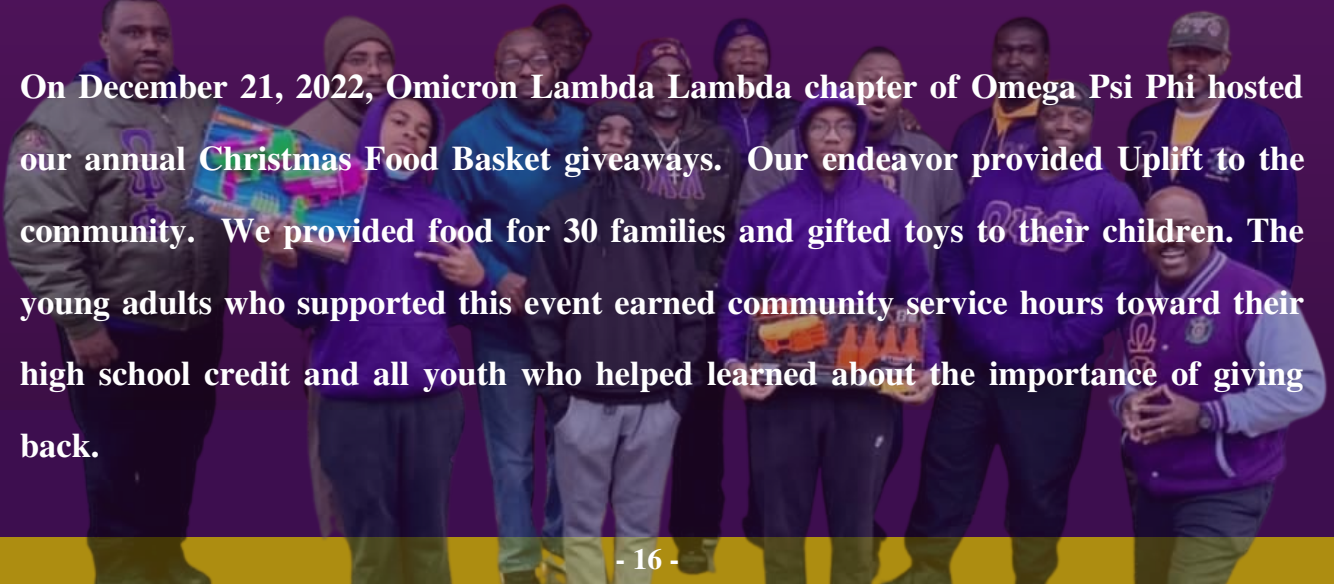


**OLL - Brother Willie Sanders Earns Master of  
Arts Degree  
by Bro. Derrick Young, Chapter Reporter**

On June 4, 2022, Brother Willie Sanders, a war veteran who has battled many challenges following his military career, was recognized for earning his Master of Arts Degree in Human Resources from Webster University. This is an outstanding example of an Omega man standing on the cardinal principle of perseverance.

**OLL Brother Annual Christmas Food Basket Giveaway  
Article by Bro. Derrick Young, Chapter Reporter**

On December 21, 2022, 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.



**OLL Brother Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway  
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 SPR 21 and the youth that supported it. The youth sharpened their life skills and understanding of giving back through community service.



**Project Lets Read  
Xi Rho Chapter, West Memphis, Arkansas  
B Bro. Jeremy Pierre**



Reading is fundamental but most importantly fun. It's the main reason brothers of the Xi Rho Chapter in West Memphis Arkansas decided to do their second annual Summer book drive. For the second year in a row, the brothers collected more than 300 books to be donated to "Project Lets Read." Project Lets Read decided to bring its summer literacy program back to West Memphis after its first year of success in 2021. The program accepts 80 to 100 kids each Summer and teaches the fundamentals of reading to children ages five to 17. Xi Rho decided to partner with the program of the simple fact of reading is one of the most important building blocks to learning. According to Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families in 2021 Arkansas ranked 41st in the percent of fourth graders who can read proficiently at grade level. And 69 percent of Arkansas's fourth graders are not reading at grade level, compared to 66 percent nationally. Xi Rho also donated books to children in Hughes Arkansas. The goal is to continue the book drive and grow it into one of the chapter's premiere community events.



## 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

## 2022 Omega Wisemen Project Written By: Bro. Keith Taylor

December 21, 2022, Rho Phi Chapter and its partner, The Omega Men Foundation donated over \$4,000.00 to six 6 women's shelters in the Greater New Orleans area. The funds were raised by soliciting Rho Phi chapter brothers and other willing donors in the community. In addition to the funds, over 100 children's storybook bibles were given to the children in those shelters. This project was initiated by Rho Phi chapter to address the problem of domestic violence in the greater New Orleans area and its impact on women and children. Many of the women's shelters in the Greater New Orleans Area are overwhelmingly populated with African Americans and Rho Phi Chapter desires to provide these shelters with funds to buy items of need for these families.



## 2022 Real Men Read Program By Bro. Keith Taylor



December 14, 2022, the Rho Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated and its partner, the Omega Men Foundation hosted their annual Real Men Read program at Mary Mcleod Bethune Elementary school of Technology and Literature. This is the 14th year that the Rho Phi chapter has partnered with underserved elementary schools in the Greater New Orleans area intending to develop a desire and passion for reading to students in these schools and the community. Rho Phi Chapter brothers donate their time to visit the school and read books to students in grades kindergarten, first, and second grades. Brothers also take time to speak to the students about the importance of developing good reading skills. Rho Phi chapter's partner, the Omega Men Foundation presented the school with a check in the amount of \$500.00 through a grant provided by The Entergy Corporation, to purchase books for the school library.





## 2022 Thanksgiving Baskets Giveaway Program By Bro. Keith Taylor

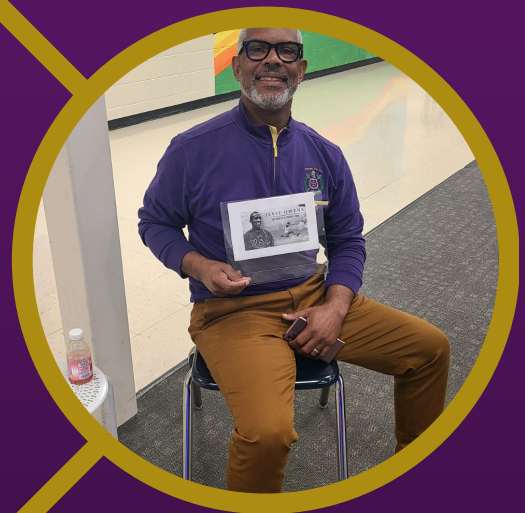
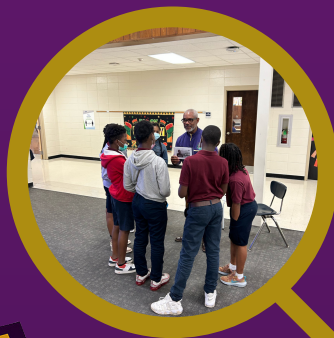
On November 22, 2022, the Rho Phi chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated held its annual Thanksgiving baskets/gift cards giveaway to needy families in the Greater New Orleans area and to a local women's shelter. The chapter has held this event for over 30 years. The intent of the event is to UPLIFT the community by helping those in need have a warm and healthy Thanksgiving meal. Rho Phi chapter brothers partner with another chapter brother to purchase the items for a basket. Each basket contains non-perishable items and also a 25.00 gift card that will allow them to purchase a turkey, ham, or additional food items. The baskets are brought to the Crescent City Ques clubhouse on the Monday night before Thanksgiving. On the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, chapter brothers deliver the baskets to needy families and a local women's shelter.



## Black History Museum

By Bro. Brice D. Bates/ Lambda Kappa Kappa (Baton Rouge,La)

On Monday, February 27, 2023, the brothers of Lambda Kappa Kappa joined in with the Baton Rouge Sigma Deltas and other members of the Divine 9 to help put on the 2023 Black History for the students at Ryan Elementary School. Students were able to see real depictions of heroes in Black Historian and interactive. Our brothers represented Charles Drew, Jesse Owens, and Muhammad Ali. The students were 3rd - 5th graders that walked thru the museum and were provided with information they may or may not have known about our black history.





## **Lambda Kappa Kappa Chapter “Socks From the Soul Campaign” in the Capital City of Baton Rouge**

**Written By Bro. Lee Dixon III/ Lambda Kappa Kappa (Baton Rouge,La)**



The men of the Lambda Kappa Kappa Chapter, located in Baton Rouge, La, hosted our “Socks From the Soul” campaign. This was an initiative to collect over 1,200 pairs of socks & gloves to be donated to those less fortunate. Our Chaplain, Bro. Billy Washington, felt compelled to lead this endeavor as we had many homeless and persons in need as the brutal cold of winter began to set in. The chapter in conjunction with the 100 Black Men of Metro Baton Rouge successfully reached the goal of 1,200 pairs of socks. On Saturday, December 24, 2022, the brothers joined with other local organizations all focused on offering those less fortunate some Christmas Holiday Cheer. Food was provided to those in need as brothers handed out socks and gloves. Those who received these items expressed their sincere gratitude and there were even toys provided for children. Overall this program was a success but more importantly left a lasting impact on those in need here in the Baton Rouge Community. The Lambda Kappa Kappa Chapter will continue to commit our efforts to Service and the Uplift of our community and surrounding areas.



## Lambda Kappa Kappa “Christmas Omega Ball”

By Bro. Brice D. Bates/ Lambda Kappa Kappa (Baton Rouge,La)

On December 16, 2022, inside the Renaissance Hotel Baton Rouge, we hosted our Annual Christmas Omega Ball. With over 50 filled tables, delicious food, and everyone dressed in their formal Tuxedos/Ball Gowns, the night did not disappoint. The ambiance was of the highest standard with members of all walks of our community in attendance. Bro. Elliott Searcy took the lead on bringing our Annual ball back after being gone for over 2 long years due to covid. Live Music was provided by a great band “Universal Language” and then the event was closed out by DJ. Kicks. Both seemed determined to not allow anyone to leave the dance floor as 500+ ppl danced the night away. If you have not made it to Baton Rouge for our “Ques Under the Stars” or our Annual Christmas Omega Ball be on the lookout and mark your calendars to join us.



**Lambda Kappa Kappa Chapter “Thanksgiving Senior Dinner & Giveaway” in the Capital City of Baton Rouge  
Written By Bro. Brice D. Bates/ Lambda Kappa Kappa  
(Baton Rouge,La)**

During the week of Thanksgiving, the brothers of Lambda Kappa Kappa engaged in several endeavors serving our community. On November 21, 2022, our chapter hosted a “Thanksgiving Senior Dinner” for senior citizens in the Oak Street Health Program. The menu consisted of Turkey, Dressing, Yams, Mac n Cheese, Gumbo, and much more. Our elders had a chance to interact with each other as well as the chapter members while enjoying great food and a festive atmosphere. This was all made possible by our very own Vice Basileus Brandon Miles as well as funded by the Lambda Kappa Kappa Foundation which aims to service and uplift senior citizens in the Baton Rouge Area. There was no doubt that upon leaving the event everyone was full and filled with Joy.

