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## "REMEMBERING ONE OF OMEGAS' FINEST" BRO. DARRON LEE BURKS

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## MESSAGE FROM OUR 9TH DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

**DEAR BROTHERS**,

AS WE REFLECT ON OUR JOURNEY, I WANT TO COMMEND THE TENACITY AND STRENGTH THAT THE 9TH District has consistently demonstrated. We have stood united in the face of challenges, showcasing our commitment to our values and mission.

OUR ACTUAL OMEGA EFFORT IN THE COMMUNITY EXEMPLIFIES THIS SPIRIT OF SERVICE. THROUGH OUR INITIATIVES, WE HAVE MADE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT, UPLIFTING THOSE IN NEED AND FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING. YOUR DEDICATION TO THESE CAUSES HAS TRANSFORMED LIVES AND REINFORCED THE BONDS OF BROTHERHOOD AMONG US. WE HAVE SHOWN THAT OUR COLLECTIVE ACTION CAN LEAD TO MEANINGFUL CHANGE.

LOOKING AHEAD, 2025 PROMISES TO BE A MONUMENTAL YEAR FOR ALL OF US. WITH NEW OPPORTUNITIES on the horizon, let us harness our strength and determination to further our mission. I encourage you to remain engaged and proactive in our community efforts, as your involvement is vital to our success.

TOGETHER, WE CAN CONTINUE TO BUILD A LEGACY OF SERVICE, IMPACT, AND UNITY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNWAVERING COMMITMENT. WISHING YOU A JOYOUS HOLIDAY SEASON AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

IN BROTHERHOOD,

BRO. VAN NEWBORN 9th District Representative





## **9TH DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**District Representative - Bro. Van Newborn 1st Vice District Representative - Bro. David Washington, Jr. 2nd Vice District Representative - Bro. Jeffery Ducre District Keeper of Records & Seal - Bro. Antonio Brown District Keeper of Finance - Bro. Bernard Clayton Jr. District Counselor - Bro. Shannon A. Holmes, Esg. District Director of Public Relations - Bro. Na'Shon Edwards, Sr. District Chaplain - Bro. Ernest Brown District Marshall: - Bro, Carl Johnson Graduate Representative - Bro. Kamara Washington Texas Undergraduate Representative - Bro. Malachi Nelson Oklahoma Undergraduate Representative - Bro. Javonnti Wilkinson Arkansas Undergraduate Representative - Bro. Frederick Sharkey Immediate Past District Representative - Bro. Harold Bailey** Immediate Past District Marshall - Bro. Leonard Graves



## THE SOURCE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MIGHTY NINTH DISTRICT.

SEND ARTICLES TO 9THDDPR@GMAIL.COM

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS -Bro. NA'SHON Z. EDWARDS, SR.

VICE CHAIR - BRO. T. TERELL BOWIE SOCIAL-MEDIA CO-CHAIR- BRO. MARCUS MCCOY QUALITY CONTROL CO-CHAIR - BRO. JEREMY NEAL SR. 9TH DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHER -BRO. WAYNE POLLARD JR. 9TH DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHER- BRO. FREDRICK D. WILSON, III AT-LARGE - BRO. JEFFREY L. BONEY AT-LARGE - BRO. LEMARC HOLCOMBE IMMEDIATE PAST DDPR - BRO. FRANK WATSON

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

**GREETINGS, BROTHERS OF THE MIGHTY 9TH DISTRICT!** 

AS WE CONTINUE TO ADVANCE OUR MISSION, I URGE YOU TO LEVERAGE OUR 9TH DISTRICT SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS EFFECTIVELY. THESE CHANNELS ARE VITAL FOR CONNECTING WITH OUR COMMUNITY AND AMPLIFYING OUR COLLECTIVE VOICE. REMEMBER, OUR GOAL IS TO ENGAGE 1 MILLION INDIVIDUALS THROUGH THESE PLATFORMS, SHOWCASING OUR INCREDIBLE WORK.

I AM EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THE UPCOMING ROLLOUT OF OUR 40 UNDER 40 Initiative for 2025. This program aims to honor young leaders who exemplify excellence and dedication in service. Your participation is crucial in identifying and recognizing these remarkable individuals.

ADDITIONALLY, I ENCOURAGE ALL CHAPTERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE QUILL AWARDS FOR BEST CHAPTER REPORTER. THIS RECOGNITION HIGHLIGHTS OUR COMMITMENT TO COMMUNICATION AND UNDERSCORES THE IMPORTANCE OF REPORTING OUR ACTIVITIES AND SUCCESSES. YOUR SUBMISSIONS PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN DEMONSTRATING OUR IMPACT ON OUR COMMUNITIES.

LET'S CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER TO ELEVATE OUR DISTRICT AND INSPIRE others. Your engagement is key to our success. Thank you for your dedication and service.

IN UNITY AND SERVICE,

NA'SHON EDWARDS, SR. Director of Public Relations, 9th District



FRATERNALLY,

BRO. NA'SHON Z. EDWARDS, SR. 12-17-Rho Theta / Theta Chi

## ARKANSAS

## NATURAL STATE QUES EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

STATE PRESIDENT: BRO. JAMES MILLER IST VICE PRESIDENT: BRO. WILLIE WILLIAMS 2ND VICE PRESIDENT: BRO. JA'VONN WATSON STATE SECRETARY: BRO. RONALD LAURENT STATE TREASURER: BRO. RICKY BRANDON STATE CHAPLAIN: BRO. LEROY MARTIN

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## **AR GRADUATE CHAPTERS**

Delta Kappa Kappa Hot Springs, AR Epsilon Alpha Alpha Jonesboro, AR Kappa Chi Magnolia, AR Omicron Lambda Lambda Little Rock, AR Phi Mu Mu Conway, AR

Pi Omicron Little Rock, AR Tau Phi Pine Bluff, AR Upsilon Chi Bentonville, AR Xi Rho West Memphis, AR

#### **AR UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTERS**

Alpha Delta Pi Little Rock, AR **Arkansas Baptist College** Alpha Delta Theta Russellville, AR **Arkansas Tech University** Alpha Zeta State University, AR Arkansas State University **Beta Delta** Conway, AR University of Central Arkansas **Delta Eta** Magnolia, AR Southern Arkansas University Gamma Eta Fayetteville, AR University of Arkansas

Pi Kappa Little Rock, AR University of Arkansas-Little Rock Pi Sigma Little Rock, AR Philander Smith College Rho Mu Monticello, AR University of Arkansas-Monticello Tau Sigma Pine Bluff, AR University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff Xi Beta Arkadelphia, AR Henderson State University

### TALENT HUNT MANDATED PROGRAM bro. rufus woods iv – kappa chi – magnolia, ar



Our annual talent hunt show organized by the men of The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., The Mighty Kappa Chi Chapter was a resounding success! High school students from Magnolia, Camden, and El Dorado displayed exceptional talents. The event, providing a platform for our youth to display their skills and creativity, drew many supporters, parents, and community members.

The talent hunt show featured a diverse range of performances, including singing and original spoken word pieces. The participants impressed the judges and audience alike with their talent, passion, and dedication to their craft. The competition was fierce, with each contestant giving their absolute best performance to stand out and capture the attention of the judges.

After careful and thorough deliberation over these very impressive performances, the committee selected the top three contestants as award winners who, by far, were the most exceptional. These winners were awarded scholarships, mentorship opportunities, and recognition for their stellar performances. The men of the Kappa Chi chapter were proud to support and uplift these young individuals, helping them to further their education and pursue their dreams.

This year's talent show not only showcased the incredibly talented future leaders of our world, but also highlighted the importance of mentorship, support, and community involvement in nurturing young talent.

The men of The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., are committed to uplifting and empowering our next generation of leaders and artists through programs like the annual talent hunt show. By providing a supportive and inclusive environment for young talent to shine, they are making a positive impact on the community and inspiring others alike to pursue their passions and dreams.





(Bro. Rufus Woods IV, Bro. Rufus Woods III (Basileus), Tamerial McKenzie (1st Place Award Recipient), and her family)



Marquis Milner – 11th Magnolia High School

(Bro. Rufus Woods IV, Bro. Rufus Woods III (Basileus), Marquis Milner ( 2nd Place Award Recipient), and his family)



Lemuel Martin – 12th Magnolia High School

(Bro. Rufus Woods IV, Bro. Rufus Woods III (Basileus), Lemuel Martin (3rd Place Award Recipient), and his family)

## BROTHER REDWINE COACHED 2024 OLYMPIC TRACK AND FIELD TO VICTORY

#### BY BROTHER DR. LONNIE R. WILLIAMS | UPSILON CHI - NW ARKANSAS

The 2024 Summer Olympics USA track and field team was coached by Brother Stanley in Redwine, head track coach at the University of Kansas. Redwine's Team USA men's squad medaled in nine of 10 individual track races — the most for any country since the first time all of these events were included as part of the Olympic program in 1920.

