

THE SOURCE

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE 9TH DISTRICT OF OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY INC.

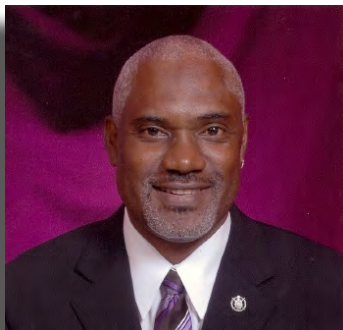
VOLUME X XIII SPRING 2013



WELCOME TO

Omega Rouge
LOU!S!ANA

76th MIGHTY NINTH DISTRICT MEETING



From The DR's Desk

Brothers of the Mighty Ninth District,

The Annual Ninth District Meeting is an opportunity to gather in a spirit of Brotherhood and Friendship to take care of Omega's business. We traditionally assemble on Easter Weekend, which adds to the spiritual connection and sense of family that we feel when we come together. Our Brothers are focused on carrying out the "will of Omega" and enjoying ourselves to the

very end before we prepare to return home for a solemn Easter Sunday.

If you will be in Baton Rouge, LA on Easter Weekend, please take the time to enjoy one another in this "one life we have to live". Let us share all things in hopes that we will leave Baton Rouge, LA better than we found it and that we will return to our individual chapters with a renewed spirit to make Omega better.

Fraternally,

Bro. Ernest E. Parquet
Ninth District Representative

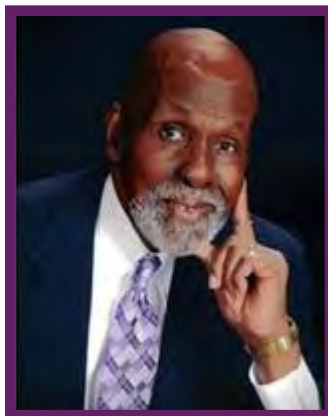


DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

I want to thank you all for the support that has been given to me and this position for the past 3 years from around the district. It has been a pleasure to serve you all in this capacity. I hope that I provided you with the type of service and quality that is expected of an Omega man. I also hope that I represented the 9th honorably as a member of your District council. As I take my seat in the audience, I plan to continue to support the next Brother who holds this position and support the District in any way that I'm asked. Feel free to contact me any time @ van@vannewborn.com.

In True Friendship,
Van Newborn - Spr. 95 AD²

Bro. Rev. G. Stanley Lewis (December 28, 1933 - February 26, 2013)



He pursued and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Social Science/Physical Education from Grambling State College and a Masters Degree from Northwestern State University which included credits from the University of Arkansas and New York University. At Northwestern, he was honored by his selection as the first African American named to the Long Purple Line, in recognition of his service to the University and to the community at large. It was at Grambling that he met the "jewel" of his life, Ms. Edwina Lucille Mudrick. They were married in Natchitoches on December 27, 1956.

A lifetime member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Reverend Lewis was initiated into Gamma Gamma Chapter at Grambling State University, December 12, 1953. He maintains active membership through Epsilon Chi Chapter in Alexandria. He organized and served as Advisor to Theta Delta chapter at Northwestern State University for more than 25 years. In addition, he organized Xi Alpha Alpha Chapter in Natchitoches, the United Omegas of Louisiana, where he was named President Emeritus.

Over the years, he served on various committees at the local, state, district, and National level and was Omega Man of the Year in 1980. Evidence of his involvement are more than 30 plaques, certificates presented in recognition of his service over the years. A great honor and tribute to his membership was the initiation of his grandson Kristopher Lewis into Omega at Dillard University 2011. At the 2012 District Meeting which he attended in Little Rock, a special activity for high school youth which he developed was named after him, the G. Stanley Lewis Q Lock.



Ninth District

Alpha Delta Lambda Chapter Named International Undergraduate Chapter of the Year

During the summer days of July 5th-12, Brother Willyam Winston represented The Alpha Delta Lambda Chapter of The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. under The Mighty Ninth District as a chapter delegate at the 78th International Grand Conclave in Minneapolis, MN. Brother Winston received the opportunity to learn new by-laws being added to the fraternity's constitution, acquire new methods to bring back to the chapter from various workshops he participated in, vote for grand officers in the supreme council election, and to fellowship with brothers of the fraternity from all over the world.

From the moment brother Winston stepped off the plane in Minneapolis, MN and entered the host hotel where the conclave was held, he felt like he was at home being around the brothers. One thing that he enjoyed a lot was the positive energy the brothers of the Mighty Ninth district had the entire conclave.

What topped of his experience was accepting the International Undergraduate Chapter of the Year award on behalf of the Alpha Delta Lambda Chapter. Besides the award, Brother Winston hopes to get more undergraduates involved in going to the conclave, district meetings, and summits.



Former DR Bro. Rutherford receives his Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Public Affairs and Economics

Many of you know that Bro. Jerry Rutherford served the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity as its 18th Ninth District Representative from 2000 - 2002. This distinctive honor earned Bro. Rutherford his first designation as "DR".

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that Bro. Rutherford has earned his second designation as "DR" and can now be uniquely referred to as DR2 ("DR-Squared")!

On Saturday, December 8, 2012, Bro. Rutherford received a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Public Affairs and Economics from the University of Texas at Dallas in Richardson, TX. Bro. Rutherford defended his dissertation on November 1, 2012 on the topic of "What are the Effects of Tax Abatements and Government Incentives on Economic Development? A Study of Select Texas Cities". Earlier in 2012, Bro. Rutherford was also inducted into the Delta Epsilon Iota Honor Society.

Bro. Rutherford also holds two (2) Masters Degrees: Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Finance and Masters of Arts in Organizational Management (MAOM), both from Dallas Baptist University in Dallas, TX. His undergraduate degree was a Bachelors of Business Administration (BBA) in Accounting from Tennessee State University in Nashville, TN. Bro. Rutherford also received the Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges Honors during both his undergraduate and graduate work.

Please join me in congratulating Bro. Dr. Jerry Rutherford on his significant accomplishment and on his unparalleled display of our Scholarship and Perseverance Cardinal Principles.



Brother Honored as “Rising Star” by Case Western Reserve University Alumni Association

On September, 29, 2012, Brother Dr. Paul Adams was recognized with the “Rising Star” Award from the African-American Alumni Association at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) at the 2012 alumni reunion banquet held at the Alcazar Hotel in Cleveland, OH, where the institution is located. This award, instituted in 2010, is given to an alumnus who has graduated from one of the schools within CWRU in the past 15 years, who has demonstrated the potential for long-term leadership and distinction.

Brother Adams received his Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the CRWU in 2000. Brother Adams was recognized for his research, teaching, and service at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, where he is an associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry, as well as his service to the state of Arkansas, and the nation. The Awards committee noted that Brother Adams was a unanimous selection, receiving not one, but two nominations for this award. During Brother Adams’s acceptance remarks, he noted that he hoped to “Lift” as he tries to continue to “Rise.” Brother Adams was also excited to share this humbling honor with his bride of more than 11 years, Quette Stephanie Green Adams, whom he met while in graduate school at CWRU, and who traveled with him to Cleveland for the awards banquet.

Brother Adams is currently active with the Upsilon Chi graduate chapter of Northwest Arkansas, where he serves as Advisor to the Gamma Eta Chapter of Omega at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. In addition, he serves Omega as the 1st Vice President of the “Natural State Ques,” the 9th District Advisor Overseer for the State of Arkansas, and is the 9th District Appointee to the International UG Chapter Advisors Committee for the fraternity. He was initiated into Omega via the Theta Kappa Chapter at Louisiana State University in the spring of 1989. Brother Adams is also the 2012 recipient of the Fraternity’s International Advisor of the year Award presented at the 78th Grand Conclave this summer.



Turkey Day Give-a-Way

On November 17, 2012, the brothers of the “Distinguished” Epsilon Alpha Alpha chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. participated in its 4th Annual Turkey Day Give A-Way. The Brothers gave over 70 turkeys to residents at the Walkers Court apartments in Jonesboro, AR. The brothers passed out turkeys to the residents of the low income apartments while demonstrating our commitment to service in community of Joneboro, AR. The event was a huge success and the residents were very thankful for the turkeys.

Thanks to all the brothers who participated in the event and the Walkers Court staff and residents for allowing the brothers to be a blessing during their holiday season.



Omega man selected as Speaker-designate for Arkansas’ 89th General Assembly

On March 9, 2012, Representative Darrin Williams of Little Rock made history when members of the Arkansas House of Representatives selected him be Speaker-designate for the 89th General Assembly, which will convene in January 2013. By a 54-46 vote Bro. Williams is set to become the first African American Speaker of the House in Arkansas. Arkansas has never elected an African American to a statewide position and is the only southern state to have not elected an African American to Congress.

The historic symbolism of this election cannot be overstated, although Bro. Williams plays down the impact of race on his election. Ironically, Bro. Williams attended high school and served as student body president



of Little Rock Central High School, which was forcibly integrated in 1957 when President Dwight D. Eisenhower sent in federal troops to protect the Little Rock Nine.

