



The Source



The Official Newsletter for the Ninth District of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc

Volume 14, Issue 2

District Meeting Issue

Summer 2005

Psi Alpha Chapter garners Back to Back Chapter of the Year Honors



The Brothers of Psi Alpha being honored

MONROE – At the 68th Ninth District Meeting in March of 2005 in Monroe, LA the Brothers of Psi Alpha Graduate Chapter in San Antonio, Texas received the recognition as Ninth District's Graduate Chapter of the Year for 2004, the second year in a row. To perform at such a high level of excellence in consecutive years is almost unprecedented. Brother John Cooper, Basileus of Psi Alpha and a former Ninth District Omega Man of the Year, clearly understands what it takes to do the bidding of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity on a day to day basis. The chapter was engaged in a host of local, regional, and national activities with its main focus on activities in the San Antonio Metropolitan area.

The Brothers of Psi Alpha are very involved in the community. As a part of their community service they host the "Omega Forum" Public Access Television Show. This program focuses on community awareness/outreach in the San Antonio viewing area. Psi Alpha is the only Chapter in Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. to host their own TV Show. Recently they hosted its 100th episode. Under their banner "Ques-Care" and partnership with Williams Barber College, Psi Alpha offers "Ques-Cuts II" haircuts to under privileged kids for back to school, free of charge. They sponsor the "Omega Flames" YMCA Basketball Team, 11-12, age bracket that won the league championship (February 2005), Davis Scott YMCA; we also purchase uniforms and pay registration fees. The chapter makes \$2,000 annual donation to Carroll Academy Elementary School, purchase of \$750 in school supplies for students at CES, and the mentoring program at CES that includes teaching boys and girls how to play the game of chess; This school is name after a member of our Fraternity, Henry Carroll. Finally, Psi Alpha publishes a local newsletter titled "Omega Speaks"; another means to communication to our members in the local area.

However, the contributions of Psi Alpha doesn't stop there, Psi Alpha is involved in the Fiesta Chairs Scholarship Fundraiser

Project was held in April 2004 and April 2005. They were responsible for sponsoring/providing seating along the parade route for 800 people in two days; the day parade (Battle of the Flowers Parade) and the night parade (Fiesta Flambeau Parade); proceeds/over \$2,000 went towards scholarships. Psi Alpha Chapter as an official member of the San Antonio Fiesta Commission hosted its 4th Annual Fiesta Jamboree in April 2004 and its 5th Annual Fiesta Jamboree April 15th of this year to raise scholarship monies. Psi Alpha Chapter is an official member of the San Antonio Juneteenth Commission; in June 2004, we sponsored the Omega Golf Classic as a kick-off for this citywide celebration; we also participated in preparation and sale of dinner in the citywide picnic in the park; funds in excess of \$1,000 went toward the chapter's scholarship fund.

Recognition is not new to Psi Alpha, in that they were the Recipient of the 2004 San Antonio Black Achievement Award, Greek Letter Organization Category for outstanding community service and commitment to excellence. In addition, Psi Alpha Chapter took First Place in the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Fiesta Intra-City Track Meet parade for the largest number of Greek members who participated.

The start of the success of this chapter is in their annual retreats and they recently held the 6th Annual Chapter Retreat. Psi Alpha is the only Greek Letter Organization that participates in the Black Business Exposition. As a part of the participation they host a booth and share information about our local organization, community outreach programs; home mortgage loans; internet service; telephone cards and national long distance services. Keeping the family foremost, the Brothers of Psi Alpha Chapter participated in several Quette sponsored activities to include a Valentine's Dinner and a Quette Appreciation Dinner.

These reasons and many more is why Psi Alpha Chapter was selected as the Graduate Chapter of the Year for the second consecutive year



Words from the DR

What a beautiful day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it. Brothers I truly believe that God has great things in store for us, individually and collectively. However, it is incumbent upon us to do our parts. We all know that faith without works is dead. Membership in our great fraternity has its privileges, but it also has its responsibilities. While we gladly reap the benefits, we often slack in our obligations to Omega Dear.



68th Annual Ninth District Meeting- I just cannot thank the Real Ques enough for your support. I wish that all of you could have had the opportunity to sit at the head table to look out and see what Being on One Accord in our Chosen Way of Life looked like. It was truly awesome. As I said before, over 1,000 bodies descended upon the "Roe" but there was only one spirit. I would like to congratulate all of our new council members that were elected. It will be my pleasure to work with you. However, I want to recognize the good brothers that offered their services to Omega but came up a few votes short. I am proof that Perseverance is rewarded, keep your heads up. Additionally, I want all of us to recognize all of our outgoing council members; especially those that we elected to serve us. Brothers Ernest Parquet, Larry Dunklin, Miron Billingsley and Herbert Nance all served us for three consecutive years with dignity. Please thank these brothers the next opportunity you get so that they will know that their sacrifices were not in vain. Lastly, I offer commendations to all of the brothers and chapters that received awards at our Meeting. You are truly deserving.

Omega Days. The first three were extremely successful and we anticipate success in Baton Rouge as well. Politics is not a spectator sport and we will get off the sidelines and into the game. We travel hundreds of miles and several hours for a "Set Out" and we should be willing to do the same for an opportunity to Uplift ourselves and our communities. Some things are worth missing work and school for. Please contact our Political Action Committee Chairman, Brother Roger Watkins, if you have any questions.

Bro. Dr. Charles R. Drew Blood Drives - Please make sure that your chapter fulfills this mandate. I expect every chapter in the Ninth to have a Blood Drive in the month of June. Our target date is Saturday, June 4, 2005. However, any date during the month of June would suffice. Last year we collected over 500 units of blood and we certainly expect to exceed that. This is an excellent program for our Graduate and Undergraduate Chapters to collaborate on. Please record the results of your Drive on our District's form and submit it to our Social Action Committee Chairman, Brother Kevin Donaldson.

Summer Council Meeting/Economic Summit - Our plans are going extremely well. It will be Saturday, June 4, 2005 at the Hilton New Orleans Airport. Brother Tony Grant will make a presentation and answer your questions. Brother Grant is our fraternity's financial advisor and the CEO of Grant Business Strategies in Columbia, South Carolina. Tony will explain all of the progress that we are making in the Economic Development arena. Additionally, former District Representative Brother Virgil Robinson will be the keynote speaker at our luncheon. Brother

Robinson is the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Dryades Bank in New Orleans, one of the few African American owned banks in the nation.

Quette Appreciation Weekend - Our second annual will be August 19-21 in the Dallas, Texas area. Please start making plans now to attend. I believe that we all owe our significant others for all of the sacrifices that they make while we do the work of Omega. The registration packets will be posted on the web site and mailed to your chapters once plans are finalized.

Beta Sigma Chapter Update - I regret to inform you that I have expelled five (5) members of our organization. They are: Deion N. Dorsett; Perry P. Davis; Delano A. Mitchell; Dontrell Hubbard and Greg Porter. Additionally, I suspended an additional five (5) Brothers for three (3) years. They are: Roderick V. Hinton; Brian D. Hooker; Carone J. Carson; Vondrick D. Christmas and Charles E. Masters, Jr. The punishments are based upon severe violations of our Fraternity's Member Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Policy. Additionally, I have suspended the chapter for a period of four (4) years. This has clearly been the most difficult thing I have ever done since I have been in our fraternity and hope to never have to do again. However, this too shall pass. I want to thank the following Brothers for their assistance and support during these trying times: Michael R.D. Adams (District Counselor); Frank Oliver (State Representative); Kemp Oubre (MSP Chair) and Calvin Beal (Basileus, Lambda Alpha Chapter).

Celebrity Weekend - Will be June 10 and 11, 2005 in Jacksonville, Florida at the Adam's Mark Hotel. Please contact our International Headquarters for additional information.

Leadership Conference - Please make plans to be in Atlanta, Georgia. The conference will be July 14-17, 2005. The registration information has been circulated via our District e-group and is posted on our website. Please contact the International Headquarters for additional information. The conference is primarily coordinated by the First Vice Grand Basileus, and next Grand Basileus, Brother Warren G. Lee. I believe that we should be there in strong numbers to support him because he is one of our own and because he always supports us.

Supreme Council Meeting - Our next meeting is scheduled for July 14th at our headquarters in Decatur, Georgia. Please attend if you will be in town for our Leadership Conference.

