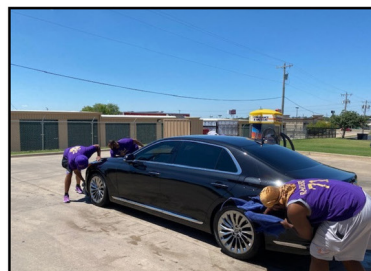
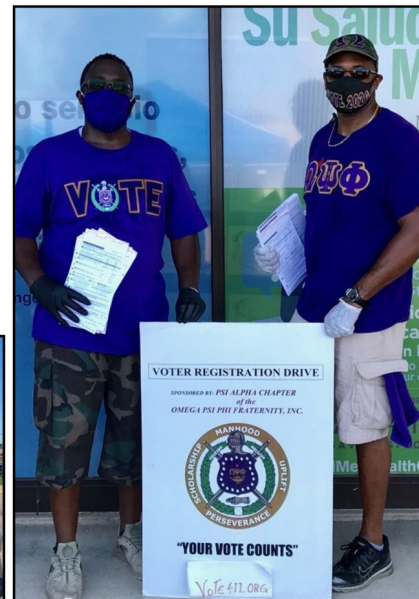


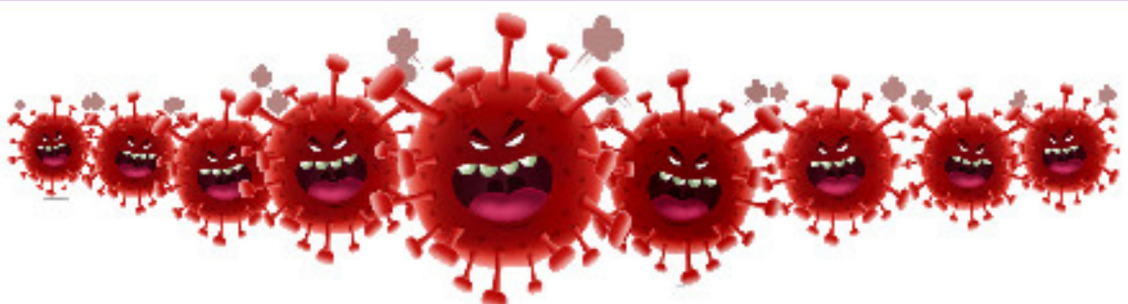
THE SOURCE

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE BROTHERS OF THE NINTH DISTRICT OF OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.

VOLUME 31 FALL 2020



PERSEVERANCE TO SERVE



DESPITE THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



NINTH DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBERS MAY 2020 - APRIL 2021



District Representative

Bro. Patrick Smith



1st Vice District Representative

Bro. Harold Bailey



2nd Vice District Representative

Bro. Oris Granger



Keeper of Records & Seal

Bro. David Washington Jr.



Keeper of Finance

Bro. Van Newborn



Counselor

Bro. Winston Huff



Director of Public Relations

Bro. Frank Watson



Chaplain

Bro. Asriel McLain



District Marshal

Bro. Arthur Williams



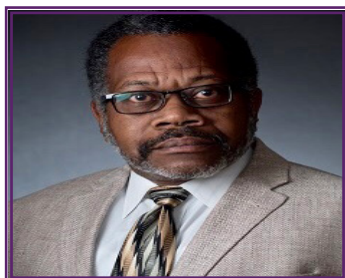
Immediate Past District Representative

Bro. Kenneth Terrell



Immediate Past District Marshal

Bro. Lee Young



Oklahoma Graduate Representative

Bro. John Veal Jr.



Arkansas Undergraduate Representative

Bro. Frenklyn Piggie Jr.



Louisiana Undergraduate Representative

Bro. Frederick Robinson



Oklahoma Undergraduate Representative

Bro. Aaron Ragas Jr.



INTERNATIONAL ACCOLADES






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


**SECOND VICE
GRAND
BASILEUS**






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

REVEREND
DR. BENJAMIN E.
MAYS
DIVINITY
AWARD
WINNER








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


**OMEGA
MAN
OF THE
YEAR**





CONGRATULATIONS
UPSILON THETA CHAPTER
OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.
INTERNATIONAL
UNDERGRADUATE SOCIAL ACTION CHAPTER OF THE YEAR
LAMAR UNIVERSITY - BEAUMONT, TX



INTERNATIONAL ACCOLADES



Psi Alpha earns International Recognition for its Fatherhood Initiative Program

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

The Psi Alpha Chapter Fatherhood Initiative was announced as the winner of the best Fatherhood Initiative in the Grand Basileus Bro. Dr. David Marion. He mentioned Bro. Archie Peay and Bro. Scott Earle; however, I would like to add Brothers: Derek Morton, Reggie Smith, Anthony Peay, Alan Thompson, Butch Allen, Eddie Pinchback, Ken Tyson, Jerry Coburn, and Jeff August for their outstanding work in the San Antonio area. Psi Alpha will receive a \$5000 award for this recognition.



The Ninth District Sponsors a Borehole in Ghana

By Bro. Frank Watson / Ninth District Director of Public Relations / AR, LA, OK, & TX

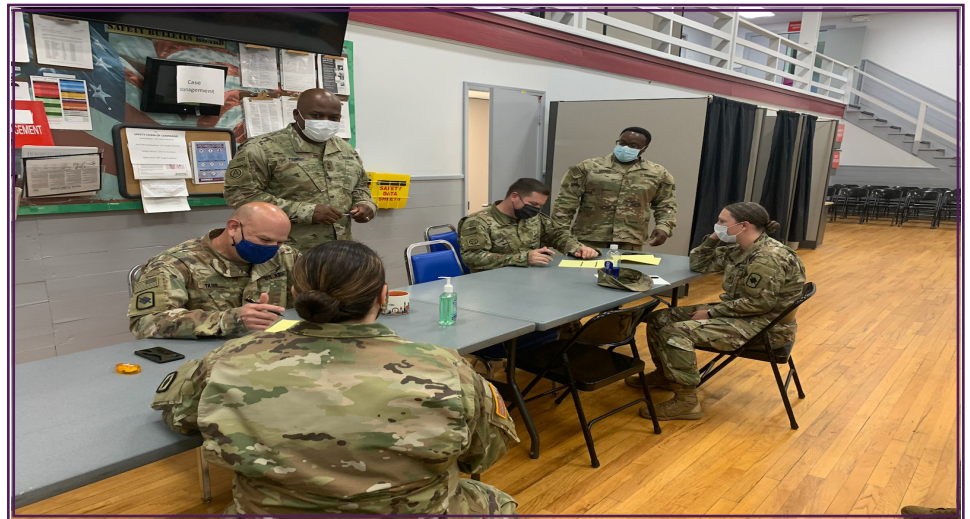
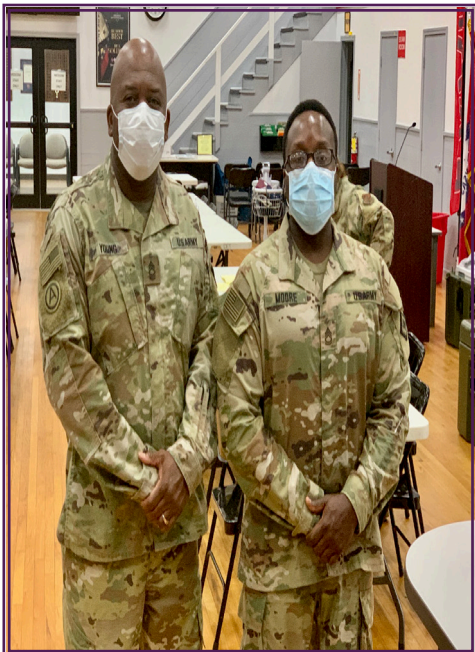
A non-profit Ghanaian Corporation requested the Men of Omega to help fund Boreholes in rural areas of Ghana, West Africa, in response to the lack of clean water and major health issues in the country. They were seeking to raise funds to complete twenty-four Boreholes at \$4,000 dollars each within a 12-month period, starting November 2019 to November 2020. The Brothers of the Ninth District stepped up to support this effort. On August 9, 2020, the Aboabo, Ghana Community Borehole was completed. This effort was sponsored by the Ninth District of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Providing uplift to address the clean water crisis in Ghana.



Lieutenant Colonel Sevier Assumes Command

By Bro. Randy Smith / Phi Mu Mu Chapter / Conway, AR

Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) Sevier assumed command of 2nd Battalion 153rd Infantry Regiment, 39th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) on Saturday, August 16, 2020. Brother Sevier was also promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on April 23, 2020. LTC Sevier is responsible for the personnel, equipment, and training of 716 soldiers. The Gun-slinger Battalion is also scheduled for a crucible training rotation at the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) in Fort Polk, Louisiana in July of 2021. LTC Sevier is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. (Initiated – Beta Delta in 1997 and Current Chapter – Phi Mu Mu). Brother Sevier is a member of Alfred Street Baptist Church. He currently resides at Maumelle, AR with his wife Miranda Ray (17 Years) and 2 daughters, Sydney – 11 and Kaylin – 8.



COVID-19 Military Support

By Bro. Derrick Young / Omicron Lambda Lambda Chapter / Little Rock, AR.

Omicron Lambda Lambda military brothers supported their state during the COVID-19 pandemic. 1SG Derrick Young, Medical Operation Manager, and SFC Eugene Moore, Assistant Medical Operation Manager, from the Medical Command of the Arkansas Army National Guard supported the state by processing Soldiers through their initial and post medical assessments. This process ensures Soldiers are healthy prior to their mission and healthy before they return home to their families. We would like to thank them and all military personnel for facing this enormous challenge and responding with courage, resolve and exemplary professionalism.





