



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring (FIM) Newsletter



Fatherhood Initiative

Youth Leadership

Big Brothers/Big Sisters

Brother, You're On My Mind! ©

Vol 5

July August September October 2018

NO. 3

Brother Wilson's Corner

Greetings Brothers: Welcome to the new edition of the Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Newsletter! In keeping with the theme of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation conference last September and the Grand Conclave in August, Brother S. Earl Wilson, incoming Chairman of Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring is asking each District Chairman to sound a **CALL TO ACTION** to support the 100,000 Fathers and Grandfathers and other interested men of Omega to join in this Fathers Voters' Pledge Campaign.

Fathers and other men are asked to take their sons/grandsons and/or mentees to the polls November 6th; capture the moment with a photo and send it to the fraternity web site at www.oppf.org to validate their participation.

About the Newsletter, Our Goal: To include information from each District each quarter about Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiatives. Normally, this issue of the Newsletter would have been sent out October 1, but due to biennial Fraternity activity and committee reorganization, it is now being released.

Each District Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Chairman should submit Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Activity from their District each quarter to: Brother Dr. George D. Taylor: geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net. Next deadline for 4th Quarter Articles will be: December 15th; activity should cover 2 months, November and December 2018.



Brother S. Earl Wilson, Chairman

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., at the Congressional Black Caucus -



L to R: Brother Walter Richardson, Grand Chaplain; Brother S. Earl Wilson, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative & Mentoring; Nick Charles, Democratic Nominee, Maryland State Delegate, Debra Frazier, President, National Healthy Start; Minister Kirston Foy, National Action Network; Brother Thabiti Boone, Moderator; Rev., William Coleman, Shiloh Baptist Church, Trenton, NJ; and Brother Dr. David Marion, Grand Basileus, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Newsletter



weVOTE!

100,000 Father Voters' Pledge Campaign

OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.



I PLEDGE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Please check all boxes that apply:

I am a ... ☐ Father ☐ Grandfather ☐ Mentor
 My age is ... ☐ 60+ ☐ 50 + ☐ 40+ ☐ 30 + ☐ 18 +
 I am ... ☐ Married ☐ Single ☐ Divorce
 My state is... _____

Confirm your vote at www.oppf.org
 by sending a photo of you at the poll



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
 Fatherhood & Mentoring Initiative
omegafandm.org

Your sons will follow your lead.



100,000 FATHERS' PLEDGE

I, _____
 pledge to vote during the November 2018
 Mid-Term Elections and will take my son,
 grandson and or mentee with me to the
 voting poll.

Why Vote?

- Ω Criminal Justice Reform
- Ω Health Care
- Ω Gun Control
- Ω Gerrymandering
- Ω Education
- Ω Shared Parenting
- Ω Increase Minimum Wage
- Ω Employment/Jobs



Confirm your vote at oppf.org

VOTE, Tuesday, November 6, 2018!!!!

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"At the bottom of education, at the bottom of politics, even at the bottom of religion, there must be for our race economic independence."

Booker T. Washington

Rallying Black Fathers/Men to Vote

Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Newsletter

Washington, DC – An “*All Hands-on Deck*” rallying Black Fathers and Men to the Polls was the call to action by the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc, at the Congressional Black Caucus. Voting mobilization and activism were the watch words as the Men of Omega challenged men to not only vote but to take their sons, grandsons and or mentees to the polls with them during the U.S. mid-term elections. The forum focused on the importance of Black Men playing a critical role with voting and civic engagement.

Congressmen James Clyburn (D-SC) and Henry “Hank” Johnson (D-GA) both Omega Men presented the attendees with truths as to why participating in this election is so critical to the wellness and future of our nation. These leaders emphasized that in order for the swamp to be drained in Washington, DC, the voters back home must first send the right folks to *pull the plug on the stopper that is keeping the swamp full*.



A standing room only crowd attended the Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring forum. The forum helped shape voting in the November 2018 elections as the number one primary convention agenda item.

Brother Thabiti Boone, moderated the forum setting a powerful tone for why Black Men must go to the polls and vote. The panel consisted of leaders from the activist, political, governmental, religious and public service sectors. They gave voice to concerns about the serious impact *low voter turnout* would have in the African American community.

The Democratic nominee for Maryland State Delegate, Nick Charles seized the moment to address how issues relevant to the Black community that come before state houses seldom come before the floor if voting participation is poor. Minister Kirstin John Foy of the National Action Network shared eye-opening information on the *electoral college process*. He noted that officials are selected by local municipalities during the mid-term election who ultimately determine the outcome of the presidential election via the electoral college.

The Voter Action Network (VAN), a system designed to detail voting patterns within communities, was presented by the NAACP’s Jamal Watkins. VAN will assist organizations with identifying voting trends prior to mobilization. The President of the National Healthy Start Association, Debra Frazier, addressed how fathers and family health issues take a back seat before legislators when there is no one lobbying in Congress on their behalf.

The importance of Black clergy activism, as occurred in previous decades, was highlighted during the session. Reverend William Coleman, Pastor Shiloh Baptist Church, Trenton, New Jersey, challenged the evangelical community to reach beyond the church walls and galvanize its constituents to actively participate in the voting process.

One of the highlights of the forum was when over 75 male students from the Richard Wright Charter School, Washington, DC entered the session to absorb knowledge that will transcend for generations. Dr. David Marion, Grand Basileus wrapped up the session presenting the importance of agencies’ partnering with the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., to affect positive change through collaborative voting mobilization and activism.



**The Honorable
Gregory C. Pittman,
Esq.**

**"From time to time, I
will share commentary
and thoughts, from a
legal perspective on the
issue of Fatherhood."**

**Presiding Judge
14th Circuit Court
Family Division
Muskegon County
State of Michigan**

CUSTODY, PARENTING TIME & SUPPORT

October 2018

Brothers, as 2018 draws to a close, this is a good time to summarize the three major concepts that have been covered in this space, since April 2016.

