
ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC.
PI UPSILON LAMBDA CHAPTER

APRIL/MAY 2014

THE PULSE



ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC. THE PULSE



Seven Jewels Vintage 1906

SETTING THE STANDARD OF BROTHERHOOD FOR OVER A CENTURY





THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Brothers,

It looks like winter is finally over and we will soon be going from complaining about the cold to complaining about the heat. This winter was pretty miserable. I was complaining about the snow and shoveling my driveway during the last snowstorm when I took a moment and realized how blessed I was to have a driveway to shovel and to have the physical ability to actually shovel the snow. We have all been blessed abundantly and sometimes we do not even realize it.

PUL has welcomed four new brothers into the fold. The "4Most Authority" crossed on Sunday, March 16, 2014. Their journey was quite the experience, but they persevered and are now ready to do the work of Alpha.

#1 Johnny J. Brooks, II - "Tattoo"

#2 Antuan J. Powell - "Medgah-Mandibah"

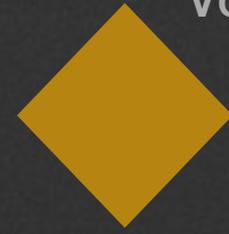
#3 Johnny W. Montgomery - "Ice Storm"

#4 Charmone P. Adams - "Prince CHAR-ming"

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BOND

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



The new IMDP process definitely needs some more work, but we made it through. Several of us will be documenting recommendations on some process changes, as well as, identifying errors in the numerous documents that are part of the process. Many thanks to Bro. Charles Hines, the Chapter Dean of Membership Development, and all of the brothers of PUL who helped with the lectures, ceremonies, repast and anything else that needed to be done during the Spring 2014 IMDP.

While we have brought in new members via IMDP, we continue to reclaim brothers. I was really happy to have one of my line brothers attend the last chapter meeting. We had not been in contact in almost 23 years. There are a lot of "reclaimable" brothers who are living in Prince George's County and the surrounding areas that we need to continue to focus on bringing back into the fold.

Finally, PUL will be quite busy in the month of April as we participate in various programs, such as, the District Conference, Regional Conference, SHARE Anniversary, March of Dimes Walk, YLDI Sessions, and the PUL Foundation Scholarship and Recognition Dinner to name a few. As always we need the support of all brothers in order to carry out our activities and continue in the spirit of excellence that PUL is known for.

Fraternally,

Frank T. Malone

President

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Pi Upsilon Lambda Chapter

ARE WE BROTHER6?

BY BROTHER REV. J. B. BRADFORD



As, I paid close attention to the fellowship of the Brotherhood, I could not help but notice that some things just did not sit well with my soul. Seeing some familiar faces, I could not place names, so I camouflaged my forgetfulness with a barrage of "Greetings, Brother." You see, for me, names are very important, but not as important as the feeling of Brotherhood. When failing to remember a name, I always remember a face. I must admit that I may have chosen to subconsciously forget a name of a Brother if the response that I got was less than brotherly. I admit that I am disappointed when Brothers can walk past without speaking, only to greet another Brother. I understand relationships, but what about the Brother that you just tripped over to grip and hug your other? Are Brothers expendable?

Brothers, dig deep into your soul and walk this journey with me. This is how I felt when I left Georgia, where I was initi-

ated, to come back home. I did not feel the love of this area toward Alpha and Brotherhood. It can be argued that I just went to the wrong event or had unrealistic expectations for this particular chapter that I was invited to join. I was made in Eta Lambda and the spirit of Alpha and Brotherhood were just as rich as it is on the campus of Morehouse College. I fitted right in. When you blend my unconditional love for my people and Southern hospitality, I learned that I had gotten spoiled living in the South. The Taste of Alpha when I returned home in 2002 was not a robust one. Having only been in the fold for 3 years at that time, I felt that my image of Alpha was a lie. There weren't any real Brothers here. It is how I felt.

Some 10 years would pass before the Lord answered a silent prayer. I wanted to get active again and reclaim my rightful place as an Alpha, but it had to be with a chapter that was truly about Brotherhood. Reclamation became a vital concern for me, but I had no where to start. God placed Bro. Rev. Louis T. Cannon, Sr.

into my life and almost simultaneously, I met Brother Frank Malone. It was Brother Malone that reclaimed me 2 years ago outside of the BJ's in Bowie, MD. It took awhile, but I finally came to a chapter meeting. I was apprehensive because I felt that if I did not get a great response from Brothers, that I was done with the Frat thing. Having a sincere heart just demands that others have sincere hearts, too because my time, my word, and my love are the most precious things that God has given me and I waste them on no one. PUL had to be the right fit or I was done! I remember the class and grace that Brother Malone had shown over the years and he never gave up on me. You can appreciate a Brother that knows how to get the most out of people without being pushy or aggressive. I can say today that the men, the Brothers of Pi Upsilon Lambda have restored my hope in Brotherhood and my faith in Alpha. I stand with you today, Brothers because of your welcoming attitude, your professional demeanor, your aptitude for excellence, and your commitment to Brotherhood. I thank you and I thank God for answering my prayers. A tearful 06 to each of you. We are **BR0THER6!**

HERO BROFILE



Brother Stuart Scott of ESPN is fighting cancer. He has endured much and calls his footlong scar on his abdomen, where he has been operated on 3 times, "A sign of life." This Brother is "Ice cold!"

