



# Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. International Fatherhood and Mentoring (FM) Newsletter



Fatherhood Initiative

Youth Leadership Conferences  
Big Brothers/Big Sisters

Project Manhood

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No. 4

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## Coming Soon!

### Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

#### PROJECT MANHOOD

#### GUIDE AND OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS TOOL KIT

January 2023

#### A Product of the Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee

Brother S. Earl Wilson, International Chairman

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Brother Robert W. Fairchild, International Fatherhood Advisor

Keith G. Pemberton, International Youth Leadership Conference

Raymond Bell, Big Brothers Big Sisters

Also, you are invited to

The fatherhood symposium is Feb 3-4 in Raleigh, NC - For information contact

Brother Melvin L. Williams, Jr. - [proudfathersinc@gmail.com](mailto:proudfathersinc@gmail.com)

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# International Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee

See the Websites: [www.omegafandm.org](http://www.omegafandm.org)  
[www.i-ylc.org](http://www.i-ylc.org)



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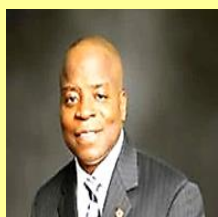
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**A VERY PERSONAL NOTE: Happy New Year!!**

**B**rothers, first I would like to thank everyone for the calls and prayers for me during my illness! This whole thing has been an interesting challenge and experience.

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Speaking of father – son relationship, I am very grateful to my son who is a doctor who has been in consultation with the various doctors working on my recovery. Because of the seriousness of my situation and his expertise - his involvement was welcomed. His involvement, love and concern were reflective of the relationship we have with each other.

This whole experience and his involvement caused me to take a moment to reflect on how I have conducted myself as father. I have always tried to be involved in the lives of my children from day one, because of what I experienced when I was growing up. My father was not in my life until the latter part of his life. My mother died in a car accident when I was seven. I was blessed with an uncle who took on the role of father. My aunt and uncle made sure that I and my sister had everything we needed growing up. The importance of having parent figures in my life is very evident and clearly real to me. Its value cannot be given a price value.

Each of you have or have not had parental life experiences growing up. Also, if you have had a family and as a parent been involved in their lives and successfully got them to college you have a lot to talk about. These experiences are valuable. We are asking you to get involved with fathers preferably those in the 16- to

25-year-old age group. In many instances these young fathers need help.

Listening to their concerns and sharing your experiences can be one way of helping them to get on track. This is also one way you can be involved in working with fathers.

In the first part my note here, I shared some of my experiences when I was growing up. As we

get into the new year, we will be asking you to capture on video and share your experiences with your father or sons. **In June around Father's Day**, we will present selected videos from each District of these experiences as we have in the past two years. Please participate.

We will also ask you and the chapters to engage in a fatherhood focused program assisting fathers. At the Conclave we placed Fatherhood and Mentoring in a mandatory state in the fraternity. Every chapter should be engaged in some fatherhood and mentoring effort. If you have questions or need assistance do not hesitate to reach out to the Fatherhood and Mentoring chairmen at the District or International level. Let us reach out and get engaged.

Finally, see the notice below from brother Eric Johnson on Celebrating Fatherhood in June!



**Brother Robert W. Fairchild**  
**Fatherhood Initiative Advisor**

In Friendship,

*Brother Robert W. Fairchild*

**~~~ NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE ~~~**

**March 15, 2023**

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2023, Submit information for January, February, March, 2023**

**Our Goal: Publish Information from each District, each Quarter;  
Fatherhood, Youth Leadership Conferences, Project Manhood (Mentoring)  
Submit articles to: [geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:geodtaylor@sbcglobal.net)**

### Greetings Brothers:

Happy New Year!

In the name of the Supreme Basileus of the Universe. I pray all is well with you and your families.

**THE INTERNATIONAL FATHER'S DAY CELEBRATION** mentioned by Brother Robert W. Fairchild will take place via Zoom on **Sunday, June 19, 2023 at 1:00 pm EST**. This program will be an open discussion and will provide the brothers with the opportunity to share their experience as a father.

Our expertise as a father is worth sharing. Fathers play an important role in their children's development and have a powerful impact on their well-being and health. Research indicates that fathers who are actively involved in their children's lives make a huge difference to their emotional health, overall wellness, social development, self-respect, and confidence. It is imperative to spend quality time with our kids. To be there for them with a positive impression have a long-lasting impact on children. We do not need to become perfect fathers. All we need is to be present and fully engaged.

We look forward to all brothers participating in this Initiative. More information will be forthcoming, thank you in advance for your continued support.

*"What I've realized is that life doesn't count for much unless you're willing to do your small part to leave our children – all of our children – a better world. Any fool can have a child. That doesn't make you a father. It's the courage to raise a child that makes you a father."* – President Barack Obama



In Friendship,

Brother Eric O. Johnson  
1-11-Lambda Beta Beta

**The Fraternity's Aim:** The Fraternity continues to enhance-educate-engage in closing the gap of father absenteeism in the lives of their children. As mentors, the Fraternity understands the need to assume several different roles during the course of a successful mentor-mentee relationship. It has called on its membership to focus on the importance of mentoring our next generation of young men and fathers and to actively engage in Fatherhood and Mentoring activities that are centered on four value-laden strategies: 1. Raising Awareness, 2. Developing Partnerships, 3. Increasing Advocacy, and 4. Promoting and Celebrating Achievements. (Quote from Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Fatherhood and Mentoring Status Report, November 11, 2014.)

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**Contemporary Thought:** In keeping with the aspirations of our founders, Brothers Coleman, Cooper, Love and Just and Brother Dr. Carter G. Woodson, the father of African American history, we envision Brothers of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., continuing to first, engage in self-development and, second, maintain ways by which we will involve male youth and fathers in growth opportunities that will enable them to be benefactors of service and uplift to our communities and our spheres of influence! (Quote from: PROJECT MANHOOD GUIDE AND OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS TOOL KIT, January 2023)



### Fatherhood and Mentoring, just a Thought: *The Mis-Education of Our Young Black Males* Dr. Carl A. Blunt

In Carter G. Woodson's 1933 book, *The Mis-Education of the Negro*, Woodson espoused his belief that Black people were being indoctrinated rather than taught in American schools.

Here we are in 2022, almost ninety years later and it can be said that Carter G. Woodson's observation is still germane. While some may argue the point that with the increasing threats of physical harm to students, teachers, school board members and even legislators, things have gotten worse.

There are current movements around the country that employs efforts that foster an illusion of the American story. By diluting, distorting, and erasing certain aspects of its history there is a focus on painting an inaccurate picture of the building of America. One of the most egregious inaccuracies that continues to be perpetrated is that Black people, especially Black males are hostile and violent.

For decades our young Black men have been exposed to negative portrayals, the glorification of gangster life and incarceration such as so called "Street Cred" while reducing their self-worth and self-efficacy by using the N-Word as a term of endearment. It has even been theorized by some in the academic arena that Black male students feel academic excellence and success is somehow contrary to their racial identity and that being smart is acting white.

This type of psychological process created during the period of enslavement and currently delivered



Brother Dr. Carl A. Blunt

under the guise of entertainment and education gradually brings the mind of a people under the control of their captors. and they eventually become mentally imprisoned by the loss of an awareness of who they are, and who they can be.

As parents, teachers, mentors, and role models we can combat those overt and deceptive tactics by employing the local various Fatherhood Initiative Programs to empower our young Black male students to escape from the mental prison. Most Fatherhood Initiative Programs offer a variety of resources such as academic tutoring, personal development and financial literacy workshops, enrichment field trips, computer camp and accurate historical presentations.

For example, some Fatherhood Initiative programs have online investing workshops that involve understanding the stock market. Mentees are provided with a small amount of start-up money and have the challenge of doubling it. The personal development workshops are varied in content, ranging from recognizing societal biases, and

cultural diversity, to hygiene and the role perception plays in navigating and succeeding in today's society.

The initial historical workshops are structured to reinforce self-esteem and dispel the inaccurate notions about ancient Africa being a wasteland devoid of advanced culture by revealing facts that identifies Africa as the birthplace of humankind and highlight the rich heritage, wealth, and influence of the many African empires such as Kush, the Kushite Dynasties and Sub-Saharan Pharaohs. It is priceless to see the faces light up when the mentees find out that the oldest known mathematical tools (The Ishango bone & Lebombo bone) were discovered in Africa and one can lay claim to Africa being the birthplace of mathematics as well.

Computer camps introduce the mentees to the power of the internet outside of their chrome books and cell phones and unlock the possibilities of careers.

Parent workshops are conducted as well to keep parents apprised of their son's assignments and progress while supplying information that parents can use to discuss and reinforce the workshop learning objectives at home.

Indeed, "*Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today,*" Malcolm X.

*Dr. Carl A. Blunt is an author, lecturer, and immediate past Board Chairman of the Omega Youth Leadership Academy. He also served as the 32<sup>nd</sup> First Vice Grand Basileus of Omega Psi Phi, Fraternity, Inc.*

# The Fatherhood Peregrination – Your Devotion Perseveres!

By Brother Larry Hammond

*About children, my dad taught me, “if we can show them how to create wonderful memories and to enjoy life to the fullest; if we can teach them to meet life’s challenges with courage and tenacity - then we have given our best to them.”*

WHILE TALKING TO A FRIEND recently about life and family, our discussion focused on our grown children. All of them are facing young adulthood with vigor and prosperity, hence, we both are very proud of our progenies and their accomplishments.

The conversation went, as it usually does, with each of us giving praises and accolades to each of our children which included the myriad of spirited laughs that emanate from their life stories and humorous antics.

Yet, the conversation took a distinctive turn when he began to tell me how he felt that his daughter’s life, while in all rights is flourishing, hasn’t quite turned out as expected, and that it hurts him to see that. I could feel his anguish, knowing, that if he could, he would do almost anything to change the circumstances.

While we often tend to think of fatherhood in the context of parenting our children when they are young, this story reminded me that fatherhood does not end when your children become adults. The devotion to our offspring continues. The roles that we play evolve while the intentions stay the same.

We all want the best for our children. We want them to be successful and, most of all, we want them to be happy. We want to see the values that we have tried so desperately to instill in them come to fruition. We want them to have lives that are better than ours.

As fathers, when they are young and in pain – we needed to fix it; when they are afraid, we calm their fears; when they are uncertain, we support

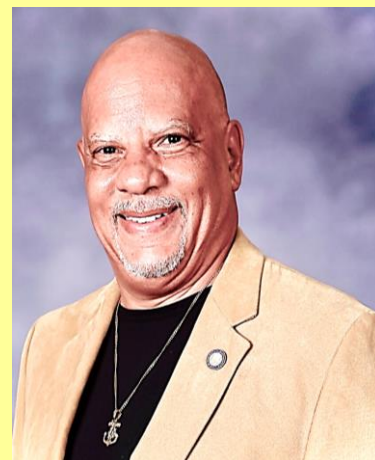
them; and when they are joyful, we are happy. At the same time, this parenthood journey that meanders from diapers, to notebooks, to senior proms and to “adulthood” persist and our devotion to fatherhood must persevere.

## FATHERHOOD IS A LIFETIME COMMITMENT...

It does not end when our children reach a certain age. It does not stop when they move out of the house. It does not cease when they get married. When our children grow up our relationships change from teacher, mentor and disciplinarian to counselor, advisor and consoler. But the title of father remains constant.

My dad continually taught me how to live life. When it comes to educating our children about life, if we can show them how to create wonderful memories and to enjoy life to the fullest; if we can teach them to meet life’s challenges with courage and tenacity - then we have given our best to them.

Our job is to protect them; to instill those values that will guide them to act in ways that are moral and ethical and to act positively for the sake of doing what is right even when there is no fear or reward promised. If we can plant the seeds that lead them to treat others with respect and compassion; if we can show them the importance of loving others while passing on those same values to their children and reinforce these principles whenever they falter or need support, then, we understand that the peregrination of being a father survives.



**Brother Larry Hammond,  
VIH Consulting**

As fathers we watch them grow up and feel their hurts, their joys and we discover the very essence of what makes them who they are. While we did not get an operation manual when they came into our lives, after they are grown, we have written our own guidebook; a chronicle, filled with life experiences and fatherly principles that we keep somewhere tucked in the back of our minds to access when we need to reveal a wisdom that only a father can give. Those fatherly principles are the values that translate into actions to help our decedents to thrive.

For you young fathers, just starting out – I say persevere! - For those of you with children going through their teenage years – I say persevere! - And, for those of you with adult children, and grandchildren or even great grandchildren – I say persevere! - Fathers, your devotion continues and it’s all worth it – I say Welcome to the New Year and persevere! ///

## Call Your People

**Blessed are the Peacemakers: for they shall be called the sons of God. Matthew 5:9**

### **Brother Charles "Chuck" Clemons, M.Div.** 12<sup>th</sup> District Chaplain

Recently I read a portion of Scripture where Jesus Christ after feeding the multitudes loaves of bread and fish refused to feed them. Instead, he invited them into a deeper relationship with Him through genuine faith. Jesus Christ who claimed the title, "Bread of Life," is so vital to life and eternal life that the symbol of bread to be eaten is metaphoric for having him be the source of our life, substance, and essence.

To feast upon Him in this way is not literal, or cannibalism, but is to take our relationship with the Messiah to heart so that we relate to Him so deeply within. In this text in John 6:48-68, after the miraculous feeding of the thousands, it becomes evident that the motives of the many were to just have their bellies full. When their carnal appetite was declined and they were given an invitation to truly know Jesus Christ, the crowds refused and walked away.

They left JESUS, for dinner.... Never to be heard again.

As abrupt as their departure came the question to His close disciples, "Are you leaving too?" (v. 67). But the response from the Apostle Peter, aided by the Spirit of God was right and true, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (v. 68). This text invites us into a deeper relationship with our God. Throughout the Gospel of John, we see a call to believe and live in the Name of our Supreme Basileus (John 20:31). It also observes that some friendships are shallow based on a "*What's in it for Me?*" mentality. While other friendships are true and have your best interests at heart. These same should be nurtured and developed for mutual uplift.