Youth Leadership Conference - Will be in conjunction with our Leadership Conference. Brother John Cooper has distributed the information and I believe that it is also posted on our website. Please assist your chapter in sponsoring at least one young man to attend. We make a living by what we earn, but we make a life by what we give.

Summer Membership Selection Processes - Several chapters have requested, and received, permission to have Summer processes. If your chapter is interested in one, please contact your State Rep and MSP Chair and coordinate.

As always, do not hesitate to call upon me if you need me. Please remember, Omega needs none of us but we all need Omega.

Your Brother and Friend,

Todd S. Clemons
20th Ninth District Representative



District Council Installed at the 68th Ninth District Meeting

The highlight of the 68th Ninth District Meeting was the election of officers. Brother Ramon Simon and the Election Committee took the brothers through the process of electing the new officers. There were three contested offices and these candidates had an opportunity to participate in a Candidates Forum.

The candidates for the three contested offices participating in a Candidates Forum were Brother Willie Hinchon and Brother Russell Leday for First Vice District Representative, Brother Charles Lovelace, Brother Frank North, and Brother Earl Wilson, who was nominated from the floor for Second Vice District Representative, Brother Anthony Whitaker and Brother Robert Morgan Jr. for District Keeper of Records and Seal.

Upon conclusion of the election Brother Ramon Simon presented the results of the elections signed by the Elections Committee members and poll watchers. Brother George Grace, Grand Basileus, installed the new officers at the Founders Banquet. The elected Ninth District Officers are Brother Todd Clemons, Ninth District Representative, elected unopposed for a second term, Brother Willie Hinchon, 1st Vice District Representative, Brother Frank North, 2nd Vice District Representative, Brother Robert Morgan, District KRS, Brother Shawn Brewer, District Keeper of Finance, Brother Michael Adams, District Counselor, Brother Darryl Lams, District Chaplin, Brother John D. Veal Jr., District Director of Public Relations, and Brother Don Davis, Immediate Past Ninth District Representative.

Brother Clemons and Brother Brewer were elected for a second term. Brothers North, Morgan, Adams, Lams, and Veal are all new members of the Council in their prospective positions.

Psi Alpha Chapter Awards 2005 Scholarships

SAN ANTONIO – Maintaining its commitment to the four cardinal principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift, Psi Alpha Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated conducted its Annual Scholarship Awards Program at noon on Saturday, May 14th, 2005 at the Heritage Room of St. Philip's College on the Eastside of San Antonio. Psi Alpha Chapter recognizes the importance of education beyond the high school level so it conducts fundraising activities throughout the year to support its scholarship program. With Brother Joseph A. Scott, Jr. serving as the keynote speaker, parents, friends, and future college-bound students listened intently to the uplifting

pearls of wisdom that he so eloquently provided. As in days past, seven outstanding high school seniors were awarded. College Scholarships ranging from five hundred to one thousand dollars.

The Scholarship Committee under the leadership of Brother James Howard reviewed some forty applications selecting four Psi Alpha Chapter Scholarship winners and three Miles' Scholarship winners named for the late Winston Miles a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. with San Antonio roots.

The Miles' family has been generous over the past three years in providing scholarship funds. The 2005 Psi Alpha Chapter Scholarship winners are: Theo Darden a senior at Sam Houston High School; Latavia Guillory a senior at Sam Houston; Jason Ralph a senior at MacArthur High School; and Sabiya Woods a senior at Highlands High School; 2005 Winston Miles Memorial Scholarship winners are: Brianna Hines a senior at Samuel Clemens High School; Anastasia Smith a senior at Sam Houston High School; and Monique Williams a senior at Sam Houston High School.



Theta Chi Chapter Celebrates 50 years of Omega

On Tuesday February 1, 1955, the Theta Chi Chapter was chartered in Waller County Texas and became the graduate chapter at Prairie View A&M University. This year marked fifty years of service to Omega, the community of Waller County and the citizens of the Houston area. Community service projects have included, "Beat the Heat Program" which puts air conditioning in the homes of senior citizens, Scholarship Awards, back to school supply drives, carnivals at Boys and Girls Club, and tutoring/mentoring programs for at risk male students.

The chapter celebrated this major milestone with several activities. In February, the chapter hosted a tailgate party on the campus of Prairie View A&M University to support the basketball team. The chapter also hosted a welcome hour and fish fry at the Houston fraternity house to recognize the anniversary date of February 1st. On the weekend of May 14th, the chapter commemorated the chapter anniversary with a banquet at the Houston Crown Plaza Hotel with District and local officials present. The brothers of the Theta Chi chapter also attended worship service and wrapped the weekend up with the chapter family day and crawfish boil. Congratulations to the Theta Chi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.



Willie "Mercenary" Hinchon Omega Man of the Year

Brother Willie "Mercenary" Hinchon was selected as Omega Man of the Year for the Ninth District. He is currently serving as the 1st Vice District Representative of the Ninth District. Brother Hinchon is a Life Member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Brother Hinchon has been active at the Chapter, District and International levels.

Brother Hinchon attended the majority of the meetings for Theta Alpha Chapter, and at least one chapter meeting with Alpha Iota Iota, Eta Lamda Lamda, Omicron Gamma Gamma and Epsilon Alpha Chapter. He served as Theta Alpha Chapter Reclamation and Retention Chairman. He has been praised for his commitment to visiting senior Brothers and those who are sick and shut in. He provides updates to the Chapter on Brothers who have become unable to participate.

Brother Hinchon has attended each meeting of the Omega Life Membership Foundation while he served as Region Nine Regional Director. He served as committee chairman for the Honors and Heritage Committee and worked as a committee member on two other committees to include the Grants and Scholarships and Investment. He also served as the assistant Recording Secretary for the Executive Committee. He has attended the last sixteen Ninth District Meetings and has participated in various events throughout the district, including being the Keynote Speaker at Rho Omega Chapter Achievement week ceremony in Shreveport, LA. Brother Hinchon was the driving force behind the 1st Annual Quette Appreciation Weekend held by the Ninth District.

He has attended the Grand Conclave for the past 10 consecutive meetings. He has been active in support of other districts including being the keynote speaker at the Gamma Theta Chapter 35 year reunion in Bowling Green, Kentucky. He served as a Board Member of the Omega Life Membership Foundation and the International Retention Committee Chairman. He has attended various meetings including the International Retention Meeting, the Supreme Council Meeting and the Life Membership Foundation Board Meeting.

Brother Hinchon influence also reached the local community. He coordinated the attendance of 21 students at the Omega National Youth Leadership Conference in St. Louis, MO. He coordinated college campus visits for students at Southern Methodist University, Jarvis Christian College and Willey College. He coordinated a voter's registration drive for students in the High School.

Brother Hinchon serves as a board member with Mary McLeod Bethune Haven, Inc., an organization that provides an off campus housing facility for collegiate girls. He worked to maintain the physical property of this organization, and was commended by its director for his efforts.

Brother Hinchon is an active member of the Antioch Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church. He has demonstrated a giving and generous spirit towards the church with his finances and time. Brother Hinchon inspired the church's Greek Scholarship Ministry that raises funds that benefit the youth of the church in their pursuit of higher education. He has served as chairman of this ministry since 2002.

Brother Hinchon's contributions are many, It is for these that he was selected as the Ninth District Omega Man of the Year.



Nick A. Pittman Citizen of the Year

Brother Nick A. Pittman, Theta Alpha Chapter, was recently honored as the Ninth District Citizen of the Year. He was selected due to his numerous civic contributions. In fiscal year 2003-2004, Brother Pittman demonstrated an astonishing ability to commit and lend himself in service to the North Texas Area (Dallas / Fort Worth Metroplex) community.

He served as Chairman of the J.L. Turner Legal Association Foundation. While in this capacity he was instrumental in raising over \$350,000 and providing scholarships to college students who want to attend law school and who are committed to using their law degrees to help those who can't afford to pay for legal representation. In addition, through his leadership this foundation has been instrumental in providing pro bono legal services to minorities who are in need of lawyers.

