



## “MIGHTY NINTH NEWS”

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NINTH DISTRICT,  
OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC [www.mightyninth.org](http://www.mightyninth.org)

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### Moratorium Lifted and New Rules for Intake

#### Grand Basileus Releases Moratorium

*Brother Lloyd J. Jordan*, Grand Basileus announced the release of the moratorium imposed on undergraduate chapter membership intake. In a letter dated December 27, 1999, to all chapters the Grand Basileus removed the moratorium effective January 15, 2000. In an effort to assure a sound intake process that will eliminate future liability, Brother Grand announced new rules for undergraduate intake. The authority for intake of new undergraduate members lies solely with the District Representative. The District Representative shall receive all applications and decide who shall be a part of the intake process. The District Representative shall contact all schools and inform them that those interested in membership must contact the District Representative.

#### The undergraduate chapter wishing to perform intake must do the following:

1. Allow the nearest graduate chapter to conduct all intake for the undergraduate chapter;
2. Present signed statements from every chapter members acknowledge that they:
  - (a) understand all Fraternal rules on intake,
  - (b) are not agents of Omega,
  - (c) do not have authority to intake members into the Fraternity;
  - (d) have not hazed any individuals who are proposed for intake and that there has not been any underground or post processes conducted,
  - (e) agree to a lie detector test, if requested.
3. Present signed indemnification agreement from every chapter member, with wavier of service of process and acceptance of the laws of the state of Georgia as the forum for litigation. If the brother is

under the age of 21, his parents must sign the statement;

4. Provide proof of the publication and posting the rules of intake at the university, along with a notice of the offer of an reward of \$500 to any person who provides verifiable information of any violations of the Fraternity's rules on intake has occurred;
5. Deposit with the Fraternity, the amount of the \$500, which shall be used for the reward;
6. Sign a statement that they shall not hold any functions without the attendance of the approved chapter adviser, as designated by the DR;
7. Allow for the video taping of all intake activity.

#### Each person prior to starting the intake process must also provide the following:

1. Sign an acknowledgment of the Fraternity's rules on intake;
2. Attestation that they have not participated in any previous intake process and that they have not been hazed or injured by any member of the Fraternity;
3. Sign a release to the Fraternity of any and all claims they now have or may have in the future arising out of this intake process;
4. Sign a hold harmless and indemnify agreement;
5. Agree to take a lie detector test, if requested.

**Only upon these conditions shall intake be allowed. Violation of these procedures will cause the immediate expulsion and legal actions to the violators.**

During this process graduate and undergraduate chapter are encourage to establish a mentor ship program.

For more information concerning the lifting of moratorium contact the Ninth District Representative.

*Brother Lloyd J. Jordan*  
Grand Basileus

This issue is dedicated  
In Loving Memory of  
Brother Thurman Vernon White, Sr.  
August 23, 1916 - December 18, 1999

## AROUND THE NINTH DISTRICT

## OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY



The Ninth District is well represented by three active members on the **Omega** Life Membership Foundations Board. Brother *Robert Hester, (c)* Chairman of the Board (Theta Alpha Chapter), Brother *Hendricks Cunningham (l)* (Epsilon Alpha Chapter) and Brother *John B. Williams (r)* (Gamma Rho Chapter)

Omega Life Membership Foundation, Inc. (OLMF) was incorporated in 1984, and this year we mark its 15<sup>th</sup> year of existence. At this milestone, we look back and can see the Foundation was established by men with vision and a desire to assist those engaged in noble and worthwhile pursuits for helping others. OLMF's purpose to aid and strengthen non-profit corporations whose funds are devoted to charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes by providing grants to these organizations.

The 1998-99 year has been one where we experienced a number of highs and weathered through a few lows. The health of the Foundation is sound and give thanks to the dedicated men who form our Board of Directors for their readiness and willingness to serve. This year we had the greatest increase in the number of life members in any year in OLMF's history, except the year of a dues increase. The vote of confidence by members is attributed to the fact that OLMF has operated with fiscal responsibility and focused solely on the purposes for which it was chartered and exerted its best efforts to attempt to carry out its responsibilities.

Yet, we have grown in our 15-year history, but we now look forward to the next millennium. We are positioning our Foundation so that it will continue to grow, achieve, and function effectively in the world of high-technology, instant worldwide communication, and exciting capabilities of the Internet. We are grateful to our Comptroller and his Office for providing the high quality and necessary sophistication in administrative and financial operating procedures and excellent service to the membership.

## LIFE MEMBERSHIP FOUNDATION

## Brief History OLMF

Established January 1, 1958, OLMF was the brainchild of our Emeritus National Executive Secretary, Brother *H. Carl Moultrie*. It was voted into law at the 1958 Grand Conclave in Cleveland, Ohio. There was always the fear that such program would destroy the local chapters but, over the years, this proved to be false. Then, during the leadership of Grand Basileus Brother *James Avery*, the big step was taken to remove it from the shelf where it was dying a slow death. Brother *Walter "Crowe" Riddick* was asked by Brother *James S. Avery*, Grand Basileus to chair the Program so as to revive it and create an endowment for **Omega**. This was mandatory to insure the continued life of our beloved fraternity. The fully-paid and partially-paid life members at that time numbered only 47. The original goal of 1,000 life members was in sight and reached in July 1977. Out of respect for Brother *Riddick* and his inspirational leadership the 58th Grand Conclave mandated the Life Membership number 1,000 be retired as a perpetual memorial for his outstanding success. At each successive Grand Conclaves, a Life Membership Fellowship Luncheon is held in his honor.

## Membership Payment(s) OLMF

Any active member of the Fraternity may elect to pay the cost to the **Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.** and receive a Life Membership Plaque and a non-expiring national financial card. The payment for Life Membership may be made in one lump sum or in two equal installments. For instance, the first payment shall accompany the Application for Life Membership (Form 65) and shall represent one-half (50%) of the total amount. The other payment shall be made by the second anniversary of the initial payment. Brothers opting to join via the installment plan must pay annual dues for any fiscal year(s) which occurs prior to final payment being made. Those who fail to make payments by the prescribed deadlines will forfeit any such Life Membership payment made.