According to the Washington Post's Rick Maese, "It's rare for a team to finish on the podium in more than a few of these events. Since 2000, the United States and are over and were an exciting event in Track and Field! The USA's men's track members won seven gold medals, six silver medals and five bronze medals at the 2024 Paris Games. Three years ago, at the Tokyo Olympics, the U.S. men did not win a single individual race. In France, the men's team won 18 medals and the U.S. women's squad 16 for a combined 34 — the most by Team USA track and field since the 1984 Los Angeles Games.

Kenya are the only countries that have medaled in at least half of these 10 (individual) races at a single Olympics." It's the United States' best track and field showing since the 1984 Games in Los Angeles, where it won 40 medals, 16 gold on home soil.

The 63-year-old Redwine, who is beginning his 25th year as KU track coach, was selected as coach of the men's Olympic squad back in early March. "I am honored for the opportunity and am excited that I get to be around the other coaches from other schools and just to help Team USA get better. Being around those athletes, there's not a lot that they really need from me, but I will get more out of it than they will. Just to serve them is a great opportunity," Redwine said at the time. Redwine was assistant coach for Team USA at the 2015 Pan-American Games. He was assistant coach for Team USA at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. In 2022, he was Team USA men's head coach at the IAAF World Outdoor Championship, before his appointment as the head coach for the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Redwine is a Life Member (#13358) of Omega Psi Phi and became a member as an undergraduate through the Gamma Eta chapter at the University of Arkansas in the Fall 1980. Redwine was a four-time All-American and was named Arkansas' Outstanding Track Athlete all four of his years in Fayetteville.

Material for this article came from Gary Bedore's August 12th publication by the University of Kansas, "Coached by KU's Redwine, Team USA men's track became Paris Olympic success story."

## VOTER'S REGISTRATION, MOBILIZATION, AND EDUCATION

#### BRO. RUFUS WOODS IV - KAPPA CHI - MAGNOLIA, AR

On Saturday, June 8, 2024, the men of THE Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Kappa Chi Chapter held their annual Voter's Registration Drive at Walmart in Camden, Arkansas. We were able to educate the community on one of the key cornerstones of democracy. It is through the act of voting that we, as citizens, have the power to shape the future of the very community that we all live in. For our voices to be truly heard, we must first ensure we are registered to do the same.

Registering to vote is just the beginning phase of civic engagement and political involvement. Taking action and registering, we are taking a proactive position in forming the direction of our government and society. This is why it is even more critical that every eligible citizen registers to vote, as this is the gateway to having a voice in the decisions being made for our futures at every level of government.

Mobilization is another key element in ensuring that our registered voices are heard at the polls. By mobilizing voters, we can maximize voter turnout and make an even more significant contribution that will impact the outcome of our elections. This is completed by drives such as things that bring our community together.

Education is the other essential element of empowering our community to make informed decisions at the polls. Through education, we can stay in tune with the issues, candidates, and voting process. As a result, we can make a much more meaningful choice that will align with our values and beliefs. Furthermore, the education process aids against misinformation and ensures we have accurate information before casting our vote.



(L-R, Bro. Silbert Hyndman, Bro. Stephen Taylor (Chairman), Bro. Leroy Martin II, Bro. Arthur Johnson, and Bro. Shannon Kenner)

# LOUISIANA

## UNITED OMEGAS OF LOUISIANA Executive council

STATE CHAIRMAN: BRO. MACK MCCRANEY CHAIRMAN-ELECT: BRO. WILLIE SIGLAR, II 2ND VICE CHAIRMAN: BRO. ERIC ABRAHAM STATE RECORDER: BRO. JODY DAVIS STATE TREASURER: BRO. ELLIOT SEARCY STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS: BRO. CARLOS TATE BRO. STATE COUNSELOR: BRO.CHARLES AYLES STATE CHAPLAIN: BRO. ROCHELL BATES STATE SARGEANT AT ARMS: BRO. LEE HENDERSON

### LA GRADUATE CHAPTERS

Chi Kappa Kappa Hammond, LA **Delta Tau** Plaquemine, LA **Epsilon Chi** Alexandria, LA **Epsilon Lambda Lambda Opelousas**, LA Gamma Lambda Lambda Houma, LA **Gamma Omicron** Minden, LA Gamma Rho New Orleans, LA lota Gamma Gamma Ft. Polk. LA **Iota Kappa Baton Rouge**, LA Lambda Alpha **Baton Rouge**, LA

Lambda Kappa Kappa Baton Rouge, LA Mu Tau Monroe, LA Phi lota lota LaPlace, LA Pi Tau Grambling, LA Rho Chi Lake Charles, LA **Rho Omega** Shreveport, LA **Rho Omicron** New Iberia, LA **Rho Phi** New Orleans, LA **Upsilon** Rho Lafayette, LA Xi Alpha Alpha Natchitoches, LA

#### LA UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTERS

Alpha Delta Delta Ruston, LA Louisiana Tech University Alpha Delta Epsilon Hammond, LA Southeastern Louisiana University Alpha Delta Omicron Shreveport, LA Louisiana State University-Shreveport Alpha Lambda New Orleans, LA Southern University-New Orleans Beta Sigma Baton Rouge, LA Southern University

Omega Kappa Thibodaux, LA Nicholls State University Rho Beta Lake Charles, LA McNeese State University Theta Delta Natchitoches, LA Northwestern State University Theta Kappa Baton Rouge, LA Louisiana State University

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Gamma Delta Lafavette, LA University of Louisiana-Lafavette Gamma Gamma Grambling, LA **Grambling State University** Mu Lambda Monroe, LA University of Louisiana-Monroe Theta Mu New Orleans, LA University of New Orleans **Theta Sigma** New Orleans, LA **Dillard University** Xi Sigma New Orleans, LA **Xavier University** 



## RHO CHI ALL WHITE PARTY WITH A PURPOSE RHO CHI / LAKE CHARLES, LA

On July 13, 2024, under the radiant Louisiana evening sky, the Rho Chi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity hosted an unforgettable all-white party at the picturesque Bayou Rum and Distillery in Lake Charles. The event was not just a celebration of summer, but a noble endeavor to raise scholarship funds for local children.

The venue in Lake Charles provided a perfect backdrop for the evening's festivities. As guests arrived, clad in their finest white attire, the air buzzed with excitement and camaraderie. The rhythmic beats of jazz, soul music, and R&B filled the air, intertwined with laughter and animated conversations.

Throughout the evening, the brotherhood of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity exemplified unity and dedication, ensuring every detail of the event was meticulously executed. From the seamless logistics to the warm hospitality extended to guests, their commitment to uplifting the community shined brightly.

The Rho Chi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's all-white party at Bayou Rum and Distillery transcended mere festivity; it became a beacon of generosity and empowerment. Together, they demonstrated that through fellowship and goodwill, they could make a profound difference in the lives of local children, ensuring that education remains a beacon of hope and opportunity for generations to come.

## BROTHER DR. HENDERSON RECEIVES NDA PAST PRESIDENTS AWARD RHO OMEGA / SHREVEPORT, LA

SSOCIA

Brother Dr. Marlon D. Henderson recently received the Immediate Past Presidents Award during the 111th Annual National Dental Association Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada at Caesars Palace. Dr. Henderson served as the 99th President of the NDA in 2023. His theme was "Bridging the Generational Gap: Back to the Future of Advancing Oral Health Equity, Student Mentorship, and Raising Our Profile." He is a Past Basileus of the Rho Omega Chapter in Shreveport, Louisiana.

## RHO OMEGA / SHREVEPORT, LA

00

Rho Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated and Rho Omega and Friends, Incorporated recently held their annual Dr. Charles R. Drew Blood Drive at Walmart (Westport and Pines Road). Under the guidance of LifeShare Blood Center, a total of 27 pints of blood were collected on-site. With a golf theme of "Tee It High, Let It Fly......Make a Hole in One," many lives will be saved and positively impacted by the efforts of the Rho Omega Chapter.

Rho Omega's blood drive is aptly named for the "Father of the Blood Bank" and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity member, Brother Dr. Charles R. Drew (1904-1950). Dr. Drew developed a technique for long-term plasma storage and administered an early prototype program for blood storage and preservation. In 1941, Dr. Charles R. Drew served as the first blood bank director for the American Red Cross. Brother Dr. Marlon D. Henderson is Chairman of Rho Omega's Dr. Charles R. Drew Blood Drive. Brother Darius Z. Kimble is Basileus of the Rho Omega Chapter. And, Brother Henri Wesley is Chairman of Rho Omega and Friends, Incorporated.

## RHO OMEGA DONATES FANS

The Rho Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, and Rho Omega and Friends, Incorporated recently held their Annual Summer Fan Drive. With the assistance of Shreveport-Bossier City Lamplighters and Junior Lamplighters, a total of 320 fans were collected and donated to the Caddo Council on Aging and the Salvation Army. Through the effort to "lend a hand......donate a fan," many people were able to "beat the heat" this summer. Brother James D. Rhodes is the ROC Fan Drive Chairman. Brother Henri Wesley is Chairman of Rho Omega and Friends, Incorporated. And, Brother Darius Z. Kimble is Basileus of the Rho Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated.