Brother Pittman also served as Chairman of the CAAPCO Foundation (the Coalition of African American Professional and Community Organizations). He started the Career Exposure Forum and College Fair. This is part of a partnership with Dallas Independent School District, the various Chambers of Commerce and dozens of other community service organizations. The Career Exposure Forum takes place at the Dallas Convention Center and in 2004 served over five thousand eight through twelve graders each year. It also brings in representatives from over 200 colleges and over 1,000 career professionals. The goal of the Forum and Fair is to expose students, many of them minorities, to the wide variety of career paths open to them and to encourage them to attend colleges or trade schools. The event has also provided scholarship assistance to students in financial need.

As Chairman of CAAPCO he serves on the Superintendent's Advisory Committee for the DISD superintendent, advising on ways to increase community and parental involvement in the lives of our minority youth. Under his leadership there have been various economic development programs implemented that are designed to help the economic development initiatives in the African American Community, including a partnership with Black Enterprise Magazine on economic development and entrepreneurial seminars.

Brother Pittman serves as a member of the Board of Governors of the Dallas Symphony Association. He has been active in the fundraising efforts for the African-American and Hispanic Festival Concerts. These free concerts are designed to expose minorities to different forms of music, such as classical and jazz.

Brother Pittman is a member of the International Order of Barristers. He was chosen by the Chief Federal Judge in the Northern District of Texas to serve on the Court Advisory Committee and the Magistrate Selection Committee. Finally, he was selected as a "Super Lawyer" in 2003 and 2004 by the nationally acclaimed "Law and Politics" Magazine and the Texas Law Journal and was one of only a handful of lawyers chosen in more than one area.

Brother Pittman has been and is still very active in the community. It is for these contributions that he was selected Ninth District Citizen of the Year.



Omega Psi Phi Day at the Oklahoma Capital

With about 40 brothers present, the official proclamation was read on the House of Representatives floor with Bro Todd Clemons, 9th District Rep; Bro. Garland Pruitt, OK State Rep, Bro Mike Walters, and Bro Willie Hughes, Eta Iota Basileus there to receive the proclamation. This was one of the many high points of the Omega Psi Phi Day at the Oklahoma Capital.

This was another high point for the 9th District under the leadership of our District Representative, Bro Todd Clemons. Bro Roger Watkins our Political Action Chair, was the first to arrive at the Eta Iota chapter's fraternity house, the meeting place prior to going to the capital. The ground and excitement grew as Brothers arrived ready to make their way to the Capital to represent Omega.

The presence of approximately 40 Omega men walking the halls of the Capital was felt by all who observed and witnessed this momentous event. The Brothers of Omega gathered in Room 108 to meet and discuss our agenda. From there Brothers went to visit with Senator Munson who has expressed an interest in helping with the Omega Day next year and provided some good feedback.

Lunch was served, brothers ate and fellowshiped! After lunch Brothers went to the gallery of the House of Representatives. During the session the proclamation was read and Brothers were acknowledged in the gallery. Note that the Brothers filled an entire section of the gallery. Next year we hope to double that.

Pictures were taken of the Brothers in the Capital and tours were provided for those who were interested. Brothers were instructed to meet with their individual Representatives or Senators to let them know what we were doing and why we were there at the Capital. After the tours and visits were concluded Brothers again assembled before leaving for the frat house.

Much thanks to Brothers Garland Pruitt, Mike Walters, and Willie Hughes for their help and assistance in making the Omega Day in OK a huge success. Brothers of Texas and Louisiana we are coming to your Capitals on May 12th and 26th respectively. Omega and the 9th D are on the move. We are indeed taking the 9th to the next level.

Texas Ques at the State Capital

Austin, TX. Before getting to Texas, I had always heard that everything is bigger in Texas. I can neither confirm nor deny that statement, but I will say that Texas Brothers did it big in Austin. The Mighty Ninth had approximately 100 brothers show up at the Capitol in Austin from around the district.

The morning started with an eight o'clock meet and greet with the legislators, held in the Lieutenant Governor's Meeting Hall. Our own Bro Senator Royce West and Bro Representative Dr. Jesse Jones sponsored a continental breakfast. The room was overflowing with Brothers as several Legislators stopped to see the spectacular sight. Although the Brothers of Arkansas set a high standard for the Omega Days, Oklahoma and now Texas have not let down the standard nor disappointed.

Following the Continental Breakfast /Meet and Greet, Brothers moved over to the gallery of the House. Simultaneously our 1st Vice Grand Basileus, Warren Lee; District Representative, Todd Clemons; 1st Vice DR, Willie Hinchin; District KRS, Robert Morgan; and Political Action Chair, Roger Watkins moved to the House floor where the Fraternity was represented and acknowledged by resolution. It was a humbling privilege to represent the Fraternity on the floor of the House, but it was even more awesome to see a whole side of the gallery filled with Omega Men as they stood to be acknowledged. Brother Jesse Jones presented the resolution and the Brothers to the House.

From the House the Brothers moved to the Senate where the Senate acknowledged the Fraternity, Brother Senator Royce West read the Resolution, and the Brothers were recognized in the gallery and on the floor of the Senate. Also, present for the resolution presentation was the Lieutenant Governor of Texas. Brothers went from the Senate to the steps of the Capitol for pictures and from there went to lunch in the Capitol's cafeteria. Following lunch, many Brothers went to meet with their respective legislators or just tour the Capitol building.

The Mighty Ninth is breaking new ground with the Omega Days and is setting the standards for what African American men should be doing. Despite the successes of these Omega Days, we are reminded of our duty to Omega and to our communities, to serve. Omega must not stop but keep vigilant and active in our service to Omega and to "improving the lives of Black people."

The Source
Published Quarterly
John D. Veal, Jr., Editor
District Director of Public Relations
Email: dpr_9thd@sbcglobal.net



Salute to Dr. Hooks

Slidell, Louisiana. On 23 March 2005, the Chi Kappa Kappa Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. was

invited to participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Carville Job Corps Academy - American Petroleum Institute for Oilfield Training Program. The Job Corps is a branch of the US Department of Labor, which has a mission to provide eligible young adults with life skills, education, and career trades that will make them highly employable, independent and competitive within the workforce industry. The Carville Job Corps Academy currently serves approximately three hundred students. Chi Kappa Kappa is seeking to foster a positive mentor program at the Carville Job Corps Academy.

One of our "Famous Omega Men," Brother Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks, happen to serve as a featured speakers for the ribbon cutting ceremony. Dr. Hooks presently serves as President on the Board of Directors for Minact, Inc. He served as Executive Director of the NAACP for 15 years. Hooks joined civil rights activist and reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. Southern Christian Leadership Conference. An ordained Baptist minister, Hooks suggest that family unity is essential if black people are to partake of the American dream. He told the Arizona Republic that the solution to the current crisis in black America may lie in "a return to the kind of family values" - the conventional nuclear family structure of gainfully employed parents- "expressed in Southern Baptist morality."

2005 Leadership Conference

The 2005 Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Leadership Conference and Omega World Center Tenth Year Anniversary Celebration will be held at the Omega World Center, 3951 Snapfinger Parkway, Decatur, Georgia, July 14 – 17, 2005. The conference and celebration will reflect on the Fraternity's growth-past, present and future. Your attendance and active participation will assure that the ideals and cardinal principles of our Founders remain in the forefront of the Fraternity and nation.

The International Headquarters, Supreme Council and the citizens of the Atlanta, Georgia metropolitan area are looking forward to you participating in this festive occasion. Tours of the Greek Village in Columbia, South Carolina, Corporate Living Quarters and Omega World Center have been planned. Be sure to indicate on the Registration Form if you plan to go on the Greek Village Tour to Columbia, South Carolina. In addition, live entertainment and social activities will be provided. Additional information can be obtained at <http://www.oppf.org>.



The Island Bruhs Clean The Beach!

Galveston, TX – On April 23, 2005 the men of Rho Nu Chapter, along with friends and family, took part in the Texas

General Land Office's Annual Adopt-A-Beach Spring Cleanup. During the year, trash is left on the beach by visitors, or washes ashore from the Gulf of Mexico. To combat this problem, the Brothers descended upon R.A. Apffel Park, which is located on the east end of Galveston Island, to clear the beach of all trash and debris. The beach cleanup is done bi-annually, and has been in existence since 1986. Since its inception, more than 321,000 volunteers have removed 6,100 tons of trash from Texas beaches. For the 2005 spring cleanup, approximately 1,500 volunteers were dispersed over 20 miles of beach, and they collected 37,000 pounds of trash.