## Entitlements OLMF

As a Life Member, brothers are entitled to receive Oracles and other official communication/publications of the Fraternity. It is the privilege of any fully financial Life Member to participate in programs exclusively for Life Members now in existence or hereafter established. Fully financial Life Members are entitled to attend sessions of the Grand Conclave as a visiting brother upon the same terms and conditions applied to other visiting brothers. Life Members are entitled to be honored by any governance of the Fraternity and may participate in any local chapter or district activities providing, however, that the Life Member fulfills the financial obligations assigned by the respective unit for all of its members.

Submitted by:  
 Brother *Robert H. Hester*  
 Chairman of the Board  
 Life Membership Foundation, Inc.

## AROUND THE NINTH DISTRICT

## CHAPTER NEW &amp; VIEWS



9th District Representative Wendle Van Smith (Right foreground) presents Joseph Shaw Jr. with a Plaque in honor of his selection as the Psi Upsilon Omega Man of the Year. At the right rear is Oklahoma State Representative Doug Brown, while Psi Upsilon Basileus Greg Guy is at the left rear.

PSI UPSILON  
Lawton, OK

The Brothers of the Psi Upsilon Graduate Chapter of **Omega Psi Phi** held their 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Achievement Week Banquet on November 13th, 1999, at Historic St. John's Life Center in Lawton, OK. The Keynote speaker was Dr. Will R. Anderson, Deputy Superintendent for Lawton Public Schools. Dr. Anderson delivered an outstanding and very well received speech towards the fraternity's theme of "Contributing to the Survival of the Young Black Male through Political Empowerment." Psi Upsilon also honored members of both the fraternity and the community for their outstanding achievements. Brothers *Wendle Van Smith*, Ninth District Representative and *Douglas Brown*, Oklahoma State Representative, attended and actively participated in Banquet activities. Brother *Smith* read in the chapter officers for the coming year. Special mentions was also made of the two chapter founders and fifty year members, Brother *John Henry Nelson* and Brother *Albert Johnson*.

Brother *Joseph Shaw Jr.* was honored as the 1999 **Omega Man** of the Year for immeasurable personal contributions and sacrifices made over the past year. Brother *Shaw*, currently serving as the Psi Upsilon Keeper of Finance, played instrumental roles in hosting of the Annual Achievement Week Celebration. He also serves on the Annual Talent Hunt Program, Annual Chapter Thanksgiving Dinner project, Christmas Food Baskets for the Needy and numerous other activities during the past year. Brother *Shaw* has been a member of **Omega Psi Phi** since 1988, when he was initiated at Tau Gamma Gamma, at Ft Bragg, N.C.

Mrs Maxine Donaldson was recognized as the Psi Upsilon Citizen of the Year for numerous contributions to the local Community. Mrs. Donaldson is a retired public school teacher who really doesn't know the meaning of the word "retirement", at least not as defined by WEBSTER. This wonderful woman volunteers on a regular basis at the city of Lawton's Retired & Senior Volunteer Program, and also participates in a tutoring program for young people at Barnett Chapel. She is an eager volunteer annually in the Lawton's Juneteenth program, works regularly for both Arts for All and United Way, helps with the setup and running of the International Festival, serves as a member of the Job Corps Community Board, and works in Arts & Crafts with the Seniors of Benjamin O. Davis. She is an active member of the NAACP.

## CHAPTER NEWS &amp; VIEWS

Psi Upsilon commenced the week of achievement activities on Thursday November 11th, 1999, with a Chapter photo at Brother *Clarence Wilson's* memorial corner, followed by lunch. On November 12<sup>th</sup>, the brothers met at the Frat. House and proceeded to finish some much needed renovation projects. On November 13<sup>th</sup>, the brothers gathered for a brotherhood breakfast at a local restaurant. This was followed by the Achievement Week activities that same night. On November 14<sup>th</sup>, the members and their families gathered together for worship at Bethlehem Baptist Church, where the pastor is Brother *Gary Bender*. On November 15<sup>th</sup>, the brothers met at Mike's Sports Grill to enjoy a little social time and some Monday Night Football. The Psi Upsilon Chapter climaxed their Achievement Week activities with a ritual ceremony at the Frat. House on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

Submitted by:  
Brother *Oliver Jenkins*, Psi Upsilon Chapter

PI OMICRON  
Little Rock, AR.

Pi Omicron Chapter celebrated National Achievement Week on Wednesday, November 17, 1999, at the Little Rock, AR., Hilton Inn. The speaker for the occasion was Brother *Douglas Williams*, past 8th District Representative. Brother *Williams* a native of North Little Rock, AR., is currently a member of Upsilon Omega Chapter in St. Louis, MO.

Brother *Jimmy Morris* was honored by Pi Omicron Chapter as the "**Omega Man of the Year**". Brother *Morris* also received the Basileus "Unsung Hero Award". Also being honored was Dr. Katherine Mitchell, past President of Shorter College and currently a member of the Little Rock School District Board, as "Citizen of the Year" Miss Samala Aquilla Muhammad, a senior at North Little Rock High School was the essay contest winner. After graduation, Miss Muhammad will be attending the University of Missouri, in Columbia, with plans to major in Broadcast Journalism.

Submitted by:  
Brother *Edward A. Duncan*  
Pi Omicron Chapter

OMICRON PI  
Ft. Hood, TX

Brother *Stephen Valentine*, was kicked out of the enlisted soldiers station at Ft. Hood, TX and within minutes took the oath as a First Lieutenant, U.S. Army Medical Service Corps.





## AROUND THE NINTH DISTRICT

While a member of the Army Reserve Brother *Valentine* obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from Morehouse College and his Master's Degree in Social Work from The University of Pennsylvania. Brother *Valentine's* education explains his jump straight from Specialist to First Lieutenant, a rare accomplishment in the Army. Brother *Valentines* was initiated into **Omega Psi Phi** through Tau Iota Chapter.

