

# THE SOURCE

A Newsletter From The Brothers Of The Ninth District Of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.

Vol. 32 Spring 2021



The Mighty Ninth District wins the fraternities Biking Bruhz Cycling Challenge. See story on page 21.

**“STRONGER TOGETHER”**

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE



Bro. Patrick Smith

Greetings my Good Brothers,

I greet you in the mighty name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ from whom all blessings flow. With your help, we the Ninth District Council have been working hard to make the Mighty Ninth District the best district organization in the fraternity. There have been tremendous improvements and we won't stop. Your satisfaction is very important to us and I understand that our excellence can't grow without all of your collaboration. This District Meeting concludes my third and final term as your District Representative.

It has been an honor to serve the District with in various roles and I am thankful for your support throughout the years. I am confident, that the Brother who takes my place will continue to move the district forward. Let's continue to put safe focus on mandated programs within our service areas. The countless hours you spend laboring for Omega should reveal results. Results for positive advancement for our youth and results for economic and social uplift for our people. Then, not only will our Brotherhood in Omega increase, but our impact on the community will increase, and our relationship amongst mankind will evolve and excel. I pray that God continues to bless you and yours and our great fraternity. Long Live Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

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# NINTH DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBERS



District Representative  
Bro. Patrick Smith



1st Vice District Representative  
Bro. Harold Bailey



2nd Vice District Representative  
Bro. Oris Granger



Keeper of Records & Seal  
Bro. David Washington Jr.



Keeper of Finance  
Bro. Van Newborn



Counselor  
Bro. Winston Huff



Director of Public Relations  
Bro. Frank Watson



Chaplain  
Bro. Asriel McLain



District Marshal  
Bro. Arthur Williams



Immediate Past District Representative  
Bro. Kenneth Terrell



Immediate Past District Marshal  
Bro. Lee Young



Oklahoma Graduate Representative  
Bro. John Veal Jr.



Arkansas Undergraduate Representative  
Bro. Frenklyn Piggie Jr.



Louisiana Undergraduate Representative  
Bro. Frederick Robinson



Oklahoma Undergraduate Representative  
Bro. Aaron Ragas Jr.

# ARKANSAS



Zoom Founders Day Celebration  
By Bro. Quranner Cotledge / Tau Phi / Pine Bluff, AR.

Omega Men recently held a virtual Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Founders Day/Achievement Week Celebration. The event celebrated the founding of the Fraternity. The celebration provided an opportunity to recognize achievements of Omega Men, citizens, and community members. Tommy Bennett, Tau Phi Chapter, and Travis Hebert, Tau Sigma Chapter, were selected by their chapter members as 2020 Omega Man of the Year for their contributions to their local chapters. Alma Rose Woods Jackson received the Tau Phi Chapter's 2020 local Citizen of the Year Award for her service within the Jefferson County Community. Trenton Harris, a Pine Bluff High School student, was awarded a \$500 check for winning the local Omega Psi Phi International Essay Contest, titled "Against the backdrop of global "Black Lives Matter" Movement, why is it even more important for young people to become and remain politically engaged?" The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity was founded on November 17, 1911, at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Omega Men honor the cardinal principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift. Tommy Bennett and James Horton were chairpersons for the celebration. Jeffrey Pulliam is president of the Tau Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated.



## Xi Rho Gives Back for Thanksgiving By Bro. Derrick Sykes / Xi Rho / West Memphis, AR

The Men of Xi Rho Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated are living up to their reputation as The Mighty 9th District's Service Chapter. On November 23, 2020, these Sons of Omega convened in West Memphis, Arkansas at Wonder City Boys and Girls Club and constructed 100 turkey baskets to help feed those in need during this holiday season. These baskets included turkeys, canned vegetables, potatoes, spices, and a host of other seasonal fixings. In past years, families would pick up baskets soon as they were prepared. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, social distancing was observed by having Brothers deliver baskets to designees. The chapter's goal was achieved by giving at least 10 baskets to each county we serve in northeastern Arkansas.



# ARKANSAS



## Bro. Williams Appointed Vice Chancellor

By Bro. Lonnie Williams / Upsilon Chi / Bentonville, AR

Brother Dr. Lonnie Williams became vice chancellor for diversity and community engagement at Arkansas State University effective Jan. 4, 2021, Chancellor Kelly Dampousse announced. Williams was appointed the interim vice chancellor on June 19, 2020. “During his six months as our interim vice chancellor, Dr. Williams served admirably and provided valuable leadership during a challenging fall semester,” Dampousse said. “I discussed the permanent position with him in December, and I am pleased that he has agreed to accept the appointment. I am looking forward to his ongoing input and counsel as a member of our Chancellor’s Cabinet. Williams joined Arkansas State in 2003, and previously served as associate vice chancellor for student affairs before joining the Chancellor’s Office in 2017 as special assistant to the chancellor. He holds four degrees from the University of Arkansas and worked there for 27 years prior to coming to Arkansas State.



He was an assistant vice chancellor for student affairs in Fayetteville from 1991 until 2003. While at A-State, he was honored by his alma mater with the Silas Hunt Legacy Award from UA in 2009 and has had a leadership award named in his honor by their Black Alumni Society in recognition of his work in support of diversity and inclusion. Brother Williams serves as the Arkansas State Representative for the Ninth District, is a Life Member of the Fraternity and the Ninth District, is a member of the Upsilon Chi chapter and was initiated through the Pi Omicron chapter as a charter member of the Gamma Eta chapter, Fall ‘74.



## Xi Rho Saving Lives

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

On November 21, 2020, the Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated, Xi Rho Chapter, gathered at Vitalant Blood Bank in Memphis, Tennessee to serve the medical community by donating blood and plasma. During the 2020-year, blood donations have been down due to Covid-19 restrictions, but local hospitals still have a robust demand for units of blood. In years past, Xi Rho’s Charles Drew Blood Drive was spearheaded by Bro. Dr. Jesse Cooper. Unfortunately, Bro. Cooper entered Omega Chapter earlier this year. To honor his name, the Brothers of Xi Rho stepped up to keep his good work going. Through Xi Rho’s dedication, the blood bank had the opportunity to save 21 lives in the Metro Memphis area. This event also served beneficial to the Brothers that donated. With the samples given, Vitalant was able to measure serum cholesterol and determine if Covid-19 antibodies were present. Xi Rho looks forward to partnering with Vitalant Blood Bank in the future for such an important and impactful way to serve our community.



### Brother Paul Adams Achieves Rank of Professor! By Bro. Lonnie Williams / Upsilon Chi / Bentonville, AR

The University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (U of A), opened its doors in 1872 with James McGahee, African American, as one of its students. There is no record of any other African American attending the institution after McGahee until Silas Hunt in 1948. The first African American professor was not hired until 1969, Brother Dr. Gordon D. Morgan (Omega chapter).

The progression of promotion for faculty at higher education institutions begin at assistant professor to associate professor (in most case with indefinite tenure/employment) then to (full) Professor and in special occasions university and/or Distinguished Professor. In the history of the University of Arkansas, preliminary research indicates there may have been less than 10 African Americans to reach the rank of professor. Congratulations to Brother Dr. Paul Adams on this outstanding achievement of being promoted to professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry in the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences and becoming the first African American to do it within the science fields at the U of A and earlier than most have achieved this rank!

Dr. Adams arrived at the U of A in January 2007. Since his arrival at the U of A, Adams has excelled as an advisor and mentor for over 70 graduate, undergraduate and honors students, many of whom came from historically underrepresented or low-income communities and is the former advisor to the undergraduate chapter of Gamma Eta. He also teaches in the interdisciplinary cellular and molecular biology program. His research and scholarly activities have garnered more than \$3 million in funding from the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the Arkansas Biosciences Institute, the Arkansas Science and Technology Authority, and the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Foundation. He is also the recipient of many awards among which is the 2019 Minority Access National Role Model awarded by Minority Access Inc.

Brother Adams is member of the Upsilon Chi chapter in Northwest Arkansas, is a Life Member of the Fraternity, and was initiated into Omega Psi Phi through the Theta Kappa chapter (Spr '89) at Louisiana State University. He presently serves as the 9th District Undergraduate Advisor, Vice Chairman, International UG Affairs and Chapter Advisors Committee for the Fraternity. He is married to Dr. Stephanie Adams (Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. ) who in February 2021 began a new role at the University of Arkansas as the new director of Faculty Affairs within the Office of the Provost. They are the parents of three children.

# LOUISIANA



2020 Real Men Read Program  
By Bro. Keith Taylor / Rho Phi / New Orleans, LA

Rho Phi Chapter partnered with Homer Plessy charter school to host its 12th annual Real Men Read program on October 2, 2020. Due to COVID-19 the reading program was held virtually. The program is designed to encourage pre-3 through first grade students to develop good reading habits. The Omega Men Foundation, through a grant from Entergy, Inc., donated a check for \$500.00 to the school to purchase books for their library.



2020 Gift Card Giveaway Program  
By Bro. Keith Taylor / Rho Phi / New Orleans, LA

Rho Phi Chapter held its 20th annual Thanksgiving Baskets / gift cards giveaway on Tuesday, November 24, 2020. Thanksgiving baskets and gift cards were given to needy families in the New Orleans, and two local women shelters. Five Hundred and twenty-five dollars (\$525.00) in gift cards were also given to New Orleans based Metropolitan Human Services District, who issued the cards to families who evacuated to the city due to hurricane Laura's impact in Lake Charles, LA.



Voter Registration Drive  
By Bro. Keith Taylor / Rho Phi / New Orleans, LA

Rho Phi Chapter partnered with Booker T. Washington High School Class of 1980 alumni, to host a Voter Registration Drive at P.J.'s Coffee House, located at 5733 Read Blvd. The event was held on Saturday, October 3, 2020. Twenty-nine citizens of the city of New Orleans registered to vote during the event.



2020 Charles R. Drew Blood Drive  
By Bro. Keith Taylor / Rho Phi / New Orleans, LA

Rho Phi Chapter partnered with the New Orleans Blood Bank to host its annual Charles Drew Blood Drive at the Wal-Mart Superstore, located at 6000 Boulevard Ave. The event was held on Saturday, October 24, 2020. Twenty-nine donors, including several Rho Phi Chapter brothers, gave blood during the event.



Attorney Antonio “Tony” Clayton Named Delta Tau Chapter Citizen of the Year  
By Bro. David Perkins / Delta Tau / Plaquemine, LA

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Delta Tau Chapter honored Attorney Antonio “Tony” Clayton for his outstanding and unique contributions to humanity. Attorney Clayton has served humanity above and beyond ordinary participation at the Local, Parish and State levels. He is an accomplished Personal Injury Attorney who has successfully represented families and individuals in a variety of cases. His hard work and years of service propelled him to be elected District Attorney on January 7, 2021 for the Parishes of Iberville, Pointe Coupee, and West Baton Rouge. He has been the lead attorney on numerous civil cases including business litigation, nursing home neglect, environmental, and maritime cases. Attorney Clayton served as both Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Southern University System Board of Supervisors for the Baton Rouge, New Orleans, and Shreveport campuses. He is exemplary in his service to the community providing scholarships to students, legal representation, and financial support. He continues to work in his community helping children and young people so they can avoid the pitfalls of criminal activity. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Delta Tau Chapter is honored to award Attorney Antonio “Tony” Clayton the Citizen of The Year Award for the year 2020. David Perkins, Basileus and Writer of the Article, presented the award at the Chapter’s Awards Ceremony held in Plaquemine, LA. In attendance for the Awards Ceremony were State Representative Kemp Oubre, Sr.; Keeper of Record and Seal Quintele Jackson; and Chapter Members. Other award recipients included: Brother Raymond Smith, Jr., Superior Service Award and Brother Barry Riley, Sr., Omega Man of The Year Award.



Lambda Alpha RIF Program Distributes 3000 Books  
By Bro. Terrence Marshall / Lambda Alpha / Baton Rouge, LA

Students in grades K-6 benefitted from the efforts of the Lambda Alpha Chapter Reading is Fundamental (RIF) Program in receiving books to help them learn of and appreciate the joy of reading. Brother Dr. Earl Perkins, committee chair, contacted the administration of six schools. Working with the teachers and librarians, it was determined what books would be appropriate for the students’ reading levels. The books were divided by the RIF committee and brought to the individual schools for distribution to the students. RIF committee members introduced themselves and presented a short program on how reading influenced their lives. The students were attentive and well-behaved. Following the program each student was presented with a book of their choice. Nearly 3000 books were distributed to the students. The Students, teachers, and administration thanked Lambda Alpha for providing their scholarship and uplift to their students and schools.



“Four for the Founders” Christmas Giveaway  
By Bro. Dalon Bienemy / Gamma Rho / New Orleans, LA

The Gamma Rho Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. held their annual “Four for the Founders” Christmas giveaway on Saturday, December 19, 2020 for 4 local families. Despite Covid-19 and its tremendous impact on many families throughout the community, Gamma Rho, as usual, uplifted several families in a time of need during Christmas. In 2 Corinthians 9:7, it says, “God loves a cheerful giver” In a collaborative effort among the brothers, Gamma Rho collected a total of \$4400.00 and approximately \$310.00 worth of bikes. Big THANKS to the brothers of Gamma Rho. The families are identified by local child service agencies and by the brothers of the chapter. Each family submitted will receive an interview by the committee team. Once the four families are identified, they will be invited to Gamma Rho Foundation house where they will be blessed and uplifted with Christmas gifts by the Gamma Rho Chapter. It’s always a blessing to make a positive impact in the community and the best part is when those kids wake up. (The smile on their faces) Once again, a big THANKS to the brothers of Gamma Rho for their generosity and support in this difficult time in America.