This year marked Rho Nu's third time participating in the event. The "Rowdy" Rho Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi is dedicated to uplifting our community, and keeping our beaches clean is one way to accomplish this goal. Next time you are at the beach remember, "Don't Mess With Texas"!!!! "Don't Mess With Texas Beaches"!

OGG Blankets the Local Life Shelter

Arlington, TX. The middle of winter has the ability to bring about cold and harsh realities for those dependent on others for the basic necessities- food, clothes, and shelter. With the constant commitment to those less fortunate, The Brothers of Omicron Gamma Gamma accessed the needs of Arlington's Life Shelter. After careful consideration, the Brothers implemented a creative way to carry out its commitment by donating approximately sixty blankets, supplying seventy percent of the shelter's population. The center provides short-term shelter and services that help the homeless integrate into society. Those services include but are not limited to job training skills, childcare, counseling, youth, and health services. Among those served are veterans, families, children, and substance abusers.

The Arlington Life Shelter is an employment program. Those eligible must be willing and able to work full-time employment. The brothers used the donation as a way to spend time and provide tangible examples to the residents of the shelter. The vision of the shelter is to shepherd homeless men, women and children to a lifestyle of self-sufficiency. The brothers of OGG, also known in the community as the Mighty Men of the Mid Cities, take special pride in sharing that vision.



Celebrating 35 Years of Excellence

Saturday April 25, 1970, marked the birth of the famous Rho Theta Chapter at Prairie View A&M University. The chapter celebrated 35 years of Omega by hosting its Annual Scholarship Q-nic and Miss Twenty Pearls Scholarship Pageant. On Monday evening, April 25th, the chapter held its 35th Annual Founder's Day program. The All Faith's Chapel, located on the campus of Prairie View A&M University, hosted the extraordinary event. Masters of Ceremony included Saint-Aaron Morris, newly elected Basileus, and Frank Lockman, past Vice Basileus. Together, they contributed in smoothing the progress of each section of the program.

The agenda began with fraternity and chapter history from Brothers Johnny Buckner Jr. and Henry Williams IV. They shared comprehensive stories and facts about the Fraternity's evolution and the progression of the chapter. Next, Brothers Antyon James, Janelle Settles, Stefan Harris and George McNary gave narrations of each of the 4 founders. They each gave great presentations of the founder's biographies, which the founders themselves would be proud to hear.

Brothers Rylon McDuell-Batiste, Jerell Briggs, Clayton Owens and Richard Jones then illustrated the cardinal principles of the Fraternity in detail. They discussed how each principle is relevant and important in life and life's obstacles. Brother Christopher Caldwell afterwards gave a tremendous introduction for the guest speaker of the evening, Brother Paul Stephens. Brother Stephens entertained the audience with stories from the past and present. He expressed much love and enthusiasm for the Rho Theta Chapter as well as the Fraternity in general. A sanctuary of almost 70 guests listened to Brother Stephens as he spoke of life, his days at Prairie View as an Omega, his current views and goals of the chapter, and a lot of what he had learned from Omega Psi Phi.

After an overwhelming dialogue from Brother Stephens, which emphasized Perseverance, the evening came to a close. Graduate Advisor Brother Eric Bryant, along with Enrique Sears, Frank Lockman and Saint-Aaron Morris all gave final remarks and announcements. Finally after the singing of "Omega Dear" by the Brothers of Omega Psi Phi, it was evident that the night was filled with electric emotions, which contributed to making this a night to remember.



High School Seniors Recognized

Monroe, LA. The Ninth District continued with the tradition of recognizing excellencies of our high school seniors through the High School Essay Contest and the Talent Hunt Program. The winners in each of these activities were recently recognized at the 68th Ninth District Meeting in Monroe.

Lenoria Nunnley, Little Rock Arkansas submitted the winning essay in the High School Essay contest. Ms. Nunnley was sponsored by Pi Omicron Chapter.

The Talent Hunt contest was conducted as a part of the 68th Ninth District Meeting. These students displayed tremendous talent and provided great entertainment for the attendees.

First place in the Ninth District Talent Hunt Program went to Chris Mitchell, representing Rho Xi Chapter of Freeport, Texas. Chris attends Thurgood Marshall High School in Missouri City, Texas. Chris is a self-taught musician. Chris plays alto saxophone in the Thurgood Marshall Band and at his church every Sunday. Chris is also an excellent basketball player. Chris will attend Texas Southern University in the fall.

There was a tie for Second place between Ms. Delia Portley and Ms. Jarrell Hamilton. Ms. Delia Portley is a senior at the Science and Engineering High School at Towview Magnet Center. Ms Portley represented Eta Chi Chapter of Longview, Texas. Ms. Portley is a violinist in the Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra and has participated in its ensemble for ten years. She toured last year in Germany, Poland and the Czech Republic. She will attend The University of Houston and major in Chemical Engineering and minor in Music.

Ms. Jarrell Hamilton representing Rho Phi of New Orleans gave a dynamic dance presentation. She is an honor student at McDonog #35/NOCAA. Ms. Jarrell is level four dance student at the New Orleans Center for the Creative Arts. Ms. Hamilton plans to become a famous dancer/choreographer and will attend Fordham in the fall.

Ms. Adrienne Scuggs, representing Alpha Iota Iota of Plano, Texas, placed third in the Ninth District Talent Hunt Program. She entertained the audience with her flute solo. Ms. Scuggs attends Plano East High School where maintains a 3.48 GPA. Ms. Scuggs will attend North Texas University and major in Public Relation minor in Music.

YOUR AD HERE

Advertise in The 9th District Source

Advertising space is available in The 9th District Source. Rates are:

Black & White Ads

Full Page	\$100.00
Half Page	50.00
Quarter Page	25.00

Color Ads

Full Page	\$200.00
Half Page	100.00
Quarter Page	50.00

Camera-ready copy needs to be provided in electronic format. Please note that the District reserves the right to refuse advertising that does not meet with standards established for this publication.

For more information contact the Director of Public Relations at dpr_9thd@sbcglobal.net



Sigma Omicron Recognizes Contributions

Tyler, TX. The Sigma Omicron recognized the contributions of many individuals at its Annual Achievement

Week Banquet. Awards were presented for services to the Fraternity and to the community.

Brother Paul Lawrence Lewis received his 50-year Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. service pin. He crossed the burning sands into the brotherhood through the collegiate chapter, Sigma Sigma, at Texas College on October 14, 1954. Ms. Jazzie Eckford represented her grandfather, Brother Richard Aaron Moody. Brother Moody was recognized for being the soul living survivor as a Charter Member of Sigma Omicron Chapter 1948 and the only living charter member of the collegiate chapter Sigma Sigma 1946 of Tyler, Texas. Brother Moody taught Vocational Agriculture at Emmett J. Scott and Robert E. Lee High Schools, served and retired as assistant principal of Robert E. Lee High School, and retired from Texas College as a fundraiser.

Brother Roosevelt "Jack" Coleman received the 2004 "Omega Man of the Year" award for his dedicated service. Brother Coleman dutifully communicates to his brethren to keep them informed, and helps to maintain the upkeep of the frat house and properties. Additionally, he is instrumental in chairing and helping to organize the chapter men's health fair program. Dr. Chiagozie Nwasuruba, Associate Professor at University of Texas Health Center of Tyler, received recognition as the chapter's "Citizen of the Year" for his contribution as a presenter at the "Que It Up for Life" Men's Health Fair. Dr. Nwasuruba is also the healthcare physician at the North Tyler Health Center located on the campus of Texas College.

Arlington's Men of Omega Mentors

Arlington, TX. The brothers of Mu Beta (University of Texas at Arlington) and Omicron Gamma Gamma (Arlington, Texas) have established a Mentoring Program with the Boys and Girls Club of Arlington, Texas. The age range of the young boys is from eight to fourteen years old. The program's mission is to reach back into the minority community and lift as we climb. The program was initially conceived with the purpose of mentoring minority boys local to the Arlington area. However, all races are encouraged to participate as the brothers' positive influence can impact the life of any young male in today's society.

