

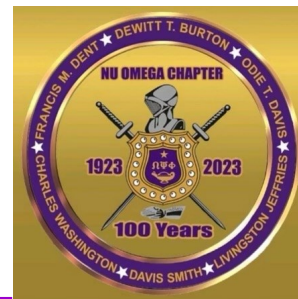
# News For Ques

OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.

Nu Omega Chapter Newsletter

February 2024 Issue

Chapter Editor: Bro. Albert A. Smith III (5-16-NΩ)



## Celebrating A New Year of Bridging the Gap

Written By: Brother Albert A. Smith III

As we embark on this new year filled with promise and potential, I am thrilled to extend my warmest greetings to you. Let us start the year anew and may this new year be a beacon of inspiration, guiding us towards new heights of achievement and success in our mentoring programs and scholarship goals as outlined in our beloved fraternity's mandated programs.

We are confident that through our collective efforts, we will make a lasting impact on the lives of those we mentor and contribute meaningfully to the communities we serve. Together, let us continue to build bridges of knowledge, inspire minds, and create a nurturing environment for academic development. With great enthusiasm, we look forward to another year of collaboration and support, where our shared dedication to uplifting our youth fosters growth and empowerment.

Let us seize the opportunity to make a lasting impact on the lives of others. Our fraternity has always been a force for positive change, and now, as we stand at the threshold of a new chapter, We are excited to invite each and every one of you to participate in our mentoring and scholarship fundraising initiatives.

Mentoring is not just about sharing knowledge; it's about igniting a spark within someone that can fuel their dreams and aspirations. By becoming mentors, we have the chance to shape the future and empower young minds to reach their full potential. Your experience, guidance, and support can be the catalyst that propels someone towards greatness.

Additionally, our scholarship fundraising initiatives provide a gateway for deserving individuals to access education and unlock a world of possibilities. Each contribution, no matter how small, plays a pivotal role in breaking down barriers to education and creating opportunities for those who may not have the means.

Here's how you can get involved:

1. **Become a Mentor:** Share your experiences, provide guidance, and be a source of inspiration for those in need. Your time and commitment can make a world of difference.
2. **Support Fundraising Efforts:** Whether through direct donations or participating in fundraising events, your contribution can pave the way for someone's educational journey. Every dollar counts!
3. **Spread the Word:** Amplify our mission within our fraternity and beyond. Encourage others to join us in this noble cause, and let's create a ripple effect of positive change.

Remember, it's not just about what we achieve individually, but the collective impact we can have when we come together. Let us stand united, shoulder to shoulder, as we embark on this journey of mentorship and scholarship support. Brothers, call to mind the poem, "The Bridgebuilder" by William A. Dromgoole.

Wishing you a year filled with boundless value-added opportunities, meaningful connections, and unparalleled success!



Bro. Rev. Lester E. Thomas (1-21-NΩ) embraces the New Year at the Annual SMOFI New Year's Eve Gala.

## Capital Campaigning: A Message from the 59<sup>th</sup> Basileus

Dear Brothers,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to you today to seek your support for our chapter's capital campaign and fundraising initiatives. As a valued member of our fraternity, we believe that your contribution can make a significant impact on the success of these important projects.

Over the years, our fraternity and chapter has been a cornerstone of brotherhood, personal growth, and community service. We have provided countless opportunities for young men to develop leadership skills, forge lifelong friendships, and give back to our community. However, to continue offering these experiences to future generations of brothers, we need your support.

Our current capital campaign aims to raise funds for several crucial projects, including the renovation and maintenance of our chapter house, the expansion of our empowerment center, and the enhancement of our community outreach initiatives. By investing in our capital campaign, you will be directly contributing to the long-term success and sustainability of our Nu Omega chapter, "The Oasis of Omega!"



There are several ways you can support our capital campaign and fundraising initiatives:

1. Spread the word: Share our campaign with your network of friends, family, alumni, Nu Omega members past & present, supporters of Omega Psi Phi, those who have walked through the hallowed halls of 235 East Ferry St., and anyone who may be interested in supporting our chapter's initiatives. The more people we can reach, the greater the impact we can make!
2. Volunteer your time and expertise: If you have skills or resources that could benefit our fundraising efforts, we would greatly appreciate your involvement. Whether it's helping to organize fundraising events, providing professional advice, or leveraging your network for sponsorships, your contribution will be invaluable.
3. Make a financial contribution: Any amount, big or small, will make a difference and help us reach our fundraising goal. You can make a one-time donation or pledge to contribute a specific amount over a certain period of time.

We have outlined more details about our capital campaign and fundraising initiatives in our Nu Omega Capital Campaign Presentation. We believe that with your support, we can achieve our goals and continue to provide meaningful experiences for current and future fraternity brothers.