It is the tradition of our chapter to engage in the annual “Thanksgiving Dinner Giveaway” spearheaded by our very own member Bro. Myron Daniels. This event is an opportunity for full Thanksgiving Dinners to be provided to families in need to ensure they have plenty during the holiday. This year over 112 dinners were prepared by Bayou Cafe then packed and hand-delivered to each family. Members of the Lambda Alpha & Theta Kappa Chapter as well as other members of the local Divine 9 join together with the Lambda Kappa Kappa Chapter, Baton Rouge Police, and EBR Sheriffs to complete the deliveries. All in all, we take pride in serving and providing holiday cheer to those who may be less fortunate or may have lost loved ones and find it difficult to get into the holiday spirit.





## **Epsilon Chi Chapter Gifts 200 Children at Local Elementary School Written By Rodney G. McNeal**



The Epsilon Chi Graduate Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated has partnered shipped with Rugg Elementary School located in Alexandria, Louisiana to have a positive impact on youth in the community. One of Epsilon Chi's Graduate missions is to depict African American Men as positive role models in our community. On December 16, 2022, the chapter brought Christmas cheer and joy to this school for Christmas by providing over 200 gifts for their annual toy drive to these students. All pre-k, kindergartners, and first graders were able to receive a gift. The smiles on these youths' faces and the gratitude that was expressed by the principal, staff, and youth made this project a success. This event was published in the local newspaper and broadcast on the local news. It is through the fraternity's motto "Friendship is essential to the soul" that the chapter noticed that this school needed male role model presence and has adopted this school to provide mentorship and be role models. On the first Tuesday of the month, the chapter shows its presence at the school to greet students as they get off the bus in the morning providing motivation and uplift to these students.



**Epsilon Chi Participation in Local MLK Parade**  
**Written By Rodney G. McNeal**

The Epsilon Chi Graduate Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated participated in this year's MLK annual Parade event in Alexandria, Louisiana. The purpose of participation in the parade was to show support for positive programs and to promote unity in the community. The chapter is on a mission to live up to the cardinal principles, of "Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, Uplift" by being actively engaged in programs that try and unify the community. Chapter members also showed their presence by supporting the MLK Breakfast and the Noon Day Service that the city hosted as a day of "Together we are Better". This was a day on instead of a day off by doing community service.



**Giving Women Their Flowers**  
**Theta Kappa Chapter, Baton Rouge, Louisiana**  
**By Bro. Christopher Okoduwa**



On February 15, 2023, The Theta Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated held a collaborative on-campus event with LSU's Minorities Woman's Movement called "Giving Woman their Flowers." This event was held to appreciate the women on campus, celebrate womanhood and black history month, and discuss issues we as minorities face in our daily lives. With joint collaborative efforts, we organized a discussion panel where women could express their thoughts, raise questions, and confide in each other, while Theta Kappa provided support and participated in the conversation.

The event was a huge success, with women from all walks of life coming together to share their experiences, stories, and ideas. The panel discussion covered topics ranging from social issues affecting women to personal growth and development. The goal was to create a safe space for women to talk about their experiences, connect, and find support in the community and we can confidently say this goal was overachieved. One of the highlights of the event was the giving of flowers to the women in attendance. This gesture was a symbol of appreciation for all the hard work and contributions women make to society.

As men of high caliber, Theta Kappa understands the importance of acknowledging and celebrating the contributions of women. The fraternity has always been dedicated to serving the community and promoting positive change. This event reflected that commitment, and it was great to see so many women and men come together to support each other. The Theta Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated and The Minorities Woman's Club did a fantastic job of organizing the event, and everyone in attendance left feeling uplifted and inspired. We look forward to doing more events like this in the future, where we can come together as a community and celebrate each other.



## **Canned Food Drive**

### **Written By Bro. Demond Porter**

Early Monday morning on September 12th, 2022, the brethren of the Gamma Gamma Chapter and the lovely sisters of the Delta Iota chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority held a week-long canned goods food drive in the café on Grambling State University's campus. The event was held every day of the week from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. as the students of Grambling came together to donate an abundance of healthy beneficial canned goods. At the end of the week, the total amount of canned goods was so great that the brothers were able to split the number of goods and take them to Two different homeless shelters in the Grambling/Ruston area fully stocking the shelters for the time being. The Grambling State University's student body felt ecstatic about being a part of the change and was overwhelmed to see the brothers giving back to their community.





## **Know Your Rights**

### **Written By Bro. Eric Abraham**

On Monday, November 25th, 2022 the brothers of the Gamma Gamma chapter and the Brothers of the Alpha Delta Delta Chapter held a “Know Your Rights” seminar on the campus of Grambling State University. The object of this seminar was to help the students as well as the community of Grambling know what they can or cannot do when faced with the police. The main discussion of the event was how to properly conduct a traffic stop to insure your safety, This was accompanied by giving mock traffic stops in which the speakers were giving the audience real-life scenarios in which they had to correctly handle the situation. And with the help of a renowned lawyer in North Louisiana Brother Ivan Daigs, Professor May Conley Head of the Criminal Law program at Grambling, and a Ruston Police representative as the keynote speakers we were able to help the community along with the students of Grambling to start practicing correct police etiquette skills.





# Oklahoma

## 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





**Health Fair Extravaganza presented by Upsilon Iota Graduate Chapter and Phi Psi Undergraduate Chapter**

**[Langston, OK] - Upsilon Iota Graduate Chapter and Phi Psi Undergraduate of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity are proud to present a new era of excellence in service and brotherhood.**

**The two combined chapters sponsored an HIV Prevention Awareness/Health Fair for the students of Langston University**

**The event included mental health counseling and services from North Care, HIV testing from Guiding Right Inc., and health services provided by the Logan County Health Department and the Oklahoma State Department of Sexual Health and Harm Reduction. The chapters also completed the task of the nationally mandated programs by partnering with The Urban League to register 50 students from the state of Oklahoma and neighboring states to vote.**

**"We are thrilled to be part of such a historic and impactful organization," said Dr. Owen Muldrow Jr, former Basileus of Upsilon Iota Graduate Chapter. "Our members are dedicated to upholding the values of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and making a positive difference in our community." The two chapters were able to show that undergraduate and graduate chapters can work together despite age differences to create a goal and be courageous in achieving that goal.**

**The Chair of the event and Upsilon Iota Director of Public Relations, Delshaun Wolf states There were also raffles and gift giveaways, and a partnership between Omega Psi Phi and Guiding Right Inc. gave away a 50-inch television to a participant of the Health Fair. Over 60 people came through for STI testing, 6 COVID vaccines were administered and 2 people received primary health care checks. This event seems to have provided important services to the community, and it's great to see organizations working together to make a positive impact.**

**Phi Psi Undergraduate Basileus and Co-Chair of the event Jalen Green-Edison added, "We are excited to work alongside our graduate chapter brothers to continue the tradition of service and leadership that Omega Psi Phi Fraternity embodies. Together, we can make a real difference in the lives of those around us while teaching the Langston University family about health disparities and how to stay protected against illnesses that can be prevented."**

**Upsilon Iota Graduate Chapter and Phi Psi Undergraduate Chapter are dedicated to carrying on the legacy of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. They are committed to promoting academic achievement and community service, as well as fostering brotherhood and unity among members.**



The Upsilon Iota Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and Stop The Violence Inc. provided support to 500 families on Christmas of 2022 with essential items such as food, toys, clothes, and household supplies. It was such a remarkable feat.

Adrienne Lattimore of Oklahoma City says “I feel so blessed that these men would take time out of their busy schedules to assist people like me. I was let go from my job and it's been hard to make ends meet. I didn't know if my children would even have a Christmas this year.”

The collaborative effort of community members who donated their time and resources is truly inspiring. This kind of cooperation is essential in addressing social issues such as violence and poverty, which affect vulnerable communities.

The efforts of The Upsilon Iota Chapter and Stop The Violence Inc have also helped raise awareness about the issues of violence and poverty in the neighborhood. It is important to highlight these issues and work towards creating a safer and more prosperous community for everyone.

Kuinten Rucker, the President of Stop The Violence Inc, and a newly initiated member of the Upsilon Iota Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity says, “All of my life I have always wanted to help the underserved in my community. I have always worked in the community but to add what I can do and bring it to the Fraternity only adds enthusiasm and makes me feel I can do more on a national and even international level.”

Kudos to the Upsilon Iota Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Inc. and Stop the Violence Inc. for their successful partnership in making a positive difference in the lives of hundreds of families in the Langston and Oklahoma City communities.



## Highlight on Chapter Brother Achievement Upsilon Iota Chapter, Langston, Oklahoma

Congratulations to Coach Jermell Perry on his impressive accomplishments as a wrestling coach. Initiated into the Fraternity in 2006 at Phi Psi Chapter at Langston University and currently serving as the Keeper of Peace with Upsilon Iota Chapter, Coach Jermell Perry is all about peace. That's until his assertiveness and enthusiasm to lead kick in.

Any professional athlete and/or Coach will tell you it's hard to win anything back-to-back. Being able to lead a team to win two consecutive All-Conference Championships is a testament to his coaching ability and the hard work of his wrestlers. Winning the All-Conference Coach of the Year award in 2021-22 is also a great recognition of his coaching skills and dedication to his team.

Moreover, being awarded the prestige of being named 1 of 4 All-State Coaches in 2022-23 is a remarkable achievement, highlighting his impact not just within his school but in the entire state of Oklahoma.

It's also worth noting that Perry coached the only all-state female from Oklahoma Public City Schools in the history of girls' wrestling in the state. This accomplishment demonstrates Coach Perry's dedication to growing and improving the sport of wrestling for all his athletes, regardless of gender.

Coach Perry's six years of coaching experience and his third year at Douglass High School provide him with a wealth of knowledge and experience to guide his team to success. His continued commitment to his athletes' development and success makes him an outstanding coach and role model for aspiring coaches and wrestlers alike.





## Upsilon Iota's 1st Omega Promenade

Written By: Delshaun Wolf

The Upsilon Iota graduate chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. recently hosted the 1st Omega Promenade, The Purple Carpet Affair, on November 5, 2022, in Oklahoma City. The event was chaired by Brother Dr. Owen Muldrow Jr. and was a grand success.

The evening was filled with live music from a band and DJ, raffle prizes, and a sumptuous buffet. Guests were dressed to impress and the atmosphere was upscale and sophisticated. The event was held at the Embassy Suites in Oklahoma City and drew a large crowd of fraternity members, their families, and friends.

The purpose of the event was to celebrate the achievements of the fraternity and its members, as well as to raise funds for various charitable initiatives. The Omega Promenade was an opportunity for fraternity members to come together in fellowship and camaraderie while enjoying a memorable evening of music, food, and fun.

The Purple Carpet Affair lived up to its name with guests arriving in their finest attire, adding to the glamour and sophistication of the event. The live band and DJ kept the dance floor packed throughout the night, and the raffle prizes were a big hit with the attendees.

The Upsilon Iota graduate chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. has a rich history of serving the community and making a positive impact. The 1st Omega Promenade, The Purple Carpet Affair, was a testament to the fraternity's commitment to excellence and a reminder of the importance of fellowship and brotherhood.



**Xi Omega Partners with local Tulsa Alpha Kappa Alpha Chapter for Breast Cancer  
Awareness**

**Written By Bro. Elton Sykes**

On October 20, 2022, the Brothers of the XI Omega Chapter and the Sorors of the Alpha Chi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., collaborated to celebrate their 22nd Annual Breast Cancer Awareness W.A.L.K. and Health Fair. The Health Fair has been a staple within the Tulsa community since 2001. It has been a driver for health awareness regarding cancer in Tulsa's Black community. Activities included on-site doctors visit, mammogram referrals, and breast cancer education for both men and women. Overall, the event focused on spreading the knowledge and importance of early diagnosis and the benefit of early treatment. The event reached well over 500 participants. The Brothers that participated in this endeavor look forward to holding an even more impactful event next year. A special thank you goes to the committee chair, who served as the contact person in securing the venue and working out the logistics of the event.