The commitment was made to be at the center two Saturdays a month in the summer and one Saturday a month during the school year. Special programs during the week have also been scheduled to strengthen the mentoring bond. Major areas of focus include: tutoring sessions for subjects of concern and interaction with parents, allowing brothers to go beyond the

traditional mentor role and become more involved role models. Bianca Wilson, liaison for the Boys and Girl Club, stated she had been waiting for the Omegas to implement a mentoring program because she could always remember an Omega presence in the community when she was growing up. The brothers of OGG are humbled and honored for the opportunity to continue its legacy of service and dedication to the children of the community



Lambda Kappa Kappa Foundation

Baton Rouge, LA. The Lambda Kappa Kappa Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated of Baton Rouge, Louisiana was established on December 15, 1995. Since Lambda Kappa Kappa Chapter's inception, the members have worked diligently to address the adverse social and economical conditions of citizens of the Greater Baton Rouge area. The members of this chapter of Omega Psi Phi, Inc. conduct the chapter's activities in accordance with the underlying cardinal principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.

Approximately 75 active members of this organization provide volunteer manpower hours as well as their personal resources in a unified and concerted effort to provide uplift to the downtrodden and economically disadvantaged citizens of our community.

The past efforts of this organization has contributed to the uplift of needy individuals as well as community service organizations such as public schools, churches, and other non-profit or public service groups. As the members aspire to surpass prior efforts in hope of greater results, the Lambda Kappa Kappa Foundation, Inc. has been created as a separate and distinct non-profit entity.

The Lambda Kappa Kappa Foundation, Inc. is a non profit human service agency that provides assistance to social services and recreational activities for the elderly, children and low-income families in the Greater Baton Rouge Metropolitan area. We seek to develop, evaluate, and disseminate programs that foster ethical, social and intellectual development for the elderly, low income citizens and children. The Lambda Kappa Kappa Foundation, Inc. exists to enhance social responsibility of mankind.

The Lambda Kappa Kappa Foundation will seek funding for its programs through individual contributions, corporate sponsorships, government funding, and philanthropic entities. The Lambda Kappa Kappa Foundation, Inc. has obtained 501(c)3 status from the Internal Revenue Service.



“Que It Up for Life” A Men’s Health Fair

Sigma Omicron Chapter of Tyler, Texas teamed with Sigma Sigma of Texas College, National Black Leadership Initiative on Cancer

(NBLIC), and University of Texas Health Center at Tyler to sponsor the chapter’s third annual “Que It up for Life”, A Men’s Health Fair. The event took place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 30, 2005 on the campus of Texas College at the Willie Lee Glass Community Service Center located at 2404 N. Grand Ave.

The fraternity project’s primary target was geared toward educating the male community about the importance of seeking and maintaining proper health care. However, the fair was opened to the public as well. Included in this affair was a presentation on men’s health issues by Dr. Chiagozie Nwasuruba, Associate Professor at University of Texas Health Center of Tyler. Healthcare agencies on hand to offer information, conduct tests, and supply literature were the following: UT Health Center, Smith County Health Department, Trinity Mother Frances, North Tyler Community Health Center, East Texas Medical Center, Hospice of East Texas, New Traditions Longview Wellness Center, Lake Country AHEC, Sickle Cell Disease Association of Dallas, and area physicians. Offered free to participants were checks for blood pressure and sickle cell. PSA screenings for prostate cancer were done, too.

KETK Channel 56 was on hand to provide media coverage. Sigma Omicron and local vendors provided free food and refreshments throughout the day.

Brother Roosevelt “Jack” Coleman chaired the event and Brothers Freeman Sterling and Larry Everett served as contacts. Basileus for Sigma Omicron Chapter is Brother Lawrence E. Jones.

OGG Visits the Home

The brothers of Omicron Gamma Gamma (Arlington, TX) and Mu Beta (University of Texas at Arlington) were out in full effect while volunteering at the Dalworth Nursing Home in Grand Prairie, Texas. The two chapter chapters often collaborate on social action initiatives and joined together once again on February 26, 2005 to participate in Seniors’ Day at the nursing facility.

The brothers participated in games of cards, shuffle, and dominoes with the residents. While all residents did not participate because of physical limitations, there was a good turnout of 15 residents. Some residents chose to watch television and just talk with a few of the brothers. Many of the participating residents explicitly expressed sincere gratitude. They informed us that we were the first organization to come and spend “genuine quality time” with them. The brothers in attendance entertained and joked their way into the hearts of the residents. Activities Director Victoria Thompson asked the brothers for future commitments while extending the Home’s welcome and stating “the Omegas are welcome at Dalworth and can come back anytime.”

Two Fraternal Organizations Co-Sponsor A Health Fair in Fifth Ward

HOUSTON, TX - Two local organizations of the National Pan-Hellenic Council of Houston teamed-up to provide and distribute needed health prevention information and services to area residents in Houston.

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., Gamma Sigma Chapter, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Rho Beta Beta Chapter, co-sponsored a free Health Fair during the First Annual Louis Justine Bailey Fine Arts Extravaganza. The event, titled, “Learning through the Arts,” was held on Saturday, April 30, 2005, at Finnigan Park, located at 4900 Providence, in Fifth Ward. The two fraternal organizations secured the participation of several local health agencies that provided valuable health information and materials to the public. An estimated 1000 participants including parents, students, and members of both fraternal organizations attended the event.

Among the health agencies participating includes: National Kidney Association, American Heart Association, AIDS Foundation of Houston, American Cancer Society, Planned Parenthood of Houston, the American Diabetes Association, and Families Under Urban Social Attack.

The health fair components of the event titled, “H2 - Health & Happiness Day” is geared to educate the community regarding the prevention and treatment of various diseases that plague the African-American Community,” said Tony Williams, Chairman of the Community Action Committee for Rho Beta Beta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi.

A number of activities were designed to promote family values and unity. Children and their parents participated in several recreational activities including: arts and craft, face painting, cake walks, moonwalks, and live entertainment.

Among the many co-sponsors and contributors of this first time event was the City of Houston’s Greater Fifth Ward Weed and Seed Program, the Houston Independent School District, Harris County Precinct One, the Northeast Cultural Arts Council, Cultural Arts Council of Houston and Harris County, and BFI.



National Letter Carriers’ Day 2005

SAN ANTONIO – Feeding the hungry has always been a key item on Psi Alpha’s list of community service activities.

Annually during the month of

May the brothers turnout to lend their blood, sweat, and tears in unloading, sorting, and re-packaging food products donated to the San Antonio Food Bank. As part of National Letter Carriers’ Day, postal employees pickup tons and tons of can goods and assorted food items from neighborhoods in the greater San Antonio Metropolitan Area and bring these truckloads of foods back to the main San Antonio to be off-loaded. Psi Alpha brothers are standing by to hastily clear out the 18 wheelers so that the trucks can get back out to pick up more food. Everyone PERSEVERE’S to the end. We meet other service oriented groups, exchange stories, crack jokes, but more importantly, the name of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated is once again held up as a shining light for all others to follow.



Psi Upsilon's Basileus Receives SBA Award

Lawton, OK. Brother John D. Veal, Jr., Basileus, Psi Upsilon Chapter has been selected as the Veteran Small Business Champion of the Year for a five-state area. He

received the state of Oklahoma's award as well as the honor for SBA Region VI, which includes the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma. Brother Veal is a business coordinator for Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Small Business Development Center office in Lawton.

Individuals who have fulfilled a commitment to advancing small business opportunities for veterans of the United States armed forces are considered for the award, which is presented by the United States Small Business Administration.

In his job with SWOSU, Brother Veal provides counseling and training programs to potential small business owners and existing business owners. The OSBDC is jointly funded by SBA, SWOSU, the OSBDC and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and provides owners of small businesses and entrepreneurs with the expertise they need to turn an idea into a business or help an existing business reach its potential. SWOSU has OSBDC sites in Lawton and Weatherford.

Brother Veal has been very active in enhancing opportunities for veterans. He has an active outreach program that reaches two major military installations, including Fort Sill Army Post and Altus Air Force Base. Veal is very active with the Lawton Chamber of Commerce Legislative Affairs Committee and provides active support for legislative or regulatory action designed to help small businesses.

Through the efforts of Veal, six new veteran-owned businesses have been established recently in the Lawton area. In addition, Veal has provided support to over 150 veterans through OSBDC training and counseling programs. Through Veal's efforts, three programs have been developed that are geared to provide support, including the Fort Sill Army Career and Alumni Program Center, the Fort Sill Regional Correction Facility Training and Counseling Program and the Altus Air Force Base Family Support Center Program.