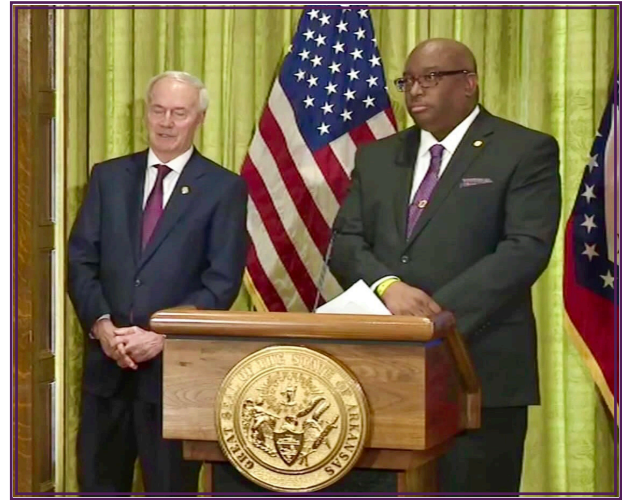
Brother Elected to Executive Board

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

This past July, Brother Dr. Paul Adams was elected to the Executive Board of Directors of the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCCHE). Established in 1972, the mission of (NOBCCHE) is to build an eminent cadre of successful diverse global leaders in STEM and advance their professional endeavors by adding value to their academic, development, leadership, and philanthropic endeavors throughout the life-cycle of their careers. (NOBCCHE) is governed by the Executive Board of Directors who serve to guide the direction of the organization and provide for continuity in its objectives and practices. Brother Adams will begin his 3-year term on the Board October 1, 2020.

Brother Adams is a member of the Upsilon Chi chapter of Northwest Arkansas. He serves the fraternity as the Ninth District's director of Undergraduate Chapter Advisors, and as the vice chairman of the International UG Affairs and Chapter Advisors Committee.

On August 22, 2020, Brothers of the Phi Mu Mu chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. alongside our 2019 essay winner Ms. Journee Jones came together to provide service at a local annual backpack drive here in the community of Conway, AR. The brothers held our essay contest during our international achievement week in November. Journee Jones is a 2020 graduate of Conway High School. She will be attending the University of Central Arkansas starting in the fall semester of 2020. In the future, with Journee attending the local university the brothers of Phi Mu Mu look forward to the continued community involvement that Journee has shown up to now. We hope to work together to bring more Uplift to this community by continuing to offer opportunities as well as recognize the youth of Conway through our leadership and service.



OLL COVID-19 ADC Televised Briefing

By Bro. Derrick Young / Omicron Lambda Lambda Chapter Little Rock, AR

On April 14, 2020, Omicron Lambda Lambda brother Dexter Payne, Arkansas Director of Correction (ADC) conducted a televised briefing with the Asa Hutchinson, Arkansas Governor about how the facility was dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. Brother Payne did an excellent job and represented the Correction Department, Omicron Lambda Lambda chapter and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in a very professional way.



Essay Winner Uplift

By Bro. Randy Smith / Phi Mu Mu Chapter / Conway, AR.



Arkansas Omega Day at the Capitol

By Bro. Major Banks, Jr. / Pi Omicron Chapter / Little Rock, AR

Omega Brothers from around the state of Arkansas came to Little Rock, AR. for Omega day at the Capitol. Brother Richard Mays Sr. (Alpha Chapter '63) was honored on the State Senate floor for being one of the first groups of black elected candidates to serve in the General Assembly. On the front row, from left to right, Bro. Ray Sturgis, State Senator Linda Chesterfield, Bro. 2nd Vice District Representative Lamarius McGraw, and Bro. Charles Williams.



Pi Omicron Voter Registration

By Bro. Major Banks, Jr. / Pi Omicron Chapter / Little Rock, AR

The Brothers of Pi Omicron chapter held a voter registration drive at North Little Rock High School. This was the second consecutive year Pi Omicron participated in this event. Basileus Brother Michael Williams Sr. was the chairperson for the event. We registered 30 students who are now eligible to vote in the upcoming election. Brother Major Banks, Jr, Brother Brandon Greenwood and Brother Ray Kimbrough were also at the event.



Omega Man Receives Military Medals after 70-Year Wait

By Bro. Quranner Cotledge / Tau Phi Chapter / Pine Bluff, AR

Brother Fulton Walker, Tau Phi Chapter, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, served in the U.S. Army during World War II and was awarded the medals earned during the war more than 70 years after his discharge. Walker now 97, went on to earn a bachelor's and master's degree and was the second African-American to be appointed principal in an all-white school in Arkansas. He received the Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, World War II Victory Medal, Marksman Badge with Rifle Bar and Honorable Service Lapel Button World War II from U.S. Senator John Boozman during a February 2020 Ceremony honoring him.

Senator Boozman said Fulton Walker was deployed to England, France, Germany and other places as a driver in the Red Ball Express, whose job was to transport supplies that had arrived at the docks to the front lines, driving mainly at night to avoid enemy aircraft. Almost 75% of the soldiers assigned to the Red Ball Express were African American. In addition to the medals, Walker also received a flag that had flown over the U.S. Capital in Washington D.C. and a letter from U.S. Senator Tom Cotton. Pine Bluff Mayor Shirley Washington designated February 28 as Fulton Walker Day in the City of Pine Bluff.





A Full Day of Service

By Bro. Jeremy Pierre / Xi Rho Chapter / West Memphis, AR.

The Xi Rho Chapter of Omega Psi Phi in West Memphis, Arkansas spent a Saturday morning volunteering and giving to the community. The brothers started the day off volunteering at Hope House Ministries distributing food baskets to more than 300 families. While at Hope House Xi Rho also gave out information on the November elections and registering people to vote. The service did not stop there. Thanks to Hope House Ministries Xi Rho managed to put together more than 60 food baskets filled with fruits and vegetables and gave them to the elderly and poor in several underserved communities in West Memphis.



Xi Rho COVID-19 Project

By Bro. Jeremy Pierre / Xi Rho Chapter / West Memphis, AR

The Brothers of the Xi Rho Chapter in West Memphis, Arkansas noticed a demographic in their area that were badly in need of necessary essentials during the Coronavirus Pandemic. Men of the chapter brought their resources together and decided to fill in the gap. Brothers decided to provide care packages to the elderly that consisted of hand sanitizer, alcohol, paper towels, toilet tissue, gloves, and other essentials. This last-minute project proved to be a major success. The brothers gave out more than 30 bags with those essentials. The goal for the brothers was to protect as many members of the elderly community safe during the Coronavirus Pandemic.

"The Service Chapter"

By Bro. Jeremy Pierre / Xi Rho Chapter / West Memphis, AR

Saturday morning Brothers of the Xi Rho Chapter joined other volunteers at Hope House Ministries in West Memphis, Arkansas to pass out food to more than 300 Crittenden County families. This is the second time Xi Rho volunteered with Hope House to feed families. The Midsouth Food Bank provided the food. Hope House monthly feeds thousands of families from several other Eastern Arkansas communities. The brothers look forward to other opportunities to share in this great opportunity to serve our community.





Grambling State University Voter Registration Drive

By Bro. Donovan Jones / Gamma Gamma Chapter
Grambling, LA

On September 29, 2020, the brethren of Gamma Gamma Undergraduate Chapter hosted a Voter Registration Drive in conjunction with the campus's Student Government Association. Students are highly encouraged to vote as the attendance rate exceeds 5,000+ students on campus, although the poll's show different. The 2020 election will be a pivotal moment in the United States

Government, mostly affecting the citizens. This year's election relies heavily on young voters as the past shows young voters lacking efficiency. The brethren attracted students of the campus and encouraged them to check their status. It has only been 55 years since the Voting Rights Act was signed into law. The rich history, and sacrifices many of our African American leaders made were to ensure the tradition continued with us. Events such as Voting Registration is one of many Mandated Programs by the brothers of Omega Psi Phi.



City of Grambling Highway Clean Up

By Bro. Demond Porter / Gamma Gamma Chapter
Grambling, LA

Early Tuesday morning, the brethren of Gamma Gamma Undergraduate Chapter were located near Highway 80, south of Grambling's campus. The historical highway connects Grambling and Ruston leading into their own respective communities on each end. Generous efforts of the brethren were nothing other than fulfilling the duties of the Louisiana Adopt A Road Program. The Adopt-a-Road Program enlists volunteers to remove litter and debris from state and federal roadsides of the adopted area. The Gamma Gamma chapter enrolled in the program years ago, and still attain the beautification of Highway 80. Local landmarks, especially fraternal landmarks are of high demand, preserving and maintaining the area will guarantee its longevity.



We Are Our Brother's Keeper

By Bro. Eddie Dollis / Phi Iota Iota Chapter / LaPlace, LA



The brothers of the Phi Iota Iota Chapter present the Bryan Williams, Sr. Scholarship in the amount of \$10,000 to Bryan Williams Jr., son of Bryan "X-Man" Williams Sr. The scholarship is named in honor of his father Bro. Bryan "X-Man" Williams Sr. (Theta Mu, 92 / Phi Iota Iota, 99) who transitioned to the Omega Chapter on February 7, 2018. What started within the Chapter to help the family of a fallen brother quickly turned into a regional effort with Brothers throughout the District pitching in to pay it forward. This is a testament to just how good of a Brother Bryan was to us all. Bryan Jr., is currently a freshman at Louisiana State University.



Gamma Gamma Hurricane Laura Disaster Relief

By Bro. Zemry Ivory / Gamma Gamma Chapter
Grambling, LA

The Hurricane Laura Relief Mission occurred in the salvaged area of Lake Charles, La on September 19, 2020. The Brothers of Gamma Gamma assisted the state and local agencies in their effort to impact the community. Hurricane surfaced within the region on August 26, 2020. Brothers lent a helping hand passing out supplies to the families of the SWLA neighborhood. Although the faith of the city never lowered, it is monumental that any brethren representing Omega Psi Phi across the 13 districts stand with the same people who power us to be successful. Members of the community did a fantastic job in coming out and participating. It is vital that generations to come, the powerful citizens that make up that community will know the brothers of Omega Psi Phi stood alongside them.



Brother Dr. Henderson Receives Dental Award

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

Brother Dr. Marlon D. Henderson was awarded the 2020 President's Award by National Dental Association President, Dr. Sheila L. Armstrong, during the 107th NDA Annual (Virtual) Convention. Dr. Henderson is the current Vice-President of the National Dental Association. He was, also, recently selected to participate in the American Dental Association's Institute for Diversity in Leadership 2020-2021 program. Brother Henderson, both an Omega and Ninth District Life Member, is the current Chairman of the Ninth District Medical-Health Initiatives Committee. He is a former Ninth District Undergraduate Advisor Overseer-Louisiana. Additionally, Brother Dr. Henderson is a former Basileus and current Reporter of Rho Omega Chapter.