CUSTODY

Custody is the legal designation of where a child lives and who will be responsible for making the important life decisions for that child.

Where a child lives is governed by the term **Physical Custody**. The concept of **Legal Custody** governs which of the child's parents make important decisions such as medical care, religious training, where the child will attend school and so on. If these concepts are not agreed to by the parents it falls to the court to make the decision about Physical and Legal Custody. Each parent, mother and father, start from the position of having "an equal right" to the custodial care of their child.

PARENTING TIME

Parenting Time is essentially the schedule that the estranged parents enter into, either by agreement or by court intervention. It basically lays out the time and terms of the child's physical presence with each of the parents. The law assumes that the best interest of the Child is served by ensuring that BOTH parents spend quality time with their child, independent of the control of the other parent.

CHILD SUPPORT

Every Child has the absolute right to be supported, materially, by both parents. The law assumes that the custodial parent does so. The law ensures through court order of the payment of money, that the non-custodial parent does so as well. The **child support** that would be ordered is driven by how custody is configured and how the parenting time of the parties is configured.

GOING FORWARD in 2019, this column will begin to deal with variations on the three main components of the legal status of children vis-à-vis paternity and/or divorce. This column will also devote time and attention to the issues of paternity and divorce in relation to how fathers are impacted and how fathers can improve their "place" in their children's lives.

Brothers, enjoy the upcoming holidays and keep working for **Omega!**

And...

VOTE!!!

In Friendship...

The Honorable Gregory C. Pittman, Esq.

The Iota Chi Ques Host Their First Annual Daddy-Daughter Dance

Submitted by Brother James Jones, Iota Chi Chapter



Brother Jihad Scudder and daughter



Brother Richard Gedeon and daughters

Cambridge, MA – October 27,2018 – After months of planning and preparation, the day was finally here! Brothers from the Iota Chi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. were about to host the very successful, and well attended, first annual Daddy-Daughter Dance held at the Thelma Burns Building in Dorchester, MA. The Brothers planned every detail, right down to the ordering of the tiaras.

On the morning of the event, a *Nor'easter rain storm* was predicted for the city of Boston and the temperature was predicted to not rise above 45 degrees. This did not deter the members of Iota Chi! The function room was set up and beautifully adorned with purple and gold linens for the tables, vases filled with ornate purple and gold flowers, and a tray full of assorted purple and gold candy for the young ladies or for a dad with a sweet tooth.

The royal looking venue, while almost perfect, could not compare to the beautiful young ladies that began to arrive. With the wind and rain howling outside, they came arm in arm with their dads, all of them draped in royal looking dresses and gowns. Their ages ranged from **nineteen months to nineteen years**, but their smiles all revealed the same spirit and let us know that the men escorting them were kings in their eyes.

Some of the young ladies were escorted by a grandfather, uncle, or older brother but it was clear to all who were present that the person playing the “dad” role in the duo was a significant role model in this young lady’s life. As they



Brother James Jones and daughter



L_R: Brothers Anthony Lilley and Daughter and Francois Fils-Aime and Daughter

arrived, each young lady was crowned with a tiara and then the party began. During his speech, Iota Chi Chapter Basileus Charles Wilson (1988, Gamma Delta Delta) eloquently reminded the young ladies that, *“when you’re having a bad day, put on your tiara and hold your head high! When you’re struggling with homework, put on your tiara and keep working hard.”*

There was graceful dancing, proper curtsies, and formal introductions and a full buffet style supper with all the fixings. After the meal there was no room on the dance floor as every young lady danced with her chaperone. Each family was professionally photographed by Brother Mike Hailey (1975 Mu Psi). There was also an artist hired to do caricature drawings for the Daddy-Daughter couples.



Brother Jermain Corbin and daughters

It was all very gracious until the games began and girls played musical chairs. It was as if we were watching a division one college football game. Even with the competition and great prizes at stake, their smiles remained and laughter was the loudest sound in the room. Then the dads were called to play a round of musical chairs and this was serious business. No one wanted to lose in front of their baby girl! There was pushing, shoving, and posturing in front of chairs and some Brothers even tried to moonwalk to hold their position in front of an empty seat!

The First District Representative, Francois Fils Aime, Iota Chi Chapter (1996) and Basileus Wilson Gamma Delta Delta Chapter (1988) were eliminated early. It was apparent that their musical chairs skills were lacking. Dessert was served as the party was ending but no one stopped smiling. It was clear that everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. As the young princesses departed each one was given a keepsake Daddy-Daughter Dance chocolate bar made specially for this wonderful event. It is unknown if any of these candy bars made it all the way home without being devoured. The First Annual Daddy-Daughter Dance was a huge success and Iota Chi looks forward to hosting this event for many years to come. A good time was had by all!

Lambda Rho Chapter Kicks off Granville Academy



Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Newsletter

Waterbury, Connecticut – September 28, 2018 – Lambda Rho Chapter kicked off its Mentoring Program. Granville Academy of Waterbury was founded in 1992 by brothers Earnest Mosley, Lambda Rho Chapter and his brother Judge Maurice Mosley. Granville is Celebrating 29 years of service to the Waterbury Community.

Granville was designed to give students Fifth grade through 12th grade an introductory knowledge of business and STEM. Granville is open to students within the Waterbury School District and outside the city of Waterbury. Lambda Rho has been mentoring students since the creation of the program. The Brothers have the responsibility this year of mentoring Fifth and Sixth graders.

This was a weekend event with the kickoff starting on Friday night. The Brothers welcomed the Superintendent of Waterbury along with the Principal of Reed School where Granville is housed. Saturday was student registration and sign up.

