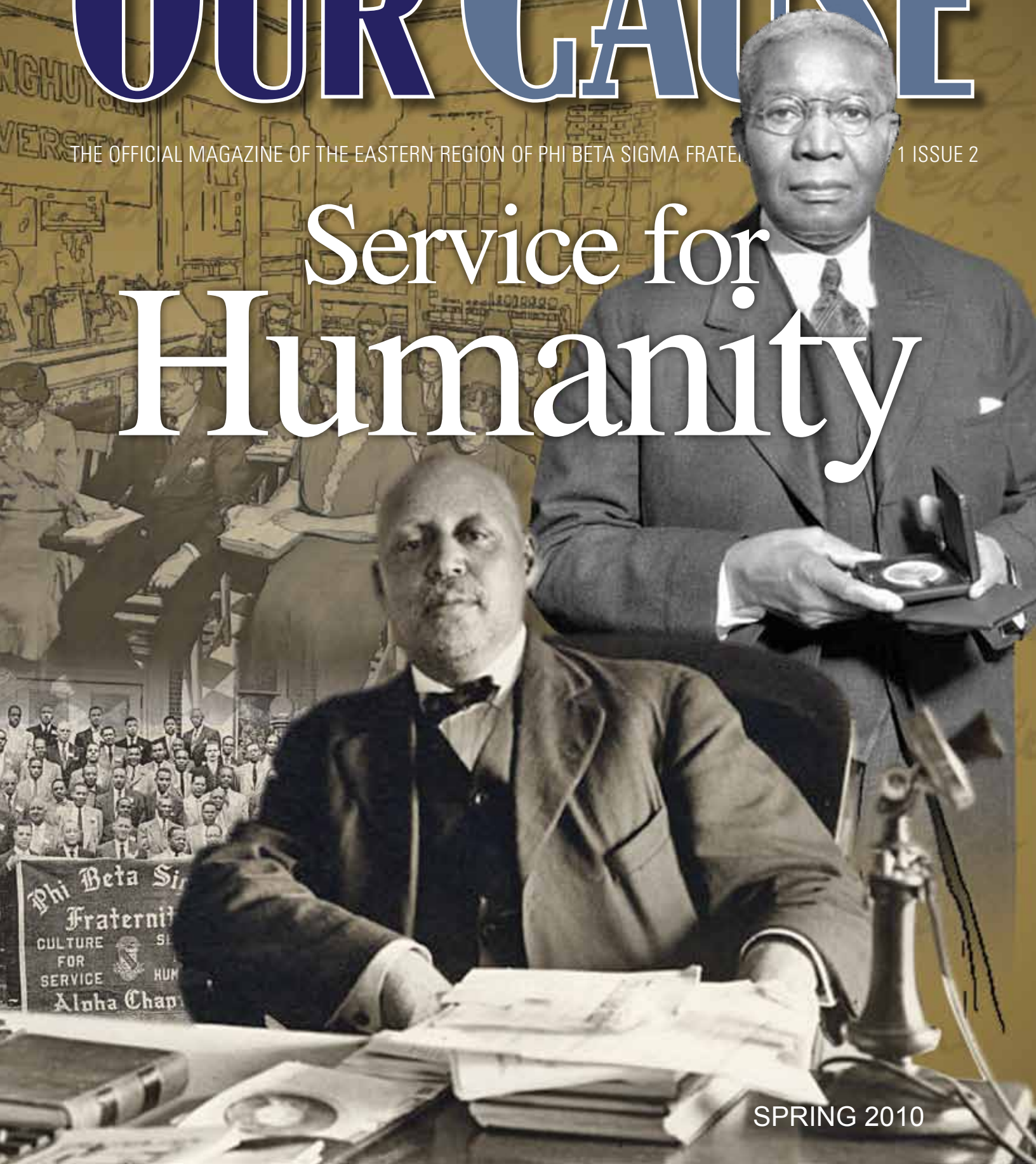


OUR CAUSE

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE EASTERN REGION OF PHI BETA SIGMA FRATERNITY 1 ISSUE 2

Service for Humanity



SPRING 2010

2008-2010 Eastern Regional Board

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2. Van Rosebrough (Director of Bigger and Better Business)
3. Craig Collins (Director of Social Action)
4. Todd LeBon (Director of Publicity)
5. Greville French (Immediate Past Regional Director)
6. Darrick Fuller (Treasurer)
7. Jean Lamothe (Director of Education)
8. Hon. Darryl Williams (24th Regional Director)
9. Leonard Lockhart (Vice Director)

NOT PICTURED:
Curtis Banks (Secretary)
Luis Nuñez (Associate Regional Director)



ON THE COVER: Seated: Judge Robert H. Terrell, Standing: Robert R. Moton
Background images: 1955 Eastern Regional Conference and a class at Frelinghuysen University

OUR CAUSE Contents

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24th Regional Director

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An Interview with Bro. Warren Ballentine	8
The Mayor of Orange Wears Blue & White	12
The Hon. Bro. Millard "The Dean" Watkins, Jr.	17
"Tall, Dark and Overweight?"	24
Honorary Members	26
Bridging The Education Gap.....	30
A Call To Social Action Consciousness.....	32
10 Years of The Sigma Museum.....	34

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Fraternally,
Hon. Darryl T. Williams
24th Eastern Regional Director

GREETINGS

On behalf of the Eastern Regional Board, I extend to you greetings and welcome you to the 2nd edition of the Eastern Regional “*OUR CAUSE*” magazine. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the brothers of the Mighty Eastern Region for their continued support of not only this Regional Board, but for the support you give Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. In keeping with our motto, “Culture for Service and Service for Humanity”, this edition of our regional magazine is dedicated to “*Service*”. As Sigma men, we should always be on the alert to find opportunities for service to our community and the Fraternity.

We salute those Sigma brothers and chapters throughout the Eastern Region for their commitment to living those ideals and principles of our great fraternity. As your Eastern Regional Director, I encourage every Sigma to become engaged in those activities and programs with the idea of rendering service. This is not only our motto, but also a standard for personal living.

Congratulations go out once again to our Regional Director of Publicity and the Publicity Committee for their dedication and the outstanding work done in bringing this publication to the brothers. I would also like to thank the entire Regional Board, State and Area Deputy Directors for their time, commitment and service over the past two years. Congratulations to our 33rd International President, the Hon. Jimmy Hammock for his vision for the future of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. The Eastern Region has adopted his international theme of “CHANGING Lives Through Service”.

As we celebrate 96 years of rich history, let him who would become a member of Phi Beta Sigma dedicate himself to the principles of **BROTHERHOOD, SCHOLARSHIP and SERVICE** that he may with the firmest conviction repeat the immortal words of the first initiate of Phi Beta Sigma, Bro. Abraham McCartney Walker:

“I believe in all that Phi Beta Sigma represents, and I will herald and defend it even against the world.”



Once again, it has been my pleasure to edit the articles submitted to “The Cause”, our regional newsletter and magazine. I am also very happy to see the expansion in the number of articles submitted; although many of our regional chapters have not as yet come to a full realization of the value of creating and submitting a record of the many activities and programs that carry out.

Articles submitted serve the value of publicizing the many good works done in local communities under the mandate of Phi Beta Sigma. But, beyond simple publicity, recording the many projects and activities that a chapter has carried out also serves as a stimulus and guide to other chapters as to what can be done and how such projects can be carried to a successful conclusion.

As each of you read the wonderful articles contained in this issue, please encourage your chapter to join those listed here by submitting an article on your good works for our next issue.

Phi Beta Sigma was not organized to focus praise on the individual members of our region or of the fraternity at-large. Phi Beta Sigma was organized to provide a record of dedicated service to humanity. The articles presented here show that many of our chapters have taken the oath that they swore to heart.

As a past regional and international officer, I say well done and thank you.

Gerald D. Smith

The Businessman



Bro. Van Rosebrough
(Eastern Region
Director of
Bigger and Better
Business)

Van Rosebrough is a teaching and training professional with diverse experience in education, business management and information technology. Van has been recognized for his dynamic ability to articulate information in a manner that is informative and fun.

Upon graduating, Summa Cum Laude, from Morgan State University, Van began his professional career as a classroom teacher in

Baltimore County's first Technology Magnet Program. Van later used this experience to open Pursuits of Excellence Educational Services, an educational consulting and tutorial service designed to enhance the progress of students through alternative educational initiatives.

Currently, Van is an IT Specialist for the Social Security Administration where he serves on the team in charge of writing the detailed functional requirements for the design and development of computer software associated with the agency's multi-million dollar initiative to use technology to enhance the claims process.

Van currently holds a Master's degree in Education with an emphasis in

Curriculum and Technology and is scheduled to continue his doctoral studies in the fall. Eager to always share his enthusiasm for learning, Van has served as an adjunct professor in the Adult Education program at the Baltimore City Community College and launched Van Rosebrough Business Solutions, Inc., a business venture aimed at providing corporate training and facilitation services to businesses of all sizes throughout the Baltimore and Washington Metropolitan area.

Van currently serves as the Eastern Regional Director of Bigger & Better Business, and president of Zeta Sigma Chapter in Baltimore, MD.