Shreveport-Bossier City Omega Lamplighters Giveaway Food  
By Bro. Marlon D. Henderson / Rho Omega / Shreveport, LA

Caddo Parish Commissioner, Brother Lyndon B. Johnson, recently sponsored a “Food Box Giveaway” along with the Food Bank of Northwest Louisiana. The giveaway was held at Southern University – Shreveport. Various food items were given supplying well over 750 complete meals/servings. Volunteers included Shreveport-Bossier City Omega Lamplighters and Junior Lamplighters. Brother Tim Graham is Chairman of the Shreveport-Bossier City Omega Lamplighters and Junior Lamplighters. Brother James Hawkins is Basileus of the Rho Omega Chapter.



Lyndon B. Johnson Voted Caddo Parish Commission President  
By Bro. Marlon D. Henderson / Rho Omega / Shreveport, LA

Caddo Parish Commissioner, Brother Lyndon B. Johnson, was recently voted to serve as 2021 President of the Caddo Parish Commission. Commissioner Johnson represents Caddo Parish-District 2. He was elected to the Caddo Parish Commission in 2011, 2015, and 2019. He previously served as Caddo Parish Commission President in 2015. Additionally, Commissioner Johnson is a current Executive Board Member of the National Association of Black County Officials. He has, also, served on the Caddo Parish Democratic Party Executive Committee. And, Brother Johnson is a member of the Rho Omega Chapter in Shreveport, Louisiana.



Fifth Circuit Judge Carl Stewart Gives Keynote Address  
By Bro. Marlon D. Henderson / Rho Omega / Shreveport, LA

Fifth Circuit Judge, Brother Carl E. Stewart, Sr., recently delivered the fall keynote address for Notre Dame Law School's Program on Ethics, Compliance & Inclusion. The virtual event was co-sponsored by the Law School's Black Law Students Association. Themes of inclusion and using one's opportunities to benefit others were prevalent in Judge Stewart's address about his life and career in law. Brother Stewart told students about the path that took him through a trailblazing career that has led to 26 years on the Fifth Circuit. That path also included serving as a captain in the United States Army as part of the Judge Advocate General's Corps, and a federal prosecutor for the U.S. Department of Justice. He also served as a Louisiana trial court judge and as an appellate judge for the Louisiana Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, in Shreveport, Louisiana. In 1994, then-President Bill Clinton appointed Brother Stewart to a newly established seat on the Fifth Circuit. He was the first African American to serve as the Fifth Circuit's chief judge, a position he held from 2012-2019. Brother Judge Carl E. Stewart, Sr. is a Lifetime Member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, a Past Ninth District Counselor (1985-1986), and a Past Basileus (1983-1985) and current Parliamentarian of the Rho Omega Chapter. In 2017, Brother Stewart received the International Omega Founders' Lifetime Achievement Award.

# LOUISIANA



## Bro. Henderson Named A “Top Doctor”

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

Brother Dr. Marlon D. Henderson was recently pictured on the cover of and featured in the 2020 Shreveport-Bossier Magazine Top Doctors Edition. Brother Henderson is a general dentist at Henderson Dentistry, LLC in Shreveport, Louisiana. He currently serves as Vice-President of the National Dental Association. Brother Doctor Henderson is the current Chairman of the Ninth District Medical-Health Initiatives Committee and Chairman of the Rho Omega Dr. Charles R. Drew Blood Drive. Additionally, Brother Henderson is a Past Basileus and current Reporter of the Rho Omega Chapter.



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## Hurricane Laura Uplift

By Bro. Keith Taylor / Rho Phi / New Orleans, LA

Rho Phi Chapter donated toys, storybook bibles, personal and household items and also a monetary donation to a local women's shelter in the Greater New Orleans area. The chapter also donated money to Rho Chi Chapter in Lake Charles, LA to purchase toys and other gifts to distribute to children who have been impacted by Hurricane Laura.



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## The Star Reader Program

By Bro. Keith Taylor / Rho Phi / New Orleans, LA

Rho Phi Chapter held its 12th annual Education Initiative program: Star Reader (formerly Tech Tablets for Books) program at Homer Plessy Charter School, on Thursday, December 17, 2020. One male and one female student in the 5th, 6th and 7th grades who wrote the best essay on “Why Reading Is Important To Me”, were rewarded with Dragon Touch tablets. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the event was held virtually via Zoom. The winners were: 5th Grade (Rayne King & Jami Phillips), 6th Grade (Ro'ckeisha Williams & Ja'hive Mack) and 7th Grade (Yaris Banks & Octavia Traugott)





Brother John D. Veal, Jr. Named Oklahoma District Director

Brother John D. Veal, Jr. has been named the Oklahoma District Director for the U.S. Small Business Administration. Brother Veal previously served as the Ninth District Keeper of Finance and is a member of the Psi Upsilon Chapter in Lawton, Oklahoma.

“It gives me great pleasure to announce John Veal as Oklahoma’s District Director,” Justin Crossie, Region 6 Regional Administrator said. “I’ve worked closely with John on a number of issues impacting small business owners, including the Paycheck Protection Program and the Economic Injury Disaster Loans that are helping Oklahoma Small Businesses. I know the District is in good hands with John Veal.”

“I am honored to lead the Oklahoma Office and to continue to help start and grow Small Businesses in Oklahoma,” Veal said. “In what is an especially challenging time for Oklahoma’s small business community, I look forward to continuing to help provide services to help entrepreneurs persevere through this pandemic era.”

Brother Veal will lead the Oklahoma District team in implementing an efficient and effective strategy that strengthens the entrepreneurial ecosystem and helps small business owners access capital, comprehensive technical assistance, and government contracting opportunities.

Previously Brother Veal worked in the Richmond District Office as a Supervisory Business Opportunity Specialist and the Oklahoma District Office as a Business Opportunity Specialist and Veterans Affairs Officer. He is a member of the 2018 Class of the Excellence in Government Fellows Program.

Extensive experience in government contracting and a passion for empowering small business owners led Veal to make a difference with the SBA. He earlier served as the Defense Military Pay Officer at Fort Polk, Louisiana and Fort Sill, Oklahoma and, as a Business Coordinator with the Oklahoma Small Business Development Center (OSBDC). While with the OSBDC he was recognized as the Region VI and the Oklahoma District Office as the Veteran’s Small Business Champion of the Year for the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Brother Veal holds a Masters of Business Administration and a Masters of Science in Accounting degree from Oklahoma City University. He is a Certified Professional Public Buyer (CPPB) from the Universal Public Procurement Certification Council (UPPCC) and holds the Level I Contracting Certification from the Federal Acquisition Institute. Veal also is a NIGP-Certified Procurement Professional (NIGP-CPP).

Brother Veal is a veteran of the U.S. Army, having served in Desert Shield/Desert Storm as the Detachment Commander of the finance detachment. He was a member of the finance corps and retired in 1995 at the rank of First Sergeant, having served for more than 23 years.

A strong commitment to his community also motivates him to serve in other capacities. He is a Life Member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. He is a past treasurer of the Ninth District of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. He was named Ninth District Omega Man of the Year and recently inducted in the inaugural class of the Oklahoma State QUES Hall of Fame for fraternal and community contributions. He the current President of the Oklahoma State Ques Association and a member of the Ninth District Council. Veal has served in key roles in other community organizations including serving as president of the Society of Case Research, as a member of the Cameron University Foundation, and a trustee for the Comanche County Industrial Development Authority. Additionally, he led Leadership Lawton/Fort Sill and served as District 5A governor for AMBUCS, a national charity dedicated to creating mobility and independence for people with disabilities.



Psi Upsilon Chapter Achievement Week Banquet  
By Bro. Eugene DeLoach, Sr. / Psi Upsilon / Lawton, OK

Due to COVID-19, our Achievement Week Banquet was held virtual on Facebook, November 21, 2020. This ensured that Community and Chapter Awards were present to those deserving community leaders and Chapter leaders for their hard work before and during COVID-19.

Community Awards Recipients are:

- Citizen of the Year – Dr. Regina DeLoach
- Educator of the Year – Tiffani L. Veal
- Religious Leader of the Year - Pastor James E. Thornton
- Small Business of the Year – Ice Tre’s Barbershop

Chapter Awards Recipients are:

- Omega Man of the Year – Brother Eugene DeLoach, Sr.
- Superior Service Award – Brother Monroe Griffith, III
- Founders Award – Brother Charles “Chick” Ellis, Brother John D. Veal, Brother Hale
- COL Charles A. Young Military Leadership Award – Brother Thomas Oats



## Mu Mu Nu and Eta Mu Chapters Bless 630 Needy Families with Holiday Dinners

By Bro. Jeffrey L. Boney / Mu Mu Nu / Conroe, TX

The service-minded brothers of the Mu Mu Nu and Eta Mu chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. conducted their annual Thanksgiving and Christmas service projects for needy families in their service area. The Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners consisted of the following items: (turkey, mashed potatoes, macaroni & cheese, box cake mix, canned green beans, corn, gravy mix, cranberry sauce, and dressing).



For Thanksgiving, Mu Mu Nu worked with Shadydale Elementary School and their school counselor Talitha Pinkney, as well as with The Word of GOD Christian Fellowship in North Houston to distribute 60 dinners to needy families, while Eta Mu serviced families near the campus of Sam Houston State University. The Christmas dinner service project was held at Lighthouse Baptist Church, where Mu Mu Nu conducted a dual activity/event, by conducting a Christmas dinner giveaway to families, as well as holding their weekly Zoom Prayer Call. For Christmas, Mu Mu Nu worked with Lighthouse Baptist

Church, Greenhouse International Church and The Word of God Christian Fellowship Church in North Houston to provide 70 dinners to needy families. Mu Mu Nu also conducted another holiday service project where they helped distribute food to more than 500 families in time for Christmas in the M.U.D. District #148 area of North Houston. All in all, more than 60 Omega men volunteered to provide Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners to over 630 families in the North Houston and surrounding areas.



## A Holiday Weekend of Service

By Bro. Dion Martin / Eta Lambda Lambda / Red Oak, TX

During the year, the communities that where we live have many needs to address. Moreover these needs were magnified during the holiday season causing stress for many families. In an effort to bring a little joy to families in need the men of Eta Lambda Lambda orchestrated a weekend of events to bring some holiday cheer. Our brothers that wear blue as well as the purple and gold headed up Santa Cops; donated toys were passed out to local children. Brothers similarly played Santa as they participated in the Angel Tree program to bring Christmas wishes to awaiting children. Brothers also took part in Santa's Sleigh where they delivered Christmas dinners to families. Also partnering with a local church the men of Eta Lambda Lambda put into action their first annual Christmas Dinner drive thru. These events were fruitful as we touched the lives of many that may have otherwise gone without.



## Alamo City Omega Lamplighters Civil Rights Forum By Bro. Derek Morton / Psi Alpha / San Antonio, TX

On January 16th, 2021, the Alamo City Omega Lamplighters (ACOLL) and a host of Omega Men of Psi Alpha Chapter conducted a virtual forum on Civil Rights in place of the canceled Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Freedom March. Brother Derek Morton and Reggie Smith, ACOLL Chairmen, moderated the forum. The panelist selected provided a candid perspective from their era (1950's to 2021) of the Civil Rights Movement based on where they were raised. The Lamplighters gained more insight into their purpose toward the Civil Rights Movement that remains an issue today. Most importantly, they realized much work is still to be done for equality and their role in the movement. Opening remarks by Derek Morton set the tone that some of the dialogue in the forum may create feelings of anger, but he asked Lamplighters to channel their emotions to further fuel their purpose in life. It is evident that the Civil Rights Movement then has only a few differences now, i.e., peaceful protesters are not being water-hosed down or attacked by police or dogs. Before the panel started, the Lamplighters took a poll on whether they believe there



is a conspiracy to destroy Black and Hispanic boys in America. Surprisingly, six percent of the Lamplighters stated yes. The conspiracy discussion was based on the criminal justice system, on-going systematic racism, and inequality. The Lamplighters asked some tough and interesting questions to the panelist that, in some cases, took their emotions back to a very uncomfortable time. These few questions and others created applicable dialogue for the Lamplighters and the Omega Men. Lamplighters realized much work is still to be done for equality and their role in the movement. They understand the debt we have accumulated from people who have lost their freedom, career, and life so we can have equal and basic human rights. The movement must continue to move forward by their actions to repay those debts. Basileus George Mayers' closing remarks encouraged Lamplighters to "take advantage of these history lessons presented to them. Understand the relevancy of yesterday as you build on your tomorrow. There are always opportunities to take advantage of the negatives shared and create a more positive you."



## Bro. Hollins appointed to Metro Board of Directors By Bro. Stephen Jackson and Bro. Quincy King / Rho Beta Beta / Houston, TX

The Brothers of Rho Beta Beta would like to send a huge congratulations to Brother Chris Hollins for his appointment to the Metro Board of Directors. Bro. Hollins is coming off of a trying year where he led one of the most turbulent elections in modern history our Harris County Clerk. His voter expansion efforts led to a RECORD of over 1.44 million voters in the 2020 general election. Bro. Chris Hollins is the 1st person of color to serve as Harris County Clerk. Of the nine total positions within Metro's board of directors, Hollins holds one of two spots appointed by the Harris County Commissioner's Court. We look forward to the great work he will continue to do for the city of Houston.