# OKLAHOMA

## OKLAHOMA STATE QUES ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

STATE PRESIDENT: BRO. ULYSSES ALLEN IST VICE PRESIDENT: BRO. MICHAEL FORREST 2ND VICE PRESIDENT: BRO. MARSHALL CRY STATE TREASURER: BRO. JOHN D. VEAL STATE CHAPLAIN: BRO. KEITH KROUSER

## OK GRADUATE CHAPTERS

Eta lota

Oklahoma City, OK Gamma Mu Mu Stillwater, OK Phi Pi Muskegee, OK

Psi Upsilon Lawton, OK Upsilon lota Langston, OK Xi Omega Tulsa, OK

## **OK UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTERS**

Kappa Zeta Durant, OK Southeastern Oklahoma State University Omicron Lambda Stillwater, OK Oklahoma State University

Phi Psi Langston, OK Langston University Pi Delta Norman, OK University of Oklahoma Sigma Kappa

Edmond, OK University of Central Oklahoma

# TEXAS

## LONE STAR STATE QUES EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

STATE PRESIDENT: BRO. ANTONIO BROWN IST VICE PRESIDENT: BRO. TAWAN WILLIAMSON 2ND VICE PRESIDENT: BRO. MALACHI NELSON STATE SECRETARY: BRO. SHERWIN JOHNSON STATE TREASURER: BRO. UGO ONWUDIEGWU STATE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS: BRO. NA'SHON EDWARDS, SR STATE CHAPLAIN: BRO. REV. ERNEST BROWN STATE PARLIMENTARIAN: BRO. GLEN GOWANS IMMEDIATE PAST STATE PRESIDENT: BRO. BERT SIMMONS

#### TX GRADUATE CHAPTERS

Nu Phi - Houston, TX Epsilon Alpha - Fort Worth, TX Theta Alpha - Dallas, TX Psi Alpha - San Antonio, TX Epsilon lota - Austin, TX Nu lota - Marshall, TX Delta Omicron - Beaumont, TX **Epsilon Omicron - Wichita Falls, TX** Sigma Omicron - Tyler, TX Theta Upsilon - Texarkana, TX Xi Upsilon - Port Arthur, TX **Omicron Upsilon - Waco, TX** Pi Upsilon - Hawkins, TX Gamma Chi - Corpus Christi, TX Eta Chi - Longview, TX Theta Chi - Missouri City, TX Mu Gamma - Irving, TX

Lambda Chi - Amarillo, TX Epsilon Tau - Lubbock, TX Sigma Tau - El Paso, TX Iota Rho - Odessa, TX Rho Nu - Galveston, TX Omicron Pi - Killeen, TX Delta Xi - Rowlett, TX Rho Xi - Freeport, TX Rho Beta Beta - Houston, TX **Omicron Gamma Gamma - Arlington, TX** Alpha lota lota - Dallas, TX Eta Kappa Kappa - Lufkin, TX Eta Lambda Lambda - Red Oak, TX Alpha Mu Mu - College Station, TX Eta Mu Mu - Denton, TX Mu Mu Nu - Conroe, TX Omicron Nu Nu - Round Rock, TX Eta Xi Nu - New Braunfels, TX

#### TX UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTERS

Theta - Marshall, TX - Wiley College Alpha Psi - Austin, TX - Huston-Tillston University Sigma Sigma - Tyler, TX - Texas College Tau Epsilon - Houston, TX - Texas Southern University Phi Gamma - Denton, TX - University of North Texas Omega Gamma - Canyon, TX - West Texas State University Eta Theta - Austin, TX - University of Texas at Austin Theta Theta - Commerce, TX - Texas A&M Commerce University Rho Theta - Prairie View, TX - Prairie View A&M University Upsilon Theta - Beaumont, TX - Lamar University

Omega Theta - Houston, TX - University of Houston Mu Beta - Arlington, TX - University of Texas-Arlington Phi Beta - Hawkins, TX - Jarvis Christian College Omega Beta - Nacogdoches, TX - Stephen F. Austin Alpha Delta - Dallas, TX - Dallas Baptist College Xi Delta - San Antonio, TX - Texas State University Rho Delta - Kingsville, TX - Texas A&I University Zeta Eta - Waco, TX - Paul Quinn College Xi Eta - Lubbock, TX - Texas Tech University Nu Kappa - Dallas, TX - Southern Methodist University Pi Lambda - El Paso, TX - University of Texas-El Paso Sigma Lambda - Fort Worth, TX - Texas Christian University Eta Mu - Huntsville, TX - Sam Houston State University Nu Delta Delta - College Station, TX - Texas A&M University Chi Delta Delta - Waco, TX - Baylor University Alpha Delta Lambda - San Antonio, TX -University of Texas at San Antonio

## FATHERHOOD/MENTORING

#### BROTHER JEFFERY THOMAS M.S.ED. / RHO BETA BETA / HOUSTON, TX

In July 2024, members of the Rho Beta Beta chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, embarked on a powerful and transformative journey to Washington, D.C., as part of their annual Mentoring Program. From July 17th to July 21st, the fraternity members accompanied 26 young men on an educational and mentorship experience that aimed to inspire, educate, and provide these youths with exposure to important historical landmarks and higher educational institutions.

The highlight of the trip included visits to the United States Capitol and the National Museum of African American History and Culture, two locations deeply rooted in American history and the African American experience. The United States Capitol, symbolizing democracy and governance, provided the youth with an opportunity to witness firsthand the inner workings of the government. It was more than a mere visit; it was a chance for them to gain a deeper understanding of the nation's legislative process and the role the government plays in shaping society. For many, standing in a space where historical legislation has been passed and where African Americans, such as President Barack Obama, had made their mark, was a source of inspiration and pride.

The visit to the National Museum of African American History and Culture added another layer to their experience. Here, the youth were able to explore the rich and diverse history of African Americans, from slavery and civil rights movements to the achievements of African American leaders, artists, and innovators. Walking through the museum's exhibits, the young men were reminded of the struggles and triumphs that their ancestors faced. They were also encouraged to reflect on the impact of history on their present and future. The museum offered more than a history lesson; it was a powerful reminder of the resilience and strength of African Americans, and it instilled in the youth a sense of pride in their heritage.

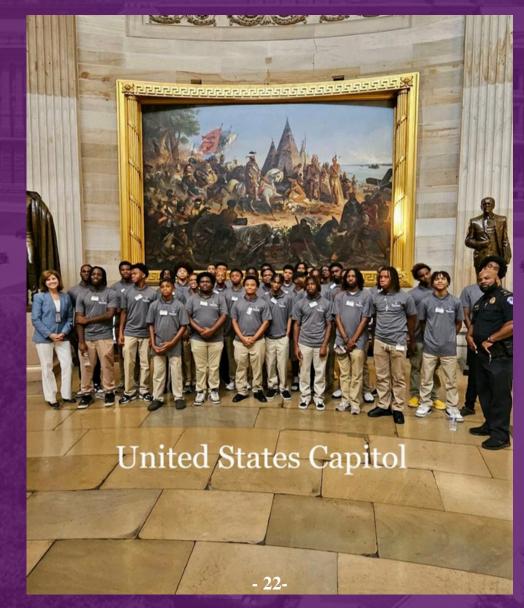
The trip also included a visit to Howard University, one of the nation's leading historically Black universities (HBCUs). The youth were allowed to explore the campus, engage with students and faculty, and learn about the academic programs and the rich legacy of excellence that Howard has cultivated over the years. For many of the participants, this was their first exposure to a university campus, especially one with such cultural and historical significance. Howard University, with its long-standing commitment to educating African American leaders and changemakers, served as a beacon of what was possible for these young men in their educational pursuits.



## FATHERHOOD/MENTORING CONT.

Throughout the trip, the fraternity members actively engaged with the youth, mentoring them on the importance of education, leadership, and giving back to the community. The trip was not solely about visiting landmarks; it was an immersive learning experience where life lessons were shared, and meaningful connections were made. The young men were encouraged to ask questions, share their thoughts, and reflect on what they learned during the trip. These mentorship moments were invaluable, as they provided the youth with guidance and wisdom from men who had walked similar paths.

In conclusion, the trip to Washington, D.C., organized by the Rho Beta Beta chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, was a resounding success. The combination of historical education, cultural exposure, and mentorship created an experience that was both enriching and empowering for the youth involved. The young men left Washington, D.C., not only with new knowledge but also with a sense of possibility, inspired by the history, legacy, and achievements of African Americans. The trip served as a reminder that with the right guidance, exposure, and mentorship, they too could achieve greatness.



## **JAMES "JIM" CROUCH PARK**

Brother Anthony Robinson / Sigma Tau / El Paso, TX

The city of El Paso, Texas named its northeast municipal annex after Brother Jethro Hills, Sigma Tau Chapter 1964, who served as the 11th Ninth District Representative and the city's first African American councilman. Again, in 2024, the Mayor and City Council of El Paso, Texas renamed Ponder Park, located at 7500 W. H. Burges Dr, El Paso, TX 79925, as "James "Jim" Crouch Park" in honor of another member of the Sigma Tau Chapter.

Brother Crouch was initiated on May 11, 1974, through the Sigma Tau Chapter located in El Paso, Texas. He was a 44-year member of OMEGA, Life Member# 984 until his passing on January 15, 2018. Brother Crouch served in a community where African Americans accounted for only 3.6% of the population.