OUR CAUSE Bookshelf



1. Autobiography of Malcolm X (Malcolm X / Alex Haley)
2. Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story (Ben Carson)
3. Mirror to America: The Autobiography of John Hope Franklin (John Hope Franklin)
4. Countering the Conspiracy to Destroy Black Boys, Volumes 1-4 (Jawanza Kunjufu)
5. Mis-Education of the Negro (Carter G. Woodson)
6. Stolen Legacy (George G. M. James)
7. Breaking the Chains of Psychological Slavery (Na'im Akbar)
8. Why Should White Guys Have All the Fun?: How Reginald Lewis Created a Billion-Dollar Business Empire (Reginald F. Lewis, Blair S. Walker)
9. Animal Farm (George Orwell)
10. Serving up Hope and Freedom: The Triumphant Story of James and Robert Paschal (Mae A. Kendall) [Visit \[www.pbseast.org\]\(http://www.pbseast.org\) for a complete book list](http://www.pbseast.org)

THE DOCTORAL STUDENT

Bro. Dennis Donaldson



Bro. Dennis Donaldson is a spring 2009 graduate of Virginia State University, with a degree in Physics. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in Geological Sciences at Louisiana State University (LSU). The four year PhD program requires him to conduct diverse outreach in an effort to promote the program to incoming undergraduate geology students and PhD students. This outreach targets individuals with disabilities, other ethnic minorities and women.

Dennis hopes to one day establish Earth Science programs at underrepresented institutions across the country, with a focus on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU).

THE UNDERGRADUATE

Bro. William Dennis



Bro. William Dennis is a Bunton Waller Fellow studying Energy, Business and Finance at Penn State University. Along with his membership in Phi Beta Sigma, he is involved in a number of other campus activities. Dennis is a member of S-plan, which is a mentoring program for first year students which helps to provide them with the support needed to succeed in their first year of college. He is also a member of the National Society of Black Engineers, whose purpose is to increase the number of culturally responsible black engineers, who excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community. His hard work and commitment was rewarded with initiation in the Order of Omega. The Order of Omega is a senior honor society recognizing particularly meritorious men and women in the undergraduate Greek community. As an honors society, it functions as an adjunct to traditional fraternal organizations, rather than a social or professional group. Order of Omega is not an academic honor society; scholarship is only one of six criteria for admission. The purpose of Order of Omega is to recognize those fraternity men and women who have attained a high standard of leadership in inter-fraternity activities.

T. Le Bon

Our Cause had an opportunity to sit down with these men. Please visit our regional website www.pbseast.org to read those interviews.

AN INTERVIEW WITH BRO. WARREN BALLENTINE

by Bro. T. LeBon



The New York Times described him as the next BIG thing in Black radio. He is a recurring guest and correspondent on CNN and Fox Business News. He led the charge in the JENA 6 case and called for a National Economic Blackout.

An accomplished attorney and motivational speaker, he is also host of *The Warren Ballentine Show*. Syndicated in 37 markets, and also featured on XM radio, the show is one of the highest-rated urban talk shows in the nation.

Through the show he engages his listeners and encourages them to not just complain, but take action to solve the issue facing the community. *OUR CAUSE* had an opportunity to sit down with Bro. Ballentine to talk about the show, his listeners, the future and the man often referred to as “The People’s Attorney”.

OUR CAUSE (OC): You are an accomplished attorney and community advocate, how long have you been in radio and where did you get your start?

Warren Ballentine (WB): I have been in radio for 7 years. I started on KISS-FM in Chicago and later went to WGCI. Both stations were owned by Clear Channel, which owned four stations in the Chicago market. I was eventually on all four stations before going into syndication.

OC: With your busy radio schedule and your community efforts do you still have an opportunity to practice law?

WB: I do, but I only go in on big cases. I may help out with a case dealing with discrimination. I am still a partner in a bankruptcy firm with offices in Chicago and Atlanta, Debt Stoppers.

OC: Do you have any advice for young students wishing to follow you into the law profession?

WB: Don't worry about the type of undergraduate degree you have, the important thing is to get the degree. You will need to score high on the LSAT, and be an analytical thinker. To prepare for the LSAT take as many philosophy courses as you can.

OC: How has your experience as an attorney helped you in the broadcasting arena?

WB: My work as an attorney has allowed me to learn both patience and time management. These two areas are crucial in the broadcasting business.

OC: What is the most rewarding aspect of doing your radio show?

WB: The people! It is both an honor and a privilege to talk to so many people, listening to my voice every day. I was recently notified of my inclusion on the latest list of Most Influential African-Americans, published yearly by EBONY magazine. It is an honor to be one of the 150 chosen for the list.

OC: How does the interaction with your listeners, while on the air, enhance the show?

WB: The show is all about the listeners, not about Warren Ballentine. It is about the Truth Fighters.

OC: Tell us about your book, “*The Truth About Black and White*”, and what inspired you to write the book?

WB: Nobody took a look at racism from an economic view. In the book I talk about how it is cheaper to be White in America. That was my motivation for writing the book.

OC: Where can our readers purchase a copy of the book?

WB: Readers can purchase the book at Amazon.com, or on my website www.truthfighters.com.

OC: You called for a National Economic Blackout back in November of 2007. Do you believe a similar economic strategy can be used, over a long term basis, to assist our communities in having our voices heard on issues impacting our communities?

WB: Economic positioning is the key to changing the social economic environment we have today. African-Americans make 900 billion dollars a year, of taxable income. If we leverage our money, spend with each other and target our money; the government and every other organization in this country would be willing to sit down and listen to what we have to say.

OC: How has membership in Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity had an impact on your radio career, your efforts as a community advocate?

WB: What Phi Beta Sigma has allowed me to do is to show young men the advantage of going to college and becoming a member of such a wonderful organization. Sigma has helped me in my community activism. The one thing we are taught is service, when you are serviceable you are an activist for those needing help.

OC: How has the show impacted your life on a daily basis?

WB: It's crazy!!! Sometimes I am in four cities in two days. Finding quality time for me is often difficult, since I am constantly on the road. So many people are pulling at you at once, it is hard to have people around you know and trust.

OC: What do you hope listeners come away with after listening to your show?

WB: I want my listeners to come away with an idea they should think about or research after listening to the show. You should be spending your idol time reading, at least four hours each day. I would like them to come away with a desire to want to know. If they do that, then I am doing my job. Sometimes you do that through a bit of controversy, sometimes with a little love. It all depends on the issue of the day.

OC: How is your syndicated show different from the XM Radio show?

WB: They are exactly the same. The show is syndicated in 27 markets and also on the XM Radio, Channel 169 THE POWER.

OC: In what direction do you hope to take the show in the next 10-15 years?

WB: Honestly; I want the show to expand, as far as growing the audience. I also would like to add a female counterpart.

OC: Who has been your most interesting guest on the show? Why?

WB: The leader of the Ku Klux Klan. The interview was so interesting because he shared information concerning members of both the Congress and Senate who are active, card carrying members of the KKK today.

OC: If you can have one person on the show, who has yet to be a guest, who would it be? What topics would you like to discuss?

WB: Jay Z. I would want him due to the impact he could have on the young people as far as the death and mayhem going on, and the moral compass they don't seem to have. We would talk about the effect his music has on politics. We would also discuss how to get through to our young people and make them understand this is a business and not a reality they are rapping about.

OC: Given the opportunity to debate anyone of your choice, on any issue, in a public forum; who would you debate and what topic would you choose?

WB: It would definitely be Rush Limbaugh and we would debate anything political.

OC: Have you ever considered doing a television show?

WB: Yes, we are actually in talks concerning the development of a television show right now. Stay tuned!

OC: What is the next big project/program you are working on, which you are free to discuss with us?

WB: We are working on a documentary. I am not free to discuss the details of the project right now.

OC: You have worked with Bro. Rev. Al Sharpton in the past, what have you learned from his many years of experience in the area of community advocacy?

WB: I love Bro. Rev. Sharpton; I call him my big brother. I was the one who suggested he should become a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity. He has taught me, not only to be compassionate, but to be there from the beginning, through the middle and to the end. People often fail to realize, when the cameras are gone, Rev. Sharpton is still there fighting.

OC: How did you feel when Bro. Rev. Sharpton became an honorary member of the Fraternity?

WB: I was quite proud, emotional and I believe it is a great thing for the Fraternity, and for a man who I greatly love.

OC: What is the possibility we will one day see you enter the political arena?

WB: I have to laugh at this question, because my chapter brothers and many folks in Chicago are trying to persuade me to move back home and run for political office. I am weighing the possibility. If it is God's will, it will be my way.

OC: What inspired The Truth Fighters, and how can our readers get involved?

WB: Truth Fighters is something I started saying while on the radio in Chicago. I believe people wanted the truth and they were fighting for it. If we are willing to come together and be Truth Fighters, we could fight for truth, equality and justice for all regardless of race. Readers can go to www.truthfighters.com for more information. We are in the process of starting chapters across the country. Hopefully my brothers will start chapters on the campuses and in the communities in an effort to make change for all.

OC: Give our readers three basic tips on how to motivate the community to address those issues, and make those changes, which will have a positive impact on the community.

WB: First, it is important to rally the young people. The young people will be your foot soldiers. I tell our young people to run toward the older generation, not away from them. Let the older generation be your guiding post, and you be the muscle. Second, everyone can not be a chief; someone has to be the Indian. Thirdly, you must sit down and put together an agenda. With an agenda political leaders will listen. You must hold everyone accountable, from ministers, to politicians and yourselves. This will motivate the community for change.

OC: What book(s) are on your nightstand today? What recently read book would you recommend to our readers?

WB: The books on my nightstand; “*The Mis-Education of the Negro*” (Carter G. Woodson), “*Race Matters*” (Dr. Cornel West) and a biography of Abraham Lincoln. The books I would recommend, “*The Truth About Black and White*” (laughter); for our single brothers, “*The Conversation: How Black Men and Women Can Build Loving, Trusting Relationships*” (Hill Harper), and for our undergraduate brothers, “*Campus CEO: The Student Entrepreneur’s Guide to Launching a Multimillion Dollar Business*” (Dr. Randal Pinkett).

OC: Tell us something about yourself that might surprise us.