## 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 Director of Public Relations:** Bro. Na'Shon Edwards, Sr.

**State Chaplain:** 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-Tillston 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

# FEATURED ARTICLE

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



“They ask me to remember, but they want me to remember their memories and I keep on remembering mine.” – Lucille Clifton

Bro. JovVanTa Mason is a scholar, historian, educator, and southerner dedicated to the cultivation, critique, and celebration of African American heritage and culture. With the goal of advancing students’ critical thinking skills, developing curriculum, fostering an appreciation for the history of African Americans, and overall uplift of Black communities,

JovVanTa has held positions as a Social Studies teacher, History Instructor, and Adjunct Professor at Tennyson Middle School, La Vega Early College High School, and McLennan Community College, respectively. His research and teaching interests include 20th-century African American history, the long civil rights movement, African American education, Black political and social movements, and Pan-Africanism. JovVanTa holds a Bachelor of Arts in History and a Master of Science in Educational Administration, both from Prairie View A&M University as well as a Master of Arts in History from Sam Houston State University. His research and historical writing have been shared with the National Association of African American Studies, East Texas History.org, and Central Texas African American Heritage Foundation. His current research O’ Lord of Learning and Learners focuses on the educational theories, philosophies, and practices of Black educators in central Texas before the 1954 Brown decision.

***History of the 9th District: The Importance of Historical Context***  
**By Bro. JovVanTa Mason, Rho Theta (Omicron Upsilon), Waco, TX**



**As we approach this 86th year of the 9th District's existence, this 86th year of striving to exemplify the standards of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated, this 86th year of uplifting communities throughout the states of Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oklahoma, let us reflect on the context in which this band of high-aspiring brothers with servant mentalities was formed.**

**Under the guidance and supervision of the sixteenth Grand Basileus, Bro. Albert Dent, and the specific direction of Bro. J.D Bowles of Nu Phi, the foundation of the 9th D was set. Emerging near the end of the Great Depression and amidst increasing social and political opposition, the expansion of Omega further into the American south was no easy feat and remains an endeavor worthy of our attention and reverence.**

**Bro. Bowles understood this. Born in Texas in 1905, Bowles had risen beyond his perceived position in society to obtain an education from Harvard and degrees from Fisk, the University of Kansas, and Meharry Medical College. As an educator and dean at the Houston College for Negroes (later Texas Southern University), Bowles knew firsthand the effort it would take to lift as we climb. Members of the fraternity and influential members of the African American community in Dallas exuded this understanding as well. In a city, during that time, that offered little space for African Americans to meet and fellowship outside of the white gaze, the Moorland Branch YMCA served as a haven for Black people, especially to the brothers of Omega on May 5th and 6th of 1937.**



Operating within this historical context, our forebearers achieved virtually unfathomable feats. Despite discriminatory social, economic, and political practices and norms, namely Jim Crow laws and the “White Primary” in Texas, brothers of our beloved fraternity saw fit that the 9th District was set firm on solid ground and provided a template for its growth. As we approach our district’s anniversary and continue the work of those who have come before us, let us remember that these developments do not and did not occur in a vacuum but emerge as responses to society’s ills. The history of the 9th District is not separate from the history of African Americans seeking to create better lives for themselves. The historical context of our district’s founding is embedded in the plight of Black people. Essentially, the history of the 9th District is Black History.

*Part 1,*



## Achievement Week Honors

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

The Alpha Iota Iota chapter held its Achievement Week Honors Banquet at Maggiano's Little Italy, on November 19, 2022. This was indeed another special occasion as the chapter recognizes the service and hard work that the brothers have exhibited throughout the year. Immediate Past Basileus Brother Robert Bell won his second Omega Man of the Year Award in 5 years. Brother Michael Hartman was awarded the Brotherhood Award, while Brother Horace Satisfield and Brother Rusty Glenn won the Superior Service Award. To seize the moment and make the occasion more memorable, Mrs. Donna Hartman, wife of previously mentioned Brother Micheal Hartman, was presented Citizen of the year.

The keynote address was given by Civil Rights Attorney Brother Lee Merritt, who passionately spoke on the topic of Enthusiasm and "Setting yourself on fire" for your community. For brothers who have been doing just that, Service awards were presented for 60, 55, 50, 45, 40, 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, and 10 years of service. Achievement Week Chairman Brother Dorone Edwards and his committee did a phenomenal job orchestrating and preparing this great occasion!





## **Black History Month Proclamation** **By Bro. Larry Johnson II, Alpha Iota Iota Chapter, Dallas, Texas**



The Frisco, Texas city council meetings are held every first and third Tuesday of each month. The third Tuesday of February 2023 granted a special request for its citizens.

On this night, the Men of Alpha Iota Iota chapter, along with members of the Divine Nine, stood in unity as Mayor Jeff Cheney presents a new Proclamation that proclaimed February as “Black History Month” in the City of Frisco.

The city has grown tremendously in the past 5 years with an influx of prominent, successful African American families looking to call the thriving city, Home. The granting of this motion showed that Frisco is invested in spreading awareness and celebrating the contributions of African Americans to American History.

In 1926, Omega’s own Bro. Carter G. Woodson initiated the first celebration of Negro history week which led to Black History Month. As the concept grew and became more widespread and celebrated, more and more communities, cities, and states accepted his belief that history must be made by the people, and not primarily by a great man. On February 21, 2023, in Frisco, Texas, History was made by the people.

## **Douglass Community Holiday** **By Bro. Larry Johnson II, Alpha Iota Iota Chapter, Dallas, Texas**

The Douglass Community in Plano, Texas has a rich African American history that dates back to the late 1800s, as Shiloh Baptist Church was established in 1894. This 640-acre community thrived of businesses in the mid 1900s, but as time passed, today, the area is designated as residential. As the Alpha Iota Iota chapter established its roots in the early 90s, they adopted the Douglass Center as its hub for service and enrichment to the citizens, housing monthly meetings and servicing the youth and senior citizens for decades.

Each year during the Holidays, A.I.I. play a huge role in the annual Douglass Center Christmas program as well as serving the seniors of Shiloh Baptist Church during its annual Christmas luncheon. The chapter has partnered in both annual events for almost 20 years. It is a great opportunity to acknowledge the bridge builders of this historic community and highlight their contributions to the growth of the area and the citizens who reside. A.I.I. takes pride in being present and playing an intricate part in the continued growth of this historic community.





## Judging Excellence for our Future

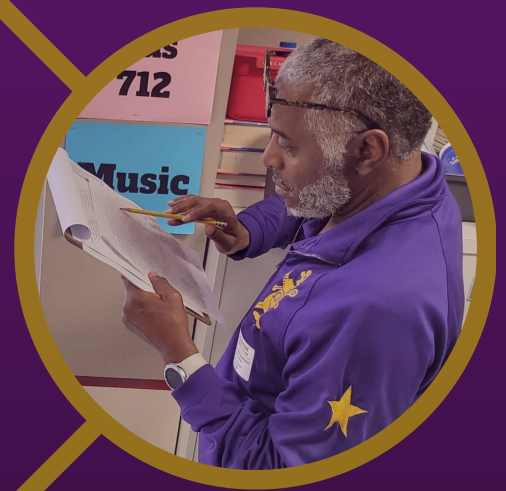
By Bro. Larry Johnson II, Alpha Iota Iota Chapter, Dallas, Texas

A request was sent to the men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity - Alpha Iota Iota chapter as a call to action for mentorship at Rasor Elementary School in Plano, Texas. The caption read “ The Men of Omega are the type of men we are looking for to mentor our youth.” As the mission continues to be the pillars of the community that our founders positioned us to be, The chapter took pride in answering this call.

The involvement was critical in the mission to provide a safe and caring space for the community and the students who needed a little extra attention. Due to life circumstances, lack of social skills, and academic success, students were paired with Men of Alpha Iota Iota in an attempt to uplift their educational experience as a whole.

As the third installment of the chapter's involvement with the school, the brothers served as the honorary judges for the 4th and 5th-grade science and history fair. The brothers judged 62 wonderfully prepared projects from the students of Rasor.

As always, the brothers showed up and exuded the true walk of Omega, and provided a presentation of value, motivation, and positive influence for students and campus during this enrichment program.



## A Network of Change

By Bro. Larry Johnson II, Alpha Iota Iota Chapter, Dallas, Texas

The Alpha Iota Iota Social Action Committee has been BUSY, to say the least, this year. Community service is at the forefront of the chapter's charge and vision to establish its presence in the North Dallas Communities.

Founded in 1985, the Network Of Community Ministries began during an economic downturn when several churches and community organizations came together to ally to assist families in need.

The men of Alpha Iota Iota have been committed to providing an overwhelming presence in the infrastructure and operation of their mission to help the community and assist in uplifting the underserved and disadvantaged families in North Dallas.

One Saturday each month the brothers of A.I.I. assist with labeling produce, stocking the floor, loading carts, and helping citizens carry large loads of goods to their cars. The newly integrated partnership with the Network and A.I.I. is off to a great start and looks to be a partnership that will flourish in the future.





## **Mu Mu Nu Chapter Hosts 30th Annual Lone Star State Ques Meeting in Houston**

**By Bro. Jeffrey L. Boney, Chapter Editor**

The Brothers of Mu Mu Nu chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. hosted the 30th Annual Meeting of the Lone Star State Ques (LSSQ) from February 10-12, 2023, in Houston, Texas.

The LSSQ is a state of Texas-sponsored organization consisting of all Omega chapters (35 Graduate and 26 Undergraduate) that are located within the great state of Texas.

The purpose of this annual meeting was to prepare and educate the Brothers from the Lone Star State on the Policies and Procedures of the Fraternity, provide a greater understanding of the programs of the Fraternity, and select representatives to handle the State, District, and International business of the Fraternity.

On Friday, February 10th, Brothers attended a “Fellowship—Retention and Reclamation Reception” at the 366 Sky Lounge, hosted by Mu Mu Nu. On Saturday, February 11th, the official LSSQ meeting was held—24 Graduate and 6 Undergraduate chapters were represented. All involved achieved their overall goals with the meeting agenda and outcome. There were officially 323 Brothers registered, with approximately 300 in attendance, including members of the Supreme Council of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.—Brother-Grand Mark E. Jackson (1st Vice Grand Basileus), Brother-Grand Sherman Charles (Grand Keeper of Records and Seal), and Brother-Grand Clement Osimetha (Grand Counselor). On Sunday, February 12th, the Brothers attended a worship service at Fallbrook Church.

Relative to social impact, LSSQ was able to provide training and enhance the knowledge of the Fraternity business to Brothers from across the state of Texas, the Ninth District, and Internationally, as well as improve the relationships of the chapters within our Fraternity, and determine a positive path forward for the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. at all levels.



## **Mu Mu Nu Chapter Participates in Successful Klein Forest High School HBCU Divine Nine Event during Black History Month By Bro. Jeffrey L. Boney, Chapter Editor**

The Klein Forest High School HBCU Divine Nine event held on February 10, 2023, was a success. As we know, the entire month of February is designated as Black History Month; where we honor all Black people from all periods of U.S. history—from our enslaved ancestors who were first brought over from Africa in the early 17th century to all African Americans living in the U.S. today.