We see the depths of relationships exemplified in the life of Jesus. Though He spoke to crowds of thousands, His immediate circle of friends was the twelve disciples.

To stress this point further, Christ had an even closer circle of three, which were Peter, James, and John.

He invested in the lives of all the disciples, but these three men knew Him more deeply than others and even experienced Him on the Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17). One of the benefits of true, godly friendships, is that they help you to fulfill your God-given purpose.

Just as the disciples aided Christ on His way to Calvary. And He later called them as Apostles with the destiny of taking His message around the world. Jesus Christ knew then and knows who His people are, and we should too.

This past year, two of my family members, my sister, and my Niece passed away. They were my people. I am grateful to God for all they were towards me as Brother and Uncle. After reflecting on their unconditional love, I made a list of people in my life who give words of hope, counsel, and uplift. After I made my list, I called my people. With each person called, I thanked them for being in my life. And I committed to being more intentional in investing my time in people who regularly have invested in me. Conversely, I am more discerning of those who do not have my best interests at heart. And my need to allow them to depart from my life or have less of a priority (much like John 6).

As we are going through the Holiday season, and facing a coming new year, may you discover greater depths in friendships and relationships with your family and friends and loved ones. Call your People. ///



**Charles "Chuck" Clemons**  
12<sup>th</sup> District Chaplain

## From Around the Districts





### **First District OPPF, My Brother's Keeper, University of Massachusetts-Boston and City of Boston Piloted a Partnership Mentoring Program**

**Boston, MA** – To illuminate its mentoring work with college level Youth, the First District of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., in partnership with the Obama Foundation, My Brother's Keeper (MBK), the city of Boston and the University of Massachusetts-Boston, piloted the **Bro. Rick Jarvis Mentoring Program** at the University of Massachusetts-Boston.

A unique feature of its mentoring program, named in honor of its deceased member **Bro. Rick Jarvis Mentoring** included: developmental workshops, one-on-one mentor and mentee pairing, and participation in social/community events. Between personal development workshops, mentors and mentees engagement sessions, mentors provided general guidance on career/life planning for the college students. Mentees were paired with mentors based on their indicated areas of study, career interests and hobbies.

Towards the end of the program, a survey was conducted to collect data from the mentors on the program and relationship they developed with their mentees. Below are highlights and sample responses from the surveys.

- Times met with the mentee: on average 10-20 (virtual), 2-3 (in-person); Total man hours: on average 15-25
- How did one-to-one mentoring sessions go with your Mentee? *In the beginning it was difficult to meet with my mentee. However, during the 10 weeks we were able to meet on a weekly basis and did check-ins. He graduated in the fall semester. So, he did not need much support on his schoolwork. We spoke more on his future, going to grad school and what that process looks like. The sessions went*

*well. The conversations typically spanned many topics and were naturally flowing.*

**Overall experience:** *With this being a pilot program, I feel the experience was very good. Because of the distance, we used Zoom and phone calls to keep in touch. My mentee is a very intelligent young man who was very active in the community and with school.*

**Mentee 1** *is an amazing young man. He has three children and is married. He came to the program with a significant amount of life experience but was humble and open to conversations ranging from his mentoring to his home life and future aspirations. The overall experience was very enriching. There were times when the open discussions got deep and personal and we learned from of individual and shared experiences. It was hard having a mentor mentee experience and not being in person. I felt like I couldn't really connect with him as it was just a voice or text messages. If I had more time, I would try to facilitate some in person meet ups.*

**Overall,** *I became friends with my mentee. I look at him as being one of my younger brothers. We spoke often when neither one of us was tied down with work. we learned a great deal about each other. This was a very exciting program.*

#### **Mentee Ratings:**

**Self-Cultivation** – *My mentee is a survivor. No matter what the obstacle he is resilient and respects that success is a life journey not a singular destination.*

**Financial Literacy** – *We covered this topic several times and during our broader MBK morning call. He was interested in putting plans into action in order to get on the right track financially.*

**Contemporary Knowledge** – *He seeks out information and is passionate about learning and growing. Further, he shares his learnings with his children.*

**Professional Etiquette** – *My mentee is polished enough to have successfully started his own non-profit and secured professional relationships with professional sports teams and owners.*

Our MBK Mentees have continued progressing personally and professionally. Many have graduated and moved on to graduate school programs or employment opportunities. Our underclassmen MBK Mentees remain enrolled in pursuit of their degrees. ///

(Submitted by Brother Anthony Lilley)



## COACH/MENTOR, Life savior



**Brother Kevin Moses**

**Bloomfield, CT** – Merriam-Webster's dictionary defines the word mentor as "a trusted counselor or guide; tutor or coach." That is exactly who Brother Kevin Moses Sr., was for every minute he spent on this Earth. Brother Moses was a man who believed in community and sought to give back to the very place which nurtured him into being the man that he was.

Brother Kevin Moses would grow into adulthood and return to the very place that molded him. As a proud

Bloomfield, Connecticut resident, He gave his life to coaching and mentoring the youth of his beloved hometown. Whether that was being a counselor at the town recreational summer camps or being a coach in a powerhouse football and basketball program, Brother Moses always understood his assignment. Sure, the Xs and Os of sports needed to be taken care of, but the Xs and Os of life were never ignored.

Brother Moses' influential presence in the Bloomfield community helped to shape who many of these youths would become, whether that was a professional athlete, businessmen and women, or even eventual Omega men. He kept in touch with hundreds of students, and the richness of his life and what he meant to an entire community was felt at his homegoing services.

We should all aspire to be great in whatever it is that we do in life, and if we can aspire to be just like Brother Moses, greatness is surely to follow. ///

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### **Brother Anthony B. Lilley**

**B**rother Anthony B. Lilley has been a mentor and role model for the Hartford Northend for over 25 years. Brother Lilley grew up in the city of Hartford and participated in all sports and youth programs. He went on to college and returned to Hartford where he was a volunteer for the youth of the city. In 1996, he became the Head coach of the "Ques," a T-ball team for Hartford Northend Little League

HNLL). Once a part of HNLL, Brother Lilley was not just a coach but a mentor. He continued to follow up with his students even into adulthood. Brother Lilley is still active in HNLL and is currently the vice president of the League and has brought in sponsorship money to the league and has helped to increase enrollment in the League. Brother Lilley is an example of what all coaches who are mentors should strive to be. ///

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### **LAMBDA RHO BRINGS JOY**

**Waterbury, CT** – Lambda Rho Chapter, in collaboration with the St. Vincent DePaul Mission of

Waterbury, was able to make over 200 dinners for families in the city of Waterbury. This fatherhood event was kicked off as Brothers of Lambda Rho brought their children and mentees to the

Mission to help prep food and feed the needy as the Chapter brothers prepared the Thanksgiving Day Baskets. Brothers were also able to deliver baskets to over 50 families throughout the city of Waterbury. This was an enriching experience for the Chapter, the children, and the families in Waterbury. ///



## A Servant Leader

**New Haven, CT** – Brother Kevin E. Walton, Sr., was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., through the Epsilon Iota Iota Chapter on May 15, 1992. For the past thirty (30) years he has proven to be a loyal and faithful servant leader of our Dear Omega.

Brother Walton has served at the Chapter, District and International levels including Chapter Basileus, Chapter Social Action Chair, First District Social Action Co-Chair, First District Scholarship Chair, and First District Marshal for the 75<sup>th</sup> First District Conference and as the Omega Life Member Foundation Region I Director. Brother Walton currently serves as the Epsilon Iota Iota Fatherhood & Mentoring Chair.

Brother Walton has been honored for his service on many occasions but none was more special than being selected as the 2021 First District Omega Man of the Year during the 85<sup>th</sup> First District Conference.

Some of Brother Walton's community and civic affiliations include, New Haven Department of Parks & Recreation Board of Commissioners, Greater New Haven NAACP, New Haven Scholarship Fund Board of Directors, and Co-Founder of Storytellers New Haven.

Professionally, Brother Walton serves as the Director of Equity & Inclusion for the Area Cooperative Educational Services in North Haven, CT where his main function is to work with the Executive Leadership Council to ensure that the agency is working towards being a more equitable and inclusive workplace. Brother Walton was recently elected as the President-Elect of the American Association of School Personnel Administrators and will assume the role of President in October of 2023.

Brother Walton started his coaching career in 1997 when he was hired to build a girls basketball program at Hill Regional Career High School in New Haven. The first two (2) years were spent building interest and getting the girls ready to compete at a varsity level. During the first season as a varsity program in 99-00, the Lady Panthers finished with a 1-19 record. In 2002-03 they won their first of three state championships.

During his tenure at Career, Brother Walton led the Lady Panthers to eight Division Championships, three Southern Connecticut Conference Championships and three Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference

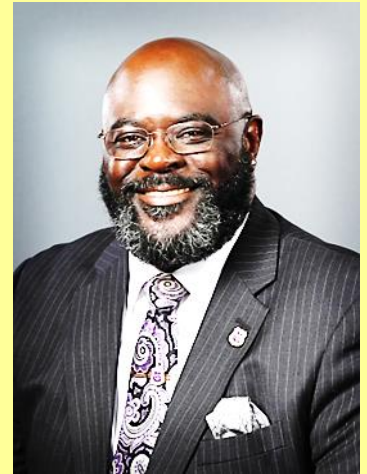
State Championships, including 2008 where they finished number one in the state.

In 2012 Brother Walton was hired as the Head Boys Basketball Coach at Wilbur Cross High in New Haven. Brother Walton led the Governors to back-to-back Southern Connecticut Conference championships in 2019 & 2020 making him the first person to win a boys & girl's conference championship.

Over his twenty-five year coaching career, Brother Walton has experienced the highs of coaching such as winning multiple championships and several coach of the year awards and the lows of coaching such as going 1-19. Brother Walton has also experienced the joys that come with coaching such as seeing the success of his former players as they have moved into adult hood and the immense pain that come with losing five former players to gun violence.

Brother Walton assures his team members understand the importance of serving their community by participating in community service projects including the monthly food distribution at the Immanuel Baptist Church and facilitating basketball clinics for young kids. Brother Walton understands that basketball is the entry point that affords the opportunity to influence the lives of young men and takes great pride in instilling the tenets of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift in his daily interactions with his student-athletes.

Brother Walton is married to the beautifully intelligent Dr. Karen DuBois-Walton. Together they have two adult sons, Kevin & Kaleb and a four-legged son Koleman Love. ///



**Brother Kevin E. Walton, Sr.**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> District: Brother Donald Williams, Jr., Chairman, Fatherhood and Mentoring

### Districtwide Mentoring Leadership Seminars

Donald Williams II, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Chairman, Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee, former 25<sup>th</sup> Basileus Mighty Mu Nu Chapter



### The Urgency of Now – Training Sessions!

By Brother Donald Williams, Jr.

One of many Joys of the holiday season is the opportunity to say thank you to the Brotherhood for the incredible work Omega men are doing across the nation and in your community changing the world through MENTORING!

The urgency is now, and it is our generation's turn to lend our leadership gifts and talents. It is extremely vital for leadership at the Chapter's level to persist with increasing awareness on the importance of responsible fatherhood and mentoring of young people. In this new Omega year, you are encouraged to share your Chapter's Mentoring Program successes that help our children reach their full potential, especially our young males with the emphasis on mentoring activities that help men become effective parents.

As top priority, the 2<sup>nd</sup> District FIM Committee launched a Districtwide Mentoring Leadership Training seminar. On behalf of the 38<sup>th</sup> District Representative, Rico Gales, there will be three training seminars. The strategic purpose is to help new chapters "stand up" their program and for existing chapters to enhance their mentoring programs with new ideas and pathways.

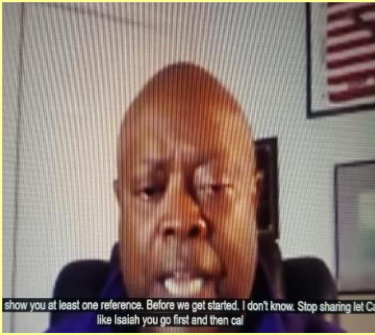
The first two "virtual" training seminars were conducted on September 22, 2022, and December 8, 2022. The last seminar will be in February 2023 and it will center on Risk Management strategies to protect the mentoring brand.

The first of three Leadership Training session was conducted and well attended by district and International Committee members. The 2<sup>nd</sup> District, Chaplain, Dr. Ronald Williams opened the training session with an inspiration prayer and was followed by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Representative, Amir Shareef who provided opening remarks; "the 2nd District is the point of the spear" for setting the direction for Omega Nation!

The purpose of the training session was to provide templates for documenting Chapter's successes. The overall goal is to "standardize" reporting of mentoring performance successes to receive additional government funding! The facilitator from Corridor 4, FIMC Chairman, Brother Matt Stevens, was responsible for connecting the 2<sup>nd</sup> District to Cleo Clicks Organization Funder.

The presenters were Cleo Click staff members, Ms. Jeanette Simmons, who has 30 years' experience in managing Mentoring Programs that receive government funds, and Dr. LaSondrick Bridges, who has a wealth of "funder" experience. I was beyond excited that more than 55 participants joined our Zoom to include Brother Mark Jackson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Grand Basileus was in attendance for the duration, and a brother from Lambda XI in Seoul, Korea. ///





**Brother Dr. Bernard Jackson, Tau Lambda Lambda Chapter, Founder, Purple Boots Mentoring program**

**Training Session 2** – On Thursday, December 8, 2022 the second training session was conducted. Brother Dr. Bernard Jackson, Tau Lambda Lambda Chapter, founder of Purple Boots Mentoring program, (2009) was program facilitator. The training session centered on key steps to stand up

mentoring program for your chapter.

The presentation provided evidence base "best practices" to reach and connect with today's young people. The two young mentees that are currently in college stated that being mentored by the facilitators changed their lives because of the great pride, personal

interest, and engagement the men put into shaping young male's lives.