## Mu Mu Nu Chapter Distributes Over 30,000 Pounds of Food to Needy Families By Bro. Jeffrey L. Boney / Mu Mu Nu / Conroe, TX

On January 9, 2021, the Mu Mu Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., along with the Fellowship of Purpose Church, coordinated a Drive-Thru Food Distribution initiative, where over 30,000 pounds of food (meat, fish, produce, canned goods) were boxed and distributed to over 325 deserving families in their service area of Greater Houston area.

## Brothers in The Community: Brandon Logan By Bro. Derek Morton / Psi Alpha / San Antonio, TX

Brother Brandon Logan, a 2005 initiate of the Gamma Gamma chapter and member of Psi Alpha chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, continues to make inroads in the black community not only as Founder and CEO of Urban Capital Partners but now as an Executive Producer. Brother Logan is Co-Executive Producer of the documentary, "Living In My Skin" which chronicles raw and heartbreaking stories about what it is like to be a Black man/boy in the city of San Antonio. Thirty-three Black males, ranging in the age from 10-90, tell stories they seldom share with people outside their race. The two-part documentary aims to create a



Brandon A. Logan  
Founder/CEO  
Urban Capital Partners

deeper understanding of race relations in our community and foster a deeper cultural understanding of each other's lives and feelings. In a recent interview with KENS5 news, Brother Logan explains that the documentary came about with a sign. Lionel Sosa, a world-renowned artist, was out for a walk with his wife and four dogs when he saw something in a storefront. "You can't be anti-racist unless you're actively anti-racist." This sign spoke to him and spurred him into what would become "Living In My Skin." The Black population of San Antonio is only 7%, yet it hosts the largest MLK march in the nation. Additionally, 63% of our citizens are Hispanic, making us a majority-minority city. Many perceive San Antonio to be culturally enlightened and highly evolved. But is it? Brother Logan recalls a memory from his childhood, when he was called the n-word by a police officer, as a pivotal moment in his own story. "That was the moment that I realized there was much more to my story that I didn't know about. So, it is important, considering the times we're living in now, to be intentional with raising the conversation around the Black male experience," Brother Logan said. "The ugliest underbelly of America is rearing itself. And there is a real fight for the soul of this country. And that is why I thought it was important for us in San Antonio to identify men from varied backgrounds to share their story." "Living In My Skin" does not stop with just a documentary. An art exhibit is available for in-person viewing and virtually. Currently, the exhibit is available at Frost Tower lobby through the duration of February before moving over to Weston Urban Park for outdoor viewing. To view virtually, you can go to [Home - Living In My Skin \(livinginmyskinsa.com\)](http://Home - Living In My Skin (livinginmyskinsa.com)). Brother Logan thanks sponsors Valero Energy, Bank of America, Accenture, and Spurs Give. Brother Logan cares about San Antonio, but more importantly, he cares about humanity!





## Mu Mu Nu Chapter Hosts First Ever Que University Training

By Bro. Jeffrey L. Boney / Mu Mu Nu / Conroe, TX

On Feb 6, 2021, the Mu Mu Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. hosted its first-ever *Que University* training. The training was held at the Holiday Inn Express & Suites-Houston North InterContinental, located at 125 W. Airtex Blvd. This inaugural training was open to all Brothers in the Greater Houston area, and was attended by roughly 30 Brothers from the Mu Mu Nu Chapter, as well as Brothers from the Eta Mu and Nu Phi chapters. The focus of the *Que University* training was to enhance the knowledge of the inner-workings of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. as it relates to every Omega Brother in attendance with an adopted concept of one Brother teaching another Brother. Each Brother in attendance was engaged during this interactive knowledge session and also gained knowledge and information through a solid use of practical exercises. A *Que University* survey was emailed on February 6, 2021, to all Brothers who participated in the training, with the sole purpose of gathering insight in order improve and enhance the overall training and presentation. The survey allowed participants to evaluate the content, the presenters and the overall effectiveness of the training and the information delivered. Once survey results are compiled, the information will be used to improve future *Que University* trainings and presentations.



## Brothers in The Community: History Made in Harris County

By Bro. Jeremy Neal & Jamal Hasty / Psi Alpha / San Antonio, TX

Brother Christian Menefee, a 2007 initiate of the Psi Alpha Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, made history by becoming the youngest and first African-American elected Harris County Attorney. The Harris County Attorney's Office serves as the in-house law firm for the county, representing the interests of residents and public officials in lawsuits. Bro. Menefee bested Republican candidate John Nation by over 140,000 votes and defeated a three-term incumbent in the March primary race. Bro. Menefee also has done great work in Omega. He is a charter member of the Alpha Delta Lambda (UTSA) chapter and was appointed as their first Basileus. Also, to his credit, he is a past Undergraduate International Omega Man of the Year.



## Miller Child Development Center Toy Drive

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



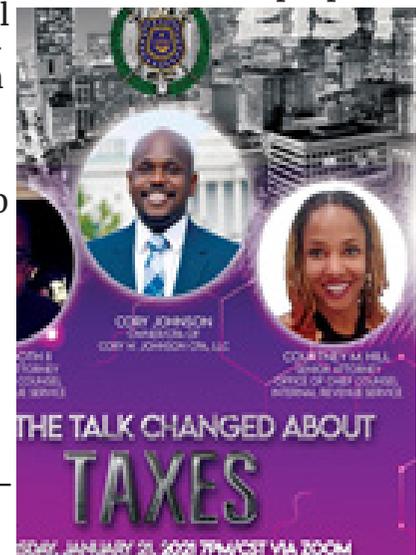
The holidays are a joyous time for most, but for struggling families, it is a time of stress and anxiety. Providing holiday toys for children is a struggle for many low-income families, add to that, the economic hardship brought about by Covid-19. Parents barely getting by still want their children to experience the joy and excitement of receiving toys. Thankfully, the 2020 Psi Alpha Toy Drive Committee helped fill the need. The Psi Alpha Chapter Toy Drive is broken down into

3 phases: purchase of the toys, the wrapping of the toys, and the delivery/presentation of the toys. On Sunday, December 6, 2020, at 2:00 pm, some of the brothers of the chapter met the Chair and Co-Chair at Walmart, FM 78, Converse TX to purchase 75 (age-appropriate toys) for the children of the Miller Child Development Center (eight brothers participated). On December 8, 2020, at 6:00 pm, again, the brothers of the chapter met at the Fraternity House for the “Wrapping Party” seven brothers participated (COVID-19...masked and social distance observed); armed with toys, wrapping paper, scissors, and tape; we were able to wrap all of the toys within a 2-hour window. On Monday, December 14, 2020, at 10:00 am, we delivered and presented the toys to the children of the Miller Child Development Center (nine brothers participated). After reading a very uplifting story of “The Good Samaritan”, “Omega Santa” was on hand to present the toys. This year the Psi Alpha Chapter of the Omega Lamplighters, with the support of “Earn a Bike” donated 13 bikes to the Miller Child Development Center, “After School Program” participants. Also, a shout out to the brothers of Psi Alpha Chapter who participated donated monetarily, and/or provided age-appropriate toys; you will never regret the time and effort you spent on this great cause. It is great to know the Psi Alpha Chapter is still making a real difference for kids in our community, as we help families this holiday season.

## Has the talk changed about taxes?

By Bro. Stephen Jackson and Bro. Walter Hunt / Rho Beta Beta / Houston, TX

On January 21, 2021, the Brothers of Rho Beta Beta hosted a panel discussion for the purpose of providing free tax advice to the minority community. The panel consisted of Internal Revenue Service (IRS) attorneys and a Certified Public Accountant (CPA). To say there was anything less than a wealth of knowledge on hand would be a gross understatement as the panelist held a combined 50 years of professional tax experience across a wide spectrum of tax-related expertise. Using social media and virtual delivery, we were able to reach over 1,000 individuals across the Greater Houston area. The esteemed panel provided attendees with information that included, but was not limited to, the following topics: a basic understanding of the tax filing process; guidance as to how stimulus checks can affect an individual’s taxes; and guidance as to how to properly take advantage of deductions and credits available to them. Attendees were also provided a platform that allowed them to ask questions and receive invaluable feedback. As the talk continues to change relating to taxes, one can expect them to be at the forefront of ensuring that the minority community continues to be a part of the conversation.



## Alamo City Lamplighters Community Event Giving Back to the Community

Written By: Vince Hardeman, Derek Morton, and John Cooper

### Psi Alpha / San Antonio, TX

The Omega Men of Psi Alpha Chapter and the Alamo City Omega Lamplighters teamed up with several other organizations to volunteer at the Blessed Angels Community Center (BACC), located in San Antonio, Texas, for its COVID-19 Christmas Toy and Bike Drive-Thru Giveaway, Saturday, December 12, 2020.



Twenty-eight bikes were collected and donated, while gifts were also donated and wrapped the week leading up to support the event which included an interview with KABB FOX 29. Mrs. Marion Thomas, CEO and Executive Director of BACC, pre-registered families throughout San Antonio who benefited from the toy giveaway. On December 12, 2020, 122 families received gifts that brought about waves and smiles from 380 children, which displayed their joy and gratitude. State and local officials such as Honorable State Representative Steve Allison, Honorable District 10 Councilman Clayton Perry, Honorable Converse Mayor Al Suarez, Honorable Constable Kathryn Brown, Bexar County, Precinct 4, and other distinguished guests congratulated the Omega Men and Lamplighters for their support of this prestigious event. They were impressed by their call to action of "Servanthood." The unselfishness emulated by the Omega Men and Lamplighters to help families in the community will have a lasting effect on the lives touched by this event. Psi Alpha continues to be "Bridge Builders" toward its Lamplighters by upholding its Four Cardinal Principles while instilling Leadership, Academics, Maturity, and Perseverance (L.A.M.P.) into its Lamplighters as they transition into Manhood.

### Holiday Supermarket Giveaway

By Bro. Stephen Jackson and Bro. Walter Hunt / Rho Beta Beta / Houston, TX



The Brothers of The Rho Beta Beta Chapter raised \$2,000.00, which helped to spread a little holiday cheer to people of color in communities in the Greater Houston area on November 25, 2020. Through a partnership with two local Joe V's grocery stores, they were able to provide groceries that helped ensure that while



our country was suffering from the negative impact of the pandemic, several families were still going to be able to celebrate Thanksgiving. On the aforementioned date, as families approached the cashier ready to purchase their groceries, a brother would simply ask the family, if the Men of Omega Psi Phi could purchase the groceries on their behalf. This was an absolute surprise to the families as they had no prior knowledge of the gift they were about to receive. With the average donation from contributing brothers consisting of about \$20.00, they were able to feed well over 25 families. The aim of the initiative was to continue their collaborative partnerships with local community businesses, while also helping families by providing groceries and showing that God continues to be in the blessing business. They can safely say that their mission was accomplished!



**Psi Alpha Chapter Wall of Heroes**  
Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery 1520 Harry Wurzbach Road SATX 78209

- Brother SFC George P. Inge Jr. US ARMY WW I Vet Plot 2B, 0, 2171 Memorial ID 819995
- Brother AMM3 Joseph Paul Chretien Jr. US NAVY WWII Vet Section 13 Site 784 Memorial ID 488933
- Brother CMSGT Billy Fair USAF Vietnam Persian Gulf Section PH Site 257 Memorial ID 137518270
- Brother COL Leroy Woods US ARMY Vietnam Section 42 Site 48 Memorial ID 2033776
- Brother COL Allen W Gray II USAF Vietnam Section C2 Row W1 SITE D275 Memorial ID 174761677
- Brother SGT Warren Harding Eusan Army Air Corp Tuskegee Airmen WWII Section 93 Site 149 Memorial ID 131510671
- Brother CPL Weldon Hill US Army Korean War Section 45 Site 73 Memorial ID 72737410
- Brother SSGT Elliot Friday US ARMY WWII Purple Heart Section 40 STE 367 Memorial ID 65725582
- Brother CSM Carl JJ Johnson US ARMY VIETNAM Purple Heart Section 125 Site 599 Memorial ID 215628321
- Brother LTC Wallace Pope USAF VIETNAM PERSIAN GULF Section 113 Site 181 Memorial ID 174129992
- Brother PFC Thomas Ross Jr US ARMY WWII Section 13 Site 535 Memorial ID 72740448
- Brother A1C Royal Hammond Jr USAF Koran War Section 63 Site 26 Memorial ID 86844099
- Brother TSgt Hugo A Rhodes USAF Korean War Vietnam Section 35 Site 592 Memorial ID 14788283
- Brother Major Jerome E Smith US ARMY PERSIAN GULF Section 72 Site 413 Memorial ID 106634597
- Brother SFC Hubert Hawkins US ARMY Korean War Vietnam War POW Purple Heart Section 35, Site 628 Memorial ID 11176073
- Brother TSGT Sylvester Jackson USAF Korean War Vietnam War Section Z, 0, 1711 Memoria ID 826989
- Brother SGM Wallace Goodlow US ARMY Vietnam Persian Gulf Section 45 Site 589 Memorial ID 72735124
- Brother MSgt Melvin Burleson USAF Korean and Vietnam Wars Section 44 Site 1268 Memorial ID 55688927
- Brother SGT John Middleton Jr US ARMY WWII Section 133 Site 34 Memorial ID 141363585
- Brother SP3 William Williams US ARMY Korean War Section 83 Site 137 Memorial ID 122405606
- Brother CPL Alexander Clarke US ARMY WWII Section 26 Site 288 Memorial ID 206899629
- Brother A1C James Steptoe USAF Korean War Section 104 Site 15 Memorial ID 193313887
- Brother SP5 Carl E Smith US ARMY Vietnam War Section 14 Site 688 Memorial ID 3050280
- Brother LTC Hilton O Garnes Jr, USMC Vietnam Persian Gulf Section 114 Site 66 Memorial ID 186833221
- Brother LTC Leo Pleasants US ARMY World War II, Korea, Vietnam Section 105 Site 495 Memorial ID 204727881