The Brothers of Mu Mu Nu brought awareness to high school students about the diversity of organizations on college campuses, in conjunction with participants from other members of Divine Nine organizations. Working collectively, each Divine Nine participant exposed the students to higher education via our experiences and knowledge of attending Greek life at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

During the presentation, Brothers of Mu Mu Nu educated the students on the history of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., the works of Brothers of Omega, and their contribution to society. The Brothers presented the contributions of men such as Booker T. Washington and W. E. B. Dubois, as well as Brothers like Dr. Charles Drew and many other powerful Omega men. The Brothers of Mu Mu Nu also paid tribute to the generations of African American leaders who struggled with adversity to achieve change.

Relative to social impact, Klein Forest High School has a student population of roughly 3,500 students. This HBCU Divine Nine event impacted approximately 20% of the student population, which is about 700 kids throughout the entire Klein Forest High School student body. Students stopped by the booths and engaged with the presenters and asked questions about the different characteristics of each organization.



## 7th Annual “Feast in the East”

### Article by Bro. Brandon Chappell – Omicron Upsilon – Waco, TX

On December 22, 2022, the Omicron Upsilon Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity participated in the 7th annual “Feast in the East,” a free community dinner that brings together the people of Waco, Texas within the east Waco community. This year, the fraternity brothers took on various roles, from serving food to coordinating volunteers, managing donations, and cleaning up. The event returned to its normal format after two years of distributing to-go meals due to COVID restrictions instead of being in-person as originally intended. While the to-go meals were beneficial for many families, it was nice to return to the original community dinner format.

The “Feast in the East” is more than just a dinner; it is a celebration of community created by Waco native, Rocky Miller. The dinner is a chance for neighbors to come together and enjoy a meal in each other’s company during a time when family and fellowship are at the forefront of people’s minds. The Omicron Upsilon chapter actively participates in the “Feast in the East” as a demonstration of our commitment to social action in Waco. As Omega Psi Phi emphasizes the value of uplift, events like the “Feast in the East” are a very important part of Omicron Upsilon’s local contribution to the city of Waco.

This year’s event experienced unexpectedly low temperatures making it extremely difficult for many people to attend. Some of the fraternity members volunteered to take to-go plates to the people in the community who were deterred from coming to the event due to the harsh weather conditions. In addition to providing warm meals, the “Feast in the East” also included the distribution of free jackets and coats to those in need. This small gesture can make a big difference in the lives of those who may not have access to warm clothing during the colder months.

The “Feast in the East” took place at the former site of the historic Paul Quinn College campus, a fitting location for an event that promotes empowerment and community building. As members of the Omicron Upsilon chapter, we are proud to have played a Rollin this important event and to have contributed to the “East Waco Empowerment Project.”

Once again, the “Feast in the East” was a success, thanks in large part to the hard work of the Omicron Upsilon chapter and all the other volunteers. The event wouldn’t be possible without Rocky and Keisha Miller of the Waco Empowerment Project identifying a need within our city and partnering with different organizations to make sure the event would serve to be beneficial to the people of East Waco.

Led by Basileus Bro. Darrell Robbins and Vice Basileus Bro. Jovvanta Mason, Omicron Upsilon looks forward to continuing our commitment to social action and community uplift in the future.



# **Exemplifying Scholarship & Uplift: Honoring Dr. Van S. Allen's 75 years of service**

## **By Bro. JovVanTa Mason, Rho Theta (Omicron Upsilon), Waco, TX**



Born the eldest of nine children to a sharecropping family in Hollandale, Mississippi, on April 2nd, 1926, Van Sizar Allen is a living example of the triumphs of African Americans, a true testament of perseverance. Although he recalls the seemingly insurmountable obstacles faced by his people during his early years, he remembers being surrounded by Black families who valued education. From this support developed a deep desire to be educated and the aspiration to obtain useful knowledge. In acting upon these aspirations, Allen would go on to receive a Bachelor's degree in Biology from Tugaloo College, a Master's of Science in School Health from the University of Michigan, a graduate certificate in Alcohol Studies from Yale University, a Master's and Ph.D. in Public Health from the University of North Carolina.

Dr. Allen's love for scholarship and education did not cease at his attainments. He taught science at Bennett College for over a decade, served as Vice President of Academic Affairs at both Tugaloo and Paul Quinn College, and held a host of positions within educational organizations and agencies. Perhaps the work Dr. Allen is most noted for is his efforts working with the Southern Regional Education Board, the Technical Assistance Consortium To Improve College Services and the United Negro College Fund. In this work, Dr. Allen was charged with the uplift of historically black colleges and universities and other Black educational institutions. His critiques, presentations, and overall educational philosophy would become a mainstay in the fundraising and support efforts for the UNCF. Arguing in 1970 that "the Black colleges have the keys to the doors of education and equal employment opportunity for both blacks and whites who anticipate successful participation in the present and future American society", Dr. Allen was and remains a proven advocate of the capabilities of HBCUs. In 1975 this advocacy extended into the courtroom as Dr. Allen served as an expert witness in *Ayers v. Waller*, a case that addressed the underfunding of HBCUs in the state of Mississippi.

In an interview with Dr. Allen in 2022, he noted that his interest in evolving educational philosophies is even stronger at 95 years old because he understands fully that we as human beings have the potential to resolve whatever ailments that society may face. And at 95, Dr. Allen has not let age deter his efforts. He remains active within the community in Waco, Tx with the Central Texas African American Heritage Foundation and Omicron Upsilon chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Approaching his 75th year of service to our beloved fraternity, Dr. Allen exemplifies our cardinal principles. His achievements and efforts reflect a strict adherence to scholarship and a desire to uplift communities through education.



## **A Class For The Ages**

**By Walter Hunt, Ed.D., Rho Beta Beta Chapter, Houston, Texas**

On an otherwise uneventful Monday night, on January 2, 2023, during a National Football League (NFL) night-game telecast, millions of football fans, both young and old, excitedly tuned in for what was sure to be a competitive match-up between the (12-3) Buffalo Bills and the (11-4) Cincinnati Bengals. However, at approximately 8:55 PM, Buffalo Bills Safety, 24-year-old Damar Hamlin, made what would be considered by most as a routine tackle. However, that tackle would result in the football game being temporarily suspended and then subsequently postponed, while the world seemingly stood still for nine days as we sat on edge wondering if Hamlin would recover after collapsing on the football field.

We later found out that Hamlin suffered a cardiac arrest event on the field, resulting from the tackle. He had to be resuscitated, as the first responders (trainers) worked feverishly to save his life, to prevent this young man from dying during a nationally-televised NFL game. Fortunately, Hamlin was blessed to have someone proficient in CPR nearby working to help restore his heartbeat. Unfortunately, 12-year-old Elijah Jordan Brown Garcia, wasn't as lucky, as he suddenly collapsed during a light football training session on February 24, 2023. Elijah lost consciousness and lay on the ground for approximately 40 minutes before any attempts were made to resuscitate him when paramedics finally arrived. Sadly, Elijah passed away like countless other individuals who suffer a medical emergency in the company of individuals who are not properly trained to render aid when needed.

This incident and the fact that sudden cardiac death among high school athletes is a growing problem has made CPR training a huge topic in our circles, thus prompting our Houston Omega Lamplighters to lead the way. To make sure our young men are prepared for any unfortunate incidents, such as those aforementioned, we put together FREE CPR training.

On Sunday, January 22, 2023, Brother Marvin Alexander (Nu Phi), a Houston Fire Department (HFD) Chief, provided instructions on how to perform life-saving measures in case of an emergency. Brother Alexander paid the fee for those in attendance to receive their CPR certification, upon successful completion of the training.

The Lamplighters were engaged and attentive for the entirety of the three-hour session, as they learned life saving techniques that could potentially save a life one day. While we hope that none of them ever need to put what was learned during this training into practice, we wanted to be sure they are properly equipped with the necessary tools to save a life if ever in a life-or-death situation.

# PBB

## Reclamation & Retention

By Walter Hunt, Ed.D., Rho Beta Beta Chapter, Houston, Texas

Vince Lombardi was once quoted as saying, “Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work.” Those words hold for the intrinsic motivation implored in our Rho Beta Beta Chapter, Reclamation, and Retention efforts to reclaim like-minded Brothers into Omega that truly understand the meaning of the four Cardinal Principles of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

It’s the aforementioned quote and our hyper-focus on reclamation that pushed our Rho Beta Beta Reclamation and Retention Committee to close out the 2022 year by offering free Rho Beta Beta membership to recent college graduates of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. In addition, there was also a dues incentive available for every current member who took the initiative to help another brother become financial. The deadline for participation was December 31, 2022, as we worked to close out the year on a positive note.

We started the New Year with the same level of enthusiasm as we had when we closed out the 2022 year by holding our first Reclamation and Retention event of 2023 on Tuesday, January 31, 2023, at Five Central. This was followed up by our encore reclamation event on Thursday, February 23, 2023, at Bombshells Restaurant in Pearland. If success is defined by the achievement of desired visions and planned goals, then our first two reclamation projects can only be described as success. Since we kicked off our Reclamation initiative, 35 brothers have been reclaimed. Our current number of reclaimed Brothers puts our chapter on track to not only meet but surpass, our goal of reclaiming a minimum of 100 Brothers this year. Rho Beta Beta continues to work together as brothers in the continual pursuit of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift!



## 69 Years and Counting!

By Bro. Terrance Kinard/ Sigma Tau Chapter/ El Paso, Texas

As Black History Month has come and nearly gone, I wanted to highlight some of the accomplishments of my Chapter. As I pondered on different stories to write about, from which I had plenty to choose, one Brother continued to stand out, Brother Hoyt Lafayette Ward, Sr., affectionately known as '54. As a young Brother in the Fraternity, I have become accustomed to Brother Ward being the voice of reasoning, but while in attendance at his Black History speech, I stood in awe as he captivated the crowd, commanded the room, and eloquently answered every question. This year marks 69 years of his continuous service in our prestigious Fraternity. Astrologically, the number 69 is the number of balance, harmony, and cooperation, in which Brother Ward displays all these characteristics, and when we view this number in a reading it is a sign of peace and tranquility.



Brother Ward was born July 22, 1935, in Bokchito, Oklahoma to the late Mr. Edmond and Mrs. Clorie Ward. He is the widower of Mrs. Mattie (Delta Sigma Theta), the love of his life, and is the proud Father of three children: Hoyt L. Ward II, Zandra Ward, and Sonja Coleman. The town Bokchito is of Choctaw Indian descent, which encompasses Brother Ward's family lineage, dating back to his grandfather. He had 11 siblings, several transitioned before he was born, he's the youngest son and the only college graduate.

Brother Ward attended Langston University, which was the only college that African Americans could attend in Oklahoma during the time he graduated High School. Oklahoma became a state in 1907 and was segregated until 1963. Brother Ward studied Agriculture with a specialization in Dairy Science. He was also in ROTC for 2 years before the program was terminated at Langston University. While in College Brother Ward was initiated into Omega Phi Psi Fraternity Inc on April 10, 1954, Phi Psi Chapter, Langston University. Brother Ward was mentored by our 32nd Grand Basileus Dr. Benjamin L. Livingston and they remained close friends until GB 32 entered Omega Chapter. He joined the Fraternity because during that time people of color did not have many opportunities in the job field, Afro-Americans were not allowed to join other professional organizations, and members of Historically Black Fraternities would help each other with getting into different sectors of the workplace.