In addition, we were honored to introduce the 42<sup>nd</sup> Grand Basileus, Brother Ricky Lewis who shared the top two priorities in his administration; Reclamation and Retention and his social action foot print is Fatherhood and Mentoring. He thanked all the brothers for their service and wished everyone happy holidays. Mentoring our young people, especially our young males and helping men become effective Parents and Dads who are involved in their children's lives matter!

My closing message "Stay Awoke and Stay Connect" with next level mentoring initiatives ideas! For a greater collective impact, we must engage our undergraduates to reach the next generation behind them! Our communities will be better when they lend their leadership gifts, abilities, and skills to support the FIMC mission. Mentoring Leadership Matters and Mentoring Save Lives! ///

### **3<sup>rd</sup> District: Brother Michael Frazier, Chairman, Fatherhood and Mentoring**

**YOUNG MEN OF DISTINCITON | KAPPA IOTA IOTA** – On October 29, 2022, the Young Men of Distinction (YMOD) watched the Spartans of Norfolk State University compete against the Bisons of Howard University. The purpose of this field trip was to pique the interest of the young men to desire higher education

through exposure to college athletics and the HBCU atmosphere. Fathers of YMOD joined their sons in this wonderful fatherhood initiative and mentoring event provided by KII. This was the first collegiate athletic game for many of the students in attendance. ///



**YOUNG MEN OF DISTINCITON | HOWARD UNIVERSITY | OCTOBER 2022**

On November 12, 2022, 27 YMOD attended Virginia Tech (VT) Science Festival in Blacksburg VA. Dr. Karen Sanders of VT organized members from the Virginia Tech Pan-Hellenic to conduct a round table with the young men to learn about their aspirations for college. The purpose of

this field trip was to expose young men to new and exciting developments in the STEM and to also ignite a spark to desire post-secondary education. ///



**YOUNG MEN OF DISTINCTION | VIRGINIA TECH | NOVEMBER 2022**

**THE GOLDEN FOLD | ALPHA IOTA** - On Saturday, November 12, 2022, Alpha Iota mentoring program, The Golden Fold toured the campus of Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) located in Richmond, Virginia. TGF students were exposed and educated on workforce trends/demands currently and in the future. Students also were informed on VCU 200+ academic degree programs and career mappings for traditional and nontraditional students. VCU is the only Virginia school to offer health professions, dentistry, medicine, nursing and pharmacy. VCU Medical Center is a top hospital in the Richmond region and in Virginia. ///



**The Golden Fold | Virginia Commonwealth University | November 2022**

**MANUP | PSI ALPHA ALPHA** - The MANUP Program of Psi Alpha Alpha (PsiAA) visited with the Elizabeth City State University (ECSU), Department of the Aviation Science Program on November 2, 2022. Students received a 4-hour course and hands-on aviation labs from Mr. Elton Stone, Aviation Lecturer. Students from Fairfax, Alexandria, Falls Church, and Prince William counties were able to fly simulators and learn basic tenants of flight. In addition, students learned about air traffic control, unmanned aerial vehicles, applicable software applications, and daily case

uses for current and future professional careers. As the only four-year collegiate aviation education program in the State of North Carolina, ECSU offers a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Aviation Science. ///



**MANUP MENTORING PROGRAM | ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY | NOVEMBER 2022**



**OMEGA U | PI LAMBDA LAMBDA** – On December 3rd, 2022, the Omega U Program had a financial literacy presentation hosted by Apple Federal Credit Union at Potomac Middle School. Financial literacy is the ability to understand and effectively use various financial skills, including personal financial management, budgeting, and investing. Omega U students were exposed to the five C's—capacity, capital,

collateral, conditions, and character. Students also learned on the correlations between financial literacy and financial wellness among African-Americans. Students learned that those who are more financially literate are more likely to plan and save for retirement, to have non-retirement savings and to better manage their debt; they are also less likely to be financially fragile. ///



#### 4<sup>th</sup> District Brother Jerry Leftwich, Chairman, Fatherhood and Mentoring

### The Brothers Eta Nu Nu Chapter Proudly Presents

**Columbus, OH** – The brothers of the Eta Nu Nu Chapter of Central Ohio are excited to announce two innovative initiatives for Fatherhood and Mentoring programs in 2023

One year ago, the Chapter started a dialogue with **Columbus Public Health** about planning and providing Co-Parenting workshops that include fathers and families. As a result of the sharing of best practices, a collaborative relationship has grown into a partnership with the focus of addressing some of the challenges young father's face in co-parenting and maintaining health families.

Certified by the State of Ohio Commission on Fatherhood (<https://fatherhood.ohio.gov/>) the Chapter facilitates and provides activities centered around a research-based curriculum entitled: On MY Shoulders: (<https://prepinc.com/collections/on-my-shoulders>)

Our committee is unapologetic in its pursuit of **Mentoring and Fatherhood excellence**. Our members strongly urge us to inform, influence, and support men who are struggling to balance fatherhood and manhood

by sharing coping skills, techniques, and life strategies through workshops beginning in early January 2023.

The chapter brothers are thrilled and overjoyed with the launch of our **OMEGA MENTORING PROGRAM** scheduled for early January 2023 at **Mifflin High School in Columbus, Ohio**. This initiative, in collaboration and conjunction with Omega STEM Program held at the middle school, offers chapter brothers choices on which level to serve. In addition, it allows the chapter to build and sustainable infrastructure and pipeline connections between both middle and high school male students.

**The Omega Mentoring Program** is designed to teach and encourage Central Ohio middle and high school males in grades (6-12) to positively define, plan, pursue, and achieve their life goals. The goal of the program is to assist and prepare all young males to visualize higher education (College/University), career, trade school, or military service as a future destination.



Monthly sessions are designed to challenge young boys in the development of self-confidence and to instill in them a sense of personal integrity. During the Omega Mentoring experience, participants are exposed and aligned with college and career readiness opportunities while being introduced to the principles of manhood, critical thinking, personal accountability, emotional and social development. These training modules provide males with the tools necessary for self-respect, health, wellness, community leadership, and conflict resolution. (Submitted by: Brother Kendall A. Lee) ///

## Where Boys of Destiny Become Men of Distinction

**Toledo, OH – The MLK Academy for Boys, based in Toledo,** is a part of the Toledo Public School System. It was created to provide a focused environment in which boys can learn and develop skills that will help them be successful in their adult lives. The school population is primarily comprised of minority students and provides them with a learning environment where they can focus on the curriculum and overall educational experience. At present, the academy educates boys in grades K-6.



L-to R- Frederick Pruitt, Jay Barnett, Dr. Sammy Spann, Basileus Alan Bannister, Mark Riley, Richard Langford.



Ms. Sheila Annette Cook, Community Outreach and Family Liaison

The Fall 2021 Xia Tau Chapter members adopted the MLK Academy for Boys as their Community Project as part of its Fatherhood and Mentoring program. The mentors were Brothers Frederick Pruitt, Jay Barnett, Dr. Sammy Spann, Mark Riley, and Richard Langford. The goal of the project was to meet with a class of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students to discuss similar principles shared between the school and the fraternity such as: Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift. During the



The mission of MLK is to produce competitive college and career ready graduates through a rigorous curriculum across all grade levels by implementing new learning standards with fidelity.

mentoring sessions, the mentors shared what they learned from their process and life experiences.

They challenged the students to think more deeply about what they felt these principles meant to them and how they could apply them in their lives and the lives of others. The mentorship was well-received, and the students participated with great enthusiasm. Based on the reactions of the boys, the Fall 21 Xi Tau Chapter mentors will continue with this program.

Principal Wille Ward stated: "The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity epitomizes what it means to mentor. They are consistent in showing up for scheduled meetings and ring an authentically positive experience for our boys and help them shape their futures. The enthusiasm on our boys' faces has been truly heartwarming as they get answers to questions about brotherhood, fortitude, resilience and being a positive force in this world through the Ques' mentorship program."



Principal Willie Ward

Men of Omega Psi Phi became acquainted with Martin Luther King, Jr., Academy for Boys during the schools "Men of Distinction First Day of School, Meet and Greet." organized by Ms. Sheila Annette Cook, Community Outreach and Family Liaison for the school, and principal, Mr. Willie Ward. On the first day of school, the men of the Xi Tau Chapter met with Superintendent, Dr. Romules Durant, for photos before lining up to greet the students as they arrived. Ms. Cook explained the program indicating the program



incorporates men with various leadership positions in the community such as: educators, businessmen and attorneys. All of whom volunteer to welcome our boys on their first day of school.

“We also ask them to consider becoming mentors for the students in various grades and classes. The connections formed offer opportunities for the men to interact, encourage and assist the boys in understanding the various opportunities awaiting them as they grow from ‘Boys of Destiny’ to ‘Men of Distinction’”. “I must say,” she continued, “Omega Psi Phi has been highly successful at our school. They began their journey last

### **Zeta Omega Supports Positive Changes by Mentoring Middle School Boys**



**CLEVELAND, OH—** Sixth, seventh, and eighth grades can be such a pivotal time in a young boy’s life . . . a time when many of them begin to experience various rites of passage into young adulthood.

school year (2021-2022), with one of our third-grade classes and they are continuing with those students until they transition from elementary to middle school. We appreciate them and all they do for our young men and invite any one of you from the National chapter if you are in Toledo to visit us.”

The XI Tau Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated continues to meet with students monthly and recruited other members of their fraternity, who were happy to volunteer in the development of the young students. Each month, new topics are introduced to review and discuss with the boys.

The students have grown to genuinely enjoy the time spent and ask their teacher regularly, “When are the Ques coming back?” This program has been impactful for the mentees and the mentors. The men of the Xia Tau Chapter have vowed to continue to follow the students through to their sixth-grade year. Plans are being developed to continue following and mentoring the students through high school and college. **The brothers of Omega Psi Phi stand on their core principles and responsibility to give back. ///**

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Knowing how important this time is, the brothers of Zeta Omega Chapter have been spending their own time mentoring young middle school boys in the Greater Cleveland community.

A driving force in that effort is led by Brother James Wingo (1970 Phi Sigma), who, through his own consulting firm, conducts a program called Positive Changes. The primary goals of the program include promoting successful interaction and engagement for teenage males, developing, and improving their interpersonal skills, increasing their rate of promotion to the ninth grade, and promoting higher education and business aspirations for them as well.

The program conducts weekly workshops for boys that cover subjects such as teaching them how to achieve success in high school, making their own vision boards, manhood, fatherhood, the proper way to tie a necktie and shine their shoes, and the appropriate way to interact with girls.

Teaching the skill of tying a necktie overlaps with another local boys mentoring program known as 1,000 Ties. In that program, the boys learn about respect for themselves, others, and their environment; how to carry



themselves; goal setting; career guidance; social etiquette; and helping them think about their own personal branding. The subject of personal branding is covered in detail by Brother Jermel Carr (1994 Xi), who is a marketing and brand consultant. He and Brother Herb Jones (2019 Zeta Omega) co-chair the chapter's Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee.

These three brothers (Wingo, Carr, and Jones) work with synergistic energy to mentor and provide positive examples of what Black Manhood is all about for the youth in these programs. The boys get to see these role models in action every time they are in their presence.

Upon successful completion of the Positive Changes program, the mentees get to utilize some of the skills they have learned in the workshops when they attend a formal luncheon. This year's culminating event took place at a well-known institution in Cleveland called Edwin's Too restaurant. One of the reasons the venue was selected is because Edwin's Leadership and Restaurant Institute is a nonprofit organization that offers formerly incarcerated adults a foundation in the culinary and hospitality industries, and a support network necessary for long-term success. This model program is a great example of how community organizations like it and Zeta Omega can support each other, and also is good for the boys to witness.

Daniel E. Morgan and Marion-Sterling, both are pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade schools, part of the Cleveland Municipal School District, and located in predominantly African American neighborhoods, participated in the program this year. Daniel E. Morgan School is part of the Say Yes Cleveland program, which provides tuition scholarships to all public colleges, universities, and job-training programs in Ohio, as well as to over 100 private colleges and universities across the country. One of the family support specialists at the school is Brother JaJuan Robinson (2003 Beta Beta), who is a member of Xi Chi Chapter in nearby Akron; he attended the luncheon with his students in the program.

The keynote speaker for the luncheon was Brother Harrison Gilmer (2009 Zeta Omega). He shared some of his own valuable life lessons with the boys, including the fact that he was born in public housing and reared by a single mother without his father in the home. "I can relate to those young men because I *was* one of those young men," said Brother Gilmer.

The luncheon program also included welcoming remarks from Ms. Meryl Johnson who is an elected member of the State of Ohio Board of Education for District 11, which includes Cleveland. A retired school teacher with 40 years of experience in the Cleveland Municipal School District, Ms. Johnson worked to develop cultural competency and trauma-informed curriculum and has taught in the local Upward Bound program. She also is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



This marks the fourth consecutive year that the program has hosted a luncheon at the end of the curriculum schedule. It is a great event for the mentees, most of whom were dressed in sport jackets, collared shirts, and the neckties that some of them learned how to tie as a result of their participation in the program. Some were eager to show off not only their spiffy threads, but also their knowledge of which fork was to be used for each course of their meal.

When asked about some of the wisdom that he imparts with the youth, Brother Wingo shares that he tells them "Habits for manhood must be practiced daily . . . you cannot just turn them on when you want. And never be afraid to ask for help with whatever it is that you need; just because you do not know, it does not make you less smart."