Lake Charles Hurricane Relief

By Bro. Brice Bates / Capital Area Ques
Lake Charles, LA

The Capital Area Ques joined forces once again to help offer donations and support to the Rho Chi chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. as they aided the Lake Charles community with Hurricane relief efforts. The city of Lake Charles and surrounding areas were devastated by the recent impact of Hurricane Laura leaving homes and businesses without power, water, and essential supplies. Brothers in Baton Rouge loaded trailers/U-hauls full of water, cleaning supplies, clothes, toys, and food transporting them early Saturday morning to Lake Charles for distribution. The grill was also smoking hot preparing food for free plates given while people picked up donations. The event was even blessed by the neighboring church who offered up songs of praise in this trying time. Residents expressed their extreme gratitude for all efforts made by the brothers and now have a deeper appreciation for the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.





Rho Omega and Friends Awards Scholarships

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

Rho Omega and Friends, Incorporated recently presented scholarships to ten graduating, college bound, Shreveport-Bossier Omega Lamplighters. Scholarship recipients included: Isaiah Anthony, Nicholas Bates, Kaylon Carroll, Ethan Edwards, Khalil Gilliam, Calvin Lester III, Reginald Poland II, J'aden Speight, Keyshun Thomas, and Dyllan Williams. The Cecil R. Henderson Memorial Scholarship was presented to Kaylon Carroll. And, the Rev. Dr. Harry Blake Memorial Scholarship was presented to Keyshun Thomas. The total amount of the scholarships awarded was \$13,500. Brother Timothy Graham is the Chairman of the Shreveport-Bossier City Lamplighters and Junior Lamplighters. Brother Fred Moss IV is the Executive Director of Rho Omega and Friends, Incorporated. And, Brother James Hawkins is Basileus of the Rho Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated.

Rho Omega and Friends Donate Fans

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

Rho Omega and Friends, Incorporated recently held their Annual Summer Fan Drive. A total of 125 fans were collected and donated to the Caddo Council on Aging. Brother James D. Rhodes is the Fan Drive Chairman. Brother Fred Moss IV is the Executive Director of Rho Omega and Friends, Incorporated. And, Brother James F. Hawkins is Basileus of the Rho Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated.



Ruston Area Ques PPE Distribution

By Bro. Korick Wilkerson / Ruston Area Ques
Ruston, LA

On Saturday, August 22, 2020 Pi Tau, Gamma Gamma, Alpha Delta Delta Chapters in conjunction with Zion Traveler Baptist Church, and the Boys & Girls club of Ruston held a Drive-Thru Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Drive. The PPE Drive event took place at Zion Traveler Baptist Church located in Ruston, LA. The brothers generated over \$700 in donations, and even received a donation from Lowe's in Ruston of 100 disposable face masks and 100 Nitrile Gloves. The men of Omega prepared and distributed 200 plus bags to members of the community filled with Personal Protective Equipment. Event Chairman, Bro. Korick Wilkerson said "I thought it was important to distribute PPE to members of the community with a focus on easing the anxiety of parents, teachers, and students as they prepare to return to school this Fall.

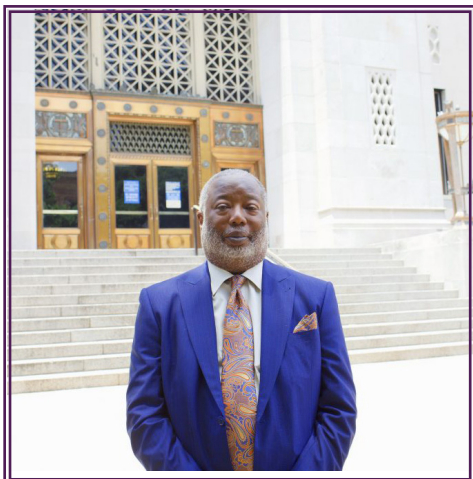




George Floyd Protest in Ruston

By Bro. Korick Wilkerson / Ruston Area Ques
Ruston, LA

The Pi Tau, Gamma Gamma, and Alpha Delta Delta Chapters of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. continued their fight for Social Justice by participating in the protest March a Mile in Our Shoes in Ruston, LA. The purpose of the protest was to show that we (the members of the Fraternity and the community) stand with our black brothers and sisters in the wake of the murder of Mr. George Floyd in Minneapolis, MN by a white police officer. Everyone who participated in the march took a knee for 8 minutes and 46 seconds in memory of Mr. George Floyd. Co-organizer, Bro. Michael Lovett, stated "The significance of the protest was to let the community know that there is inequality and injustice in Lincoln Parish just as much as there is anywhere else, and we will not be shy about making our voices heard. If we don't fight for us, who will?" The protest was peaceful, well organized, and Omega Psi Phi was represented well.



COVID-19 Relief

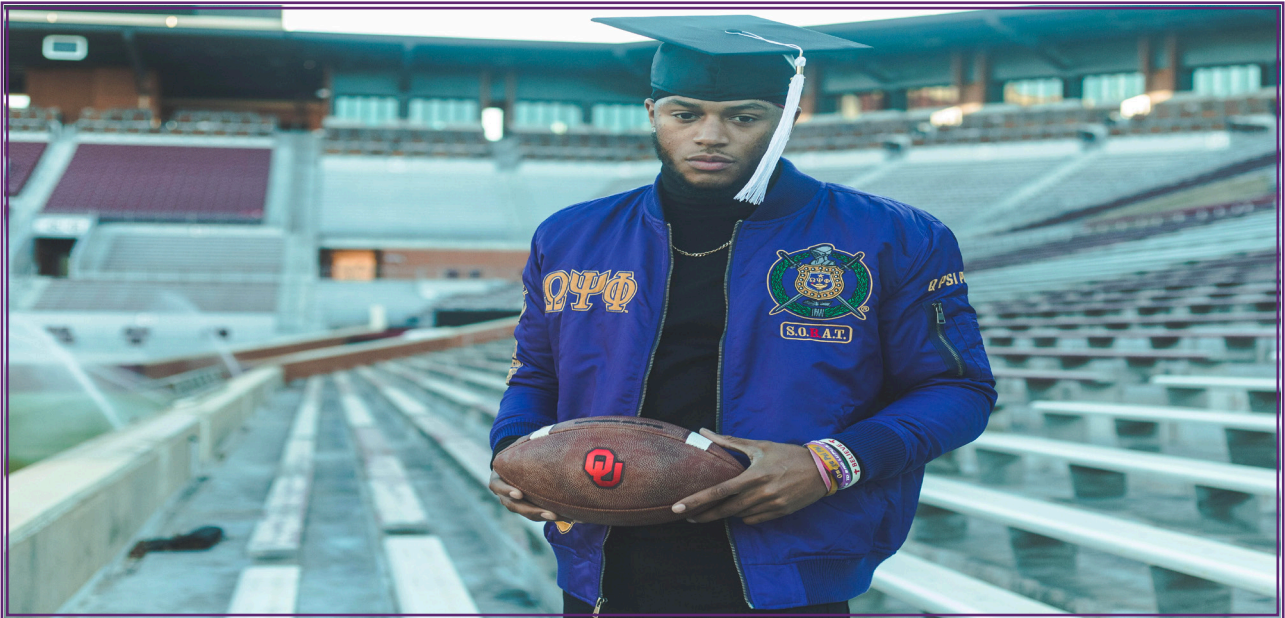
By Bro. Vincent Wiltz / Upsilon Rho Chapter
Lafayette, LA

On Monday, May 11, 2020, chapter members of Upsilon Rho in Lafayette, LA donated lunch meals, toiletries, clothes, and cleaning supplies to the Acadiana Outreach Center. The Outreach Center provides individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Acadiana with the resources they need to secure a second chance at life. During COVID-19, the Center lacked funding from the government, which led to food and supply shortages for the families they serve. The directors of the center were extremely grateful for the meals and supplies received during this difficult time. Brothers who presented the donations to the Center wore the proper PPE for the safety of everyone. There were more than 25 members of the community served. Our Chapter members were humbled as they reflected on the number of people with limited access to basic needs, especially during this pandemic, and grateful for the opportunity to help those in need.

Brother James Stewart, Sr. Receives Liberty Bell Award

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

Shreveport District Attorney, Brother James E. Stewart, Sr., recently received the 2020 Liberty Bell Award from the Shreveport Bar Association. The Liberty Bell is awarded annually to an individual who has made significant contributions to the community. After serving 25 years as a District and Appellate Court Judge, D. A. Stewart was elected Caddo Parish District Attorney in 2015. D. A. Stewart is currently seeking re-election in 2020. Brother Stewart is a Lifetime Member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated and a former Basileus of the Rho Omega Chapter.



Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice Reform

By Bro. Chanse Sylvie / Phi Delta Chapter / Norman, OK

A few ideas for comprehensive reforms that can establish fundamental accountability within the law enforcement and criminal justice systems include:

1. Creating a publicly searchable database of law enforcement who engage in misconduct involving discrimination and loss of life, in support of the creation of a Lifetime Nationwide ban from Law Enforcement when terminated for misconduct;
2. Requiring public disclosure of all complaints against Law Enforcement.
3. Creating Law Enforcement national standards for:
 - A. Recruiting
 - B. Culturally Competent Training and outlawing racial profiling in policing.
 - C. Use of Force, and banning the use of chokeholds or other actions that restrict airflow to humans.
4. Requiring independent investigations of all allegations of Law Enforcement misconduct, including stipulating that all officers involved in incidents that are discriminatory or that result in loss of life immediately undergo an assessment, to include a toxicology exam.
5. Ensuring Law Enforcement accountability by ending the use of qualified immunity.
6. Training to recognize, and requiring law enforcement to intervene when other officers are using excessive force.

We should be tired of watching people protest with no results. Clearly, we need significant changes to Law Enforcement accountability, and people willing to work together to affect that change.





Juneteenth March

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

The brothers of Alpha Iota Iota chapter participate greatly in the Juneteenth celebrations throughout the Dallas Metroplex. The All Greek “March of Solidarity” presented by Black Greeks Unite took place Friday June 19th in Downtown Dallas. Hundreds of members from all Divine Nine organizations gathered peacefully to march in unity for the Black Lives Matter campaign. The brothers of AII and other chapters throughout the city participated and provided crowd control services to make sure the event went smoothly.