WB: I have an IQ of 180 and a photographic memory. Sometimes that is good and sometimes it is bad.

OC: What do you do when you have a moment of leisure time?

WB: I am on the links playing some serious golf, with Brian Jordan, Alvin Harper or Bo Jackson. I am playing golf somewhere!

OC: What type of music is on your iPod?

WB: I have some old school house, because I am from Chicago. I also have Lil’ Wayne, Drake, Stevie Wonder, The Commodores, The Isley Brothers, Metallica, Mozart and even some Kenny Chesney. I play an instrument, and this is why I am all over the board musically.

OC: If you had the opportunity to meet three people from the past, who would they be and what would you discuss?

WB: A Philip Randolph, and ask him how he arrived at his vision. Marcus Garvey, to have a deeper understanding of how to handle criticism from those you are advocating for, who are most often your biggest critics. Jesus, to ask him what is the purpose of us as a community of people on this earth.

OC: When all is said and done, what do you hope your legacy will be?

WB: As people reflect on my life I hope they would say . . . There goes a brother who truly loved his family, fraternity and his people. And he truly lived by his motto, “Push me and I will pull you, so when I get to the top of the mountain, you are not looking down at me and I am not looking up at you, but we are standing side by side”.

By BRO. T. WILLIAMS

The Mayor of Orange Wears Blue and White

Eldridge Hawkins, Jr. was elected as the Mayor of Orange, New Jersey on May 13th, 2008, and assumed office on July 1, 2008 after careers as a law enforcement professional and businessman. Hawkins ran on an ambitious agenda to make Orange safer, stabilize property taxes, improve education for people of all ages, and assure the honesty and integrity of government. Mayor Hawkins has established Orange as a city on the move. His focus on law enforcement and his crackdown on street crime, gangs and drug dealers made citizens feel safer. He jump started the city's stalled redevelopment plans, stepped up enforcement of health, safety and housing laws, began televising City Council meetings, and made it easier for citizens to communicate their concerns and get fast action from City Hall.

OUR CAUSE (OC): Since being elected mayor of Orange NJ in 2008 what obstacles have you faced in trying to restore the city back to its prominence?

Mayor Eldridge Hawkins (EH): I was elected Mayor in May of 2008 during a regular election, at which time; I inherited a city with enormous potential whose future was clouded by failed redevelopment efforts, high property taxes, a decaying business district and high crime. Apathy was high and citizen morale was low.

OC: Have the corruption charges of the former mayor had any affect on how you're performing your duties as mayor? (Perception from business leaders/residence of the city)



City Hall
Orange, New Jersey



BRO. ELDRIDGE HAWKINS, JR.
Mayor of Orange, New Jersey

EH: It is important in my conduct as Mayor that I adhere to the highest ethical standards and appoint people who are beyond reproach. These are things I would have done regardless of the previous Mayor's activities. However, since the "citizen's trust" was broken by the previous criminal activity associated with the last administration, my administration and I must be vigilant in our efforts in restoring that trust. One way I accomplished this was by having council meetings televised for the first time in Orange as a means of full transparency. The fact that I am a police officer and have decreased crime in the city by 18% also goes a long way to increase confidence.

OC: Have you encountered any unexpected twist as mayor?

EH: I have had to deal with the economic and tax consequences of the worst economy since the great depression causing local unemployment and home foreclosures. Although I operate a 58 million dollar budget, it is still not enough to comfortably provide the services that my city needs. The domino effect of the national economy, has hit local municipalities hard. Urban cities such as Orange are no exception. Regardless, we have found innovative ways to jump-start our local economy through grants and federal stimulus funds. We've addressed health care by forming an alliance with the largest health care provider in the state by bringing primary health care to senior citizens in their building.

OC: Has your age been looked upon as an asset or a negative?

EH: Although political opponents have criticized my youth, I find it is an asset. Many view my age as a positive because by my being a part of the new generation, I bring energy, new ideas and a fresh perspective to the city. Most importantly, the age issue serves as a motivator to young people. Individuals from high school age to their early 20's have told me that if I could be elected mayor at 28, then perhaps they can achieve whatever dreams they have that were thought to be out of reach.

OC: Has the position of mayor met your expectations?

EH: Yes. I expected the job would be challenging and it has been. I wouldn't want to do it if it were easy. Additionally, I like being in a position to effect positive change in people's lives. Running local government makes my administration the first option when it comes to the basic needs of our community.

OC: What life experiences do you feel have prepared you to become mayor?

EH: Having the experience of coming from a strong family has proved invaluable. It was through my mother and father's support along with that of my sister and others I was able to be successful in my election. Politics has always been of interest to me as I come from a political family. My father is a former New Jersey State Assemblyman and Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. Having the ability to pull from his experiences helped prepare me as well.

My degree in business administration from Rider University gave me the educational foundation to be successful. Also, becoming a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. has instilled in me the core values of culture for service and service for humanity, which are key in a public service position. Professionally, I have served as Director of Operations for the Carl Lewis Fund, Inc., which taught me how to work with nonprofit corporations to make opportunities for urban youth. Being a real estate agent and investor, allows me to understand taxes and redevelopment issues facing the City of Orange. Lastly, crime being one of the primary concerns of my constituents, the fact that I am a law enforcement professional gives me a great advantage in decreasing crime.

OC: Has being the youngest mayor of any urban city in the country affected how have you been received by your colleagues and business leaders in the state and the nation.

EH: I was elected at a time when people at all levels yearned for new leadership not encumbered by failed ideas and old ways of doing things. My youth and being the youngest Mayor in New Jersey has definitely brought attention to me. I have received great support from county, state and federal elected officials since the day of my Inauguration. Our close working relationships coupled with well-planned projects have enabled me to secure 6.5 million dollars of outside funding for Orange during my first one and a half years in office. These Federal Stimulus and State grants were highly sought after and we faced serious competition.

In a tough economy, outside funding is critical because it enables Orange to do things such as hire 5 additional police officers and pave streets. That's why the cooperation of other elected officials is so important.

OC: What drew you to becoming a man of Phi Beta Sigma?

EH: While at college I wanted to make friends that would stand the test of time and be apart of a network that would be helpful in life. The brothers of Phi Beta Sigma helped me stay focused while in school. Several of them took the time to talk to me and help me understand how important my education really was. Specifically, even though Sigmas threw the best parties, I was there on campus to study and learn things that were critical to my future. Had it not been for my fraternity brothers that I had to look up to and that which they taught me through my pledge/intake process, I wouldn't be where I am today.

OC: Let's talk about your upbringing. How have your parents influenced and shaped your life?

EH: My father is a civil rights attorney and former state assemblyman. Helping the underdog and evening the playing field has driven him. My mother is a business leader and public relations specialist and has been involved in many civic causes. In fact, I attribute most of my management skills and innate business savvy to her. Together, my parents instilled a strong work ethic in me that continues today. As far back as I can remember they exposed me to different people and cultures, which continues to help me in all walks of life. My life has been shaped by their devotion to public service, and their determination to help build a better world.

OC: What is your vision for Orange, NJ in 2010 and beyond?

EH: I envision Orange as the next Hoboken or Montclair, a "happening place" with new development, an expanded tax base, plus a thriving downtown, arts district and Little Italy, all building on our advantage of a 20 minute train commute from Manhattan and our strategic location on major highways.

OC: What are some of your achievements since taking office?

EH: Too many to list here. For details please visit: <http://www.ci.orange.nj.us/accomplishments.html>

OC: What disappointments have you encountered while trying to meet your agenda?

EH: The recession has slowed the pace of development, making it more difficult for developers to secure loans.

Furthermore, political agendas of some political adversaries that would like to see things remain unchanged occasionally slow progress and make it difficult to get the business of the city accomplished.

OC: As a supporter and backer of President Obama, how does Governor Elect Christie defeating Gov Corzine in November affect the balance of powers in the Democratic Party in New Jersey?

EH: Mayors of urban areas are waiting to learn the new governor's policies with regard to state aid and school funding. This will have a major effect on our property taxes. I am hopeful that the new governor understands that he is the governor of ALL of our people. However, both the Assembly and Senate remain Democratic. This means that the new governor and the two houses will have to compromise in getting work accomplished for our citizens. Also having a governor that is Republican may make it more difficult for our President's initiatives to be successful if he hits a wall at the state level. However because Obama's initiatives transcend political party boundaries I am hopeful that won't be the case.

OC: What factors played a role in Governor Corzine defeat. Was a mandate set with the Republican winning back the state house?

EH: Governor Corzine is a fine person and dedicated public servant who had the unfortunate luck of sitting in the Governor's chair during the worst economy since the great depression. Regardless of the fact that the national recession was not his fault, when people are suffering they often blame the individual in that chair and look for change. The gubernatorial defeat is not a reflection on the strength of the Democratic Party. The Democrats retain a solid majority in our legislature.

OC: There are a few whispering your name in political circles around the area. They see you as the next rising star in the Democratic Party, right behind Mayor Cory Booker of Newark. Do you see yourself as that next wave of young, educated, aspiring politicians ready to lead this country into the 21st century?

EH: I am always open to evaluating different opportunities should they arise. However, I believe God and the voters put me here for a reason and I owe it to them to make a difference. So my immediate goal is revitalizing and transforming Orange, New Jersey. I do think there is a new wave of younger elected officials sweeping our country and perhaps what we are seeing is a slow changing of the guard because people want change and new ideas.

OC: What is your political future? What are your aspirations after completing another term as mayor?

