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SPRING 2005 EDITION

MANHOOD



SCHOLARSHIP

PERSEVERANCE

UPLIFT

## A Message from the State Representative

Brothers,

We have recently updated the website and I encourage all to visit it. There you will find the latest about the car tags, information about and registration forms for the upcoming state meeting in Jackson on September 16-18, 2005, website links to several chapter sites in the state, and the state newsletter. Please register now for the state meeting. We had 100 brothers at the last state meeting. This time we are shooting for 125 brothers in attendance. Also at the website you will see new chairmen for old and new committees such as *Assault on Illiteracy*, *Health Initiatives*, and *Voter Registration, Education, and Mobilization*. A new position was created for the task of investigating unfortunate incidents across the state and it is called the *State Inspector General*.

In other news, we have a new chapter in the state. It is **Theta Iota Iota** and it is located in Meridian, MS. Their address is on the website. We now have twenty-three (23) chapters in our state. We are currently working on setting up a day for brothers around the state to travel to the capital to have an audience with our Omega and non-Omega legislators. Our state Social Action chairman is working on this endeavor.

Lastly, thank all of you who bought car tags, especially those of you who bought more than one. I want to particularly thank Bro. Daniel Vassel as the 2004 and 2005 chairman of the car tag effort and those who worked with him such as Rueben Hopkins, Fernandéis Frazier, and Al Rhodes. I want to thank past chairmen of the car tag effort, Bro. James Reed and Bro. Malcolm Harrison for all

their work. All of your work and sacrifice have paid off. The Omega Psi Phi car tag for the state of Mississippi is being designed as I write this and should be rolling out in the next sixty days. We continue to be successful as a state organization. God continues to show us favor. Let us continue to be deserving of it.

David Marion, Ph.D.  
Mississippi State Representative



## Central Mississippi Chapters Host Reclamation Cookout

**Jackson, MS** - The Central Mississippi Chapters of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. hosted a Reclamation Cookout at Poindexter Park on Saturday, April 9, 2005 in Jackson, MS. The aim of this event was the following: reclaim inactive brothers, and direct them toward a graduate chapter home; reaffirm active brothers' commitment to the cause of Omega; provide a venue of fellowship so that the camaraderie in the Central MS area will continue to stand out; and to provide a forum to discuss the role the State of MS plays on the District and National Levels.

Committee chairmen Bro. Fernandis Frazier (Epsilon Kappa Kappa Basileus, Canton, MS), Bro. George Jamison (Beta Alpha Basileus, Jackson, MS), and Bro. James Reed (Xi Kappa Kappa Basileus, Yazoo City, MS) formulated an agenda in an effort to galvanize the brothers in the Central MS Region toward a more productive and progressive stance in the Fraternal Affairs in the State as well as the 7<sup>th</sup> District. Topics of discussion included:

*Reclamation & Retention, Undergraduate transfer to graduate chapters, State Unification, Coalition Building, Community Service, Omega Day at the State Capital, Growth of Chapters in the State, and Economic Development Programs.*

Brothers from all over the area came out to participate, and to also lend their wisdom and experience to the spirit of this program. Brothers ranged in years from Spring '57 to Spring 2005. Bro. Frazier stated "We as a State must continue to build

strong coalitions in order to enhance our place in the District." Chapters which make up the Central MS region include: Rho Epsilon (Undergraduate - Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, MS), Upsilon Epsilon (Undergraduate - Jackson State University, Jackson, MS), Beta Alpha (Graduate- Jackson, MS), Epsilon Kappa Kappa (Graduate- Canton, MS), and Xi Kappa Kappa (Graduate- Yazoo City, MS).