Mentoring takes place every second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 6-8pm. Class size varies and can be from 20 to 40 students. Ninety-five percent of Granville graduates enroll in college or university. For example: Yale, University of Connecticut, Howard University, and North Carolina A & T.

2nd District, Brother Donald Williams, II, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring



QUES ON THE MOVE: PODCAST INITIATIVE

By Donald Williams, II, 2nd District Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring

Prince Georges County, MD - Tuesday, October 9, 2018, 2nd District Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring (FIM) committee members were featured on the WBGR Podcast Internet Talk Show. The Committee led Podcast engaged the community in conversations about the importance of *mentoring both Young Males and Dads*.

*“... be engaged
in the process,
to lift as we
climb... it is up
to us to VOTE!”*

The 2nd District is excited to resume the “Ques On The Move” initiative; it allows the District to connect the Fatherhood Initiative message to a new generation of listeners. The first segment for the new season centered on the “crucial” **Mid-Term Election**. Omega leadership requires that we do everything possible to get our circle of influence across the five states to the voting polls!

Listeners enjoyed an informative conversation about the importance of voting. Podcast guests, such as Nick Charles, Delegate Elect representing District 25 of the Maryland State Legislature and member of Lambda Gamma Gamma Chapter, were outstanding community leaders who have dedicated their lives to making a difference. Also joining the conversation was Bryan Champion, Co-Host of **My Brother’s Keeper** and member of Gamma Pi Chapter, both in Prince Georges County.

Key message centered on providing education on the “voting process” and the importance of the VOTE in every election. Make no mistake – our community is the “game changer” that can truly change the trajectory of this crucial election of our lifetime! Brother Nick Charles emphasized that “in this election there’s a lot on the line.” He encouraged listeners to be engaged in the process, to lift as we climb and it is up to us to VOTE!

Brother Bryan Champion implored the listeners to participate in the early voting process. His main point was, “it’s just not enough to VOTE, get others to the poll to VOTE!” He challenged all churches and their members, fraternities, sororities, lodge members, line brothers, HBCU students, youth and other civic organizations to participate in early voting. He offered two suggestions: First, take senior citizens to the polls; they will allow you as an escort to go to the front of the line to VOTE. Second, connect with Uber and/or Lyft Driving Services and pay for others to get to the polls. “Ask yourself, what can you do to make a difference in the crucial Mid-Term Election,” he said.

Brother Williams echoed the message from the Congressional Black Caucus, “*do not sit out this election because it has the potential to set us back two generations. We learned that every election is important and for our community, so don’t fall for the tactic of division, together we stay strong and WIN! We must Show-Up, Stay Together, Stand Together, VOTE and WIN this Election!*”

“QUES ON THE MOVE” every Tuesday 8:30pm to 9:00pm. CALL-N-NUMBER (301) 429-9247 or www.facebook.com/QuesontheMove

3rd District, Brother Raymond Bell, Chairman, Fatherhood initiative and Mentoring

Omega U at Virginia State University Ettrick, Virginia



Omega U students partook in a hands-on art lab & lecture and course on finance and money at Virginia State University on October 13, 2018 with Professor Anh Do in Ettrick, Virginia.

~~ A THOUGHT ~~

“When you control a man’s thinking you do not have to worry about his actions. You do not have to tell him not to stand here or go yonder. He will find his proper place and stay in it.”

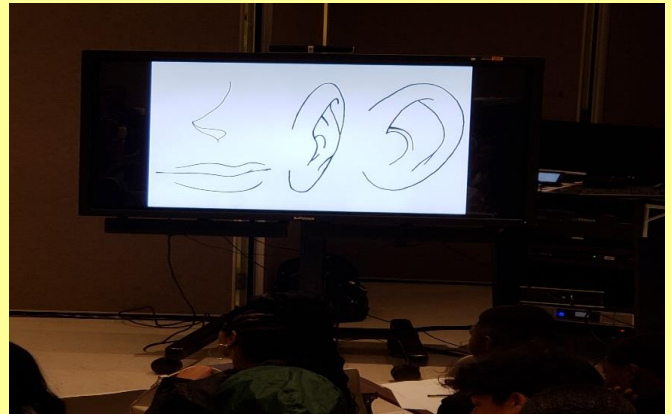
Brother Dr. Carter G. Woodson, circa 1933



Ettrick, Virginia – October 13, 2018 – Professor Anh Do gave 135 students a *hands-on* course and lab on drawing and personal finance at Virginia State University October 13 in Ettrick. He demonstrated art techniques on spacing, proportion and angles to students for interactive and engaging lectures. Students also received a lecture on personal finance and money after the art lab and course.

The Virginia State University trip and lecture was the first field trip for Omega U for the 2018/2019 school year. Omega U has over 145 registered students from and around the Prince William County communities. Omega U partners with Prince William County Public Schools to enhance, enrich, expose, and educate young male students from 3rd grade to graduating seniors.

Students learned about working hard and positive repetition for enhancement in knowledge and skill in the areas of art and education. Students were able to see examples of student's progression in the areas of art from past VSU students. Professor Do spoke to over 100 students on making positive decisions and explaining the difference between false achievement and deliberate accomplishments.



Students were able to eat fine cuisine from Jones Dining Hall and interact with each other as well as college students. Students enjoyed buffet style dining and tremendous culinary staff at VSU.

Pi Lambda Lambda Chapter partnered with Omega U, Youth in Action Network, 100 Black Men, and Sun Trust Bank to provide STEM and Financial Literacy Workshops while giving away over 200 backpacks to Students in Prince William County at George M. Hampton Middle School.