## Psi Alpha Remembers Veterans Day 2020

By Bro. Scott L. Earle, Sr. / Psi Alpha / San Antonio, TX

We must show our heroes their respect because many have forgotten the sacrifices they have made. Any Chapter in Omega can look at the roll of Omega Chapter from their Chapter and look at the local Veterans Cemetery and find many members that served during WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, The Persian Gulf, etc. Psi Alpha Chapter turned 80 on November 1<sup>st</sup> and when we went to pay respect to 2 of our Charter members, we decided to find out how many more Brothers were Veterans buried at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. In 10 days, we received many names of Brothers that members assumed had served and from that list, we verified 23 names and found their military records and where they were buried. Psi Alpha has a rich military history and we found that members had received the Purple Heart and were Former Prisoners of War. The US Army, Army Air Corps, US Air Force, US Navy, and the US Marine Corp were all represented by our Chapter heroes. The Brothers who served in WWI and WWII served in segregated units and the Brothers in those wars although degreed served as enlisted except for Brother Dr. William V. Hurd who was trained at Fort Des Moines but returned to Meharry to teach and placed in the US Army Reserve Dental Corp as one of the first Blacks to ever earn this honor and was never activated to Active Duty because of the concerns of the Government due to the case in which a White soldier might need medical care and they did not want to face those issues so after being trained and earning the rank of 1Lt he was returned to civilian status and never served a day of Active duty and taught dentistry throughout the War. Stories such as these are sad but was a reality for our Brothers. On November 11, 2020, Vice Basileus Brother John Lester and Historian Brother Scott Earle represented the Chapter and visited the graves of 4 fallen heroes. The first grave we visited was that of Past Basileus, Brother CMSGT Billy Fair who retired from the USAF and served in Vietnam and the Persian Gulf. Brother Fair was very active in our Chapter and passed away while serving as the Psi Alpha Basileus. While at his grave we spent several minutes sharing stories of the American hero. The next grave we visited was of Brother SGT Warren Harding Eusan who served in the US Army Air Corp as Tuskegee Airmen during WWII. Brother Eusan taught the Navigators how to read and use their navigation and communications equipment and too many test flights to certify them before they were allowed to earn their Navigator title. Brother Eusan became an Omega man at Wiley College, Theta Chapter in 1939. He was active in Psi Alpha from the 1940s until he died in 2014 and was a proud Red Tail who was active with other retired Tuskegee Airman until his death. We recalled story after story of the man who mentored both of us and spent hours sharing his life as an educator and veteran that touch both of us profoundly. The next grave was of Brother SFC Hubert Hawkins who served in the US ARMY during the Korean War where he was an Ex-POW who returned to combat during the Vietnam War and was awarded the Purple Heart. Neither of us knew this hero but after researching his life we felt this Brother must be visited. During the Korean Conflict/War, he was a Prisoner of War. Brother Hawkins honorably served his country and retired from the U.S. Army as a non-commissioned officer (Sergeant First Class). Afterward, he attended St. Phillip's College and Southwest Texas University and earned a B.S. degree. Brother Hawkins' work experience was broad, i.e., Economic Opportunities Development Corporation, Via Transit Company, San Antonio Housing Authority, and Bexar County Appraisal District. Brother Hawkins was initiated into Psi Alpha on July 23, 1977. The last grave we visited was of Brother CSM Carl JJ Johnson who served in the US ARMY during the Vietnam War and received the Purple Heart. Brother JJ is affectionately known as "Hook" passed away on September 11, 2020. This visit was extremely hard, his tombstone was freshly laid and the time spent at his grave was one of storytelling and fond memories. In the Army, JJ served in every enlisted position (E1-E9). His duties were many and varied to include: Supply Sergeant, Cadre/Drill Sergeant, Platoon Sergeant, AMEDD Instructor, First Sergeant, Hospital Sergeant Major, Troop Command Sergeant Major (Brigade Sergeant Major). A critical time during JJ's military career revolved around his tour of duty in Vietnam. He was shot in the right arm by the enemy. The bullet traveled from his arm and lodged in his back, very close to his spine. Because of the threat of paralysis, this bullet was never removed. Due to the injuries sustained in Vietnam, JJ spent months in the hospital and endured numerous surgeries. In March 1968, then Sergeant Johnson was authorized to salute left-handed as a result of wounds received in combat, thus making him the only soldier in the U.S. Army to have such an authorization in his era. After 26 years of military service and have achieved the highest possible enlisted rank, Command Sergeant Major Carl "JJ" Johnson decided to retire. At this point, his military assignments included: \*Ft Polk, Louisiana, \*Viet Nam, \*Ft. Sam Houston, \*Germany, (two terms-Aschaffenburg and Heidelberg), \*Ft. Eustis, Virginia, \*Hawaii-Tripler Army Medical Center. JJ received many awards; Silver Star; Purple Heart; Good Conduct Medal; Gallantry Cross; Vietnam Service Medal; Combat Medic Badge; Vietnam Service Medal; Medical order of Military Merit. Many San Antonians remember JJ's strutting horse, Shelly. The two rode in many parades, most often participating with the Bexar County Buffalo Soldiers where he was a member for over twenty years. Brother JJ loved Omega Psi Phi was a Life Member who was initiated through Psi Alpha in 1996. Brother JJ held positions at the local and District level and was beloved in his role of Protocol Officer who kept all Brothers in line showing us the right way to conduct business. Brother JJ will be remembered for his catchphrase of "Hello" which could mean many things, but it always broke the ice and bought a smile to all whom he met. Veterans Day must not just be a day off but a day to reflect and show honor and I implore all Chapter Historians to investigate the Omega Roll of your Chapter and start a Chapter tradition where the graves of Omega heroes are visited.



## The Mighty Ninth District Wins the Biking Bruhz Cycling Challenge

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

The goal of the Biking Bruhz Cycling Challenge is to promote health, wellness, and fellowship amongst the Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. This initiative is country-wide and the brothers are competing by district in several categories to not only win bragging rights but to push healthy living while sharing a common passion for cycling. Safety remains the first priority, followed closely by good fellowship, and we surely cant forget Fun! The Brothers of Alpha Iota Iota chapter participated in the Fall Cycling Challenge, October 6th -18th. The final numbers were tallied and the Mighty Ninth District Win the challenge with 6,420 total miles. Out of 30 brothers in the district that participated, 13 were from Alpha Iota Iota Chapter. Bro. Ron Turner finished 1st Place in the district with 479 total miles, Bro. Larry Johnson finished 2nd with 468 miles, and Bro. Robert Bell finished 3rd with 455 miles. The competition was intense but done in the spirit of friendship. The grit and work put forth by everyone was outstanding. The Mighty Ninth was determined to dethrone the inaugural challenge winners, the Second District, and they did just that. The chapter is looking forward to the next challenge to defend the Mighty Ninth title. The Biking Bruhz cycling challenge was able to donate to the American Diabetes Association as a result of 214 riders that participated across the country. Alpha Iota Iota Cycling team: Bro. Michael Hartman, Bro. Dr. James Guess, Bro. Ron Turner, Bro. Hillis Davis, Bro. Mike Cooks, Bro. Ivan Holmes, Bro. Todd Williams, Bro. Jamil King, Bro. Phil Taylor, Bro. Greg Fields, Bro. John Q Williams, Bro. Larry Johnson, Bro. Robert Bell.



## Protecting Houston Through the Storm

By Bro. Stephen Jackson and Bro. Quincy King / Rho Beta Beta / Houston, TX

Rho Beta Beta Brother and Harris County Attorney, Christian D. Menefee vowed to protect the citizens of Harris County who have been victimized by or who have seen price gouging during the ice storm terrorizing Harris County. Bro. Menefee stated "The main types of things we're seeing is hotels setting prices at ridiculous rates," Menefee said. "We've seen allegations of packs of water being sold for two to three times the normal price, or packs of water being divvied up and the individual bottles being sold at excessive prices." As our Harris County Attorney and Brother, Brothers can rest assured the right Omega man is on the job. Along with Brother Menefee's efforts, our chapter took to the streets to help our fellow Houstonians in need. Brothers Derek Boateng and Ed Jointer packed and delivered food to families devastated by winter storm Uri during the week of February 15, 2021.



## Sports Coat & Blazer Presentation

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

The Psi Alpha Fatherhood Initiative, led by Bro. Archie “Ice” Peay, has been on a mission to provide professional attire for the homeless. The team set out to help the Jacqueline Smith Foundation whose mission is to empower our military men and women by equipping them with resources needed to maintain and sustain in our community. No veteran that fought for our country should be without resources. Those resources are exactly what the Fatherhood Initiative provided. Words from Bro. Archie “Ice” Peay, “We were able to bless the Jacqueline Smith Foundation, a nonprofit organization that supports various causes but also homeless veterans. The sports coats will bless 25 homeless veterans.” Assisting Bro. Peay were Vice Basileus John Lester and Brothers: Alan Thompson, LeMarc Holcombe, and JG Wideman.



## (HACOC) creates Community Borehole in Breproh, Ghana

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

In the fall of 2020 Brothers of the Houston Area Coalition of Chapters (HACOC) donated a borehole to the village of Breproh. The borehole will serve as a source of freshwater to several other surrounding communities. This project was first brought to the Brothers by Grand Basileus Bro. Dr. David Marion in 2019. Soon afterward the Mighty 9<sup>th</sup> District collected funds to donate its own borehole, which prompted the leadership of the HACOC to donate one of their own. This is truly a noble project that required all chapters within the HACOC to contribute to this impactful and meaningful project. Furthermore, such a project elevated the HACOC to be one of the few local omega coalitions to have a borehole donated to villages in Ghana. Thank you to HACOC leadership for expanding the reach and impact of the HACOC and we are thankful for your vision in completing this endeavor.



## Weekly Mentoring Program

By Bro. Jeffery August & Jeremy Neal / Psi Alpha / San Antonio, TX

The Psi Alpha Weekly Mentoring Program continues to make strides in the community as mentors for youth around the San Antonio area. The program led by Bro. Jeffery August with assistance from Bros. Bill Watson, Jerry Coburn, and Herbert Nance assists youth in their educational endeavors and personal development. On January 28th, Weekly Mentee Faiszon Reese received a Weekly Mentoring Coin, which was the seventh coin issued to one of the mentees. Two days later, Weekly Mentees Darrius Govan, Faiszon Reese, and Ronald Williams received weekly mentoring shirts after the H.E.B. San Antonio All-Star High School football game. All three are seniors at Sam Houston High School. Govan and Reese have been in the Weekly Mentoring Program since their time at Davis Middle School in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade while Williams has been affiliated with the program for the past two years. Govan will be signing a letter of intent to attend Blinn Junior College in Brenham, Texas on Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Multiple junior colleges and universities are looking to sign Reese and Williams. On January 31, 2021, The Weekly Mentoring Program hosted a *Juvenile Justice Jeopardy™ (JJJ)* forum. *Juvenile Justice Jeopardy™ (JJJ)* teaches youth how to navigate interactions with police and peers, understand the legal consequences of their actions, as well as strategies for desistance from peer pressure to engage in risky behavior. The game also teaches youth the short- and long-term legal consequences of having an arrest and court records. Additionally, the “Strategies to Youth Training” looked at reducing contentious encounters between police and youth, and the unnecessary detention of youth for minor offenses, and disproportionate policing of children of color. Mentee Dorian said, “It was very informative and helped him think about the type of people he is around. He really understands now that he can basically get into trouble by just being around someone even though he has done nothing wrong. Juvenile Justice Jeopardy will help me to be more careful.” Mentee Josh stated, “I learned about different rules. I also learned about what can happen to your record and how parents can have your records erased. I learned you can petition your record to be erased or have your charges dismissed. It was fun because I knew more than I gave myself credit for knowing.” Mentee JQ said, “What I got out of the game is how to navigate interactions with police and peers to understand the legal consequences of my actions. I also got out of the game the short and long-term legal consequences of having an arrest and court records. Finally, I learned more about the police’s jobs and the difference between a search and a pat-down.” The last mentee Ashton who was recognized by the Executive Director Mrs. Lisa Thurman, Officer Joel Pope, Coach Quincy Stewart and Brother Robert Clark (Retired FBI Agent) as a Future Attorney and was lauded for his thinking capacity. Ashton stated, “I think that the Juvenile Justice Jeopardy game was beneficial and insightful. The law enforcement officials did an outstanding job of expounding on the law and giving us (the youth) clarity on any questions that we may have had. I believe that more programs like these should be present because the quickest way to a death bed is ignorance. The meeting was also very structured and organized; however, what else would you expect from the Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.” Dignitaries on the call were: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Grand Basileus Brother Ricky Lewis, Psi Alpha Chapter Basileus George Mayers, Psi Alpha Chapter Vice Basileus John Lester, Lone Star State Ques President John Cooper, San Antonio Lieutenant Michele Ramos, San Antonio Officer Douglas Greene, Strategies for Youth Executive Director Lisa Thurman, Strategies for Youth Board Member Robert Clark, San Antonio Officer Joel Pope, and Sam Houston Head Football Coach Quincy Stewart.