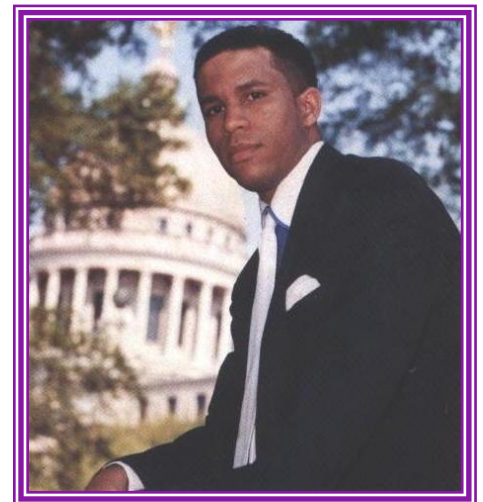


## Bro. Carlos Palmer to Serve as Interim County Judge

**Greenwood, MS** – The Board of Supervisors of Leflore County appointed Greenwood attorney Carlos Palmer to serve as an interim Leflore County justice court judge. This appointment took place on Monday, April 11, 2005. Brother Palmer will hold this position until a special election in November. He replaces Brother Larry "Blue" Neal, who stepped down to run for mayor of the city of Greenwood. The Board of Supervisors is charged with the responsibility of filling vacancies in the event one should occur and has expressed

the utmost confidence in Brother Palmer.

Brother Palmer grew up in Greenwood and graduated from Tougaloo College with a B.A. in English/Pre-law. Brother Palmer earned his Juris Doctorate from the University Of Mississippi School Of Law in 2002 and has been practicing law for three years. He is a former clerk to Mississippi Court of Appeals Judge Tyree Irving in Jackson, Mississippi. Brother Palmer returned to his hometown to practice in August of 2004. He is presently an associate with Willie J. Perkins Sr., who serves



**Bro. Carlos Palmer as Judge**

as attorney for the Board of Supervisors. He was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. through Rho Epsilon Chapter on December

11, 1995. Brother Palmer previously served as the State of Mississippi's Director of Public Relations for the Fraternity before being elected to the

position of Counselor for the State Organization of Mississippi of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity in 2004.

## ACTIVITIES FROM ACROSS THE STATE

### Bro. Mayers Named Father of the Year



Bro. Mayers is pictured with Head Start students.

**Yazoo City, MS – Fathers-N-Action**, a division of the Yazoo Community Action Agency (YCA) in conjunction with the Yazoo City St. Francis Head Start Program held their annual **Father's Recognition Ceremony**. This event took place on Thursday, May 19, 2005 at the YCA Community Services Complex. The guest speaker was Ms. Sheila Brown of MS ETV.

This year *Fathers-N-Action* presented several fathers with a "Dedicated Dad" certificate for their continued devotion to responsible fatherhood. However, the top prize went to Bro. Chalmers W. Mayers, Jr. as he received the **2005 Father of the Year Award** from *Fathers-N-Action* and the St. Francis Head Start Program. Bro. Mayers has been a solid supporter of the programs and projects sponsored by the Head Start Program and *Fathers-N-*

*Action* including the Father's Story Time program, and parent-teacher meetings. Alderman Bro. Aubry Brent, who has also served as a mentor for Bro. Mayers, stated "Chalmers has displayed the level of responsibility, commitment, and involvement necessary to impact a child's life. He is definitely a worthy recipient of this award." Bro. Mayers stated "This was very unexpected and humbling for me. This is probably the best award I have ever received, even more so than the Omega Man of the Year Award. I think this award epitomizes what an Omega Man is all about which is upholding your Four Cards...and in this case especially Manhood and Uplift."

Bro. Chalmers Mayers was initiated into Omega through Xi Kappa Kappa Chapter in Yazoo City, MS on May 3, 1997. He currently serves on the State Council as the Voter Registration, Education, & Mobilization Chair, and is the Keeper of Records & Seal for Xi Kappa Kappa. He was also named Xi Kappa Kappa Chapter Omega Man of the Year in 2004. Bro. Mayers is an Art Professor at Jackson State University in Jackson, MS, and is the parent of four sons.

### Nu Eta New Additions

By Bro. Kewan Jackson

**Hattiesburg, MS-** The Nu Eta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi

Fraternity, Inc. recently initiated five (5) new members. On January 13, 2005, *The Five Demons of a Dogg-matic Cult* were welcomed into the realm of



2005 Nu Eta Initiates

Omega. The five initiates are: Keith Morris, Sedrick Jackson, Willie Davison, Milton Williams, and Eric Brundidge. Inclement weather wasn't enough to stop the festivities that were a grand celebration of "New Fire" for Nu Eta Chapter. Nu Eta continues to raise the bar higher and higher on the campus of Southern Miss and plans to continue to make Southern Miss and the Hattiesburg community better year after year.