Dale City, VA – September 29, 2018 – Pi Lambda Lambda (PLL) and Omega U kicked off their fatherhood and mentoring program in the month of September. Brothers of PLL and the Omega U Mentoring Committee attended several *back-to-school* nights and enrolled 145+ students for the current 2018 and 2019 school year. The Omega U program is off to a great start with over 6 hours of community service provided to the greater Prince William County Community (PWC) and will execute on over 40 hours of community service for the current academic school year.

Brothers Eddie Stephens Jr. (PLL Basileus) and Jeffrey Allen (PLL Vice Basileus) spoke on the PLL activities and their world class fatherhood and mentoring program on Rhythm and Justice for the Fairfax Public Access Television. Brother Stephens spoke at length and detail on the history of Omega Psi Phi Inc., PLL, and execution of the mandated programs in the community of PWC and surrounding communities on September 28, 2018.



Omega U provided community service with the members of the Kappa League at the Hylton Boys and Girls Club in Dale City Virginia on September 29th, 2018. The Omega U program kicked off their program with sweat equity in providing 6 hours of community service to the greater Prince William County community.



L- Photo: Brothers Eddie Stephens Jr. (PLL Basileus) and Jeffrey Allen (PLL Vice Basileus) spoke on the PLL activities and their world class fatherhood and mentoring program on Rhythm and Justice for the Fairfax Public Access Television on September 28, 2018.

R- Photo: Brother Al Woods, PLL Chaplain and Omega U Co-Chair, speaks to parents at Dumfries ES on Omega U and the upcoming events for the school year on September 27, 2018.

NOTE TO DISTRICTS: District Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Chairmen should submit Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Activity from their District each quarter to: Brother Dr. George D. Taylor: geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net. Next deadline for 4th Quarter Articles will be: December 15th; activity should cover November and December 2018.



On September 29, 2018, Omega U Program provided uplift and service to the Hylton Boys and Girls Club in Dale City by performing vigorous cleaning and organizing of two large community sheds used to maintain and provide service to the local club. The Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington (BGC GW) covers 75 miles that stretches from Manassas Virginia to Germantown Maryland. They provide safe, comfortable, and fun alternatives to youth who would otherwise be home alone or on the street. Over 1,200 youth attend the Clubs for activities every day, to see their friends and to spend time with positive and encouraging adults.



Dumfries, Virginia – August 25, 2018 – The Brothers of Pi Lambda Lambda (PLL) of Omega Psi Phi Inc., of



Brother Jeffrey Allen, PLL Vice Basileus gives students from Hampton Middle School a free bookbag and free school supplies.

of Dumfries Virginia partnered with Omega U, Youth in Action Network, 100 Black Men, and Sun Trust Bank to provide STEM and financial literacy workshops while giving away over 200 backpacks and school supplies to students in Prince William County at George M. Hampton Middle School on August 25, 2018.

The event was hosted and led by PLL Social Action Chair, Brother Keith Breland. It provided 200 students in STEM training provided by Youth in Action Network and 100 Black Men. The STEM activity had students perform hands-on labs in simulating creations of football helmets and performing detail 3-D data analysis on computers.

Financial Literacy education materials was provided by Sun Trust Bank to parents and students on tips for saving and preparing families for college savings.

See the website: omegafandm.org

Brother Michael Frazier, Omega U Chairman, was able to talk to several students and family about Omega U and sign up over 7 students to participate this school year. The Omega U program provides over 500 mentoring hours to students of Prince William County (PWC) schools through a series of STEM activities, team building exercises, college field trips, and executes over 40+ hours of community service that certifies participating students at the end of the year. Omega U is currently the top mentoring program in the 3rd District of Omega Psi Phi Inc., and is the largest male mentoring group in PWC with over 125 students ranging in from 3rd grade to graduating seniors.



Youth Mentoring- Project Manhood

Personal Development and Academic Achievement

Leadership: Character Building, leaders in the family, school, and community

Public Service:

Community outreach

Financial Literacy:

Entrepreneurship,

Economic Independence,

Wealth Building

4th District, Brother Jerry Leftwich, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring

The Fourth District Votes

Youngstown, OH – The Mighty 4th District is committed to supporting the Fraternity's mission of voting advocacy. Recently, the Fourth District held its Fall Council Meeting in Youngstown, OH. During the meeting, 4th District Fatherhood and Mentoring Chair Brother Jerry Leftwich reminded his District of their charge for the 100K Father's Voter's Pledge. 1000 pledge cards were circulated to attending Brothers and Chapter representatives. Leading by example is the 28th Fourth District Representative Brother Bobby Robinson. Immediately following the 4th District Fall Council meeting, brothers hit the streets for a Voter's Mobilization push through Youngstown's Southside.



4th District DR Bobby Robinson and his daughter Destiny early voting in WV



4th District Brothers doing voter's Mobilization

The 4th District Ques understand the importance of covering as many bases as necessary to support the impact of voting. Imprinting on our youth that voting often and early is how the 4th gets it done! So, VOTE!

5th District, Brother Oliver Williams, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring

“A Father's Message to His Children”

By Brother Oliver Williams

Memphis, TN – As chairman of the 5th District Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee, I hope for fathers to become *our best at leading the next generation*. If we are to improve our communities, we must be solution oriented rather than one who would just name the problem.

We have the power to effect change. Fathers can be the first example of leadership. We can teach our children lessons with eternal

*“Just as one child
can change the
world, so can that
child's vote.”*

impact. Some of the life lessons I learned from my father are; tying a necktie, shining my shoes,



Reginald Clark, 1994 Xi Zeta and Family: “A family that VOTES together HOPES together...#trainupachild”

Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Newsletter

driving a car, being a person of good character, and so many more. Some call these lessons old fashion and traditional.

I had a conversation with Brother Reginald Clark. He is a current member of Sigma Lambda Lambda in Memphis, TN. He was initiated in 1994 on the campus of the University of Memphis, Xi Zeta Chapter.