The Collin County Juneteenth celebration took place Saturday, June 20th at the Plano Municipal Center. Alpha Iota Iota chapter partnered with Douglass Visions Committee Inc., to provide the community with a plethora of resources. This drive-through event included Food Boxes, Face masks, Gloves, and Face-Shield giveaways. There was also COVID-19, Blood Pressure, and Diabetes screening. Brothers of AII, who are also deputized by Collin County, ran the Voters Registration booth, and encouraged all who were not already registered, to get registered, and cast their votes in the vital upcoming elections. As we continue to celebrate our rich heritage and unite in this difficult time, Alpha Iota Iota chapter continues their commitment to service, and uplift the community through actions.





Goodbye Bro. Bennie Wayne Isabell

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

September 5th was an emotional day for the brothers of the Mu Mu Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., as one of their charter members, Bro. Bennie Wayne Isabell, was laid to rest, after passing away on August 31, 2020. He was 73.

Bro. Isabell was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated through the Sigma Omicron Chapter in Tyler, Texas, on November 19, 1975. He continued to serve Omega at the Graduate level, by remaining financial until his passing, as part of the Mu Mu Nu Graduate Chapter he helped charter on July 28, 2016.

Bro. Isabell attended and graduated from Emmett Scott High School in 1965 and went on to graduate from Prairie View A&M University in 1969, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration & Spanish.

In April 1971, Bro. Isabell joined the Cotton Belt Railroad (which eventually became Union Pacific) in Tyler, Texas. Over his 36-year career, he held various bookkeeping and tax positions. He retired in 2007, but continued to remain busy in the tax and accounting fields. He served on three state associations for over six years, including the Texas Association of Appraisal Districts, Texas Association of Assessing Officers and the Texas Association of Tax Collectors.

The Brothers of Mu Mu Nu held an Omega Service for Bro. Isabell, prior to the funeral. He leaves to cherish his memory and carry forward his legacy: his wife, Sheryn Isabell; his children, Melanie Isabell Allen (Calvin), Bryn Mawr and Shannon Isabell (Nicole); his grandchildren; a host of family and friends; and his Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, especially the Mu Mu Nu Chapter he helped charter.



“A Virtual 2020”

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

One of the crucial steps in the fight against the recent spread of the Coronavirus (Covid-19) is to exercise the activity of social distancing. Rather in public or personal settings the action of socializing at close proximity has become a threat to citizens across the globe. As the world continues to take drastic measures and implement ways to prevent the spread of the virus, companies, organizations, and families have adapted the concept of virtual communication. Skype, Microsoft Teams and the newly acquired Zoom platform, among others, have become the norm for group meetings, video file sharing and corporate presentations. The Alpha Iota Iota chapter has adopted this practice to keep the business and the service aspect of Omega in play during this pandemic. Following the chapter's first virtual meeting held on Friday, March 13, 2020, a suggestion was made to hold a chapter fellowship the following Friday on Zoom. Over 50 members of the chapter were in attendance and a great time was had. This practice will become a regular activity amongst the chapter until a decision is made to lift the barrier of physical distancing in the community and country as a whole.



How has COVID-19 Changed Normal Operations?

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

As we all know, COVID-19 has changed the way we operate in our daily and business routines. With that, we wanted to get some perspective of how it has changed church and business operations for members in the Psi Alpha Chapter. Brothers Dr. Derrick Varner and Archie “Ice” Peay offered some perspective to the adjustments they have had to make.

Bro. Peay (Business Operations): “COVID-19 has changed the way I perform business operations at work. As the Chief, Plans & Programs Branch for a Contracting Division, we have been forced to work from home as well as me leading from home. I had to adopt different methods, such as daily Zoom Video conferencing to put eyes on my workers and know they are doing well. Approximately 80-90% of all communication is non-verbal so this method allows me to keep the pulse of the worker. We have also had to procure devices, which allowed for the ability to still award over \$500M in contracts — not missing a beat. Furthermore, some of my workers have experienced different forms of depression so we’ve conducted several social distancing events to include two virtual lunches.”

Bro. Varner (Business Operations): “On a professional note, as I practice medicine, it has forever changed with personal protection equipment (PPE) and the global race for COVID-19 vaccines and treatment. Using telemedicine to evaluate patients, making a diagnosis, reviewing lab/imaging studies, and making referrals to specialists. Some patients are adapting to the change and some prefer the traditional way of provider-patient encounters.”

Bro. Peay (Church Operations): “As far as the church, I was asked to facilitate a Zoom discussion on August 1st on the topic of My Brother’s Keeper — Helping a Brother When They’re Going Through It. It was a 2-hour discussion and 35 men were in attendance. Brothers really needed it during this time of Pandemic.”



Standing in the Gap

By Bro. Andrew B. Earles / Rho Nu Chapter
Galveston, TX

On Friday June 5, the Rho Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., in partnership with the Texas City Nessler Center- Seniors Program, delivered hot meals to senior citizens in the Texas City community. Prior to COVID-19 senior citizens would travel to the Nessler Center, during the week, to receive hot meals. During the COVID-19 shutdown, the center was still able to provide meals however, the meals were not hot. With coordination via the program coordinator and following all COVID safety guidelines, Rho Nu Chapter brothers were able to deliver 35 hot meals to seniors throughout the community. Roosevelt Mason, who coordinated this effort between Rho Nu and the Nessler Center stated, “We would like to thank the Texas City Nessler Center program coordinator, and staff, for their help in assisting the chapter to provide meals to seniors in the community.”



Houston City Council Woman and Texas YMCA Issue PPE & Food

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

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



Sigma Tau Chapter Food Distribution

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

The Sigma Tau Chapter of El Paso, Texas has been providing service and assistance with the Community Food Distribution Program and the McCall Neighborhood Center. The program was sponsored by the Christ Temple Apostolic Church of El Paso, Texas on June 30 through August 29, 2020. Brothers of the chapter have dedicated and volunteered tireless hours every Tuesday for the past eight weeks. The Border Ques provided service and duty by unloading 1,500 boxes of poultry and produce and assisting in delivering boxes of food to vehicles. Bro. Marcus McCoy and Bro. Terrance Kinard took group initiative and outreach by delivering forty boxes of food to the McCall Neighborhood Center located in Central El Paso, Texas. This program was established for local families within the El Paso community who were in need of food during COVID-19. On August 30, 2020 Pastor A. Audi Edwards, the Community Food Distribution Program Coordinator and Pastor Michael Grady, Team Supervisor, presented the Sigma Tau Chapter with a Certificate of Appreciation for providing outstanding dedication and service to this cause.



Back to School Kickoff Drive

By Bro. David Washington Jr. / Omicron Gamma Gamma Chapter / Arlington, TX

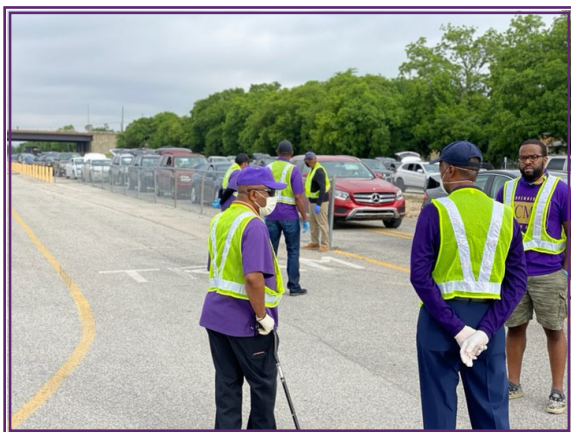
Omicron Gamma Gamma volunteered to assist the Arlington Branch of NAACP with the Arlington ISD Back to School Kickoff. OGG helped with giving out Backpacks and school supplies. Over 2000 students were issued school supplies at AT&T Stadium.



Voter Registration Drive

By Bro. David Washington Jr. / Omicron Gamma Gamma Chapter / Arlington, TX

The brothers of Omicron Gamma Gamma are doing their part to ensure people are registered to vote in the 2020 elections. A voter's registration drive was held in the DFW Metroplex area. Over 50 individuals were signed up to vote in the last 4 weeks. Thanks to Bro. Joe Lewis (Omicron Gamma Gamma VREM Chairman) for coordinating all the Voters Registration Drive.



Fair Park Hosts Third "Mobile Food Pantry"

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

COVID-19 did not stop 6 strong Theta Alpha men who stepped up in the time of need to help and assist the Mobile Food Pantry food drive MAY 14, 2020. These brother's helped and assisted the Army National Guard pass out over 10,000 boxes to help thousands of families, it is just amazing in Dallas, Texas. Brother Arthur Williams, the Social Action chairman continues to find great community service projects for Theta Alpha chapter.



Frontline Ques

By Bro. Orlando Richards / Psi Alpha Chapter / San Antonio, TX

Monday morning, when many adults were starting a new work week and recently graduated seniors were preparing for life post high school, several members of Psi Alpha Chapter assisted Blessed Angels Community Center (BACC) with its Prep and Drive Up Food Giveaway. The two-day event allowed volunteers to prep food while practicing social distance; in turn creating a more efficient food distribution during the drive-up giveaway. The event was successful with the assistance of ten Omegas each day working more than seventy hours total providing food for more than two hundred families with the much needed assistance of food.



Houston Food Bank

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

On Saturday July 18, 2020 the Brothers of the Theta Chi chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. partnered with Houston City Councilwoman Tiffany D. Thomas, Good News Church, The E.L. Kingsley Foundation, and the Houston Food Bank to feed members of the Southwest Houston community. The Brothers were able to prepare and distribute food to well over 1700 families with District F. The Brothers committed roughly 200 volunteer hours towards this event and have committed to partnering with the District F Office to continue to engage and partner for future opportunities. This partnership will allow for the Theta Chi chapter to continue to serve the Houston area during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is important to note that District F has the three of the highest zip codes affected by the COVID-19 Virus. The Theta Chi chapter would like to send a special thank you to Councilwoman Tiffany D. Thomas, Councilman Edward Pollard, the Houston Food Bank and many more community partners for making this event possible. Lastly we would like to thank Theta Chi Community Service Chairman Bro. Kenneth Burkins and chapter reporter Bro. Na'Shon Edwards, Sr. for coordinating this event and inviting the chapter to participate in this effort. Please be on the lookout for more information regarding volunteer opportunities in the Prairie View and Greater Houston Area on the chapters website at www.thetachiomegas.com.