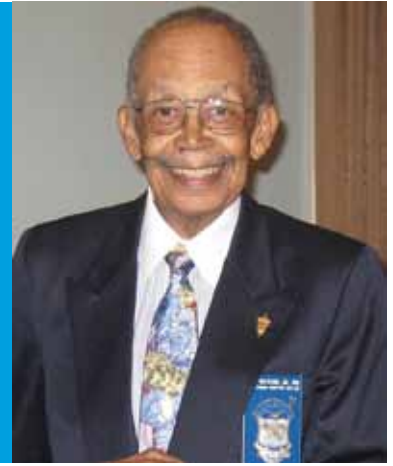
EH: I wish I had a crystal ball that could show me what lies ahead but I don't. So for now my immediate goal is revitalizing and transforming Orange, New Jersey. I will say that I fully intend to run for reelection as Mayor in 2012.

OC: If you're political career ended today, what would you want the people you serve and those who conduct business with you, to say about Eldridge Hawkins Jr. Mayor of Orange, NJ?

EH: I would want to be remembered as the Mayor who reduced crime and transformed the police department from top to bottom, began the revitalization of our business district, and jump-started redevelopment.

Hon. Bro. Millard “The Dean” Watkins, Jr. Celebrating 85 Years & over 62 Years of Sigma Service

by Bro. Craig Arthur



Hon. Bro. Millard James Watkins, Jr. was born on December 17th, 1924. He is a proud son of Virginia’s Capital City, growing up in the Jackson Ward neighborhood. His father owned his own business, Watkins’ Barber Shop & Beauty Parlor on Brook Road; this is where Millard began practicing the trade at age 11. The shop was not only his first place of employment, but also where he began private instruction on the clarinet and saxophone. During these troubled times the neighboring downtown commercial district was anything but friendly to thousands of African Americans that lived in a prosperous community just a few blocks away.

It was his unconquerable self-determination and sense of adventure that lead him to defy the norms and take to the stage at a young age. Either solo or alongside his brothers and childhood friends, the “Sheep Hill Gang”, Millard could be seen performing at different venues on and around “The Deuce” (2nd Street – the “Harlem of the South”). Shortly after graduating from Armstrong High School in 1942, Millard made his way to the armed services – clarinet and sax in tow.

While in the Army, Millard was forced to confront racism head-on on innumerable occasions. Millard would often show up at a new assignment to find that he was one of, if not *the* only, Black soldier in his unit. Despite the blatant and overt racism he often encountered, Millard never let anyone, not even his superiors, get the best of him. The Army provided Millard an opportunity to travel around Europe honing his craft. He played with numerous jazz greats – both ex-pats and Europeans. During his travels he had

mastered his craft enough to not only make a living but also put himself through college.

When he returned to Richmond, Hon. Bro. Watkins immediately began his studies at Virginia Union University. He was drawn to the brothers of Lambda Chapter because they represented the epitome of distinction and class. Probates were always seen in crisp suits, freshly polished shoes, with both fasces and Wall Street Journal in hand.

The young man, later known as “Dean”, wasted no time making his interest known to the Men of Sigma on his campus. After initiation into Lambda Chapter’s Crescent Club he contemplated dropping line due to the physical abuse he and his line brothers received constantly. Instead, he decided to continue with his pledge process and to do all he could to rid Sigma of the purely extraneous and oftentimes harmful hazing which was so prevalent at the time. Exhibiting much perseverance, Watkins soldiered through his Hell Week, probated, and crossed the burning sands in the basement of C.P. Hayes Funeral Home on “The Deuce.”

In the spring of ’48, after a full year in Lambda Chapter’s Crescent Club, Hon. Bro. Millard James Watkins, Jr., was initiated into the ancient mysteries of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity. His initiation into “Our Wondrous Band” was only the beginning of his journey. The journey did not end with graduation; in fact, it continues to this day, 62 years later.

The following year he married his college sweetheart, Miss Katie Davis. Millard supported his new family by performing with his band “Millard Watkins and the Kilowatts” all over the state of Virginia at night while working at an insurance firm during the day. The band played in both White and Black-owned venues

and to a wide breadth of audiences. In those days, it was common for the Kilowatts to end a gig early and be followed home by the Police, especially if it occurred at a White fraternity's house. After the partiers' clothes came off (and they often did), it was time to pack up the horn and get going. After all, Millard had a young family to support and if anything happened to attract the attention of the law, there would be no question, at least to the Richmond Police, as to who was ultimately responsible.

Hon. Bro. Millard developed a strong friendship with Hon. Bro. Richard "Dick" Ballard, 19th President of Phi Beta Sigma during their college days. This friendship lasted over 40 years. As Hon. Bro. Ballard took on other leadership positions, "The Dean" was his go-to-brother to clear upcoming projects and ideas. Always outspoken, Millard often represented the voice of the brotherhood at otherwise closed meetings. To this day, when "the Dean" doesn't approve, he won't hesitate to let his brothers know. He is also known to be among the first to extend a good word when brothers realize their potential.

Hon. Bro. Watkins served as Area Deputy Director for Central Virginia and Area IX Director (renamed to Virginia State Director) in the early to late 80's. During his tenure, he attended every single initiation and Crescent Club ceremony that took place in the commonwealth of Virginia. You'll be hard-pressed to find a brother initiated in the Old Dominion from that era that doesn't have a story or ten about him. His "Crescent's Bill of Rights" is just one of the many topics that often comes up when talking about "The Dean". Hon. Bro. Watkins has also held many positions in the Iota Sigma Chapter; among them are President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, and chairman of numerous committees.

Sigma wasn't the only organization that "The Dean" put his blood, sweat, and tears into over the years. His

wife of 60 years, known to many brothers as "Mrs. Katie", has an incredible record of service to Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Mrs. Katie pledged at Virginia Union's Beta Epsilon chapter as a mother of four. She later served as Richmond Alumni Chapter President from 1972-1976. Millard would often accompany Mrs. Katie to service projects with her Delta sorors. It was so common, in fact, that Millard was referred to as "Mr. Delta" by many in Mrs. Katie's chapter. Both have always been active and committed members of their respective organizations, while supporting the programs of the other. So, how did they juggle it all? The Watkins made an agreement very early on in their marriage: he'd attend her Delta conferences and she'd attend his Sigma conclaves. This agreement allowed both to be extremely active in their respective organizations without detracting from their relationship.

Family always came first for the Watkins. All four of their children are successful. Millard's first son and namesake, Millard III or "Jim", attended Howard University and was instrumental in founding Howard University's WHUR 96.3FM and currently serves as the station's General Manager. Richard, their second-eldest child, is an accomplished metal fabricator in the Richmond area. Their daughter, Tina, holds the distinction of being the second female to join the Richmond Fire Department and is now serves in the capacity of Lieutenant. She was also the first female officer in the history of department. Reginald, his youngest, is employed by the Department of Homeland Security in the D.C. area.

Without a doubt, Millard "The Dean" Watkins is one of the greatest Sigma Men that Virginia has ever produced.

THANK YOU for your many years and incredible record of service. You truly deserve the term "Honorable" in front of your name.

*DON'T MISS OUT
BECAUSE OUR
CAUSE SPEEDS ON!*

OUR CAUSE



LAMBDA LAMBDA CHAPTER PENN STATE UNIVERSITY



The Fall 2009 semester was a busy time for the brothers of Lambda Lambda Chapter, on the campus of Penn State University. The Chapter partnered with the University on a number of programs designed to enhance the college experience for the campus community. In collaboration with the College of Education, College of Agriculture and Office of Graduate Equity they presented a series of workshops, “Missing Pieces: Completing Your Undergraduate Experience”. The Chapter’s programming continues to raise the bar for all campus organizations.

The series kicked off in September with a workshop on studying abroad. The workshop was designed to provide information on studying abroad, and encourage students to consider the program as part of their college experience.

The workshop was conducted by staff members from Outreach and the Student Teaching Abroad Program. A panel comprised of students who have participated in the program was part of the workshop. These students answered questions and spoke about their personal experiences studying abroad. Kristin Thomas, Promotion and Outreach Coordinator, explained how such an experience can help them to obtain a broader view of the world.

Interacting with the student panel went a long way to encourage students in attendance to take another look at studying abroad.

The series continued in October with workshops on undergraduate research, internships and preparing for graduate school. The workshop was divided into several breakout sessions. Students had the opportunity to choose which workshop they attended.

Those choosing the session on internships were introduced to several programs, such as the Summer Research Opportunities Program. Students were given tips and reasons why an internship can be beneficial beyond their campus experience. Students in the graduate school preparation session were given tips on graduate school applications and how they can make themselves more appealing to the institution.

The sessions were followed by a panel discussion comprised of students and professors answering questions and sharing advice on the discussed topics.

The month of October was not all business. The brothers also provided a workshop on stepping. “Stepping with the Sigmas” was an opportunity for students to come out, have fun and connect with the Chapter. The idea behind the workshop was to provide students with a better understanding of the stepping tradition.

The students were provided with a brief history of the art form before learning a few steps themselves. The workshop was then divided into groups. Over the course of the evening, the steps the students learned were progressively harder. At the end of the event, the groups participated in a competition, showing the other groups what they had learned.

This was the second year the event was held, and participation increased over the previous year. Students went away with a better appreciation for the art form.

In the future the chapter will look to improve on their past programming and work more with the University to increase the quality of the campus experience for all students.

T. Le Bon

A TRADITION GIVES BIRTH TO AN AGENCY

By Brother Brandon R. Brown (edited by Brother James M. Bradford)

In the late to mid 80's, the Nu Sigma Chapter (Philadelphia, PA) developed a Youth Outreach Committee. The Committee's focus was simple: reach out and teach the next generation of men in Philadelphia. The original activities consisted of a Sigma Beta Club and a weekend retreat, Camp Sigma.