## Honoring Bro. Ward

In 1955 Brother Ward applied for employment in Dairy research and was deemed highly qualified by the employer, but as of today he still has not been called to work. He graduated from Langston University in May 1956 and was drafted into the Army a month later. Brother Ward served in the US Army for 29 years and retired in 1983, as an Air Defense Artillery Sergeant Major at Ft. Bliss, TX. He was stationed all over the world during the Vietnam Era and was also assigned to the “Special Unit: Desert Rock Atomic Proving Ground” outside of Las Vegas, Nevada where atmospheric and underground nuclear testing was conducted. While assigned to Desert Rock Atomic Proving Ground Brother Ward was exposed to ionizing radiation that was 10 times as potent as agent orange. He’s currently battling prostate, blood, and colon cancers and still makes time to do his duty that is best: mentor Brothers, attend meetings, and walk the Concordia Cemetery. He retired from the civilian sector in 1994.

Brother Hoyt Ward, '54, is the epitome of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift. He is a Life Member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, and has held several positions in the Fraternity, including Basileus times three for Sigma Tau Chapter. Brother Ward and his late wife were instrumental in chartering the Buffalo Soldier Chapter at Ft. Bliss and he continues to be a pillar in the El Paso community. He is a member of the 50/50 club for the McCall Center, and a devout member of St. Paul’s United Methodist Church, and his guidance and wisdom continue to inspire all that he encounters.

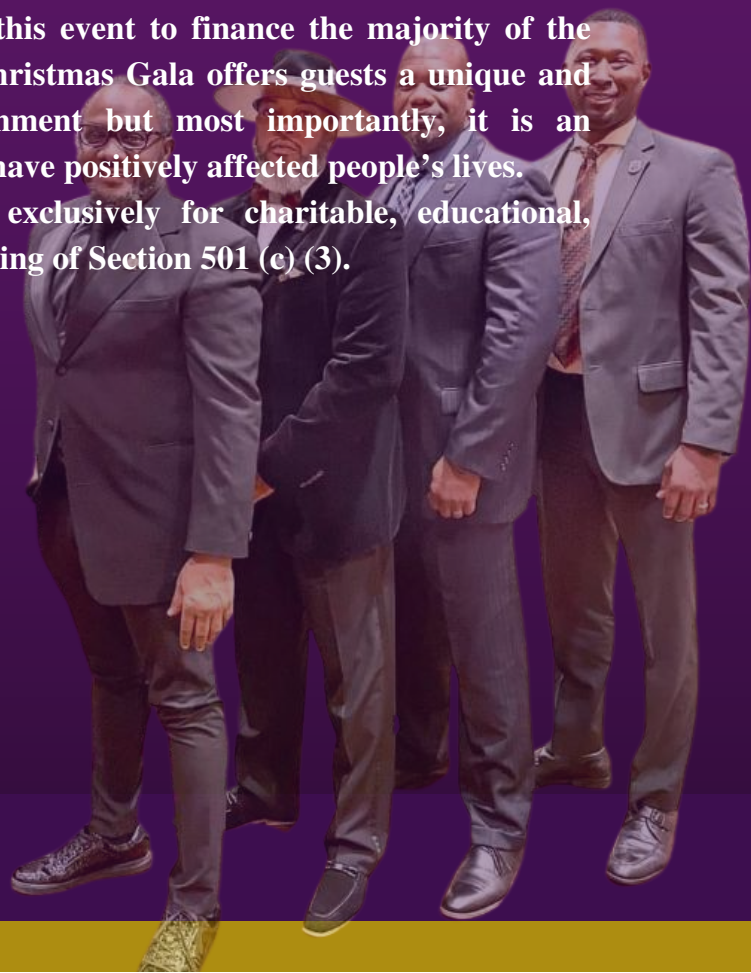
**Christmas with da Ques – The Purple Glove Foundation Eta Mu Mu Chapter /  
Denton, Texas  
By Bro. Dwayne Wright**

On December 3, 2022, the brothers of the HMM Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated, in conjunction with the Purple Glove Foundation (501c3) participated in their 11th Annual Scholarship Gala titled “Christmas with da Ques”.

This is the signature event for the HMM Chapter and the proceeds from this event go towards community programs. The Foundation has awarded over \$50,000 to deserving High School Seniors since 2016. The Christmas event was held for the first time since the Covid Pandemic. Over 350 people were in attendance including several distinguished 9th District Representatives to enjoy food, fellowship, and the smooth sounds of national recording artist, Bro. Tim Cunningham.

Our motto, “Offering the strong arm of service to the communities in which we live,” is based on the understanding that our future lies in the hands of our young. Our mission is to strengthen our youth by stimulating and encouraging them academically and inspiring civic pride.

The foundation co-sponsors several events throughout the year and supports a multitude of community awareness programs and directly sponsors the Omega Seed Mentoring Program and College Scholarships for those that desire higher education. We are regular supporters of Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Carter Blood Care, Community Partners of Denton County, and Habitat for Humanity. We do all this from donations from our annual Christmas Gala. We rely heavily on this event to finance the majority of the foundation’s yearly outreach activities. The Christmas Gala offers guests a unique and memorable evening of dinner and entertainment but most importantly, it is an opportunity to see and hear how contributions have positively affected people’s lives. The Purple Glove Foundation is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3).





**New Beginnings Baptist Church, Heart of the City, Food Giveaway**  
**By: Carl Levy, Jr.**



On Saturday, February 11, 2023, the Eta Mu Mu chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity members joined forces with The Heart of the City Ministry to provide food items to those in need. Operations started at 8:30 am at New Beginnings Baptist Church in Lewisville, Texas where volunteers set up the parking lot for the staging of vehicles and unloading food items from the delivery truck to the designated distribution area.

Members of Omega Psi Phi participated in areas of operations such as traffic control, taking orders from families, and delivering food items from the staging area to their vehicles. Over 250 vehicles were served and 950 boxes were distributed over a two-and-a-half-hour period. Operations shut down at 11:00 am, the cones were picked up, and pallets were placed back into the delivery truck. A final inventory of food items was conducted inside the facility and non-perishable items were placed on the shelves.



## **Braswell High School HBCU Fair 2023**

**By: Carl Levy, Jr.**

On Wednesday, February 15, 2023, from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. The divine 9 and Historical Black Colleges & Universities held a fair for Denton ISD students. The fair provided insight into the institutions of higher learning and Greek life on the campuses.

Eta Mu Mu (HMM) had the following brothers present to participate in this social action community service event, (Basileus Donald Crayton, Kyle Culberson, Harlan Jefferson, Former 9th District D.R. Shawn Brewer, Kevin Williams, and Keith Adams).

The Brothers of HMM provided the students with information regarding our annual Talent Hunt, where to find funding for Scholarships through HMM, and perspective universities/colleges.

Members of the chapter also accepted the student's email addresses to send them emails on the chapter's Scholarships opportunities and our Omega Seeds program. The students were very receptive and open to learning.

The High School Assistant Principal is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and his information has been obtained for reclamation.

The demographics at Braswell HS have changed within the past 3 years to 52% African American students.



## Omega Gents Spring 2023 First Impressions Suit Giveaway By Bro. Lamon Smith Omicron Gamma Gamma Arlington, TX



To begin our spring semester our Omega Gents conducted their 1st annual suit giveaway benefiting students of Crossroads Academy which Bro. Jabulani Satcher who is the Principal there. Our mentoring program consists of four building blocks which are: Manhood, Scholarship, Health and Wellness, and Community and Social Involvement.

This was a program run completely by our Omega Gents who did an excellent job with answering questions and assisting the young men who showed up to get a free suit. This will be an ongoing event that will be run by our Omega Gents.

The primary focus of the First Impressions Suit Giveaway is to help deserving young men who are trying to accomplish getting their High School diploma and allow them to dress for success as they pursue future endeavors in their life. We are very proud of our Gents and their mentors who provided them with guidance, as they look forward to making this a signature event for them that will last for years to come.



**DR Martin Luther King, JR March  
Omicron Pi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.  
Killeen, Texas  
By Brother Willie J. Locke, III**



Killeen, Texas- On January 21, 2023, the Omicron Pi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. brothers participated in the DR Martin Luther King, JR March. In conjunction with the liaison by Bro Johnson/ Omicron Pi/Fort Hood, TX. Many members of the chapter supported the annual event along with prominent personnel of the Killeen City Council, civic organizations, and car and motorcycle clubs, including members of the Divine Nine. (November 26, 2022). Activities spearheaded by the Killeen NAACP Chapter include a program following the march in downtown Killeen. Again, we continue to show the community that we are here and willing to support noble projects like this.





**Wreath Retrieval**  
**Omicron Pi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.**  
**Killeen, Texas**  
**By Brother Willie J. Locke, III**



Killeen, Texas- On January 14, 2023, the Omicron Pi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. brothers participated in the Friends of Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery Wreath Retrieval. In conjunction with the liaison by Bro Dallis Barnes/ Omicron Pi/Fort Hood, TX. Numerous members of the chapter supported the event by retrieving the wreaths and organizing their placement in fifty-three trailers for storage. Before the retrieval event, the chapter also helped the Friends of Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery prepare the wreaths (November 19, 2022) and the wreath laying (November 26, 2022). With our ties, the Military Community of Central Texas is and will be a true honor to support this endeavor continuously every year.

**Four Theta Alpha Brothers Recognized For Service In Their Community**  
**By: Ignatius Hickman**

During the summer of 2022, the Dallas Independent School District Board of Trustees voted unanimously to rename four schools in honor of Theta Alpha Brothers that had made a difference in the lives of people in the City of Dallas - three of which have entered Omega Chapter. Otto M. Fridia Elementary School, Dr. Frederick D. Todd, Sr. Middle School, and Judge Louis A. Bedford, Jr. Law Academy - Middle School. Albert Black, Jr is currently a member of the Theta Alpha Chapter and an Elementary School was renamed in his honor. Dr. Llewellyn Blackburn was also recognized for having the Fine Arts Wing at Roosevelt High School named in his honor.



— FRIENDSHIP IS ESSENTIAL TO THE SOUL —

**THETA ALPHA CHAPTER**

OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC. CHARTERED OCT 1, 1935 DALLAS, TX



**Operation Uplift**  
**Omicron Pi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, INC.**  
**Killeen, Texas**  
**By Brother Cedric Davis**

Killeen, TX---Through its ‘Operation Uplift’ Committee, the Omicron Pi Chapter supports two events in December 2022. Through the leadership of our Committee Chair, Bro. Cedric R. Davis, SR and Co-Chair, Bro. Willie Wilson (both of Omicron Pi/ Fort Hood, TX), the committee tenaciously focuses on efforts to grow our impact in our community. The committee has embraced Omega’s mandated Social Action Programs supporting the Killeen Food Center and Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 9191 Benjamin O. Davis.

From financial gifts from our members, community supporters, and fundraisers, the chapter presented two checks to support local community programs: \$3,200.00 to the Killeen Food Center and VFW Post 9191. We distributed over 800 toys to four Killeen Independent School District Elementary students.

Through the vision and leadership of our Basileus and the dedication of our Operation Uplift Committee, we are pleased to serve our communities with care and compassion.



