



# Fatherhood and Mentoring Newsletter

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

International Committee on Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiatives (ICFMI)



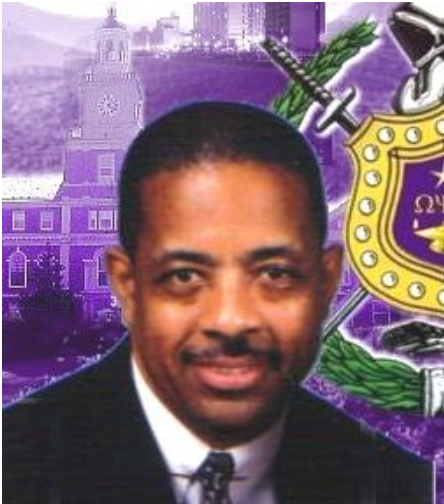
Volume 2

April – May – June, 2015

Number 2

*“A Quarterly Publication of the International Committee on Fatherhood and Mentoring” ©*

## ~~Brother Fairchild's Corner~~



**On Issues and Pitfalls:** During this Father's Day season, we should take time to reflect on the importance of what we are doing. There are many *issues and pitfalls* facing Black Males. Joblessness, health, the legal system, our own destructive nature, police excessive use of force, family, to name just a few.

As members of the Talented Tenth it is incumbent upon us to help address these issues. Where we have stepped in we are making a difference. I have visited several Fatherhood and Mentoring program graduations. You cannot help but come out of these sessions feeling inspired by the impact that we have had on father's and young men's lives. I applaud the brothers who have really stepped up, worked hard and truly made a difference. Both the young people and fathers have expressed their appreciation and gratitude for what we are doing.

Mothers have said to us; *“Before my son participated with you, I didn't know what I was going to do because I believed that he was on the track to go to prison. He didn't have a sense of purpose.”*

They have said he now has a different attitude, one that is positive and focused on doing something great with his life!

While our effort to work with fathers has progressed a little slower, I have noticed that it is picking up. Fathers are sometimes reluctant to participate or get involved. I have suggested that we invite the fathers out as we mentor the young men whether the father is in the home or outside. Many chapters have done this with positive results. This serves a couple purposes. **One**, the father can see what and how information is being communicated. **Two**, it facilitates a better communication relationship between the father and child when the child returns home. This also applies to mothers. Once you have the father on site you can have side sessions to talk about and address his issues. This is a way of breaking the ice with the fathers.

I would really encourage us to make a strong effort at getting fathers into these sessions. If that is not possible, we should participate as a partner with a fatherhood program or agency that address fatherhood issues. Many of the *issues and pitfalls* I highlighted above could be given attention and in many cases fixed with more active involvement of knowledgeable fathers who are involved in the lives of their children. Brothers our challenge is to facilitate this and help make it happen.

Thank you again for your work and share your good work with your local media. Keeping the local community informed is a way of inspiring other organizations and agencies to get involved in addressing these *issues and pitfalls* and in sharing what we do to improve our communities. Those who have not started, please do so as soon as possible. If you need help contact your District Fatherhood Chair or call me @ 703-899-0111.

**Bro: Robert Fairchild, Chairman 7/1/2015**

**International Committee on Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiatives  
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.**

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*“... issues and pitfalls ...”©*

## National News Items:

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### *In Memoriam:*

The horrific incident that occurred at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina is just one more attack on us as a people. Sometime you really want to push back in a violent way; however, we know that this would play right into the hands of some of the crazies.

Thank God the majority of White America does not subscribe to this type of behavior or attitude. If you will recall during the Civil Rights movement, many White Americans were right by our side. In these negative kind of situations what we are doing in the Fatherhood and Mentoring effort becomes even more important.

Working with Fathers and especially young men, we have to train and teach them how to work through the adversities that we have been facing as a people. Helping them to understand that responding violently to the situation only leads to more deaths.

We have to work to give them a clear understanding that there are ways of addressing these problems that requires PERSEVERANCE and smart actions.

Brothers, our work in this area is needed more than ever.