## Team Omega Community Service

By Bro. John D. Cooper & Jeremy Neal / Psi Alpha / San Antonio, TX

When it comes to Omega, what is Brother John Cooper's favorite word? TEAM! Another month of Team Omega helping knock down obstacles for those in need. On January 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, Team Omega helped the Blessed Angels Community Center with their weekly outreach program. In total, the Team provided a total of 32 man-hours to complete the task. Free groceries, pet food, diapers, warm blankets, and more were distributed over the two days mentioned. A total of 3,106 families received assistance as the need continues to grow as families are not only fighting off hunger and cold temperatures but the continuing pandemic. On January 26<sup>th</sup>, another Team Omega mission was accomplished. Grocery pick-up and delivery from the San Antonio Food Bank and Sam's Club via West End Baptist Church's monthly community service outreach program. Residents of the 50-unit apartment complex received free groceries and supplies during the monthly food pantry giveaway.



## Shekinah Project Thanksgiving Edition

By Bro. Stephen J Jackson and Bro. Derrick Emanuel / Rho Beta Beta / Houston, TX

On November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020, the Brothers of Rho Beta Beta Chapter collected and packed an assortment of food for families during the Thanksgiving holiday. The event was held in the Greater Houston area and reached/impacted over 210 families of the African American community. With help of local school districts, churches, and community members we were able to identify families that needed food resources for Thanksgiving. Due to COVID restrictions the brothers of Rho Beta Beta led by our MSP Chairman Edward Jackson designed a drive-up system where we could load groceries into the trunks of the cars making everything contactless. It is important to make mention that the groceries that were distributed were purchased by brothers of Rho Beta Beta as well as donations from local supermarkets in the area of Houston, TX. The Shekinah Project was held at Trinity Gardens Church of Christ located on 7725 Sandra St. Houston, TX 77016.



## Theta Alpha Social Action Saturday

By Bro. Karl Hickman / Theta Alpha / Dallas, TX

Five Omega men fired up their chain saws and started cutting two massive trees which already had damaged a car that was next door and also destroyed a storage shed. Mrs. Linda Murphy was extremely grateful to the Omegas who had come to assist her during the pandemic. Especially with the high cost to hire someone to cut and clear the trees. We know that with the hard work and the perseverance of five men, they had to SEE IT THROUGH!



## Health & Wellness 2020: CrossFit “Team Wakanda”

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



“Team Wakanda,” made up of Alpha Iota Iota Brothers, TJ Riley, Rickie Hill, and Tim Gardner, took home the bronze medal at the CrossFit Wichita Falls, in Wichita Falls, Tx. Same gender teams of 3, competed in RX and Scaled Divisions from all over the country. This event is part of the Wichita Falls Fitness Expo which brings out vendors and spectators in the Industry for a fun yet competitive day of CrossFit. Health & Wellness continues to be an initiative that Alpha Iota Iota chapter has pushed in this socially challenged 2020 year to enhance and maintain mental and physical health through all adversity. The chapter plans to bring a Fitness Expo of this magnitude to the DFW Metroplex.

## South Dallas Senior Care Health & Rehab Center Uplift

By Bro. Karl Hickman / Theta Alpha / Dallas, TX



The young men of Omega Sparks on December 20, 2020 got together with Theta Alpha Foundation in Conjunction with Theta Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. to do a community service project. The young men carefully thought out how to get fruit baskets and deliver them with the help of family members to drive and deliver the baskets. All of the cars lined up at Theta Alpha’s Fraternity house and proceeded the 1/2 mile drive to South Dallas Senior Care Health & Rehab Center. Once there, the Omega Sparks unloaded 54 fruit bags and delivered them while the seniors watched from the inside cheering and clapping. The Senior Care coordinator said “this made the Senior’s day and we are very grateful for these young men to come out and see us: We all appreciate you”!



## Brother Your On My Mind

By Bro. Elijah Calloway / Pi Upsilon / Hawkins, TX



The Mighty Ninth District Brothers from the Phi Beta Chapter (Jarvis Christian College) and the Pi Upsilon Graduate Chapter (Founded in Hawkins, Texas), made a surprise wave bye visit to Brother James “Shanghai” Wilkerson. Brother Wilkerson is a charter member of the Phi Beta Chapter and was initiated Fall 1971 on the Charter Line of the “Funky 8”. It was a real good day not only for Brother Shanghai, but for the “souls” of every member of our beloved Graduate and Undergraduate chapter brothers as well. The Brothers of these

chapters participate on our weekly “Wellness Forum” Zoom calls every Friday night just to check in and see how everyone and their families are Doing. Brother Wilkerson resides at the Lake west Rehabilitation Home located in Dallas, Texas and he was so very happy to see us and it was a very heartfelt moment not only for him and his family, but for every brother as well. May the Supreme Basileus continue to watch over our brother and, I would ask all to keep the sick and those who are not as mobile who may need a little assistance from time to time, let’s keep them all up-lifted in our daily thoughts and prayer and brothers less we forget, your joys are my joys and your sorrow is my sorrow only if we continue to reach out to our brothers through communication will know. Please be ever so humble to share, Brother you are on my mind. Isaiah 40:31- “Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the LORD!” “But they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.”



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## Theta Chi 2017 Emphasizes Reclamation & Retention

By Bro. Na’Shon Edwards, Sr. / Theta Chi / Missouri City, TX

On January 1, 2021 the Fall 2017 initiates of the Theta Chi chapter known as a the 17 Sons of Redemption, achieved a milestone that has not been achieved in the chapters history, which is retaining all 17 Brothers in the financial status. The Brothers from the Fall '17 line wanted to change



and challenge the narrative of the “3 in out” that many Brothers are faced with after initiation, which is the exigency why the line committed to completing such a noble project. The Theta Chi chapter is very proud to have retained all the Brothers of the Fall 2017 line S.O.R. and look forward to the work that the Brothers will contribute to move not only the chapter forward but the 9<sup>th</sup> District and Fraternity as a whole. Continue to lead 17 Sons of Redemption!



## Project Perseverance Voter Support

By Bro. Wes Biggs / Rho Xi / Freeport, TX

On November 3, 2020, Rho Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, inc. conducted a voter support initiative called Project Perseverance. The aim of this project is to prevent any voter from turning away during Super Tuesday due to adverse conditions associated with thirst and hunger. In addition, Rho Xi Chapter would be present to help any voters finish the voting process. The Chapter provided lights snacks, 8 oz. waters, hand sanitizer, face masks to local community voters, candidates, poll workers, and police departments. Brothers mobilized to man six sites within in Brazoria and Fort Bend County from 3:00-10:00pm. Project Perseverance was huge success. Voter turnout was light due to heavy early voting and mail-in voting however we executed the mission until voting site closures. Several community members, supporters, and a few candidates running for the various offices inquired about our presence, organization, and purpose of supporting the local community. The display of our beloved Fraternity colors and paraphernalia without partisan signs or attire provided sent a strong positive image reaffirming our intent to only support voters. The mission was executed through the work of the Mighty Rho Xi Brothers (29) with support from Houston Coalition Brothers (8) plus Delta Sigma Theta Sorors (9).



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## Christmas Weekend of Service and Giving

By Bro. Kenneth Jones / Eta Lambda Lambda / Red Oak, TX



On Saturday morning, December 19, 2020, the Eta Lambda Lambda chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, began its first annual Christmas Weekend of Service and Giving. This Weekend of Service and Giving included a partnership, Angel Tree, turkey box delivery and participation in the City of Dallas' Santa Cops program. The Brothers of the chapter were able to divide and provide coverage of all activities with complete participation. The weekend kicked off Saturday morning with a pickup of toys provided by the City of Dallas. The Brothers of Eta Lambda Lambda then delivered those toys to

eight families, providing Christmas gifts to children who might not otherwise have received anything. During the same hour on the other side of town, other members of the Eta Lambda Lambda chapter partnered with the Bon Air Baptist Church to prepare and provide a combined 61 turkey boxed dinners and bags of essential toiletries. Keeping COVID 19 protocols in mind, the recipients drove through the church parking lot as the Brothers loaded the Boxed turkey dinners into the trunks and back seats of the cars as they passed through. On Sunday morning, the Brothers gathered once again to provide service and giving, this time through providing gifts to ten children from our Angel Tree program. In addition, the Brothers prepared an additional 18 turkey boxed dinners to provide to families who have transitioned between a The Bridge homeless shelter and their new homes. The members of the Eta Lambda Lambda chapter had a great and successful weekend providing service and giving. We look forward to continuing the spirit of these service and giving activities throughout the 2021 fiscal year.



## Bro. Robert Wilson Promoted to Lieutenant

By Bro. John W. Williams / Theta Upsilon / Texarkana, TX

Brother Robert Wilson has been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and will assume command of the Arkansas State Police's Criminal Investigation Division, Company B, headquartered at Pine Bluff. This promotion was approved on October 7, 2020 by the Arkansas Police Commission. The recommendation for promotion was presented to the commissioners by Colonel Bill Bryant, Director of the Arkansas State Police. Brother Wilson is a 23-year veteran of the department and has been assigned as a Company B supervisor since 2018. Brother Wilson is the first African American to serve as a Company B Commander which covers 13 counties of South Arkansas. Brother Wilson was initiated into The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, in 2015 through the Theta Upsilon Chapter, located in Texarkana, Texas.



## Bro. Raymond "Raybo" Bourgeois Initiated / Current Chapter: Nu Phi 4-30-1977

By Bro. Tawan Williamson / Nu Phi / Houston, TX



After serving as Vice Basileus, Brother Bourgeois (affectionately known as "Raybo") had the second longest consecutive tenure (6 yrs.) in the 94-year history of the Chapter as Basileus (an untouchable record now with term limitations). Under his leadership, the now Houston Area Coalition of Chapters was established in conjunction with the leadership of other area Basili. He had a hand in starting (chartering) several chapters in the Greater Houston area. Bro. Raybo serves as a Trustee of the ON-PEC Center (Fraternity House) and entered a financial arrangement with the banking institution to refurbish the house (circa 2001). Raybo continues to be a voice in the Houston Area regularly assisting with Leadership Workshops and being a subject matter expert on Membership Selection. Raybo logged more than 30 years as a volunteer basketball coach. He was inducted into the PVISL Basketball Hall of Fame in 2015, and hundreds of his kids (including many Omega Men) have played for him and gained scholarships to play at the collegiate level. Raybo works closely with his church and chairs the annual carnival fundraiser. His civic engagement keeps him plugged in at City Hall. He is regularly asked to sit on panels to address community issues. He is a former President of the Xavier Alumni Association, and supports Texas Southern University and The University of Houston. He sits on

his local Civic Board and Chamber of Commerce. Raybo actively engaged in and supported the early formation of the Lone Star State Ques (LSSQ) Organization. His influence on the Leadership still permeates today. Raybo was inducted into the LSSQ Hall of Fame in 2020. Raybo and his team, wrote and designed the current Membership Selection Program. He has worked for close to 20 years under six Grand Basileus as International Chair of Membership. He trains and certifies members to be able to participate in the program all across the world. The Supreme Council relies on him and his team for guidance in areas related to Membership Selection. He is also a part of the Team that established charters and chapters in Africa, Mexico, and Dubai. Raybo received the IHQ Grand Basileus award during the 2020 Grand Conclave.



## Omicron Pi Chapter Killeen, TX Oct – Dec 2020 Service Events By Bro. Quincy Norman



The Omicron Pi Chapter, through its Operation Uplift Committee, supported three events in the month of October. The committee has embraced Omega's mandated Social Action Programs and annually supports Habitat for Humanity, the Homeless Awareness Response Program, and the Breast Cancer Awareness Program. Through the financial gifts of our members and other community supporters, the chapter presented three checks to community programs: \$500.00 to the Killeen Fort Hood Chapter of Habitat for Humanity, \$1,000.00 to the Killeen Branch NAACP in support of Breast Cancer Awareness, and \$2,000.00 to the Killeen Independent School District's Homeless Awareness

Response Program which provides meals to students and families who are experiencing food insecurity. Through the leadership of our Operation Uplift Committee Chair, Bro. Daniel D. Wallace, and Co-Chair, Bro. William T. Bowser, the committee tenaciously focuses on efforts to grow our impact in the communities we serve.

Saturday, November 14th, 2020, (CH) Desi Roberts and Paul Otto (LTC –Army Retired) partnered with the Adolescents and Young Adults Drinking and Driving (AYADD) Outreach Center, hosted a series of impactful drug and alcohol awareness, dangers of alcohol and drug abuse, and life coaching educational discussions with several adolescents and youth from the Copperas Cove-Killeen-Harker Heights, TX greater community. The Omicron Pi Youth Retreat, partnered with AYADD Outreach Program, provides young men with a positive environment to interact with Omega Men from all disciplines, backgrounds, careers, and walks of life who can affect the decision-making, choices, and ultimately, the direction of their lives through active mentorship. Our youth range from ages 16-19 years old, generally, all share several things in common: their lives have been directly or indirectly impacted by drugs and/or alcohol, parents (specifically their fathers) have been absent in their lives, and have made poor life choices. Nonetheless, these young men persevere by actively participating in the various alternative activities hosted by the Omega Men of Omicron Pi Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.



