

The PULse Fall/Winter 2015 Edition

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BROTHERS,

The 2015-2016 fraternal year has begun and in typical PUL fashion the chapter has been busy. It has been great to see so many inactive PUL brothers as well as new members in attendance at our first two chapter meetings. It is time to roll up our sleeves and do what PUL does best: providing service to the members of our community. We started off in October with a new venture by supporting the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention with their Out of the Darkness Community Walk in Maryland.

We have also had a Highway Clean-Up and a very successful Caregiving Symposium and College Application Night. Congratulations to Brothers Robert Dantzler, Steve Robinson and Rashid Mahdi who led the various programs.

Our signature event "A Taste of Alpha 2015" on November 21, was another outstanding PUL event. The Committee Chairs Bros. James Massey and Keith Holloway have been working very hard along with their committee to put together a great event. We need the support of the brotherhood to insure its success. We also have Thanksgiving Food Distribution at SHARE, Christmas caroling at the Villa Rosa Nursing home and the start of the Beautillion/Youth Leadership Development Institute.

Brothers we need your support in all areas. The work of the committees will only be successful with our full support. Whether it is helping to mentor youth, distribute food to the needy or sing at the Nursing home there are a variety of areas you can step in and help make a difference.

I continue to strive to support the activities of the other Alpha chapters as well as the other members of the Divine 9. So far I have attended or sent representatives to the Omicron Eta Lambda Chapter's 30th Anniversary Celebration, Fort Washington Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Red & White Wine Tasting, Lambda Delta Sigma Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Founders' Day event and the upcoming Kappa Epsilon Lambda College Fair. I encourage all of you to make an effort to attend other chapter's/organization's events when you hear about them.

The 2016 election cycle is well under way. In addition to the office of President we will be casting ballots for

US Senator, US Representatives as well as other offices. One of our national programs is "A Voteless People is a Hopeless People". PUL under the leadership of Brothers Steve Robinson holding candidate forums as well as conducting voter registration drives in the upcoming months. It will be critical that we do all that we can do to help get people registered to vote as well as encourage them to actually get out and cast ballots. I sincerely hope that recent events will help energize not only our chapter but residents in Prince George's County to turn out and vote in 2016.

Let us continue to hold the light of Alpha high!

Fraternally,

Frank T. Malone

President

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Pi Upsilon Lambda Chapter

HONORING OUR WORD

By: Bro. Duane J. Edwards

On Saturday, January 16, 1999, myself, and 21 others took the oath and made a verbal vow to uphold the practices and principles of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Becoming a Brother of Alpha was a longtime dream of mine that had come true that day. After all of the hard work, time and effort I had become a member of the same Brotherhood that attracted Martin Luther King, Jr., Thurgood Marshall, and a host of luminaries that are recognized globally, nationally, and locally.

"Welcome Brothers, you have put in a lot of hard work and effort to see the light of Alpha, but now the real work begins. Alpha requires your time, your talent, and your treasure. Remember you made a lifetime commitment to serve your community and brotherhood for life. You will find that getting into Alpha is a lot easier than the work expected of its members to maintain the vision of our Seven Jewels."

These are the words of Bro. Russell Campbell, the District Director of the MAAC at the time. He gave these words during the repasts that followed our initiation. We, all so new into the brotherhood, just looked and smiled. We were so happy to be Alphas I don't think we truly paid his words much attention at the time. Our thoughts were on how we were going to rep our chapter on the yard, the upcoming homecoming step show, the parties, and other things many college-initiated brothers think about. It was not until I became a member of my first alumni chapter that his words resonated with me.

I would say that my years in Alpha has not always been pleasant. In the early years there was a lot of drama and unnecessary stress. Some of my line brothers have chosen to disassociate themselves and not be active in Alpha based on some of the madness that happened during our college experience. I on the other hand contemplated if all the drama and stress I was experiencing was worth my time, talent, and treasure. What changed my mind was experiencing our beautiful brotherhood on other levels besides the one on my campus. Meeting Brothers from other areas (College and Alumni) gave me a new love for the organization I had dreamed of becoming a part of for years.