**Founders Day Banquet  
Omicron Pi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.  
Killeen, Texas  
By Brother Carlo S. Davis**



**Killeen, Texas- On November 18th, 2022, the brothers of Omicron Pi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. held a Founders Day Banquet at the Lone Star Conference Center on the historical military installation of Fort Hood. The event was orchestrated by Bro Carlo S. Davis/ Omicron Pi/Fort Hood, TX. The theme was Omega Psi Phi, uplifting local, national, and world communities. The 9th District Representative Brother Harold L. Bailey was the keynote speaker and delivered a powerful message on the numerous accomplishments of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity across the globe. The fraternity celebrated 111 years since its foundation in the Science Building at Howard University in Washington, D.C., on November 17th, 1911. The founders were three undergraduates and their faculty advisors: Professor Frank Coleman, Dr. Oscar J. Cooper, Bishop Edgar A. Love, and Dr. Ernest E. Just.**



## Omega Sparks Senior Living Center

By: Ignatius Hickman

On December 18, 2022, Brother Kermit Early coordinated a fruit basket giving for the residents at two Deer Creek Senior Living Centers in Desoto, Texas. Omega SPARKS, parents, and brothers of Theta Alpha Chapter presented the baskets of fruit to the residents, sang Christmas carols, and wished them a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year.



— FRIENDSHIP IS ESSENTIAL TO THE SOUL —

## THETA ALPHA CHAPTER

OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC. CHARTERED OCT1, 1935 DALLAS, TX





# THETA ALPHA MARTIN LUTHER KING PARADE WITH THE DIVINE 9 NPHC 16th JANUARY 2023

By: Ignatius Hickman

Theta Alpha Chapter participated in the Divine 9 National Pan-Hellenic Council. 16th January 2023, all Greeks / Families came out to march and celebrate in Martin Luther King Parade in DALLAS, TX. It has been 3 years since the last parade since the Pandemic in 2020.





**Rho Xi Chapter, Freeport TX 2022  
Achievement Week Activities Real Men Read  
Submitted by Brother Anthony Edwards – Mu  
Beta (Rho Xi)/Freeport, Texas**

On Thursday, November 17th, 2022, The Rho Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi along with the Houston Area Coalition of Chapters of Omega Psi Phi served by participating in Real Men Read at Kipp Peace Elementary 5400 Martin Luther King Blvd Houston, TX 77021.



**Rho Xi Chapter, Freeport TX 2022 City of  
Houston Achievement Proclamation  
Submitted by Brother Anthony Edwards –  
Mu Beta (Rho Xi)/Freeport, Texas**



On Tuesday, November 15th, 2022, The Rho Xi Chapter along with the Houston Area Coalition of Chapters of Omega Psi Phi Received a City of Houston Proclamation from Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner and City Council Member Tiffany Thomas.

**Rho Xi Chapter, Freeport TX Blanket For  
Homeless on December 3rd, 2022  
Submitted by Brother Anthony Edwards –  
Mu Beta (Rho Xi)/Freeport, Texas**



Saturday, December 3rd, 2022, the Rho Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi participated in their Annual Blankets for the Homeless. The event was held in Downtown Houston. The Rho Xi Chapter donated new socks, new tee shirts, new underwear, new hoodies, and gently worn clothes and shoes.





**Rho Xi Chapter, Freeport TX participated in the Annual MLK Celebration in Freeport, Texas. Submitted by Brother Anthony Edwards – Mu Beta (Rho Xi)/Freeport, Texas**

On Saturday, January 14th, the Rho Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi, took part in celebrating the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by being a sponsor in the MLK Banquet held on Saturday, January 14th. The Rho Xi Chapter also sponsors two brothers' widows Marvella Doss (Brother James Doss Rho Gamma 1962) and Sandra Cain (Brother Ernest Cain Rho Xi 1990) whose husbands are in Omega Chapter. On Monday, January 16th the Rho Xi Chapter participated in the MLK Parade, some of the brothers of Rho Xi were judges of the contestants in the annual MLK Parade. On Monday, January 16th the Rho Xi Chapter also celebrated with the community of Freeport by participating in the MLK Festival at the Freeport Municipal Park in Freeport, Texas.



**Brother Otis Jordan of Rho Xi, Freeport TX a Fire Apparatus dedication in his name. Submitted by Brother Anthony Edwards – Mu Beta (Rho Xi)/Freeport, Texas**



Fire Station 80 of the Houston Fire Department hosted a dedication ceremony on February 19th to name Booster 80 in honor of retired Captain Otis Jordan, who joined the Houston Fire Department in 1979 and retired on October 7, 2009, after more than three decades of exemplary service.

Bro. Jordan was committed to protecting the lives and property of area residents and for 10 years he served as president of the Houston Black Firefighters Association, where he advocated for racial equality and championed justice and fairness for all. Captain Jordan is a graduate of Sterling High School and is a member of the Class of 1978 at Texas Christian University. He is an active member of RHO XI Chapter, Freeport, TX of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated. Through his outstanding leadership and strength of character, Captain Jordan has earned the lasting respect and admiration of his fellow citizens, and the naming of Booster 80 in his honor as a fitting tribute to his significant contributions to the community

## Young Leaders of Tomorrow

Written By: Orlando M. Richards



On Saturday, 25 February 2023 at 9:00 am, Psi Alpha Chapter held its first in-person Youth Leadership (YL) and Omega STEM Conference at St. Philip's College in over three years. The event was attended by approximately forty-seven (47+) youths, fifteen (15+) parents, and twenty-five (25+) brothers alike virtually and physically. The theme for this year's conference was Building a Foundation for Greatness. The morning activities started with sign-in/registration, breakfast, and various speakers for the YL conference dealing with topics from Financial Literacy, Do/Don'ts of social media, Building a Foundation for Greatness, Faith, and overcoming the fear of success, Mental Wellness, and Building on the Foundation of the Past.

The afternoon activities began with Brother John Sensely's introduction of automotive electronics, engineering & design, and an air-powered catapult system to the youth.

Afternoon activities then progressed and ended with Dr. Marie-Michelle Saint Hubert (Project Sure) leading the STEM activities. The YL & STEM committee provided financial assistance through the award of three essay scholarships in the amounts of \$1,000, \$750, and \$500 respectively to essay award winners AJ Hardeman, Jalen Hall, and Tyler Hardeaway. Additionally, six \$100 leadership awards were given out throughout the event to the attendees impacting lives at a total of approximately \$3,000 in monies.

Students and parents alike mentioned that the event was engaging and expressed their optimism about the future growth and attendance of the event. The chapter appreciates all the assistance, partnerships, and fraternity leadership who attended the event from Brother Grand Basileus Ricky Lewis, IHQ STEM Chair Brother Lee Willis, IHQ YL Chair Brother Keith Pemberton, and IHQ YL Co-Chair Brother John D. Cooper, and others.

## **Psi Alpha Reignites On Campus Mentoring Program**

**Written By: Rick Tanner**



**In January 2023, Psi Alpha finalized an agreement with the George Gervin Academy to facilitate the Psi Alpha on-campus mentoring program. The agreed-upon mentoring program consists of 10 mentees meeting for one hour every Thursday afternoon. The Mentoring Committee held four sessions in February. Each session was held from 11:45 am-12:45 pm.**

**On February 2, the Tyre Nichols situation was discussed with the mentees. The discussion was an open forum for the mentees to express their views on the situation, police interaction in general, and any questions they had. The conversation evolved into a discussion on their prior experiences with police. The mentors provided insight, encouragement, and practical tools for interacting with the police.**

**The February 9 session was primarily related to a team-building exercise. The mentees were broken into teams and were given two minutes to strategize on how to build a tower out of cups, plates, and index cards. Then each team was given 5 minutes to build the tower without any verbal communication. This was done twice. The mentees were engaged in the exercise and it produced positive results. The overall theme of the exercise was communication and building a solid foundation in life. The tower was used as an example of starting with a solid foundation as opposed to building as high and as fast as possible.**

**At the request of the GGA staff, the February 16th session focused on bullying. We discussed different types of bullying, what to do if the mentees witness bullying, etc. We also discussed their interactions with the authority figures in the school and how that can be perceived as bullying. The conversation pivoted to the mentees being leaders in the school and deterring any bullying. Leadership by the mentees was stressed and communicated during the session.**

**The February 23rd session focused on discussing the YLC/STEM Conference as well as goal setting. Each mentee was asked to state one goal for the year. They then had to discuss their progress toward that goal, things they could do daily to reach that goal, etc. Finally, the mentors provided a challenge related to that goal which was accepted by each mentee. In every case, the mentees communicated their goals well were honest with their progress and discussed things they could do differently to achieve that goal.**

**The following brothers participated in the mentoring sessions: Bro. Rick Tanner (Chair), Bro Vice Basileus John Lester, Bro. Ice Peay, Bro. Ralph Jenkins, and Bro. Chris Cleveland, and Bro. Jerry Coburn.**



## **“Ties and Tiara’s” – Psi Alpha Chapter’s Daddy-Daughter Dance 2023**

**Written By: Scott L. Earle, Sr.**

On February 18th, 2023, over 175 daughters with their dad’s enjoyed an evening of bonding and dancing. This event had been in the planning stages since COVID-19 shut down our communities. Sometimes the only time a father dances with his daughter is when he is giving her away at her wedding. This is a shame. I have spoken to dads in the past who have stated these dances were the best night they and their daughters have ever had together. It really can be an unbelievable catalyst to bring fathers and their girls closer together. The main objective of this event was to strengthen the relationship between fathers and daughters, thereby decreasing teen pregnancy, social dysfunction in girls, early substance abuse, as well as the instances of domestic violence that occur in many phases of our daughters’ lives.

To witness dads of different races, socio-economic backgrounds, and various religious beliefs bonding together with their daughters was a beautiful sight. Fathers who would never socialize outside of this venue were brought together and saw they were similar in one common way and that was their love of their daughters.

Most people agree that “father” is a biological title and a little more. Any male parent is technically a father... simple as that. The title of dad is earned through hard work — nurturing, bonding with, and supporting your child for the long haul. On this special evening, the love of dads and daughters was showcased for all to see.

The classic song written and performed by the incomparable Luther Vandross, “Dance with My Father” was chosen for the last song. I pray that these girls hear these lyrics throughout their lives and when their dad’s presence is not near the memories from this dance provide comfort throughout their journeys in life.

“If I could steal one final glance, one final step  
One final dance with him  
I'd play a song that would never ever end  
Cause I'd love, love, love to dance with my father again.”



**2023 Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.  
Talent Hunt Psi Alpha, Alpha Delta  
Lambda, and Xi Delta Chapters  
By: Mark Vivians**

**The Psi Alpha, Alpha Delta Lambda, and Xi Delta Chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. hosted its annual Talent Hunt where area high school students can demonstrate their single-category artistic abilities. The 2023 Talent Hunt was held on Saturday, February 18, 2023, at 1:00 pm.**

**The event was held at the University of San Antonio (UTSA) Buena Vista Theater in San Antonio, Texas.**

**Nine high school students in grades 9-12 in the San Antonio metropolitan area participated in the event. Four performed in the Classical Instrumental Solo Category, four in the Contemporary Vocal Solo Category, and one in the Dramatic Interpretations Category.**

**Mr. Aaron De Leon, a senior at Samuel V. Champion High School, was awarded \$250 third place for his playing of “Three Preludes” by George Gershwin on his piano. Mr. Louis Geer, a senior at Basis Shavano High School, was awarded \$500 second place for his playing of “Moonlight Sonata 3rd Movement” by Ludwig van Beethoven. Mr. Samuel Igbo, a junior at Boerne High School, was awarded \$750 first place for his playing of “Fantasie No. 1” by Florence B. Price on his violin.**

**Mr. Samuel Igbo will represent the Psi Alpha, Alpha Delta Lambda, and Xi Delta Chapters in the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Southwest Regional level competition and then hopefully at the 9th District and International levels.**





## South Texas HBCU College Fair

By: John Lester

On 4 Feb 23, the Brothers of Psi Alpha Chapter and the following Officers and Committees collaborated to support the Imbrace Education, Annual South Texas HBCU College Fair and provided the following information to students, parents, sponsors, and community members. Contacted 1000 in attendance and provided education/marketing resources to all regarding future Psi Alpha Events.