Bro. Fairchild

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## F & M Activity Around the Districts:

### 1<sup>st</sup> District

**Bridgeport, CT** - Rho Upsilon Chapter conducted a workshop/town hall meeting focusing on the Fraternity's four Cardinal Principles during our Achievement Week 2014. Each principle was defined and discussed at length. The young men were informed that building a life around the principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift can take you a long way in life.

About 40 young men that included 3 fathers and 2 expectant fathers formed the core of the study group. Local Attorney Edward Farrow gave a

presentation on goal setting, determining priorities and measuring success. The program ended with a discussion about personal responsibility.

Rho Upsilon Chapter's objective was to get these young men, especially, the young fathers, to start thinking about the future beyond High School and College. The participation on the part of these young men could best be described as enthusiastic!

Brothers who participated in the program were: Dr. Ralph R. Ford, Basileus Keith A. Coote, Vice-Basileus James Housey and KF Calvin M. Jones, II. Others present included: Brandon Woods, KRS, Horace Hough and Attorney Theodore Jones, III. Submitted by: Basileus, Keith A. Coote. Committee Chair: Calvin M. Jones II.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> District

**New York, NY** - On April 5, Bro. Dominick Boyce, 2nd District Fatherhood & Mentoring Chairman, participated in a New York Knick's Father & Son Night sponsored by the Allan Houston's Legacy Foundation "Father Knows Best" program. Allan Houston is a former NBA player and now Assistant GM of the New York Knicks.

The attendees were treated to a New York Knick's victory against the Philadelphia 76ers. This was an event for role models, fathers and children that centered on basketball. It was a well-attended event that saw several former Knicks players, such as, Walt Clyde Frazier, Cal Ramsey and Charles Smith speaking on the importance of fathers, mentors and coaches.

Because of the work of Bro. Thabiti Boone, the International Fatherhood and Mentoring Representative of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., brothers have developed a partnership with the Legacy Foundation, which has chosen to use basketball as a vehicle to teach fathers and sons principles of fatherhood and mentoring.

On Tuesday, April 7, Beta Alpha Alpha Chapter (BAA), co-sponsored an all-day Fatherhood Conference at Westchester County Center entitled, "The Power of a Father's Presence: Challenges and Victories in Supporting Dads."

The conference, sponsored by BAA, the Westchester County Department of Social Services and nearly 20 other partners, was designed to inspire, educate and challenge fathers and to

celebrate the critical role of a father in the lives of his children.

The conference included several workshops for fathers and providers and focused on such topics as education, employment, handling conflicts, communication techniques, statistical evidence of the power of fathers, and how to remain an involved and effective dad during life transitions.

Tony Porter, co-founder of A-Call-to-Men was keynote speaker. Several other speakers included Allan Houston, former New York Knicks' all-star, Kenneth Braswell of Fatherhood Incorporated, Joyce Thomas, Regional Administrator for US Department of Health & Human Services, Bro. Paul Williams of the White Plains Youth Bureau and Bro. Thabiti Boone. The conference was well-attended and a huge success.

On January 13, 2015, under the direction of Bro. Dominick Boyce, Basileus, Psi Lambda Lambda Chapter secured a donation of 10 laptops for the Akira Center's Fatherhood program. The donation was presented to the staff of the Akira Center under the umbrella of the Chapter's Fatherhood & Mentoring Initiative. Submitted by Brother Dominick Boyce.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> District

**Washington, DC, Virginia** - One of life's greatest joys and responsibilities is the role of father. A brother of Omega Psi Phi, charged this District to live our cardinal principles daily, being mindful of the impressionable eyes of our children.

Bro. Brian Tyler said, "I have the pleasure of being a father to a wonderful daughter, Brianna, who will be attending NC A&T in 2015. She will follow in the footsteps of her brother, Evan, as a member of the Aggie family."

Bro. Tyler's son, Evan, was inducted into Mu Psi Chapter in 2013 at North Carolina A&T. Evan served as Chapter Basileus during his senior year, graduating in 2014 *magna cum laude*, with a degree in Systems and Industrial Engineering.

He is currently employed by Altria Client Services in Richmond as a Senior Associate Engineer ELDP. Evan has been greatly influenced by Greek life in his household. His mother is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and his father, a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.