Bro. Bobby Lynn in the SPOTLIGHT; The 2020 Annual Secretary of the Army Energy and Water Management Awards In Recognition of Bro. Bobby Lynn Accomplishments during Fiscal Year 2019. Bro. Lynn is the Chief of the Energy Management Branch/ Utilities Sales Officer and likely the longest sitting Energy Manager in the Department of Army, potentially within DOD. He has led several award-winning teams to success and is called upon often for expertise and insight from other installations and subject matter utility experts. Through Mr. Lynn's foresight and leadership, Fort Hood is home to one of the most robust Utility Management and Control Systems (UMCS) in the Army.



On 15 December 2020, brothers from the Omicron Pi chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc, partnered with other divine 9 fraternities, sororities and organizations, sponsored by VFW 9191 to distributes over 600 toys to 3 Killeen, Tx elementary schools. School officials, along with some parents were very excited to receive these toys to help some of the students in need of a little help during these difficult times. With these contributions, every student will have something to open Christmas Day.





## Omega Psi Phi Voting Mobilization Parade

By Bro. Kevin Jernigan / Nu Phi / Houston, TX

The Nu Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. sponsored the Houston Area Coalition of Chapters of Omega Psi Phi Voting Mobilization Parade on October 24, 2020. Over 100 brothers and their families participated in the parade that started from the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Education Center (ONPEC) located on 2615 Calumet St. to the Harris County Polling site located at Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church on 3810 Ruth St. The event was covered by local news station KTRK –ABC13. Bro. Raymond Bourgeois, International MSP Chairperson stated, “We’ve been making some noise, some good noise trying to get people out to the voting polls.” The message from Omega was clear, “it’s not just important to vote, but it’s important to encourage everyone you know to vote as well.” Brother Karlos Jackson, Nu Phi Chapter Basileus said, “We sit on the shoulders of many people that came before to give us this right and we are not going to lose that. In no shape, form or fashion are we going to lose that; we are going to keep exercising our right to vote.” Before the start of the parade, U.S. Congresswoman Shelia Jackson-Lee encouraged Omega Psi Phi Fraternity members, family, and friends to use their civic voices and vote. She praised Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. for their efforts to facilitate voter mobilization activities in the Houston communities through the power of the vote.

Omega’s own Texas State Representative Jarvis Johnson of Nu Phi Chapter told the crowd to be a part of the solution and vote. He stressed the importance of voting in state and local elections where laws are made on voting rights, funding allocation, education, and criminal justice which have direct impacts to the African American community. Over 50 cars and bicycles that were decorated in purple and gold drove two miles through the 3rd Ward community in Houston, TX. Parade participants waved and honked their horns to encourage people in the neighborhood to vote. The route also included passing by dormitories on the campus of Texas Southern University to motivate students to vote. Carolyn Evans-Shabazz encouraged her constituents in historic District D to remember the struggle to obtain voting rights for the community and to go vote. In addition, three brothers who are locally elected officials spoke to the participants: Prairie View Councilman Bro. Jonathon Randle, Theta Chi Chapter, Missouri City Councilman Bro. Jeffrey Boney, Mu Mu Nu chapter, and Stafford ISD School Board Member Bro. Chris Caldwell, Nu Phi chapter. The participants practiced safety measures as outlined by the CDC guidelines for the COVID-19 pandemic by wearing masks, practicing social distancing, and washing hands. The Houston Area Coalition of Chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. consists of seven graduate chapters and five undergraduate chapters. They include Nu Phi, Theta Chi, Rho Nu, Rho Beta Beta, Alpha Mu Mu, Rho Xi, Mu Mu Nu, Tau Epsilon, Rho Theta, Omega Theta, Eta Mu, and Nu Delta Delta. The mission of the Houston Area Coalition is to serve the Houston community and surrounding areas as Omega men based on the Fraternity’s four cardinal principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift.



## Brother Ivory L. Jenkins “Omega Chapter”

By Bro. Kevin Jernigan / Nu Phi / Houston, TX



Brother Ivory “Lee Lee” Jenkins transitioned to Omega Chapter on November 9, 2020. Brother Jenkins was initiated into Alpha Zeta Chapter in Spring 1995. Born in Helena, Arkansas, he received his Bachelor of Science degree from Arkansas State University. He worked at Prairie View A&M University as technology specialist for Student Affairs and recently moved to the Information Technology department. Brother Jenkins was highly involved in student life at Prairie View A&M. He was advisor to the Rho Theta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. where he was a three-time Advisor of the Year and a two-time Omega Man of the Year. As an advisor, Bro. Jenkins set the

bar for men interested in Omega and challenged the young men to be well rounded students. The number of nationally recognized scholars from the Chapter was a reflection of the ideals Bro. Jenkins imparted amongst these young men. There are many future Doctors, Architects, and Engineers that will count Bro. Jenkins among their biggest influences. He was truly loved by the Prairie View A&M university community. Bro. Jenkins was an active member of Nu Phi Chapter where he was serving as Chaplain and the Spiritual Leader of the Chapter when he passed. He never missed a District or International Undergraduate Summit often serving as a panelist, or moderator for the sessions. He was recognized as an Exemplary Advisor on both levels. Bro. Jenkins served as Santa during Nu Phi’s Adopt-A-Family program, and the Houston Area Pan Hellenic Council’s Toy Giveaway which provided cheer to families and children that otherwise may not have much during that season. His support of Chapter fundraisers allowed Omega to give Scholarships annually. His work as a host at various events ensured the Chapter would have repeat supporters. He was a very active member and deacon at Greater Macedonia Baptist Church in Houston where he served in the Male and Adult Choirs, the New Member’s Orientation committee, Santa Claus for Christmas programs, and volunteered for community food distributions. His goal in life was to serve others, and that he did. Bro. Jenkins took Omega and its Cardinal Principles seriously; he walked with Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift every day.

## Armed Forces YMCA at Fort Bliss

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

Brothers of Sigma Tau volunteered at the Armed Forces YMCA at Fort Bliss, Texas on January 27, 2021. Brothers provided service by packaging over 300 bags of groceries and delivering them to vehicles. This is an ongoing volunteer effort that will occur every Wednesday to families in the El Paso community who are need.



## Child Crisis Center of El Paso

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

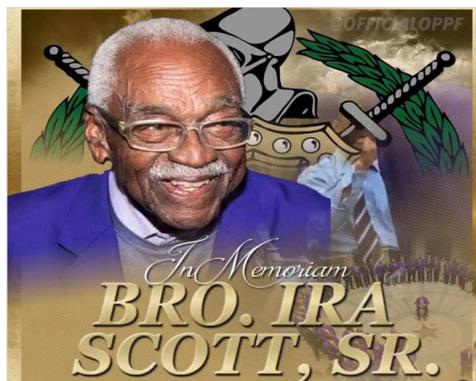
The Sigma Tau Community Uplift Foundation donated and purchased 24 sets of blankets, linen and pillows on December 21, 2020 to the Child Crisis Center of El Paso. This donation was in need during COVID-19, as well as replenishing them with the request of Ms. Kyra Compton, who serves as the assistant director. She gave us a brief insight of the center and stated that “the center currently houses children between the ages of Infant-10 years old who are neglected and abandoned”.





## Bro. Ira B. Scott, Sr. "Omega Chapter"

By Bro. Kevin Jernigan / Nu Phi / Houston, TX



Brother Ira B. Scott, Sr., the oldest living Omega Man for the past few years, transitioned to Omega Chapter on November 10, 2020. Brother Scott was initiated into Alpha Psi Chapter in 1938. Born on March 25, 1917 in Willis, Texas, he attended Mary Allen College and later transferred to Huston-Tillotson where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Education. Brother Scott was an educator, a mentor, and a leader throughout his entire 103 years of life on this earth. After graduation, Brother Scott's first job was teaching in a small community near Shreveport, Louisiana. He then moved to New Orleans, LA where he met the love of his life for sixty-seven years, Evelyn Rhoda Landix. Brother Scott and his wife moved to Conroe, TX

where he taught at Booker T. Washington School and founded the first Boy Scout Troop for Colored Boys. He also taught at Wheatley High School in Houston, TX, and became principal of E.O. Smith Junior High School. Brother Scott retired after thirty-five years of serving the community in education. In addition, Brother Scott was an active member of Nu Phi Chapter where he previously served as the Chapter Basileus and also served as the Ninth District Chaplain. He was among the "Most Tenured Omega Men in the Country." As the Chapter's Senior Mentor, he taught us that the key to longevity was "Everything in Moderation." Brother Scott was a leader in the community where he served as President of the Houston Retired Teachers Association, Board Member of the Houston Teachers Credit Union, and Trustee of Huston-Tillotson University. Brother Scott exemplified Christian Manhood as an active member at Trinity United Methodist Church in Houston, TX for over sixty-five years where he served in the Men's Ministry and the Choir. Brother Scott leaves behind three sons, Bro. Ira Scott, Jr., Bro. Carl Scott, and Mr. Vernon Scott, and a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

### Real Men Read

By Bro. Tawan Williamson / Nu Phi / Houston, Texas

On November 19, 2020, men of the Nu Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. volunteered their time to read to the youth of Ruby L. Thompson's Elementary School in Houston, TX. The brothers read in-person to approximately 40 grade students that are receiving in-person school education along with seven virtual students. This Real Men Read session was held in the gymnasium of the school to ensure that CDC



COVID-19 protocols of wearing mask and social distancing were strictly adhered to. Though the coronavirus pandemic of 2020 has impacted the Omega mentoring program this year, the chapter worked closely with the Houston Independent School District (HISD) to ensure our presence would be continuously felt in the school. Through research of HISD, studies show that 1 in 4 Houston children do not meet minimum standards at grade 3, so that is why the Nu Phi chapter focuses on this grade level for the mentoring reading program. The inner-city youth must understand the importance of reading, so our program dedicates the sessions on reading comprehension. The book for this reading session was "If I Ran for President" by Catherine Stier. This book was an interesting read which created great dialogue with the children. After the Omega men volunteers finished reading the book, the students were given the opportunity to express their views on what things they would change if they were to be elected the President of the United States of America. The majority of response received from the students were providing homes for the homeless and decreasing the unemployment rate by providing more jobs for the people. There was one student that said they would create a cure for the coronavirus. As men of Omega Psi Phi attempt to make an assault on illiteracy, it is important that the Fraternity continue to impact the next generation through basic reading fundamentals. In 2009, the Nu Phi chapter partnered with the [Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation](#) which works diligently to expand the capacity of school districts, libraries and community-based literacy service providers to serve people in need through volunteerism and service. The Nu Phi chapter will continue to make a difference in the local Houston, TX community.



## Theta Alpha Christmas Toy Give-A-Way

By Bro. Karl Hickman / Theta Alpha / Dallas, TX

Theta Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. on 19 December 2020 conducted their annual Christmas toy drive give-a-way, from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. at Theta Alpha Fraternity house. Fifty families called in for the toy drive give-a-way. Theta Alpha brothers set up the drive thru pickup for the families. Each family received a box of food with a Turkey and toys requested by the family member. The Brothers were very happy that the family members received their food and toys especially for their children. One child said “I get toys from the Omega’s (ROO, ROO) and toys from Santa”!



## Brothers Register Students to vote in Historic Presidential Election

By Bro. Maydrian Strozier-Lowe / Theta Chi / Missouri City, Texas

On October 2, 2020, just days before the deadline to register vote Theta Chi delivered an extra assist to victory. In the midst of the coronavirus, a pandemic claiming lives of the Brothers of Omega, Houstonians, and Americans daily the brothers of the Theta Chi Chapter safely gathered together to register students to vote. The brothers safely distributed information about voting locations (early and Election Day), distributed sample ballots, and more to the local community. The Brothers loudly promoted the fraternity’s mandated program: Voter Registration, Education, & Mobilization. The Theta Chi brothers were able to register 50+ students to vote. The efforts from the Theta Chapter helped to deliver Harris County with the largest early voting turnout in history. Thank you to brothers involved in the organization promotion of this event.



## Brothers partner with Mayor and Councilmembers to Distribute Food

By Bro. Na'Shon Edwards, Sr. / Theta Chi / Missouri City, TX

On Saturday August 22<sup>nd</sup> 2020 the Brothers of the Theta Chi Chapter partnered with the Texas YMCA, Houston District D Office, and Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner to distribute PPE, food, and school supplies to hundreds of families in the third ward community. It is important to note that this particular district is home to one of the poorest black communities. The chapter would like to thank Councilwoman Carolyn Evans-Shabazz and her staff for allowing the Brothers to commit to such a noble cause. The Chapter would like to also thank Bro. Kenneth Burkins our Community Service Chair for coordinating this effort! We look forward to working with members of our community and hope that the impact that was made would be everlasting to the families in Third Ward.



## Warmth and Comfort

By Bro. Dion Martin / Eta Lambda Lambda / Red Oak, TX

As the season can bring with it holiday cheer, it can also bring a winter's chill. Eta Lambda Lambda has partnered with Bon Air Baptist Church in an effort to warm hearts and touch lives. The Chapter and the Church orchestrated the collecting of new blankets and slightly used outerwear to assist individuals challenged with facing the brunt of winter. On January 23, 2021 the collective efforts of the Chapter were put into action as they distributed items to numerous people furthermore succeeding in their endeavor to touch lives in service to our community. Eta Lambda Lambda continues to embrace our motto of service, service, service.