Thank you for your support, and I look forward to working together to make a positive impact on our chapter!

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly.

Your contributions to this initiative will be greatly appreciated.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Bro. Chad K. Rhodes

59<sup>th</sup> Basileus, Nu Omega Chapter

*"The value of our Fraternity is not in numbers, but in men, in real brotherhood....." (Members Versus Men by Bro. Walter H. Mazyck)*





## MLK Jr Annual Legacy March Program

By Bros. Albert A. Smith III & David Rudolph

On January 15, 2024, Nu Omega was owt at Martin Luther King Jr. High School 15th Annual Legacy March Program. The march portion was canceled due to the extremely cold weather, however, the program continued in the auditorium featuring guest speakers that included MLK Jr. High School Principal Damian H. Perry, DPCSD Board President Angelique Peterson Mayberry, Nidia Ashby, DOSCD Chief of Schools, the Honorable Jocelyn Benson, Secretary of State of Michigan, and the Honorable Mary Waters, Detroit City Council to name a few.

L-R: Bros. David Rudolph, VB Brandon Graham, Daryl Shackelford, Basileus Chad Rhodes, Larry Coleman, Editor Al Smith, & Keith Hudson.

The MLK 15th Annual Legacy March is a tradition that honors the impact of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s vision for equality and justice. This event symbolizes unity and a shared commitment to a better future. The guest speakers collaboratively spoke about the importance of civic engagement in achieving Dr. King's dream.

## And The Winners Are....

Submitted by Bro. Albert A. Smith III

The Charles H. Wright Museum conducted it's 4th Annual Divine 9 Membership Drive from November 1-December 31, 2023. The organization with the most NEW memberships, as a percentage of their national membership, was announced at Charles H. Wright Museum's MLK Day Celebration on Monday, January 15, 2024. The winners were

both the Nu Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc & the Detroit Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.. A combined total of 715 members were added to The Wright helping raise over \$40,000 towards programming for the whole community. Honorable mention to Bros. Tyrone Davenport (NΣ 65') former COO of the Charles H. Wright Museum & Steven McReynolds (XΓ 70') past Ambassador & long time member of the Charles H. Wright. Kudos Metro Detroit NPHC!



MLK Jr. Legacy March Guest Speakers





# Locked-In For A Good Cause!

Submitted by: Bros Al Smith & Henry Simmons

On January 19th, 2024 Nu Omega's partnering church "Fellowship Chapel" held its 2024 Annual Youth Month "Lock-In" event! This was a fun-filled night of praise & worship which included youth centered workshop activities, dinner, & snacks.



L-R : Bros. Henry Simmons III (2-21-NΩ), James McDonald (1-16-NΩ), Daryl Shackelford (6-95-NΩ) Devonte King (7-21-NΩ), Michael Stuckey (9-18-NΩ), & Dre Hall (4-20-NΣ),

Guest speakers included Reverend Jody Boose of the "Citadel of Praise" located in Detroit, Michigan. The "Lock-In" began from 06:30 pm and ended at 06:30 am on January 20, 2024. The program also included mental health workshops, a D.J., entrepreneurial workshops, yoga, & "Painting With A Twist!"



Brothers representing both the Nu Omega & Nu Sigma chapters were in attendance to support this fun-filled night geared towards Christian fellowship amongst the youth and adults! Bro. Henry Simmons (2-21-NΩ) when interviewed informed that, "it was a good way to give back and ensure that the youth had activities to partake in!" Bro. Simmons indicated that members of the brotherhood had a 30 hour slot to teach the youth how to march. They then held a contest which involved the youth showcasing the marches they had learned which generated loads of fun! We commend Bros. Daryl Shackelford (6-95-NΩ), James McDonald (1-16-NΩ), Michael Stuckey (9-18-NΩ), Dre Hall (4-20-NΣ), Henry Simmons III (2-21-NΩ), & Devonte King (7-21-NΩ) for providing good fun, fellowship, and representing the fold well!



NΩ Brothers teaching marches to the youth!



L-R : Bros. Devonte King (7-21-NΩ), Dre Hall (4-20-NΣ), Henry Simmons III (2-21-NΩ), Michael Stuckey (9-18-NΩ), & James McDonald (1-16-NΩ)

# Nu Omega at Forgotten Harvest: Community Champions



By Bros. Al Smith & Jamaal Dokes

In a heartening display of solidarity and commitment to community welfare, the Nu Omega Chapter joined hands with Forgotten Harvest to make a profound impact on alleviating hunger and reducing food waste. This collaborative effort showcases the power of unity and the positive influence that can arise when organizations come together for a shared cause.