The Speaker of the Arkansas House presides over the body and is elected every two years by the membership. His duties include supervising and directing the daily order of business, recognizing Members to speak, preserving order in the House, deciding all questions of order, certifying all measures passed, assigning committee memberships, and naming Members to select committees. The Speaker is also in charge of overseeing all House management functions during sessions and during the interim between sessions. The Speaker also appoints a leadership team, which includes a Speaker Pro Tempore, who presides in the absence of the Speaker. The Speaker also may appoint representatives from each of the House's four caucus districts to serve as Assistant Speakers Pro Tempore who assist in leadership duties.

Bro. Williams is a member of Pi Omicron Chapter of Omega Psi Phi in Little Rock, AR. He is serving in his second term in the legislature, where he presently serves as Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee. Recently, *Governing Magazine*, a national publication on government policy and politics, named Rep. Williams as one of the 12 State Legislators to Watch for 2012. Rep. Williams also has been recognized as "Legislator of the Year" by three different organizations: the Little Rock Landlord's Association, the Arkansas Realtors Association, and the Arkansas Police Chiefs Association. Several other organizations, including the Arkansas Municipal League, AARP, the Arkansas Asset Coalition and the Arkansans Against Abusive Payday Lending, have honored Rep. Williams for his legislative work.

Bro. Williams grew up in and attended public schools in Little Rock. He graduated from Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas, and he received his law degree from Vanderbilt University School of Law in Nashville, Tennessee and his Masters of Law from Georgetown Law Center in Washington, DC.

Bro. Williams is a partner at Carney Williams Bates Pulliam & Bowman law firm. He is actively involved with several community and civic organizations, including serving on the Board of Directors for CARTI Foundation, Our House, Inc. and as a life member of the NAACP. He has been married for sixteen years to his law school classmate and best friend, Nicole Sippial, and they have two children, Darrin Jr. and Payton. The family attends Central Church of Christ, where he serves as a Sunday school teacher and deacon.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Mentors



The Brothers of The "Distinguish" Epsilon Alpha Alpha graduate chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. gathered members of the Dr. Ernest E. Just mentoring program and brought them to the campus of Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, AR. During the ASU visit, the Brothers of Epsilon Alpha Alpha participated in a guided tour of Arkansas State University's campus and athletic facilities. In accordance with the Fatherhood initiative, EAA has responded to the call by providing mentoring for over 18 young men. The program members also attended an ASU scrimmage, visited

with football players, and enjoyed lunch in ASU's student union. The experience was one to remember as several teen have aspirations to play college football and/or attend college. The vision of the Dr. Ernest E. Just mentoring program is to provide the guidance that's required to be successful in life. The mentoring program also assists young men in preparing for college, job interviews, proper dress, community service, spiritual wellness, outdoor events and ACT preparation. Thanks to the Brothers of "Distinguish" Epsilon Alpha Alpha for their participation.

Dr. Lonnie Williams Receives Distinguished Service Award

Dr. Lonnie R. Williams, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at Arkansas State University, has received the "2012 Division of Student Affairs Distinguished Service Award," at the annual awards reception hosted at the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) conference in Phoenix, Ariz., March



10-14 by the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

The Division of Student Affairs at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville began recognizing former staff members or alumni for outstanding contributions to the student affairs/higher education profession two years ago. In presenting the award to Dr. Williams, Dr. Daniel Pugh, Sr., Vice Provost for Student Affairs/Dean of Students at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville stated, "Your leadership and contributions to student affairs continue to inspire and make a difference in the lives of faculty, staff, and students, and has been an invaluable force in moving the profession forward."

Dr. Williams has been with Arkansas State University for almost nine years as Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. He holds four degrees from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville and worked there for 27 years prior to coming to Arkansas State.

Prior recipients include Dr. Cheryl Lovell, former Chief Academic Officer for the Colorado Department of Higher Education and Professor of Higher Education at the University of Denver and Dr. James Conneely, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at Eastern Kentucky University, who was recently selected as the first male president of the Notre Dame University of Maryland.

Dr. Williams was initiated into Omega Psi Phi on the Gamma Eta charter line in 1974 at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. He is now a member of the Upsilon Chi Chapter of Northwest Arkansas and serves as Arkansas State Representative – North.



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity honored by East Baton Rouge School Board

The Brothers of the Lambda Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. were recognized by the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board at its regular monthly meeting, which was held on May 17, 2012. The Chapter was awarded the Superintendent's Service Award for its Reading is Fundamental program.



The Chapter provided over 5,000 books during the 2011-2012 year, serving 1100 students at Crestworth, Delmont, and Progress Elementary Schools. The Chapter was recommended for the award by school board Vice-President, Attorney Tarvald Smith.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. was founded on November 17, 1911 at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Lambda Alpha Chapter was chartered on May 8, 1936 in Baton Rouge, La. and is a graduate chapter of college educated men representing a variety of vocations and professions. The chapter sponsors a host of civic and charitable events for the community throughout the year.

Social action has long been an outstanding platform in Lambda Alpha's mission. Dr. Rogers Newman was the chapter's first chairman to begin the Reading is Fundamental (RIF) program in 1977. Dr. William Ryder is the program's current chairman. Frederick Thomas is the chapter president. The program is partially funded with a federal grant. The purpose of Reading is Fundamental is to inspire children to be lifelong readers through the power of choice. The objective is to inspire children to choose their own books and become avid readers.

The Brothers of Lambda Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated routinely focus on literacy of African-American youth and highlight the fraternity's "Literacy is Key to Success" program. Reading is Fundamental annually provides approximately 15 million books to children across the nation who need them the most.

The Reading is Fundamental program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, as well as a variety of corporations, foundations and community organizations and thousands of individuals.



2012 Southern University and A&M College Homecoming Parade



On Saturday, October 13, 2012, the Capitol Area Ques Coalition comprised of Beta Sigma, Theta Kappa, Delta Tau, Lambda Alpha, and Lambda Kappa Kappa Chapters of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. rolled the streets of North Baton Rouge in the 2012 Southern University and A&M College Homecoming Parade.

This is the third year that the local area brothers have participated in the parade. Approximately 35 were on board to enjoy the ride. The SU Homecoming Krewe of Omega has already begin to plan for next year. Mrs. Betty Kyles, wife of Brother Joe Kyles, Beta Sigma Spring 1964, after the parade stated, "My husband has been waiting on this all week, he's been like a lil kid." Brother Kyles later advised, "I can't wait till next year"!!!!

2012 Capital Area Heart Walk

On March 24, 2012, the Lambda Kappa Kappa chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. participated in the annual Capital Area Heart Walk. The program was established and has remained a successful event in the Baton Rouge area for many years. The affair is put on by the American Heart Association to raise money to support both heart & stroke research and educational programs. The Heart Walk is the number one fund raiser for the American Heart Association and their goal for this specific event was to raise one million dollars.

The Heart Walk was open to people of all ages. The Brothers of Lambda Kappa Kappa made their presence known in the noncompetitive 5K walk that began at the Old Front Nine LSU Golf Course near Tiger Stadium. With an estimated 7000 – 9000 thousand people in attendance the event has grown each year.

The Heart Walk was hosted by Jared Fogle, the spokesman and face of the Subway Sandwich chain. City and State leaders as well as the Subway Mascot were also present.

The Brothers of Lambda Kappa Kappa will continue to support Social Action programs and activities such as this, while leading by example to Uplift the community.



2012 Polk Elementary Student Awards Day

Polk Elementary's Awards Day was held on May 23, 2012 at 9:30am in the school auditorium. The Lambda Kappa Kappa chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., who adopted the school many years ago, provided two (2) gift card awards valued at \$75.00 each for the students scoring the highest on the LEAP Tests for 4th and 5th grade students at Polk Elementary. An additional gift card of \$75.00 was awarded to the one student in the 3rd grade for achieving the highest score on the iLEAP Exam. Basileus Brian Bernard was in attendance to present the gift cards and a LKK Chapter Certificate of Academic Achievement Award to the winners. The Men of Omega were thanked for there service and dedication to the students, teachers and school faculty by both the principal and community leaders.

iLEAP and LEAP Test Award Winners for School Year 2011-2012:



3rd Grade iLEAP Test winner: DeShawn Anthony

4th Grade LEAP Test winner: Devin Taylor

5th Grade LEAP Test winner: Constance Springer



Glen Oaks Park Elementary LEAP Tutoring

On Saturday, March 10, 2012, at 8:00am, the brothers of the Lambda Kappa Kappa chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., met at Glen Oaks Parks Elementary School to help prepare the 4th grade class for the State standardized test known as LEAP. There were over fifty (50) students in attendance and the session focused on English and Writing proficiency.

The students were divided into teams and given group and individual instruction as needed by the Brothers. The day was filled with challenges for both the students and the Brothers. By the end of the day, the students learned how to brainstorm ideas, write a rough and final draft of a formal essay using the five paragraph format and to identify the parts of a sentence. The Brothers on the other hand learned patience, classroom management and developed a greater appreciation for teachers.