# FATHERHOOD GUIDANCE



Fatherhood Guidance from Brother Herbert Nance  
Interviewed By: LeMarc Holcombe and Alan Thompson  
Written By Bro. Jeremy Neal / Psi Alpha / San Antonio, TX

Brother LeMarc Holcombe: How long have you been a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated?

Brother Herbert Nance: I have been a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. for 52 years. I crossed the sands on 26th April 1968 at Huston-Tillotson College in Austin, Texas. I was deuce, #2. The line name was "The Determined Six Minus One." We started with six and they took one of our line brothers over early. We were online from September-April, they took him over in December. He tried three times before and had three calamities in his life, but he made it the last time. 52 years coming up on 53 years. The wife is 6 months ahead of me; she went over in December and has 53 years in her sorority next month.

Brother LeMarc Holcombe: How many children do you have?

Brother Herbert Nance: I have 2 children. I have a daughter, Charlinda. The name is unique because I just knew being a coach, I was not going to have a girl, I was going to have a boy. My first was going to be a boy and we did not even think. I fought my wife because I did not want a kid named after me, which I do have a son, Herbert Charles Nance, Jr. Charlinda was born in El Paso, Texas on 27th December, which was 3 days before my birthday. At the last minute, we decided just in case it was a girl, we would come up with something unique. She is named for four people. We took my middle name, which is Charles, and took my wife's name which is Linda, and combined them to get Charlinda. My mother-in-law's name was Audrey and my mother's name was Alice so we put A-U-D-L-I-C-E, Audlice was her middle name and the last name was Nance. I do have a grandson as well, Charles Lee Allen, III.

Brother LeMarc Holcombe: During the early years and still today, do you have sincere, consistent, and effective communication with your children?

Brother Herbert Nance: Yes, unfortunately, I tried to get them to move away from home. I raised them as my mother raised me. At 18, they had to go somewhere but they could not stay here. My daughter went to Prairie View A&M University and spent 4-years there on a scholarship, graduating early. She went to medical school (Optometry) at the University of Houston. The son, believe it or not being a big-time coach at the time I was growing up, I thought I was going to have a linebacker or defensive end. He ended up being an opera singer. He went to the University of North Texas, which was then known as North Texas State University, for two years and transferred to the University of Texas at Austin and graduated from there. That was a school back in his day that I could not even enroll in. They both live here, my daughter in Universal City and my son lived in San Diego for 12 years but recently moved back close to home two years ago living in Bulverde, Texas.

Brother LeMarc Holcombe: What is your proudest moment as a Father?

Brother Herbert Nance: Well, let's see, of course, the proudest moment with my daughter was the day that she graduated from medical school. And we went to hear the speech and the

# FATHERHOOD GUIDANCE

professor that gave the speech at that time made a statement that she still does not realize today. But he said that because of the initials in front of your name, you will be respected and, you know, whatever you say will have more virtue or more value than just a regular person. And he said, well, you will be a doctor. She is a Doctor of Optometry. With my son was the idea, the same thing, you know, seeing him graduate from the University of Texas at Austin, a school that when I didn't even think about applying and when I went to Huston Tillotson, which is in the same city, we could go over and use the library and buy books at UT, but we couldn't stay over there for night activities or anything unless we were taking a class and oddest mum was to see him finish his goal. He transferred and we thought for a minute, I was going to have to put my foot where it did the most good but he got it straight and he decided to go ahead and finish. So, he graduated UT Austin, and I do not know what they fed him up there, but you know, he's one of them hook 'em horn die hearts. But those were the two proudest moments with my children.

Brother LeMarc Holcombe: What has been or was your biggest challenge as a Father?

Brother Herbert Nance: I was raised by an 8th-grade graduate. My dad, my mother divorced when I was like four. So, I went in between a split home and my mother was the smart one. She went and forced, the little town of Taylor, Texas to admit her into a nursing program. My dad worked for BF Goodrich. And so, I had to try to tie the two together. My mom pushed education. My dad pushed it too in a way that he could only say, you know, show me by example. With my children, it was just getting them to understand and we used to have things going on in this house that you can do anything you want to. We used our daughter's initials C.A.N. Charlinda Audlice Nance telling her that she could do anything you want to do. That is all you do is look at your name. You can do what you want to do. And we passed that onto my son. And another way that I got them to buy into it, I was going to show you my picture. My motivation from graduating from school was the fact that I have a picture of myself in a cotton field when I was 12 years old, pulling cotton. That is when the polaroid first came out, I have got it here somewhere in my room on a pile of desks. And I used to show that to them and say, if you do not put something in your head, you will work with your back. And if you do not be careful, we will revert to this. I also have another little snapshot, they messed up my picture. I did not get a picture when I graduated from college, but I did get one when I completed my master's degree here at the University of Texas-San Antonio. So, I show them to show them that, to show that my mantra was, I went from the cotton fields to college. (Break)

Brother Herbert Nance: And the darndest thing was when I was at Tillotson from '65 to '69, I had a nightshift, and I ran out of money. I did not know what a scholarship or a semester hour was any of that. I am the first in the family to go to college. And so, I had to learn the hard way. My freshman year after my first semester, my freshman year, I was ready to drop out because I did not have any funds. And that is how we will talk about Omega in a minute, that's how Omega pulled me through, but I did not know what to do, etc. So, I went to work at Travis State School for the mentally retarded from April 1, 1966, to July 29th, 1969. I worked ten at night till six in the morning. I left my job and went to the campus to my room. And I had to decide if I wanted to take a quick nap or eat breakfast and went to class from eight to 12, we had Vesper from 10 to 11. I get to nap. I went from eight to four. I went to bed after I ate at 430. I got up at 830 and went right back to work. Did that for three and a half years. And took 21 hours!

Brother Alan Thompson: With everything that is going on with police brutality and racial injustice, what advice do you give to your children?

Brother Herbert Nance: We had to talk, especially with my son, and the reason we had to let me just go with what we did. I grew up in the fifties when I was a teen you know, a young kid in the fifties. It was still in that little town of mine at eight, nine o'clock you could not be uptown unless you had a purpose. On the sidewalk, if you came facing a white woman, you had to either bow down or step out to the side. Okay? With the police, it was, they would stop us and harass us for any little things. So, we knew how to duck and dodge and not get into it. What I told my son, especially now I told my daughter the same thing. If you are stopped by the police, do not be combative, do not say anything. Follow the instructions. If you can get a badge number, an eyeball, or something, put something in your memory but I just want you to come home. And we had that talk. And it is a shame we are still having that talk today because I am telling my grandson, who's nine years old, he will be ten next Monday. And I'm having to tell him the same thing, but this brutality, I, you know, and, and I can understand the frustration of you young folks because we've been saying, it's going to get better, it's going to get better. I have been saying that for 50 years and it is still granted, it is slightly better.

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But the thing of it is not where it should be. So, police brutality breaks my heart. I try to be a Christian. I try to live by the scriptures and, and it says the meek shall inherit the earth and blessed is the peacemaker. But then that other little side of me says, I am going to keep this 38, 25, 32, and shotgun near my bed. Yes, it affects me. Even at my age, it does, it takes a little bit of my heart away, you know because that could be one day my grandson, I hope he never has to face it. My son was stopped one time on the way to Denton. And when he was going back to North Texas State and he was staying with my mother-in-law who was in Fort Worth. And when he got to the campus, he called us, he was, he was shaking. He was crying. And naturally, you know, the other side of me came out and I was ready to load up and go up. But again, I just told him, you at home, I mean, it is a campus, you are safe. And I have that issue because we have a young man that is in my Sunday school class, he is a policeman. He works the night shift and we have been praying for him. And, and you know, not all cops are bad, but there is a lot of bad images that we see today.

Brother Alan Thompson: The Psi Alpha Chapter Fatherhood Initiative Committee focuses on the 4 F's (Faith, Family, Fellowship, and Friendship) when conducting mentoring/training. Out of the 4 F's, which one is most important to you and why?

Brother Herbert Nance: Right now, my faith, I have to have strong faith that things will change. I have to have strong faith that, that it is just going to get better. And, and I like friendship. My wife teases me. I've never, I have never met a stranger. My mother raised me that way. My dad was a little bit tougher. My dad carried a hook blade because he cut rubber. And he said this will cut flesh too. I practiced a little bit of him for a little while until you know, but, you can win more people if you have faith in yourself and faith in God, then you can win and make more friends. And that is it. And that our faith has kept us together. If we live to see March the 20th of 2021, Linda and I will have been married for 50 years, the big FIVE-0. And it is hard to pick one of those out faith, friendship, family. We did things with my family. You know, I am ex-military. I did not realize it but see, my dad never talked to me about World War II. He was in World War II. And every Saturday morning, when I stayed with him, he called it A and B (Area Beautification). And I said, what the hell is area beautification? Every Saturday morning, we got up cut the yard, swept the house, cleaned the house. And that was, you know, what brought us together and both sides of my family. We had family meals. So, friendship, family, faith, and the other one? Fellowship! Oh, I love the fellowship. You know? I have gone from, and, and some of the brothers, I do not want to let too much of my secret out, but God is a miracle worker. I was the brother that if you did not have some Rum and Coke, well, I was gonna let you see that other side of me. But I lost that. You know? And then I got kind of fancy and I started, you know, with Lowenbrau, and I could not drink Franklin's stuff. Yessir, Lowenbrau! When I worked for the government on St. Patrick's Day, we had a competition with two tables to see who could build the pyramid with the bottles. But fellowship to me now is a whole different meaning. I like talking, I do not talk to people as if I am higher or any lower. Communication is one of the things I am good at.

Brother Alan Thompson: As a Father, what tools do you possess to create a strong family component (or unit)?

Brother Herbert Nance: The ability to not always think I am right. And that is very important. In my early years with my kids, as they grew up, I did take the dictatorial route. You know, I am the head chief here! No, it was I am the HNIC, that was my term. But then as they grew older, I had to understand that this is a two-way street. And so, one of the things we did here in this house is Friday was for some reason, my dad, I got it from my dad. Friday was fish night. So, I would fry the fish and put it on the table, and we would sit down, and we would talk. And we would talk about what happened this week. What is going to happen next week? And anytime that the kids had a problem, they had the right to call a family meeting and we would have a family meeting. We, we thought that was so crazy for the black family, you know, back then, because you know, black people don't talk, they, you know, shut up, you listen. And I talk, but we would have family meetings. I think that is why I cannot stand either one of them today because they are headstrong, but we taught them to be strong in themselves and believe in themselves. And if there is a problem, you know, you got to try to talk it out. But yeah, that is one of my tools was being able to give my wife and I used to say, is it a 51/49, uh, you know, percentage. But, in the interim, we got to meet it to 50 and that is something we had to learn.

Brother Alan Thompson: How do you think we can break the cycle of absentee Fathers?

Brother Herbert Nance: The Fathers have to know, I had to learn this. Not the hard way, but the old slavery mentality and my dad kind of broke that with me. I got six sisters total and my dad had 3 wives.

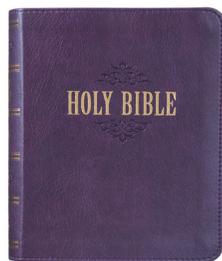
# FATHERHOOD GUIDANCE

I'm the product of his second wife. But he used to tell this third batch that Liam's here now. Now girls keep your draws up. Boys, try to get your draws down. But as he matured, then I understood that was it. My dad became a deacon and it seemed like another light bulb clicked off. And that's what it boiled down to. And so he says, you gotta believe in yourself and, and don't get, you know, when on the run, you know, he said, man, back in the days in slavery, if the man came after you, you had to run or either die. But with the family and see the family nucleus wasn't that strong because they were in control. Now as a man, you have to understand that you have responsibilities, and to break that cycle, you have to be responsible for yourself and others. It's not all about you. It's going to require sacrifice. I've sacrificed a lot. I, to this day, my wife and I, you know, I think the kids understand I had a chance, I was in civil service and I was a GS 11 and I had been offered a GS 12, 13 at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. At the same time, my kids were in AP classes and my wife was in an administrative program to become a principal. And I had to make a choice. Do I uproot everybody because of the \$1200 or \$1,300 and the potential, or do I stay here and man up? I stayed here and I caught a lot of flack, but the bottom line is I'm secure in myself to know that it worked out for me. Two college graduates, a doctor and a principal who just retired after 43 years of work in the district. What would happen to me? I don't know. But again, I caught a lot of heat. One other quick story, in 1984, we ran for the school board out here at East Central and my wife and I sat at the table and flipped a coin. And she won. And I thought, I'm the man, I should be the one running she said, but baby, we flipped the coin. And I won. I said, okay. So I slowly gave the kids a chance, vote for Linda Nance. And man, I caught heat from the brothers, believe it or not, my brothers. Man, we know who wears the pants in that house. We know who does this, we know who does that. I say, listen, it's about family. It's about togetherness. I say you know what? And since then, and, and another thing, this we've been married, this woman has always made more money than me. She's smarter than me. So I ain't chasing that. I got what I want the bank accounts in my name and her name. I control the money. She doesn't even know what she makes today. You know? No, but see, the thing was, you know, as a father, as a, as a man, when I made that union, you know, and I said, it didn't work with my kids. So that didn't work with Charlinda, you know, she got a divorce last year, but the thing of it is when you, yo, you gotta find a real man. And that's the key. And as, as we are real men, can't listen to him. You know, I always say, if you not paying any bills at 2942 Lakeland, if you're not contributing to the grocery bill, you ain't got nothing to say about this house.