Brother Crouch's willingness to give unselfishly of himself was evident in his Service to the Chapter in his previous roles as Basileus and Keeper of Finance. He was a dedicated husband for over 60 years, a loving father to four wonderful children, and a wonderful grandfather. Brother Crouch was a proud veteran who served for 30 years in the United States Army, retiring as a Chief Warrant Officer 4. He was a committed Civil Service employee, making Fort Bliss history by retiring as the highest-ranking African-American (GM-14/LtCol) after 32 years of service. Brother Crouch was an "ICON" to the community. He officiated over more than 14,000 volleyball and basketball games at the high school level for the City's Park and Recreation Department and Fort Bliss tournaments.

The renaming of the park is indicative of Omega Men everywhere and their contribution to the communities for which they serve. Since 2018, the chapter has presented a scholarship in Brother Crouch's honor to graduating high school students.



## **THETA - BROTHER LONDON WILSON SR**

#### Theta, Wiley University / Marshall, TX

Brother London Wilson Sr. was born on May 8, 1925, in Houston, Texas, and was affectionately known as "Sonny Boy" by many in the community. His early years were marked by a deep involvement in various sports such as baseball, basketball, and football. A man of faith, Brother Wilson embraced Christianity at a young age and was baptized at White Oak Bayou, fondly referred to as the "swimming hole" in Houston.

After graduating from Booker T. Washington High School, Brother Wilson continued his education at Bishop College in Marshall, Texas, during the WWII era. His commitment to serving his country led him to enlist in the U.S. Army, where he served with honor and rose to the rank of Sergeant. Notably, he received specialized training in water purification within the Corps of Engineers and was awarded the Bronze Star for his distinguished service. In April 1946, Brother Wilson was honorably discharged and returned to Marshall, Texas, where he pursued his studies further at Wiley University.

It was at Wiley University that Brother Wilson's lifelong connection with Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. was solidified, as he joined the esteemed "Mighty Mutha Theta Chapter" in 1947. His dedication to his education was unwavering, and in the same year, he earned a Bachelor of Science degree. Brother Wilson's allegiance to Wiley University and his fraternity remained steadfast throughout his life.

Fast forward to the year 2022, Brother London Wilson had the distinct privilege of attending the Centennial celebration of The Mighty Mutha Theta Chapter in Marshall, Texas. As the oldest living member of the chapter, his presence was a source of immense joy and inspiration for all in attendance. Brother Wilson spoke at the celebration, sharing his wisdom and memories, and graciously posed for pictures with his fraternity brothers. It was a momentous occasion, marking 100 years of brotherhood and camaraderie.

Brother London Wilson's contributions and legacy continue to resonate within our community and beyond. His unwavering commitment to service, education, and brotherhood serve as a shining example





## BENNARD "BILLY" NELSON SPRING 2-82- RHO THETA Theta Chi / Houston, TX

Bennard "Billy" Nelson Spring 2-82- Rho Theta of the "Twilight Twelve" Line was a great brother who supported the masses with his wisdom. Brother Nelson was a bridge builder with over 42 years of service to Omega and her cause. Brother Nelson served in the US Army and made the rank of Captain he served and led the country well during his tour of duty. Brother Nelson was a proud Alumni of Prairie View A&M University and supported the University in all endeavors to help uphold the great legacy of the university. This brother imparted so much knowledge to the members of Rho Theta and Theta Chi Chapter. The standard of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. was embedded into all members who had the opportunity to fellowship with him. The love Borther Nelson had for the brotherhood was known nationwide. The life of Brother Nelson pushed many brothers to be their best in all endeavors that they embark on. The legacy will forever be etched in the hearts of those who knew and heard of from other brother's encounters with him on a personal acquaintance. Brother Bennard Nelson will not be forgotten but always remembered for speaking and teaching friendship to those who desired a closer connection.



## THETA CHI SUPPORTS AUTISM AWARENESS Theta Chi / Houston, TX

On Friday, June 14th, the Theta Chi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity demonstrated its commitment to community service by partnering with the Minority Behavioral Health Alliance (MBHA) to organize a Field Day at Avondale House in Houston, TX. Avondale House, accredited by the Texas Alliance of Accredited Private Schools (TAAPS), specializes in year-round educational programs tailored for children aged 3-21 diagnosed with moderate to severe autism, who may face significant behavioral challenges.

The MBHA, a non-profit organization founded by Brother Dr. Cottrell Jacobs in 2019, is dedicated to advancing the behavioral health and well-being of BIPOC communities. Their mission not only promotes advocacy but also fosters collaboration among African-American practitioners, serving as a vital network for subject matter experts in the behavioral health field.

The Field Day itself was designed not only to engage the students in physical activities and team-building exercises but also to emphasize the importance of promoting health and pro-social behavior within the autism community. MBHA generously provided lunch for the participants, further enhancing the day's positive impact.

With a growing global emphasis on enhancing behavioral health and well-being across all communities, particularly those underserved and unserved, initiatives like this underscore Theta Chi's dedication to social sciences and community upliftment through meaningful service.

#### **\*\*Additional Major Facts:\*\***

1. \*\*Prevalence and Impact\*\*: Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) affects approximately 1 in 44 children in the United States, with a higher prevalence among boys than girls. The condition presents a spectrum of challenges, including communication difficulties, social impairments, and repetitive behaviors.

\*Source\*: [CDC's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network](https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/data.html)

2. \*\*Educational Approaches\*\*: Avondale House utilizes evidence-based educational strategies and behavioral interventions tailored to each student's needs. These methods aim to maximize learning opportunities and improve the quality of life for children and young adults with autism.

\*Source\*: [Avondale House](https://avondalehouse.org/our-programs/)

These facts not only highlight the significance of supporting children with autism but also underscore the critical role of organizations like



## THETA CHI COLLABORATES WITH TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY THETA CHI / HOUSTON, TX

On May 4th, the Theta Chi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, in collaboration with the Texas Southern University Center for Biomedical and Minority Health Research and Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church, organized a significant event centered around mental health awareness. Titled "Mind Matters," the event aimed to raise awareness about mental health issues and promote strategies for emotional well-being and self-care.

The event was a part of the fraternity's broader initiative, "Brother, You're On My Mind," conducted in partnership with the National Institute of Minority Health. The fraternity's commitment to mental health advocacy was evident as Brother Virgil Elkins hosted the event, and Brother Dr. Cottrell Jacobs participated in the panel discussion, highlighting the fraternity's active involvement in addressing mental health challenges within the community.

Mental health awareness is crucial as it impacts individuals, families, and communities. By raising awareness and providing resources for emotional well-being and self-care, events like "Mind Matters" play a vital role in breaking the stigma surrounding mental health issues. They also help individuals recognize the signs of mental health problems, seek help when needed, and promote a culture of understanding and support. The event was not limited to physical attendance; it was also streamed online via Zoom and Facebook, reaching a broader audience. Despite the challenges posed by the ongoing pandemic, the event attracted 27 people in person and 44 online participants. This hybrid format ensured that the message of mental health awareness reached a diverse and widespread audience, contributing to its overall impact.

In conclusion, "Mind Matters" was a successful event that underscored the importance of prioritizing emotional well-being and self-care. Through collaborative efforts between Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Texas Southern University, and Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church, the event made a significant impact on the community by raising awareness about mental health and promoting strategies for maintaining good mental health.

#### Mind Matters: Prioritizing Emotional Well-Being and Self-Care



TSU

1pm-2:30 pm Location: Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church Address: 3015 N. MacGregor Way, Houston, TX, 77004 I durational Preparation & Panel Discussion

**CBMHR** 

2



Advance Health Equity Program GOOD HOPE

Or Online **on Zoom!** 1pm-2:30 pm



## XI DELTA GRADUATES XI DELTA / SAN MARCOS, TX

The Brothers of Xi Delta Chapter at Texas State University, located in San Marcos, TX, proudly extend their heartfelt congratulations to the remarkable graduates of 2024. These young men have demonstrated unwavering determination and resilience as they earned their Bachelor's degrees and embarked on the exciting journey ahead.

As these Brothers step into the next phase of their lives, the Xi Delta Chapter stands by their side, ready to support and celebrate their achievements. Whether pursuing advanced degrees, entering the workforce, or contributing to their communities, these graduates embody the fraternity's values of scholarship, leadership, and service.

#### Bro. Aaron General (1-21-Xi Delta)

Bachelor of Science in Social work with a minor in sociology -Summa Cum Laude -Seguin ISD internship

Bro. Josh Emmanuel (3-23-Xi Delta)

- Bachelor in Arts Psychology with a minor in Business
- Txst SAAC President
- BSAA co-founder and Vp/President
- Sun Belt Conference Rep
- NCAA Division One SAAC
- Football Oversight Committee FBS Student Athlete Rep
- BSA Summit Fellow
- Suicide Prevention Counselor
- 2024 Texas State Image Awards Goodwill Award Recipient

## **5TH ANNUAL JUNETEENTH BICYCLE RALLY** BROTHER LARRY JOHNSON II / ALPHA IOTA IOTA / DALLAS, TX

The Alpha Iota Iota Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. partnered with Soul Patrol of North Texas for their 5th Annual Juneteenth Bicycle Rally held in Frisco and McKinney, Texas. The event was successful, featuring over 400 cyclists and 100 volunteers from several Divine Nine organizations. Additionally, the event provided a platform for many small businesses to showcase and sell their products, which is extremely important to our community, as it creates and sustains economic wealth.