Another Omega military man doing great things in the Army is Major *Barrye Price*. Brother *Price* was recently selected for the prestigious and rare honor of receiving a White House Fellowship. Brother *Price* will journey to our nation's capital to study for a year at the pinnacle of the our nation's government. Brother *Price* was initiated into **Omega Psi Phi** in 1984 at Ft. Polk, LA.. Brother *Valentine* and *Price* are affiliated with the Omicron Pi Chapter, Ft. Hood, TX..



In the Spirit of Christmas the Omicron Pi Chapter participated in a day long basketball tournament of raise funds for toys. The event included several Greek and Masonic organizations as well as various military teams. Brother *James Harris* coached the brothers to multiple victories including a 36-26 win over the Alpha's. More importantly the tournament raised more that \$300 to purchase toys for needy children.

Omicron Pi Chapter in Ft. Hood, TX finished the 20th century in a fitting **Omega** fashion. Newly elected Basileus *Melvin Brown* has proclaimed "Living the Creed" the be Omicron Pi's theme into the new millennium.

Omicron Pi kicked of National Achievement Week activities on November 17th, with a cake cutting ceremony at the Frat. House.

Next, was the Annual Talent Hunt Program hosted by Brother *Michael Armstead* which drew a strong crowd and an amazing array of young talent. The competition was won by Kevin Thomas of Killeen High School, who performed a flawless rendition of Shai's "If I Ever Fall In Love". Achievement Week was capped with a very successful Reclamation Dinner.

Omicron Pi also held a successful toy drive December 17th at the Santa's Workshop on Ft. Hood. The chapter brought several hundred dollars worth of toys including four new bicycles. The Omicron Pi Chapter have pledged to continue their work in the community through the next millennium.

Submitted by:  
Brother *L.W. Kwakou Casselle*  
Omicron Pi Chapter

EPSILON IOTAAustin, TX

The Annual Achievement Week Awards Banquet for the Epsilon Iota Chapter was held November 20, 1999. The chapter hosted a reception for the Special Guest and Keynote Speaker: Brother **Lloyd J. Jordan, International Grand Basileus, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.** The program took place at the L.H. Walker Event Center, 1905 Gaston Place Drive in Austin, Texas. The theme: "Contributing to the Survival of the Black Male Though Political Empowerment" was well received by the overflow crowd that filled the Walker Center.

The Epsilon Iota Chapter recognized Dr. Sterling Lands, II as the "Citizen of the Year". Dr Lands is the founder and president of Rites of Passage Development, Inc., an agency specializing in affordable



housing, community, economic, and human development. The **Omega Spirit Awards** was presented to Brother *Anthony Meredith* for outstanding support of the local chapter activities and Brother *Robert Tapscott* was named: **Omega Man of the Year**. Brother *Tapscott* has been very active in the local chapter, district, and national level sense crossing the sands in Rho Psi Chapter in April 1954. Brother *Charles Christopher* presented on behalf of the Epsilon Iota Chapter a large life like portrait of Brothers *Lloyd J. Jordan*, Grand Basileus to hang in the International Headquarters. A lavish buffi style dinner was served and group photos were taken by Brother *Curtis Childers*, Ninth District Public Relations Director to preserve for all prosperity. Others in attendance include: Patricia Hillier, Chairperson Austin Pan-Hellenic Council, Rev. Sylvester Chase, Pastor Wesley United Methodist Church, a host of family members and friends of the Epsilon Iota Chapter.



Submitted by :  
Brother *Curtis Childers*  
Epsilon Iota Chapter/  
Ninth District  
Public Relations Director

## AROUND THE NINTH DISTRICT

## CHAPTER NEWS &amp; VIEWS



Theta Alpha Chapter  
Dallas, Texas

Brother Warren Lee, former Grand Keeper of Finance and members of the Theta Alpha chapter traveled to Bastrop, Texas to participate in the Annual Ron E. McNair Challenger Open Golf Tournament hosted by the Epsilon Iota chapter August 1999.

Rho Xi Chapter  
Brazoria, Texas

The election for Rho Xi Chapter officers was held in October 1999 with the following results:

Rho Xi Chapter Officers 1999-2000

Basileus.....Brother *Robert Morgan Jr.*  
Vice Basileus.....Brother *Terry Gordon*  
Keeper of Records and Seal.....Brother *Rodney Goodie*  
Assistant Keeper of Record.....Brother *Thomas Green*  
Keeper of Finance.....Brother *Grant Hardaway*  
Assistant Keeper of Finance.....Brother *Melvin Henderson*  
Keeper of Peace.....Brother *Howard Martin*  
Chaplain.....Brother *Kenneth Medlock*  
Parliamentarian.....Brother *Christopher Mathis*

Submitted by :  
Brother *Robert Morgan*, Basileus, Lm #1834  
Rho Xi Chapter

SIGMA TAU  
El Paso, TX

The Eighty-Eight Achievement Week Banquet was held November 19, 1999 at the newly remodel Airport Hilton Hotel on Airway at 7:00 PM. This was a semi-formal gala and the proceeds went to benefit Sigma Tau Chapter's Scholarship Fund.

Submitted by:  
Brother *Chester Alford*  
Sigma Tau Chapter

Incorporated October 28, 1914

## 62ed Annual Ninth District Talent Hunt Up-Date

Brother *Darnel McLaurin*, Chairman Ninth District Talent Hunt Committee provides this up-date to the brotherhood concerning an unusual occurrence at last years (1999) annual talent hunt program.. The competition was elevated to the point that it was difficult for the judges to determine the winner of third place. The Talent Hunt Judges made the final decision that there was a tie for third place between the participants from Rho Phi Chapter, New Orleans and Omega Theat Chapter, Houston, Texas.