Historian, Bro. Jay Scriven – Provided historical perspective of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and Psi Alpha Chapter. Public Relations, Bro. Jeremy Neal – Provided OMEGA SPEAKS, the Psi Alpha Chapter monthly periodical, and allowed registration opportunities for Psi Alpha future outreach opportunities. Social Actions, Bro. Tony Godbee – Informed the community of the Psi Alpha Chapter Social Actions events throughout the year. Scholarship, Bro. Charles Whittaker along with Brothers in attendance informed those in attendance of the Psi Alpha Chapter Scholarship Opportunities.

Talent Hunt, Bro. Mark Vivians – Provided flyers marketing the upcoming Talent Hunt Competition. Psi Alpha Scholarship Foundation (PASF), Bro. Herbert Nance – Provided information on all the fundraising efforts of the PASF and the impact made in the San Antonio region. Voter Registration, Education, and Mobilization, Bro. Hickman – Provided information and registration opportunities to youth and adults over the age of 18 years old. Undergraduate Advisor, Bro. Kevin Grant – Assisted by the Undergraduate Brothers of Alpha Delta Lambda and Xi Delta provided an undergraduate resource for future college students and performed various MARCHES to present some of the traditions of the Fraternity.





## **Governor Appoints Brother Elvis Williams to Teacher Retirement System of Texas Board of Trustees**

**Written By: John Cooper / Jeremy Neal**

On January 9, 2023, Brother Elvis Williams, a 1994 initiate of Beta Theta Chapter of Omega Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, was appointed to the Teacher Retirement System of Texas Board of Trustees. The Board manages retirement and other benefits for teachers and employees of the state's public schools and institutions of higher education. TRS is the largest public retirement system in Texas, serving nearly 1.9 million people. TRS improves the retirement security of Texas public education employees through investment management and diligent delivery of pension and health care benefits. Brother Williams' term is set to expire on August 31, 2027.

Brother Williams of Fair Oaks Ranch is assistant superintendent of operations at Edgewood Independent School District, where he oversees several departments within the school's operations division including transportation, inventory and warehousing, planning and construction, technology, athletics, and child nutrition services. He has previously held administration positions at Dallas ISD, Del Valle ISD, and Huntsville ISD. Williams volunteers with Big Brothers and Big Sisters and with various committees of Bethlehem Baptist Church. He received a Bachelor of Science from Mississippi Valley State University, a Master of Education from Dallas Baptist University, and is currently pursuing a Doctor of Education at The University of Texas at Austin.



On Feb 23, the Big Brothers and Big Sisters of South Texas (BBBS) held its Black History Month Mixer at Estancia del North Hotel. At this event, BBBS presented the James L. Blair award to a mentor in honor of the late member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Psi Alpha Chapter Bro. James Blair. Bro. Blair was the 25th Basileus of the Psi Alpha Chapter who went to be with the Lord in July 2011. The impact Bro. Blair made throughout the city of San Antonio is still reflected today.

Bro. Blair was specifically responsible for collaborating with the San Antonio National Pan Hellenic Council (The DIVINE 9) to engage Big Brothers and Big Sisters and become involved and participate in mentoring. The James L. Blair Award has been recognized by the BBBS since 2012.

This year the Master of Ceremony for this event was Bro. Nevil Shed, a former basketball player and member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. He was a starting player on the Texas Western (now The University of Texas at El Paso) Miners men's basketball team that won the 1966 NCAA Men's Division I Basketball Tournament national championship. The Miners made history for being the first team to start an all-African American lineup in the championship game. Glory Road, a 2006 Disney film, chronicles the team's journey and their historic win. There were over sixty mentors and members of BBBS as well as supporters of past award winners in attendance on this night to recognize the 2023 James L. Blair Award recipient. Also, in attendance was Ms. Shawana Blair, widow of James Blair. Shawana shared James' love for humanity and his desire to help the youth. James, at the time of his death, was the Executive Director of the Miller Child Development Center and shared all the various outreach opportunities James was involved in. The award is fittingly awarded annually to a mentor who has had a significant impact as a BBBS Mentor.

This year's recipient of the James L. Blair award was Mr. Stewart Blanton. Mr. Blanton shared with those in attendance his passion for being a mentor. He has been a mentor for three different young men and the latest he's been a mentor for over 10 years. He shared the joys and sorrows of being a mentor, but focused on how much being a mentor can change the outcome of a young man or woman. He accepted the award with his wife Aissatou along his side and shared how much she has sacrificed to allow him to be a mentor. The event ended with a testimonial from Bro. Nevil Shed and the impact he made as a young man who had the opportunity to change a life through an unselfish act. He shared that at one point in his life, he had the opportunity to save a life through the gift of giving blood. The recipient of the gift of life was none other than the man he calls son, Bro. David Singh is also a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Bro. Nevil Shed and Bro. Singh shed a tear as he told the story. Bro. Shed ended by saying you never know how you can impact a life, but organizations like BBBS, allow opportunities for us all to make an impact. Through the efforts of men like Stewart Blanton and the partnership with BBBS, the James L. Blair award will continue to recognize the mentors who make a significant impact in the greater San Antonio area for years to come.



## **Brother Clarence E. Hill, Sr. – Omega Chapter (1937-2023)**

**Written By: The Hill Family**

Clarence E. Hill Sr. lived a life dedicated to service and leadership. His profession and vocation were teaching math and doing accounting and finance as a business and with a number of service organizations. His calling was always about high achievement, order, discipline, and serving the needs of others, manifesting as a lifelong endeavor with a dedication to providing for his family, working as a church usher in a well variety of roles with Omega Psi Fraternity, the Van Courtlandt Social Club, a lifetime member of the NAACP and as a board member of the Davis-Scott YMCA.

Clarence Hill, who departed this earth on February 3, 2023, was born May 14, 1937, in Sweet Home (Lavaca County) Texas. He was baptized at Corinth Baptist Church in 1950. He completed grades 1 through 8 at Sweet Home Colored School and graduated from Asberry High School, the Yoakum Colored School in 1954 Yoakum as Valedictorian of his class. He earned Bachelor of Science degrees in Mathematics and Industrial Engineering from Prairie View A&M in 1958. He received a Master's Degree in Mathematics and a Certification in Education Administration in 1986. Clarence started his teaching career at E. A. Greer High School for Blacks in El Campo in 1958.

During his stay in El Campo, he met and married Jewel Rae Davis in 1962. To this union, Tina Sheree Hill and Clarence Edward Hill Jr. were born. In 1964, Clarence and Jewel moved to Wharton, Texas where he taught Mathematics and Science at Wharton Training High School for Blacks. In 1966, he accepted a position at Elgin High School in Elgin Texas as Head of the Science and Mathematics Department. In 1968, the Hill family relocated to San Antonio when SAISD began integration, accepting a position as a Mathematics teacher at Phillis Wheatley High School. In 1969, he was transferred to Thomas Jefferson High School to teach college preparatory math and science, where he remained until he retired in 1995. He was also an adjunct math professor at St. Phillips College from 1969 to 2003. He began working at Lewis Funeral Home in 1995 and served as the Business Manager/ Chief Financial Officer until 2020.

Clarence Hill joined the St. Paul Paul Methodist Church in 1968 and soon became a part of the Board of Ushers. He was elected Board President in 1977 and led the organization for 28 years. Clarence joined the San Antonio City Wide Ushers in 1977. He has been honored as Usher of the Year by both St. Paul United Methodist Church and the City Wide Ushers numerous times and was elected to the Texas Usher Hall of Fame. Clarence has also served St. Paul United Methodist Church as President of the Board of Trustees and Church Treasurer. Clarence pledged Omega Psi Fraternity in 1971 where he served as Basileus and Keeper of Finance among other offices with the Psi Alpha Chapter in San Antonio.

Clarence was married to Jewel for 59 years before she passed in July 2021. He leaves to mourn his two children, Tina Hill Finister (Husband, Elijah) of Houston, Texas, and Clarence E. Hill Jr. of Fort Worth, and a sister Linda Banks of Vacaville, California. His descendants include five grandchildren, Ryan Phipps (36), Kennedy Finisher (27), William Finister (24), Channing Hill (21), and Jihra Hill (17).



## **LTC Derek Morton Retirement**

**by Derek Morton**

**On February 24th, LTC Derek Morton celebrated his retirement ceremony at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX. A day filled with smiles, laughs, and a few tears.**

**Lieutenant Colonel Derek Morton, a Macon, Georgia native began his military career in the Reserve Office Training Corps (ROTC) while attending Georgia College in Milledgeville, Ga. He was awarded the 2-year ROTC Scholarship upon completing Camp Challenge at Fort Knox, Kentucky, and contracted in 1994. After serving two years in the ROTC, he was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant as a Medical Service Corps Officer in 1996. He completed the Medical Service Corp, Officer Basic Course at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and was designated as a Health Service Administration Officer (70B) in 1997.**

**LTC Morton has served in various leadership and staff positions. He started his career as the Health Service Officer of the 427th Medical Battalion, Ft. Gillem, Ga. Then as follows, Patient Administration Officer, 3297th USA Hospital, Ft. McPherson, Ga; Mobilization Officer, AMEDD Professional Management Command (APMC), Ft. McPherson, Ga; S-4, 94th Combat Support Hospital, Seagoville, TX; S-3, 176th Medical Brigade, and Homeland Operations Officer, U.S. Army Reserve Command.**

**LTC Morton has had key leadership deployments and overseas assignments throughout his career. He served as the Chief of Patient Administration for the 3297th U.S. Army Hospital, Task Force Medical Eagle, Operation Joint Forge in Bosnia from 2003-2004. He also served as Battalion S-4 for the 345th Combat Support Hospital, Multi-National Force Baghdad-Iraq in support of Operation Iraq-Freedom from 2008-2009, Army Reserve Joint Readiness Coordinator for the Pacific Regional Health Command, and as Deputy Commander for the 3rd Medical Readiness Training Brigade, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas from 2019-2021.**

**LTC Morton earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Administration with a minor in Criminal Justice from Georgia College. A graduate of the Army Medical Department Officer Basic and Advance Courses in San Antonio, Texas, and the Army Command and General Staff Officers Intermediate Level Education Course in Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. LTC Morton has also earned a Master of Arts in Homeland Security from American Military University. He graduated from the U.S. Army War College, earning a second Masters in Strategic Studies.**

**He graduated from the U.S. Army War College, earning a second Masters in Strategic Studies. He also graduated from the Joint Medical Operations Course, Airborne, and Air Assault School. His military awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters), and Iraq Campaign Medals, and the Order of Military Medical Merit.**





**East Side physician honored with Baptist Health System Humanitarian Award (KSAT 12 Article)**

**By Jessie Degollado and Luis Cienfuegos**

**SAN ANTONIO –** When his patients congratulate him for the Humanitarian Award from the Baptist Health System, Dr. Leo Edwards ('83 – Psi Alpha) said he tells them, “It’s y’all who made it possible.”

Edwards has spent more than 40 years in the East Side community where he was born and raised, helping and healing those like Judy Clay Jenkins.