The Juneteenth Bicycle Rally raises money to support scholarships for students who need financial assistance to pursue their education after high school. Since this event's inception, more than \$30,000 has been awarded to Divine Nine organizations for their scholarship initiatives. The 2024 Juneteenth Bicycle Rally will continue to drive the aim of uplifting the youth and community.

Brother Hillis Davis, Bro. Dr. James Guess, and the entire board of directors of the Soul Patrol, offered their sincere gratitude to the Alpha Iota Iota Chapter for showing up and showing out. The chapter showed up in force to execute many critical areas to make this event a success. The North Dallas Ques understand the assignment and the importance of leading, serving, and uplifting communities.



## DELTA XI CHAPTER SUPPORTS BACK-TO-SCHOOL AND HEALTH FAIR RALLY BRO. STEVEN SINGLETON, SR. / DELTA XI / ROWLETT, TX

On August 10, 2024, the Delta Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. partnered with the Garland NAACP and the Garland Independent School District (GISD) to organize a community event to assist underprivileged families. With an annual attendance of 250-350 individuals, the Health Fair and Back-to-School Rally offers an array of services for all family members, including the distribution of backpacks, school supplies, children's books, health screenings, GISD information booths, prizes, and interactive activities. The event also provides health screenings for crucial indicators such as blood pressure and cardiovascular health. The 21st Annual Back-to-School and Health Fair was held at Lakeview Centennial High School on August 10, 2024.

The Delta Xi Chapter, the Garland NAACP, and the Garland Independent School District (GISD) collaborated to execute this event successfully. Their contributions encompassed the organization and distribution of school supplies, the guidance of patrons to the voter registration and health screening points, and the management of logistical responsibilities following the rally's conclusion.

During the event, the Delta Xi brothers engaged with numerous children and introduced them to a challenge based on the acronym STAR:

- S STOP and take a deep breath.
- T THINK of all your choices.
- A ANTICIPATE potential outcomes following each choice.
- R RESPOND by selecting the optimal course of action.

The event was curated to serve families by equipping them with the necessary resources to prepare their children for the upcoming school year. The profound impact of their participation is a testament to the collective effort and should be a source of pride for all involved.

Resident Michelle Davis expressed, "They're providing school supplies and book bags, which is the reason for our presence," emphasizing the positive influence of the event. NAACP member Harry Hoskins also emphasized the significance of community support, stating, "It is crucial to assist families in need, and they are aware that they can seek resources at community events such as this." This event, which aligns with the Delta Xi Chapter's commitment to "Excellence in Service," should serve as an inspiration to all.



### DEVELOP YOU-1911

#### BROTHER LARRY JOHNSON II / ALPHA IOTA IOTA / DALLAS, TX

In January 2024, the Alpha Iota Iota Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., (North Dallas Ques) proudly launched the chapter's youth mentoring initiative called Develop YOU-1911. This program is designed to support Omega's global Fatherhood and Mentoring mandate. The target audience for this program is the African American male youth residing within Collin County, with an initial focus on high school juniors and seniors.

The Develop YOU-1911 program takes a curriculum-based approach to engage and support participants encouraging them to reach their academic potential, empowering them with knowledge of self, and equipping them with tools to achieve self-actualization.

Participants in the program are guided through a 6-part series by the chapter Brotherhood from January through June focused on the following principles:

Identity & Confidence –teaching participants how to be comfortable in their own "skin" and provide them with the confidence needed to navigate life's journey

Emotional Intelligence – techniques for identifying the various emotions experienced and strategies to beneficially manage each of them

Character – unpacks the mental and moral attributes distinctive to developing into a good person

Character in Leadership – delves into the values, beliefs, and actions influencing how participants connect with others around them

Time Management – methods for developing the disciplines required to separate priorities from noise and how to juggle life's ever-evolving challenges

Smart Goal Planning – frameworks for developing and defining meaningful goals to achieve targeted objectives within a focused set of time

Embedded as part of the delivery of these six sessions, participants can also expect the following outcomes:

Discover the importance of culture, family values, and true brotherhood

Determine how to be role models and the importance of civic responsibility

A basic understanding of leadership concepts

Understand the value of fiscal responsibility

Exposure to the proper etiquette for various events and activities

Learn basic organizational structures

The program takes on a bifurcated structure towards mentoring bringing all mentors and mentees together for a monthly group session and one-on-one pairings where Brothers assigned to individual participants are required to connect with their mentees on the 19th and the 11th of each month. This approach is designed to create safe spaces for group sessions where everyone benefits from the sharing of each other's lived experiences and person-to-person connections to create stronger and longer-lasting relationships with the mentees. As these young men matriculate to the next phase of their lives, be it college, the military, or other endeavors, we believe it is important for them to continue to have access to positive Black male role models. The men of Alpha Iota Iota stand ready to fulfill that purpose.





## **DELTA XI CHAPTER, "SHAPING MINDS FOR THE FUTURE"** BRO. STEVEN SINGLETON, SR. / DELTA XI / ROWLETT, TX

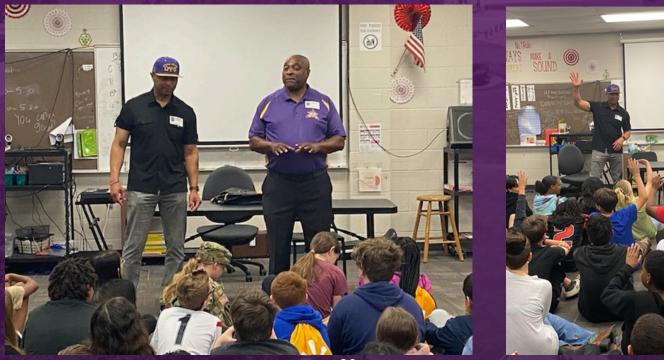
On May 10, 2024, Travis Intermediate School, Greenville, Texas, hosted its spring annual career fair day, a significant event made possible by the support of numerous businesses and professional leaders throughout the DFW area. From aerospace to the medical industry, a diverse range of occupations were in attendance. Among them were brothers Clifton White and Burghardt Patton of the Delta Xi Chapter, who shared their valuable insights about their profession, the dynamics of their industry, and the steps required to achieve any goal. Their mission was to ignite a spark of curiosity in young minds, encourage them to start preparing for the future and explore alternative options if their initial career choice didn't pan out.

Leading the coordination of the event was instructional Coach Jelesa Washington, whose dedication and hard work were instrumental in its success. She shared, "We hope that students will hear about careers that interest them, spark their curiosity, and drive them to make strong choices in school to work toward their desired career in the future. Our goal with this annual event is to encourage students to follow their passion, know that it is possible if they think it is, and think outside the box to non-traditional opportunities that will make a difference." Her role in the event was crucial in inspiring students to consider a wide range of career options.

As technology continues to redefine job descriptions across the workforce, the importance of future employees' adaptability, critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, and communication skills becomes even more critical. The career fair introduced students to various professions and emphasized the need for these skills in the evolving job market, motivating them to develop these skills for their future careers.

For eight years, the brothers of Delta Xi Chapter have provided school supplies, teacher appreciation gifts, and career development to Travis Intermediate School. A successful career day gives students examples of the many ways they are learning in school that can relate to educational and career opportunities in the future. Even more, it gets students excited.

Career Day is always circled on Delta Xi's calendar. The brothers understand the importance and significance of this event as they continue to shape young minds for the future.



## DELTA XI CHAPTER OF OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC. "TAKE A BITE OUT OF HUNGER" Bro. Steven Singleton, Sr. / Delta XI / Rowlett, TX

On August 27th, 2024, the Delta Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity made a significant impact on the Buckner Center for Humanitarian Aid. This year, for the 5th consecutive year, Delta Xi donated nonperishable food to needy families at the Buckner Center for Humanitarian Aid in Dallas, TX. The Chapter's unique collection of food items, including cases of boxed meals, canned meats, canned fruit, cereal, dry rice and beans, and more, was a crucial part of Buckner's food distribution to their hundreds of clients, providing much-needed sustenance and relief. The brothers' donation of over 1300lbs of food solidified Delta Xi's role as one of Buckner's critical supporters for families through the Buckner Humanitarian Aid Center. Below are five of the Chapter's goals in support of the Buckner Food Pantry:

Building Compassion: Food donation fosters compassion and empathy in society. It reminds us of many struggles and encourages us to be more compassionate and generous.

Alleviating Hunger: This is one of the most significant benefits of giving food to people experiencing poverty. In a world where millions struggle to secure their next meal, food donation drives provide a much-needed lifeline to needy people.

Good Health: When carefully selected, donated food can provide essential nutrients that may be missing from the diets of those in need. Thoughtfully donating food to people experiencing poverty can even improve their physical and mental health.