Brother *McLaurin* presented this dilemma to the District Council at the winter meeting on January 8, 2000 in Ft. Worth, Texas. The District Council in a unanimous vote decided in the interest of fairness and to protect the integrity of the Talent Hunt Program that scholarship awards would be presented to: Justin Wilson representing Rho Phi Chapter, New Orleans, La and Ashley Strawther, representing Omega Theta, Houston, Texas as third place winners. Each of the third place winners will receive full third place scholarship awards.

Brother *McLaurin* credits this dilemma to the outstanding caliber of the performances of the all the youth participating in the Talent Hunt program and again, thanked all the committee members and the Ninth District Council for their support.

Submitted by : Brother *Darnel McLaurin*, Chairman Talent



**NINTH DISTRICT WEB SITE**  
([www.mightyninth.org](http://www.mightyninth.org))

The Ninth District Web site had been a growing success. Since it's inception in March 1999, we have made many strides to upload most of the district information to the Internet. For statistical reports that shows the activity over the past year, contact me on the web site. There are many strides to be made for the web site and the input of brothers is greatly needed. As well, many brothers still are unaware of this site, and have not accessed it for lack of knowledge. Please commit yourself to informing brothers that district information such as the "MIGHTY NINTH NEWS" the official newsletter of the Ninth District and more is readily available through our web site. The list of items that we will be working on to upload on the web site in the near future include: Expansion of Administrative forms, Chapter Profiles, Development of Brother Business pages, Development of District E-mail Address.

Brothers, I encourage you to submit any suggestions to improve our web-site and don't forget to spread the word to others via email or word of mouth.

Submitted by: Brother *Rodney Goodie*  
District Historian/Web Site Master

## AROUND THE NINTH DISTRICT

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR



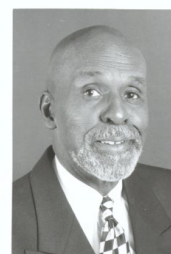
To: Brothers of the Ninth District

From : Brother *Herbert Nance, Sr.* District Chaplain

Subject: Am I My Brothers Keeper or Is It Brotherly Love?

"Herein is love, not that we loved GOD, but that he loved us, and sent his SON to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if GOD so loved us, we ought also to love one another" 1 John 5: 10-11

How's this for love: There was a meeting being held in this particular city. In this city, there was casino's for entertainment. Two Brothers were attending the meeting and eventually had a little free time so, they went to one of the casinos to entertain themselves. One of the two had been very ill, almost to the point of death but, thanks to the LORD he had made an almost near miraculous recovery. As the two enjoyed themselves in separate parts of the casino, the public announcer came over the address system calling for the other to come immediately to a particular part of the casino. His friend had an episode and had taken ill. Now this brother had just started a successful run of luck and was receiving a "payoff" nearly every other time he pulled the handle on this particular machine which he had waited for. Now for what could have been a dilemma turned into a great show of "love" for his brother. Should he leave the machine and go to the aid of his ill brother and friend or play a little longer and let his friend be handled by the casino/emergency personnel until the machine stopped "paying off" and then show up. Needless to say, the love he had for his brother was far greater than the love of money. We know what happened and both are well, still great friends and the love that exist is still there. I, again ask, "Are you your Brothers keeper"? Isn't great to know that you have friends and fraternity brothers such as these. Some may say this is a simplistic way of looking at the subject. And I am sure there are other stories out there far greater than this one but, the illustration is there. We all should be responsible for each other and love one another to the point that whatever sacrifices are necessary, we are willing to make them. We all crossed the burning sands and swore to the cardinal principles. "Uplift" of a brother when in need is tantamount to any and everything. Th scriptures above were written by John the Apostle to all Christians warning them not to be deceived of false prophets and that if you believe in GOD, then you believe in love. Let me encourage all of us to adopt an attitude of love which is an act of doing and not an emotion. How, you may ask, well just look within your own chapter or Omega community. I'm sure there is that "older" brother who no longer comes to the meeting because of his health or other reasons. And what of the new brother who is still not financially set to pay dues but wants to participate. Many brother including myself, may be walking sick, i.e. diabetes, high blood pressure, etc. A kind word, or just a phone call may be all that is needed to uplift that brother spirit and as the youngster say "show some love" So I implore you to start today, if you haven't already done so, and demonstrate GOD's greatest commandment which is that of "LOVE".



Brother G. Stanley Lewis  
(Epsilon Chi Chapter)  
Honored with Induction

### Brother G. Stanley Lewis Honored with Induction to the Northwestern State University Hall of Distinction

Brother *G. Stanley Lewis*, of Epsilon Chi Chapter in Alexandria, LA, recently became the first Black inductee into the Long Purple Line, a hall of distinction and the highest honor bestowed on alumni in recognition of their dedication to the University and their communities. Brother *Lewis* holds a Master Degree from Northwestern State University. One of five individuals honored during the 1999 Homecoming festivities at the University, he received a trophy and his portrait will hang in the hall of the University Student Union Building.

Brother *Lewis* was joined by his family and former members of Theta Delta Chapter which he organized at Northwestern in 1972. He also served as advisor for 23 consecutive years for that chapter. Recently, he became involved in reactivating the chapter which over the years produced hundreds of contributing citizens found in many professions thorough out the country and abroad.

A life member, initiated at Gamma Gamma Chapter in Grambling in 1953, he has been recognized at the local, state, and district level for his contributions to **Omega** which include organizing Xi Alpha Alpha Chapter in Natchitoches; holding offices in Epsilon Chi Chapter; and organizing the Unified **Omeegas** of Louisiana (named President Emeritus). He was named Man of the Year Epsilon Chi chapter in 1979 and 1996, Ninth District Man of the Year in 1980 and 1997, he was inducted in the United **Omeegas** of Louisiana Hall of Fame.

A member of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Ninth District Undergraduate Planning Committee, he serves as chairman of the Ninth District Social Action Committee. Prior to the 62<sup>nd</sup> Ninth District meeting he organized the Que-Lock and Undergraduate Chorale, concepts for diversity of younger Brothers involvement in fraternity activities.