**Bro Evan Tyler and his father Bro Brian Tyler**

These influences, have proven to be very positive for Bro. Tyler. Through his parent's friendships, many men of Omega have served as his role models. He recently led a mentoring session of high school boys visiting the Virginia General Assembly, offering tips on college success and life beyond college. Evan remains active in the fraternity, and recently became a Life Member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., an achievement of which he is very proud.

Evan's father, Brother Brian Tyler, 1 LZ '81, Life Member #3011, was inducted into the Fraternity at James Madison University. "I was influenced by many great Omega men who encouraged me to strive for a strong commitment to the Fraternity. Several of my childhood friends have also become members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity," said Brother Brian Tyler.

"I'm very thankful to have experienced 34 years in the Fraternity and I continue to work for Omega. Currently, I have the honor of working on the 'Labor of Love' project," he said. One such event held on April 18, 2015 was the dedication of a Historic Highway Marking honoring one of the four founders of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Bishop Edgar A. Love, in his birthplace of Harrisonburg, Virginia.

The dream of the project is for the community to experience the good works of Omega men through the Love Beta Delta Delta (BDD) Foundation and the alumni brothers of Beta Delta Delta Chapter, James Madison University. Submitted by Brother Al Woods.



## 4<sup>th</sup> District

**Cleveland, OH** - Brothers of Zeta Omega Chapter participated in John Adams High School's 3rd Annual "Lock-In" Mentoring Program. The hope is that none of the young men who participated will end up "locked up."

The Program's mission is: to teach skills that empower youth to take control of their life and "to be all that you can be without fear of ridicule or without forgetting the proud, rich history of black men in America," according to the organizers.

The program was structured as follows:

**6:50 p.m.:** Welcome to "Lock- In"

**7:00 p.m.:** Breakout sessions

**7:30 p.m.:** Station 1 - Critical Thinking

**7:55 p.m.:** Station 2 - Stereotypes

**8:25 p.m.:** Station 3 - How to iron a shirt; how to tie a tie; personal hygiene; how to conduct yourself around a police officer

**8:55 p.m.:** Proper dinner etiquette

**9:10 p.m.:** Dinner

**9:30 p.m.:** Keynote Speaker

**9:45 p.m.:** Speaker

**10 p.m.:** What is chivalry and is it dead? (Group discussion with video clips)

**10:45 p.m.:** Group Discussion

**RECREATION:** Basketball, stepping lessons, video games. Submitted by Brother Alan Bannister.

## 6<sup>th</sup> District

**North and South Carolina** - The Mighty Sixth District is working to establish a signature program to address the needs of fathers and children across the District. The District has adopted the Father-Child Prayer Breakfast as a workable model to bring fathers and their children together for a time of fellowship and relationship building.

In describing this model, the 6<sup>th</sup> District has invited other District's to consider using it. Partnering with local churches and other community entities, "has been effective in bringing fathers and children together," according to the planners.

Dates and places of 6<sup>th</sup> District Fatherhood Programs were as follows: December 6, 2014 Durham, NC - Father Child Prayer Breakfast, co-hosts were: Xi Mu Mu, Beta Phi and Iota Iota Chapters. The same type event was repeated February 7, 2015 in Raleigh, NC and March 7, 2015

in Greenville, SC. The Co-Host in Greenville were Mu Pi, Epsilon Nu, and Kappa Gamma Gamma. Mu Pi was the lead Chapter.

On March 22, 2015, Rocky Mount, NC was the site of a Fatherhood Luncheon Co-Hosted by Alpha Omicron and Beta Beta Beta Chapters.

During this year, the 6<sup>th</sup> District, with help of its chapters in NC and SC, served many fathers and their children through the fatherhood initiative committee. The District planned and implemented one of the four objectives that were set by President Obama's Fatherhood and Mentorship Initiative.

The 6<sup>th</sup> District chose to celebrate and uplift the image of fathers by providing more than 800 fathers and their children with three prayer breakfasts. The year ended with a fatherhood luncheon which saw well over 100 fathers in attendance. The luncheon Keynote Speaker was Bro. Bryant K. Smith.