### Old School Step Show

By Bro. Terrell Croon

**Tougaloo, MS-** Students and Administration at Tougaloo



College sponsored an **Old School Step Show** during recruitment activities at the school. It was a memorable occasion where faculty, staff, and graduates of Tougaloo College were able to perform a show for the student body, and entertain those who were attending a step show for the first time. The "Old School" brothers representing for the Rho Epsilon Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity were all graduates of Tougaloo College. They were: Brother Eric Lawson (2-93-PE), Brother Albert Goines (1-00-PE), Brother George Patterson, Jr. (2-00-PE) and Brother Alvin C. Carter (4-00-PE). The highlight of the event was when the brothers took advantage of the time they had during the show to share a Black History moment with the crowd. This was done by handing out facts about famous Omega Men attached to a candy bar as a treat. This empowerment was extremely effective because the crowd was made up of diverse backgrounds sharing common ideas, and the brothers were able to get a positive message out to the people as well as feed them too. Finally, to end the show the brothers gave certificates of appreciation along with a formal message of thanks to ALL the brothers that are employed at Tougaloo College. These brothers play an active role in the existence, the positive guidance, and the longevity of Rho Epsilon Chapter.

### **EKK Gives Scholarship**

By Bro. Alvin Carter

**Canton, MS-** The Epsilon Kappa Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. strongly supports a sound and well deserved education. By showing our support, each year we select schools from the metro area to encourage students to participate in the annual **Epsilon Kappa Kappa Scholastic**

**Achievement Award** Program. This award goes to a deserving male or female that demonstrates high academic ability, performance, achievement and a strong commitment to the community. We feel that all of these qualities are necessary to be a successful student and persevere through the different challenges of life.

Several students from the Central MS area submitted applications to the chapter for the scholarship award this year. Some of the schools include: Canton High School (*Canton, MS*); Jim Hill High School (*Jackson, MS*); Lanier High School (*Jackson, MS*); Murrah High School (*Jackson, MS*); and Velma Jackson High School (*Canton, MS*). Five (5) of the finalist received special recognition for upholding their **SCHOLARSHIP**, which is one of our four cardinal principles, and meeting the criteria for the award set by the chapter. The recipient of the **Epsilon Kappa Kappa Scholastic Achievement Award** worth \$1,000.00 was Jesse R. O'Quinn from Jim Hill High School.

The brothers commended each student for a job well done, and encouraged them to keep striving for higher levels in their education and in life.

### ***And The Two Shall Become One***

**Yazoo City, MS** – Bro. James M. Reed, IV is pleased to announce his wedding activities to the brotherhood of MS. He and Ms. LaToya Jones will be joined in holy matrimony on June 25th, at 5 pm, at her family church, Goodwill Missionary Baptist Church in Pass Christian, MS. The reception will begin immediately following the wedding at the **Palace in the Pass**. They have also chosen to host their family and friends at *Palace in the Pass*. *Palace* is

located next to a beautiful park (War Memorial), and directly across the street from the beach (Hwy 90). Other activities include *Sunday Morning Worship Service* at Goodwill Missionary Baptist Church on Sunday, June 26, 2005, as well as a *Farewell Cookout* on the Pass Christian Beaches at 4pm.



**Mr. & Mrs. James Reed, IV**

### **Phi Rho Sponsors Pancake Breakfast**

By Bro. Regenalnd Byrd

**Hattiesburg, MS** - On Saturday March 19<sup>th</sup> 2005, the Phi Rho chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. held its annual "Pancake Breakfast" at Applebee's Restaurant in Hattiesburg, MS. This year's event had an overwhelming turnout. Numerous door prizes were given away (i.e.: gas cards, Wal-Mart gift certificates, and dinner for two at Copeland's), with a grand prize of an all expense paid weekend for two at the Horseshoe Casino in Tunica, MS. The proceeds from this event will go to the chapter's scholarship fund and community activities.

### **GOT NEWS FOR THE QUES?**

Please send all current, newsworthy articles and pictures to:  
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