Building a supportive community: Food donation fosters a sense of community. It brings people from different backgrounds together with a shared goal of helping the hungry. So, in addition to the benefits of food donation, people who donate also become part of a community that understands its importance.

Long-term Impact: The Delta Xi Chapter understands that providing proper meals to people in need without a plan cannot meet the objectives of food donation. The brothers of Delta Xi are committed to addressing not only immediate hunger but also developing long-term strategies to combat hunger, ensuring a lasting impact on the community.

Buckner provides food, clothing, shoes, hygiene kits, and medical supplies, to name a few. Michael Julian, Assistant Director-Logistics at Buckner Center for Humanitarian Aid, said, "We look forward to Delta Xi's support each year. It comes right, as many need food and clothing during summer." The men of Delta Xi tailored this Community Service project to fill a void during the summer months just before school starts.

The Chapter is deeply grateful to all who donated and participated in this food drive that helps needy families. The Delta Xi brother's labor of love came to fruition, proving that a collective force of compassion can ignite change, eradicate hunger, and elevate humanity. This well-deserved contribution not only continues the Chapter's 2024 mantra of 'Excellence in Service' but also reinforces Delta Xi's unwavering and ongoing commitment to the community, ensuring that the fraternity will continue to make a positive impact.





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## LAUNCH OF THE OMEGA STARS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM Bro. Brandon Kitchin / Epsilon Alpha

The brothers of the Epsilon Alpha chapter launched their mentorship program in concordance with the fraternity's newest mandated program. The mentorship program, Omega Stars, stands on a foundation of mentoring young men in the local community built previously by the chapter – previously known as Omega League. Epsilon Alpha welcomed 38 students ranging from 5th to 12th grade from the Tarrant County area into the cohort.

In December, Epsilon Alpha hosted an informational session for participants and their families and the program kicked off in January with monthly meetings through May. Each session introduced a new Cardinal Principle, guest speakers, and breakout sessions for the elementary, middle, and high school groups from January to April.

At the end of April, the Omega Stars visited Texas Christian University (TCU) for a campus tour and the spring football game. For some Omega Stars, it was their first time at TCU, and for others, their first time on a college campus.

The campus tour was led by TCU Alumni brothers: James Reed (EA '09), Byron Bailey (EA '10), Darius Thompson and Skylar Huey ( $\Sigma\Lambda$  '12), and Brandon Kitchin (EA '17). The brothers shared about their journeys to college, their formative experiences and involvements on campus, and how a TCU degree shaped the trajectory of their lives and careers.

At the spring football game, the Omega Stars met TCU Alumni brother and current Tennessee Titans linebacker Garret Wallow ( $\Sigma\Lambda$  '19) who was able to coordinate pictures with former TCU and current NFL players, as well as field access for the Omega Stars following the game.

In May, Epsilon Alpha hosted the graduation ceremony for the cohort. Inspirational words and the keynote address were given by Bro. Wallow and Bro. Stephan Mitchell ( $Z\Phi$  '21), respectively.

The lone senior student was gifted with an Omega Stars backpack and a Chromebook from the chapter. He also received a scholarship from Children On the Mend, Inc. as he prepares to attend college. To conclude the graduation ceremony weekend, the Omega Stars attended the chapter's quarterly church service the following Sunday at Great Commission Baptist Church in Fort Worth.

Omega Stars will continue building momentum when they resume monthly mentoring sessions during Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 as they retain the original cohort and seek to gain more students.

A special thank you to Bro. Reed and Bro. Lacey Sims (EA '21) for their fearless leadership as the co-chairs of the Omega Stars committee.



#### **DELTA XI CHAPTER, "JOURNEY THROUGH FAITH"** BRO. STEVEN SINGLETON, SR. / DELTA XI / ROWLETT, TX

On May 22, 2024, Brother Dr. Curtis G. Hill (#1 SPR 78, Theta Theta) gave his final lecture and officially retired from Dallas Community College. For over 30 years, Brother Hill has dedicated his life to preparing students for life's journey.

Dr. Hill's journey in the field of education is a testament to his unwavering dedication and commitment. With a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting, a Master of Science in Counseling & Guidance from Texas A&M University-Commerce, and a Doctor of Education in Educational Administration from Baylor University, he has built a formidable knowledge base. His 25 years of service in higher education have been marked by a diverse range of roles, including part-time faculty, teaching graduate and undergraduate students, Mental Health Counselor, Director of Counseling, Coordinator of TRIO & Workforce Programs, and Vice President of Student Affairs. He retires after serving as a Counseling & Psychological Services staff member with Dallas College, and the sole proprietor of Relationships Refocused, a coaching, consulting, and counseling practice.

As Dr. Hill embarks on this new chapter of his life, he carries the same faith and dedication that has guided him throughout his career. His journey began in elementary school with Mt. Horeb Missionary Baptist Church in South Dallas, and he continued to nurture his faith during college. As an adult, he rededicated his life to Christ with Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship (OCBF) church, where he served in various ministries and became an ordained Deacon. He is a proud father of three daughters from a marital union with his college sweetheart and is now blessed with four children and ten grandchildren. Dr. Hill plans to continue serving at OCBF in the Counseling Ministry through the Free at Last program.

One of Dr. Hill's favorite quotes is from Theodore Roosevelt, "The best executive is the one who has sense enough to pick good men (or women) to do what he (or she) wants done and the self-restraint to keep from meddling with them while they do it." The brothers of the Delta Xi Chapter extend their heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Curtis G. Hill. Enjoy all those relaxing years ahead. May this next chapter of life open doors to do what you love, including your passion for Omega Psi Phi's initiative, "Brother You're On My Mind (BYOMM)." Thank you for living out Delta Xi's mantra, Excellence in Service.



#### **DELTA XI CHAPTER SERVES GESTURE OF KINDNESS** BRO. STEVEN SINGLETON, SR. / DELTA XI / ROWLETT, TX

On May 11, 2024, the men of Delta Xi delivered boxes of Men's underwear, T-shirts, and socks to "Gestures of Kindness." Their mission is to bring the community together to perform "GESTURES OF KINDNESS" to our neighbors who are in need. GIVING BECAUSE WE CARE is their motto of servanthood. Ms. Gladys Burns stated, "As we show compassion to others, God will bless us. We never know if that could be us on the receiving end." The scripture that drives their mission is "Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor will also cry himself and not be heard." Proverbs 21:13

Brothers began collecting supplies two weeks before the delivery. We are immensely grateful to our community partners who donated in whatever capacity they could. Their support was instrumental in completing the project within the given timeline. The social action team worked collaboratively to overcome any challenges faced during the project, and valuable lessons were learned for future events. Overall, the donation was a success and met all its objectives, thanks to the generous contributions of our community partners.

This project is a testament to the chapter's unwavering dedication to 'Excellence in Service' in 2024. The brothers of the Delta Xi Chapter are committed and deeply dedicated to continuing efforts to support the well-being of those in need across the state of Texas. We are confident that with this unwavering dedication, we can make a significant difference in our community.





#### **BROTHERS SERVE FOSTER CHILDREN AT PANCAKE BREAKFAST** BRO. STEVEN SINGLETON, SR. / DELTA XI / ROWLETT, TX

On August 3, 2024, the brothers of Delta Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. held their annual Back to School Pancake Breakfast for the children and staff from Open Hearts Children and Family Services. Open Hearts Children and Family Services is a licensed child placement agency by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. Ms. Gayun Matthews, Executive Director of Open Hearts Children and Family Services, stated, "We serve as a front-line provider of residential services when abused and neglected children enter the foster care system."

In alignment with Open Hearts' vision, the Delta Xi Chapter demonstrated its commitment to the foster children by providing a nurturing environment during the pancake breakfast. They took the time to say a kind word of encouragement and discussed with the kids the importance of setting goals for their lives and the steps involved in success, including restating the significance of doing well in school.

During the pancake breakfast at Applebee's restaurant, the brothers of Delta Xi raffled off a pizza party to keep the children engaged and encouraged participation in conversations with the members of Delta Xi. Brother Marcus Hines stated that every child needs a champion who will never give up on them." As societies change, it can be easy to forget the importance of community and how every adult has an impact on raising a child.

After the pancake breakfast, the brothers of the Delta Xi Chapter distributed school supplies to the children in attendance, ensuring they were well-prepared for the upcoming school year. The children, now filled with a renewed sense of hope and motivation, asked many questions about what it takes to be successful in achieving their dreams. Their engagement and curiosity about success reflect the positive impact of the event. The brothers of Delta Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. provided a relaxing atmosphere, food, and opportunities to win prizes, creating a positive and impactful experience for the kids.

The outcome of this community service is to inspire and provide hope to all the children of Open Hearts, offering them a path to success and confidence in their abilities to reach their goals. This is in keeping with the Chapter's Mantra of "Excellence in Service."





#### DELTA XI CHAPTER PROVIDES SERVICE TO MEN'S HOMELESS SHELTER BRO. STEVEN SINGLETON, SR. / DELTA XI / ROWLETT, TX

The Brothers of Delta Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, in partnership with the men of Mount Hebron Missionary Baptist Church, Garland, Texas, made a heartwarming contribution by donating a variety of men's clothing to the Union Gospel Mission (UGM) in Dallas, TX on July 6, 2024. The UGM facility provides food, clothing, job counseling, and transportation to homeless men throughout the Dallas proper area.