Fast forward to 1992, several brothers took the Committee's original focus and created a new youth-serving entity. The Nu Sigma Youth Services (NSYS) was born. With Brother Darryl Coates, former National Director of Sigma Beta Clubs, as the Executive Director, NSYS has grown into a recognized, reputable and extremely visible youth serving entity. Currently, NSYS consists of the following:

- Two after school programs, Beacons at the Jay Cooke Middle School (Logan) and Benjamin Franklin High School (North Philadelphia). These programs serve as primary service providers in those sections of the city, providing free educational, athletic and enrichment opportunities.
- One Enrichment Center at the Young Male Leadership School (YMLS), at Thomas Fitzsimons. This school is the only all-male public school for boys in Pennsylvania. The Center provides opportunities for young men to socialize with men, primarily Sigmas, and to gain valuable insight in being a Black male in Philadelphia and how to safely navigate its streets.
- Provides three Saturday leadership academies to the Honickman Center.
- Six Sigma Beta Clubs, the Sigma Beta Clubs of Philadelphia, servicing nearly 80 high school young men in the areas of leadership development, culture, athletics and community services. These programs are both community based (West, Wynnefield and Center City sections of Philadelphia) and school-based (Cooke MS, YMLS @ Fitzsimons and Benjamin Franklin HS).
- The Sigma Athletic Association, which consists of 4 Pop Warner football teams (Sigma Sharks), a Bowling League (ages 7-18), Blue Thunder Baseball Team (ages 12-16) and a Track & Field team (Sigma International).
- A winter arts program, consisting of drumline, color guard and dance.
- A Summer Employment Program employing nearly 150 youth.
- Two James C. Mills Leadership Academies providing enrichment opportunities for young men ages 8-12.
- Two Ladies First programs offering mentoring opportunities to young ladies ages 13-18.
- Two Ladies First Junior programs offering enrichment opportunities to young ladies ages 8-12.
- An all female high school stepping team, the Blue Diamonds, who have combined the art of precise stepping with powerful messages of academic excellence and community service.

NSYS also plays a vital role in other projects and collaborations, particularly around strategic conversations in the areas of youth engagement and involvement of communities of color:

- NSYS serves as the youth convener ensuring a visible youth voice within the Community Action Plan, a plan to make Philadelphia a healthier city. This is a collaboration with the Philadelphia Urban Food and Fitness Alliance (funded by the Kellogg Foundation).
- NSYS is a founding member of the Philadelphia Drug and Violence Free Communities Coalition. NSYS not only serves as part of the strategic conversations around youth, but assists the Coalition around strategic conversations to ultimately reduce drug and weapon use in Philadelphia.
- In addressing the truancy and drop-out issues in Philadelphia, NSYS participates in the Project U-Turn Collaborative. The Project is an assembly of key stakeholders whose sole mission is to develop and implement strategies to increase not only the high school graduation rate, but the attainment of post high school degrees.
- As a part of the Blueprint for a Safer Philadelphia, NSYS assisted with providing technical assistance and support to other organizations stemming violence in their respective communities. NSYS manages and serves as one of the primary advisors to the overall initiative. The initiative includes the Keep Kids Safe Camp, a free overnight camp, for young people(ages 9-13) who have been affected or impacted by violence in Philadelphia.
- The NSYS was invited by the Mayor of Philadelphia to participate in a conversation to result in a male agenda for Philadelphia.
- As a part of the United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania's Mentoring Advisory Council, NSYS was involved in the development of the Mentoring Training Institute, the central hub for mentoring training in Philadelphia, New Jersey and Delaware.

Believing in "Culture for Service and Service for Humanity," NSYS participates via coordination or participation in several annual community service programs and projects, such as: Diabetes Expo, Kick Butts Day and Broad Street Run.

Nearly 75% of the NSYS staff (full-time, part-time and consultants) are members of Phi Beta Sigma. Being a financial member, in good standing, is a major component for employment.

NSYS does not need a grant to address the needs of Philadelphia communities. In late 2008 the NSYS opened a Parent Information Center at Benjamin Franklin. The Center's objective is to provide families with a link to the services, support or opportunities they need. These services come in a variety of forms, including healthy social options and emergency food, just to mention a few. In the very near future NSYS will partner with Temple University and Pennsylvania State Senator Shirley Kitchens, to conduct various conversations throughout Philadelphia in the area of fatherhood.

Finally, it should be noted that Brother Coates also serves as the Executive Director of the Philadelphia Anti-Drug/ Anti-Violence Network and is nationally recognized in the area of strategic community engagement. The NSYS is fortunate to have someone with his experience and level of respect serving the Philadelphia communities.

If you would like to learn more about Nu Sigma Youth Services, visit www.nusigma.org, call (215) 851-1755 or join the Facebook group, Nu Sigma Youth Services.

Omicron Zeta Sigma Chapter

Building a STRONG Foundation

One of the newest chapters of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. wasted no time living up to their commitment to serve humanity. The brothers of Omicron Zeta Sigma Chapter (Prince William County, Virginia) gathered at K2's restaurant in Woodbridge, Virginia to serve meals to the homeless. The Chapter is composed of brothers residing in the Prince William County area who felt a strong desire to have a positive impact on the county. The "OZ", as they like to call themselves, is committed to serving the community. A few of the brothers took time from their Thanksgiving Day to help serve others and spread some holiday cheer.

Even before the Chapter was officially chartered, the brothers came together out of their loyalty and common bond with Sigma. It made sense to spread the scope of Sigma and reclaim, reconnect and rejuvenate these brothers and many more living in the area. The owners of K2's were so impressed by the brothers' commitment to serve that they offered their restaurant's conference room as a meeting place for the brothers. The Chapter accepted their hospitality and adopted the restaurant as the official chapter meeting location.

Omicron Zeta Sigma believes wholeheartedly in



L-R: back: Larry Wiley, Stevenson Reed, Rodney Spruill, Keith Martin

L-R: front: Ron Wilkes, Sean A. McDonald, Sr.

the philosophy of Bro. Jimmy Hammock, International President of Phi Beta Sigma, "what we do, says who we are". The new chapter has 36 Charter Members, including 6 Life Members,

a former Executive Director of Phi Beta Sigma and brothers

who have joined the fold as far back as 1974 and as recent as 2009. These brothers will bring a wealth of ideas and experiences to the table. Let everything we do have God's hand on it. Let the Father use us to do his work on this earth.

Bro. Keith Martin

Zeta Rho Sigma Holiday Party

The brothers of Phi Beta Sigma, Zeta Rho Sigma Chapter, have sponsored a holiday party for children under the supervision of New Jersey Department of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) for over twenty years. Zeta Rho Sigma Chapter serves Camden and Gloucester Counties in Southern New Jersey. The Chapter was founded in 1978



Haley Allen, daughter of Bro. Robert Allen

and reactivated in 2002. Since its reactivation, the Chapter's holiday party has grown tremendously.

The Chapter has partnered with three area

graduate chapters of Zeta Phi Beta (Gamma Nu Zeta, Omicron Omicron Zeta and Chi Rho Zeta), Bayada Nurses, Toys for Tots and Single Moms Inc.

to provide clothes, toys, books, food and other items for approximately thirty-two children. The Chair for this year's event was Bro. Thom Nixon. This event has become the Chapter's signature event because of the joy it brings to the children who have experienced instability in their lives.

The Chapter along with the Zeta Chapters purchase clothes and toys for thirty-two children between the ages of 3

– 17. The children are then invited to the party, which is held at the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge in Camden, New Jersey during the second Saturday of December. At the party, brothers, Zetas and volunteers from Single Mothers Inc. provide games, face painting, story telling and refreshments for the children. The children who participate in this holiday party are pre-selected by a representative from DYFS. The children are brought to the party by their foster parents or caseworker. This year at least ten chapter brothers sponsored 2 children each and donated food or party supplies to contribute to the success of the event. The annual holiday party provides an excellent opportunity for the Chapter to build a stronger working relationship with our sisters of Zeta Phi Beta and community organizations like Single Moms Inc. and Bayada Nurses. The holiday season is a time of sharing and giving and the brothers of Zeta Rho Sigma are deeply committed to improving the lives of children in the Camden and Gloucester county areas. Bro. Nixon noted, “each child leaves with a large bag full of clothes to fight the winter months, toys, books and a bright smile on their face.”

Bro. Thomas Nixon

And Then There Was ODS

If you were unable to attend the Blue Carpet Production of the charter celebration and fund raising scholarship gala for the Omicron Delta Sigma Chapter, on Friday, January 8th, 2010... What a grand affair you missed!

More than 60 brothers from Connecticut, Pennsylvania, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina gathered at Andrews Air Force Base, in Camp Springs, MD; for a phenomenal and emotional chartering ceremony. The chapter brothers viewed the event as an opportunity to ignite the fire of those brothers eager to take Phi Beta Sigma to the next level. It was also an opportunity to reclaim inactive brothers, and introduce Sigma to those seeking membership in Our Wondrous Band.

The evening was filled with enthusiasm and excitement as Phi Beta Sigma chartered a new chapter in this great fraternity. Jocelyn aka iNDIGO, graced the audience with a spirit-filled performance of selected songs from her CD, “**The iNDI1st Project BREAKTHROUGH**”.

The Sorors of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., along with representatives from each of the National Pan-

Hellenic Council member organizations, family and friends made the celebration a success.

With more than 200 in attendance for the celebration party at “The Club at Andrews”, the night also served as a celebration in honor of the 96th Anniversary of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. At midnight, more than 50 brothers gathered in the center of the room, and joined hands to sing the Fraternity hymn to celebrate and honor our Founders.