Observing these brothers interact with the boys over lunch on a cold Friday December afternoon, it is evident how passionate they are about mentoring the youth of our future. Humbly Submitted, Brother Damon Scott Public Relations Chair, Zeta Omega Chapter ///



### **"More Than a Coach"**

The Legendary Fifth District under the leadership of District Representative Brother Sam McKenzie and First Vice District Representative Brother Quincy Snider continues to offer programing that promotes Fatherhood and Mentoring throughout the State of Tennessee and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee of the Fifth District continues to be committed to the betterment of our communities. One way we can make it better is to correct the narrative of Black men being of no worth. The immediate past chair of the 5<sup>th</sup> District FMC, Brother Michael Milliner sought ideas on how we could meet the objective of correcting the Black man's false image of doing nothing for the kids. Out of our committee came the idea of recognizing coaches throughout the 5<sup>th</sup> District. The question was raised about those coaches that go beyond their duties of coaching a sport and who go that extra mile.

It was decided that the District would award these community heroes with what will be called "More

Than a Coach" award. Our first two recipients for the award are Rodney Saulsberry and Derrick Leonard. Coach Saulsberry primary focus is for the young men to be ambassadors for the city of Memphis and their community by exemplifying respect, duty, and integrity of themselves and their surroundings. Coach Saulsberry is totally committed to getting these young men athletic scholarships. Educated and devoted, productive citizens that give back to sustain a tradition of winning and athletic scholars.

Coach Leonard in addition to coaching football and wrestling, is active as a mentor in the school's "Rites of Passage Program". He goes beyond his school responsibilities by building lasting relationships through afterschool activities. One of the admirable things that he does is staying in contact with young men after they leave H.G. Hill to check on them and make sure that they know that he is still there as support. ///

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### **Mentees Tour State of Tennessee History Museum**

During 2022 Achievement Week activities, Gamma Phi Chapter in Nashville, sponsored a field trip to the State of Tennessee History Museum. The Achievement Week theme was "Providing Uplift to Local, National and World Communities. The mentors developed a theme for the young men to tie into the chapter's theme. Their theme was "Looking Back as We Uplift Moving Forward". Activities included a scavenger hunt that covered the early history of Tennessee.

The primary guided exhibits were on Reconstruction after the Civil War in Tennessee and the Sit-in Movement in Nashville. We had an opportunity to see an exhibit that featured Gamma Phi Chapter's very own Brother Bobby Cain, who was the first black student to graduate from an all-white



**Gamma Phi/ H.G. Hill Middle School Rites of Passage  
Young men and Mentors**

Tennessee public high school. He was part of the first Blacks, (known as the Clinton nine) to attend an all-white school in the state of Tennessee. ///

## **“A good coach can change a game; A great coach can change a life”**

This quote from John Wooden rings true for all the Legendary Fifth District Omega men who are coaches in the Fifth District. The following coaches of the Fifth District are changing lives every day.



Anthony Richardson, Theta Omega  
Founder & Executive Director  
Inside the Lines Training Inc.  
Football, Basketball, Trainer  
Louisville Youth Sports



Justin D Hatchett  
Psi Psi  
Teacher, Head Coach Football  
Southern High School



Ronald Simmons Jr.  
Theta Omega  
Teacher, Wrestling Coach  
Ballard High School



Eric L. Brent  
Sigma Lambda Lambda  
Assistant Principal,  
Football, Basketball, Track  
Shelby County Schools



Derrick Leonard  
Omega Lambda Lambda  
Restorative Practice Assistant,  
Assistant football coach, Head  
wrestling coach, H.G. Hill



Brody Curry  
Kappa Iota  
Head Women's Basketball Coach  
University of the South



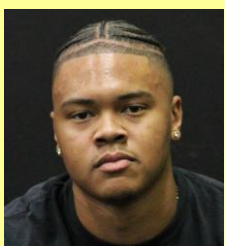
Shawn Donigan  
Theta Omega  
Retired Football Coach  
West End Yellow Jacket Youth Sports



Bryan White  
Omega Lambda Lambda  
Professional School Counselor  
Wrestling Coach  
Cane Ridge High School



Stanley Mclay  
Omega Lambda Lambda  
Asst. Girls Basketball Coach  
Stratford Middle School



Kendrick Bogan  
Omega Lambda Lambda  
Girls Varsity Assistant Coach  
McGavock High school



Derrick S. Williams  
Gamma Phi  
Educator, Head Girls Volleyball  
and Basketball Coach  
Hunters Lane High School



Alvin Sanders Jr.  
Iota Alpha  
Head Coach Football Morristown  
Hamblen High School



John Tate, Phi Gamma Gamma  
VP of Slim & Huskey  
Football Coach  
McKissack Middle School



Antonio D Avant, Sr., Epsilon Phi,  
Special Projects Manager, Baseball,  
Memphis Shelby County  
Schools/Omega Giants Baseball Club



Russell Clark, III,  
Rho Kappa Kappa  
Asst. Coach Football  
Oakland High School



Doreyon Terrell  
Chi Psi  
Head Coach Boys Basketball  
Melrose High School



## Be Encouraged



Gamma Phi H.G. Hill Middle School Rites of Passage Young Men and Mentors MNPS Board member Ms. Cheryl Mays, and Vice-Principal of Hill Dr. Shelia

The mentees at H.G. Hill Middle School had a special mentoring session at their last meeting before Christmas break. The mentors of Gamma Phi Chapter made a presentation to the young men to stay encouraged. In addition to the Chapter Mentoring committee members, words of encouragement were given by the Scholarship and Social Action committees.

We were very fortunate, (through the efforts of Brother Derrick Leonard), to have Ms. Cheryl Mayes

present. She is a member of the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools (MNPS) Board of Education. Ms. Mayes addressed the students with a positive and encouraging message. She expressed her love of visiting the schools and talking directly to students.

Words of encouragement were given by Brother Dr. Bernard Ray, representing the Scholarship committee,

Brother Mike Bennett representing the Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee, and Brother Michael Lee representing the Social Action Committee.

All three Brothers expressed the commitment of their respective committees to being of service to the young men in helping them to reach their goals. The social Action Committee surprised the young men with gift cards for Christmas. The surprise and smiles on their face because of Gamma Phi's generosity, was a great way to end our session for the semester. ///



Dr. Bernard Ray, Gamma Phi, Coach Football, Golf H.G. Hill Middle School

### 6<sup>th</sup> District: Brother Melvin L. Williams, Jr., Chairman, Fatherhood and Mentoring

Family and Coaching in the Mighty 6<sup>th</sup> District

By Melvin L. Williams, Jr.

“People want to take your spot until they realize what it takes to play your Position”.



**Raleigh, NC** – For twenty-six years, I was able to do what I called - mentoring through coaching. I volunteered to coach high school football and was

honored to coach college for one season. Also, I coached my daughter Mollie in youth basketball and track and field. She won state championships during the indoors and outdoors seasons during her high school career. Being named All State and all American in the 100 meters hurdlers landed her a full scholarship to the University of South Carolina. All those hours on the track as a coach will never overshadow the father's hour and we will learn from other brothers who are coaching their children as well as other people's children.

The men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. are making a difference in the lives of young people through sports, tutoring, mentoring or just showing up for



support and uplift by just being present. It's been four years now since I have hung up my whistle but if you want to find me on a Friday night just look around the 50 yards line at a local high school football game or look up in the booth, I'll be somewhere in the stadium supporting our student athletes.

Brothers, if you find yourself with nothing to do, check out your local school's sports schedules, trust me,

### **Training Day: Train a Child in the way that they should go!**



**Charlotte, NC** – "As the scripture teaches, 'Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it.' (Prov. 22:6.)

The scripture tells us to train our children in ways that when they come old, they will not depart from our

teachings. There is another step in that verse that isn't written but is expected by the Lord. This verse also tells every parent to help their child find their dreams **by showing and living it with them** and to help them to develop and understand their purpose in life.

For 34 years **Brother Gary Richmond** used his God given talents as an educator and coach for Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools. Brother Richmond saw much success as a coach and History teacher. I have known Brother Richmond for almost 40 years, and we have talked about a lot of sports and how sports have changed the lives of student athletes that have crossed our paths over the years. Most recently, one of his prize student athletes decided to walk the path Brother Richmond walked for 34 years of coaching and molding the lives of young folks. Brother Richmond retired and enjoyed life as a substitute teacher and enjoying sports talks with

**Brother Williams:** Who was your biggest influencer on going into coaching?

**Brother Richmond:** My greatest influencer in coaching was my late uncle, Preston McClain. Coach McClain was a highly successful high school coach at Raleigh Enloe. He coached former NBA Players Danny Young from Wake Forest, current Atlanta Hawks head coach Nate McMillan from NC State, and current

those students get a big kick out of when the stadium is full, regardless of who you are cheering for. Lasty, every brother in this article talked about the importance of family and without their love and support they couldn't do what they love and be a role model in their community. May the Lord keep and continue blessing each one of you as you continue to Uplift. ///

myself and others. Since we both are no longer on the sidelines, we describe ourselves as armchair coaches these days.

A few months ago, Brother Richmond received a call from his daughter Sharee who was bursting with joy. She announced that she was the new head coach of Salem College girls' basketball team, and she couldn't do it without him. To me, the best coming out of retirement gift a parent/coach can get is the opportunity to coach alongside his/her child. I sat down with Coach to see how it was going. **Here is part of that conversation:**



NCCU coach LeVelle Moton. I often went to practice with him when I visited Raleigh during holidays. Of course, I didn't go to college to become a coach but when I became a high school teacher right out of college, I volunteered to help with football and became hooked for the next 30 plus years.

**Brother Williams:** What was the biggest joy you got out coaching?

**Brother Richmond:** The biggest joy I got out of coaching was my personal love of competing. I played sports from age 7 until I graduated from high school. Although I didn't play in college, I continued to compete via intramurals. Secondly, I enjoy the relationships I built with the athletes I coached. I especially enjoyed when they came back to see me or reach out to me for advice now that they are adults and parents.

**Brother Williams:** Talk about Sharee wanting to follow in your footsteps. You are coaching her as a player and now she is a coach and is asking you to join her staff.

**Brother Richmond:** Its surreal! She began sitting on my bench as a water girl when she was 8 years old. My

job is to do whatever she needs from me to make her job easier and successful. Initially, coaching Sharee' was

tough on both of us. She had a tough time separating father from coach, and I had a tough time not talking to her about basketball at home.

Midway through her freshman year, I quit talking to her about basketball at home because I wasn't talking to my other players so why am I talking to Sharee. Once she understood that at school, I was the teacher/coach and home I was her father, we were fine. I learned from other coaches who I played under and who coached their own kids how to handle it. I learned that I didn't go out of my way to make it harder or easier to coach my own daughter. Just coach her the same as the other girls.

**Richmond's biggest advice:** Be yourself, no matter how mad you get at the team or player – leave it in the gym and *it's not what you know but what they can do!*

**Brother Williams:** Thanks for your time and good luck this season; the picture of you Sharee on the sidelines with your hands in your pockets speaks volume. ///

## Training Days: Never Ending



**“No one lights a lamp and puts it in a place where it will be hidden, or under a bowl. Instead, he puts it on its stand, so that those who come in may see it”. Luke 11:33**

### Brother Reggie Love (R), 6-14-Beta Phi, and his son Reggie, Jr and daughter Lia

**Rolesville, NC** – Brother Love has put his lamp on a table that sits high in his household. A former standout Defensive Back from Durham, NC chose to continue his dreams on the field just a few miles up the road at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Brother Love had much success on the field in Chapel Hill; it granted him an opportunity to log a few years in the Canadian Football League (CFL). After returning to North Carolina, he continued to share his love for sports

by coaching and mentoring his children and others who wanted to learn and do it the right way.

Reggie, Jr. is a senior DB on Rolesville High School team and daughter Lia is in her second year at the University of Iowa and is off to great career as a sprinter on their track team. Coached and prepared by her father, Lia was named Freshman of the Year and is setting school track records in the 300 meters. I had an opportunity to chat with the Love family about sports and family.

**Brother Williams:** Brother Love do you look at coaching as being a coach or mentor?

**Brother Love:** Coaching is the hook for me. It's all about these young student athletes and setting them up for success after they leave their playing fields. A lot of coaches don't think they mentors but they are even if they speak it out loud but everything we say and do these athletes are holding on to it.

**Brother Williams:** How does it make you feel to coach/coached your children?

**Brother Love:** It's been a privilege and joy to coach them, I spend more time with them and get a firsthand and up-close view of them doing what they love. I get to see them enact with their peers and see how they make decisions and is available to be resource to them right now. Coach Blunt, my high school coach showed me that he cared about me not on my playing field but as son. I have taken those values from Coach, and they have helped me to be the coach and father I am today.

**Brother Williams:** Lia and Reggie Jr., what's the biggest advantage you see for being coached by your father?

**Reggie, Jr.:** The biggest advantage is I know that he has my best interest at heart. He's a trusted source of knowledge and can answer questions right on the spot about life or football and even family. The resources he provides by pushing me to get better and honest response of my strength and weakens.

**Lia:** Being coached by father from a young age helped to build trust in coaches. I trusted that my father would have the best interest at heart and looked for those qualities as I was making my college decision. Knowing that you can trust your coach/father and he believes in me has helped me as an athlete.

**Brother Williams:** What are the disadvantages?

**Reggie, Jr.:** Added pressure and sometimes sport and home life overlaps more than expected.

**Brother Williams:** Reggie Jr., explain if being coached by your father has helped y'all relationship?

**Reggie Jr.:** It has helped our bond and communication. Being able to experience the hard work, struggles, triumphs and all the other emotions associated with sports allows a deeper understanding between me and my dad. He is there at my lowest moments and there at my highest moments teaching me how to deal with both the highs and lows that life will bring. The lessons dad has taught me through sports and words are essential in my journey of becoming a man. I'm getting this from my coach and father.

**Brother Williams:** Lia, please share how your relationship with your father is:

**Lia:** Being coached by my father did help our relationship. The memories alone are great and the number of years of him coaching me are priceless. It gave us an opportunity to bond and develop outside of just a father-daughter relationship. He was able to see me grow within sports, and I learned a lot from him on and off the field.

**Brother Williams:** How important is family?

**Lia:** Family and sports are extremely important. Our family was blessed with athletic talents that we have continued to bond over and over. We all want nothing but the best for one for one another and are continuously supporting each other. I love being able to spend time and connect with family members through athletics.