Forgotten Harvest, a renowned non-profit organization dedicated to rescuing surplus food and distributing it to those in need, has found enthusiastic support from various organizations including members of the Divine Nine. These groups have recognized the urgent need to address food insecurity within



Bro. Devonte King (7-21-NΩ) volunteering at Forgotten Harvest Warehouse located in Oak Park, Michigan

their local communities and have actively stepped forward to contribute their time, resources, and energy.

Brothers of Nu Omega are making a tangible difference through a variety of initiatives. They engage in regular volunteer activities at various distribution centers, where they sort, pack, and distribute rescued food items. Our dedication ensures that nutritious meals reach individuals and families facing food insecurity, fostering a sense of community and compassion.



2023 Bros. Damon Barber, William Coleman, & James Smith packing food boxes.

We must applaud and acknowledge our chapter's supportive efforts with Forgotten Harvest as a noble cause! Forgotten Harvest is a nonprofit organization based in Detroit, Michigan, dedicated to fighting hunger and food waste. They rescue surplus, prepared, and perishable food and distribute it to those in need. Our organization joining hands with Forgotten Harvest exemplifies the potential impact when different entities work together for the greater good, addressing both community welfare and environmental concerns related to food waste. It's a positive example of how collective efforts can make a significant difference in alleviating hunger and promoting a sense of unity within a community.



NΩ Brothers volunteering at Forgotten Harvest HQ

Our chapter's involvement with Forgotten Harvest and organizations with similar objectives, not only underscores our commitment to charities but also serves as an inspiring example of how grassroots efforts can contribute significantly to addressing pressing social issues. Through our unwavering dedication, our fraternity is helping and assisting the Forgotten Harvest organization to build a stronger, more compassionate community where no one is left behind, and every individual has access to nutritious food.



## NΩ Reclamation & Retention Breakfast

Submitted by :Bro. Al Smith

Our Nu Omega Reclamation & Retention's purpose was initiated to reconnect with former members and encourage their continued involvement and support. The R&R committee was diligent in reaching out to both members of past and present with the aim of rekindling connections, fostering a sense of belonging, and encouraging ongoing engagement.



This strategic initiative was designed to not only reclaim lost members but also to retain the active involvement and support of existing members of our chapter.

A huge acknowledgement of appreciation goes out to Bros. Reginald Pelzer (Φ 76'), Clyde Gray (3-95-NΩ) Daryl Lewis (5-82-NΦ), Henry Simmons III (2-21-NΩ), & the Reclamation & Retention Committee as a whole

on their supportive effort to make this breakfast reclamation event successful.

Through effective communications recognition, and meaningful opportunities, the chapter aims to create a supportive network that benefits both current and past members. The future aim of the chapter's reclamation activities should be geared towards seeking feedback from the brotherhood regarding their experiences, expectations, and suggestions for improvement. This input is valuable for shaping the chapter's future endeavors and ensuring that it remains aligned with the interests and aspirations of its members.



To maintain and grow the membership there can be an expectation of reclamation campaigns which will include personalized emails, phone calls, and social media messages directed towards former and current members. The communication may emphasize the chapter's growth, achievements, and ongoing initiatives, showcasing the positive impact of our contributions.

We look forward to these future initiatives from the Reclamation & Retention Committee and let it be known that all volunteers are welcomed by the committee to assist in reaching the goal of 180 plus members!



WITHIN THE FOLD....



Submit Your Ideas

NuOmegaReporter@gmail.com - Ideas & Articles



# When We Wear the Gloves....



Recognition of brothers who have transitioned to **Omega Chapter:**

## **Ω Bro. Isaac Wordlaw— NΩ 61' 1933- 2023**

Bro. Isaac Wordlaw, 90, of Detroit, MI, passed away on October 14, 2023. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, held degrees from Kentucky State University and the University of Michigan, and had a 30-year career in the Detroit Public School system. He was married to Marion Moore Wordlaw for 51 years and was an active member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. for over 60 years.



## **Ω Bro. Lawrence Hudson Sr. - PF 71' 1950-2024**

Bro. Lawrence Hudson passed away on January 1, 2024. Father of Bro. Lawrence Hudson Jr. (2-16-NΩ), he attended Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama where he obtained his Bachelors of Science in Business Administration. He worked as a Procurement Specialist for the Federal Government where he retired after thirty five years with TACOM. Bro. Lawrence Hudson Sr. was a devoted family man and member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.



## **Ω Bro. Dr. Nathan T. Bridges -NΣ 61' 1941-2024**

Bro. Dr. Nathan T. Bridges transitioned January 24, 2024. He attended Wayne State University where he studied Pre-Med and crossed into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. He graduated from The University of Detroit School of Dentistry. Bro. Dr. Bridges opened his own practice and served for more than 30 years on the corner of 7 mile & Outer Drive .



*A sturdy tree has fallen...*