Jenkins said it’s Edwards’ kindness that’s earned him recognition by the Baptist Health System. After Dr. Edwards heard there was a patient who became hungry while waiting to be seen, “he went and got her something to eat,” Jenkins said. “Then, he also had a cab to take her home.” Jenkins said that’s the kind of doctor Edwards is to all his patients.

“He’s the heart. He really is. He’s the heart,” Jenkins said. Edwards said, “It’s in my nature. It’s just kind of how it is. I’ve been brought up like that.” He said his parents were community-minded and, like him, active in the church at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church.

Whether it’s helping a patient get a medical apparatus they can’t afford or simply listening to what’s on their minds, Edwards said, “You treat them like they’re your family.”

The irony of Edwards being honored by the Baptist Health System was that Edwards has a deep personal connection to downtown Baptist, dating back to the day he was born.

Since it was a segregated hospital back then, Edwards said, “We had to go to a section of the hospital that was for Blacks.” Yet, when he was born not breathing, he said a white nurse gave him mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

Edwards said, “She didn’t hesitate to save my life.” To be recognized by the Baptist Health System all these years later, Edwards said, “It’s really cool, especially at this point in time in my life.”

## Omicron Nu Nu Making Change in the Community



Brothers of Omicron Nu Nu chapter celebrate Lifetime Membership in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. ONN brothers testify forever to our faith in the future of all Americans in the united states, and to the principles of equality and justice in the American constitution.

Omicron Nu Nu participated in MLK day marches, voter registration drives, food drives, clothing drives, youth mentorship programs, and adopt school initiatives. ONN brothers serve the surrounding community of Williamson county with a special emphasis on the development, economic advancement, and education of black people. Brothers of Omicron Nu Nu continually strive for a radical redistribution of economic wealth to further advance the quality of black lives in the communities they serve.





## Theta Upsilon and the Purple Tie Club

By Bro. William Perry, Jr., Theta Upsilon, Texarkana, TX

Theta Upsilon is a border state chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., having members in Arkansas and Texas. Communities representing both states share everyday struggles with a need for educational, economic, and philanthropic resources. The members of Theta Upsilon have been in our communities with programs to Uplift our upcoming generations since 1950; yesterday, today, and tomorrow is our goal.



Brother Flowers entered the Fraternity Spring of 2021 and has been instrumental in expanding the reach of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. and Theta Upsilon Chapter into the outlying communities. There are far more significant challenges for our youth in those remote communities. The fiscal policies of the municipalities need to be more supportive of our children.

His enthusiasm has taken the guidelines of the Purple Tie Club, creating a budget of \$2,500.00 for mentoring our youth in Hope, AR. Some budgeted items include purple polo shirts, mentoring, guest speakers, educational outings in the Texarkana Metroplex, and feeding the young men during each session.

One of his several speaking opportunities came during the local civic group Kiwanis meeting. <https://hopeprescott.com/2023/01/31/allen-flowers-tells-kiwanis-club-about-purple-tie-club/> . He has leveraged his personal/professional relationships to bring in successful Men of Color, college-educated, and entrepreneurs to offer vocational guidance and inspiration.

Food insecurities are very real in Southwest Arkansas and Northeast Texas. Our children need help with where their next meal will come to arrive.

His purpose is to extend learning from the classroom to the real world. Unfortunately, too many plans fail because people fail to plan. Brother Flowers' quote is, "Dream beyond the horizon. Allow your dreams to become your ambition." (Allen Flowers, 1998).



CHAPLAIN'S



CORNER

# Chaplains Corner



Psalm 51

2 Chronicles 7: 11-14

Mark 11: 1-11

Subject: Hit the Reset Button

We know that as the saying goes, “Stuff happens” in our lives. Sometimes your phone. Your cable signal is lost. And your computer freezes up. When this situation occurs you hit the reset button.

These biblical texts speak of hitting the reset button. In 2 Chronicles 7, verses 11-14 tells that God says when the nation of Israel suffers through disasters, if his people repent and turn from their sinful ways, he would hear from heaven and heal the land. Psalm 51 is David’s prayer of repentance after Nathan the prophet confronts him about his adultery with Bathsheba and his covering it up by putting her husband Uriah the Hittite on the front line in a battle where he has killed Jesus during his triumphant ride into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday allows the Jewish establishment to hit the reset button by embracing him as King, Lord, and Savior. Palm Sunday begins Passion Week which is climaxed on Good Friday when in the redemptive plan the reset button is hit that changing the course of history.

There is a tradition that says that there were three processions into Jerusalem that day.

The first was Pontius Pilate leading a military entourage into the city to be ready to suppress any unrest from the Jews during Passover as the presence of Rome was hated. And there were those who believe in ending occupation by any means necessary.

Second, there was the High Priest, leading a vast herd of sheep that would be offered as a sacrifice later in the week. It was the rule that prior to being offered as a sacrifice the lambs had to put up for four days to be observed for any blemishes that would disqualify them from being offered.

And third, but not the least Jesus was riding into the city on a donkey as a symbol of humility. But as the Lamb of God, he enters the city so the religious leaders could get a closer look and see that he had no blemishes in any way. And hopefully, they would see that and push the reset button and set their nation on a different course.

We know that this virus has laterally stopped the world. Every human agency has been touched and put in the park: Education as schools, colleges, and universities are closed with students completing their work online. Commerce is stopped as businesses are closed, resulting in jitters on the stock market and rising unemployment rates. Government shows itself as inept and cannot protect the public as leadership appears would rather protect their interest instead of the public good. Sports are stopped as areas and ballparks are empty. Church as we know it is shut down in terms of assembly and is forced to reassess its purpose in terms of missions and ministries. God



# Chaplain's Corner



then got the attention of the world and did not fire a shot or drop a bomb, but he moved with a deadly microcosm we cannot see.

And this has caused us to rethink what matters: People since they cannot work and the children are home are rediscovering family time and enjoying meals together among other things. We see our government is flawed. Commerce and business are so affected that we learn that money is not everything as we learn that real worth is not net worth but self-worth in ourselves and others. The church has had to rethink how we minister and what we minister as we cut the chase and present Jesus Christ as he is to men as they are. And there is a rediscovery of the power of prayer as prayer meetings are popping up everywhere even in the halls of the hospitals. Truly on all fronts, there is a need to hit the reset button. And that truth says several things to us:

First, hitting the reset button means to understand the frailties and failings of everything human. Everything on earth is limited so life does crash and all we love sometimes comes tumbling down, just as your phone, tablet, or computer does. There are limits to what men can do. We cannot for our survival declare the truth when we don't like it as "fake news" or "a hoax. The universe is everywhere and rests on truth, be scientific, moral, and so forth as it is objective and absolute.

Second, resets deal with internal matters and not so much cosmetic and external. It is by resets that updates are made effective. We know this crisis has caused us to rethink and readjust our priorities. And we know resets rearrange software, removing any negative for the machine to run better. In a time of a crunch or a crash, we discover what people are made up of as either the best or the worst comes forth. But in the process of being reset within, we see our true need for things eternal.

And third, resets are very simple to do, just hit that button, with a simple touch. Remember in the Scriptures, great things with just a simple touch as lives were changed:

Moses, touched a rock with his staff, and water gushed forth to quench Israel's thirst in the wilderness

A stone touched Goliath's forehead and sinks in and he is brought down.

A tree branch touches the water and iron floats

Salt touches a spring and the waters are healed

The prophet Isaiah's lips are touched with a burning coal from the altar and he is prepared for his prophetic ministry.

# Chaplains Corner



Jeremiah's lips are touched by the hand of the Lord and he is ready to serve

And in the New Testament, God has touched us in Jesus Christ. And when he touched things happened

–the blind see

–the lame walk

–the dumb talk

–a woman suffering from constant blood flow touches the hem of his garment, the tassels on his prayer shawl and she is made whole --the bier bearing the widow of Nain's son is touched and he is brought back to life. –a twelve-year girl is touched and she is made alive

–his words echo within the tomb of Lazarus touching his ears and he is raised –two fish and five barley loaves are touched and 5,000 men not counting women and children are fed.

God is saying to us that he desires to touch his children bidding us to not worry so much about high tech but a high touch.

Have you been touched? Remember, it was said to those who acted peculiarly that had touched in the head. Well, the God we serve desires to touch in the head as well as our hearts, and that will cause us to act crazy by the world's standards—love for our enemies, pray for those who do us wrong, go the second mile, give and live generously, seek to take care of the hurting as well as have a new walk and a new song in our mouths.

But remember, on Calvary, he touched a cross and changed it into a throne as he said "If I be lifted up from the earth I will draw all men unto me." And in touching that cross he hit the reset button to make us look at ourselves, and change us on the inside, resetting the course of human history in dying for you and for me, and on the third day morning, Sunday morning he got up with all power in his hands, touching death, hell and the grave, confiscating the sting of death and ramshackle the grave robbing it of his victory.





# OMEGA CHAPTER

---



Bro. Clemith J. Houston  
Chi Phi Chapter  
1965



Bro. Billy White  
Sigma Omicron  
2005



Bro. Cleve O. Bryant  
Sigma Psi Chapter  
1967



Bro. Don Hamilton Bickham  
Gamma Omicron  
1966



Bro. Cory Pye  
Epsilon Alpha  
2002



Bro. Melvin Turner  
Gamma Omicron  
1966

# OMEGA CHAPTER

---



Bro. Terryl LaMount Pickens  
Iota Eta  
1978



Bro. Chaquille Joseph  
Iota Phi  
2011



Bro. Eugene Deloach Sr.  
Xi Psi  
1985



Bro. Albert Johnson Sr.  
Theta Psi  
1951



Bro. Gregory Davis II  
Psi Delta  
2017



Bro. Clarence Hill, Sr.  
Psi Alpha  
1971

# OMEGA CHAPTER

---



Bro. Gerald Woodruff  
Sigma Tau  
1978



Bro. Bernard Hartfield  
Beta Sigma  
1970



Bro. Melvia 'Mel' Lewis  
Theta Theta  
1981



Bro. James J. Gaspard  
Theta Sigma  
1967



Bro. Norman S. Davis  
Upsilon Epsilon  
1975



Bro. Lester C. Major  
Xi Delta  
1983



# OMEGA CHAPTER

---



Bro. Eoles Whitaker, II  
Tau Epsilon  
2011



Bro. Glenn Barber, Jr.  
Nu Phi  
2004



Bro. Robert Blackston  
Sigma Tau  
1971

# 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.

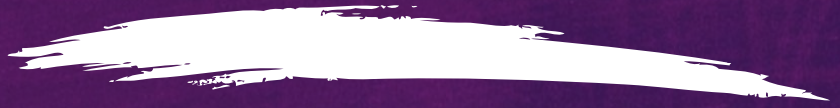
When we wear the gloves  
A Brother leaves the chapter rolls  
And moves to other worlds  
For when we say our last goodbye  
He walks on streets of Pearl.

When we wear the gloves





# Public Relations Committee



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

**Vice Chair** - Bro. T. Terrell 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





# Important Dates

## 86th Ninth District Meeting

March 29, 2023 - April 1, 2023.

Tulsa, OK

## Dr. Moses C. Norman Sr. Int'l Leadership Conference

July 13 - 16, 2023.

Nassau, Bahamas

Regular registration has closed.

**Summer Council (TBA)**

**Fall Council (TBA)**

**Summer Council (TBA)**

## 87th Ninth District Meeting (Regular Registration)

Embassy Suites

April 10-14, 2024

Rogers, AR

## 84th Grand Conclave

Tampa, FL - June 26 - July 2, 2024





# U9ATED

**Arkansas | Louisiana | Oklahoma | Texas**