Operation Holiday Uplift

By Bro. Ray Gatewood / Omicron Pi Chapter
Killeen, TX

On Monday, 12 September 2020, during the continuation of the COVID -19 Pandemic and its impacts on our community. Omicron Pi Chapter presented a \$5,000.00 donation to (Dr.), Brother, Bishop Ray Gatewood and Bethesda Fellowship Ministries in support of its annual Operation Holiday Uplift activities. Historically, Operation Holiday Uplift is a ministry of Bethesda Fellowship which began in 2005 with the purpose of providing sustenance to food insecure families in targeted Central Texas areas. The Omicron Pi chapter joined this effort in 2007, and over the past 13 years, this partnership has grown and expanded its reach enabling the operation to reach thousands of people who would experience varying degrees of hunger during the holidays. Operation Holiday Uplift unfolds in two phases: Phase I encompasses the Thanksgiving holiday period and Phase II covers the Christmas holiday period. The goal is to serve as many food insecure families as resources will allow during the holiday season. Each year, Bethesda Fellowship Ministries partners with the Omicron Pi Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, local Central Texas governments, Independent School Districts, and area businesses to execute the Operation. With a police escort, the members of the church and brothers of the fraternity deliver boxes of food that are designed to feed a household of four.



Omega Men March to Houston City Hall

By Bro. Frank Watson

On June 2, 2020, Omega Men marched to Houston City Hall in support of the nationwide protest against police brutality and systemic injustice. Omega men, when duty demanded, stood on the vanguard many times before, arms locked with like-minded souls in the struggle for equality or even our very right to live. That is part of our calling to the cardinal principles of Manhood and Uplift specifically. It must be done smartly and strategically but it must be done. We will not sit quietly by and ignore dog whistle politics. Omega's sons, as the leaders in our communities, are well prepared to complete all moral responsibilities with enthusiasm.





Racial Inequality, Policing, and Legal Rights

By Bro. Derek Morton / Psi Alpha Chapter / San Antonio, TX

On August 12th, 2020, the Alamo City Omega Lamplighters (ACOLL) of Psi Alpha Chapter conducted a virtual forum on Racial Inequality, Policing, and Legal Rights. The panel was moderated by Bro. Derek Morton, ACOLL Chairman, and Bro. Nathaniel Jenkins, of Psi Alpha Chapter. Panelists included Officer Doug Greene from the San Antonio Police Department, Councilman Noah Washington (06-Lambda Iota), Place Two of Selma, Texas, and Attorney at Law, Bro. Lionel Richardson (96-Alpha Theta). In attendance with the Lamplighters were mentees from Psi Alpha weekly mentoring program, a host of Omega Men, and other guests. After introductions by the Lamplighter President Azarel Hardeman, Vice-President Devin Wallace, and Ashton McGhee, the mentees were asked a series of questions and polls so the panelist could get a feel for the mentees. Have you ever been detained by a policeman, falsely arrested, and witnessed police brutality? Is everyone looked at equally? What areas of racial inequality have improved and not improved in your life-time? These are a few questions they were asked.

The mentees then asked realistic situational questions they have or may experience to the three panelists that provided a perspective from their lens. Each panelist provided candid responses that these young men of color needed to know during these complicated times. Lamplighter Micah Sewel asked the question about being questioned and searched at school versus in public by a policeman. Attorney Richardson responded by explaining the concept of “in loco parentis” in which staff at schools takes on the responsibilities of a parent when the child is in the school’s care. Minors have limited rights, in a school setting, to avoid searches and questioning by the school staff and security. However, if local police arrive at school or a similar situation occurs outside of school, minors do not have to subject themselves to searches or any questioning without a parent or probable cause if a crime has not been committed. Further discussion of showing identification when asked, safety during a traffic stop, minor rights, and actions by city leaders for better relations in the black and brown community are other topics that motivated the forum. Councilman Washington stated that since the George Floyd murder, Selma, in coordination with neighboring cities, has reinforced policing policies and has strongly promoted community policing and engagement with citizens. Closing remarks by Basileus Jimmie McMillion encouraged mentees to always be respectful and pay attention to their surroundings. The knowledge provided will be useful in making the right decisions in situations discussed in the forum.



The Houston Area Coalition of Chapters Caravan to Lake Charles

By Bro. Na'Shon Edwards, Sr. / Houston Area Coalition of Chapters / Houston, TX

On Saturday September 12th, 2020 Brothers of the Houston Area Coalition of Chapters traveled to Lake Charles, LA to donate and distribute non-perishable items, water, and toiletries to Brothers of the Rho Chi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and the greater community of Lake Charles. The Brothers of the HACOC solicited donations from community partners and organizations to support such a noble endeavor. The HACOC consists of the collective of Undergraduate and Graduate chapters of Omega Psi Phi, Fraternity, Inc., which spans from Freeport, Texas to Huntsville, Texas. The Brothers of the HACOC continue to keep the Brothers in Louisiana, their families, and great state in our prayers and know that we are in this together.





Rho Xi Fitness Challenge

By Bro. Frank Watson / Rho Xi Chapter / Freeport, TX

During the pandemic, the Brothers of Rho Xi Chapter developed their Rho Xi Fitness Challenge. We all face challenges in our life. You can train to take on life's difficulties by training with purpose. Your body is built to adapt and respond to demands that are placed upon it. The stronger the demand, the stronger the response. When you challenge your body you also challenge your mind. You train your mind to say yes, I can handle anything that comes my way. Yes, I am strong enough and I can fight harder, break through any barrier or any obstacle. Brothers within the chapter pushed themselves through various barriers and obstacles. Brothers within the chapter lost weight and shared photos of themselves within the chapters group me as encouragement to promote greater fitness. This challenge also helped Brothers gain a sense of comradeship with their virtual partners of the Rho Xi Fitness Challenge. Even though not physically working out together they were together in spirit, and encouraging each other together from a distance. This challenge was led by Bro. Aneil Smothers. What started as a six week challenge has now been extended to not have a deadline at all but to be a continuous push towards greater fitness.

Rho Nu Voter Registration

By Bro. Andrew B. Earles / Rho Nu Chapter / Galveston, TX

On August 29, 2020 the Brothers of the Rho Nu Chapter participated in the district wide voter registration drive. The chapter came out in full force to send a strong message encouraging the community of Texas City, TX to understand the importance of making their voices heard by exercising their right to vote. Rho Nu also partnered with the US Census Bureau and Census surveys were conducted as well for this Galveston County Community.





Carl “JJ” Johnson Obituary

Written By the Family of Brother Carl “JJ” Johnson

“Just as the heroes of 9/11 were being celebrated, my beloved decided he would join them and accept his wings!”
-Frankie Johnson

Born October 1, 1946, Carl S. Johnson, affectionately known by many as “JJ”, was a native of De Ridder, Louisiana. He was the son of Beatrice Merritt and Joe Johnson. He attended George Washington Carver Elementary School from 1st through 5th grades. He then attended Holy Rosary Institute in Lafayette, Louisiana, graduating in 1964. After graduation, he studied and graduated from Commonwealth College of Mortuary Science (Houston, Texas), receiving a degree in Mortuary Science, with certifications as an embalmer and funeral director. Shortly after graduation from Commonwealth, JJ was drafted and began his career in the United States Army in January 1966. In the Army, JJ served in every enlisted position (E1-E9). His duties were many and varied to include: Supply Sergeant, Cadre/Drill Sergeant, Platoon Sergeant, AAMED Instructor, First Sergeant, Hospital Sergeant Major, Troop Command Sergeant Major (Brigade Sergeant Major).

A critical time during JJ’s military career revolved around his tour of duty in Vietnam. He was shot in the right arm by the enemy. The bullet traveled from his arm and lodged in his back, very close to his spine. Because of the threat of paralysis, this bullet was never removed. Due to the injuries sustained in Vietnam, JJ spent months in the hospital and endured numerous surgeries. In March 1968, then Sergeant Johnson, was authorized to salute left-handed as a result of wounds received in combat, thus making him the only soldier in the U.S. Army to have such an authorization in his era. JJ relocated to his hometown of De Ridder, Louisiana and re-enlisted into the US Army at Fort Polk, Louisiana. Shortly after his re-enlistment, he was assigned to Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. During his visits back home, he began dating Frankie, who at that time was a student at Grambling State University. A true “hometown” romance evolved and on December 21, 1968, JJ and Frankie were married. To this union, the couple was blessed with three unique, talented and loving children.

After 26 years of military service and having achieved the highest possible enlisted rank, Command Sergeant Major Carl “JJ” Johnson made the decision to retire. At this point, his military assignments included: *Ft Polk, Louisiana, *Viet Nam, *Ft. Sam Houston, *Germany, (two terms-Aschaffenburg and Heidelberg), *Ft. Eustis, Virginia, *Hawaii-Tripler Army Medical Center.

Awards Received: Silver Star; Purple Heart; Good Conduct Medal; Gallantry Cross; Vietnam Service Medal; Combat Medic Badge; Vietnam Service Medal; Medical order of Military Merit.

Understanding that education was the key to success after retirement, JJ completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management from Wayland Baptist University. JJ’s employment after retirement included the following: *Cemetery Representative (Department of Veterans Affairs at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery); *District Command Sergeant Major (ROTC-San Antonio Independent School District). Although the Army and other employment obligations consumed much of JJ’s time, he carved out time to officiate basketball, volleyball and boxing. He officiated basketball for over 35 years, to include AAU, high school and college. He was the first Black president of the local basketball chapter. In boxing, he officiated such notables as Little Dan “Red” Lopez, Tommie “Hitman” Hearn, Larry Holmes, “Sweetpea” Whitaker and local favorites, the Ayala Brothers. Being the grandson of a Baptist preacher and the son of a “prayer-leading” mother, JJ grew up in a faith-filled home. After his grandfather’s death, the family became devoted members of Star of Bethlehem Baptist Church in De Ridder.