Prior to concluding the day of hard work and tutoring, to include some needed discipline at times, the students and Men of Omega sat down to hotdogs, chips and drinks. It was amazing to see how far the students came academically in a just a few hours, but even more shocking as to the rapport that was established. This was a very humbling day for all involved.



STOP THE VIOLENCE INITIATIVE

On October 16, 2012, the brothers of the Lambda Kappa Kappa chapter of Omega Psi Phi Inc. partnered with the Beta Psi chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha for a Stop the Violence initiative. With October being recognized nationally as Domestic Violence Month, an awareness program was put together to educate female students at Southern University and A & M College in Baton Rouge.



The event was held in T.T. Allain and there were approximately 60 females in attendance. The period of instruction included topics such as the Dynamics of Domestic Violence, law-enforcements response to this crime, resources available to the victims and many others.

At the conclusion of the program, there was a question and answer session and even an opportunity to speak with the presenters, who are experts in their fields, in a private setting.

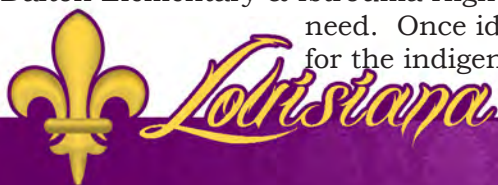
For their efforts, Lambda Kappa Kappa was recognized and presented with a token of appreciation from the University which was received by Bro. Myron Daniels, Stop the Violence Chairman.

Thanksgiving Adopt a Family

On November 21, 2012, the Lambda Kappa Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. conducted their 2nd Annual Thanksgiving Adopt a Family Giveaway. This year, the Brothers of Omega partnered with the Capital Area chapter of Magnolia State Peace Officers Association to adopt a total of thirty (30) needy families throughout the Baton Rouge community.

This event could only be described as a community effort. Besides partnering with local law-enforcement, the brothers used at-risk schools (with over 80% of the students on free or reduced lunch) to include Polk Elementary, Dalton Elementary & Istrouma High School as well as an inner-city church, Jehovah Ministry's, to identify those in need. Once identified, Farmers Meat Market and Deli owners agreed to prepare the dinners for the indigent and even donated items toward the cause.

The greatest part of this day was having so many brothers to donate their



time and money to bless the less fortunate and then hearing them report back the stories of appreciation from the families. The enthusiasm that was heard in the voices of the brothers showed their benefit from this great endeavor. Basileus Brian Bernard said it best when he stated "I know that the Lord was pleased with our SERVICE to the community today."

The families were provided with enough food to feed eight people. The menu consisted of:

Fried Turkey

Cornbread Dressing

Spaghetti & Cheese

Green Beans

Mustard Greens

Yams

Peach cobbler

Cranberry Sauce

Rolls



IGG Boast, new Colonel in their midst

Fort Polk, La., On February 1, 2013 the brothers of Iota Gamma Gamma along with soldiers, family members, friends, and well wishers gathered in an overflowing facility to witness the promotion of Brother, LTC (P) Timothy U. Phillips to the rank of full Colonel. Brother Phillips hails from Lawrenceville, Va. He received his B.S. degree from Virginia State University and was commissioned in May 1989. He subsequently earned a Master's Degree from Central Michigan University. He has held numerous positions of progressive responsibility, to include Battalion command. His awards and commendation are commensurate with his continuous meritorious service. Among them are 2 Bronze Stars, 3 Meritorious Service Medals and 4 overseas Ribbons. And, he has been selected as an alternate to attend the Army's prestigious War College. Participating in the Pinning Ceremony was his wife Dawn, Daughters Shelby and Ryland, Mother, Mrs Rene Phillips, and In-Laws Ronald and Ida Adams. Following the ceremony, Colonel Phillips was congratulated by all in attendance.



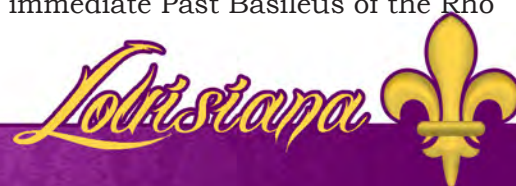
District Chaplain spreads the word in New Orleans



Bro. Jones preached a rousing sermon at the Tulane Memorial Baptist Church in New Orleans, La, and the brothers throughout the greater New Orleans came out to support.

To the left of Bro. Jones is Bro. Rev. Ross M Johnson Jr, Sr Pastor at the Tulane Memorial Baptist Church in New Orleans, La.

Bro. Pastor Johnson serves as one of the Assistant 9th District Chaplains and the immediate Past Basileus of the Rho Phi Graduate chapter in New Orleans.





Bro. John O. Bell Memorial Awards

The Epsilon Iota Chapter awarded its annual John O. Bell Memorial Scholarships for 2012 to six outstanding students on September 2nd. The awards ceremony was held at the Ebenezer Baptist Church. Scholarship, as one of our cardinal principles, is emphasized with these awards.

Brother John O. Bell was always committed to and had a passion for education. He exemplified scholarship and had a very distinguished and rewarding career as an educator. He served as principal at Sims Elementary School, Area I director of Elementary Schools and Director of Student Teacher Placements. After working 34 years, he retired from the Austin Independent School

District in 1983. Brother Bell received the "Citizen of the Year" award from the Epsilon Iota Chapter and from the district as well. He was married to his high school sweetheart, Joe Helen Hall in 1943. Brother Eric Willis, Vice Basileus, chaired the Scholarship committee.

The Epsilon Iota Chapter John O. Bell Memorial Scholarship awardees for 2012 are as follows:

- Forrest K. Roberts will graduate from Westlake High School in Austin, Texas and plans to study Sports Medicine at Huston-Tillotson University.
- Camryn Burkins graduated from Carnegie Vanguard High School in Houston, Texas and is studying Environmental Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin.
- Tony C. Sampson graduated from Crockett High School in Austin, Texas and attending The University of Texas with plans to get a PhD in Computer Science.
- Kerrick S. Rhone graduated from Hendrickson High School in Pflugerville, Texas and studying Biology with an emphasis on forensics at Kent State University.
- Niyel T. Campbell graduated from Akins High School in Austin, Texas and studying Music Education at Mary Hardin-Baylor University.

Epsilon Iota 2012 Citizen of the Year Award

Brother Lawrence Charles Vaults was awarded the Epsilon Iota Chapter "Citizen of the Year" at EI's 2012 Founders Banquet on November 17. The criteria for "Citizen of the Year" states that the must have made considerable contribution and impact on the community, as well as have the energy and enthusiasm to uplift others.

Brother Vaults, initiated in Epsilon Iota in 2007, personifies this award. He is Epsilon Iota Chapter's Keeper of Records and Seal, and in addition to his duties as Chapter KRS, he is very active in other Chapter initiatives and in the Community. He serves as Chair for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life East Austin. Under his leadership, the East Austin Relay for Life was awarded Five Star Status and was the only group in the city to receive this award providing uplift to the East Austin community.

To achieve Five Star Status, Relay For Life events must adhere to strict national and division standards, and meet the following criteria: Leadership, Increased event participation, Increased team participation, Fundraising and Increase the number of survivors engaged with the Relay. The East Austin Relay excelled in each area. Additionally, Brother Vaults serves as Sunday School Superintendent and is on the Deacon Board at Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

Please join the Brothers of the Epsilon Iota Chapter in congratulating Brother Vaults on achieving this prestigious award.



Eta Mu Mu Participates in Tornado Relief Efforts in North Texas

On Friday April 6, 2012, the Brothers of the Eta Mu Mu Chapter of Denton, TX participated in a drive to bring much-needed emergency supplies to areas that were hard hit by tornados a few days earlier. On April 3, 2012, a round of severe thunderstorms pushed through portions of north and central Texas and triggered over 10 tornadoes throughout the area. Parts of Dallas, Arlington, Hutchins, Lancaster, and Forney in Texas were hit by tornadoes that produced wind speeds greater than 120 miles per hour. Fortunately, no deaths were associated with this tornado outbreak.



While city and suburban areas were receiving immediate aid due to their proximity to first responders, rural cities and towns had a much harder struggle and longer wait. Royse City was one such place. A small town of little more 4,000 people, they suffered severe damage to many homes and businesses during the storms.



Realizing the need, several civic and non-profit organizations partnered to provide what they could to local churches and relief groups in Royse City. Together with Robert Hantson, a member of the group 380 Mercury, we collaborated and put together a drive in the community of Cross Oaks Ranch in Crossroads, TX to collect donations for Royse City. The chapter made a monetary donation as well as helped in the collection of a van load of personal hygiene items, food, clothing and first aid supplies.

As men of Omega we strive to enrich the mind, body and soul of the communities we serve. It is in times such as these that we must indeed be our brothers' keepers. The donations were delivered by 380 Mercury on April 7, 2012 and helped hundreds to better deal with this catastrophic event in their lives. As always, we feel we are allowing the Lord to work through us when things like this happen, so we have an opportunity to uplift every soul we are able to touch with our efforts in the community.

Eta Mu Mu and Phi Gamma Feeds the Needy

The Brothers of the Eta Mu Mu Chapter of Denton, TX and the Phi Gamma Chapter of the University of North Texas partnered together to ensure 28 families in the North Texas area were blessed with a full-course Thanksgiving spread.

