



# The Source

The Official Newsletter for the 9<sup>th</sup> District



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## *Shreveport to Host the 2009 District Meeting*

Shreveport, Louisiana. Shreveport has been selected as the host city for the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ninth District Meeting. Propelled by the theme “Let the Good Times Roll” the Brothers of Rho Omega Chapter made a pitch to the District Council for the opportunity to host the 2009 Ninth District Meeting. The Brothers in partnership with the City of Shreveport, the Tourist Bureau and the staff of the Shreveport Convention Center put in support of their desire to

The Shreveport Convention 2006, offers a great venue Meeting. This facility can different ways to host the District Meeting. The connected to a new Hilton lodging options offered in

The nightlife includes the and be entertained in one of Riverboat Casinos. Options include Sam’s Town, the El Dorado, Horseshoe, Boomtown, and the Isle of Capri. Shreveport also offers a great selection of restaurants and other fun activities for our meeting attendees.



together a strong proposal host the meeting.

Center, which opened in to host the District be configured a number of various events of the Convention Center is Hotel, which is one of the the area.

opportunity to wine, dine, the many dockside

The Brothers of Xi Omega (Tulsa) and Pi Omicron (Little Rock) are also commended for their submissions. They gave the District other excellent options to consider for this major event.

### **A Candid Conversation with Brother Todd S. Clemons, 20<sup>th</sup> Ninth District Representative**

Brother Todd Clemons was elected the 20<sup>th</sup> Ninth District Representative in Oklahoma City at the District Meeting in 2004. Under his leadership the Mighty Ninth has seen many changes and has faced many challenges. However, the Mighty Ninth continued to grow and prosper. This point was proven at the 2006 Conclave in Little Rock when chapters and members of the Ninth were recognized in a variety of categories, ranging from International Omega Man of the Year to Undergraduate Chapter of the Year.

The Editor recently spoke with Brother Clemons to get his comments on the growth and the state of the Ninth District. We touched on a number of topics, including accomplishment of goals, the involvement of Undergraduates, and Election 2007 just to name a few. What follows

is a candid conversation with Brother Todd S. Clemons, 20<sup>th</sup> Ninth District Representative.

What would you say was your biggest accomplishment during your tenure as District Representative?

During my three years as District Representative there are many accomplishments to note. However, first of all, the accomplishments are not my accomplishments, but the accomplishments of the good Brothers in the Ninth. (cont. page 2)





The Brothers and their efforts made our accomplishments possible. If I had to single out specific highlights I would first have to talk about the growth of our District Meetings. As we get ready to go to Houston we are looking at having over 1000 Brothers in attendance. This shows the Brothers in the Ninth are involved and want to participate in the growth of the District. Secondly, I would have to note our financial position. We have gone from operating in the red to having a surplus in funds, which means our District is operating in a very strong financial position. Thirdly, our Political Action Committee (PAC) chaired by my Line Brother, Roger Todd Watkins has served us admirably. Our Omega Days at the Capital have been truly awesome. Brothers from each of our four states meet at their respective state capitals whenever their legislatures convene. We are becoming more involved in the political process and through this involvement we can do more to assist in the welfare of our people.

There are always challenges that one must face, what do you feel was the biggest challenge? The biggest challenge that the District faced during my tenure was the “administrative leave situation.” We have discussed the specifics of this on many occasions, so I won’t go into that here. However, what I would say is this situation was rough on me personally and also rough on the District and us being able to go about the business of Omega. However, in true Omega fashion the Brothers of the Ninth stood tall and persevered and through the support of those Brothers and my family, I persevered. The end result being we were able to overcome

this distraction and continued to accomplish the goals of the Mighty Ninth. The fact that we were able to move forward was evident at the Conclave that was held in Little Rock. The Brothers in Arkansas stood tall and took the challenge of hosting the Conclave with minimal preparation time when other locations could not fulfill the obligation. Then at the Founders Banquet the Ninth took more than its share of awards, from International Omega Man of the Year, Undergraduate Chapter of the Year, and Graduate Social Action Chapter of the Year. Additionally, three highly qualified Brothers from the Ninth were elected to Grand offices. These accomplishments showed that the core of the Ninth District is strong.

Speaking of the Conclave and the awards that the Ninth District received; what do you think



contributed to our success? The Brothers of the Ninth District are committed to the principles of the Fraternity. Through hard work and dedication the Brothers strive to accomplish and exceed what is expected of them. Our Undergraduates represents the future of Omega and are the best Undergraduates in the Fraternity. They also strive to exceed the standards, as shown by Gamma Gamma Chapter receiving multiple Chapter of the Year Awards at the Conclave. These awards only touch on the tip of what is going on in the Ninth. The soul of the Ninth is in the Brothers of the Ninth.

What about Election 2007. There are a number of good Brothers running for District Offices, what advice would you give? (cont page 3).