As you read this you may wonder what does this trip down memory lane have to do with Honoring Our Word? A lot. In reflecting on my early years in Alpha and the trials and tribulations that I experienced, I always question what kept me, what made me continue with something that in the beginning was something I wished on no man. It boiled down to being a man of my word. When seeking Alpha I had to obtain three sponsors. I had to show and express to them how I would make a great member of the brotherhood. Those Brothers (Corey Bowen, Alvern Chesterfield, and James White) had enough faith in me to endorse my membership into Alpha. Brothers we have to remember our first steps into Alpha is having Brothers believe in us enough that they will endorse us to be an excellent addition to the Fraternity (They put their reputations on the line for us.). I have so much respect and love for these Brothers; I am still very close with them today. I made a promise to them when I asked for their sponsorship; I could not let them down. I said I would do the work of Alpha, and be a good brother for life. I had to honor my word.

Brothers as we move forward in our lives as Alpha men, we have to remember that we made promises, took oaths, and made vows to uphold our dear Brotherhood. The first is to be a Brother to all. The second is to be a servant to our community. The third is upholding our financial and physical obligations to the general organization and our chapter. It hurts to see how brothers do not understand the concept of Honoring Our Word. Many get into their feelings about things that boarder on the line of petty, some see being an Alpha as a new social standing that brings out their dormant socialite (Party Over Here!), some try to relive what they were unable to experience in college, while others have seen becoming a member of Alpha as an item to scratch off their bucket list. I ask this question to many Brothers; we like the concept of Alpha, but are we ready do what is necessary to continue to make Alpha Phi Alpha the great Brotherhood it is known for?

My Brothers, I ask that you reflect and think if you are honoring your oath, promise, and vow to the Brothers who had faith in you enough to sponsor you, and most important, are you honoring your word to be the best representation for our beloved Brotherhood Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

PUL'S "A TASTE OF ALPHA" 2015

The Brothers of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Pi Upsilon Lambda Chapter (PUL) in conjunction with the Alpha Phi Alpha Pi Upsilon Lambda Charitable Foundation (APAPULCF) hosted our annual "A Taste of Alpha" event was held on **November 21, 2015**.

"A Taste of Alpha" is an amateur cooking contest that brings out the best chef's in the Washington Metropolitan area. The Brothers of Alpha and other guest chefs prepared their signature dish for competition, this event will provided those in attendance with great food, music and dancing.

A portion of the proceeds will go to the APAPULCF for scholarships that would further assist young people of Prince George's County with the opportunity to achieve their dreams of attending college. This stellar event was held at **The Gold Room, 8600 Glenarden Pkwy, Glenarden, MD**.



CAREGIVER'S SYMPOSIUM

The 2nd Annual Caregivers Symposium took place Saturday, November 7, 2015 at the Largo-Kettering Library in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. The purpose of the Caregivers Symposium was to present and provide free information and education on caregiving to members of the Prince George's County community and surrounding areas. In order to carry out this task, the Caregivers Symposium planning committee reached out to various agencies, organizations, experts, and advocates to attend as panelists and speakers, to share with us the types of services and resources they provide. Joining us were representatives from Prince George's County Aging Services Division, Anne Arundel County Office of Aging Services, the Alzheimer's Association (National Capital Area Chapter), Mental Health Association of Maryland, the Prince George's County Register of Wills, the Law Offices of Erika Cole, LLC, and an independent advocate from AG Caregiver Advocate Group.

The Caregivers Symposium was well attended and the attendees were pleased with the information and education they received, which was enlightening to many. The attendees also asked questions that created dialogue and were beneficial for all in attendance. We hope that Caregivers Symposium will be a continuous event for years to come as well aim to reach as many people as possible.