The Brothers from the Graduate and Undergraduate chapters pooled their time, efforts and resources to assemble 28 overflowing Thanksgiving baskets sourced with 12-15 pound turkeys, Cornish hens, loaves of bread and an assortment of canned vegetables. The Thanksgiving baskets were distributed to families in need as identified by the Brothers, various local Churches and friends of Omega.

The Brothers of Eta Mu Mu and Phi Gamma set up shop at a local Church to assemble the baskets and coordinate a delivery strategy for distributing the baskets to the local families in need. After a few hours of coordinated work, the Brothers were able to deliver the 28 baskets and bring a smile to the faces of several families who otherwise would have gone without during the Thanksgiving holiday.

This was the second year the Graduate and Undergraduate chapters have worked together to provide Thanksgiving baskets to the needy in the North Texas area. The Brothers have an ambitious goal of doubling the number of baskets in the upcoming 2012 Thanksgiving holiday.

Eta Mu Mu and Cross Oaks Ranch Elementary partner to fight Hunger

The Brothers of the Eta Mu Mu Chapter of Denton, TX and Cross Oaks Ranch Elementary of Crossroads, TX partnered together to conduct a food drive and help feed needy families during the holiday season.

To encourage participation, students were told the class with the most participation would win a pizza party. The response we received was tremendous. The students collected over 200 pounds of non-perishable items and dry goods. Mrs. Buck's fourth graders won the pizza party and were thrilled they were helping their community. Several youngsters were truly motivated to want to do similar projects because they knew they just helped another kid less fortunate than themselves. Just as satisfying were the 8 pizzas donated by Papa John's in Little Elm, TX. According to the manager, this was their way of supporting us and community action at the school. The brothers of Eta Mu Mu thanked Mr. Robert Chatwin, store manager, for his help in rewarding the class for a job well done.

The brothers of Eta Mu Mu will continue to strive toward excellence in social action and helping uplift our community. Through these types of activities we educate our youth to the intangible rewards you can feel in your heart when you have helped a fellow human being.

Eta Mu Mu hosts "Christmas with The Ques"

The Eta Mu Mu Chapter of Denton, TX, in collaboration with the Purple Glove Foundation, hosted its 2nd annual "Christmas with the Ques." Lead by committee



chairperson and newly-elected Basileus Brother Eric Thomas, the Brothers of Eta Mu Mu packed the house with support from other local area Chapters, other Greek organizations and friends of Omega in the community.

Eta Mu Mu's Christmas with the Ques offers a formal evening of dinner, dancing, entertainment and prizes. Most importantly, it offers an opportunity to give back to communities in which we live. Partnering with the Purple Glove Foundation, a 501c3 entity founded by the Eta Mu Mu Chapter, this formal event lured an attendance of just under 300 people and enabled the Chapter and Foundation to raise over \$25,000 for its scholarship and youth mentoring activities.

The Eta Mu Mu Chapter of Denton, TX partners with The Purple Glove Foundation throughout the year to provide sound, positive leadership to the youth of Denton and Collin counties in the North Dallas area by supporting community establishments, providing scholarships and sponsoring events that help our youth grow and excel.

Founded in 2009, the Chapter and Foundation's efforts have raised over \$40,000 and donated thousands of volunteer hours in the community. Our mission statement, "Offering the strong arm of service to the communities in which we live," is based on the understanding our future lies in the hands of those who will follow.

Leading by example, we embrace the four cardinal principles: Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift. The foundation hosts several annual fundraising events and supports a multitude of community awareness programs, including an annual Talent Hunt for high school seniors, a partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Texas, and is an enthusiast of Carter Blood Care.

"Sweat Equity" for Habitat for Humanity

On June 30, 2012, the brothers of Omicron Pi Chapter participated in a Habitat for Humanity Project launched in Central Texas. We were involved in this event to assist in building a structure which will be occupied by a low-income family who will reside in Temple, Texas. The project brought supporters in from the surrounding communities to help erect a decent, safe and affordable home for this family.

The Omicron Pi members persevered in the near 100°F Texas heat to support this effort. We "got hot" for the project and saw it through!



Texas Trash Off – Don't Mess With Texas



Unfortunately, some do "Mess with Texas," so Omicron Pi Chapter got involved in keeping an adopted stretch of highway free of trash. Omicron Pi signed up for the Adopt a Highway Program of Texas in 1978 through the efforts of Bro. Arthur L. Bryan, who remains our coordinator.

Armed with trash bags, eighteen brothers of this Chapter and Bro. Kell Glass' twins (Kelvon and Delvon), tackled a two-mile section of FM 439 on Saturday, April 14, 2012. This was the first of four times that this project is to be performed this year. This particular cleanup was the annual Texas event which is the state's largest one-day cleanup and is part of a partnership between Keep Texas Beautiful and the

Texas Department of Transportation. This is a Community Service Project which the brothers undertook to help keep the highways of Texas litter-free.

Bro. (CPT) Darrell Lyles' Change of Command

With the strategic talks taking place regarding the downsizing the U.S. Army, career-minded soldiers must be even more diligent in managing their careers. In this pursuit, on April 19, 2012, Bro. Darrell "Twin II" Lyles assumed his second command as commander of Fox Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division. He celebrated this Change of Command with family, friends, and the brothers of Omicron Pi Chapter (The "Hood Ques"). In December of 2011, Bro. Lyles returned from Iraq, where he had served in support of Operation New Dawn.





Bro. (LTC) James M. Smith Relinquishes Command

On May 11, 2012, the brothers of Omicron Pi Chapter came out to support LTC James M. Smith as he relinquished command of the 215th Brigade Support Battalion "Blacksmith," Greywolf Brigade, after 24 months at that position. His unit deployed to Iraq in support of Operation New Dawn. At the end of that mission, the Greywolf Brigade was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) for exceptionally meritorious service. While admirably serving his nation as a battalion commander, Bro. Smith was actively engaged in service to Omega. His leadership, mentorship, dedication, and service will be truly missed by the "Hood Ques" as his next assignment takes him to DC. Along with the brothers of Omicron Pi Chapter, family

members and fellow soldiers from previous assignments attended the ceremony. Pictured from left to right are: Jalen Smith (son), Bro. James M. Smith, Mrs. Catrina Smith (wife), and James Smith II (son).

The brothers of Omicron Pi applaud Bro. Smith for successfully reaching this milestone of his military career.

Stroking for Education

The brothers of Omicron Pi Chapter hosted its annual Golf Tournament on April 28, 2012. The tournament was held at the Stone Tree Golf Club of Killeen. It brought out some of the best golfers of Central Texas, who vied for the honor of best team.

Registration started for the four-man teams at 8:00 am. Teams had from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm to complete the challenging 18-hole golf course. To help get an edge over their competition, mulligans were provided to each golfer in exchange for scholarship donations. The proceeds from the tournament support the Omicron Pi Chapter's scholarship fund. Post-tournament activities for the golfers included enjoying food and drinks provided by our "chefs," fellowshiping with our supporters, and presenting trophies to our winning teams. Door prizes were also provided by the chapter.

Special thanks go out to the golfers, the local businesses, and brothers who purchased golf holes for this event. We look forward to 2013 for our next tournament.



Cadet Frederick Eddie Beebe Jr. Graduates West Point

Cadet Frederick Eddie Beebe Jr., son of Mr. Frederick Beebe and Mrs. Danielle Anderson of San Antonio, TX, graduated from the U.S. Military Academy on Saturday, May 26, 2012. Frederick graduated from John Jay High School, San Antonio, TX in 2008. While at West Point, he concentrated his studies in Mechanical Engineering Management. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army within the Combat Engineer branch and will report to Fort Bragg, NC for his first assignment.



The mission of the U.S. Military Academy is to educate, train, and inspire the Corps of Cadets so that each graduate is a commissioned leader of character committed to the values of Duty, Honor, and Country, and is prepared for a career of professional excellence and service to the Nation as an officer in the United States Army.

The U.S. Military Academy is a four-year co-educational federal undergraduate liberal arts col-



lege located 50 miles north of New York City. Founded in 1802 as America's first college of engineering, it consistently ranks as one of the top colleges in the nation. A pre-eminent leader development institution, its mission remains constant to educate, train and inspire cadets for careers of professional service to the Army and the nation

Frederick E. Beebe Jr. is also a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated (Nu Phi Chapter). His father, Frederick Beebe Sr., also a member of the fraternity (Psi Alpha Chapter) and veteran employee of the City of San Antonio, is affiliated with the local chapter of the fraternity (Psi Alpha). As a young man in San Antonio, Frederick Jr. participated in a number of community service projects, which taught him the value of helping his community. It was at this time the four cardinal principles were introduced to him: Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift. He chose to model his life by these guidelines, as his father did before him, and he continues to live by these standards today.