JJ's church home in San Antonio was Second Baptist Church where he was faithful and active as a sound system operator and a member of the Male Chorus. He also enjoyed working with the Second Baptist Center Committee. One of the greatest joys of JJ's life (other than being a husband, father and grandfather) was becoming a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. In his 24 years as a member, with Frankie in tow, he attended all district meetings, conclaves, and everything in between. In Psi Alpha Chapter, he served as the Keeper of Peace and Protocol Chair. On the district level, he served as Chair of Protocol for the following District Representatives: *Brother Todd Clemons (2004-2007), *Brother Willie "Mercenary" Hinchey (2007-2010), *Brother Shawn Brewer (2010-2012), *Brother Ernest Parquet (2012-2015), *Brother Dr. Kenneth Terrell (2015-2018), *Brother Patrick B. Smith (2018-2020). In 2018, JJ received the Ninth District's "Superior Service Award". In 2019, he was recognized with a plaque from Brother Harold Bailey, 1st Vice 9th District Representative, "In recognition and sincere appreciation of many years of distinguished service as Ninth District Protocol Chairman". JJ could always count on Brother John Cooper and Brother Greg Thompson to get him into "Good Omega Trouble"...Involvement!!

On any given Monday, Thursday and Saturday, JJ could be found at one of the area golf courses. He was a member of San Antonio Minority Golf Association and River City Golf Association. Many San Antonians remember JJ's strutting horse, Shelly. The two rode in many parades, most often participating with the Bexar County Buffalo Soldiers where he was a member for over twenty years. For the past few years, JJ was given the opportunity to volunteer at Lewis Funeral Home. Thanks to Mrs. Lois Washington, owner and pillar in the community, JJ was able to utilize some of his mortuary skills and work with a great team at the funeral home. This brought him great joy.

The whistle has blown! No more parades, no more tallying golf scores, JJ has said his last goodbye!! He departed this life on September 11, 2020 and went to meet departed family, referees, golf buddies and old special friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Beatrice Merritt and Joe Johnson; step parents, Milton and Mable Bryant and his brother, William T. McGhee. He leaves to cherish his memory his devoted wife, Frankie, of 18,876 days; sons, JJ Johnson (Austin, TX); Kerwin (Christine) Johnson (Schertz, TX); daughter, Jade Johnson Mayfield (Schertz, TX); Sisters: Sharon Bryant (Houston, TX); Dell Merritt Smart (Atlanta, GA); Anna Marie Bryant Evans (Houston, TX); Emma Bryant Marbley (Houston, TX) Grandchildren: Ayana Cenobia Johnson (Willingboro, NJ); Neesa Grace Johnson (San Antonio, TX); Jonah Maddox Johnson (Schertz, TX) Londyn Grace Johnson (Schertz, TX); Phoenix Carter Johnson (Austin, TX); AND a host of relatives, (in laws, nieces, nephews) friends and fraternity brothers. Others who will miss that big smile are: Sarah Needham Johnson; Cordy Meza; Turner (Barbara) McGarity; and his favorite Deltas (Connie, Jovitta, Mimi and Vida).





Phi Gamma Plot Landscaping

By Bro. Charles O'Neal / Phi Gamma Chapter
Denton, TX

Brothers of Phi Gamma Chapter and Phi Gamma 68 Foundation recently installed enhanced landscaping around the monument installed in the chapter's honor during our 40th Anniversary in 2008. The monument is installed on the site of the Chapter's former house 1007 W. Prairie and commemorates the role The Que House played providing both housing for members of the Chapter and a focal point for Black collegians.

Now in our 52nd year of service to Omega and the University of North Texas community, Phi Gamma Chapter is justifiably proud of our history among the first Black fraternities on predominantly white campuses in the South. The 251 Brothers initiated at "Ferocious" Phi Gamma have served Omega as Grand Marshal (1988 Conclave), 9th District officials, graduate chapter Basilei, and as exemplars of Omega in careers as educators, military officers, healthcare professionals and in virtually every industry and technological field and proudly shout "...if it ain't Phi Gamma, it's the next best thing!"

Omicron Pi Service during COVID-19 Pandemic

By. Bro Quincy Norman/ Omicron Pi Chapter / Killeen, TX

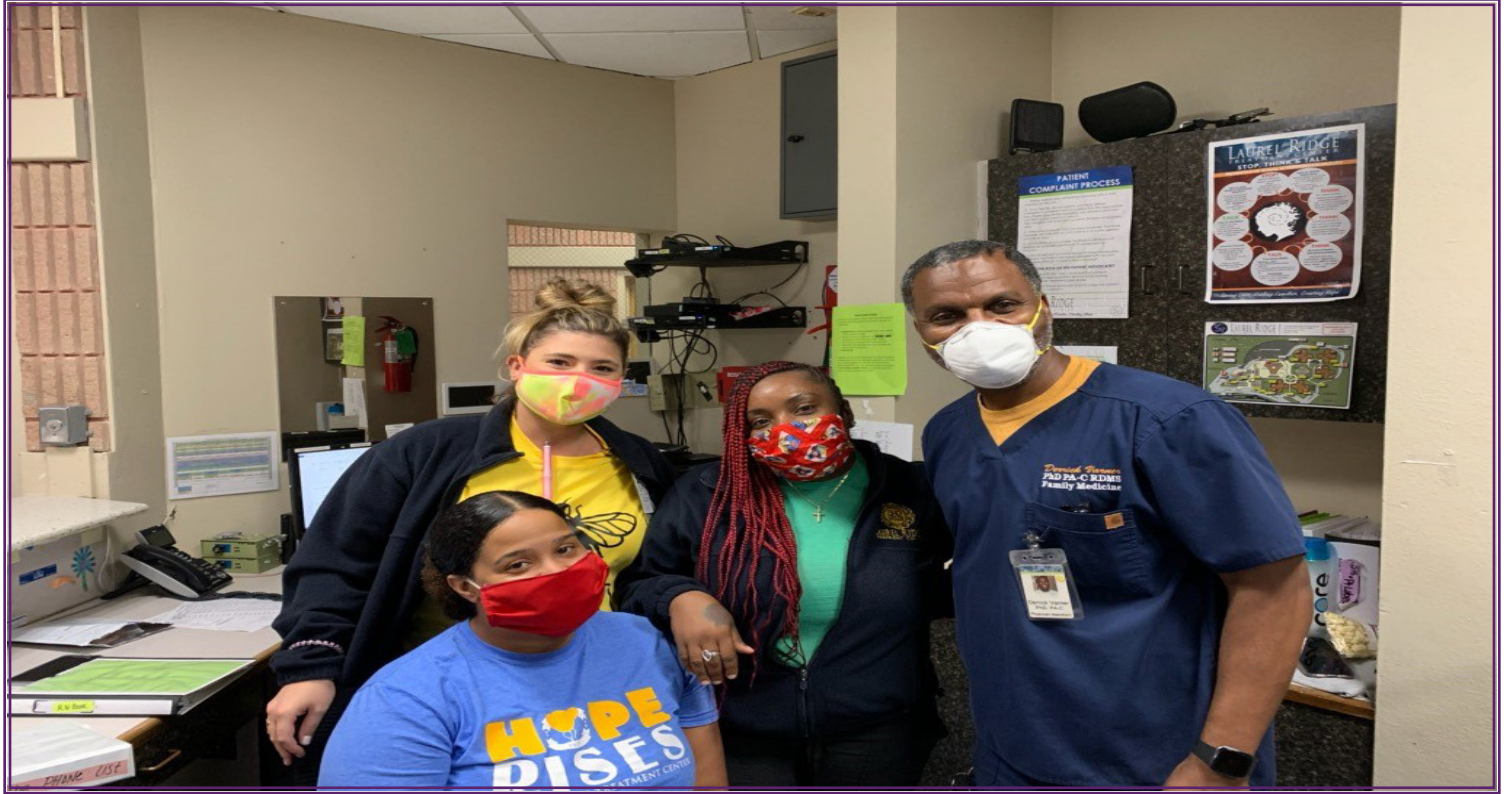
Brothers of Omicron Pi Chapter supported the Killeen, TX Food Care Center with the distribution of more than 500 boxes of food to impoverished senior citizens in the city. City officials said during the coronavirus pandemic numbers have climbed to an average of 9,000 clients per month, and the center is on track to reach more than 100,000 clients this year. The executive director of community development for the city of Killeen was very Thankful for the support rendered by the Fraternity and looked forward to future Community partnering events. The Killeen Daily Herald and other news stations covered the event.



Eta Lambda Lambda Adopts A Street

By Bro. Reginald Young / Eta Lambda Lambda Chapter
Red Oak, TX

The Eta Lambda Lambda Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. has continued to successfully complete our 2 clean-ups per month. The street clean-up takes place on Eagle Drive in Desoto, Texas 2 times per month. On July 11, 2020 brothers Nathan Benson, Melvin McNulty, Reginald Young, Ernest Burton and Ryan Jones participated in ETA LAMBDA LAMBDA's « Adopt a Street » program per our community service agreement with the city . On this service date we had 12 participants and collected 9 bags of trash, within an hour of service.



Psi Alpha COVID-19 Heroes

By Brothers Jeremy L. Neal and George M. Mayers / Psi Alpha Chapter / San Antonio, TX

Despite our ongoing challenges, we know that all our brothers are not afforded the opportunity to adhere to the “stay at home” order. These are the men that are keeping us safe and moving forward to some sort of normalcy as we continue to fight the pandemic that is COVID-19. We want to recognize those members of our beloved Psi Alpha Chapter who are considered the “Front Line” Heroes. THANK YOU BROTHERS!