The brothers were followed by our Sorors of Zeta Phi Beta as they chanted their Sorority Hymn. Brother Leonard Lockhart (Vice Regional Director of the Eastern Region) extended greetings, on behalf of our Regional Director Hon. Darryl Williams, and offered words of encouragement and hope for the Chapter and the Fraternity as we move forward.

The brothers would like to thank all for their attendance and support...and look forward to many more successful events, and many years of service to our community.

Please visit us at our new website: www.omicrondeltasigma.com.

Bro. L. Anthony Baker



Tall, Dark and Overweight?

by Soror Anowa Adjah

If resorting to the coziness of your couch for several hours is a part of your daily regime; then I challenge you to something new. Take a walk to the nearest bathroom and take a long hard look in the mirror. Ask yourself “Do I need to shed a few pounds?” Unfortunately, for many Black men, the facts are quite apparent! Your growing belly and double chin is not a natural part of your age progression, instead it’s your body’s natural reaction to years of poor diet and lack of exercise. According to researchers from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, “Overweight Black Americans are two to three times more likely than heavy White Americans to say they are of average weight-even after being diagnosed as overweight or obese by their doctors”. Therefore, it is more likely your father, brother, or uncle might view themselves as “healthy” despite their doctor’s actual testimony. According to Reuters.org, last year alone, African-American males with high blood pressure were completely unaware of their ailing condition. Don’t wait until high cholesterol takes a deadly grip on your heart, start exercising preventive measures today!

One of the first priorities to good health is setting up a physical exam with your doctor. During your visit, request a screening test for your blood pressure and high cholesterol. In addition, get educated about your family health history. You should be completely aware if there is a history of high blood pressure or diabetes in your family. This small bit of

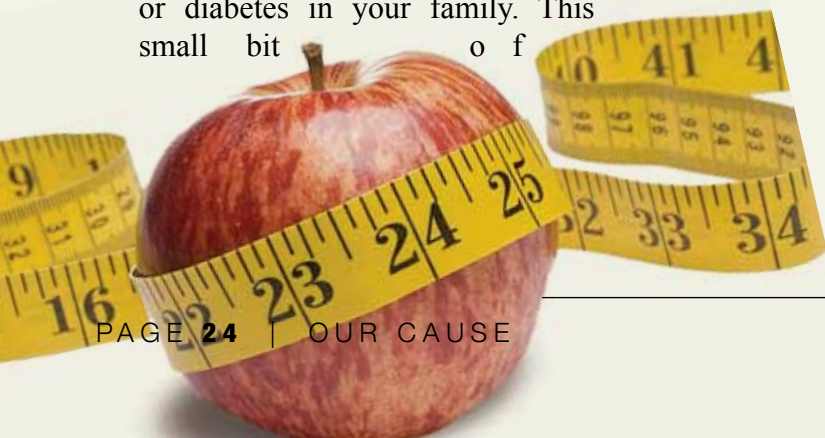


Photo by Karim Muhammad

information will keep your doctor abreast of any warning signs. A 45-minute visit to your doctor each year can save your life.

In addition to scheduling a doctor’s visit each year, make sure you incorporate healthy eating habits and exercise to your daily activities. It is highly doubtful asking a brother to avoid devouring his mothers famous southern dishes for lettuce and water will ever succeed. However the motto “less is more” will save him a couple of pounds and less visits to the supermarket.

Next time you make that visit to your mothers for Sunday dinner, try cutting your dinner plate down the middle. You can eat one portion for dinner and save the other half for Monday leftovers. An even healthier dish would be to completely rearrange your eating habits. For example, try substituting fried chicken and macaroni & cheese with cabbage and caramelized baked chicken. Incorporating more veggies and protein will do wonders for your waist line and cholesterol level. Another very important tip is to have a big healthy breakfast. A big breakfast will curb your hunger pains and decrease your appetite. A great example of a healthy breakfast is: egg whites, turkey sausage with wheat toast, and a small bowl of oatmeal. This meal will hold you up till lunch thus decrease your blood pressure which is highly influenced by heavy salt. For lunch opt for a chicken Caesar salad; for you will be amazed how quickly you forget your hamburger with fries combo. Lastly, for dinner, try some baked salmon with steamed broccoli and brown rice. This meal is scrumptious yet healthy at the same time!



Overall, your quest to healthier living would not be complete without a solid workout plan. Purchase a membership to a local gym. It is standard to workout at least 3-4 times a week for effective results. If you are trying to lose weight it is important to do 30-45 min of cardio each session. Start an uphill walk on the treadmill, or work your entire body on the elliptical. In addition, do not shy away from a weekly spinning or kickboxing class, it does wonders for rapid weight loss.

It is an important service to our community as well as your fellow brothers to inform them about the necessity of healthier living. It is never too late to get a grip on your health, start today! For more tips about kicking the dead weight send all questions to www.AnowaAdjah.com.

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Hosts Health Care Town Hall Meeting



The Phi Delta Zeta and Pi Lambda Zeta chapters of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. hosted their first **Health Justice** initiative in the form of a Town Hall Meeting on Health Care. The event took place at the Wilson Gray YMCA Youth and Family Center, in Hartford, CT. The Zeta Phi Beta Health Justice Town Hall Meeting on Health Care is designed to give the community an environment to discuss the pending health care reform legislation proposals before Congress.

The Town Hall Meetings provide the community with an opportunity to 1) hear information regarding the proposed health care legislation; 2) engage in meaningful discussion

of this critical issue; 3) voice their opinions to public figures and elected officials and 4) leave empowered to voice their opinions to members of Congress before the issue goes before the House for a vote.

Sheryl Underwood, International President of Zeta Phi Beta, is emphatic that the Sorority assumes a leadership role in educating American citizens about the most important health legislation that will be enacted in their lifetime. According to Underwood, “It is our responsibility to engage the community in dialogue, with clarity and civility, so that our nation will lead by making sure every citizen has health care. Why? If you’re not healthy, you cannot work. If you are not healthy, your quality of life is compromised, and you can not be a productive citizen of this nation or the world”.

Many national community leaders extended their support to the Town Hall Meetings on Health Care. Robert “Bob” Brown, Chairman and Founder of B&C Associates, Inc. stated, “The nation’s current health care discussion is of vital importance to all of our citizens. There are many questions surrounding this issue. People are looking for unbiased answers. I’m pleased to lend my personal support to Zeta Phi Beta’s efforts to educate and inform the community, on a national level, and provide an opportunity for people to engage in meaningful conversation around this topic”.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29

HONORARY



In the spring of 1915 the Fraternity decided to invite to membership certain professors at Howard University:

- Dr. Edward Porter Davis, German language scholar and later Dean of the College of Liberal Arts
- Dr. Thomas Wyatt Turner, nationally known botanist and the first African-American to receive a Ph.D. in botany who later headed the Department of Botany at Hampton University
- Thomas Montgomery Gregory, author, playwright who played a key role in opening up officer training to African-Americans during WW1
- Dr. Alain Leroy Locke, the first African-American Rhodes Scholar, author, philosopher, critic.

BROTHERS

Dr. Alain Leroy Locke

(September 13, 1886 – June 9, 1954)

Author, Educator and Philosopher

Alain Leroy Locke was born on September 13, 1886 in Philadelphia, PA, son of Pliny Ishmael Locke (a teacher and postal worker) and Mary Hawkins Locke (a school teacher). Alain's grandfather, Ishmael Locke, was a free Black man and a teacher. He studied at Cambridge University in England and later spent four years in Liberia establishing schools. After returning to the states he was the headmaster of a school in Providence, Rhode Island before becoming the principal of the Institute for Colored Youth in Philadelphia. Alain's father graduated from the institute in 1867, and taught there briefly before going to North Carolina to teach newly freed Blacks. Pliny enrolled at Howard University Law School in 1872 while working as an accountant in the Freeman's Bureau and the Freedman's Bank. Upon completing his law degree in 1874 he returned to Philadelphia and became a postal clerk. He would die six years after Alain was born.

As a boy Alain contracted rheumatic fever which left him with a weakened heart and restricted his physical activities. To compensate for the restrictions he spent much of his time learning the piano, violin and reading. He attended Philadelphia's Central High School and graduated second in the class of 1902. Locke continued his education at Harvard College in 1904, and graduated magna cum laude in 1907. While a student at Harvard College, Locke was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, won the school's highest award, the Bowdoin Prize, and was named a Rhodes Scholar thus becoming the first Black to be awarded this prestigious honor.

Locke studied philosophy, Greek and Literae Humaniores (the study of Classics) while at Oxford and received a bachelor of literature degree in 1910. After Oxford he spent a year studying philosophy at the University of Berlin. Alain began teaching at Howard University in 1912 as an assistant professor of English. His goal was to build Howard into the leading Black university in the country. The vision was to make Howard the center for Black culture and research on racial problems. He is one of the founders of the Gamma Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa at Howard. In the spring of 1915 he was one of four Howard professors invited to become members of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. By 1917 he was a professor of philosophy at the university, and in 1921 appointed the Head of the Department of Philosophy. Locke would remain at Howard for most of the next forty years until his retirement in 1953. The 1927-28 academic year he taught at Fisk University. Upon his return to Howard he was a close advisor to President Johnson. He received a Ph.D. in philosophy from Harvard University in 1918.

Locke played a major role in the development of Howard's College of Liberal Arts. A big supporter of the arts, he established the art gallery at Howard University. Today the gallery has become a major national art collection with over 4,500 works in the collection.

Locke is recognized as one of the major influences of the New Negro Movement and the Harlem Renaissance. The Harlem Renaissance lasted roughly from 1920 through the middle of the 30's and was fueled in large part by the migration of large numbers of Blacks from the southern states to the north between 1919 -1926.