Do Your Part: Voter Registration

In early March 2012, the Brothers of Psi Alpha Chapter put into action the Voters Registration process. The New National Party (NNP) fully understands and appreciates the critical importance that Voter Registration plays in the Democratic Process. The fact that each vote counts is the basis for full participation stresses Brother Jimmie McMillion, Psi Alpha's Social Action Chairman. If you are not registered to vote, please do so as soon as possible.

Voter registration is the right of all eligible citizens to participate in the affairs of their government and is one of the cornerstones of democracy. Perhaps the most fundamental form of participation is voting in free and fair elections. For citizens to exercise their democratic right to vote, there must be a comprehensive and inclusive electoral register (called a voters list). This list must be guarded carefully.

Our voter registration process is democratic and representative because it provides equal opportunity to participate through an all-inclusive mechanism.

The aim of the Voter's Registration action is to enlighten our citizens of the critical importance of their participation in the electoral process. A process that enables them to assure that the lives of all citizens are best served. Through duty and faith, the brothers of Psi Alpha Chapter do this in good conscience because we are confident that the masses will make the discretionary and right decision.



Psi Alpha Chapter History

In 1940, eight young, professional men who had become members of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated during their college years, decided that the time was right to form a Graduate Chapter here in the city of San Antonio. After compiling all of the necessary information and paperwork, and after complying with the National Body's Guidelines, the local chapter was chartered by the Supreme Council of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated on November 1, 1940, and it was given the name of Psi Alpha. Brother Dr. W. C. Hurd was the first basileus. The charter members were: Brothers W. C. Hurd, S. D. Kane, Dr. M. L. Preacher, Paul Chretien, Ernest M. Foxx, Valmo Bellinger, Dr. Richard Kidd, and G. P. Inge.

The chapter was established as a lifetime membership chapter—a newly created tier of commitment within the fraternity. A lifetime member demonstrated the pinnacle of commitment and dedication to the fraternity by pledging his life to being an active member of Omega Psi Phi and exhibiting its ideals and principles in all aspects of his life. A lifetime membership chapter would radiate a degree of passion, experience and vision that would be unique in the fraternity.

1940, Psi Alpha's members and programs have steadily grown. Over the past 60 years plus, it has awarded scholarships to many promising college-bound students, brought over 300 men of the highest ideals and strongest character into the folds of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and has established itself as an instrumental organization in the community service of Bexar and surrounding counties.

In the late 1970s, Psi Alpha Chapter brothers banded together to buy their first piece of real estate, establishing a Fraternity House at 342 Vine Street, San Antonio, Texas.

The commitment to achievement on the part of the brothers of Psi Alpha Chapter in the new millennium has been evidenced by the development of a community outreach public access television show called the "Omega Forum."

On February 19th, 2003, Psi Alpha Chapter purchased its second Fraternity House within two decades. This time moving into an historic residence in San Antonio, a house once owned by one of the leading citizens of San Antonio (The Rigsby Family).

The momentum of Psi Alpha continued into 2004 as the chapter garnered its first 9th District Chapter of the Year Award at the District Meeting in Oklahoma City, Okla-



Since its beginning in

homa. Brother Greg Thompson was recognized as 9th District Omega Man of the Year and he eventually became the first Psi Alpha chapter brother to receive the coveted International Omega Man of the Year at the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Grand Conclave in St. Louis, Missouri in July of 2004. Psi Alpha repeated as the back-to-back 9th District Chapter of the Year in March of 2005 at the District Meeting in Monroe, Louisiana.

At the 75th Grand Conclave in Little Rock, Arkansas July 19 - 28, 2006, Psi Alpha Chapter was selected as the Fraternal Year 2004 Social Action Chapter of the Year, and at the 9th Diamond District Meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas April 4-7 2012 Social Actions Chapter of the Year.

Psi Alpha's successes have been numerous and far-reaching. Its future represents continued opportunities to creatively address the needs of the African-American community and positively impact upon the lives of those whom it serves.

Dr. Loren Alves Receives His Certificate of Completion



Dr. Christina Gonzales presented Dr. Loren Alves his Certificate of Completion from the ADA Institute of Diversity Class of 2011-2012 on September 7th. To enhance learning about leadership, participants undertake leadership projects for their communities. Dr. Alves' program presentation was based on a community awareness prevention of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, a group of conditions that can occur in a person whose mother consumed alcohol during pregnancy. Dr. Alves teamed up with the Family First intervention arm of Alpha Home, Inc. in San Antonio to present an alarming occurrence of the disorders from a national study of women participating in the Metro Health Healthy Start program in 10 specific zip codes in San Antonio.

The Baby First Program's educational aspect of Family First is to make women aware of the dangers of drinking alcohol during pregnancy. Upon completion of the two-hour educational session, participating expecting moms are given a designer "Baby First Diaper Bag" filled with baby products. Candidates bring their projects to the ADA Institute of Diversity Leadership Institute, hosted by the American Dental Association and the Kellogg School of Management of Northwestern University, focusing on past experiences of leadership and/or community activism.

Dr. Alves is also the National Dental Association's representative to the ADA's Committee D (for diversity). Dr. Gonzales is an incoming member to the ADA Institute of Diversity program which begins in September.

Dr. Alves also is a contributor to *The Color of Strength: Embracing The Passion of Our Culture*, an anthology that is dedicated to showcasing the beauty of the Black culture. The book is divided into three sections: short stories, folk tales, and short autobiographies and essays. The message in each of these stories is consistent with the theme of preservation of culture and providing for hope for future generations.

As quoted from the Contributing Authors section of the book, "Dr. Loren Alves is a pediatric dentist who is presently writing his autobiography about his rise from poverty and living in the projects of Dayton, Ohio, to a successful dental practice. He served 21 years in the US Army Dental Corp, retiring as a Colonel. He retired with the Distinguished Legion of Merit Medal. Dr. Alves has lectured internationally and within the United States on "How to Meet Special Needs and Challenges in Life," and on the "TEAM Approach to Success."

He devotes much of his time as a mentor and a volunteer for the Omega Psi Phi fraternity and as a charter member of the One Hundred Black Men of San Antonio. A chapter from his autobiography, "Coming of Age to Manhood," is included in the anthology.

LSSQs has donated over \$21K in scholarships

The Lone Star State Ques (LSSQ), the Texas State Political organization of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. selected Texas College as the recipient of its third scholarship award. The scholarship funds awarded this year is in the amount of \$7,881.94 from the LSSQ. This scholarship funding will be used for community/public scholarships to assist in closing the gaps in college participation and success.

Wiley College \$5,500.00 (2010 plate sales)

Huston-Tillotson University \$7,900 (2011 plate sales)

Texas College \$7,881.94 (2012 plate sales)



Brother Keith Parker New MARTA General Manager

In a “welcome to Atlanta” press conference, new MARTA General Manager and CEO Keith Parker promised to run an open and transparent agency.

In that spirit, he promised his new contract would be on MARTA’s website within hours and available for public review. A copy was then handed out to reporters showing he has a base annual salary of \$320,000 during the five-year contract. He will join MARTA on Dec. 10.

Parker also showed he was aware of the multitude of issues facing MARTA, including having a negative image and perception.

“I think changing the image of the transit system starts with me,” said Parker, who said he would move to a home next to a MARTA stop. “That’s going to be part of my daily plan—use my BreezeCard and ride it everyday.”

In his opening remarks, Parker also showed he read in full detail the findings of the KPMG audit that recommended several areas where MARTA could save money, including privatizing a number of functions.

During his transit career both in Charlotte, N.C. and San Antonio, Texas, Parker said he tried all sorts of approaches to run a more efficient operation. In Charlotte, he tried the concept of “managed competition,” where the agency’s employees would compete against the private sector for the work. “The public sector employees were so competitive that private companies quit competing,” Parker said.

When he comes to Atlanta, Parker pledged to look into all the options for the best solutions.

In the national transit sector, MARTA is viewed as “the most complex job in the transit industry, and I don’t disagree,” Parker said. “MARTA is more complex because of geopolitical realities in this region.”

As a way to help address those complexities, Parker said he would meet with employees, customers, state legislators, local elected officials, the unions and others to work through the various issues.

“Part of my history is being in the office a lot less than I’m out,” Parker said. “I plan to spend considerable time with people in the community.”

When asked what were his biggest challenges, Parker

said, “There are so many; there’s so much to do—getting our financial house in order, reassure the employees, reassure the customers. I’m also concerned about the unknown.”

Barbara Babbitt Kaufman, a MARTA board member who chaired the search committee, was pleased with how the whole search ended up.

“It was probably the best search MARTA has ever had,” Kaufman said, explaining the thorough research and background checks that had been done during the national search. “Keith had the board eating out of the palm of his hand. If he had us eating out of the palm of his hand, we knew he would have the staff, the employees, the legislature, the mayor eating out of the palm of his hand. He has a real vision for MARTA.”

Long-time board member Juanita Abernathy couldn’t have been happier. “We’ve got a good one,” she said

The transit agency must overcome an aging infrastructure, declining revenues, a negative image and little to no annual operating support from the state and from the region outside of the three jurisdictions that passed the MARTA Act in 1971—the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County.

“We are excited,” said Fred Daniels, chairman of the MARTA board. “There are numerous challenges that stand before us, but we are poised to face them.”