During his 34 years as an educator, he served in a number of capacities with his final position being Director of Administration/Special Education in Natchitoches Parish School System. He served one term as president of the National Black Caucus of Special Educators and currently is a member of the Board of Directors for the *G. Stanley Lewis* Louisiana Special Education Scholarship, Inc. He has been recognized by three former governors of the state of Louisiana for his contributions to the field of education.



## AROUND THE NINTH DISTRICT

Active in his community, he served as chairman of the Martin Luther King Recreation and Community Center Board of Directors. He is a member of the Voters and Civic League, and the Natchitoches Chapter of the NAACP. At First Baptist Church, North Street, he teaches Sunday School, served as Director of the Baptist Training Program and Sunday School Superintendent. In July 1999, he received his calling to Ministry and was licensed to preach in October. Currently, he is an Associate Minister and is enrolled in the United Theological Seminary, Natchitoches Extension.

Brother *Lewis* is married and has three children and six grandsons.

Submitted By :  
Epsilon Chi Chapter  
Alexandria , La



**Brother Charles A. Christopher, MD  
Announces Candidacy for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Grand Basileus.**

Recently, at the Ninth District Winter Council Meeting in Ft. Worth, Texas, Brother *Charles A. Christopher* announced his candidacy for the office of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Grand Basileus. Brother Christopher believes that he can win this election and bring back to the Ninth District the prestige of being a winner and removing the stigma the Ninth District is weak and unorganized.

Brother *Christopher* states, " I have seen this district be successful in bids for National Office and I know that I can unite and bring the dream to a reality". "Obviously , we must support each other in all aspects of this campaign." He goes on to say, " As you well know, campaigning for National Office entails a tremendous amount of financial obligation. I have prepared somewhat for this aspect, but certainly need the support of my district as a whole. I would humbly solicit your financial and moral support of this campaign."

Brother *Christopher* explains, " The next few months will be long and demanding but, the light at the end of the tunnel is bright. With GOD's blessing and my faith in Him, I will accomplish what I have set out to do and return home as a winner."

Brothers I look forward to hearing from each and everyone of you and I thank you for your support. Please forward all donations to the address listed below:

Brother *Charles A. Christopher*  
3307 Woodbriar Lane  
Austin, Texas 78723  
Phone: 512-926-1940  
Fax: 512-926-8050

## Undergraduate Review

The **Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.** was founded to enhance the social and intellectual aspects of college life. It is important the BROTHERHOOD always keep this in mind. Our purpose as an organization should never be questioned for it has been clearly communicated both in our official writings and verbiage since 1911. However, we should continue to question and evaluate the necessary adjustments needed to respond to the social, intellectual and economic challenges for contemporary times.

Each Undergraduate Chapter must be organized according to the Constitution and bylaws. All national dues, assessments and programs must be adhered to. The Undergraduate Chapters of the our Brotherhood must serve as a training ground for young Black Men on their laborious journey to MANHOOD. The Graduate Chapter must serve as a key resource, making itself available for consultation, mentoring and fraternizing. Each Graduate Chaptershould adopt an Undergraduate Chapter and in the process appoint an advisor to its adopted Undergraduate Chapter to facilitate the Brother-to-Brother Relationship. Each Undergraduate Chapter should appoint a representative to attend Graduate Chapter meeting and coordinate all interactions..

Submitted by:  
Brother *Mark Anthony Iles*  
28<sup>th</sup> Second Vice Grand Basileus

### Brother Tavare Newell Recovering from Accident

On Friday, January 21<sup>st</sup> Brother *Tavare Newell* was involved in a serious automobile accident while on his way to the Black Leadership Conference at Texas A&M University. His car was totaled and from eye witness accounts, the assumptions was the driver of the car did not survive the head-on collision with the 80 thousand pound , eighteen wheel semi tractor trailer. Brother *Newell* sustained multiple serious injuries and was in critical condition at the College Station Medical Center. As the word went out the night of the accident a large group of undergraduate **Omega** Men from Texas A&M and Prairie View A&M came to the aid of Brother *Newell* and his family. Nu Delta Delta Chapter, friends and The University received well wishes from all over the country in an overwhelming show of support. The chapter prayed together and made arrangements for the families while Brother *Newell* lay in the hospital in a coma. Once he awoke from the coma he endured six hours of surgeries.

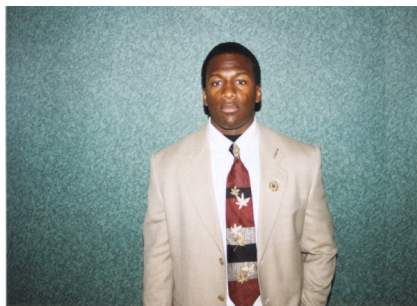
Brother *Newell* has been moved to Houston's Texas Institute of Rehabilitation Research and is recovering progressively. He is walking with assistance, communicating and dressing himself. His memory and thought process have not yet fully recovered. He has at least one more surgery on his hand and foot. He is working on occupational, music, speech, physical and recreational therapy. His moral is high but, still has a lot of healing to do. Brothers of Nu Delta Delta Chapter ask for your continued prayers and support. Brother *Newell* has a long road to recovery. Please make donations payable to : [Tavare Newell Benefit Account, First American Bank, P.O. Box 1033, Bryan, Texas 77805-1033.](#)

Submitted By : Brother Byron Fletcher  
Nu Delta Delta Chapter

## AROUND THE NINTH DISTRICT

## UNDERGRADUATE REVIEW

## BROTHERS ON THE CAMPUS



On the campus of Texas Tech University is Brother *Rick Williams*. Brother *Williams* is the star tail back and Heisman candidate for the Red Raiders. Although, he missed the entire 1999 season due to reconstruction surgery to his left knee, he will return this spring. Brother *Williams* gained 1,582 rushing yards in 1998 and is expected to be full speed for the 2000 season. Brother *Williams* is very active in XI Eta Chapter and has attended several state and district meetings.