Upon his retirement he was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters by Howard University. He moved to New York City after retiring and continued working on his writings. Alain Locke passed away from recurrent heart complications on June 9, 1954, in New York City.

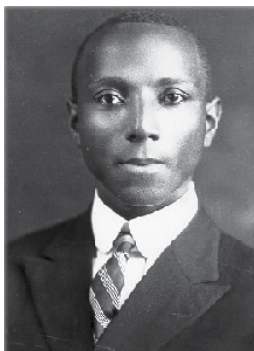
For more information on Alain Leroy Locke please visit: <http://alainlocke.com/>

HONORARY BROTHERS

Dr. Thomas Wyatt Turner

(March 16, 1877 – April 21, 1978)

Biologist, Educator, Professor and Catholic Activist



Thomas Wyatt Turner was born on March 16, 1877 in Hughesville, MD. His father Eli, a sharecropper, and his mother, Linnie Gross Turner, were both former slaves. Eli died when Thomas was eight years old.

After receiving his A.B. from Howard University in 1901, he went on to teach biology at Tuskegee Institute. In 1902 he returned to Maryland to teach at the Baltimore High School for Negroes. While teaching in Baltimore he continued to study for his M.A. at Howard, which he completed in 1905. In 1917 Turner married Laura Miller, who died in the 1920s. He later married Louise Wright in 1936.

Turner continued to teach in Baltimore until 1910. From 1914 to 1924, he was Professor of Botany at Howard University, and also served as Acting Dean at the Howard's School of Education from 1914 to 1920. While teaching at Howard he was studying for his Ph.D. in Botany. In 1921 Turner received his Ph.D. in Botany from Cornell. He was the first African-American to receive a doctorate from Cornell. After leaving Howard he went on to teach in the Botany Department at Hampton Institute, where he later became Head of the Department. Turner stayed at Hampton until his retirement in 1945, due to complications with glaucoma.

The science building on the Hampton campus was renamed Turner Hall in his honor. After his retirement he continued to work in academia. He was a consultant at Florida Normal College and organized the Biology Department at Texas Southern University.

Turner was also a member of a number of scientific societies, and organized the Virginia Conference of College Science Teachers in 1931. He was the first Black man to present a paper to the Virginia Academy of Science.

Outside of the classroom Turner was an activist involved in numerous causes. He served in leadership position in both the Baltimore and DC branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He also served as president of the Phoebus, VA branch. The NAACP later honored Turner with a life-time membership. He was also active in a number of Catholic organizations. In 1925 he founded the Federated Colored Catholics (FCC); an organization that he said was “composed of Catholic Negroes who placed their services at the disposal of the Church for whatever good they were able to effect in the solution of the problems facing the group in Church and country”. Turner remained a loyal member of the Catholic Church. In 1976, Washington, D.C.'s Black Catholics named its highest award for Turner, the Thomas Wyatt Turner Award.

Turner died in a Washington, D.C. hospital, at the age of 101, on April 21, 1978.

For more information on Thomas Wyatt Turner please visit: <http://www.nathanielturner.com/thomaswyattturner.htm>



Dr. Edward Porter Davis (1879 - 1938)

Edward Porter Davis was born in Charleston, SC in 1879. He was educated at Avery, Howard University, and received his Master's degree from the University of Chicago. Davis

was a Professor of German and head of the German Department at Howard University.

In 1922 he was appointed Fellow in German at the University of Chicago. Fellows are nominated by the professors of the department, recommended by the President and elected by the trustees. Porter was granted a one year leave on absence from Howard University to cover the year of his fellowship. During his fellowship Davis was Chairman of the German

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

Club of The University of Chicago, composed of graduate students and instructors. In 1923 Davis received his Ph.D. in Philosophy in German Languages and Literature from the University of Chicago, graduating Magna Cum Laude. Davis wrote one of the only thesis in the English language on semasiology, *The Semasiology Of Verbs Of Talking And Saying In The High German Dialects*, published in 1923. Semasiology is the study of meanings in a language, especially the study of semantic change. For more information on Edward Porter Davis go to: <http://books.google.com/books?q=Edward+Porter+Davis&btnG=Search+Books>.

The ladies of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. were pleased with the fantastic turnout for the Connecticut event. Over 80 Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts residents were in attendance to engage in the discussion on the issue. Members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. were able to disseminate information about the health care reform bill and educate the community about the importance of being knowledgeable about how the bill will affect them and their families.

Soror Shelissa Newball

Thomas Montgomery Gregory

(Aug. 31, 1887 – Nov. 21, 1971)



D r a m a -
tist, Educa-
tor, Social
Philosopher ,
Activist and
Historian.

T h o m a s
Montgomery
Gregory was

born in Washington, DC on August 31, 1887. His parents, James Monroe Gregory and Fannie Emma Hagan, both attended Howard University. James Gregory was the first student admitted to the Howard University College Department, and a member of its first graduating class of three men. James would later hold a position on the faculty at Howard, and his mother Fannie

mentored students at the University. After graduating from Williston Seminary in 1906, Thomas went on to Harvard where he was president of the debating team. After graduating in 1910 he was appointed English Instructor at Howard University. Thomas was later appointed Head of the Department in 1918. The same year he married Hugh Ella Hancock of Austin, Texas. In 1919 Gregory founded The Howard Players, a college theatre troupe. This was the first step in his journey to create a National Negro Theatre, a long time dream. Gregory was also the organizer of the Howard University Department of Dramatic Art and Public Speaking and co-creator, with Alain Locke, of The Stylus literary club. The two would collaborate on Plays of Negro Life in 1927, a collection of twenty-two works by well-and lesser-known playwrights.

While at Howard he worked with important playwrights and helped to garner increased interest in Black drama. The Howard Players would receive critical acclaim for their performances. Gregory would later become a leading figure in the National Negro Theatre Movement. Gregory resigned his position at Howard in 1924 to become Supervisor of Negro Schools in Atlantic City, NJ. While in New Jersey he continued to promote the need for a National Negro Theatre. Gregory returned to Washington DC after his retirement in 1960. He died in Washington's Sibley Hospital on November 21, 1971.

For more information on Thomas Montgomery Gregory please visit: <http://029c28c.netsolhost.com/blkren/bios/gregorytm.html>



“The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn.”

— Alvin Toffler,



Bridging the Education

Horace Mann, the father of the modern public school system once said, “A human being is not attaining his full height until he is educated”. Education is indeed the great equalizer that any civil society needs for all its population to be able to drink from the fountain of success and freedom. It creates endless opportunities for many and enhances the cultural and moral fabric of a nation. When people are educated, they have at their disposal tools that can break the shackles of oppression and stagnation. America has made immense progress in the realm of education and social development compared to most countries around the world, yet has for many years wrestled with the unthinkable fact that a significant portion of its minority groups have been denied adequate access to that “great human equalizer”, education. Statistics and research have indicated that the education gap has socio-economic factors as well as cultural implications; therefore it takes more than political jargon to get to the root of this problem. To truly analyze this great problem one must study the inception of where the problem began and then change the fallacious message that has been transmitted through the generations. We must transform this message for our youth, so that they are no longer stagnated by internalized societal oppression, but instead are inspired by their elders to realize their capabilities. This new message must refocus our young people on the value of education and fuel their passion to succeed.

In this article I would like to concentrate primarily on the African American experience, for they represent the larger portion of the minority groups facing this great problem. No one can debate that the physical atrocity of the trans-Atlantic slave trade was both horrific and dehumanizing in every aspect. Although this is not an extensive lesson on American slavery, we must examine some of the experiences and how these experiences affected African Americans mentally, socially and morally. Those that survived the Middle Passage and were brought to the new world for many years found themselves lost in a strange land and paraded in a chattel system in which they were bought and sold like animals. Their only worth was to provide free labor to a country that considered them three-fifths of a human being according to early federal documents. During those



Gap Where do we begin?

dreadful times blacks were not permitted to read or write, and when caught, they received severe punishments. According to some accounts, slaves were beaten or sometimes hung if they were caught learning how to read or write. It is evident that these early experiences in the “African Diaspora” resulted in a sense of worthlessness and even fear of education. During the antebellum and post emancipation period, we find many Black people who were free from the physical bondage of slavery, but lacked adequate education or skills to find a job. Therefore many returned to their masters’ plantations or migrated to northern states, where industrial jobs, at that time, were kept for the middle class white and skilled laborers. So where did they turn? Research has revealed that after emancipation a high number of free Blacks began engaging in criminal activities as a means to feed their families.

I do not posit that every Black person after emancipation was engaged in criminal activities during those days, for there have been many black people who have found value in education and broke the chains of mental oppression. They’ve enrolled in some of the nation’s top colleges and universities to become successful professionals. W.E.B Dubois, Frederick Douglass, Dr. Martin Luther King, Barbara Jordan, Madame C.J Walker, Ben Carson, A. Langston Taylor, Charles I. Brown, Leonard F. Morse, Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison, just to name a few. These were great men and women who despite the denial to receive adequate education, permeated segregation and oppression and snatched a piece of the American pie.

Some nescient scholars and researchers may contest that Blacks are genetically inferior; or even not mentally astute to reach certain levels of education no matter what opportunities are presented to them. I argue that Black Americans come from a race of people

who have constructed some of the world’s greatest wonders. We’ve build great civilizations and empires long before the American empire was even thought of. Genetically we are a people who exude a dimension of creativity and spiritual connection that above all things are a foundation for our success in this country. We, as a people, cannot wait for legislatures and political pundits to bridge the education gap. The gap was created from the time African people stepped on the soil of America. Our children need to develop a sense of who they are, and where they come from. They need to know that they come from greatness, and that they are able to learn and reach great heights in this world because their ancestors were able to do so. Surely, we still know that there are schools around the country that are under-funded and are filled with teachers who do not care about our children. To begin to bridge the education gap will take strategic funding, but most important, it will take teachers and administrators that are willing to learn and teach the cultural aspects of those they are teaching; so that our children can begin to re-develop a love for education that was once seen in their ancestors.