The generous donation, which included suits, pants, dress shirts, underwear, and shoes, has provided essential and dignified clothing options for needy men. This collaborative effort not only showcases the positive impact that community organizations can have when they come together for a common cause but also makes us all proud of the significant difference we've made in the lives of others.

The donation addresses the practical needs of those less fortunate and demonstrates the spirit of compassion and unity within the local community. It reminds us of the power of collective action in bringing about positive change and offering support to those who need it the most.

The Brothers of Delta Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and the men of Mount Hebron Missionary Baptist Church, Garland, Texas, deserve recognition for their selfless act of kindness and commitment to making a meaningful difference in the lives of others. Their charitable donation undoubtedly made a significant impact, providing much-needed support to the Union Gospel Mission and the individuals it serves.

This heartwarming gesture is an inspiration and a shining example of the positive outcomes that can be achieved through collaborative efforts and acts of kindness within a community. It's a reminder that even small acts of kindness can lead to significant positive change, and it should motivate us all to continue our efforts in supporting those in need.

After completing the clothing delivery, the Brothers of Delta Xi, in conjunction with the Men of Mount Hebron, extended their support beyond material donations by conducting a worship service for the Men of Union Gospel Mission. This uplifting service encompassed scripture readings, soul-stirring hymns, and a compelling sermon centered on the Word of God.

Delta Xi Brother Marcus Hines, a distinguished member of Mount Hebron, delivered a powerful message drawn from the book of John, chapter 15:11-16. With resonating wisdom and deep conviction, Brother Hines reminded the men that they were chosen by God and encouraged them to strive to bear fruit in their lives. His message was a poignant reminder of God's enduring love and calling, offering hope and spiritual nourishment to those in attendance.

The initiative taken by the Brothers of Delta Xi to uplift the spirits of the Men of Union Gospel Mission through a meaningful worship service exemplifies the holistic approach to community support and outreach. These dedicated individuals demonstrated a genuine commitment to fostering positive change and offering comprehensive support by tending to the physical and spiritual needs of those they sought to assist. This comprehensive support should reassure the community that they are cared for in every aspect of their lives.

This act of compassion and spiritual nourishment profoundly reminded us of the enduring connection between faith and service, showcasing the transformative impact that can be achieved by integrating charity and spiritual guidance. The uplifting worship service served as a powerful expression of solidarity and empathy, reinforcing that support extended in the spirit of genuine care can inspire individuals in remarkable ways.

#### DELTA XI CHAPTER PROVIDES SERVICE TO MEN'S HOMELESS SHELTER Continued



#### NORTH TEXAS POST MSP INITIATION TRAINING AND GET RIGHT BRO. ROY PHILLIPS / LAMBDA CHI

On May 19, 2024, at the Epsilon Alpha Educational Center which is located in Ft. Worth, TX., a 9th District Post Initiation Training and Get Right was conducted by North Texas MSP Chairman, Bro. Glen Gowans. In attendance, at this momentous event, were 1st Vice District Representative Bro. David Washington, State Representative Bro. Terry Forest and members from the Lambda Chi, Phi Gamma, Omicron Upsilon, and Alpha Iota Iota Chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Bro. Gowans delivered information regarding Omega Psi Phi Code of Conduct, which was adopted by the Supreme Council on May 18, 2023. The training was very informative and effective for all attendees. The information presented was targeted to educate the 2024 MSP initiates. However, all brothers who attended found the educational session beneficial thanks to the information provided and knowledge shared by Bro. Gowans.

Additionally, the Lambda Chi Chapter, Amarillo, TX., worked diligently to have members, who were to be initiated in 1985, completed to receive their official fraternity records. Bro. Howard McCoo, Jr. faced many challenges during his journey. Thankfully he was able to persevere with IHQ and 9th District. The dedicated brothers of Lambda Chi were able to assist Bro. McCoo with completing the Get Right initiative with the fraternity. Finally, after 39 years of hard work and commitment, Bro. Howard McCoo, Jr. is now officially a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Bro. McCoo was officially led into the fraternity during this event. What an awesome accomplishment.



#### **OMEGA GENTS HEALTH, WELLNESS, AND TECHNOLOGY EXPO 2024** BRO. LAMON SMITH / OMICRON GAMMA GAMMA / ARLINGTON, TX

To end our Spring semester our Omega Gents conducted their 2nd annual Health, Wellness, and Technology Expo at Adams Middle School in Grand Prairie, TX which is in our service area on Friday, May 10th from 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM. Our panelists included multiple people in the Health, Wellness, and Technology fields.

The lead Moderator was our Omega Gent Marquis Willis who was assisted by Bro. Dante' Williams asked our panelist a list of questions that the Omega Gents came up with before this event.

Some of the students and Staff at Adams Middle School asked numerous questions for our panelists to answer.

During the Technology portion of this expo more questions and excitement with the remote-controlled car that was built by Bro. Chad White is a part of our S.T.E.M Team. He demonstrated how he was able to use his cell phone to have the car follow him as he moved around and talked to the students about different opportunities for them to start thinking about exploring now.

To end the Technology portion of our Spring 2024 expo Bro. Marcus Hall took us out to the parking lot to demonstrate his Tesla Model X remote capabilities by using his cell phone. He showed the students how he could drive the car, and open up his doors all from his cell phone.





#### THE BROTHERS OF PSI ALPHA CHAPTER OF SAN ANTONIO, TX, MOURNS THE LOSS OF ONE OF ITS Stalwart members, Bro. Earl Leroy Campbell. Known Affectionately as "the godfather," Bro. Campbell's Legacy Shines Brightly within the Fraternity and the Broader Community Bro. Dr Mateen Diop / PSI Alpha / San Antonio. TX

A Life of Service and Leadership: Bro. Campbell, a proud 1944 Epsilon Sigma initiate from Tillotson College (now Huston Tillotson University) in Austin, TX, made his mark upon moving to San Antonio after college. His commitment to education and community upliftment was unwavering.

Educator and Trailblazer: Bro. Campbell began his career as a science teacher in the San Antonio Independent School District. His passion for learning led him to earn a Master's Degree in Education from Texas Southern University. Notably, he became the first African American Assistant Superintendent in San Antonio, breaking barriers and inspiring generations.

Family Man: Bro. Campbell's love story with his sweetheart, Marilyn, spanned 52 years until her passing in 2000. Their enduring bond remains a testament to love and companionship.

Community Advocate: Beyond the fraternity, Bro. Campbell dedicated himself to community service. He served on the boards of the United Negro College Fund, Project FREE, the Southeast Development Foundation, and the American Cancer Society. As a deacon and trustee of Mt. Zion First Baptist Church, he exemplified faith in action.

Lion's Heart: Bro. Campbell's impact extended to the San Antonio Alamo City Lions Club, where he served since 1988. His leadership as Club President, Secretary, Director, and fundraiser extraordinaire left an indelible mark.

Hall of Fame Inductee: Recognized for his football coaching prowess, Bro. Campbell rightfully joined the Ex-PV (Prairie View) League Negro Hall of Fame in 2003.

An Omega Man's Legacy: Brother Earl Campbell embodied the spirit of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated. For over 80 years, he served with heart and soul, leaving an enduring legacy of excellence, mentorship, and brotherhood.

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May his light continue to guide us as we honor his memory.



#### PSI ALPHA CHAPTER'S ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON CELEBRATES STUDENT EXCELLENCE

#### **BRO. DR MATEEN DIOP / PSI ALPHA / SAN ANTONIO, TX**

On Saturday, May 11, 2024, the Psi Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., hosted its Annual Scholarship Luncheon at the Norris Conference Centers. Led by Scholarship Chairman, Brother Charles Whittaker, the event was a celebration of academic achievement and community support.

Scholarship Recipients: The Psi Alpha Chapter, in collaboration with the Psi Alpha Scholarship Foundation (PASF) and generous donors, recognized 31 outstanding high school seniors from the Class of 2024. Each student received a scholarship award of \$2,000.00, totaling \$62,000.

Guest Speaker: Bro Kenneth Hardeman, a senior at Purdue Global University, delivered an inspiring address during the luncheon.

Community Impact: The scholarship recipients represented 21 different high schools in the San Antonio TX metropolitan area, emphasizing the chapter's commitment to local youth. By continuing to support initiatives like the Scholarship, High School Essay Contest, Fatherhood Initiative, Mentorship, STEM, and Talent Hunt Programs, the Psi Alpha Chapter aims to foster growth and well-being within the community.

How You Can Help: Consider contributing to the Psi Alpha Scholarship Foundation by visiting www.psialphafoundation.com. As a 501©3 non-profit organization, your donation is tax-deductible and directly supports educational opportunities for deserving students.





#### **EXPERIENCE THE VIBRANT ESSENCE OF FIESTA IN SAN ANTONIO, TX** BRO. DR MATEEN DIOP / PSI ALPHA / SAN ANTONIO, TX

The spirit of Fiesta in San Antonio, TX transcends generations, weaving a tapestry of celebration that embraces the essence of our city. Beyond the lively parties and revelry, Fiesta represents a profound commitment to community and education. With each dollar earned, a pathway to higher learning is paved for deserving high school students in Bexar and neighboring counties, embodying the true essence of giving back.