Partners for the 2014-15 programmatic year included: eight different chapters, 14 different churches, Proud Fathers, Inc., Male Investment Program, 100 Black Men Triangle Chapter, Boys and Girls Club of Wake County, Royal Rangers, City of Raleigh Police Department and City of Durham Police Department. Submitted by Brother Melvin L. Williams, Jr., Fatherhood/Mentoring Initiative Committee Chairman.

## 7<sup>th</sup> District

**Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Mississippi** -The 7<sup>th</sup> District's Fatherhood & Mentoring Initiative's mission is to: *Provide continued support in partnership with President Barack Obama's Fatherhood Initiative & Mentorship Program.*

### Accomplishments:

Ω The Seventh District has collectively stood at the forefront to support and expand President Barack Obama's Fatherhood Initiative & Mentorship Program in undergraduate and graduate chapters.

Ω Chapters throughout the 7th District have successfully promoted and conducted annual workshops, youth leadership conferences, public forums and rallies to raise awareness within their communities.

Ω Chapters have successfully partnered and aligned themselves with local and state government agencies, organizations, businesses and civic groups to access additional resources in support of their efforts within local communities.

Ω Chapters and Individual brothers have been recognized and have received various community awards for outstanding Fatherhood service within their local communities and universities.

Ω Media coverage and exposure has provided a broader audience to communicate the Fraternity's partnership and efforts.

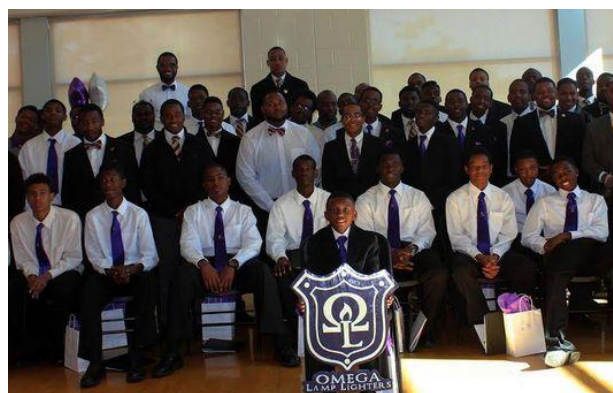
In support of its Fatherhood and Mentoring commitments, the 7<sup>th</sup> District is highlighting one initiative in each of the four states:

In **Alabama**, Brothers of Rho Alpha Chapter in partnership with the Omega Community Outreach, Inc. (OCO), a 501 (c) 3 foundation that focuses on efforts to retrieve grants and other monetary contributions, provide scholarships to graduating high school seniors and undergraduate students who attain high academic excellence. Funds raised also aid other OCO community-based projects. Mentees from TIE'S Youth Mentoring Program are shown below on the campus of **Tuskegee University** in front of the venerable Booker T. Washington Monument.



**TIE'S Youth Mentoring Program, ALABAMA**

In **Florida**, the Omega Lamplighters Club of Tallahassee welcomed its fall 2014 Class. The young men were inducted into this prestigious mentoring program after a series of workshops and activities focused on personal development and character. The ceremony was conducted by the Chi Omega & Upsilon Psi Chapters of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., of Tallahassee. Leon County Commissioner Nick Maddox was on hand as the keynote speaker and addressed the inductees with words of encouragement.



**Omega Lamplighters Club Tallahassee, FLORIDA**

In **Georgia**, the Phi Kappa Kappa Chapter and Project Friendship hosted its Male Youth Leadership Conference & Fatherhood Initiative, February 20-21, 2015 at the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., International Headquarters. The initiative aimed to educate male youth, grades 8 thru 12, and provide them with life skills and tools that will inspire them to be productive citizens and positive future fathers. Other scheduled Fatherhood rallies were: Augusta, Ga – June 13, 2015 and Atlanta, Ga. - June 20, 2015.



**Phi Kappa Kappa Chapter/Project Friendship, GEORGIA**

Brothers in **Mississippi**, from Epsilon Kappa Kappa Chapter participated in the Community Engagement and Empowerment Network (CEEN) and the A-TEAM Initiative (Ambassadors of The Evers Academy for African-American Males) at Nichols and Huey Porter Middle Schools during the fall school term. This mentoring program is designed to positively impact the youth in our community and improve the quality of life for young African American males.