In conclusion, the education gap in American will not be adequately bridged if the social gap is not evaluated. As a brother of the illustrious fraternity Phi Beta Sigma, I believe that it is our duty to be in the forefront of this battle that is being waged for our children’s education. Brotherhood, Scholarship, and Service are not mere words, but a great calling for us to educate our children about their past, their value in the present, and their capability to achieve successful futures. Education is the premise of this lesson and is, in fact, the foundation for freedom.

Bro. Bobby Gueh

National Pan-Hellenic Council Corner

JUST

One of my proudest accomplishments in the 20 plus years I've been a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. is recognition as the Social Action Chapter of the Year by the Fraternity in 2007. This distinction is special because it represented a culmination of the many achievements that took place during my tenure as Basileus (President), for Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter, Fairfax County, VA. However, this distinction would not be possible if it were not for the entire Chapter uniting around a common cause. The purpose of this article is to highlight some of the factors that made this possible.

First, let's define what Omega Men are talking about when we say, "Social Action". Every member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. is expected to demonstrate leadership in the community. It is a quality that we look at when potential candidates seek membership and one of standards by which all Omega Men are measured. All levels of the Fraternity are expected to facilitate, participate and coordinate activities that will uplift their communities. Some of the activities under the umbrella of social action include, but are not limited to: voter registration, education and "getting out the vote"; Assault on Illiteracy;

Habitat for Humanity; volunteering time to charities and less fortunate individuals; mentoring; and participation in fundraisers for charities such as American Diabetes Association, United Way, and Sickle Cell Anemia. This also is linked to one of our Cardinal Principles, Manhood.

Unfortunately when we talk about Manhood

there are many people in today's society who equate this with things such as fighting, the ability to endure physical and/or mental punishment and the number of women one is dealing with at any given time. However, it is my belief that my

beloved Founders saw things a bit differently on November 17, 1911. Systemically, voting for Black males was suppressed, restaurants and neighborhoods were segregated, educational and judicial systems did not welcome us and lynching were not uncommon. In short, our Founders demanded members of the Fraternity serve as equals among all men, regardless of color, leading in our communities, business, schools, churches, homes, and in all aspects of human endeavor. Leadership is both a philosophy and tradition which has been passed down to every Chapter and generation of Omega Men.

The framework for success that appears below may be used by many organizations as a baseline for continuous improvement:

- **Mission:** Leadership must raise the standard and challenge the membership to strive for



A Call To Social Act

Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not represent Psi Alpha Alpha or the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Corner pictures are of the founding members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

COOPER

a period of unprecedented growth within our Fraternity, which is only surpassed by our Chapter's Founders

- **Vision:** Develop Chapter programs so they are recognized at the District and International Levels as the model Chapter for community service supporting the aims of the Fraternity
- **Unity:** "One Chapter, One Shield"

Critical Drivers

- **Leadership:** Presence, urgency, direction, accountability, and results. Brothers should serve in key roles based on their talent and not seniority.
- **Fundraising:** Leveraging partnerships with other organizations to support Chapter/Fraternity and community programs with corporate donations and grants.
- **Administration:** Excellence in administration equates to excellent service to the Brotherhood, patrons, and constituents.
- **E-Frat:** Harnessing the power of the Internet to promote e-commerce to meet the demands of the Brotherhood and patrons.
- **Strategic Planning:** Identifying the people and programs that will be the key to our future and incorporating them in our planning, training and activities.
- **"My Brother's Keeper" Initiative:** Reclaiming Brothers based on the need to support one another and recognizing significant academic and professional accomplishments of not only the members of our Chapter, but our families as well.
- **Partnering with Other Organizations:** Moving forward our community, economic, and political

agenda with other like-minded organizations that share similar ideals.

- **Headquarters/District:** Ensuring that the Chapter is a key entity at all levels of the Fraternity and prepare individuals to serve in positions at the District and International levels.

- **Fun:** While there is work to be done, do not lose fact that all business, all of the time will cause numbers to decrease over time.

- **Tell Your Story:** Document achievements and milestones at every opportunity possible so individuals and accomplishments are not forgotten.

Since 1980 Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter has been a force in the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Our members are more passionate than ever about the Fraternity and making a difference, not only in the lives of African-Americans, but the entire Northern Virginia community.



Isaiah E. Barnwell, III
Former Basileus
Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.



LOVE



COLEMAN

ion Consciousness

A Celebration of the First Decade of the SIGMA Museum

(With Many More to Follow)

What is the oldest Sigma artifact which has survived the test of time? What can we learn by re-examining our collective Sigma past that can potentially re-purpose our collective Sigma future? What is inarguably unique to and about Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.? What is Sigma myth and what is Sigma fact? Who exactly was Bro. Abraham McCartney Walker? Sure, every Sigma brother knows his famous quote and the incredibly important role he played in the earliest days of the Fraternity, but where did the road of life lead him after he left the campus of Howard University and beyond? Does his family have any understanding whatsoever of how highly both the freshest neophyte and the most seasoned Sigma brothers

regard the name Abraham McCartney Walker?

The Gamma Delta Sigma (Orlando, FL) and Iota Rho (University of Central Florida) Chapters made Sigma History by supplying answers to these questions as well as many, many more topics and fraternal mysteries. More than 150 Sigma men gathered at "The Celebration of History II: 10 Years of the SIGMA Museum", as event organizers provided forgotten insight into the founding essence of our Wondrous Band. Many long-standing Sigma questions were both presented and debated while rumors were put to rest once-and-for-all. Of course, the largest and most definitive display of Phi Beta Sigma photographs, documents, publications, memorabilia, and paraphernalia was also on display. Along with the literally 1,000s of items the Museum is known far-and-wide for, Bro.



Mark "Mallet" Pacich
Historian
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

Mark “Mallet” Pacich was able to secure an extremely rare and original May 4, 1914 membership certificate. This document is inarguably the oldest surviving Sigma Artifact yet to be discovered.

Dr. Adrienne Walker Hoard, renowned artist, Professor of Fine Arts at the University of Missouri-Columbia, and member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., served as the guest of honor. Her presentation highlighted the incredible legacy of education her grandfather, Bro. Abraham McCartney Walker, instilled in her family and his many students in Virginia. Her story impacted every brother in the room. She presented original love letters from Bro. Walker to her grandmother as well as rare family photos. To say that brothers reacted strongly to the sight of Bro. Walker’s fraternity pin is an understatement. Until extremely recently, nearly no brother whatsoever could claim to know anything about Bro. Walker other than his famous quote. Dr. Hoard filled in the missing gaps in her beloved grandfather’s biography and, by doing so, has truly added dimension to the already powerful

quotation. Bro. Walker lived those words! I know that I’m not the only one hoping she takes Bro. Hammock up on his offer to attend Conclave 2011 in Atlanta.

Bro. Gerald Smith’s (Sigma Sigma Sigma Chapter) dedication to Hon. Bros. William E. Doar and Col. Lucius Young was both educational and touching. Both of these brothers are absolute giants in the history of the Fraternity. Bro. Smith’s personal stories and insight provided a human element to each of their inspiring legends.

Very few brothers have both the knowledge base and the confidence to field any and all questions regarding Sigma’s nearly 96 years. Bro. Mark “Mallet” Pacich did just that. He - with the assistance of Bro. Kevin Christian (Alpha Sigma Chapter) - provided a wealth of previously forgotten/unknown facts regarding the lives, families, and legacies of Most Honorable Founders Charles I. Brown and Abraham (no, that’s not a typo!) Langston Taylor. The origin of G.O.M.A.B., our hand-sign, our various “unofficial” mascots, and the evolution of our initiation ritual were also discussed at length.

Thank you to each and every brother who worked to make this event such a success.

The Sigma History Museum is an incredible – and unrivaled - asset to our beloved Fraternity.

C. Arthur

THE HISTORY TEAM



Craig Arthur

Phil Eugenio

Gerald Smith

Mark Pacich

Kevin Christian

Robert Eason



Eastern Region
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200 Nutmeg Lane #219
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

A promotional poster for the "Blue & White Weekend Charlotte" event. The background is a vibrant sunset over a city skyline. In the foreground, a diverse group of seven young adults are posing and smiling. The text "Join the Queen City Sigmas and Zetas for the first annual" is at the top. Below it, the event title "BLUE & WHITE Weekend Charlotte" is prominently displayed in a stylized, blue and white font. To the left of the title is the "ΦΒΣ BETA RHO SIGMA CHAPTER" logo, and to the right is the "DELTA ZETA CHAPTER" logo. On the right side, a list of activities is shown: "MIX & MINGLE", "PICNIC & PARTY", "NPHC OLYMPIAD GAMES", "GROWN and SEXY", and "GOODTIME". The dates "AUG. 6-8, 2010" and location "CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA" are at the bottom. A contact line at the very bottom provides a phone number and email address for more information.

Join the Queen City Sigmas and Zetas for the first annual

ΦΒΣ BETA RHO SIGMA CHAPTER

BLUE & WHITE
Weekend
Charlotte

DELTA ZETA CHAPTER

MIX & MINGLE
PICNIC & PARTY
NPHC OLYMPIAD GAMES
GROWN and SEXY
GOODTIME

AUG. 6-8, 2010
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

For more information call Bro. Edison McCrea at 704-651-2614 or email charlotteblueandwhiteweekend@gmail.com