**Brother Williams:** Brother Love gets all the out-front love, but the love and support behind the scenes as well as the biggest and strongest link to this Love's chain is from mother and wife Chelita. Trust me, I've seen Chelita in action, and you don't want to mess with the Love clam. What a Lovely Family! ///



## Brother Dre Bly: Transitioning from Player to Coach 2021 Beta Phi



**Durham, NC** – University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill cornerbacks coach Dre Bly was a standout corner back for the Tar Heels in the late 90s.

The All-American and College Football Hall of Famer played 11 seasons in the NFL before transitioning into coaching. Being a formal Tar Heeler myself and very close to the program, I've seen the impact of Brother Bly on and off the field with our student-athletes. Brother Bly, a member of Beta Phi Chapter is bringing his same passion and energy to Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Here's what he had to say about his transition from the playing field to coaching.

**Brother Williams:** Who influenced you to become a coach?

**Brother Bly:** Working under Detroit Lions defensive coordinator Aaron Glenn and Carolina Panthers coach Brother Steve Wilks, helped and influenced me into the coach I am today. I've been able to take different practices from different guys, but Brother Wilks was that guy. Taking different parts from different guys, helped formed who I am as a coach today on this coaching journey is pretty cool.

**Brother Williams:** You have already proven to be a strong recruiter. That plus a combination of your playing experience and willingness to learn should continue to impact the Tar Heels' success this season and seasons to come. Do I have it right?

**Brother Bly:** I think that's the thing. I'm not a guy who feels like he knows it all, I'm willing to learn from people and I'm always trying to get better. ///

## GIRLS' BASKETBALL PROGRAM SOARING AT WESTWOOD HIGH

**COLUMBIA, S.C.** – The girls' basketball team at Westwood High School is flying high. The RedHawks team has the Region 4-4A Coach of the Year. Coach Gregory Bauldrick has led his team to five region championships in a row, three straight Upper State Finals and this is his fourth time being named Coach of the Year.

"I am just grateful and humble to be at a school that allows our student-athletes to develop academically, as well as, on and off the court. Hopefully, my coaching staff and I have played a role in both areas that will last

far beyond any award that we have been fortunate enough to earn," said Coach Bauldrick. "We are here to coach, teach, and mentor our young ladies to be their very best in the communities in which they will live, work, and play." ///



**Brother Gregory Bauldrick**

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**Brother Torrey Nowell (2007 Lambda Gamma).**

**New Bern, NC** - On December 9<sup>th</sup>, I had the honor to work in the TV broadcast booth for the NC 4A state championship game between the New Bern Bears and Greensboro's Grimsley Whirlies. New Bern was coached by Brother Torrey Nowell (2007 Lambda Gamma). Four years ago, Brother Nowell came to

New Bern to do one thing and that was to bring the program back to one of the state's powerhouses in the 4A class. This program has seen its ups and downs over the years but when you talk about high school football in Eastern NC, New Bern is always part of that discussion because of the 3 state championships on their resume. On December 9<sup>th</sup> they added their fourth and are back on top of the 4A class. I had an opportunity to chat with Brother Nowell and about his journey.

**Brother Williams:** What is the difference between the Pamlico program that you lead to 1A state runner-up in 2018 and this program?

**Brother Nowell:** I feel like we built this program the right way. We didn't do it with transfers... These kids are New Bern kids, they grew up here, they battled here, they played ball together the whole time.

**Brother Williams:** Head coaches get the credit and fingers pointed at them when things don't go according to the plan. Who do you credit for the quick turnaround of this program.

**Brother Nowell:** The kids put in the work, the coaches put in the work, this community stood behind us but Coach Bobby Curlings, a three-time state champion here, was huge to this program success. Having him on this staff dropping knowledge and pushing me to this point was a game changer.

**Brother Williams:** What lead you to coaching?

**Brother Nowell:** I became a coach because I have always loved the game, the game of football. I have learned so many life lessons from the game that I carry on to my life daily. I also love the impact that you can

make as a coach with your players, your community and even your staffing staff.

**Brother Williams:** Do you see yourself as coach or mentor?

**Brother Nowell:** I guess you can say both. At the end of the day, I'm an Educator and those things come along with a that title. When I signed up to become an educator, I signed up to be a coach and mentor.

**Brother Williams:** Last question, family?

**Brother Nowell:** I guess you say the old cliché, God, Family and Football for me. I'm a country boy and very Southern, so family is everything. I want my daughter to grow up and know that I didn't miss any of her events and that added value to our community instead of taking away from it. My wife and daughter are my everything and I try daily to make them proud. ///

**High Point, NC** - Brother Denorris Best (BKK - Fall '12) serves as the Academic Coach & Athletic Director at Welborn Academy of Science & Technology located in High Point, NC. He is also one of the 2021-2022 North Carolina 3A State



Championship Dudley High School Football Team Coaches. Bro. Best helped coach the defending champs to another title - 2022-2023 Mid-State 3A Conference Football Champions. This year's team made it to the 2nd round of the playoffs for the 2022-2023 season. Brother Best is a coach on and off the field. His students and the athletes that he coaches view him as a father figure. Male teachers and coaches are the closest thing to a father that many children will ever experience.

Here is what Brother Best's school Administrator had to say about him. "Mr. Best is one of our Academic Coaches and serves as the Welborn Athletic Director. He works tirelessly to ensure that all our teams have what they need to compete effectively. He is at all events and ensures that we have a quality program at Welborn." Thanks Brother Best for your countless hours of commitment to our community and student athletes. ///

## **FATHERHOOD CONVERSATION**

Bro. Marvin Broadwater Sr. - State of Georgia FIMC Chairman



Bro. Chairman in collaboration with Local Chapters, State Agencies and Community Partners continue to present a proactive service platform to assist Fathers throughout the State of Georgia. The service platform consists of several components ranging from Driver's License Reinstatement, Child Support Services, GED Enrollment, Job Training/Placement and Volunteer Work Opportunities.

As District Chairman, I had invited opportunity to join in on a scheduled session that addressed the areas of Job Training, Search and Placement. I can attest the presentation was well presented and the information was very easy to grasp in applicable manner for individuals looking to position themselves ready and available resources. As I did, all it took was acceptance of the extended invitation to join in on The Fatherhood Conversation Virtual Platform for those individuals in need of assistance to advance. ///

## **JUNIOR LAMPLIGHTERS LIGHT TEAM - STEP SEASON KICKOFF AND BONDING NIGHT**

Bro. Cameron Simmons - State of Florida FIMC Chairman  
Chi Omega Chapter & Upsilon Psi Chapter

What has become an annual tradition for the Junior Lamplighters Light Team of Tallahassee, Florida. The Light Team gather for a fun fill bonding night to kick off their Step Team Season. This year's kick off was with a special feel as it was hosted at the Lighthouse. The Lighthouse is their very own facility used to mentor

and develop them into responsible young men with a destine future. Draped by the many of trophies shelved to mark the Light Team Achievements, they enjoy food, music and the opportunity to bond together within their own safe space to express themselves freely. ///





## OMEGA SPARKS & OMEGA LAMPLIGHTERS JOINED TOGETHER FOR THE 2022 TURKEY DAY PARADE.

Bro. Albert Ike Jr. - State of Alabama FIMC Chairman  
Sigma Phi Chapter & Omega Iota Iota Chapter - Montgomery, AL



Ahead of the 2022 Turkey Day Football Classic, there was the Annual Turkey Day Parade where both the Omega Sparks of Sigma Phi Chapter & Omega Lamplighters of Omega Iota Iota Chapter joined together for the community wide event along with the Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Thousands of community families, students, and alumni lined the streets to take in the annual event.

The two-mentorship groups, which are both located in the City of Montgomery enjoyed the opportunity to interact with each other as the crowd cheered to their presence and parade participation. Following the community parade, participants and crowd goers made their way to Stadium for the big block party before game kick off where the Alabama State University Hornets took on the University of Arkansas Pine Bluff Lions. ///

### CHRISTIAN MANHOOD



Bro. Cameron Simmons - State of Florida FIMC Chairman  
Zeta Chi Chapter - Fort Lauderdale, FL

The Omega Lamplighters and Men of the Zeta Chi Chapter - Omega Psi Pi Fraternity, Inc. visited MT Bethel of Fort Lauderdale, Florida to give prayers and reinforce the value of Christian Manhood. As one of the many planned activities to guide, uplift, educate and ///

further develop the Omega Lamplighters to grow into productive adults. It is the Lord's word, prayers and Christian Manhood that is expressed to give balance to their positive thoughts and actions as men of the future. ///



## COLLEGE GAMEDAY IN SOUTH FLORIDA

Bro. Cameron Simmons - State of Florida FIMC Chairman  
Pi Nu Chapter -

**Perrine, FL** – Omega Brothers of the Pi Nu Chapter have been hard at work when it comes to Fatherhood & Mentoring. On Saturday, October 22, 2022, the Pi Nu Chapter Omega Youth Program (OYP) committee sponsored tickets to the University of Miami Hurricanes vs. Duke Blue Devils football game at the Hard Rock Stadium, Miami Garden Florida.



In attendance were (10) Youths - Ayden Sears, Legend Sears, Anthony Nicholson, Jaheim Branch, Sebastian Shokar, Avery McCray, Jordan Gayle, Anderson Ellis, Fabian Owens, Carderion Berkeley. There were (4) Omega Brothers plus guests that serve as chaperones - Bro. Edwin Cambridge, Bro. Cardelle Hayes, Bro. James Brightman and Bro. Danny Olgetree.

The outing provided OYP Mentees with a chance to attend and experience a college football game in an NFL Stadium. In addition, the outing allowed Omega Brothers the opportunity to continue to mentor and

establishing a relationship with the OYP Mentees. The college game day afforded the opportunity to allow OYP Mentees to experience a different environment to enjoy and express themselves in relax setting. This was the first time some of our youth attended a football game or visited the Hard Rock Stadium. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed themselves during the outing. Unfortunately, the final score of the football game was UM - 21 and Duke - 45. ///



## Omega Lamplighters of the Mississippi Gulf Coast

Bro. Robert Jones - State of Mississippi FIMC Chairman  
Iota Upsilon Graduate Chapter - Biloxi/Gulfport, MS



**Biloxi/Gulfport, MS** – The Iota Upsilon Graduate Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., continues to impact males through positive peer engagement, personal and professional development to become great people and successful Men of the Future. Congratulations to Branton Harewood - Junior Omega Lamplighter for his 3<sup>rd</sup> Place as Outstanding Spokesman of the Future. Congratulations to Jae'Von Narcisse for being selected to attend the Mississippi Bandmasters Association State Honor Band. ///



## CELEBRATION BOWL 2022 – HBCU NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Bro. Marvin Broadwater Sr. - State of Georgia FIMC Chairman  
Lambda Iota Chapter - Columbus, GA

The Omega Lamplighters and Omega Brothers of the Lambda Iota Chapter - Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. took in a weekend to see HBCU at its finest, where the Jackson State University Tigers vs North Carolina Central Eagles for the HBCU National Championship in Atlanta, Georgia. There were over 43K HBCU fans in attendance to witness

NCCU defeat of JSU with a 41 - 34 OT score. The game experience provided OLL -Youth Mentees with a vision of black excellence on display to see a melting pot of HBCU Fans, Divine 9 Members and professionals gather as a family in support of the MEAC vs SWAC - Annual Celebration Bowl. ///





## 7<sup>th</sup> District - Fatherhood Initiatives & Youth Mentoring Service Awards

Bro. J. Gaines - 7<sup>th</sup> District FIMC Chairman

It is with great honor to again come before the brothers of the Mighty 7<sup>th</sup> District to honor individuals and chapters for their outstanding commitment to Fatherhood Initiatives and Youth Mentoring during the upcoming 86<sup>th</sup> Seventh District Meeting -March 16-19, 2023 in Huntsville, Alabama. Fatherhood and Youth Mentoring Service Awards will be awarded in (6) categories as listed below. Individual and Chapter nominations were submitted by each State FIMC Chairman from their perspective state for consideration for each service award.

Father of the Year Service Award (Large Graduate Chapter)  
Father of the Year Service Award (Small Graduate Chapter)  
Fatherhood Initiative Service Award (Large Graduate Chapter)  
Fatherhood Initiative Service Award (Small Graduate Chapter)  
Fatherhood Initiative & Youth Mentorship Service Award (Undergraduate Chapter)  
Fatherhood Initiative and Youth Mentorship Service Award (State of Year)

I would personally like to thank the 7<sup>th</sup> District FIMC Committee for their time and commitment that consist of the following Omega Brother Listed below.



Bro. Cameron Simmons  
State of Florida Chairman



Bro. Marvin Broadwater, Sr.  
State of Georgia Chairman



Bro. Albert Ike, Jr.  
State of Alabama Chairman



Bro. Robert Jones  
State of Mississippi Chairman



Bro. Royal King, II  
FVSR – Florida IYLC Committee



Bro. James Turnage  
IYLC Committee



Bro. James LoveJoy  
Military Affairs / IYLC Committee



Bro. Jonathan Gaines  
7th District Chairman

## **Gray and Sons Construction LLC**

**Roderick Gray Sr.**, initiated into the folds of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., Spring 1992, through the Epsilon Psi undergraduate chapter at Wichita State University, Gamma Upsilon Graduate chapter. Brother Gray is currently the State Representative for the Sunflower State of Kansas and has served as State Representative for the past five years.

He was influenced by his aunt Barbara Wimberley from Wewoka Oklahoma, who introduced him to Greek life and a HBCU at the same time. She took him as a young teenager to visit a Homecoming at the campus of Langston University. On



that visit, a young Roderick Gray was introduced to Omega and met several members of the Phi Psi Chapter.