**Ambassadors, Evers Academy for African American Males - MISSISSIPPI**

Submitted by Brother Jonathan Gaines, District Chairperson, Fatherhood Initiative & Mentoring Committee. State Chairmen Brothers Kenneth Lee, Alabama; Harry B. Williams, Florida; Joseph G. Chappelle, Georgia; and Robert Fitzpatrick, Mississippi.

### **8<sup>th</sup> District**

**Colorado Springs, CO** - At its District meeting, Chi Phi Chapter outlined its Fatherhood Initiative program. The program's mission is to close the gap on father absence by: promoting fatherhood, highlighting the necessity of mentoring and the importance of father's playing an active and responsible role in the lives of their children.

Every level of the Fraternity (chapter, region, state and district) is expected to play an active role in support and partnership with the Presidents' White House Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative and actively engage in the promotion of the Fraternity's Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative.

The next steps for the 8<sup>th</sup> District are:

Ω Each Chapter should sponsor annually at least two fatherhood programs.

Ω Chapter Basileus should serve on the 8<sup>th</sup> District Fatherhood Committee

Ω District should allocate \$200.00 to chapters who sponsor Fatherhood Programs from May 2015 through October 31 2015. Disbursement will take place after program has been completed.

**St. Louis, MO** - Upsilon Omega Graduate and Omicron Sigma Undergraduate Chapters 2015 Youth Summit was featured in a **Fox News** article. As reported, more than 300 middle and high school students from across St. Louis and St. Louis County participated in the Youth Summit.

Events in Ferguson surrounding the death of Michael Brown, an unarmed black teen, pressed the Fraternity into organizing the summit. The goal was to teach the young males vital lessons about life while reminding them that they are not alone.



**St. Louis, MO – Making a Difference in the Lives of Black People**

"How to interact with law enforcement" was part of the summit's curriculum. "We are attempting this year to send a clear message that they have a support system," John Bowman said.

The support system includes fraternity members who serve in several professions such as law, education and healthcare. *"I think it will be helpful like really helpful because we are learning something today,"* Sumner High School Student Gregory Carter said.





**Oklahoma City Federal National Building Memorial Museum Visit**

**Oklahoma City, OK** - In Oklahoma City, Project Manhood is a group mentoring program of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Beta Upsilon Chapter. It is designed to inspire and assist at-risk and disadvantaged youth to learn life skills, to help build character and cultivate in youth a sense of responsible citizenship.

Youth participating in Project Manhood come from various segments of the community. Since its inception the program has been open to any fifth or sixth grade male student. Most are identified or recommended by school counselors and teachers as needing further social development.

The objective of Project Manhood is to provide each student with the opportunity to observe and learn in an interactive setting, respect for self and others, scholarship and good study habits, health and hygiene, leadership and citizenship and peer-to-peer relationships.

The Fraternity has a proven track record with the Omaha Public School District for promoting educational excellence. Through its Project Manhood partnership for the past 11 years, it has had an established collaborative relationship with Central Park Elementary School. Members of the Fraternity have high expectations of all youth participants and maintain the highest standards of group mentoring.



**Omega Leadership Academy of Denver  
Chi Phi Graduate/Lambda Beta Undergraduate Chapters**

**Denver, CO** - The Omega Leadership Academy of Denver is a flagship program of Chi Phi Chapter in partnership with the Holmes/Omega Scholarship Foundation. The program is focused on helping Denver area young men of middle and high school age grow and develop their leadership talents through mentorships, monthly workshops, field trips and community service.

The program is designed to be engaging, fun and educational with a focus on short and long-term success for every member. Several benefits that derive from male youth participation in the Omega Leadership Academy including:

- Year-long mentorship and partnership with members of the Fraternity who are leaders throughout the Denver area;
- Participation in workshops and field trips on a monthly basis designed to introduce youth to the professional world and career and college opportunities;
- Numerous hours of community service (essential for college and scholarship consideration);
- College Application and Scholarship Assistance: Participants in good standing will receive guidance in applying for the Holmes/Omega Memorial Scholarship, Omega Psi Phi National High School Essay Contest and other enrichment programs;
- Networking opportunities;
- Developing habits of healthy living and physical fitness.