He said;

“Training children in the way that they should go should extend beyond lessons on right and wrong. It’s also important to teach them how to be a responsible citizen. Often times we try and guilt adults into voting based on the hardships previous generations endured to earn that right. I believe a better solution to keeping our presence felt at the polls is in teaching our kids how and why they HAVE to vote. Children are much more impressionable than adults. If they grow up seeing mom and dad exercise their right to vote and be heard, they’ll be more inclined to do the same. Indeed, *our forefathers did bear much to earn the right for us to vote*. Many people today do not respect it because it was given to them not earned. By teaching our kids along the way, they can develop the respect and form the habit of lifting their voice through the power of voting. Just as one child can change the world, so can that child’s vote.”

Brother Clark is sharing with his children a critical and relevant lesson. He is teaching, VOTING MATTERS!!!! I’m excited to see the leadership. He is not just making a statement of words as seen in the photo above, Brother Clark is modeling the behavior to give his children an experience to attach to the speech. Allowing our children to see and hear the sermon creates an opportunity for actual learning,

6th District, Brother Melvin Williams, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring

7th District, Brother Jonathon Gaines, Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring

Developing Boys into Young Men Beta Mu Nu Chapter - Calera, Alabama

Calera, AL – Beta Mu Nu Chapter participated sponsored etiquette and leadership training for local high school students. In conjunction with the Black Rhinos of Alabama mentoring program of the Lifting As We Climb Foundation, etiquette training was provided by Mrs. Juandolyn Fleming of J. Fleming Leadership & Etiquette Consulting. Mrs. Fleming is a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. Her firm is devoted to the development of poise, confidence and developing a higher sense of self-esteem in our young adults.

The mentees of the GEAR UP Birmingham of George W. Carver and Wenonah High schools also were privileged and appreciative of the training as they are developing into model productive citizens. Topics studied included: the proper introduction, posture, eye contact, and the importance of a firm handshake. In conjunction with the National Fatherhood & Mentoring Initiative, the men of Beta Mu Nu Chapter are committed to modeling and uplifting our leaders of tomorrow.



Omega Lamplighters help feed the homeless Chi Omega Chapter - Tallahassee, Florida

Tallahassee, FL (WTXL) – A local group continued their service in the community by giving a helping hand to those in need on Saturday. At Watson Temple, the Omega Lamplighters helped package and carry food to people's cars as a part of Farm Share's community service. The group says they try to do good deeds like this, year-round. *"We have been doing the feed the homeless initiative every third Saturday for two and a half years, so every third Saturday we are there,"* said Royle King, Executive Director of Omega Lamplighters. *"We just added this as another site and will probably do it for ever and ever and just continue to add stuff."*





Omega's Call to Action

- **Voter Registration: Fathers take sons/mentees to the poll**
- **Graduate and Undergraduate Initiatives - Emphasize Future Dads activities**
- **Host joint fatherhood/youth mentoring activities with Omega Partners**
- **Petition U.S. and state legislators on fatherhood and youth issues during Omega Days on the Capitol**
- **Increase awareness and activities to combat mental & physical health crisis's**
- **Educate and provide male youth with life skill tools for success**

8th District, Brother Skyler Johnson, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Chairman

Beta Upsilon's Project Manhood & Friends Program Still Going Strong

The Brothers of Beta Upsilon Chapter hold Project Manhood and Friends new mentee registration and voter registration at Central Park Elementary in Omaha, NE on September 27th, 2018.

Omaha, NE – Beta Upsilon's Project Manhood and Friends Mentoring program has been around since 1992; the brothers of Beta Upsilon plan to keep the program going strong. Project Manhood and Friends kicked off during the month of September by holding a new mentee registration during their partner school's, Central Park Elementary, open house. To help get students registered the brothers rented a video game truck that students could play while their parents registered their children for the Project Manhood and Friends Program.

While new mentee registration was very important to the brothers, they used this time to hold a voter registration drive. They knew that this would be a great opportunity to get many eligible voters registered to vote. Brothers Trevis Sallis (BY Project Manhood and Friends Chair) and Barry Thomas (BY Vice Basileus) both lead the effort to organize these two events. Both brothers spoke about how the goal of these events was to not only make parents and children aware of Project Manhood and Friends Mentoring Program but to also make sure eligible voters were registered for the upcoming midterm elections.



Brother's Sallis, McMurray, and McCroy overlook event *** Brother Thomas helps a parent get registered to vote



Students on video game truck sponsored by Beta Upsilon's Project Manhood and Friends Program. Brothers Henderson, Thompson, and Crump help parents register their children for Project Manhood and Friends Program.



The Brothers of Beta Upsilon were able to sign up children for their mentoring program and *register eligible voters for the upcoming midterm elections*. Being able to uplift children and promote political awareness in the Greater Omaha Community is something that the Beta Upsilon Chapter strives to do, and these two events helped

them do just do that. The Brothers of Beta Upsilon look forward to continuing to mentor children and helping make changes politically that will impact the Omaha community for many years to come.

Eta Upsilon Chapter Is Making Difference



Brothers Myron Brewer and Kevondae Blackmon participate in character-building activities with students Cedar Rapids, IA – On August 19th, 2018 Eta Upsilon Chapter teamed up with Mt. Olive Lodge #17 as part of the lodge's inaugural Young Men's Initiative to enable character-building competitions for kids K-8th grade. The event featured guest speakers, free haircuts, free food, free PlayStation subscription raffles and a free raffle to win an airplane ride by piloted Brother Ramone Hemphill, Sr. Spearheaded by a host of volunteer barbers, the event was fully booked throughout the entire day with over 50 kids in attendance and 34 haircuts.