Parker, who recently was the general manager of the VIA transit system in San Antonio, said he was honored and humbled to have been selected as MARTA’s general manager.

“But I’m not awed by it,” Parker said. “With a great staff and a board that’s unified, I believe we can overcome all the obstacles ahead of us.”



Theta Chi Continues the Work of Brother Charles Drew

Brother Charles Drew was an example of a great American who did not work for financial gain for himself, but for the betterment of his fellow man. He researched in the field of blood transfusions, developing improved techniques for blood storage and applied his expert knowledge to developing large-scale blood banks during World War II. His experiments on preserving blood plasma allowed medics to save thousands of lives of the Allied forces. As the most preeminent African-American in the field, Drew protested against the practice of racial segregation in the donation of blood, as it lacked sci-



entific foundation, an action which ultimately cost him his job. Bro. Drew's distinction in his profession was finally recognized later in life, and his work became the foundation for the operation the American Red Cross Blood Bank (which he helped establish) and all of the blood banks operating today.

The need for blood continues today, as it did during Bro. Drew's era. Cancer patients, accident victims and others with bleeding disorders need red blood cells and platelets today more the ever. Frequent blood donations make saving lives possible. Accordingly, Theta Chi has established a partnership with Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center to make a difference in people's lives. This effort brings together courageous and inspired individuals to donate blood and produce a safe and ample blood supply, while advancing cutting-edge research and embracing continuous quality health improvement. This very important action helps local hospitals and medical centers in Houston transform the future of health care.

With every drive, we help to turn science into practical benefit and turn hope into reality. The chapter accomplishes this through support for exquisite care, innovative research and vital education focused on eliminating blood shortages and increasing the success of major operations. The chapter supports this great cause by establishing blood drive donation days and also provides referrals of potential donors to the Blood Center Representative. The donors that the chapter recruits to our blood drives are instrumental in saving lives. Additionally, the chapter encourages Houstonians to commit for life by donating and enrolling in the Center's Commit for Life program. With this program, donors can give at a variety of locations throughout the Houston area. Furthermore, each person who donates, or attempts to donate, and credits the "Theta Chi Blood Drive" receives a commemorative blood drive T-shirt to show our gratitude for their actions. The goal is to heighten awareness for reasons to give blood. Bro. Marvin Castex stated, "Many of us know someone whose life has been touched by blood drives such as these, and that makes our efforts all the more worthwhile. There is nothing worse than feeling that you are at the mercy of forces beyond your control in your time of need. But through these blood drives, we give people a lot more power than they realize."

The Blood Drive Chairman Bro. Dexter Had not affirmed, "Our goal is to create an environment where people can engage in a meaningful effort to support their families and others in the community. In addition to focusing attention on this great cause, it is also a great way to pay homage to our dear brother Dr. Charles Drew and his lifelong work." The chapter does this by scheduling in advance, reminding supporters, increasing visibility (and walk-in blood donors), using a data base to attract repeat contributors and overall making it fun. Ms. Vanessa Jones, a repeat blood donor said, "These outstanding individuals from Omega Psi Phi have a genuine passion for giving back to the community that is contagious, and they have inspired many of us to do more and increase our efforts. Thank you for being leaders in the community creating opportunities for donors to share their

Theta Chi's 8th Annual Que-Nic Scholarship Fund Raiser

Omega men are ardent believers in the application of intellect. As such, Omega Psi Phi is inalienably committed to the advancement of education. This is inherent in the nature of the Fraternity as an auxiliary to the institutions of higher learning and is avowed in our cardinal principle of scholarship. In accordance with that theme, Theta Chi Chapter recently held its 18th annual Que-Nic Scholarship Fund Raiser on May 5th for the Mary Grant-Henry Scholarship. This scholarship was established to support the efforts of Houston's enterprising youth in the pursuit of furthering their educational aspirations. An ever-effective and much-needed means of promoting scholarship is the extension of financial aid to students of established achievement and promise. Our chapter has recognized this fact and has worked to perpetuate excellence with the stimulatory monetary awards presented through the chapter's essay contest to several local achieving students. The hemorrhaging of the world's economy has forced many families and their potential scholars to forgo their educational pursuits. It is often difficult for families to balance life's competing priorities and ensure that their children's educations are adequately sufficient to meet today's societal challenges. Theta Chi helps to bridge this financial chasm and improve overall competency throughout Houston with copious scholarship events like the Que-Nic.

The Que-Nic effort is threefold. First, it allows the chapter to raise the required capital to support worthy and commendable students. Second, it allows the chapter to give back to the many magnificent supporters of our events throughout the year with a day of friends, fun and food. Lastly, it is a great opportunity to fellowship and fraternize with Omega Men from every chapter in the Houston Omega Coalition. The last point is done in conjunction with the chapter's reclamation effort, which is always our chapter's focal point. The reclamation mandate is in the forefront and is exceedingly visible in all of the chapter's proceedings. As a result, Theta Chi was recognized as the 9th District Reclamation Chapter of the year and continues to build on that outstanding foundation. Accordingly, the Que-Nic is a major event in that effort to reclaim many of the inactive brothers who reside in the Houston area, as well as attracting men of great quality to join and support Omega's mission.

Brother Donny Jackson, who chaired the event, said, "The event was a huge success



due to the great work by the committee and support by the chapter.” He also stated, “We’re proud today because this event will provide a few students with a better opportunity in life. In our eyes, they are all winners, and we want to encourage them to continue to hone their talents through education.”

This event, along with the essay contest allows Theta Chi to accomplish our vision to support students and produce leaders in the local community by providing the resources and tools that supports personal and professional development across our social order. According to the Chapter Basileus, Brother Cliff Hodrick, “Out of all the mandated programs that we are charged with promoting and supporting, scholarship is the one that we should definitely hold high. There is a reason that our founders deemed it necessary to make the pursuit of knowledge one of our core principles. They knew how important it was in helping to bridge socio-economic gaps 100 years ago, and it is still just as crucial to this day.”

As the chapter continues to focus on service to the local community, we have the wherewithal to change the landscape of how young students envision their future. This concerted effort has the ability to influence students at all levels to be resilient, self-motivated and display a can-do attitude. The proof will be in the implementation.

RHO BETA BETA CELEBRATES 30TH CHAPTER ANNIVERSARY

Houston, TX. – The brothers of the mighty Rho Beta Beta Chapter of Houston, Texas celebrated their 30th Anniversary in a manner indicative of the perennial social action community leader.

Since its inception on October 23, 1982, Rho Beta Beta has maintained a rich history of service to the Houston community. Throughout the month of October, the brothers highlighted their legacy with multiple events.

On Sunday, October 21 – the chapter gather to worship at Evangelist Temple Church of God in Christ. Reverend, Brother Daer Kyle and his congregation welcomed the chapter with open-arms. Brother Kyle served as worship leader for this special occasion. His line brother, Reverend-Brother Scott Harrell, pastor of Grace Hill Baptist Church, gave the message of the morning service. Anniversary Committee Chairman Brother Tony Williams (former Basileus) and Basileus Brother Kevin Jackson gave remarks and a brief history of Omega Psi Phi and the chapter. Bishop Rufus Kyle is the senior pastor of the church.



Other chapter anniversary activities included: two Hour-Happy gatherings, one at the Scott Gertner’s Sky Bar (Friday, October 19th), and the other the Blue Box Theater (Sunday, October 21st. In addition, the Annual Chapter Anniversary, a special Toast and Fellowship Celebration was held on Tuesday, October 23rd, at the home of Brother Rick Mitchell; over 50 brothers were in attendance.

On Saturday, October 27th – In keeping with the Rho Beta Beta tradition the anniversary culminated with brothers and their families participating in a community service project at the Houston Food Bank. Their service included packing and stocking food in preparation for distribution to needy families in the area. During our four (4) hours of community service, the chapter, along with several community organizations, prepared 35 pallets of food to feed 3,025 children.



Service to the community spilled-over into the month of November as Brother Nelson Anthony led an Omega mentoring program that involved over 200 young students at Cullen Middle School. The program was in partnership with other chapters of the Houston Coalition of Omegas.



Rho Beta Beta’s adopt-a-family activity, “The Shekinah Project!” under the leadership of Brother Harrell and Vice Basileus Brother Ed Jackson, got off to a successful start as the

chapter provided food for ten families for Thanksgiving Holidays.

During the formal chapter meeting in October, chapter members elected Brother Greg Williams as their 16th Chapter Basileus. Other chapter officials elected included: Bro. Edward Jackson, Vice Basileus; Bro. Tony Williams, KRS; Bro. Michael Stewart, KF; Bro. Daer Kyle, Chaplin; Bro. Raoul Melancon, Parliament; Bro. Ron Comeaux, Director of Public Relations; and Brother Sam Gilmore, Keeper of Peace.

Qumba Fitness

The Xi Delta Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated hosted an event for fitness to introduce and expand the knowledge of types of workouts. The event called “Qumba” was a mixture of signature moves of a variation of hops that brothers entertain with as well as a combination of cardio kick boxing and circuit workout. Throughout the one hour workout, people gained knowledge of cardio kick boxing information, circuit workouts, and how energy with group fitness can enhance to abilities of working out.