On the campus of Huston-Tillotson college is Brother *Marcellus Crayton*. Brother *Crayton* is a member of Alpha Psi chapter and sings in the Huston-Tillotson College Concert Choir. The choir was featured at the Dedication Honoring the Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. where Texas state officials and students unveiled a sculpture of the civil right leader. Brother *Crayton* is H-T C's Home Coming King for 2000 and he is a member of the Peer Assistance Leadership organization. Brother *Crayton* is a senior and will receive his degree in Business Administration in May 2000. Brother *Crayton* has set the tone for future members of Alpha Psi chapter and completed the Intake Process via the Epsilon Iota graduate chapter in the spring 1999.

**FOUNDED**  
**November 17, 1911**

## UNDERGRADUATE REVIEW

## BROTHERS ON THE CAMPUS



On the campus of the University of Texas at Austin is Brother *Darwin Earl*. Brother *Earl* is the chapter Basileus of Eta Theta chapter and completed the Intake Process in the spring of 1999. Brother *Earl* is studying psychology and pre-law. He plans to graduate in December 2000 and practice cooperative law for a national law firm.



On the campus of University of Oklahoma is Brother *Jarrel Wade*. Brother *Wade* is the a member of Pi Delta Chapter and crossed the sands in the spring 1998. He is the undergraduate Oklahoma state representative. Brother *Wade* currently serves as the chapter Basileus, and is a member of the National Pan-Hellenic Council. He plans to receive is degree in Science Education in May, 2000 and pursue a career in teaching science and coach basketball at the high school level.

A SURE WAY OF SPICING ONE'S  
SELF-CONCEPT IS TO ADD A LITTLE  
KNOWLEDGE EVERYDAY



## AROUND THE NINTH DISTRICT

## PERSONALITY PROFILE



**Brother Alonzo Bennett**  
Interim Executive Director  
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.  
International Headquarters

Brother *Alonzo Bennett* is a native of Charleston, South Carolina, was initiated into Beta Epsilon Chapter on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 1970. He is a 1973 graduate of Knoxville, College. Since his initiation into the Fraternity, Brother *Bennett* has demonstrated the attributes of a brother thoroughly immersed in the true **Omega** Sprit.

In the Decatur area, Brother *Bennett* is a member of St Philip A.M.E Church, the State and County Democratic Parties, and Chairman of Selective Service Post #54. He holds local membership in Dekalb County Branch of the NAACP, Atlanta Urban League, and the Atlanta Chapter of SCLC.

Brother *Bennett* has been elected and has served as chapter Basileus, served as Vice State Rep. of Georgia and Georgia State Rep. respectfully. He has been a member of the Georgia State Council and appointed Director of Time and Place. He is a past Director of Resolutions and Recommendations.

Brother *Bennett* served as Chairman of the Transportation Committee for the World Headquarters Celebration on December 9, 1995. He holds a Life Membership in **Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.** #2309.

He received the Chapter's **Omega** Man of the Year Award for the years of 1981, 1983 and 1995. He received the **Omega** Federal Credit Union Inc., Marketing Representative Award of the year in 1982. He received the Outstanding Service Award given by the Brother in South Dade County Florida in April 1993.

Brother *Bennett* can be found almost any day at the International Headquarters conducting the business of **Omega** as the Interim Executive Director. Brothers of the "Mighty Ninth" District please join me in a salute to Brother *Alonzo Bennett* for his tireless efforts and dedication to the: **OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC..**

Submitted BY : Brother *Curtis Childers*  
Ninth District  
Public Relations Director

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.  
Ninth District  
Office of the Public Relations Director

Brother *Curtis Childers*

\*\*\*\*\*NEW ADDRESS\*\*\*\*\*

P.O. Box 883, Bastrop, Texas 78602  
Ph. No. (512) 303-1766 or (512) 217-8570  
E-Mail Address: [curtdque@aol.com](mailto:curtdque@aol.com)

All chapter news articles, editorials, photos, ads, personality profiles and up coming events must be sent corrected, typewritten copy or on disk (WordPerfect or Microsoft Word). All photos must be labeled and identified. Please send a point of contact with good address and phone numbers. This information will be used to verify all submission prior to printing in the newsletter. Every effort will be made to return all photos during the next district meeting unless prior arrangements have been made.

" MIGHT NINTH NEWS"  
PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

TIME OF ACTIVITY	DEADLINE	PUBLICATION
March 1 - May 31	June 23	Summers
June 1 - Aug 30	Sept. 22	Fall
Sept. 1 - Dec 31	Jan. 19	Winter
Jan. 1 - Feb. 28	Mar. 21	Spring

Visit Our Web Site and down load copies for your chapter :  
( [www.mightyninth.org](http://www.mightyninth.org) )

Brother *Curtis Childers*  
Public Relations Director  
Ninth District

Up Coming Events

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71<sup>st</sup> Grand Conclave  
July 22 - 27, 2000  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
Zeta Phi Chapter your Host  
Brother Burnel Coulon, Grand Marshal  
For more information call (317) 293-9919

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64<sup>th</sup> Annual Ninth District Meeting  
April 11 - 15, 2001  
Houston, Texas  
Your Host: Houston Area Coalition  
Nu Phi, Theta Chi, Rho Xi, Rho Beta Beta, Tau Epsilon,  
Rho Theta, Omega Theta, Eta Mu and Nu Delta Delta.  
For more information call:  
(713) 302-2631 or E-Mail: [omega2k1@yahoo.com](mailto:omega2k1@yahoo.com)

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"FRIENDSHIP IS ESSENTIAL TO THE SOUL"

## AROUND THE NINTH DISTRICT



## Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

## Ninth District

Arkansas \* Louisiana \* Oklahoma \* Texas

## Ninth District Representative

7322 Southwest Freeway, Suite 900 Houston, Texas 770747

(713) 621-5522 Office (713) 995-1499 Fax

E-Mail: [wendle1v@flash.net](mailto:wendle1v@flash.net)MEMORANDUM

**TO :** District Officers  
State Representatives  
Regional Intake Chairmen  
Committee Chairman

**FROM :** Wendle Van Smith  
Ninth District Representative

**SUBJECT: INTAKE FEES**

DATE: March 27, 2000

Below are the new Intake Fees. Please review for your records.