Finally, as a graduating senior on a partial scholarship to Southwestern college in Winfield Kansas, the opportunity came to become associated with other likeminded college students on campus. Mentors such as Rodney Miller, Alton Guidry, Robert Jones and many others impacted the life and vision to gain entrance into the wonderful folds of Omega's arms and that young

Roderick Gray never looked back. ///

**Gray and Sons Construction, LLC** was started on November 5, 2005. A minority owned small construction business specializing in new residential construction and commercial remodeling and repair. The company began building new homes in Wichita, Kansas then expanded its capabilities of building metal buildings for the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Churches, Historical Buildings for the Department of Interior, Boardwalks for the City of Wichita and Investment properties throughout Kansas and Oklahoma.

Leading by its mission and purpose of "Navigating designs and blueprints to bring forth significant structures that will carry humanity forward into the future." With "Kingdom Structure" as its motto, Gray and Sons Construction, LLC, has become a recognizable vendor in the construction industry. CEO Roderick Gray, Sr., working alongside his son Roderick Gray, Jr., and daughter Raeneica Gray. the team works as a project management office in a multi-Billion-dollar industry.

The company has mentored several aspiring project managers, sponsored middle school programs for black girls in USD 259 who are interested in learning more about construction, and he continues to mentor his sons

and daughter to be leaders in the field. Learning from his father Ronnie Gray, a carpenter in Wewoka Oklahoma, Roderick Gray, Sr., continues to carry on the legacy of building and restoring properties, working hard and giving more than what is asked for, in service to others.

Gray and Sons Construction, LLC., is a Minority Business Enterprise and it is in the process of becoming 8 (a) certified with the Federal Government, with the goal of increasing its capacity and capabilities for multi-million-dollar contracts, which will allow the company more flexibility to mentor youth and help more people bring their dreams to reality. Below are pictures of past performance that the company has completed in the last couple of years. ///





## Dealing with Sobriety and Recovery to Dwell Together

**Brother Hanief Saterfield** has created an amazing program called Sober Psi Phi. Fatherhood and Mentoring Committee is featuring this brother's program and sharing with the Omega world his wonderful work in creating a Sober Psi Phi!

**Greetings brother Saterfield, share with us your tag?**

**Brother Saterfield:** Greetings brothers! I am Hanief Saterfield 2-96-Sigma Eta Chapter. I am originally from Southern California and now living in the Dallas Fort Worth area.

**Why did you choose Omega?**

**Brother Saterfield:** I initially chose Omega because my mother (RIP) is a Delta and told me if I was going to join any frat it had better be Omega. Once I got to campus and told the first Bruh I ran into about my interest in joining. My prophyte, John Ervin, asked me that same question "Why Omega?" I told him, "Because my mom said y'all was the best." He laughed, took my number, and then told me to talk to the other fraternities before even thinking about Omega. I thought he was going to immediately hand me some *nailia*, teach me some marches and set me out with some chicken while welcoming me into the fold right there in the bookstore! Lol!

At the time I told him I would talk to the other fraternities but

never did because my mother's instructions were VERY CLEAR. What I decided to do was seek more knowledge about the fraternity. I also joined the African Student

Alliance (our Black Student Union).

When I went to my first ASA meeting, I was unimpressed because the meeting started late. While waiting for the meeting to start everyone was engaged in small talk; gossiping and playing around as if the meeting was not already supposed to have commenced. I figured the ASA president was running behind. About 10 minutes after the start time, Terrance Hamilton (3-88-Sigma Eta) walked in and sat in the audience with me and the other members-at-large.

When Terrance walked in everything changed; people stopped talking and straightened up, greeted Terrance and the meeting started the second he sat down. I then realized they were waiting for Terrance to show up to start. The crazy thing was, Terrance wasn't even on the ASA board! He held no position at that time and the ASA President had been there with us the whole time talking and gossiping with everyone else.

After greeting Terrance, the President proceeded to 'run' the meeting while constantly deferring to Terrance to get his thoughts on every agenda item. It was on that day that I knew why I wanted to be an Omega. Omegas were the *yard fathers* of the campus; the ladies loved them, the faculty respected them, and the students appreciated them. They were not only leaders on campus but also pillars of the local

community. They held toy drives, brought speakers like Brother Khalid Muhammad and Nikki Giovanni to campus, and, of course threw the liveliest 3-day party in the 12<sup>th</sup> district at the time (Omega Fest).

I saw the Ques in suits, working with administration to address the needs and interests of the African American population on campus. I saw them in their letters setting out marches with full precision and enthusiasm. I saw them dwelling together and interacting with everyone on campus as the ambassadors for the interests of the Black student population. As a student I saw them exemplify manhood, scholarship, and uplift. I later learned about their perseverance throughout my process and my life in Omega to this day.

**Did you have any Omega role models you would like to mention that started you on your journey?**

**Brother Saterfield:** Although I knew of Ronald McNair, Michael Jordan and Langston Hughes who were Black men I held in extremely high regard, my pyrophytes were my Omega role models. My Dean, the 80's and early 90's bruhs that made me were respected, at the top of their class in their respective fields of endeavor, were well rounded and the ultimate examples of manhood and assertive leadership on the campus.

**How did you come up with the name Sober Psi Phi?**

**Brother Saterfield:** Over my past 11 years of sobriety, an increasing number of Brothers would reach out to me privately to discuss their struggles with alcohol. Many of those I used to drink with started asking me about how I have been able to maintain my sobriety. They



talked about how relieved they were to finally talk to someone that shared their struggle. I was not able to really kick the drinking habit until I was able to talk to and connect with others. So I wanted to create a space for those dealing with sobriety and recovery to dwell together and help keep one another encouraged. I recently released my book **“Sobriety in Black: Confessions of a Retired Alcoholic,”** to discuss my journey through alcoholism to recovery and to share the knowledge and resources that have kept me sober to this day.

It was in that vein that I created a closed Facebook group to make a safe space for bruhz who share the like attainment of sobriety to come together, and those seeking sobriety to find insight and support. I wanted to not only denote the fact that it was exclusively for the bruhz but also to communicate the primary uniting factor among the group, sobriety.

This led me to the name Sober Psi Phi. My mission – to discuss my sobriety openly – can be summed up in one quote: **“When we recover loudly, we help keep others from dying quietly.”** I wanted to create a space where Brothers that are fighting for sustained sobriety could recover loudly. Therefore, the Sober Psi Phi group is private and by invite only.

**Tell us about your journey to sobriety and why is it so important for families to see sober fathers?**

**Brother Saterfield:** I started drinking alcohol on my 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1996. I walked into the local liquor store, proudly presented my ID, brought my first bottle, and did not look back. Between 1996 and 2011, I was arrested 3 times for

DUI, crashed multiple vehicles, got married, had three children and brought a lot of stress and drama into my life behind drinking.

After a few attempts to quit, a pivotal event that led to my final attempt at sobriety was when my son, Hanief II, who was 5 at the time, saw me get arrested for my third DUI. To see the fear and confusion on his face as he asked his mother why the police were taking me away in the police car was devastating. It wasn't until then that I fully understood the effect my drinking was having and would continue to have on my ability to be the father my children deserved to have.

I did not want them to know me as a drinker and am proud to say that none of them can remember a time when they had seen me drink. It is important for families to see sober fathers because our sobriety is not only an expression of the discipline needed to exemplify true manhood but, it is also impossible for me to be the “master of my fate,” and “captain of my soul” when I'm drunk at the wheel.

**Do you think we have an issue with sobriety in Omega and if so, how do we fix it or control it?**

**Brother Saterfield:** I think we have an issue with sobriety in the Black community. While I do not believe most Omegas have a problem with alcohol abuse, there are limited spaces for those that do to find help. It is the same issue with mental health. As men, we have been socialized to conceal our struggles; this socialization, I believe, leads many of us to “keep our troubles to ourselves”. The problem with that thinking is that we need to

RELEASE our struggles by sharing them NOT keep them.

I cannot, and I have no problem publicly discussing my limitations. Those that share the goal of sobriety should have a place to address and pursue it. Solving problems is what men do, who better than Omega to do it for one another. Sober judgment aided in the founding of the fraternity. It can also aid us to become better men, better citizens, better husbands and better fathers. Our children deserve to experience the best version of ourselves. The best way to address a problem is to first admit it exists, then discuss and seek a solution. We do that by eliminating any shame in admitting the need for a change and building processes and institutions that help those in recovery make a change. Just as our Most Honorable Founders built Omega as a vehicle for Brothers of like attainments to come together, we can learn from them and come together to address personal problems that affect ourselves and those around us.

**Why is it important that we fix it?**

**Brother Saterfield:** Alcoholism affects not only the alcoholic, but everyone around them in all aspects of their lives. Lives have been lost to drunk driving, futures have been ruined thanks to drunk actions, and families have been torn apart. It is up to us as leaders in the community to take on this critical issue. Omegas have always set the standard, and Sober Psi Phi is another way for us to set the standard for self-help that will be a model for other organizations and Black society.

**Is there anything else that you would like to add to your story on**

### **Sober Psi Phi that the Omega family might need to know?**

**Brother Saterfield:** Although we are primarily a Facebook group, I plan to expand the group to involve live events, meet ups and discussions centered around sobriety in the Black community and provide resources for those who are interested or curious about transitioning to an alcohol-free lifestyle. You do not necessarily have to have an alcohol problem to

join Sober Psi Phi, you just have to be living alcohol free or trying to do so. I am also open to any suggestions from the Bruhz on how we can better serve those in the fraternity seeking sobriety and recovery.

**If there is a brother, a family member or friend struggling with sobriety how can they reach out to you for some help?**

**Brother Saterfield:** Bruhz can call me directly at (909) 374-3207 or email [sobrietyinblack@gmail.com](mailto:sobrietyinblack@gmail.com).

I am also on IG @sobrietyinblack. You can buy my book on Amazon and go to [sobrietyinblack.com](http://sobrietyinblack.com) to subscribe to my email list. I also have videos on many sobriety-based subjects on my Sobriety in Black YouTube channel as well.

**Thank you for sharing your amazing program with the Bruhz!**

**Brother Saterfield:** That's a ROO!!

## **9<sup>th</sup> District: Brother Sedric Myers, Chairman, Fatherhood and Mentoring**

### **Psi Alpha Presents “Father of the Quarter Award” and Fatherhood Discussion on “Lessons Learned from My Father”**

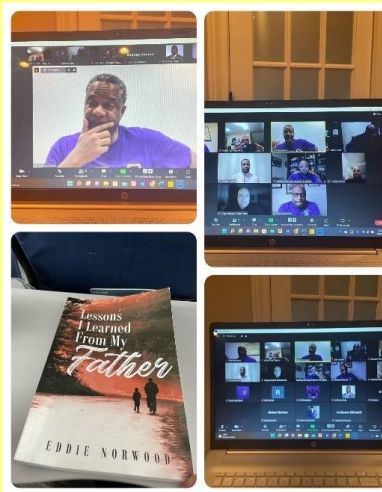
By Brother Jeremy Neal

**San Antonio, TX** - On October 25, 2022, Bro. Archie “Ice” Peay Jr., and Bro. Anthony G. Peay facilitated a Zoom conference to present the Father of the Quarter winner for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of Omega Year 2022 to Brother Le’Marc Holcombe. There were several individuals in attendance, including Brother George M. Mayers Jr. (Basileus, Psi Alpha Chapter), Bro. John Lester (Vice Basileus, Psi Alpha Chapter), and Bro. Holcombe himself.

Bro. Holcombe is the Psi Alpha Chapter’s Counselor also serves on the Psi Alpha Chapter’s Fatherhood Initiative (FI) Team. One of the accomplishments highlighted in Bro. Holcombe’s quarterly awards package conveyed that he recently joined the service ministry at his church to help with the worship day operations. As a quarterly winner, Bro. Holcombe will be an automatic nominee for the Father of the Year award during the Annual Achievement Awards Ceremony, as well as receiving an engraved



**Brother Le’Marc Holcombe and Family**



**Brother Eddie Norwood**

fatherhood initiative mug and certificate of appreciation from the Basileus for winning this quarter.

**San Antonio, TX** - On November 8, 2022, the Psi Alpha Chapter’s Fatherhood Initiative (FI) Team hosted a Fatherhood Initiative Discussion from his book entitled “Lessons I Learned from My Father”. This

outstanding event was presented and facilitated by the author and our fraternity brother Eddie Norwood. Twenty-one fathers/men attended, including our very own Basileus Bro. George M. Mayers, Jr., and Vice Basileus John Lester. The book was dedicated to his mother – Ms. Essie Frances Norwood. The book consisted of three parts – I. Life Before Death; II. Let Love Prevail; and III. Leadership and Legacy.

The actual foundation of the book came from the Chapter “Leave That Girl Alone.” During the discussion, Eddie conveyed that he realized that he had nothing to be ashamed of, despite what others had

experienced -- he grew to value his relationship with his father and was proud that others saw qualities in him that reflected his dad's character. Furthermore, Eddie stated, "If he could be half the man his father was, he'd be satisfied!"

Eddie's father was a man that you noticed right away when he walked into a room because he was a man of honor and integrity! On his death bed, Eddie's mother took his father's hand and said "I Essie, take you, James, to be my lawfully wedded husband, to have and to hold, to love and to cherish, in sickness and in health, another forty-two years...every day, every minute,

## LAMPLIGHTERS GROWING IN HOUSTON



**Houston, TX** – The Houston Lamplighters is growing beyond our wildest dreams. The Chapter started in 2017 with one Lamplighters from Booker T. Washington High School. Over the last 5 years we have grown to 42 Members, doubled our mentor count and recently improved and strengthened our parent relationships by adding a parent liaison.

Our **mission** is empowering youth with academic and social skills, community connections, and progressive opportunities necessary to ensure their roles as active, educated, and responsible citizens. We **aim** to turn good young men into **GREAT** young men!