Rho Phi Holds Talent Hunt

Rho Phi chapter's talent hunt contest was held on Friday, March 4th, 2005 at Dillard University's Cook Auditorium. The program showcased senior high contestants, and guest artists from various greater New Orleans public and private schools. Prizes ranged from \$250 for first place, \$150 for second place and \$100 for third place.

The audience of roughly 300 witnessed Jarrell Hamilton of McDonough 35 win first place, while Keyontae Hamilton also of McDonough 35 won second place, and Brittany Collins of Fortier Senior High won third place. Miss Hamilton went on to represent Rho Phi at the 68th annual 9th District Talent Hunt, in which she won second place.

Operation Smoke Alarm

On March 19th 2005, the Brothers of Omicron Gamma Gamma participated in the annual "Operation Smoke Alarm" project in Fort Worth, Texas. Since project's inception, there has been strong participation at this life saving event, which is covered and televised by several local news stations. This was the fourth straight year that the brothers participated in the project.

The project was developed to proactively combat the rising death tolls associated with preventable fires. The Fort Worth Fire Department and the American Red Cross are the sponsors of the event and initially reached out to the Brothers of OGG due its strong community service presence in the Mid-Cities area. With Omicron Gamma Gamma's help, approximately 479 smoke alarms and 396 batteries were installed in the South East side of Fort Worth. This area has been considered a high-risk area for years and due to "Operation Smoke Alarm", fires and fire related deaths have substantially decreased. The Fort Worth Fire Department commended the Brothers of OGG for once again rising to the occasion and battling social problems that plague the Mid-Cities area.

Excellence in Sporting Events

While there was a lot of business conducted at the Ninth District Meeting, there was also some time for a few fun events. This year's district meeting committee sponsored tournaments in golf, bowling, tennis, pool and basketball. The competition was fierce, but someone had to come out on top.

There were eleven competitors in the Bowling Tournament. First Place went to Brother Oscar Epps. Second Place went to Brother Lyndon Lovelace and Brother Garland Pruitt came in Third Place.

Trying to match the feats of the Arthur Ashe we had brothers putting on a great show on the Tennis Court. Brother Wendell Bonner came out on top in the Tennis tournament. Followed by Brother Terrance Vessell, 2nd Place and third place with to Brother Byron Williams.

Our pool sharks were lead by Brother Chris Hamilton, capturing First Place in this tournament. Second Place went to Brother Shawn Brewer and Third Place with to Brother Augustus Thompson.

The Basketball Court is where some of the older brothers try to recapture their youth. After the dust had settled and the sore muscles were tended to, Rho Phi emerged as the winner of the Basketball Tournament. Second Place went to Gamma Gamma and third place went to Omicron Lambda Lambda.

The golf tournament had many participants. These participants were divided based on handicap. In the First Flight, Brother Van Brass took 1st Place. 2nd Place went to Brother William Davis, and 3rd Place went to Brother Charles Wright. 2nd Flight's 1st Place went to Brother Melvin Robinson, 2nd Place went to Brother Calvin Harris and Brother Michael Walker took third Place. Brother Cleveland Harris placed first in the 3rd Flight, 2nd Place to Brother Robert Tapscott and 3rd Place to Brother Carlton Parhms. Brother Glen "Webo" Barry won the "Closest to the Hole" award.



Brooks Named to Wiley College Trustee Board

MARSHALL, Texas— Brother Glenn M. Brooks, a member of Eta Iota Chapter, Oklahoma City, was recently named to the Board of Trustees at Wiley College. During annual Founders Day events, he was named to a three-year term on the trustee's board, and becomes one of 32 Wiley College trustees.



An alumnus of the college, Brother Brooks graduated in 1969 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology. In 1972, he received a master's degree in sociology from the University of Oklahoma. Brother Brooks is the affirmative-action officer of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, and has been with the department for 32 years. Brother Brooks has been an officer with the Oklahoma National Guard, and is the training officer of the Adjutant General's Equal Opportunity Office. He is a member of the board of directors of the Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City, the Oklahoma City Kiwanis Club and the Oklahoma City chapter of the Wiley College Alumni Association. Brother Brooks also serves as the president of the Oklahoma Halfway House.

Throughout his career he has received numerous awards including the Outstanding Urban League Board of Directors Member Award in 1988. In 1986 he was presented the Outstanding Auxiliary Award of the Year from the Oklahoma County Opportunities Industrialization Center. In 1979, Brother Brooks was presented an Outstanding Board member Award from the Eastside branch of the Young Men's Christian Association. Brother Brooks was presented Oklahoma National Guard Service Awards in 1981,1982,1983,1984 and 2003.

OGG Participates in Special Olympics

On April 23rd 2005, the Brothers of Omicron Gamma Gamma participated in the North Texas Special Olympics Games held at the University of Texas at Arlington. The games offer the opportunity for participants to practice and compete in twenty activities. Many of the activities are lifetime sports that allow the athletes to compete at any age. The eligibility requirement for competitors is individuals that are considered to have "intellectual disabilities" which have manifested before the age of eighteen.

The brothers served as officials at several game stations including the softball throw and track and field. This event was truly a one-of-a kind experience as the brothers not only volunteered their time, but also touched the lives of the event participants in a meaningful way. In addition, the brothers were eager to encourage and lift the spirits of the game participants. The vision of Special Olympics Texas is to "inspire greatness" and that vision was manifested in the service efforts of the Brothers of Omicron Gamma Gamma.

THE 2005 ERNIE R. REESE MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Houston, TX. On May 07th, the mighty brothers of Rho Beta Beta Graduate chapter of Houston Texas in conjunction with Space City Ques, a non-profit 501©3 organization, held its 20th Annual Ernie R. Reese Memorial Golf Tournament. Over sixty-five eager golfers hit the greens and made this year's event a smashing success. This tournament was held at the Bear Creek Masters Golf Course. A scramble, best ball four team format was utilized to insure that a great time was had by all. This fun filled event was named for our beloved deceased brother Ernie R. Reese who began this charitable event to raise funds for under privileged kids in our community. All proceeds above expenses will be used to fund the chapter's Ronald E. McNair Omega Scholarship Fund.

This year's first place winners were Bro. Steve McNair, Bro. Terry Williams, Bro. Jarrett Williams and Jonathan Walker. The longest drive winner was Andrew Dossman. The closest to the pin winner was Bro. Albert Benifield. There was no Hole In One winner this year. Numerous other prizes were awarded to attendees and an extraordinary buffet was served that was truly fit for a king. A special feature was added to this year's event. Deep tissue, massages were made available by a local organization to sooth the aching muscles for all who needed it. There were no losers at this wonderful event.

The Ronald E. McNair scholarship fund was established in honor and memory of our deceased brother, Dr. Ronald E. McNair to provide SCHOLARSHIP and UPLIFT to the community. This famous tragically deceased Astronaut was an active member of Rho Beta Beta Chapter at the time of his untimely death. Since its inception in 1984, the Ronald E McNair Memorial Scholarship Fund has awarded well over \$70,000 in scholarship money to deserving high school students in the Houston area. As a result of these scholarships, many promising young people will realize their educational dreams.

Brother Ronald E. McNair lost his life in the NASA Challenger Space Shuttle disaster. This great brother is a nationally mourned hero. To honor our fallen friend and brother, Rho Beta Beta Chapter via its non-profit 501©3 organization, Space City Ques, has established this highly successful scholarship program in his name. In this, we know that our departed brother, Dr. Ronald E. McNair, would be well pleased.



The Head Table at the Easter Prayer Service



Fiesta Jamboree in the Alamo City

San Antonio, TX. Fiesta Week in San Antonio is one of the largest ethnic festivals in the United States. Psi Alpha Chapter seized the opportunity several years ago to be part of this great week of fun filled activities. The brothers of Psi Alpha now host the Fiesta Jamboree (masquerade party), which is an officially sanctioned event by the San Antonio Fiesta Commission. On Friday night April 15th, 2005 the Brothers, Quettes, and friends of Omega had a great time at the Double Tree Hotel. The music was bumping, the dance floor was packed, and the food was outstanding. Brother Todd Clemons 9th District Representative and his lovely wife Stephanie attended the Jamboree and clearly set the night off right. In the all critical costume competition, it came down to a choice between a Bride of Frankenstein; a Japanese Couple; the Phantom of the Opera; and an Egyptian Pharaoh and his Princess. The winner was the Egyptian Pharaoh and his Princess and they received \$150 in cash. All of the proceeds from the Fiesta Jamboree go directly to the Psi Alpha Scholarship Foundation. What a well spent evening.