Graduate Fees

Dues (3 years) \$225.00  
History Book \$40.00  
Pin \$70.00  
Processing \$330.00  
Housing \$200.00  
Total Grad \$865.00

Undergraduate Fees

Dues (3 years) \$120.00  
History Book \$40.00  
Pin \$70.00  
Processing \$330.00  
Housing \$100.00  
Total Undergrad \$660.00

These new fees are effective January 1, 2000.

\* Note \$50.00 will go to District

Fraternally,

**Wendle Van Smith**

Ninth District Representative

WVS: ram/cwc

9th District HistoryPREFACE

The late Brother *Dextor Benjamin E. Mays* the great educator, and President of Morehouse college Emeritus stated any institution that has existed for a quarter of a century has made history. If it does not have a history it cannot have a future.

The **Omega Psi Phi Fraternity** has gone beyond that during its eighty-eight (88) years of existence.

It has caused thousands of college and university trained men to pledge themselves to lives of noblest ideals.

Youths in their teens, men in their twenties and thirties, men in middle life, and some beyond this period, attracted by the **Omega** program, have joined their hands, their minds, and their hearts in heroic efforts to realize these ideals.

Some were just men of promise, and some were of distinguished careers joined this marching army; ministers and physicians, teachers and lawyers, dentists and pharmacists, civil engineers, actors, orators, architects and a host of others.

Certainly a group like these united for creative action would make interesting history in America or anywhere.

The Historian Committee in its previous reports stated that the history of the Ninth District would be developed along the following broad lines and would be ongoing.

Table of contents are the broad lines.

The Historian Committee would like to thank *Brother U.S. Hammonds, Brother Fletcher Morgan, Brother Robert Hester, Brother Willie Critton, Brother Marshall Grady, and Brother Walter L. Littlejohn* for their assistance in the production of the Ninth District History.

The Historian Committee is responsible for all faults in this work.

INTRODUCTION

Today we see many college fraternities which are the pride of American youth. These organizations did not spring forth full grown as did Dallas Athena from the head of Zeus, but are resultants of earlier cultural institutions, which have adopted themselves to modern times. They have borrowed from antiquity, the middle ages, and today.

Franklin Henry Giddings, in his sociological principal of the "Consciousness of Kind," gives the basic idea upon which fraternities rest.

The recognition of common interests or of common ideals bring people into mutual associations. It is this that has given birth to college fraternities and sororities.

The philosophers of Ancient Greece states Greek letter societies and secret societies have existed since the dawn of civilization specially the Greeks, Romans, and Africans. The signs of these secret societies

## AROUND THE NINTH DISTRICT

- stars, twists and various other design found their way into medieval civilization.

We find them on the arms, the shields, and the escutcheons. The middle ages furnished another prototype for the Greek-letter society in the institution of the Guilds. The Guilds emphasized scholarship; so do Greek letter fraternities. When the puritans in 1636 established Harvard College with Cambridge University they transferred to American scholastic ideals and practices, heritages from the Guilds of scholars. This is the seed from which the Greek letter fraternities were to spring. The puritans sowed the seed, but they did not supply the nurture that would give the Greek letter fraternity life.

Finally, one hundred and forty years passed after the establishment of Harvard, and in 1776, when the American Republic was born, the first Greek letter fraternity was founded in the United States.

### THE FIRST FRATERNITY FOUNDED IN THE UNITED STATES

The Phi Beta Kappa Fraternity was the first American College Fraternity founded in the United States in 1776 on the campus of William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Virginia.

Men and women are members of this honorary scholarship fraternity. It had all the characteristics of the Greek-letter fraternities today. Secrecy, the oath of loyalty, a particular grip, a badge and pin. The members stress high ideals of friendship, high scholastic attainment, the brotherhood of man and service to humanity.

In December of 1779 Phi Beta Kappa Fraternity authorized a program of expansion, branches were established - at Harvard and Yale. For thirty years Phi Beta Kappa set up no new branches. In 1856 after fifty years of existence it had only five active branches, then it had a national expansion, and as of today it is still expanding.

### FOUNDING OF OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.

On Friday evening, November 17, 1911, three Howard University undergraduate students, with the assistance of their faculty advisor, gave birth to the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, this occurred in the office of Biology Professor Ernest E. Just, the faculty advisor.

From the initials of the Greek letters meaning "Friendship is essential to the soul" the name of Omega Psi Phi was derived. The phrase was selected as the motto.

Manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift were adopted as the cardinal principles. A decision was made for the design for the pin and emblem, thus ended the first meeting of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

On December 15, 1911 Alpha Chapter was organized with fourteen charter members. From this humble beginning the fraternity has grown to over 115,000 brothers and over 600 chapters throughout the United States and in several foreign countries.

Professor Frank Coleman 1890 - 1967  
Doctor Oscar J. Cooper 1888 - 1972

### THE NINTH DISTRICT ESTABLISHED

The Ninth District was established May 5 and 6, 1937 at the Moorland Branch YMCA in Dallas, Texas, under the direction of Brother J. D. Bowles of Nu Phi Chapter of Houston, Texas

He was the appointed Ninth District Representative by the 16<sup>th</sup> Grand Basileus, the late Brother Albert W. Dent.

The late Brother Doctor Robert L. Gill in his history, "The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and the Men Who Made Its History", states the fraternity was re-districted to provide for 12 districts during World War II and post World War years 1941-1951. The Ninth District then consisted of the states of Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and California. The fraternity was re-districted again for 11 districts during the post war years. The Ninth District became the states of Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. The National Office stated districts are established not chartered.

### BROTHERS FROM THE NINTH DISTRICT WHO HAVE BEEN

#### ELECTED TO NATIONAL OFFICES

The late Brother Albert W. Dent of Rho Phi Chapter, New Orleans, Louisiana, was elected the 16<sup>th</sup> Grand Basileus in 1937, being the only brother to be elected Grand Basileus from the Ninth District.