Name	Year of Initiation	Chapter of Initiation	Profession
James Wideman	2006	Kappa Beta Beta	Chief of Aviation Operations
Derrick Varner (pictured)	2007	Upsilon Lambda Lambda	Family Medicine Physician Assistant and Clinical Advisor
Joseph H. Pearson	2017	Psi Alpha	Dept of the Army Civilian, Chief of Operations, Army Health Contracting Activity
Douglas Jackson	2019	Psi Alpha	Clinical Navigator
Lionel Lyde	1984	Nu Delta	Master Clinician and Military Consultant



Voter Registration at Peaceful Rally

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

On June 4th, 2020, the Psi Alpha Voter Registration Education and Mobilization committee attended a peaceful rally in downtown San Antonio to stand in solidarity against the continued injustices against African Americans. During the rally, led by Chairman Gordon Benjamin, the team of Frazier Epperson, Derek Morton, and Nathaniel Jenkins took initiative in mobilizing to spread the word about how important one's vote could change the voice of a nation. With the Presidential election approaching and a highly contested Senate race in the State of Texas, the team was able to reach 20 people at the rally. With more rallies that will be planned in the future in the San Antonio area, the VREM committee expects to contact more individuals before the July 14th Democratic Primary Runoff Election.



Rho Nu Feeds Galveston UTMB Emergency Staff

By Bro. Andrew B. Earles / Rho Nu Chapter Galveston, TX

Friday, May 1, 2020, members of the Rho Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. along with the Rho Nu Educational and Community Foundation, delivered 110 box-lunches (prepared by Fleur de Licious Catering) and five cases of water to the medical staff operating the Emergency Room at University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston Texas.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., was founded at a Howard University, Nov. 17, 1911, in Washington, D.C. The Rho Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity has served Galveston County since 1971 when the chapter received its charter. From its inception, Rho Nu has been dedicated to Omegas' cardinal principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift. The men of Rho Nu are not only members of this great Fraternity, but they are woven into the community as Engineers, CPA's, Educators, Public Servants and Doctors that consistently lead by example. Beach clean-up, working with L.A. Morgan Elementary School, Clothing drives and donations are just a few of the many ways the Brothers of Rho Nu (Chapter and Foundation) strive to serve the community.



BIKING x FRIENDSHIP

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

As the world adjusts to the new way of living due to the Covid-19 spread, the brothers of Alpha Iota Iota keep the door open to fellowship. Every Saturday morning the brothers get together to exercise physically and relax mentally with a bike ride. The ride is between 26-40 miles, but the fun comes in the form of comradeship. The stories, fraternization and good ol' tunes through a Bluetooth connection keeps everyone engaged and spiritual through the rough ride. This group is growing fast and attracting brothers to participate in this health initiative while practicing social distancing. Through Omega, the brotherhood continues to find a way to engage friendship into the everyday walk of life!



Rho Xi Voter Registration

By Bro. Frank Watson / Rho Xi Chapter / Freeport, TX

Voting is an opportunity for every American citizen to join the quest for a better society. The upcoming 2020 Election is an important one! The Brothers of Rho Xi Chapter will continuously uplift the community through voter registration, education, and mobilization. On August 29, 2020, Rho Xi Chapter in partnership with The Way of Life Church registered citizens of Brazoria County and Harris County. Salute to Bro. Derrick McWilliams our V.R.E.M chairman for spearheading this event. For the chapter Brotherhood, this was a great occasion to not only encourage voter registration but to social distance and fellowship with Brothers we have not seen face to face in a while. Our aim was fulfilled on this day in various ways. Our cause to bring voting opportunities for every citizen is ongoing and valuable to ensure that every willing and able person has the right to vote and exercises it.



Food Distribution to Senior Citizens

By Bro. Karlos Jackson / Nu Phi Chapter / Houston, TX

State Representative Brother Jarvis Johnson and the Houston Food Bank have joined forces to close the gap in senior citizen food insecurity during this COVID-19 pandemic. Although there is curbside meal delivery for students and dedicated shopping hours for senior citizens, there are still hundreds of senior citizens that lack transportation to access these resources and are food insecure. State Representative Brother Johnson states, “Our seniors are an at-risk population for contracting COVID-19 and are being encouraged to stay home. Due to these precautionary measures, we must ensure they have access to food. I want to thank the Houston Food Bank and Pastor T. Leon Preston of Yale St. Baptist Church for the partnership in making it possible for us to feed over 300 senior citizens.” Representative Brother Johnson, his staff, and the Brothers of Nu Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. volunteered to sort donated items at the Yale St. Baptist Church March 22, 2020 and delivered to our most at-risk senior citizens from 2pm-6pm. All necessary precautions were implemented to ensure the health and safety of both volunteers and our senior citizens.



Appreciation Lunches for Essential Workers

By Bro. Terrence Marshall / Lambda Alpha Chapter Austin, TX

To show their appreciation for the essential workers on the frontlines of the COVID 19 pandemic, on Memorial Day May 25, 2020 The Capital City Ques sponsored a lunch for the health care workers at the Baton Rouge General Hospitals at the Mid-City and Bluebonnet locations. The three graduate chapters of the fraternity based in the Baton Rouge area comprise the Capital City Ques. Lambda Alpha Chapter (President Robert Signater, Project Chair Saffy Raoof); Lambda Kappa Kappa (President Markus Sylvester, Project Co-Chairmen Brice Bates, Tramelle Neldare), and Plaquemine based Delta Tau (President Barry Riley, Project Chair David Perkins collaborated on the effort between the chapters, and the participation of the members made the project a reality. The Brothers began the day at 4:00 am, preparing plates of BBQ chicken, Red Beans and rice, and the trimmings, and delivering the lunches to the workers in time for their noon meal. The workers were also treated with a “Thank You” serenade from the brothers. The workers at both sites were surprised by the effort of the Brothers and expressed their appreciation for their work. A doctor at the hospital commended the Capital City Ques for its heart of service to the essential workers.



Mu Mu Nu Chapter Becomes 4th Largest Graduate Chapter in the Ninth District in Just 4 Years

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

On July 28th of this year, the Brothers of the Mu Mu Nu Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. celebrated their 4th anniversary as a chapter. What started as a committed vision over 6 years ago, through lots of planning and perseverance, eventually became a reality for this burgeoning new chapter.

On July 28, 2016, at the 80th Conclave in Las Vegas, NV, the 24th Ninth District Representative, Brother Dr. Kenneth Terrell, made the motion to charter the Mu Mu Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated in Conroe, TX. This motion received a unanimous vote by the Supreme Council and inevitably led to the birth of the Mu Mu Nu Chapter (#963).

From humble beginnings with 28 determined Charter Members in 2016, and with a vision to grow organically from brotherhood and friendship, the Mu Mu Nu Chapter since that time has experienced unprecedented growth as a new chapter.

On March 30, 2019, the Charter Line of Mu Mu Nu, better known as the Mighty Majestic Noble 14, crossed the burning sands and became the inaugural line (Bloodline) of the Chapter and is the only line that the chapter has taken.

Mu Mu Nu has also successfully reclaimed 63 Brothers in 4 years, with 14 of those Brothers going through the Fraternity's Get Right Program.

As of September 1, 2020, Mu Mu Nu has 114 fully Financial Brothers and stands to become the 4th largest Graduate Chapter in the entire 9th District, in only 4 years.

From the day the chapter was chartered on July 28, 2016, to now, Mu Mu Nu has not only experienced tremendous growth as it relates to reclamation and retention but has made a tangible impact on the North Harris and Montgomery Counties.

In the spirit of uplift, the chapter established the Bridge Builder Charity Foundation as a 501(c)3 organization to help promote education through mentorship and to date has provided over \$20,000 in scholarships to deserving high school students. The Mu Mu Nu Chapter's mentorship is conducted through the Omega Gentleman Youth Academy, also known as the "Omega Gents Program". Also, the chapter currently serves as the Graduate Chapter to oversee the Eta Mu Undergraduate Chapter at Sam Houston University in Huntsville, Texas. Mu Mu Nu has also spearheaded and participated in many community activities, service projects and has hosted key events that have helped raise money for scholarships and community uplift.

84TH ANNUAL NINTH DISTRICT MEETING



April 16-17, 2021

NINTH DISTRICT LIFE MEMBERSHIP



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

All Ninth District Life Members Receive:

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

In addition, Life Members will also be able to purchase a personalized Ninth District Life Membership Lapel Pin and other items.

The Source TV Video Submission Guidelines

1. Record content by cell phone with the I Movie (Apple) or FilmoraGo (Android) application with 1080i specifications to provide edit capabilities. While recording content be sure your cell phone is facing sideways because the final video will be wide screen.
2. Edit your video clips to create one 30 second to 2 minutes long video. Name the video file with state, chapter, and event name.
(AR - Phi Mu Mu - Adopt-A-Highway)
3. Upload your video file to a google drive or I cloud folder to provided download capability.
4. Share the video file with flwatson31@gmail.com so that it can be downloaded, reviewed, and added to The Source TV google drive folder.



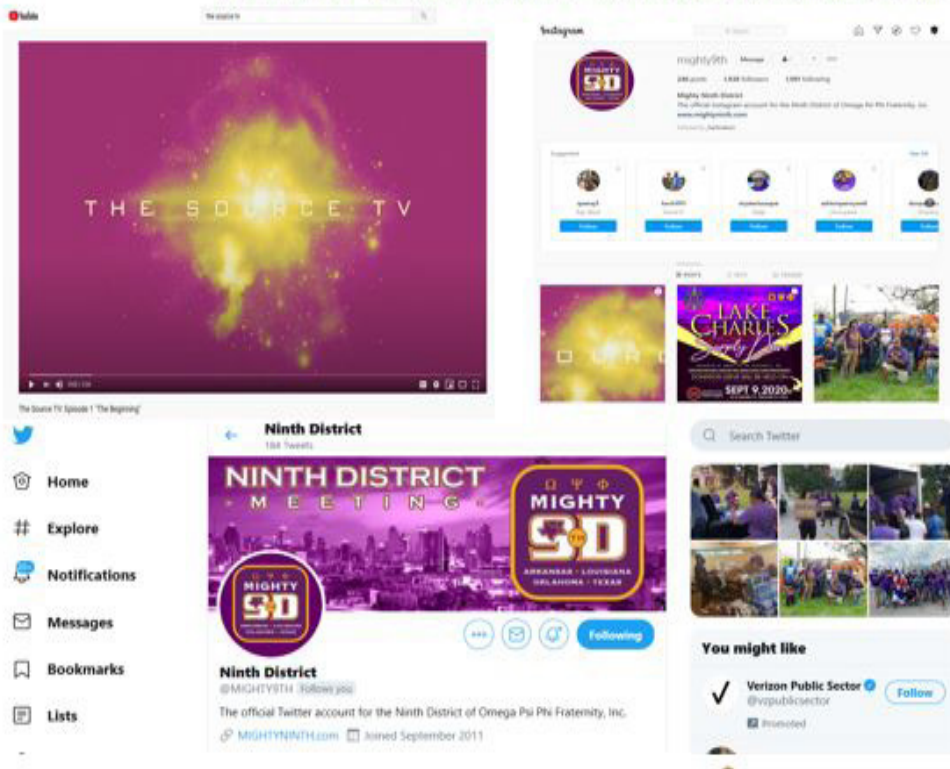
The Oracle & The Source Newsletter Submission Guidelines



Article Submission Guidelines

1. All articles must be submitted to flwatson31@gmail.com.
2. Attach the wording of the article in a word document to the email. Label the word document with state, chapter, and event name. (TX – Theta Alpha – Voter Registration).
3. Suggested article length is between 150-300 words and should cover Who, What, When, Where, and Why within each article. Also, Include the name of the person who wrote the article within your word document.
4. Submit the pictures of the article as separate jpeg or png images to the email. Label each picture with state, chapter, and event name. (LA – Rho Phi – Blood Drive).