Highlights from Theta Alpha

The Brothers of Theta Alpha have been very busy with a number of community events. Golf tournaments, gumbo cookoff, and good entertainment are just some of the events that the Brothers have been involved in.

Under the leadership of chairman and former Basileus Anthony Brown, the Annual Golf Tournament benefiting the Theta Alpha Foundation and the Omega Sparks program was held at the Country View golf course in Lancaster, TX. Congratulations to the first place team of Sam Brown, Richard Howard, Fred Lister, and R.C. Clack., who beat out over 60 golfers for the top prize.

The chapter hosted its annual Gumbo Cookoff at Skyline Ranch in South Dallas. For the 5th consecutive year, the men of Theta Alpha showed up and showed out, bringing nearly 800 people together in unity for an evening of food and fun. Guests enjoyed gumbo from a record number of contest entrants and

a packed dancefloor thanks to the music of Bro.DJ Don Juan. This event is Theta Alphas' largest fundraiser of the year, and proceeds will directly benefit the Omega Sparks and the Theta Alpha Foundation's Scholarship fund. THANKS and RESPECT are due to the hard-working committee under the leadership of Brother Kalon Winn in making this event function for the good of Omega.

The Chapter in conjunction with the Theta Alpha Foundation presented the 2005 Talent Hunt and Scholarship program at the Lake West YMCA in West Dallas. Awards and college scholarships totaling over \$10,000 were given to area high school seniors based on their demonstrated musical, dramatic, and/or artistic talents of the entrants. Congratulations to Bro. Hubert Croft. For heading up this event and making sure that young men and women had the opportunity to pursue their dreams of a college education.



Talent Hunt 2005

San Antonio, TX. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, Psi Alpha Chapter's annual Talent Hunt Competition was held on Friday, March 4, 2005 at 7:00 pm in the Watson Fine Arts Center Theatre on the beautiful campus of St. Philip's College. There were 11 contestants that participated and performed in single categories of voice, instrumental, drama and dance. The contestants were Ms. Jamaica Bates, Judson High School, Ms. Daryle Jewel Darby, Lee High School, Mr. Maynard J. Galloway, Sam Houston High School, Ms. Jhari M. Gaskins, Roosevelt High School, Ms. Kimberly Gillum, Sam Houston High School, Mr. Dabney Greenwood, Judson High School, Ms. Shardanay L. Greenwood, Sam Houston High School, Ms. Allison Holmes, Health Careers High School, Ms. Toni Monique Rhodes, Highlands High School, Ms. Monique Shanti Williams, Sam Houston High School and Ms. Sabiya Woods, Highlands High School. The 2005 Talent Hunt Competition Judges were Ms. Deborah Collins Crawford, Dr. Gina Gray and Mr. Henry Washington.

The audience was also delighted with special guest appearances of violinist Mr. Taylor Edward Griffin, the oldest son of Wayman and Michelle Griffin a freshman at Judson High School and the Toi Dancers, children ages 3-8 years old, under the direction of Ms. Toi Moore. The scholarship prizes were awarded to Ms. Sabiya Woods \$350.00 1st place, Ms. Allison Holmes \$250.00 2nd place and Ms. Jamaica Bates & Ms. Monique Shanti Williams \$150.00 each 3rd place. All of the contestants were presented an Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Talent Hunt Award of Merit certificate for their participation in the event.



Psi Alpha participates in Mayoral Forum



SAN ANTONIO - In conjunction with the San Antonio Pan-Hellenic Council, the brothers of Psi Alpha Chapter recently served as co-hosts for the San Antonio Mayoral Forum. On Saturday, April 9th, 2005 several leading candidates for the Mayor's post met at the San Antonio Branch of the American Red Cross to discuss issues vital to the citizens on the Eastside of San Antonio. This predominantly Black and Hispanic neighborhood sits in the shadow of the SBC Center (Home of the San Antonio Spurs) and has traditionally been on the outside looking in when it comes to San Antonio politics. In 2005 Psi Alpha has been proactive in pushing the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated's theme of "Economic Empowerment Leading to Social and Political Change". The moderator asked specific questions and each candidate was allotted 2 minutes to respond with a 30 second rebuttal opportunity. Brother John Cooper, Basileus of Psi Alpha was the events co-chairman and it was standing room only, as an enthusiastic community crowd listened closely to the discussion that unfolded.

6th Annual Psi Alpha Retreat



SAN ANTONIO – Often times as fraternity brothers we get caught up in the d a y - t o - d a y experiences of life (church, family, work, friends etc.) but there must always be time to reflect on where we have been and where we are going. Psi Alpha brothers have made a point of taken a closer look at renewing our commitment to each other and to the fraternity via its Annual Retreat, Saturday, March 12, 2005. This year's retreat theme was "What Would The Founders Do?" Former Ninth District Chaplain Brother Herbert Nance started the Retreat with the Formal Omega Service recognizing those Omega men who have entered Omega Chapter. Brother Nance took everyone through the significance of the Spiritual Omega Man and brothers discussed numerous topics during breakout group activities. Brothers expressed why they became Omega Men in the first place and looked at whether or not they are currently living up to their pledge. The group ate, sang songs, and drew upon the true Omega Spirit. Each brother was able to spend time listening to their brothers and really getting to know one another. The assembled chapter members left the Retreat with a renewed sense of purpose and a belief that they can make a difference in the lives of black people.

Brothers in Action



Spring 2005 Prospects for Rho Phi demonstrate the true Omega Spirit as they donated 140lbs of Red Beans and Rice to the United Methodist Women of Bethany United Methodist Church of New Orleans Louisiana. The food ultimately went to Second Harvesters food bank of New Orleans. Pictured are Alton Heard, Roger Hickson, Cleveland Johnson, Gerron McNair, Mark Sanford Adrian Thibedeaux, and August Thomas.



The Rho Phi Annual Easter Basket Giveaway was a great success, over 50 youngsters hospitalized during the Easter Holiday at University Hospital and Tulane Medical Center received a gift basket of toys and a bible compliments of the brothers from Rho Phi chapter
Picutre: Left to Right: Front (seated): Al Francois, Terrence Augillard, Warren Green, Johnny Brown Second Row: (standing): Don Davis, Kelmer Steverson, Walter Johnson, Ron Butler, Cleveland Harris, Adrian Thibodeaux, Joe Hicks, Ben Willard Back: Gus Thomas, Bernell Alexander, George Augillard, Henry Carter



Chapter Participates in Heart Walk

Baton Rouge, Louisiana - The brothers of Lambda Kappa Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. participated in the American Heart Association's 2005 3K Heart Walk on the campus of Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. Lambda Kappa Kappa began participating in this event in 2000 to walk with Brother Edselle K. Cunningham, Sr. (Beta Sigma Spr.'69), a heart disease survivor.

Brothers that participated in this annual event are: Mike Brown (Phi Theta June '72), Wendell Woods (Mu Tau Spr.'84), Ronald Perry (Theta Delta Spr.'76), Brian Bernard (Beta Sigma Spr.'90), Edward B. "COULON" Smith (Lambda Kappa Kappa Spr.'99), Michael Watson (Lambda Kappa Kappa Spr.'00), Joe Anthony (Lambda Kappa Kappa Spr.'00), Brian Wilson (Lambda Kappa Kappa Spr.'01), and Ivan Barnes (Beta Chi '04).

Psi Upsilon Chapter Awards Scholarships

Lawton, OK. The Psi Upsilon Chapter has continued with its annual tradition of awarding scholarships to graduating seniors. This year there were a number of applications received from the local high schools. The recipients of this year's scholarship are Charlette Webber, MacArthur High School, Jennifer Robinson, Eisenhower High School and Desmond Taylor, Lawton High School.

These scholarships were made possible with assistance from IBC Bank who has been a major supporter of our scholarship drive for the last four years. This is the second year that BancFirst has supported the program. Coming on board for the first year was Arvest Bank. This year's scholarship efforts were lead by Brother Chick Ellis and Brother John Veal.