Submitted by Brother Omar Montgomery.



## 9<sup>th</sup> District

**Little Elm, TX – Steve Harvey Mentoring Camp for Boys** – For seven consecutive years Brother Steve Harvey, entertainer and TV personality, has sponsored a Mentoring Camp for Boys at his ranch in Little Elm, TX. This past June 2015, 100 young men ages 13-18 who came from single female headed households throughout the country were treated to a week of intense training and edifying enrichment.

Eleven Junior Counselors, who were participants from last year, came back to the camp to help with the new camp attendees. There were 30-50 older adult mentors (men of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., community folks and members of Bishop T. D. Jakes the Potter's House Church) on hand each of the five days working with the 100 young boys as they tested their skills in physical training, fishing, archery, paint ball, basketball and football. The instructors were primarily soldiers from the United States Army.



Mentees also attended sessions on:

- Manhood 101
- Message to my Father
- Dress for Success
- College Prep
- Life Skill lessons
- How to prepare for the real world

The Goal of the Steve Harvey Mentoring Camp for Boys is simple: *To encourage young men to want to make something of themselves and understand the principles of Manhood.* Brother Harvey was there each day from start to finish

engaging with the young men, asking questions and teaching lessons of life!



**Testimonials:** One often wonders what impact these camps have on helping to shape the lives of youth. Several youth had definite thoughts about how they experienced the camp.

In their own words they spoke of: *their anger issues and how the camp assisted them with managing their anger; how working with other young men was helpful to their development; and how helpful it was for them to know they are not alone as a young man without a father in the home.* Submitted by Brother Ricky Lewis, International Chairman of the Youth Leadership Conference Committee for the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

## 12<sup>th</sup> District

**Los Angeles, CA** - As reported by Brother Detective Ronnie Walker, LAPD, of Tau Tau Chapter, nine mentees from the **Street Law Academy** graduated from high school this year. Seven of the nine graduates are headed to four year colleges and universities and two will attend community colleges.

Their names and mentors are: Romeo Creque, San Diego State (Rod Jones), Eric Johnson, Tuskegee University (Ricky Pierce), Darius Roland, Cal State Stanislaus (Ricky Lewis), Miguel Otano, Rensselaer University (Kwame Dow), Steven Jackson, Cal State Northridge (Ken Johnson), Andrew Morehouse, Morehouse University (Ronnie Walker), Robert Mason, Paul Quinn (Marcus Bedford), Dajaun Spencer, Community College (Rod Jones), and Andre Fuller, Community College



(Ronnie Walker/Keith Tate). Upon graduation from the Street Law Academy, seven students received computers and 2 received gift cards.

**Street Law Academy:** During the final day of the Street Law Academy, boys and girls and their parents were treated to police action situations via the LAPD simulator. This activity was part of the Street Law Academy's curriculum. Its purpose was to demonstrate to youth and their parents what police officers see when confronting violent suspects and when the situation demands the officer make a quick and often life or death decision.



**Mentees and Program Staff**

"Participants in the Academy had a great time and experienced a different awareness of police action," said Brother Detective Walker. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., participating brothers were: Mylan Auers, Bill Scott, Stephen Butler, Esq., Ronnie Walker, and Ed Young. The police officers who assisted are Stinson Brown, Mark Burrell, and Anthony Jackson.



**LAPD Officers**

**Pasadena, CA** – Saturday, June 20, Zeta Tau Foundation, Inc., in partnership with the Zeta Tau Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., held its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual pre-Father's Day walk around the Rose Bowl. The morning was bright and sunny on the grounds of the historic Rose Bowl and much family oriented activity took place.

Father and son team of Brothers Harold and Bryan Reese arrived early at 6:27 a.m. to set up the Foundation Banner and the Canopy, tables and chairs for the annual pre-Father's Day *walk-about* for fathers and families.