Brother Ramone Hemphill of Eta Upsilon takes students on a free airplane ride that was won in its raffle



Students receive free haircuts as part of Eta Upsilon's Young Men's Initiative Program

Upsilon Omega Chapter in Saint Louis, MO sends 7 Omega Squires to Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., Youth Leadership Conference in New Orleans

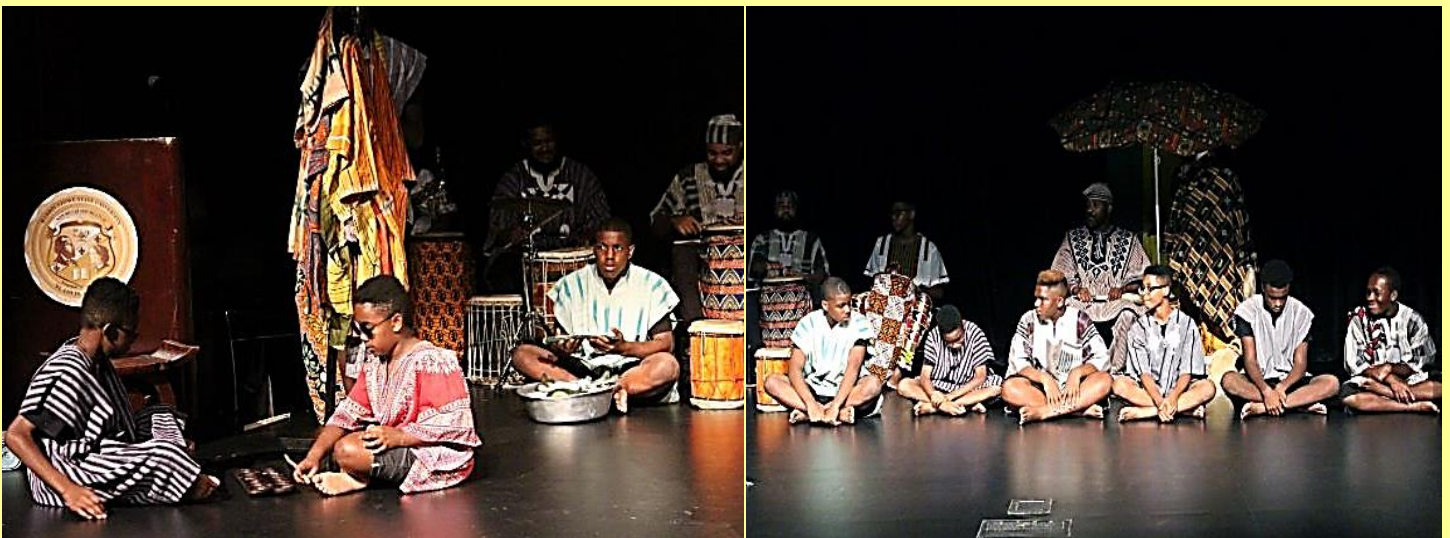
Saint Louis, MO – Brothers Verne Wilson and Anthony Jackson took seven (7) Omega Squires from the Upsilon Omega Chapter to New Orleans for the Omega Youth Leadership Conference that preceded the 2018 Grand Conclave. The Conference was held on the campus of Xavier University, New Orleans. The young men stayed in the residential facilities on campus. They participated in several workshops facilitated by the brothers that comprise the YLC board. They were greeted by the Grand Basileus Brother Antonio Knox.

They were able to fellowship with other Project Manhood organizations from other cities around the country. And even participated in an impromptu step challenge. Two of the Upsilon Omega Chapter Omega Squires were nominated as Group leaders within their assigned groups. They made contacts with the Brothers that were their assigned mentors and with other young men that participated in the Conference.



Omega Squires Participated in Annual collaboration with Fundisha at the St. Louis History Museum

For the third consecutive year Omega Squires participated in the Fundisha Enterprises Annual program held at the Missouri History Museum. The program was written, produced and directed by noted historian, playwright and choreographer Mama Lisa Gage-Ray. The Squires performed a dance routine during the opening act, assisted with percussion and served as actors throughout the performance.



Omega Squires participating in Fundisha program.

Fatherhood Initiative Major Tenants

- **Public Awareness**
- **Partnership**
- **Public Advocacy (funding & good legislation)**
- **Celebrate and Uplift Images of Fathers**

Rho Nu June Daddy Daughter Dance



Rho Nu Educational and Community Foundation in conjunction with Rho Nu Chapter held its Fourth Annual Daddy-Daughter Dance. The dance was held at the Green Event Center in Friendswood, TX



**Nu Phi Chapter Sponsor Astros Baseball Outing
For Community Youth**

Houston, TX – Each year during the month of August, brothers of Nu Phi Chapter convene to host and chaperone the “Annual Youth Journey to Minute Maid Park”. This festive occasion grants the opportunity for our future leaders to attend a Major League Baseball Houston Astros baseball game. It also provides an opportunity to reiterate the importance of fellowship for everyone in attendance. For some of the youth, this baseball outing is a

first-time to ever attend a professional sporting event. A pre and post-game meal is sponsored by the chapter and through the continuous benevolent donations of renowned local sports radio host, Ralph Cooper and the Harris County Precinct 1 Commissioner's office, admission tickets and transportation is provided at no cost. Whether chaperoning or contributing to the pre and/or post-game efforts, this event has an immeasurable positive impact and enhances the lives of many youth within the community.

Nu Phi Chapter Holds Resume Writing Workshop – Texas Southern University

Houston, TX - The Nu Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., in partnership with Texas Southern University Student Athletic Department jointly ventured with the purpose of increasing student employability during and post-graduation. Through a series of mentoring sessions, which spotlighted resume development, awareness of intern/apprenticeships and job connections, the brothers of Nu Phi were able to engage 28 student athletes. Each student was paired with a mentor who helped develop content that increases his or her chances at securing a job.