Final Preparations by the District Council

Monroe Hosts the 68th Ninth District Meeting

Monroe, La. With more than 1,100 members of a black fraternity in town for its annual district convention, organizers are hoping Omega Psi Phi's weekend in Monroe will help the city attract similar events in the future.

Fraternity members from Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas and Arkansas are holding their convention, usually reserved for larger venues, in Monroe for the first time.

"This is huge," said Varner Rencher, Omega Psi Phi district marshal and Monroe resident, who helped secure the event. "They are eating, buying gas, shopping. "To come to a smaller city with that many people makes a big impact."

The four-day convention includes elections, a health fair, talent show and shopping trips for spouses. Although economic impact figures are not available, Alana Cooper of the Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau believes the presence of a new organization, particularly on a holiday weekend when many residents leave town, will benefit the bureau and the city. "The African-American fraternities are a large group we have been trying to tap into," Cooper said.

The convention is sponsored by the fraternity's undergraduate chapters at the University of Louisiana at Monroe, Grambling State University and Louisiana Tech University, the graduate chapters at Grambling and ULM, and the city of Monroe.

Editors note. This is a reprint of the article that was published in the Monroe newspaper during our meeting there. Retrieved from the web site at <http://www.thenewsstar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2005503260309>. Originally published March 26, 2005



Rho Phi Conducts Memorial Service

New Orleans. Sunday, March 6, 2005 the members of the Rho Phi chapter of Omega Psi Phi held their memorial service for fallen members of their chapter. The program was held at Tulane Memorial Baptist Church, pastored by fellow brother Ross Johnson. While this is a

nationally mandated program by the fraternity Rho Phi members feel its significant to celebrate those members who have been lost over the previous year.

There were more than thirty brothers and four potential members in attendance to hear Reverend Johnson's timely message on faith, which challened listeners to rely on faith freely given and as Christians their responsibility is to demonstrate it by sharing with others. Assisting Reverend Johnson in the ritual were Bro. Rene Metoyer and Dr. Joseph W. Davis, Basileus of Rho Phi chapter.



Brothers
enjoying the
picnic at the
district
meeting



Brother Clemons and the Talent Hunt Winners



Participants in the Rededication Ceremony

Tips for Article Submission

Brothers,

It is my intent to publish everything submitted in the 9th District Newsletter. However, please note that some items that are submitted may not be printed. Here are some common areas that we need to improve on:

- Photograph quality. Photo are either too dark or not in focus. Hard to use.
- Photographs should be submitted separately from the article.
- Chapters should submit articles and not one or two statements describing the event.
- Please double check spelling. I can catch most of the common words, but proper names, places, etc. are hard to catch.
- Please adhere to the deadlines. (Aug. 15, Nov. 15, Feb. 15, May 15)

Chapters can help me by identifying the Chapter's Editor to the Oracle and sending me that information to the email listed below. I will establish a distribution list for the chapters and send everything directly to the chapters point of contact.

Feedback. Give me your feedback. I want to make sure this is a document for all of us. It can only get better with your feedback. Send comments to the email address listed below.

Additional information can be found at the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's website at http://www.oppf.org/oracle_submit.asp.

Thank you for your support and contributions.

John D. Veal, Jr.
Email: dpr_9thd@sbcglobal.net

2nd Annual QUETTE APPRECIATION WEEKEND

“SALUTING THE QUEENS OF OMEGA”



DALLAS, TEXAS
AUGUST 19-21, 2005

Quette: The highest term of endearment given to the spouse/significant other of an Omega Man. Its reference carries without question, dignity and respect to the lady that is introduced or addressed.

Mark this weekend on your calendars.

Watch your mailboxes for more information!!!

Omega Chapter

Brother Harold Erwin Abney



Brother Harold Erwin Abney, a Hawkins, Texas resident, entered Omega Chapter on Tuesday, March 29, 2005. He was a longtime member of Sigma Omicron Chapter of Tyler, Texas. During his graduate brotherhood connection, he held the office of Keeper of Finance and was very active in the fraternity's memorial service and programs. Two in which he took a special interest were "Christmas Cheer" and "Boys to Men". The Christmas Cheer annual event serves the community by providing food, clothing, and fellowship to needy families. Boys to Men is a program that works to enhance the knowledge of young males so that they may grasp a better understanding of their culture and problems that may be faced within that culture.

Harold Abney was born April 30, 1951 in Texarkana, Arkansas. Many considered him a "whiz kid" because he was a very bright youngster. Described by those who knew him at an early age as an astute, polite, obedient (yet mischievous) loving and gentle soul was Harold. These traits followed him throughout his life. He was an outgoing person that loved a challenge and never met one that he did not conquer. Actively involved in his community throughout his life, he served as a disc jockey on KADO FM in Texarkana and KEEE AM in Nacogdoches. In addition, he acted as Master of Ceremony for many community affairs.

His public schooling began at Sunset Elementary, continued to Dunbar High School, and culminated with a 1969 graduation from Texas High in Texarkana, Texas. He journeyed to Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches, Texas and earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in business administration and political science. While pursuing his

undergraduate degree at SFA, Harold Abney became a charter member of the collegiate chapter, Omega Beta, in March of 1972.

Professionally, Brother Abney was a Financial Aid Director at Jarvis Christian College, president of Hawkins Independent School District Board of Trustees, a member of Rotary International and affiliated with numerous other civic and professional organizations. Also, he was a member of New Zion Baptist Church, where he was president of the church board and a Sunday school teacher.

An icon of inner strength, will power, and fortitude, Brother Harold Erwin Abney possessed and exhibited all the principles of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and therefore will be remembered by those he touched as a beacon of light for the brotherhood.

Survivors include his wife Zula R. Abney of Hawkins; two daughters, Heather Elizabeth Abney of Houston, and Harolyn Elisha Abney of Hawkins; three brothers, Marvin Abney of Newport, Rhode Island, Rev. Barry Abney of Shreveport, Louisiana, and Thomas Abney of Houston, Texas; one sister, Eunice M. Love of Wake Village, Texas; and a number of other relatives.

On April 1, 2005, Omega memorial service for Brother Abney was conducted at Haynes Mortuary in Texarkana, Texas by Sigma Omicron Chapter of Tyler, Texas, Theta Upsilon Chapter of Texarkana, Texas/Arkansas, and Phi Beta Chapter of Jarvis Christian College of Hawkins, Texas.

Funeral services were held Saturday, April 2, 2005 at Jarvis Christian College in the Smith-Howard Chapel with Rev. Jesse Gooden officiating. Chapter members of Sigma Sigma and Phi Beta served as honor guards during the final tribute under the supervision of Brother Bobby Stinson, the East Texas State Representative. Brother Abney was laid to rest in Chapelwood Memorial Gardens under direction of Haynes Mortuary.



Brother Vernon Grant

STILLWATER, Okla. – Brother Vernon Grant, Basileus Omicron Lambda Chapter entered Omega Chapter on Monday, May 25, 2005. Brother Grant lost his life in an automobile accident in Dallas, TX. Brother Grant was the 2004 Omega Man of the Year for the Omicron Lambda Chapter.

"This is a terrible loss for everyone associated with Oklahoma State University and the football family," Gundy said in a statement. "Vernon Grant was a terrific young man who had an infectious smile and a positive approach to everything he did. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family, friends and teammates."

"OSU has lost one of its finest student ambassadors," athletics director Harry Birdwell said in a statement. "Vernon Grant's smile could light up a room and his enthusiasm made him a great and dependable teammate. The irony of this is that it was Vernon Grant who taught us all the importance of inner strength and faith in time of personal tragedy."

Tribute for Brother Clarence Wilson

Lawton, OK. This April marked the 10th Anniversary of the Oklahoma City

Bombing. In memory of Brother Clarence Wilson, the Brothers of Psi Upsilon, Lawton and Eta Iota, Oklahoma City joined together at the Wilson Memorial in Lawton to pay tribute to Brother Wilson. Brother Clarence Wilson, Former 9th District Representative was killed in the Oklahoma City Bombing on April 19, 1995. Brothers John D. Veal, Jr., Basileus Psi Upsilon, Brother Willie Hughes, Basileus Eta Iota and Brother Albert Johnson made remarks at the ceremony that was organized by Brother Wilson's sister. The Brothers of both chapters joined together and sang Omega Dear in memory of our brother who lost his life in this tragic event.