On Monday, February 18, 2013, Xi Delta Chapter teamed with Str8 Training Gym, locally known, to promote a fun filled atmosphere to get the population interested in working out. There were approximately 35 participants at-



tending the health initiative program. Instructed by brothers of Omega, with the cardio kick boxing, one has the potential to burn 700-900 calories in one hour depending on the emphasis that is placed into every movement. Using the elements of music with choreographed routines, it made the format of working out simple to the participants as well as enjoyable and concentrated on cardiovascular as well as body toning. Throughout the workout, because of the repetitive gestures, the movements were learned and executed in order to gain another level in confidence with fitness and gaining that level of confidence created a willing desire to complete the circuit workouts.

The circuit workouts built upon the foundation of the cardio kick boxing to create another area of toning. As three separate groups, body weight exercises were led by the brothers as they helped to show proper form, technique, and motivation to help people throughout the workout to attain fitness. The circuit workouts were simple but yet challenging only to establish the vision of accomplishment after the workout is complete. Within the workout filled with upper body and lower body workouts, brothers at all times challenged others to keep the enthusiasm high and to not quit creating a powerful aspect of positive energy.

Pertaining to energy, Qumba Fitness not only engaged in the health initiative and fitness area, but it was also a way to create an area of positive energy to bring communities together. Within group fitness, energy can be a motivating tool to help some to continue the workout and for others to start a workout. The energy attained at the fitness program not only motivated one for the workout for that night but also for days to come. A fun filled way of working out, Qumba not only expressed cardio kick boxing, circuit workouts, and group fitness energy, it was also a way to establish last friends within a positive aspect of energy.

Delta Xi & Theta Theta Brothers Do their to Feed the Needy

Greenville, Tx - On 12/19/2012 the brothers of Delta Xi & Theta Theta partnered with Hunt county's FISH ministries to help prepare the Christmas food boxes for needy families.



For over thirty years, FISH, now Hunt County Shared Ministries, is truly a partnership between area churches, local believers, community businesses, other non-profits, county foundations, and other social service agencies to not only feed the hungry, but to help families deal with financial difficulties, medical emergencies, and various other crisis situations.



Rho Xi Chapter "Putting In Work!"

Scholarship Awards Banquet



The Rho Xi Scholarship Program is intended to promote academic excellence among local high school students. A High School Essay Contest is to be held and is open to all college-bound high school seniors. College scholarships are awarded to the winners, each of whom must submit an essay on a theme/topic chosen by the fraternity.

Houston Coalition Health Fair



As a vital member of the Houston Coalition of Chapters, Rho Xi stepped up to do its part in the Houston Area Health fair which included several booths to promote health awareness.

Back To School Drive/ Picnic



Rho Xi Chapter-Freeport, TX (09/25/2012) In an effort to support local students the chapter encourages participants in their annual picnic to bring along school supplies

as a ticket of admission. The supplies are then donated to local

schools.

Charles R. Drew Blood Drive

The Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center partnered with the brothers of Rho Xi chapter on August, 15 2012 to do a blood drive at Wal-Mart in Lake Jackson, TX. 33 units of blood were donated on this date, to assist in the large effort to save lives in the Texas gulf coast area.

Houston Area Women's Center Volunteer Recognition Event 2012



Rho Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi was represented by the brothers in the picture above. The event was to recognize volunteers who provided assistance in 2012. The Houston Area Women's Center (HAWC) helps individuals affected by domestic and sexual violence in their efforts to move their lives forward. They provide shelter, counseling and advocacy to support them in building lives free from the effects of violence. HAWC seek social change to end domestic and sexual violence through community awareness and education.

Houston Area Women's Center Back to School Drive



The Houston Area Women's Center helps individual affected by domestic and sexual violence in their efforts to move their lives forward. Rho Xi Chapter partnered with

H.A.W.C to do a back to school supply drive for Houston Area youth who may not be able to afford the supplies need for school.

Adopt-A-Highway Program

Rho Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc adopted a two-mile stretch of highway located on HW 521/Alameda between loop 610 and Reed Rd in Houston, Texas. Several members of the chapter came out to support this cause and made it a success by working diligently to keep our streets beautiful.



Adopt-A-Highway Gold Star Certificate

Rho Xi Chapter- March 2, 2012 for outstanding effort and generous contribution of time and energy to maintain the beauty of Texas roadsides through dedicated voluntary participation in the Adopt-A-Highway litter prevention program over the period of April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2012. Rho Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. was awarded a Gold Star Certificate by the Texas Department of Transportation. Very few groups have achieved this level of excellence, great job brothers for living your creed.

Talent Hunt

The brothers of Rho Xi chapter held their annual talent hunt competition on the campus of Brazosport College at the Clarion building. Seven contestants competed in the 9th through 12th grade age group and Berlie Joubert won first place. Medals were awarded to all participants and the top three contestants received scholarships as follows 1st \$500, 2nd \$300, 3rd \$200. The first place winner will have a chance to compete against the best talent in the 9th district April 4-7th in Little Rock, Ar.

Charles R. Drew Blood Drive

Rho Xi Chapter-Feb,25 2012 The Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center partnered with the brothers of Rho Xi chapter on Feb, 25 2012 to do a blood drive at Wal-Mart in Lake Jackson, TX. 25 units of blood were donated on this date, to assist in the large effort to save lives in the Texas gulf coast area.

The Black Voice



Brother Omar Sesay was a guest on a local Fox News T.V. show called Black Voices. The topic of discussion was the Omega's participation in the Race Against Violence 5K Run/Walk on March 3 near the Houston Area Women's Center in Houston, Tx.

Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center "Gold Award"

The Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center hosts an annual awards luncheon at the Hilton Americas in Houston, Tx. Rho Xi was honored as a Gold Award recipient for their total amount of donations during the 2011 calendar year.

ADA - "Walk to Stop Diabetes"

On November 10, 2012, the Phi Beta and Pi Upsilon chapters of Omega Psi Phi, Inc. Hawkins, Texas participated in this annual international event. This year's walk / run took place at The Ball Park in Arlington, TX. The purpose of this event is to bring awareness of this disease to the



general public. In the African American community alone diabetes impacts 3 million people over the age of 25. This event also provided onsite info in regards to managing your diet as well as medical care services and supple-

ments healthy for vigorous outdoor activity such as the run / walk. Our participation allowed the chapters to make a meaningful donation to continue to fight this disease. Our brothers left inspired and obligated to pass on this helpful information throughout our community.

Pi Upsilon & Phi Beta Blood Drive



During this year's Achievement Week festivities the Pi Upsilon and Phi Beta Chapters of Omega Psi Phi participated in a campus wide blood drive. "Upon returning to campus I said look we need to do this and do it on a high level" stated Jeff Harrison, Undergraduate Chapter President and Chicago native. Several program types have been designated and mandated by the Fraternity as Social Action programs aimed at Health Initiatives to assist the community in awareness and encouraging others to seek healthy lifestyles through preventive measures and testing and as a demonstrative help. Bishop Edgar A. Love an esteemed fraternity founder once stated that "there may be a place for mediocrity in society but not in Omega."



A Message from a former DR

First, I hope this communication finds each of you and yours well. Brothers, I was honored to serve as your 21st 9th District Representative from 2007-2010. During this time, I approved the initiation of nine MSP programs throughout the 9th District (Summer 2007, Fall 2007, Spring 2008, Summer 2008, Fall 2008, Spring 2009, Summer 2009, Fall 2009, and Spring 2010). As I reflect on those processes, I am bewildered at the numbers of brothers initiated during this time frame that have allowed their financial status to lapse after their three year dues commitment expired after initiation. As such, I encourage any Omega Man who crossed during my tenure as District Representative to please continue to remain financially active with a graduate chapter, or if you were initiated as an undergraduate, continue your journey as men of Omega by transitioning to a graduate chapter within the confines of our beloved Omega. It does not matter if it is the 9th District, as we know life takes us in many different directions, however, from the 1st to the 13th Districts, there is a place for you in Omega in your chosen communities.

Secondly, I would like to challenge our brothers in Omega who either wrote letters of recommendation for an incoming brother between May, 2007 and May, 2010, or agreed to be a mentor, sponsor, chapter advisor, prophyte, chapter brother, line brother, MSP Chair, State Representative...etc. Please consider what you said to these members as they crossed into Omega. Remember what you requested of these brothers, and what you told them what you would do to help them grow not only as men, but also as men of Omega. I implore each of you to contact members and encourage them to, if they have left the "Official" folds of Omega, to come back home. Brothers, if you did so, go back and read the letter that you wrote and ask yourselves if the member that you wrote that letter for is upholding not only your words of endorsement, but are they upholding ALL of the principles of Omega the way that you stated that they would? This challenge is also issued to chapters who requested and had Membership Selection Processes (MSP) approved, as well as chapters that were chartered and/or reactivated between 2007-2010. Please reach out to those brothers initiated in your chapters who have since left the "Active" roster, or not transitioned successfully to graduate chapters for our undergraduate brothers. After all, Omega granted you approval to bring these members in and assist your chapter in continuing your efforts to be positive forces in each of your communities and/or college campuses.