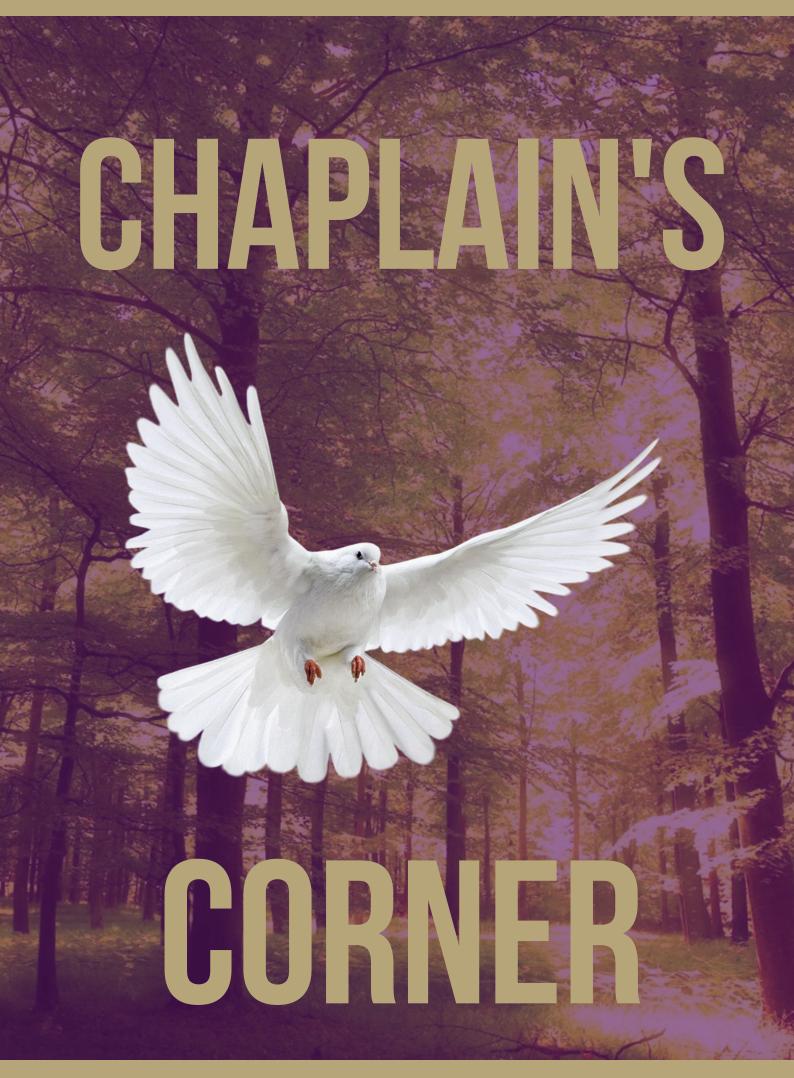
Amidst this whirlwind of festivity, the Psi Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. stands tall, fully immersing itself in the rich tapestry of Fiesta traditions. On April 19th, the brothers of the Psi Alpha Chapter, alongside the Psi Alpha Foundation, hosted their illustrious Fiesta Masquerade Party. Embracing a Louisiana theme, the night was alive with infectious energy, featuring lively dancing, coveted prize giveaways, and an abundance of laughter. A remarkable sum exceeding thirty thousand dollars was raised, with a substantial portion earmarked for the commendable cause of supporting deserving high school graduates on their educational journey.

But the commitment of the Psi Alpha Chapter extends beyond their festivities. They are integral participants in the Annual Taste of New Orleans festival, an esteemed Fiesta event that draws crowds from far and wide. Here, the brothers of the Psi Alpha Chapter not only ensure the smooth operation of the event but also extend their camaraderie to fellow attendees. Through diligent ID checks and the distribution of wristbands, they play a vital role in upholding safety measures, all while fostering a sense of community and togetherness amongst themselves.

The Taste of New Orleans stands as a beacon of Fiesta's grandeur, and the brothers of the Psi Alpha Chapter proudly stand at its forefront, embodying the spirit of service and unity that defines this spectacular celebration. As they continue to leave an indelible mark on Fiesta, their dedication serves as a testament to the enduring legacy of community and goodwill that defines San Antonio's most cherished tradition.







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# CHAPLAINES CORNER

#### Godly Friendship Friendship is Essential to the Soul

"There are 'friends who destroy each other, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother." Proverbs 18:24

If our motto is "Friendship is Essential to the Soul", then we can extrapolate that love begat friendship because love has to come from the soul. And God breathed into man's nostril and he became a living Soul. Genesis 2:7

Whereas, God is love and if God is love then friendship is a by-product of His love. So, if our motto is FIETTS, then our founding fathers must have known something about love for one another. Therefore, to gain a friend, which is relational, we must find ourselves with love for God, ourselves, and others; like in the story of Johnathan and David. Christ was once asked what was the greatest commandment of all. He said: "To love our God with all your heart, body, mind and soul and the second was like unto it; to love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:36-40 So, if we approach our walk in our Christian and Omega life with these same basic Christian principles, then our four cardinal principles will be the pillars that support the foundation for which we stand:

Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.

Living in this light of our Omega journey, we can truly live our creed as Omega brothers, as Omega friends. I believe this is what Omega requires of all its sons. To recognize friendship, we must give and receive love first and freely. If we love others as we do ourselves, connecting to another with like attainment produces a bond of friendship that will be found in our DNA. So, in choosing a friend I share these sentiments exactly with another Pastor who shared them in his devotion. It is enlightenment for our soul and oil for our lamps.

Sociologists tell us that in the first stage of life, we are shaped mostly by our family. In the second stage of life and for the rest of our lives we are shaped largely by our friends. In ways big and small, we become like the people we spend time with. Our friends influence us for better or worse. They either elevate us and motivate us to be our best possible selves, or they take us down with them. And we do the same for them. Some people bring joy wherever they go. Others bring joy whenever they go. Which one are you? Are you the one who lights up a room or turns the lights off? Are you the one who builds others up or the one who tears them down? Don't befriend angry people or associate with them or hot-tempered people.

# CHAPLAINES CORNER

"Wisdom is before him that hath understanding, but the eyes of a fool are in the ends of the earth."

Proverbs 18:24

Distinguish between destructive friends and real friends. However, sometimes in this life, it is hard to assess the difference between real friends and destructive friends. Friends that will destroy your character or life and those who will enhance it. Here is a tidbit of help. Those who ride or die in stormy times outside the good time are found still with you, closer than a brother. This could be a real friend. And if you don't have a lot of friends. It's hard to tell whether a friend who destroys is worse than no friend at all. The Bible offers several tips for finding godly friends and avoiding ungodly ones.

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of the sinner, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in His law doth he meditates day and night." Psalms 1

The best place to find these potential friends is where God's people meet. Worshipping or serving together in a great godly ministry in church or a great fraternity like, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. These are considered to be ideal common grounds to build eternal friendships. If you already have a godly friendship, treat them like the treasures they are. Give God thanks for them. Express your gratitude to your friends. Refuse to take them for granted. Respect their time, their opinions, their boundaries, their privacy, and their personal preferences. Be the godly friend your friends need. Pray for them daily in a meaningful way. Stay informed about their needs and struggles so that you can take each one before God individually. Encourage them with words of comfort, motivation, and wisdom from Scripture. Put genuine effort into your friendship. Give it a place of priority in your life. Do the heavy lifting when necessary. Refuse to allow minor squabbles to grow into something bigger. Be quick to understand and forgive. Keep the lines of communication always open.

"This is My commandment, that you love one another, as I have loved you. There is no greater love than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. You are My friends, if you do whatsoever, I command you." John 15:12-14

# CHAPLAINES CORNER

Our founders, Brother Bishop Edgar A. Love, Brother Oscar J. Cooper, and Brother Frank Coleman, and their mentor Brother Ernest E. Just birthed this great Fraternity of Men from a godly vision of the Supreme Basileus of the Universe/God our Father. They built it on the cardinal principles of:

Manhood \* Scholarship \* Perseverance \* Uplift

Remember Omega Men our responsibility is to God by our oath and the world is watching!

Be the friend that sticks closer than a brother, no matter what! God bless you and keep you is our prayer and as always "Go with God!



### WHEN WE WEAR THE GLOVES

BY BRO. DR. CARVER A. PORTLOCK

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 Pearl.

When we wear the gloves

## **40 UNDER 40**

## NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

#### **Mighty 9th District**

# **UNTIL 27172025**

## IMPORTANT DATES

2025 Winter Council Meeting Saturday, January 18, 2025

Lone Star State Ques (LSSQ) February 8, 2025 - San Antonio, TX

Natural State Ques (NSQ) February 15, 2025 - West Memphis, AR

Oklahoma State Ques Association (OSQA) February 22, 2025 - Tulsa, OK

**Unified Omegas of Louisiana (UOL)** March 15, 2025 - Lake Charles, LA

#### Arkansas | Louisiana | Oklahoma | Texas