Brother Audrey Pruitt of Eta Iota Chapter, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, was elected Editor of the Oracle in 1965, being the only brother from the Ninth District to ever be elected to this office. Editor of the Oracle.

The late Brother Doctor C. D. Henry of Pi Tau Chapter, Grambling, Louisiana, was elected to the office of Grand Keeper of Records and Seal in 1972 until 1976 being the first brother from the Ninth District to be elected to this office.

Brother Robert Hester of Theta, Alpha Chapter of Dallas, Texas, was elected Grand Keeper of Records and Seals in 1976 serving in this office until 1978. Brother Robert Hester was the second brother from the Ninth District to be elected to this office.

Brother Melvin Zeno was elected Grand Counselor in 1993, and is serving in that office at present. Brother Zeno is the only brother from the Ninth District ever elected to this office.

Brother Warren G. Lee, Jr. of Theta Alpha Chapter in Dallas, was elected Grand Keeper of Finance in 1992 at the 67<sup>th</sup> Grand Conclave in Atlanta, Ga. and served in this office until 1998. Brother Lee is the only brother from the Ninth District ever elected to this office.

From the time the Ninth District was established in 1937 until the present, six brothers have been elected to national offices from the Ninth District.

Doctor Ernest E. Just 1883 - 1941  
Bishop Edgar A. Love 1891 - 1974



## AROUND THE NINTH DISTRICT

**BROTHERS FROM THE NINTH DISTRICT WHO HAVE  
SERVED AS GRAND MARSHALS**Brother *Elza H. Hunter* - Little Rock, Arkansas - 1944The Late Brother *Kay W. McMillan* - Fort Worth, Texas - 1946Brother *Samuel D. Kane* - San Antonio, Texas - 1960Brother *Marshall Grady* - New Orleans, LA - 1977Brother *Billy Ratcliff* - Dallas, Texas - 1988Brother *Ronald Butler* - New Orleans, LA - 1998**BROTHERS WHO HAVE BEEN ELECTED NINTH DISTRICT****REPRESENTATIVES OR WHO WAS APPOINTED****DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES**

The Supreme Council in 1922 gave the 9<sup>th</sup> Grand Basileus, the late Brother *J. Alston Atkins* the authority to appoint District Representatives. The first District Representatives appointed for the fraternity were five brothers from the northeast. Names, exact dates, etc., were not available.

In the **Omega** expansion in the southwest, midwest, far west, other District Representatives were appointed. The first District Representative appointed in the southwest, Brother *P. F. Midlane*, a English teacher at Wiley College. Through his efforts, Theta Chapter was chartered at Wiley College, December 17, 1922. The first and oldest chapter in the Ninth District.

The next District Representative appointed was the late Brother *Howard Payne Carter*, a charter member of Nu Phi Chapter of Houston, Texas. Nu Phi Chapter was chartered in July 1926. Brother *Howard Payne Carter*, through his efforts, Sigma Psi at Samuel, Houston College, Austin, Texas, was chartered, December 8, 1930.

The next District Representative appointed was the late Brother *J. D. Bowles* of Nu Phi Chapter, Houston, Texas, no exact dates given, but he was the appointed District Representative when the Ninth District was established at Dallas, Texas, May 5 and 6, 1937. Brother *J. D. Bowles* was the last District Representative appointed for the Ninth District.

The following District Representatives were elected by the Ninth District.

Brother *F. Ribers Barnwell*\*\* 1937-1958Brother *W. L. D. Johnson, Jr.*\* 1958-?Brother *O. McCoy Gibbs*\*\* 1958-1962Brother *U. S. Hammonds* 1962-1966Brother *Fletcher Morgan* 1966-1969Brother *C. D. Henry*\*\* 1969-1972Brother *Warren Berry* 1972-1975Brother *Samuel W. Prince*\*\* 1975-1978Brother *Walter L. Littlejohn* 1978-1981Brother *Clarence E. Wilson* 1981-1983(Did not serve full term)Brother *Jethro Hills* 1983-1986Brother *Marshall Grady* 1986-1989Brother *Shelly Steward IV* 1989-1990Brother *Charles Christopher* 1990-1993Brother *James L. Wise* 1993-1995Brother *Virgil Robinson, Jr.* 1995-1998Brother *Wendle Van Smith* 1998-Present\* Acting DR (\*\*Deceased)

A special acknowledgment and tremendous appreciation is extended to the late Brother *Thurman Vernon White, Sr.* pasted District Historian and the Historian Committee for this collaborative summary of the Ninth District History.

See: Ninth District History at Web Site ([www.mithgyninth.org](http://www.mithgyninth.org))

Submitted By : Brother *Curtis Childers*, District Public Relations

**UP COMING EVENTS**

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Omicron Gamma Gamma Chapter

5<sup>th</sup> Annual

Casino Night

May 6, 2000

DFW - Marriott South, E-Mail: [OGGOmega@yahoo.com](mailto:OGGOmega@yahoo.com)  
14300 Trinity Blvd., Arlington, Texas 76011

\*\*\*\*\*

Rho Xi Chapter

"Cruising with the Ques"

Aboard The Colonel

May 28, 2000, Boarding Time: 7:00 p.m., Sailing Time: 8:00 p.m.  
Attire: Casual to Maritime Dress Location: Moody Gardens, One Hope Blvd. Galveston, TX, Contact: Brother Robert Morgan Jr, (713) 670-2579 or (713) 302-2631 E-Mail: [rmorgan@poha.com](mailto:rmorgan@poha.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

Epsilon Iota Chapter

15<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald E. McNair Challenger Open Golf Tournament  
Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2000 at Plum Creek Golf Course in Kyle, Texas  
Shotgun Start at 8:00 a.m. and the Format is two person Select Shot.  
Contact: Brother Charles Christopher at (512) 926-194 0 or E-Mail: [cc24@swt.edu](mailto:cc24@swt.edu) for more information.

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