We began with a family event by celebrating womanhood attending the movie, "Woman King." The Lamplighters in conjunction with Rho Beta Beta Chapter, rented a theater and hosted a movie night at Studio Movie Grill where the mentors and young men along with our families were able to watch the Woman King at a discounted price. Our Studio Movie Grille family day was such a big hit that we decided to return several weeks later to view the Emmett Till biopic "Till." This opened a lot of dialogue between the young men about many civil rights issues.

every second – just like before...another forty-two years! That was a huge commitment and led to an outstanding night of discussion. The night resulted in a lot of transparency, vulnerability, and downright talk between men! This was the right topic for this moment in time and we were so blessed to have had the pleasure of this facilitated discussion as we continue to strive to equip fathers/men to take our rightful place in our households and to build positive legacies in society! ///

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The young men loved the movies, but it has not all been about theatrics. We kicked off our year with a new Lamplighter Academy class which introduces new members to our program with topics such as our L.A.M.P. Principles. This acronym stands for **L**eadership, **A**cademics, **M**aturity, and **P**erseverance. These principles are discussed in depth and how they apply to mentees and as representatives of our program.

Our final session is a Houston tradition, which is a Branding workshop. In this workshop, Director Ferguson takes the young men on a journey to learn about branding, recognizing what their brand is, and figuring out how to change their brand to match what they desire. Our young men are currently working on a 2–3-minute video assignment to discuss their "personal brand".



Branding talks will continue as our team commits to helping mentees build and establish their personal brands.

Our youth have been excited to show off their passion and talents. They have been fervently working on mastering a few steps as they prepare for their induction ceremony in the Spring. Our Inaugural Light Team (step team) is eager to showcase their talent and start representing the Houston Lamplighters as we begin to make our mark amongst the Lamplighters.

With an emphasis on teaching community involvement and paying it forward, we found time to serve our community. A few of our service projects included the Shekinah Thanksgiving meal giveaway,



the Thanksgiving Paq'd lunch grocery giveaway, the YWCA meals on wheels, and several others.

One of the highlights of our year is that our Program Director, Tavares Ferguson, and two of our Lamplighters, Clourid and Cameron Johnson got a chance to meet our Grand Basileus, Rickey Lewis, at our Founders Day banquet this year.

We are currently planning, preparing, fundraising for our “Annual 500 Mile” HBCU and College tour this Summer. We have kicked off our 20 for 20 fundraiser campaign where each Lamplighter pledges to perform a minimum of 20 hours of community service in exchange for \$20 donations. The campaign can be found on Givebutter and is tax deductible. ///

## 10<sup>th</sup> District: Brother Cyrill Weems, Chairman, Fatherhood and Mentoring

### 10<sup>th</sup> District Representative Practices What He Preaches... “Mentoring”

**Markham, IL** – Chi Lambda Lambda mentoring committee’s inaugural meeting December 3, 2022 in Prairie Hills Junior High School in Markham, IL within District 144 under Superintendent Dr. Kimako Patterson. The mentoring session was led by twelve Chi Lambda Lambda chapter brothers and had a special mentor in attendance, our own current District Representative Brother Sean Long.

Bro. DR Long has always been a supporter and advocate for the Men of Omega to mentor our youth and

our younger/undergraduate Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. members. The mentoring committee mentored twelve 6<sup>th</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade middle school students. The focus of this meeting was leadership and characteristics of what make great leaders great. Chi Lambda Lambda’s focus is to provide evidence of strong manhood by motivating young men towards self-empowerment, scholastic achievement, and social consciousness. ///

By Bro. Marcus Taylor- Chi Lambda Lambda



## Partnering for Mentoring Success

Kappa Phi Chapter, Bro. Nigel Ogbonna

**Milwaukee, WI** – The Kappa Phi Chapter partnered with the Racine YMCA to impact you men in the Racine area. Two Saturdays out the month for two hours, members of Kappa Phi visit the young men in Racine with the mission to play a role in helping them: Increase school attendance, get better grades, have healthier outlooks, and develop positive behaviors.

During these Saturdays we share life lesson stories and talk to the young men about education, life, family, and how

to conduct themselves. We provide them the avenue to see professional men in various industries and walks of life. In addition to this, we feed them and have planned activities. Thus far, the activities have been: Bowling, Video game outing, visit to the Black Holocaust Museum, and Visit to the Kappa Phi Fraternity House

Lastly, the most gratifying part is seeing how the young men respond to the men of the Kappa Phi Chapter and the families of these young men constantly giving thanks. ///





## Nu Chi Chapter: Mentoring Young Men Today for Future Leadership

Submitted by Dr. Bro. Mel Holland, Ed.D.

**East St. Louis, IL** – Nu Chi Chapter mentors have hosted their youth mentoring program in the East St. Louis metro-east region for nearly 30 years. The 2022-2023 mentoring year began in October with a mentee orientation at the Lessie Bates Neighborhood House Mary Brown Center in East St. Louis. The event was led by the program's chairman, Bro. Dr. Otis Scott. He spoke to the mentees about the program expectations, and the core principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift.

Mentees and mentors then discussed the purpose of the mentee core values encompassing integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all that we do. As part of the kickoff, mentors also chaperoned their mentees during a day-long fishing trip to Alton, Illinois. It was a very enjoyable day of camaraderie and learning the basics of how to fish safely.



Nu Chi mentors have inspired and helped young men achieve their goals. Several former mentees have become educators, engineers, entrepreneurs, law and medical professionals, and military officers, to name

a few career paths. While there are many success stories, here are three recent stories that show the positive outcomes resulting from youth mentoring:

United States Air Force Second Lieutenant Martrell Robinson is a 2017 Belleville East High School (Illinois) graduate, and a 2022 graduate of Jackson State University. His lifelong dream was to attend a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) and serve the nation in the United States Air Force. His dream came true at Jackson State University where he majored in business administration and earned a military officer's commission through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) detachment. Martrell stated, "...I credit my success to hard work, my family's constant encouragement, and



the caring support and guidance from my Project Manhood mentors." Martrell is entering the Logistics Readiness Officer career field at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona in early 2023.

Barry Evans is a 2021 graduate of Mascoutah High School (Illinois) where he was an outstanding student and Captain of the Track and Field team. He is living his dream of being a student-athlete at the University of Alabama where he is a member of the track and field team competing in NCAA shot put and discus world competitions. He is majoring in Kinesiology and has maintained a 3.5 grade point average. The illuminated scoreboard in the picture



is displaying PNC Bank's Student Achievement Award nomination recognizing Barry's academic excellence and dedicated volunteer service in the Tuscaloosa, Alabama community. He is the son of Bro. Barry Evans, Nu Chi '15, and his wife Lisa.



The program had one high school graduate this year. He is, Elijah Harvey, a 2022 graduate of Pattonville High School (Missouri). His deep desire to attend an HBCU took him to Harris Stowe State University (Missouri) to study business

administration. He is experiencing a stellar first year with a 4.0 grade point average. In addition, Elijah is an AFROTC cadet at Saint Louis University. The Nu Chi Foundation awarded him a \$2,500 scholarship for this year. Elijah's proud mother, Ms. Nikki Callaway shared, "We're so thankful to the Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. This gift will definitely help get Elijah's collegiate career off to a great start!" Notably, Elijah has made it a special part of his journey to continue his relationship with his mentors. ///



## Lessons in Manhood and Culture



**Southfield, MI** – The Tau Kappa Kappa chapter of Omega Psi Phi is off to another successful implementation of the O.M.E.G.A. Academy Male Mentoring Program. The program launched this year on October 5<sup>th</sup> with a parent orientation that introduced mentees and their parents to the men that would be mentoring them throughout the 2022-2023 school year.

The first session of this year's O.M.E.G.A. Academy took place a week later at the FieldZone in Southfield, MI which is the after-school center of our partnering organization, Metro Detroit Youth Clubs. Twenty-one young men

ranging from 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 12<sup>th</sup> grade attended the first face-to-face session. Our program has been held virtually since March 2020. During this session mentors and mentees set program norms, found common interests, brainstormed program topics, and participated in team-building activities.

As our goal is to mentor the whole child, each program day begins with a mentee-led calisthenics session. After calisthenics, mentors facilitate an academic check-in that encourages the young men to share their grades, strengths, and struggles. Once each

young man has shared their academics, there is a mentor-facilitated topic that is the meat of the session.

Discussion topics completed by O.M.E.G.A. Academy include: Manhood, what is a Man; Responsibility; How to Tie a Tie; Culture; and the meaning of Kwanzaa. Every session ends with a reflection on the day, which allows mentees and mentors to share their takeaways from the session and any glows that they experienced. Submitted by: Bro. Carlos Spearman- Omega Academy TKK-Program Coordinator ///

## Rho Gamma Gamma Show Mentees

“It’s Better to Give Than to Receive”



**Chicago, IL** –Rho Gamma Gamma Chapter hosted its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Giveaway on Thanksgiving Day. This year, the brothers of Rho Gamma Gamma increased their “giving team” by partnering with their Omega YES Mentoring Program to do more for the community and make a lifelong

impact on their mentees. The event ultimately had fraternity brothers, mentees, and families working side-by-side to deliver hot thanksgiving meals to individuals and families in need with the Morgan Park community in Chicago, Illinois.

The mentees exceedingly enjoyed the SERVICE they performed and immediately felt the impact of how selflessness actions provide UPLIFT to their communities and to them as well. They were visibly pleased with themselves and the acts of kindness they did, which was evident by the smiles on their faces. The event was coordinated by Bro. Joshua Pittman (Social Action Chairman) and Bro. Christopher Burney (Omega YES Mentoring Chairman) ///

## **Fatherhood Initiatives in Alaska: GAA Leading Through Example**

Brother Nate Rivers, Alaska State Rep



**Anchorage, AK** – The Brothers of Gamma Alpha Alpha Chapter continues to be amongst the most community driven chapter in the district. On Saturday, December 3, 2022, the following community events occurred which provides a positive image of our Fraternity in many

aspects, this image undoubtedly will impact the kids and families most.

Brother Rivers was requested by one of the local middle school Principals to speak to her kids about the work habits needed to fulfill any dream of becoming a professional athlete. The conversation covered a multitude of topics that culminated in his personal story of success. Brother Rivers told the youth that his success was achieved through “purely hard work and dedication. But it all starts in the classroom and not the courts or playing fields,” he said.

Bro Tony April one of the 12<sup>th</sup> District newest member F22, has hit the ground running as he also spoke to some kids at an Elementary School about being a good citizen and a willing learner in the classroom.

Today activities ended with our Weekly community Food bank Support effort, which saw Brother Nate Rivers,

Bro Franklin Harris, Bro LeBron McPhail and Brother Tony April provide more than 9 thousand pounds of food to 200+ local citizens on a very cold evening. The reward is seeing people taking the food and saying Thank You!!

This activity is part of Alaska’s fatherhood initiative; we are leading through example. ///





## Omega Youth Leadership Academy Open House



Several of the 2022-2023 OYLA Mentees at the Open House

**Phoenix, AZ.** November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The Omega Youth Leadership Academy conducted an Open House update on its September/October “Back to School” parent forums and the November/December and 2023 menu of Empowerment Workshops and Enrichment Events. Over 70 mentees and parents were treated to lunch along with several of OYLA’s top financial supporters and community award recipients.



OYLA Alumni Hosts: Zion Kanyana, Woody Harris, JayQuisse Williams (Bro. Blunt in Background).

The Open House program was hosted by OYLA Alumni with members of the OYLA Board in support. One of the highlights of the 2023 programs was the announced expansion of the current mentor program which will now be available to OYLA members into their college experience including increased scholarship opportunities. ///

## Omega Youth Leadership Academy Hosts Video Game Day for Recruits



Prof. Bro. Dr. Terry Alford far right, with members of Phi Iota, Alpha Theta. OYLA Alumni & recruits.



Board & Alumni: Woody Harris, Bro. Dr. Carl A. Blunt, Sarah Gonzalez, Bro. Jay Williams, Zion Kanyana, Marcus Dossie, Jaquisse Williams Prof. Dr. Terry Alford (Not Pictured) Jeanine Bashir, Bro. Marc Sutton)



Parents and guest enjoying the program.

**December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2022, Tempe, AZ.** The OYLA Board of Directors, its Alumni and the Tempe chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers hosted an afternoon of Video Games on the campus of Arizona State University for mentee recruits. Friendly competition was stiff and a good time was had by all. At lunch, representatives of the Arizona State University engineering department, including Professor Bro. Dr. Terry Alford gave a presentation and held an Q & A

session on how engineering affects the world in which we live.

OYLA Board member Bro. Marc Sutton thanked the participants and their parents/chaperones for attending and gave information about upcoming OYLA events. The January West Coast College Tour generated quite a bit of interest. OYLA Alumni Woody Harris, Zion Kanyana, Jaquisse Williams and Marcus Dossie talked about the support and resources available and benefits provided to mentees of OYLA. Brothers from Phi Iota Phoenix, and Alpha Theta ASU, supported the event as well. ///

## 2022 OMEGA MAN OF THE YEAR - ZETA TAU CHAPTER

By Brother Lindsey Bates

**Pasadena, CA** – The Pasadena Ques presented their “Omega Man of the Year Award” to Brother Larry Quishenberry. Please join us in congratulating Brother Quishenberry on his achievement.

The Pasadena chapter (Zeta Tau) is a small chapter compared to the many chapters in the Los Angeles area. Larry also serves as Basileus for Zeta Tau. He perseveres to improve Omega and Zeta Tau. He works tirelessly to make Zeta Tau a better chapter.

He has a vision to increase numbers of like minded men that do and will represent Omega Psi Phi by upholding fraternity’s key principles. His vision is to continue to recruit men that exemplify the true spirit of Omega and through reclamation of Brothers living in the Pasadena area to grow Zeta Tau chapter. Bro. Larry has connected the chapter to the community following covid. He orchestrated a Father’s Day event that was very successful. He connected with the Devine 9, Pasadena Police, Pasadena Fire Department and a local Barbeque restaurant along with the local news media to cover the event.