Rho Beta Beta - Fatherhood Initiative



Houston, TX - Rho Beta Beta Chapter had a Fatherhood Initiative where Yes Prep Southside selected 25 students and their fathers to participate in this program. Chief Mike Benford, University of Houston Downtown, Police Department, and Lieutenant Darrell Burns Sr., Spring ISD, spoke about interacting with Law enforcement.



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10th District, Brother Gregory Pittman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Chairman



IOTA PI CHAPTER SPONSORS OMEGA SCOUT TROOP 258 AND PACK 3206

Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Newsletter

Grand Rapids, MI - Scouting is a nationally-recognized program that is designed to meet the needs of the youth and families. The program offers fun and challenging activities that promote character development and physical fitness. Family involvement is an essential part of the program. Interestingly enough, many American leaders attribute the boy scouts' experience as having contributed to their leadership development. Unfortunately, the presence of African American youth in this program is dismally lacking.

Omega Scout Troop 238 and Pack 3206 were started in 2012 in Grand Rapids, Michigan as a brain child of Brother Kenyatta Brame, Esq., and his wife, Tracey Brame., Esq. Because they could not find a Troup that had a diverse population of participants, they decided to start their own Troop that would serve a population that would otherwise be omitted.

The Omega Scouts started with 15 young men and now has over 20 Cub Scouts in the pack and 20 Boy Scouts. Two of the Boy Scouts are currently working toward the highest rank possible, The Eagle Scout. The Troop and Pack attend summer camp thanks to proceeds from their chartered sponsor, Iota Pi Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., the Tipping Point Initiative and Scout Reach.

Brown Hutcherson Ministries, under the leadership of Brother Pastor Nathaniel Moody, Sr., serves as the Den (Meeting Place) for Boy and Cub Scouts to meet twice monthly. With the support of Iota Pi Chapter and its members, along with the Scouting Council, Church Ministry, and parent involvement, the boys have experienced camping, hiking, cooking, fishing, archery, shotgun shooting, canoeing, First-Aid, emergency preparedness and have participated in multiple community volunteering activities.

[See the website omegefandm.org](http://omegafandm.org)

Rho Tau Chapter Mentor Youth on Healthy Eating, Meal Preparation and Techniques for Tracing Family's Roots



Gurnee, Illinois – Rho Tau Chapter Brothers recently completed a unique program designed to teach and educate youth in the Chapter's mentoring program about the world of food service and preparation. These young participants gain confidence and learn new ways to prepare tasty meals that encourage and inspire healthy living.

Classes were conducted by experts and Brothers with expertise in the field brought fun and excitement to each learning experience. This educational experience taught the following skills and concepts:

- Safe food handling and Sanitation
- Food preparation and cooking demonstrations
- Knife/Slicing skills
- Math and Recipe Conversions
- Cooking Terms and Techniques

In the Trace Your Family History workshop, they learned how to: Trace roots through genealogical research, oral history and DNA. How to frame their family history collect family stories and created kinships charts. They brought pictures of their oldest ancestors and linked their individual family histories with American History. The most important lesson learned was that families take different shapes and forms.

**For 25 Consecutive Years in Los Angeles, Omega Men:
The Youth Leadership Conference of Greater Los Angeles and Southern California**

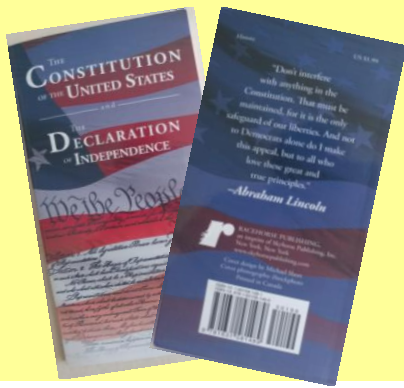


"Saving Lives, One Young Man at a Time"

Los Angeles, CA – October 21, 2018 – Tau Tau Chapter in partnership with other Southern California Area Chapters and the Omega Educational Foundation sponsored its 25th Consecutive Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) held at The University of Southern California (USC), Saturday, October 20. This years' conference attracted over 552 young men between the ages of 8 and 18, 114 mothers and approximately 80 fathers.



The Youth of Los Angeles and Surrounding Areas



Each young man was given a copy of this passport pocket size "Constitution of the United States and Declaration of Independence"!

During the first few years of the youth conference, the focus was on working with and mentoring male youth of Los Angeles, ages 13-18. *"After the first conference, the brothers said that that was enough, job well done, we can go back home now and rest,"* said Brother Lewis.

He pointed out that the phone kept ringing, parents kept calling and asking about having another youth leadership conference. And, what was thought of as a "one-and-done" mentoring conference continued into the next year, and the next year and the next year. Twenty-five years hence, it's still going strong but the difference now is that it includes a mother's conference – that was proposed by Brother Dr. Anthony Maddox.

Then in support of President Barack Obama's Fatherhood Initiative of 2009 and the Fraternity's call to action at its 76th Grand Conclave in Raleigh, NC, July 22-30, 2010, members of the Supreme Council through a resolution, approved the inauguration of a Fatherhood Initiative. With support at the International level of the Fraternity, a fathers' conference was added to the Youth Leadership Conference; its general purpose being to aid in *closing the gap of father absence from the lives of their children.*

Part of the curriculum of the Mothers and Fathers conference included the request to register to VOTE, then go to the polls and VOTE. They were told of the "call to action" to take their sons, grandsons and/or mentees to the polls with them, take a photo of them voting and then send it to the fraternity's website for posting.