Thirdly, to my brothers initiated between 2007-2010, if I could sit and fraternize with each of you, I would remind you of your written statements submitted of what you, as Omega men, would do to uphold Omega's vision and Cardinal Principals that our esteemed founders painstakingly created some 101 years ago. Brothers, as your "Three-Year Cycle" of dues membership comes to an end, please continue to pay your chapter dues, or, if you were initiated as an undergraduate, I encourage you to transition to a graduate chapter. Furthermore, I encourage all of my other former Mighty Ninth District Representative brothers to encourage the reclamation of those brothers lost, from a financially active standpoint, during their tenure(s) as District Representative as well. Brothers, we have accomplished important milestones during the last several years in Omega as a District. For example, our GE Omega4Life Scholar applications have increased at the district level, we have seen increases with 9th District Scholarship applications and International Scholarship applications, as well as 9th District UG fund utilization for travel to and attendance at District and International meetings, just to name a few. We have accomplished these goals because the mighty 9th District has served as an entry into Omega for so many outstanding brothers. Brothers, again I ask you to continue to serve Omega with the same levels of enthusiasm now that you displayed when each of you were initiated into our beloved brotherhood.

To be blunt brothers, if you choose not renew your dues in a graduate chapter, or transition to a graduate chapter after your undergraduate days are over, it can be considered that you have said "Well Omega...I have time to indulge in all the things that bring no value to Omega and appear when there's a "Set Out"...but I do not have time to continue to learn the ways of Omega, nor proliferate her cardinal principals as a financially active member...I would rather spend my money on other things, and only be a brother when it is convenient to my social calendar...". To my financial brothers, as I close, let me state that this has pained me for some time now. As you read this, ask yourselves, "Am I talking to those brothers whom I helped to initiate??? Why are they not coming around when the "Business" of Omega is being conducted? To those brothers that, hopefully, have been touched by this communication and have been struck by the fire of retention/reclamation, I thank you, and please contact your local chapter to submit a transfer form 35 as soon as you can. After all, Omega needs each and every one of us to do our part.

Fraternally Yours,
Brother Willie F. "Mercenary" Hinchey - 21st 9th District Representative



The Twi-Light Twelve Dedicate Monument



The Twi-Light Twelve Foundation Inc., (consisting of the Rho Theta Chapter Spring 1982, Twi-Light Twelve Line) Dedicates a 144 Square Feet, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Monument to the Rho Theta Chapter and Prairie View A&M University, in Celebration of their 30th Anniversary as Members of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Traditionally, most Lines of Fraternities celebrate their Line Anniversaries by wearing a Line Shirt, Hat or something to show their Unity. Well, with class and grandiose style the Rho Theta Chapter, Spring 82, Twi-Light Twelve Line Celebrated their 30th Anniversary of true OMEGA Spirit in Grand Fashion.

Not only did these Twelve Brothers purchase specially designed gold blazers alike, they went totally against the grain and wanted to leave their Legacy on the Campus of Prairie View A&M University for a Lifetime. So they designed a 12X12 Feet Omega Psi Phi Monument (that's right, a 144 Square Feet, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Monument) and dedicated it to the Rho Theta Chapter and Prairie View A&M University on April 28th, 2012.

Bro. Judge L. Clifford Davis Featured

A pioneer and trailblazer, Judge L. Clifford Davis lived through the Jim Crow South, fought in the Civil Rights movement, and opened doors for countless African Americans.

Born in Wilton, Arkansas in 1924, he grew up in a community that was segregated. Blacks and Whites living blocks away, but never intermingling. It was then he saw his first glimpse of the reality of the term "separate but unequal."



He later went on to become the first African American to get accepted to the University of Arkansas Law School. But decided to stay at Howard University Law School in Washington, D.C. after learning they would require him to go through more loops than the other students.

It was at Howard University, he learned to become a lawyer for the people, and he says he was inspired to make a difference in his community.

After graduating from Howard University School of Law in 1949, Davis practiced civil rights law in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, where he says he was one of nine Black lawyers in the entire state.

Colored Segregation Signs But he felt the yearning to move to Texas, where racial segregation was more prevalent. Davis moved to Fort Worth, where he was one of only two Black lawyers in the city.

In 1956 he sued the Mansfield Independent School District to integrate the schools. Filing Jackson vs. Rawdon in the U.S. District Court in Dallas, that suit resulted in the desegregation of the Mansfield Independent School District. But it was only the beginning. In 1959, Davis filed Flax vs. Potts, another federal civil rights suit, which led to the desegregation of the Fort Worth Independent School District. The Ft Worth lawsuit took more than 20 years before it was officially passed.

In the 1960s he became one of the first Black lawyers to join the Tarrant County Bar Association and in 1983, he ascended to the Texas district court bench, becoming one of the first Black state district judges in Tarrant County, where he served on the bench until 1988.

Today, Davis continues to practice law, more than 60 years fighting for the civil rights of others, when asked about his work he said, "Just a person working in the community, trying to make community better for all people."



In Memory of Bro. Christopher C. Mercer



Mercer was born in Pine Bluff in 1924 and was one of the law school's "Six Pioneers," the first six African-American students to enroll at University of Arkansas School of Law. During his time in law school, he supported himself by teaching biology, chemistry and math classes, including a business class for veterans at Carver High School in Marked Tree.

Christopher C. Mercer, one of the six students who integrated the University of Arkansas School of Law, died Tuesday morning, Nov. 20, 2012 in Little Rock, AR.

Bro. Mercer was the first African-American in the South to serve as a deputy state prosecutor and practiced law for more than 58 years, often representing clients of modest means. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the university in May 2011 and received the Silas Hunt Legacy Award in April 2012.

Eta Mu Mu Remembers Bro. George E. Ellis

Brother George E. Ellis was a graduate of St. Peter Claver High School and attended Prairie View A&M, where he received his undergraduate degree in education in 1967 and his master's degree in industrial education in 1971. He was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. through Psi Alpha Chapter, San Antonio, Texas on June 29, 1974.

Brother Ellis continued his quest in Omega by participating in various programs and committees. He became a talent hunt committee member, which identified some of the best talent in San Antonio to represent Psi Alpha Chapter at District and International levels. He participated in talent hunt activities for over 10 years and provided great leadership and support. Bro. Ellis would also participate in Psi Alpha Chapter housing committee meetings, which is now known as the Psi Alpha Chapter Scholarship Foundation. This early development of the housing committee has lead Psi Alpha Chapter in purchasing two fraternity houses.

Brother Ellis lived the cardinal principal of scholarship through his employment at St. Phillips College. He was the assistant professor in drafting and charged each of his students to gain the most out of life through their education. Brother Ellis retired from St. Phillips College after 26 years in 1996. After retirement, he put his energy toward various types of African-American historical research

Bro. Ricky L Brown (March 6, 1977 -January 8, 2013)



Bro. Brown was bom in Haynesville, Louisiana on March 6, 1977. From elementary school through high school , Bro. Brown excelled both academically and athletically. He was named student of the year at Haynesville Jr. High School and Haynesville High School. Bro. Brown was crowned both Mr. Haynesville High School and prom king. In 1993 and 1994, he played quarterback and led the Tomado to clinch two state championship titles. Bro. Brown maintained a 4.0 grade point average throughout high school; he was named valedictorian of the Haynesville High School class of 1995.

After high school, Bro. Brown attended the University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM). While attending ULM, he pledged Omega Psi Phi Fraternity (Mu Lambda) in the fall of 1998. In 2000, Ricky graduated from the University of Louisiana at Momoe with a degree in Biology.

In 2009, he accepted a teaching and coaching position at Bossier High School. While at Bossier High School, Coach Brown worked as the offensive coordinator and helped to lead the Bearkats to back to back district championships in 2011 and 2012. He remained employed at Bossier High School until his untimely death .

Brothers who have Transitioned to Omega Chapter since the 75th District Meeting

- 1) Bro. Thomas Green
- 2) Bro. Pastor G Stanley Lewis
- 3) Bro. Richard Turnley
- 4) Bro. Marion Henry
- 5) Bro. Ricky L Brown
- 6) Bro. Andrew Duckworth
- 7) Bro. Jerold Morris
- 8) Bro. Walker Weston
- 9) Bro. Ronald Lafleur
- 10) Bro. Nathaniel Zeno
- 11) Bro. Frederick Todd

- 12) Bro. James Williams
- 13) Bro. Ernest Shiloh Sr.
- 14) Bro. Ennis Sterling
- 15) Bro. Woodrow Wilson
- 16) Bro. J D Garrett
- 17) Bro. Willie T Becket
- 18) Bro. Charles Johnson

- 19) Bro. George Ellis
- 20) Bro. Billie L. Butterworth
- 21) Bro. Josh E. McDaniel's
- 22) Bro. Mike Peterson
- 23) Bro. Christopher C. Mercer
- 24) Bro. E Darryl Palmer
- 25) Bro. Ralph Simon