The Caregivers Symposium is a part of the My Brother's Keeper National Program

**The Caregivers Symposium was sponsored by PUL and the APAPULCF*

Submitted by Bro. Robert J. Dantzler, PUL Chaplain and Caregivers Symposium Chair



UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas Caroling at Villa Rosa Nursing Home – December 20th @ 3:30 PM, 3800 Lottsford Vista Road, Mitchellville, MD 20721

SHARE Warehouse(Food distribution) – December 19th @ 5:30 AM – 8:30 AM, 5170 Lawrence Place, Hyattsville, MD 20781

HAPPY ALPHA VERSARIES

September 2015

Bro. Damian Taylor – 27th (Mu Phi Lambda)

October 2015

Bro. Jerome Tarver – 26th (Alpha Gamma)

November 2015

Bro. Robert Dantzler – 3rd (Delta Alpha)
Dr. Anthony Barnes – 4th (Delta Alpha)
Bro. Antoine Barnes – 4th (Delta Alpha)
Bro. DeLano McRavin – 5th (Eta Eta Lambda)
Bro. Durrell Bullock – 11th (Gamma Mu)
Bro. Rodney Frank – 13th (Kappa Epsilon Lambda)
Bro. Barry Brinkley – 13th (Mu Zeta)
Dr. Jean Accius – 14th (Iota Delta)
Bro. Stanley Gordon – 17th (Delta Lambda)
Bro. Wade Woolfolk – 17th (Pi Upsilon Lambda)
Rev. Jumanne Bradford – 20th (Eta Lambda)
Bro. Rasheen Smith – 21st (Iota Zeta)
Bro. Michael McCoy – 30th (Gamma Mu)

December 2015

ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY INC. FOUNDER'S DAY – December 4, 1906

Bro. Michael Johnson – 4th (Alpha)
Bro. Thomas Brown – 6th (Beta Gamma)
Dr. Zollie Stevenson – 10th (Kappa Lambda)
Bro. Keith Miller – 23rd (Gamma Upsilon)

January 2016

Bro. Duane Edwards – 16th (Delta Nu)
Bro. Reginald Stewart – 20th (Gamma Mu)

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

September

Bro. Michael Porter – 4th
Bro. Steven Robinson – 6th
Bro. Ashley Hoover – 10th

Bro. Dale Wright – 14th
Bro. Everett Martin Jr. – 16th
Bro. Brian Stone – 17th
Bro. Frank Malone – 20th
Bro. Keith Bell – 21st
Bro. Paul Brown – 23rd
Bro. Michael Goodman – 25th
Bro. Donald McClure – 25th
Bro. Raphael Taylor – 26th

October

Bro. Reginald Stewart – 1st
Bro. Kevin White – 2nd
Bro. Denny Johnson – 10th
Bro. Michael Nelson – 10th
Bro. Johnny Brooks – 12th
Bro. Peter Davenport – 19th
Bro. Andrew Sheppard – 22nd
Bro. Damian Taylor – 22nd
Bro. Thomas Brown – 25th

November

Bro. Anthony Harris – 8th
Bro. David Smith – 13th
Bro. Joe Brice – 14th
Bro. Rodney Frank – 20th
Bro. Okechuku Enyia – 22nd
Bro. Timothy Mcrae – 27th
Bro. Tyrome Smith – 27th

December

Bro. William Green – 2nd
Bro. Michael Johnson – 6th
Bro. John Greene – 7th
Bro. Dwight Deneal – 16th
Bro. Charmone Adams – 20th
Dr. David Harmon – 31st

January

Bro. Glenn Malone – 8th
Bro. Juneous Pettijohn – 8th
Bro. Jeffrey Johnson – 15th
Bro. Van Rawls – 16th
Bro. DeLano McRavin – 17th
Bro. Rashid Mahdi – 24th



PULSE SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Please submit all committee events, accomplishments and other information by the deadlines below to:

rdiontaylor@gmail.com

Spring 2016 – January 24th

Summer 2016 – April 24th

Fall 2016 – August 7th

Winter 2016 – November 13th

SPHINX ARTICLE SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Interested in having an article considered for submission to the SPHINX? Please submit all articles and subsequent pictures to me by the deadlines listed below. Send all submissions to: rdiontaylor@gmail.com

ISSUE	DEADLINE for SUBMISSION
Spring 2016	January 1 st
Summer 2016	March 25 th
Fall 2016	July 1st
Winter 2016	September 30 th