**LARRY QUISHENBERRY**  
Basileus, Zeta Tau



**ZT Basileus Quishenberry and Zeta Tau Brothers Bring Uplift to the Pasadena Community.**

As Basileus, Larry ensures the chapter is aware of Local and District events in the SoCal area through timely communication. He has ensured that Zeta Tau has a seat at the local and district tables when discussing Omega business. He provides an environment to allow our committee chairman on Local, District and National levels to operate and report without interference.

On behalf of Zeta Tau, please again congratulate Brother Larry Quishenberry for his many contributions to Omega and the man of the year award. ///



## **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Month of Non-Violence: Gen Z Summit**

By Brother Shareef Valentine and Professor Renata Valree

For eleven years, Black Women for Positive Change (BW4PC) has hosted annual Days/Weeks and now Months of Non-Violence, Families, Voting Rights and Opportunities. These events relate to the prevention of violence in vulnerable communities, and other topics related to addressing these issues, such as de-escalation, voting and mental illness. In 2021, BW4PC partnered with Peace in Education (PIE) and California State University Dominguez Hills' Negotiations, Conflict Resolution, and Peacebuilding Program (NCRP) to design and host a virtual youth summit. After the success of that summit, BW4PC again reached out to PIE and NCRP to design another summit for the 2022 Month of Non-Violence, in partnership with Everytown for Gun Safety.

In August 2022, Professor Renata Valree, Giselle Atallah, and Shareff Valentine facilitated a dialogue around voting and voting rights with a group of hand-picked high school and college students. This dialogue served two purposes. First, it allowed PIE to show the members of the BW4PC leadership team how facilitated dialogue is approached and the meaningful information that can be gathered. Second, this event served as a starting point for gathering information for the design team. This dialogue is where the idea of an intergenerational discussion and voter education became the first and second workshops of the event. Also, the name of the summit was changed to Gen Z Summit instead of Youth Summit.

The series of dialogues also pointed the team to the need for an educational platform to assist with some of the issues the participants consistently said they lacked information on. Here, we felt short workshops would be appropriate to meet this need. Our team has used workshops in the past to great success with mixed audiences, including students, parents, teachers, and court officials. The design for this event was crafted in a way that would put the dialogue front and center, and then use the workshops as a secondary function to offer resources and education on subjects of interest. We implemented Jam Boards, a program that allows

participants to post their thoughts anonymously during events, to help those who are less comfortable sharing. Last year, many young people seemed reluctant to comment or turn on their cameras so the Jam Boards allowed free expression of ideas. Jam Boards are a technique our team has used in the past to encourage dialogue. We also wanted to have engaged and relevant speakers and presenters that the audience could relate to.

The goal of the Gen Z Summit was to have a summit designed with the help of the target audience. To accomplish this, we wanted to have Gen-Z members of the design team from the host organization, and to be presenters and hosts for the event. In collaboration with Everytown for Gun Safety, we secured support from Gen-Z's from across the country, and even a Gen-Z presenter from the Ukraine. Young people presented workshops about gun violence prevention, and one group of teenagers presented on the various projects they are managing within the community, including building homes for homeless veterans. This made the event a resounding success. We had over a hundred participants, with eight-nine (89) attendees attending the event. One thing we heard loud and clear from our guests is that they want to see more of these events and want to see more spaces created, so they can learn how to create and have these types of discussions. They repeatedly thanked BW4PC for creating this space and these events, and all look forward to returning for more in the future. The Gen Z Summit is a model that should be replicated by other organizations.

**Takeaways Included:** (a.) The need for mentorship, (b.) Access to mental health information and services, (c.) Awareness of mental illness, (d.) Valuing young perspectives, (e.) Community and political participation, a necessity, (f.) The need to understand generational differences and expectations, (g.) Technology in shaping each generation in a different way, (h.) The need for more events and discussions like this.

For groups that want to participate in the 2023 Month of Non-Violence contact: Dr. Myers at Bkwomen4poschange@gmail.com ///

## Lambda Xi Promotes New Fatherhood and Mentoring Program “SINSA DREAM”

By Brother Chris O’Sullivan



**Sinsa** means gentlemen in the Korean language. Led by Brother Chris O’Sullivan, the brothers of Lambda Xi Chapter located in the Republic of Korea focused on developing a program designed around Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., cardinal principles (manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift), with the aim to teach and encourage young males to positively define, plan, pursue and achieve their future.

The Brothers of Lambda Xi developed a motto called DREAM:

- D – Understanding your Civic Duty
- R – Respect must be earned
- E – Enthusiasm in everything we do
- A – Aspire to be better every day
- M – Make every moment count

The concept of operations for the SINSA Mentoring Program includes the following:

Coordinate with the Principals from Middle and High Schools located at Camp Humphreys, Osan, and Daegu to select mentees that would benefit from the mentoring program.

Plan to pair High School Seniors with 8<sup>th</sup> graders to maintain accountability and communication throughout the month.

Each month (October – June) Lambda Xi Chapter will bring all mentees together for educational workshops. The goal is to embody brotherhood, empowerment, academics, and determination.

Hold one father initiative event each quarter involving dads/fathers from the community.

Finally, in the month of June, mentees will close out the year with a graduation ceremony coordinated by the brothers of Lambda Xi Chapter. Basileus Desmond Smith is proud of the hard work and dedication by Bro. Chris O’Sullivan, Bro. London Brown, Bro. Dennis

Cunningham, Bro. Randy Artis, and Bro. Brandon Spencer in getting the fatherhood and mentoring program up and running to support our youth in the community of South Korea. ///

## Brother Brandon Wilkins Leads Boy Scouts

By Brother Michael Robinson



**Daegu, South Korea** - Cubmasters are the unit leaders for Boy Scouts of America's Cub Scout program aimed at boys and girls ages 5-11. Brother Brandon Wilkins of Lambda Xi is the Cubmaster for Pack 81 in Daegu, South Korea. There are 14 Cub Scout units in the Asia West District, and Brother Wilkins unit was recognized as the best.

During the month of October – November 2022, Brother Wilkins and Pack 81 completed the following events: First Aid instruction, a Pack Hike/camp out, and the annual Veterans Day flag retirement ceremony.

Brother Wilkins teaches the Scouts that flag retirement ceremonies are private and solemn events usually held at nighttime. On Thursday, November 10, 2022, at Camp Walker Army Base, the Scouts retired a total of seven flags flown by various 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command (ESC) units in the Republic of Korea.



Scouts retired the flags by separating the union (blue section with the files of stars) from the rest of the flags. Next, the stripes were cut into individual pieces. Finally, the flags were burned. Ashes were distributed to the Scouts as a tradition. Brother Wilkins stated, the Scouts keep a lineage of retired flags (ashes) at the Daegu Scout Hut.

In addition to Brother Brandon Wilkins serving as Cubmaster for Pack 81, he also holds the following positions: Scoutmaster - Troop 81-G, Associate Advisor - Venture Crew 73, Assistant Scoutmaster – Troop 81-B, and Far East Council Member – Boy Scouts of America. ///



Basileus Desmond Smith of Lambda Xi Chapter and Brother Michael Robinson present award and certificate of appreciation to the 2022 DoDEA Teacher of the Year Ms. Rachel Guilfoyle and her family (Husband Mr. Robert Kenny and son Alex Kenny. Not pictured are daughters: Michela Guilfoyle (University in England), Yasmin Guilfoyle (University in Germany), Kamala Kenny (Brown University in Rhode Island). Ms. Guilfoyle also shared with the brothers of Lambda Xi Chapter that she received a scholarship from an essay contest sponsored by a chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in Sacramento, California when she was in the 12th grade.

## Lambda Xi Presents Awards to Essay Winners: 2022 DoDEA Teacher of the Year

By Brother Michael Robinson



Brothers of Lambda Xi presenting scholarships to the International High School Essay Contest Winners: 1<sup>st</sup> Place Ms. Lydia Tang (R) and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Ms. Katelyn Ganski (L).

**Seoul, South Korea** – On Saturday, November 19, 2022, Lambda Xi Chapter brought Achievement Week to a close with its Annual Awards Banquet at the Dragon Hill Lodge in Seoul, South Korea. In addition to presenting annual Achievement Week Awards, the brothers of Lambda Xi honored the 2022 International High School Essay Contest Winners:

1st Place International High School Essay Contest – Ms. Lydia Tang – Osan Middle High School  
 2nd Place International High School Essay Contest – Ms. Katelyn Ganski – Osan Middle High School  
 3rd Place International High School Essay Contest – Ms. Emma Sims – Daegu Middle High School  
 The International High School Essay Contest requirements included each participant to submit a 700 -750-word essay based upon the theme: “A world crisis has caused a paradigm shift for health disparities and

social justice; what are your suggestions for positive change?”

The Brothers of Lambda Xi Chapter also recognized the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) 2022 Teacher of the Year – Ms. Rachel Guilfoyle from Daegu Elementary School. She is a 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and served as co-chair on the School Quality Factor Team, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Level Chair, and a member of the Advanced Education/Gifted Committee.

Ms. Guilfoyle has taught in DoDEA for 13 years in South Korea. She understands the needs of our military-connected students, as she has been a military child, a surviving military spouse, and the mother of DoDEA students. Prior to joining DoDEA, she served as the Executive Assistant for the Houston Arts Alliance (HAA) and facilitated the opening of the HAA’s art integrated community learning space. Ms. Guilfoyle believes that learning can occur anytime and anywhere. She encourages her students to embrace this belief.

The Brothers of Lambda Xi Chapter are proud of the accomplishments of the International High School Essay Contest Winners and the 2022 DoDEA Teacher of the Year for their outstanding service, hard work, and dedication. ///

## 13<sup>th</sup> District Promotes Anti-Bullying

By Brother Michael Robinson and Brother Cortez Pree



Brother Michael Robinson and Brother Randy Artis visiting Ms. Jamie Hare's 6<sup>th</sup> grade class at Humphreys Middle School.

Two chapters from the 13<sup>th</sup> International District held bullying prevention events in support of the Anti-Bullying Month Campaign during the month of October 2022. The Brothers of Lambda Xi Chapter visited Ms. Jamie Hare's 6<sup>th</sup> grade class at Humphreys Middle School. Brother Michael Robinson presented a short video describing why it is important to spread the word about bullying prevention.

Afterwards the students participated in a classroom activity. Brother Robinson and Brother Randy Artis gave each student a sheet of paper with the word bullying wrote in the middle. On the outside corner of the paper the following words were listed: Physical, verbal, social, and cyber.

Next, Brother Robinson told each student "You have one minute to take the paper and do whatever you want to with it but do not cut or tear the paper. You can stomp on it, wad up the paper, and throw it." Afterwards the students were requested to smooth out the paper and make it look brand new. The powerful lesson behind this activity was no matter how hard the students tried to fix the paper and make it look new, it was impossible. The wrinkles and marks were still present. Just like bullying, the social and emotional scars never go away. No matter how many times you say, I am sorry, a mark remains from being bullied.

Leading up to the month of October, the Brothers Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter kicked off its Annual Anti-Bullying Campaign at the Chatan Sports Complex in Okinawa, Japan. The Spring 2013 members-initiated



Brother Kwesi Toney, Basileus Brother Cortez Pree, Tomodachi Bridge Builder Cortez Pree Jr., Brandon Pree, and David Dew poses with Brazilian soccer students

the Chapter's first Anti-Bullying Campaign and named the event "Que-Nic" as it entailed BBQ, food, and students reciting the Anti-Bullying Pledge.

Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter partnered with the Brazilian Soccer Club in their opening day ceremonies by providing hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, water, and Gatorade. The Brazilian Soccer Club hosted Japanese, American, and other international players. 95 players, 7 parents, and 6 coaches recited the Anti-Bullying Pledge. The Soccer Club and their families were extremely appreciative of the Chapter's initiative as this is the third year in a row that Sigma Gamma Gamma has partnered with the Brazilian Soccer Club to promote their Anti-Bullying Campaign.

The 13<sup>th</sup> International District is proud of the hard work and dedication of Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter and Lambda Xi Chapter during the Anti-Bullying Month Campaign. Over 400 signatures and pledges from youth and children were received by both chapters supporting this important initiative. ///

## Sigma Gamma Gamma Basileus Guest Speaker for Marine Corps Children's Birthday Ball

By Brother Cortez Pree

**Okinawa, Japan** – The United States Marine Corps, Marine Air Control Group 18 held its annual United States Marine Corps Children's Birthday Ball on October 7, 2022, at the Kinser Surfside Club in Okinawa, Japan. The annual event was postponed for





Basileus Brother Cortez Pree receives a plaque from MACG 18 Commanding Officer Col. Guice

the last two years due to the COVID pandemic, so the kids were eager to conduct the event again.

The Commanding Officer, Colonel Robert Guice hand selected

Basileus Brother Cortez Pree to serve as the guest speaker. Brother Pree is a retired United States Marine Corps Infantryman. Brother Pree enlightened the audience by speaking on the following subjects: Peer pressure, leadership, and life choices. Brother Pree also presented Anti-Bullying wristbands to 68 youth who recite the Anti-Bullying. Colonel Guice presented Bro Pree with a 2-foot plaque for his words of inspiration.

///



Basileus Brother Cortez Pree presents Anti-Bullying wristband to a youth.

## Sigma Gamma Gamma Conducts Annual Hispanic Heritage Bowl

Submitted by Brother Cortez Pree



**Okinawa, Japan** – Sigma Gamma Gamma hosted its 3rd Annual Hispanic Heritage Bowl on October 8, 2022, at the Crow's Nest aboard Navy Base Camp Shields in Okinawa, Japan. The Tomodachi Bridgebuilders (TB) invites various schools around the island to compete in a competition to learn about the heritage of cultures that are different from their own culture. The Rhyku Middle School Habu's accepted the challenge of competing against the TB. The contest consisted of three intense rounds that saw the TB come out victorious with a score of 29 – 28. The winners received \$50 in gift cards individually, while the 2nd place winners received \$25 individually. Basileus Brother Cortez Pree stated that the Chapter will continue to provide different means and methods to educate our youth on the various cultures that surround them. ///

**Friendship is Essential to the Soul!**