**Zeta Tau Pre-Father's Day Rose Bowl Walk  
Fathers, Families, Friends**

Brother Reese (Event Coordinator) and his wife Galene came out Friday evening to scout the Rose Bowl and find the very best location to set up in light of all of the special activities taking place that day. Besides our third annual pre-Father's Day walk, other action on the grounds included a "BBQ and Brew" festival and an exhibition by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD).



**Bros Reese & Massey, issuing medals to Bros Coleman & daughter, L. Quishenberry, J. Drawn and R. Briscoe after they had completed the walk.**

Brothers Bee Thomas and Basileus Johnie Drawn donated water, ice, ice container and their time and friendship. Brothers and families from other chapters joined the walk. Most notably among those brothers were: Tony Anderson, Sean Castleberry, Damon Martin, Anthony Moore, Jason Fullman and Ricky Lewis, who provided the Omega Psi Phi canopy to shield us from the sunny SoCal sun.

"It's a wonderful thing to see fathers and families gather in the name of fitness," said Zeta Tau Chapter Basileus Johnie Drawn. "We thank all participants who came out and made it a great event."

Zeta Tau will continue reaching out to fathers and families to close the gap of father absence from the lives of their children and families! "The Rose Bowl walk is an indication of Zeta Tau's commitment to the Fatherhood Initiative and the youth of the Inland Empire, Greater Pasadena and the San Gabriel Valley," said Brother Jim Wilson, Zeta Tau Chapter Fatherhood Initiative Chairman.

On a side note, Brothers Ricky Lewis and George Taylor walked the entire 3.3 miles around the track in 50 minutes - a new record for the pre-Father's Day Rose Bowl walk-about. They challenge all SoCal brothers to best that time next year! Brothers Ed Massey, Bud Coleman and Dave Anderson helped record names of folk who attended the walk.

Let us remember 85 year young Life Member Brother Gene Quishenberry who continues to mend in a Pasadena convalescent home from his injury earlier this year! Submitted by Brother George D. Taylor.

**Moreno Valley, CA** – Out of the almost 30,000 public high schools in America, the four in Moreno Valley Unified School District are ranked among the very best by U.S. News & World Report.

This was good news to not only the Moreno Valley Unified School District, but also to the Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity as well. Under the discerning leadership of Brother Ricky Lewis, Tau Tau Chapter and several Southern California Chapters, brothers have partnered with the Moreno Valley Unified School District to mentor youth at Moreno Valley High School (MVHS).

The High School has distinguished itself in the news magazine's annual rankings of public high

schools by earning a Silver Medal. MVHS this year is ranked among the nation's top 2,500 public high schools out of 30,000 nationwide.

The news magazine's annual rankings of public high schools measure how their students perform compared with others within their demographic group, along with all students' college-readiness, based on their performance on Advanced Placement tests.

"We've worked hard to raise the expectations and level of support for student academic achievement at MoVal and all our high schools," said Moreno Valley High School Principal Robert Brough. "We're very proud to be recognized as one of America's best high schools."

School Board President Gary E. Baugh, noting Moreno Valley High School's total minority enrollment of 95 percent said, "What these rankings signify is how very well we're doing at bridging the achievement gap and helping students succeed against the odds."

For the complete U.S. News & World Report listing of America's top high schools, visit [www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools](http://www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools).

Submitted by Brother Ricky Lewis.

#### **About This Newsletter:**

**The goal is to include information from each District each quarter about their Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiatives. Specifically, we desire to:**

- Ω1. Share what Chapters are doing world-wide to educate, enhance and engage fathers in closing the gap of father absence in the lives of their children; and,**
- Ω2. As we mentor primarily young African American men, we focus on helping them to live a life of aspiration, hope and life sustaining productivity.**

**Submission process:** District Chairmen should submit at least one Fatherhood Activity and one Mentoring Activity from their District for each quarter to:

Brother George D. Taylor at: [geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net)

#### **Submission dates:**

**December 15, for  
Publication January 1  
March 15, for  
Publication April 1  
June 15, for  
Publication July 1  
September 15, for  
Publication Oct 1, and  
December 15, for  
Publication January 1 of each year.**