Ninth District Public Relations Committee



The Public Relations Committee produces and manages social media and mass media content on behalf of the Ninth District. Our aim is to consistently promote a positive image of the Fraternity to the general public building Omega's brand before mankind.

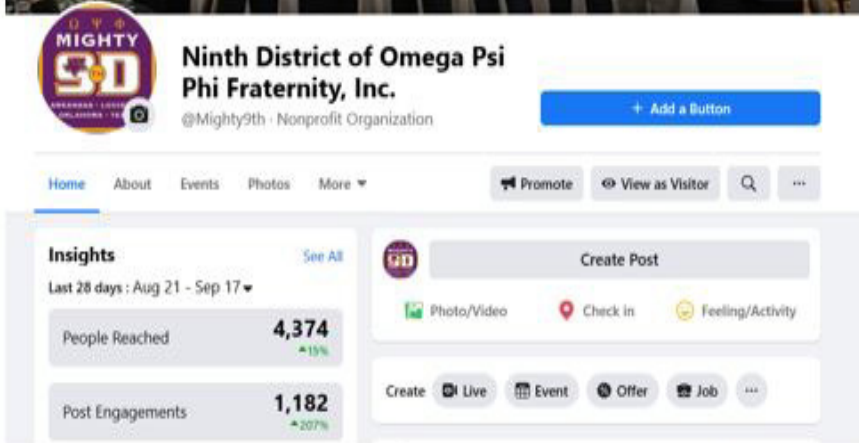
Committee Members

Bro. Na'Shon Edwards (Theta Chi / Missouri City, TX)
 Bro. Jeremy Pierre (Xi Rho / West Memphis, AR)
 Bro. Nicholas Smith (Alpha Zeta / Arkansas State University)
 Bro. Keith Taylor (Rho Phi / New Orleans, LA)
 Bro. Glenn Brooks (Eta Iota / Oklahoma City, OK)
 Bro. Derrick Young (Omicron Lambda Lambda / Little Rock, AR)
 Bro. Orlando Richards (Psi Alpha / San Antonio, TX)
 Bro. Larry Johnson (Alpha Iota Iota / Dallas, TX)
 Bro. Terrell Bowie (Epsilon Alpha Alpha / Jonesboro, AR)
 Bro. Georrein Dupre (Gamma Gamma / Grambling State University)

Ninth District Social Media



Type @Mighty9th into the search bar of the following social media platforms to find the Ninth District's page.



YouTube



Instagram



Twitter



Facebook



"WHEN WE WEAR THE GLOVES"

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

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

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

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

When we wear the gloves.

by Brother Dr. Carver A. Portlock



Chaplain's Corner–MANUP!!!! From Asriel Gamaliel McLain

Chaplain, Ninth District of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

It is enough to make a man cry, this year 2020. The year was numbered right as when we think of 2020 we think of perfect eyesight. And the events of this year we have been forced to deal with some ugliness that may not have been perspective to the naked eye. We have had to dealt giants that have cast dark shadows across the landscape of civilization such as racism, overt and systemic, economic downturns, and one that strikes without any notice for it is hidden to the naked eye, its voice is not heard with the ear and has no smell nor sense of touch–COVIC 19. This giant has infected about 29 million people as of the writing of this article, with between 6 and 7 million Americans sick and almost 200,000 deaths.

How then do we handle these giants? The answer is heard in one word MANUP. To see what is necessary in standing up to the crisis that besets us one but look at the match up of David and Goliath. On the surface it was a mismatch—a young man taking on a nine foot giant. The giant has the weapons of war at that time and all David had as sling shot and five smooth stones, but the Bible tells us “Another one bites the dust”.

First, if we are to manup and face the giants of our age, we that giants are a fact of life. Notice verse 24 of 1 Samuel 17, “And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.” There is no avoiding their presence: Giants are with us as we see their shadows and hear their footsteps in our communities in the form of gun violence, miseducation or no educaton, economic and racial inequality to name a few. Life it must remembered is not a picnic ground, but a battleground, a struggle in which we must vigilant, in knowing that God is bigger than any giant that hell can send forth.

.Yes, reality says giants are here, though they cause us to tremble as did the army of Israel when confronted by Goliath for while they are awesome they are unknown. And moving away quickly from that which is a threat to life, limb, or property, fulfills that ole expression, “Self-preservation is that first law of nature. Yet in order to uplift a broken humanity, giants have to be faced, that is one must “MANUP”, not relying on the flesh or earthly resources on Him and His power, remembering in mind these words of the Apostle John, in his first letter to the church at large, chapter 4, verse 4: You are of God, little children, and have overcome then: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”

In meeting those challenges, which seem so large and powerful as if to dwarf us, remember our big elder brother Jesus the Christ is willing and able to help us and aid us as it says in the letter to the Hebrews, chapter 2, verse 18: For in that he himself hath suffering being tempted (or tested) he is able to succour (or aid, help) them that are tempted.

If you decide to fight, make sure that you know you are, having it together inside so you can be together on the outside. Many a man before he could advance in uplifting others, had to be sure who he really is allowing God to confirm his identity or change that identity, just as Jacob did when he wrestled with God and had his hip thrown out socket and it name changed. This is somewhat like riding an airplane when the stewardess tells us that if pressure is lost, oxygen will fall, but before you take care your small child, put yours on first. Before you be used to uplift others, have a healthy sense of self, not having an identity crisis of you are. But remember, people will often misunderstood your faith in the Lord and belief in yourself, not as confidence but as arrognace. Notice the response of David's brother to his fearlessness in I Samuel 17, verse 28:

And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spoke unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled (or he was furious) against David, and he said, “Why did you come here? Who is taken care of the few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride and the naughtiness of your heart; for you came down to see the battle.”

The world frowns on an optimistic Christian, one who perseveres is seen as cocky, arrogant, or stuck-up.. It is not that we are full of pride, but we are filled with his power and the blessed assurance that he will keep his promises. Thus we can say in unison with Paul in the Philippian letter, chapter, 4, verse 13: I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me.



Remember that the world often at first boos, ridicules even seeks to destroy those who persevered in to fulfill their dreams for the uplift of mankind, then years celebrating, blessed and rejoiced in their achievements: Martin Luther King, Jr. Roy Wilkins, Rosa Parks, Fannie Lou Hammer and others were condemned as outside agitators, troublemakers, even communists for demanding America live up to its ideals for all, and stop letting the American dream for some while being a nightmare for others, realizing the moral question that answer of which is to use the words of President John F. Kennedy, as “as clear as the Constitution and as old as the Scriptures.” Yet today if even hint at being insensitive to people of colors and creeds, you by and large will be denounced as a bigot or at least what you did is rooted in bigotry.

The Wright Brothers were taught nuts to dream of invented a machine, that was heavier than air, for travel. Yet any destination on this planet is hours away whereas it was days, weeks even months away.

Finally, if you would MANUP, and defeat giants do three things:

One, face them head on!!!! Here is a picture of confession, as the word means to agree with. When we confess our sin we admit sin is wrong. When we confess Christ, we agree with God on what he says about them The way to recovery is to admit that one needs healing. Two, use stones. And stones pictures Jesus for he is that rock not only on which to build hope but he is that rock which if thrown at any giant will bring him down. Three, use the sword. Notice David cuts off Goliath's head. It is the sword of the Spirit, The Word of God that defeats any enemy. Four, when one MANUPS, when he conquer giants, when overcomes any obstacles, you can move forward more turf for the Lord as well as the betterment of mankind. One victory leads to another and to another and then to another and so forth. One small light pierce the darkness, a spark to set a fire of hope and determination, a small act of mercy, love, hope, faith, peace, and joy. One small leak in a dam cause a massive flood. One small act be it good or bad, can alter the course of history, just as a rock thrown into a lake or a pond has a ripple effect that radiates from the point of contact. One small voice for the cause of justice and equality create a mass chorus demanding fairness and compassion for all.

So when obstacles are overcome, when the big guys go down, when giants are conquered, you have crossed the rubicon, you have crossed that river, you can go forward in faith and upward in hope, deep downward in love within and without. When big guys bite the dust, you have touched first base in a holy home run and cross the line, caught the ball toward a touchdown. For the Lord says that one who is faithful in the least will be faithful in much and unjust in the least will be unjust also in much.

MANUP though you may be the only man that takes a stand, living out the words of a song by Sly Stone from the 1970's known as STAND.

Stand !!! and sometimes you must stand alone, but no never alone as He declares he will be us through it all and all of it. Remember, the words of my college professor, Dr. Harry Starks Wright who said, “Crowds don't climb mountains. There is no traffic jam on the road to progress.

So MANUP So David defeated the giant Goliath, proving that old expression, that it is not the dog in the fight but the fight in the dog. as many a dog has been beaten in his own yard.

David, looked at what on the surface was an impossible situation, I am sure had this contest taken place in our times, the bookies in Las Vegas would have bet on Goliath.

Yes, MANUP like David, though the odds were against him as Goliath had the armaments. But David had a name, That name above every name, before which every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ, the one who died and rose again, early Sunday morning, is Lord.

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