The Founder and Coordinator of the conference Brother Ricky Lewis and First Vice Grand Basileus of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., observed, *"What a glorious day at USC. Our Omega brand was inundated with positives for the 25th Annual Youth Leadership Conference and Mentorship Program."*

The YLC was started by members of the Tau Tau Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., out of a paternal concern for the health and well-being of young inner-city boys following the 1992 jury trial of police officers involved in the beating of motorist Rodney King. Its purpose is to show the youth - ages 8 to 18 - that they are of worth and that opportunities are there for them.

Brother Lewis addressed fathers at the Youth Leadership Conference. He thanked them for coming out and being part of and involved in their sons' lives. He talked about the challenges and the benefits of fatherhood.



Brother Ricky L. Lewis, First Vice Grand Basileus addressing the Fathers of Los Angeles. Brothers S. Earl Wilson, International Fatherhood Chairman and 12th DR Dennis Martinez look on!

"... of all of the rocks upon which we build our lives, family is the most important. Fathers are critical to this foundation, but since 1960, the rate of American children without fathers in their lives has quadrupled ..."

~~ Barack Obama ~~



The Mothers of Los Angeles and Surrounding Areas



The Fathers of Los Angeles and Surrounding Areas



Brother Paul Turner, YLC Coordinator surveying the grounds of the University of Southern California, surrounded by youth conference attendees

So just what is the essence of the Youth Leadership Conference and why do they (Men of Omega) do it? That question can be answered in so many ways, says Brother Paul Turner, Youth Conference Coordinator. *“My answer is that we do it to provide an opportunity for the boys in our community to see, hear and have a positive,*

consistent and quality image of who they are, what they can do, who they can become and where they can go if they believe in themselves.”

Turner said that there were several men in his young life whose words and actions shaped the way he thought and what he believed he could become. He said, “I believe that we are a part of the ‘village’ that is needed to raise our children. By giving them opportunities to see men of color in roles of authority like police officers and teachers and lawyers and doctors and more, we give them an opportunity to interact with people who have their best interest in mind and also positive targets on which to focus.”

And the youth saw these role models at the Youth Leadership Conference on the campus of USC. The Doctors were there, the Police came out, and so did the teachers and college administrators, some who came from as far away as Alcorn State University in Mississippi and Tuskegee University in Alabama.



~~~ ... the Doctors were in the House ~~~

And as said by Brother Turner, *“our youth saw possibilities that can become dreams. Dreams that can become goals. Goals that can become realities!”* The YLC is another venue that concerned parents can use to reinforce the messages they are passing on to their young men - that education is critical to success. He continued indicating that “there is still a place for chivalry and respect in our communities and societies. And that with hard work and dedication each one of these youth will be a success story.”



~~~ ... and LAPD was in the House ~~~

“What is the YLC?” Turner said, *“It is the living embodiment of men looking back, reaching back and giving back to their communities to prepare our boys and young men for a better future; one that will exceed all of their dreams and goals and a future in which they will not only participate in but build.”*

Sigma Gamma Gamma Graduate Chapter Boyz to Men Mentorship Program

By
Brother Cortez Pree

Okinawa, Japan – The Basileus of the Sigma Gamma Gamma Graduate Chapter, Brother Cortez Pree serves as the founder and key facilitator of the Boyz to Men Mentorship Program at Chapel 3 on Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan. The purpose of the mentorship program is to allow males of ages 5 to 18 years to bond and learn from one another and mold young men into influential contributors to society.

The activities of this quarterly event consisted of cooking, cleaning, guided discussions, sports, and various activities such as CPR, car maintenance, public speaking and tying ties. Upon arrival each mentee is paired up with another male that he is not a relative and provided insight into life skill development.

The most recent event occurred on Saturday, August 26, in which the young men learned how to cook and clean. Brother Pree stated “it is imperative to guide and mentor our youth to become better citizens in order to uplift mankind”. Sigma Gamma Gamma’s Vice-Basileus, Brother Donald Gardner provided hands on CPR class instruction to the youth. The class was beneficial as several youth expressed a desire to pursue a career in the medical field. SGG host this quarterly event in order to mentor to the Youth in the Okinawa military community.

“Time is neutral and does not change things. With courage and initiative, leaders change things!” Jessie L. Jackson, Sr.



Sigma Gamma Gamma Graduate Chapter Basileus Brother Cortez Pree and Vice Basileus Brother Donald Gardner with elementary, middle and high school students participating in quarterly Boyz to Men Mentoring event at Chapel 3 on Kadena Air Base.



Sigma Gamma Gamma Graduate Chapter Vice Basileus Brother Donald Garner demonstrating CPR techniques To Boyz to Men mentees.

Sigma Gamma Gamma Participates in Community Back 2 School Bash

By
Brother Michael Robinson

Okinawa, Japan – The Brothers of Sigma Gamma Gamma Graduate Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. partnered with the Okinawa Diversity Council in sponsoring the Community Back 2 School Bash for students of all ages. The event was held Saturday, August 26, 2018 at Ryukyu Middle School on Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan.



Brothers of Sigma Gamma Gamma Graduate Chapter with members of the Okinawa Diversity Council and student gift card winners

Over 120 students and family members attended this event. The Brothers of Sigma Gamma Gamma Graduate Chapter gave away two backpacks, school supplies and two gift cards. Local barbers and hairstylist provided free

haircuts and braids to boys and girls. Various Greek Organizations, Prince Hall Masonic Family, Diamond Heart Outreach, National Naval Officers Association and the Kadena Air Force African American Association donated free raffle prizes, games, entertainment, food and refreshments.



Young ladies receiving free hair braids from volunteer hairstylist **Young man receiving free haircut from volunteer barber

Students and parents that attended this event enjoyed a day of fun and excitement in preparation for the 2018 – 2019 school year. The Brothers of Sigma Gamma Gamma Graduate Chapter continues to provide support and encouragement to youth in reaching their goals and aspirations.

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