Brother Alan Thompson: Give some words of encouragement/uplift for a Father trying to resurrect his relationship with his family (kids)?

Brother Herbert Nance: Be humble. Go in, be humble. If, if it's, if it was a nasty break or if it's been a rough road, be willing, take the sensitivity off your skin, listen to what it's saying, evaluate it. Don't take it personally. It's going to hard. I still think when I, when I was talking to you about all that stuff, see, I haven't had a beer since 1992. I haven't had one beer since 1992, because my family said, "When you get when you a little bit away from us like that, we don't know who you are." And that broke my heart. That broke my heart. So what I had to do was look at him, look at the man in the mirror. And I had to come to a point where I said, look, this, what am I? What's wrong? Why am I? And I had to figure me out. And that's when I opened a good book and started reading First thing I read was Psalms 34:8, which says "O taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed it as a man and trust them." So my curiosity got me in, I went one or two chapters over 37:5 which says, "Commit that way unto the Lord trust also in him. And he should bring in the past." That's why I can put up with y'all for 50 some years. Cause you know, y'all are, y'all just wait, y'all go run into some brothers. How did he get in? That's the thing. But with the family, you got to focus on the fact that I always said, my wife, laid down and had two kids for me. And I was a medic in the military. I delivered two kids. I know what it's like. And for her to do that for me and us, then I have to do whatever I can to keep her happy and to please her. And she'll tell you, right now it bugs me sometimes. I was a Ferdinand, the bull, I was a Rose man and everything and did all that. Vietnam put a little kick in my, my arm. You know, when I got back from Vietnam, I was a little bit sour. But as a father trying to reconnect with her, we had to start all over again. I had to court all over again. You got to look at why did you pick this woman? Don't forget why she accepted you. I've seen us, but we still hold hands and I don't leave the house unless I get three smacks, you know? And she doesn't need to grab her in the back and she ain't gonna leave until she gave me three smacks. We still do that. We had another agreement and I'm through, I know you can probably get cut off, but I had another agreement. We can argue fuss and fight. But every night when we go to bed, we always touch at some time we all wrapped up like a snake and sometimes it's just our toes that touch... but we always touch and agree.

# SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE



Chaplain's Corner/Page

Subject: Christ and Corvid 19

Romans 8: 28-39

At this time in the history of the world, we have endured for over a year the cold, cruel hand of this pandemic, known as the Corvid 19. It has wreaked havoc our economy as businesses have been forced to either shut down or cut back on productivity, and schools now use virtual learning for our children. Of course, it is taking a terrible toll on our health care system in that persons in the medical profession are overworked, and insurance industry is strained, paying out claims, both life and medical. Through then this nightmare that has engulfed this planet as we fight an enemy we cannot see, feel or smell, that is a terrible equalizer, not discriminating by gender, race, religion nor class, as believers, we are tempted, yes and even do ask, "Where is God in all this? And when will He bring an end to this suffering." Well, I can say, He is where he has been all the time and eternity, on his throne. But the throne is not a rocky chair, nor a lazy boy chair in our den. No, kings do not sit on thrones to rest but to rule and super rule. It must be remembered that the silence of God, especially in a time of crisis does not mean the absence of God, just as when we were children our parents would move around the house, sometimes, without a sound, but we knew they were there and ready to respond to our call.

For us to try to make sense of this crisis, we but need to hear the Apostle Paul's words to the Roman church, chapter 8, verses 28-39 as follows:

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who[i] have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written:

"For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." [j]

# SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,[k] neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This letter was written by Paul to the church at Rome, a church he had never seen before. He pens these words to introduce himself to this congregation and seek support for a mission to Spain and to articulate his theology. This book or letter has is a theological masterpiece, and the basic Christian doctrine is taught here. And it has been called by some because of its Christ-centered world view, "The Fifth Gospel." He begins the letter by telling the sinfulness of humanity, both Jew and Gentile, with the only hope of redemption through the Lord Jesus Christ.

To those who believe he drives home the point that our salvation is complete in Jesus Christ. It cannot be undone nor revoked to all who believe as he states that for us who are justified by faith, there is no condemnation. And the idea of justification is once and for all, all time and all in eternity. The point here is not only are our sins forgiven but through the blood of Christ, he views us as if we have never sinned.

For our purposes we have the assurance that God has our backs, his grace is our posse and security. In the words of the just quoted text, nothing not even Corvid 19 can ultimately conquer a child of the king. It is interesting to know that the word Corona means "crown" as the virus seen under a microscope resembles a crown. And that virus is still trying to stay of the thrones of our hearts and minds, bringing fear and despair. Yet Paul assures us that nothing can nor will dethrone our Sovereign and Savior. Consider these truths from our text of study.

A.) All work together for good, not they are good of themselves, but despite the ups and downs, God 's ultimately plan is to shape us character wise in the image of his Son, Jesus Christ and allowing evil to run its course to the ultimate fulfillment in Him. It is like the engine in your car. Look under the hood is greasy, yes, dirty, but remove the wrong part that looks dirty, and see how far you go?

B.) Notice the grocery list of troubles he writes that beset humans. He declares that they may put up a fight, they may wrestle, but they will not win. Even Corvid-19 will in God's time and way, will bite the dust in defeat before Him. Evil just like Corvid-19 mutates itself to adjust its defenses against vaccines and medicines to resist. But it will still ultimately lose. If you compare, God to an athletic team, you could look at the wins column and see the victories keep adding up and, in the loss,, column is a big fat ZERO.

C.) Because we are on his team, we win, yes more that win, as he says, "We are more than conquerors, that is we also get a bonus prize. And a bonus is something more than is expected. So it is with the child of the King, we get more than we expect as salvation is that path that shines and shines and shines unto the perfect day and gets sweeter than the day before.

# SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

Allow me to leave this thought with you. I am not a very athletic person. I remember in high school physical education class; the class would choose sides for a basketball game. Of course, the two captains would choose the best players and that would leave us who were uncoordinated, who were classed as SCRUBS. But the coach, Robert Smith, a cousin, at Ruston High School in Ruston, Louisiana would say look at us and say to the others, "I will take them." He would call us into corner, and say, "Look just pass the ball to me and we will beat the socks off them." So we would assist him in scoring by getting the ball in his hands, and win every time. Life then, yes circumstances, sees us as "SCRUBS." We are black and male, yet by the terrible statistics, says society sees us as SCRUBS. Many of us let life play mind games on us and tells us we are SCRUBS. And you are still playing tapes and recordings of negativism since childhood in your head that you are SCRUBS. Indeed, yells from the sidelines, "Hey, SCRUBS, you can't, and you will not win."

But Coach Jesus, says, "Just give me ball and I'll do a lay-up." Remember, brothers, just give him the ball for he knows every move, every plan the enemy will make. So give him the problem, the ball whatever it is—sickness, Corvid, unemployment, divorce and marital issues, rebellious children, racial discrimination, debt, whatever it is. He is the one all in all for all with all as He died on Friday, but early Sunday morning he got up with all power in his hands. Peace and power.

Sincerely, His servant, and your District Chaplain,

Asriel Gamaliel McLain



# SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE



**“WHEN WE WEAR THE GLOVES”**

When we wear the gloves  
A brother has gone from our midst  
And sailed to golden shores.

When we wear the gloves  
A friend has passed the final test  
And walks through purple doors.

The circle has an empty place  
A voice will raise no more  
The song of fellowship and love  
Uplift forevermore  
When we wear the gloves  
When we wear the gloves  
A light goes from this earthly life  
The visor closed again  
Yet all the heavens open wide  
To let a new star in

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

When we wear the gloves.

by Brother Dr. Carver A. Portlock



April 16-17, 2021

## NINTH DISTRICT LIFE MEMBERSHIP



### All Ninth District Life Members Receive:

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

The Ninth District Life Membership Program was approved at the 77th Ninth District Meeting in Oklahoma City, OK in April 2014. As such, Ninth District Life Membership Status became effective beginning Nov. 1, 2015. The program is an extension of the WLD Johnson, Jr. Foundation, a 501(c)3 entity, which was chartered to aid organizations involved in charitable, educational, scholastic and scientific pursuits. The program is open to all fully-financial members of Ninth District chapters who are in good standing at all levels of the Fraternity. Life Members of the Ninth District will be exempt from all future annual Ninth District dues. The current fee for the Ninth District Life Membership Program is 20 times the current annual dues rate, which totals \$1,000.00 at this time. A single payment of \$1,000 or two (2) payments of \$500 each within 6 months can be made. Brothers will not be recognized as Ninth District Life Members until the application is processed and all payments are received in full and within the allotted time frames.

# PUBLIC RELATIONS IN THE NINTH DISTRICT



Bro. Frank Watson

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

## How to submit an article for The Oracle & Source Newsletters

1. When writing the story use times new roman font and 11pt size. The first line of your story should be the title in regular print no caps or bold letters, for example Brothers Uplift the Community. The Second line should be the brother who wrote it, chapter name, and city the chapter is in for example, Bro. Frank Watson / Rho Xi / Freeport, TX. The suggested length for the body of your story is between 150-300 words. Do not put pictures or graphics within the story, it should only contain words, punctuation, and characters in the format explained above. Do not combine multiple stories within one word document. See the articles within The Source as a reference for the writing format required for submissions.
2. Draft an email. Your email should contain word document and picture attachments. Each word document and picture must be labeled with state, chapter, and event name for example (TX-Theta Alpha- Voter Registration) so that they can be properly saved within the database.
3. Send your email to flwatson31@gmail.com.
4. You will receive a reply within 24 hours stating "Received, Thank You". If you do not receive a reply double check to ensure your email was received.
5. Please only submit noteworthy articles from your chapter.

## How to submit a video for The Source TV Videocast

1. Record content by cell phone or tablet with the I Movie (Apple) or FilmoraGo (Android) application. Filming the video within these applications will give you edit capabilities that are compatible with what the PR Committee uses. Also, while recording content be sure your device is facing sideways because the final video will be widescreen.
2. Edit your video clips to create one 30 second to 2 minutes long video. Name the video file with state, chapter, and event name. (AR - Phi Mu Mu - Adopt-A-Highway)
3. Upload your video file to a google drive or i cloud folder to provide download capability.
4. Share the video file with flwatson31@gmail.com so that it can be downloaded, reviewed, and added to The Source TV google drive folder. I you upload to a google drive you can send it to be shared as a google file video via email.

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





# NINTH DISTRICT INTERNATIONAL IMPACT

82<sup>nd</sup>  
**GRAND CONCLAVE**  
JULY 17 - 19, 2020  
VIRTUAL

CONGRATULATIONS  
**BRO. VAN NEWBORN**  
OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.  
INTERNATIONAL

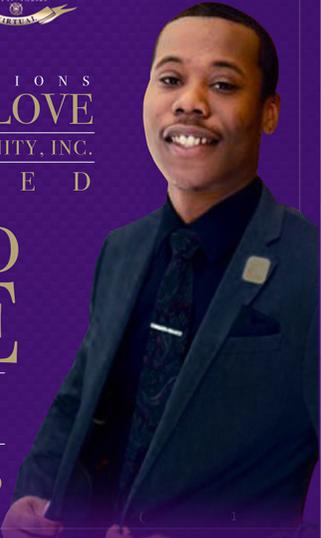
**OMEGA  
MAN  
OF THE  
YEAR**



82<sup>nd</sup>  
**GRAND CONCLAVE**  
JULY 17 - 19, 2020  
VIRTUAL

CONGRATULATIONS  
**BRO. CALEB LOVE**  
OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.  
ELECTED

**SECOND  
VICE  
GRAND  
BASILEUS**



82<sup>nd</sup>  
**GRAND CONCLAVE**  
JULY 17 - 19, 2020  
VIRTUAL

CONGRATULATIONS  
**BRO. ULYSSES D. ALLEN**  
OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.  
INTERNATIONAL

**REVEREND  
DR. BENJAMIN E.  
MAYS  
DIVINITY  
AWARD  
WINNER**





# NINTH DISTRICT INTERNATIONAL IMPACT



C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S  
**UPSILON THETA CHAPTER**  
OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.  
I N T E R N A T I O N A L  
UNDERGRADUATE SOCIAL ACTION CHAPTER OF THE YEAR  
LAMAR UNIVERSITY - BEAUMONT, TX



## CONGRATULATIONS

**BRO. KENNETH "KENNY QUE" FOSTER**  
OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.  
INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

**NEW ASSISTANT  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Ninth District Of Omega Psi Phi  
401 Tom Landry Hwy #224167  
Dallas, TX 75222

EACH  
WED  
NES  
DAY  
7:11PM  
EST

THE MEN OF OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.  
REQUEST THE HONOR OF YOUR PRESENCE ON THE

# INTERNATIONAL PRAYER CALL

*The need for this time to pray is informed  
by the COVID-19 pandemic.*

EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 7:11PM EST

**(712) 775-7031**  
ACCESS CODE - 674-166-340



EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN THE CALL  
HOSTED BY REV. DR. WALTER T. RICHARDSON (GRAND CHAPLAIN OF OMEGA PSI PHI)

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