*58 infusions of chemotherapy

*Countless drugs

*High profile anchor

*48 years young

*Initiated Fall 1984-UNC

*Mixed Martial Artist

*Cool as the other side of the pillow

*Cancer Survivor

*A True Alpha

THE INAUGURAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (YLDI)

BY BROTHER DUANE J. EDWARDS

To The Youth Who March Onward And Upward Towards The Light..." Those of us in Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., are well aware of the meaning of this dedication in our beloved history book. As the youth of today make their way onward and upward, it is the responsibility of the men of Alpha Phi Alpha to guide them to that light of hope, as they sojourn toward their goals.

The Brothers of Pi Upsilon Lambda, in conjunction with the Alpha Phi Alpha Pi Upsilon Lambda Charitable Foundation (APAPULCF), has taken action in guiding our African American young men. The Youth Leadership Development Institute was developed to address and prepare middle school-aged young men for the future. This 8 week program focuses on issues concerning effective communication, conflict resolution, critical thinking, etiquette, and other topics germane to their growth and development.

This year's inaugural class of 17 young men from grades 7 and 8 was housed at Dwight D. Eisenhower Middle School, located in Laurel, Maryland. Working with these young men has truly been a joy. They are sharp, eager to learn, and full of energy. One of the highlights for this year's program was a visit from former Washington Redskins Defensive End Darryl Tapp. The young men were able to listen to what it's like to play a professional sport and understand the great steps it takes to get to that level of competition. Mr. Tapp was very open to the many questions asked by our students.

On Sunday, April 13, 2014, the young men in the inaugural class of YLDI, will be honored at the Black and Gold Scholarship Dinner. For more information about the YLDI program and the Black and Gold Scholarship Dinner you may visit the APAPULCF web site at www.apapulcf.org

Brothers, I implore you to become a vital part of the YLDI initiative as we continue the molding and shaping of our future leaders.

HAPPY ALPHAVERSARY TO THE

FURIOUS FIVE



8 YEAR OF ALPHA

HAPPINESS



- Bro. Dr. Keith Miller - March 2
- Bro. James Massey, Jr. - March 8
- Bro. Marvin Richardson - March 10
- Bro. Keith Battle - March 12
- Bro. Wade Woolfolk - March 16
- Bro. Christopher Moore - March 16
- Bro. Anthony McIntosh - March 19
- Bro. Anthony Barnes - March 20
- Bro. Antoine Barnes - March 20
- Bro. Dr. Robert Patterson - March 29
- Bro. Kim Tolbert - April 4
- Bro. Dr. Zollie Stevenson, Jr. - April 6
- Bro. W. Michael McCoy - April 7
- Bro. Ronald Williams, Sr. - April 11
- Bro. Dr. Michangelo Scruggs - April 18
- Bro. Rev. Jerome Tarver - April 26
- Bro. Rasheen E. Smith - May 3
- Bro. Fredrick Truitt - May 5
- Bro. Arthur Cutler, II - May 16
- Bro. Rev. John Waymann, Jr. - May 20
- Bro. Eric Norman - May 21

POLITICS & GOVERNMENT

BY BROTHER MICHAEL MCCOY

“A VOTELESS PEOPLE IS A HOPELESS PEOPLE”

“I want this **fraternity** to stand out in the affairs of the nation. We must **fight** till hell freezes over and then **fight on the ice.**” – Jewel Vertner Woodson Tandy, December 1937

Before recessing for the summer 2013, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) issued their highly anticipated decision in the case of Shelby County v. Holder. The decision addressed the constitutionality of the following two provisions within the Voting Rights Act of 1965: 1) Section 5 - which requires certain states and local governments to obtain federal pre-clearance before implementing any changes to their voting laws or practices, and 2) Section 4 - which contained the coverage formula determining which jurisdictions are subject to pre-clearance based on their histories of voting discrimination. In the original version of the Voting Rights Act, Section 4 applied to nine states (Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia) and scores of counties and municipalities in other states containing large Black, Latino, and Asian populations.

By a 5-4 vote, the SCOTUS ruled Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act unconstitutional because the coverage formula used to ascertain voting discrimination is based upon data from 40 years ago. The Court determined the current formula is no longer responsive to current voting needs. Furthermore, the Court's ruling indicates the current formula coverage will no longer be used to subject jurisdictions to the pre-clearance component outlined in Section 5, unless the U.S. Congress formulates and implements a new coverage formula.

The SCOTUS decision showed the ideological split amongst the justices highlighting a core disagreement of whether racial minorities continue to face obstacles to voting in states with a history of voting discrimination. “Our country has changed,” wrote Chief Justice John Roberts, Jr., for the majority decision. “While any racial discrimination in voting is too much, Congress must ensure that the leg-

islation it passes to remedy that problem speaks to current conditions.” The SCOTUS ruling frees the states and jurisdictions impacted by Section 4 from federal oversight (as outlined in Section 5) by allowing them to make changes in their election laws. The state of Texas and others wasted no time in making changes to its election laws upon hearing the Court’s ruling.

In her dissent from the bench, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg cited the words of Brother Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., by observing his legacy and the nation’s commitment to justice have been “disserved by [the Court’s] decision.”

Ginsberg went on to say the focus of the Voting Rights Act had properly changed from “first-generation barriers to ballot access” to “second-generation barriers” like racial gerrymandering and laws requiring at-large voting in places with a sizable Black minority. She said the law had been effective in thwarting these efforts.

It was amidst this backdrop that the 34th General President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Brother Mark Tillman, issued a call to assembled Alpha Brothers at the 92nd General Convention in Austin, Texas, by urging them to “**Fight on the Ice.**” Along with both the Public Policy and Racial Justice Committees, the General President charged the Voteless People Is A Hopeless People (VPHP) Committee with developing and articulating the issues and concerns facing the African-American community by establishing a framework which will allow Alpha’s College and Alumni Chapters to “**Fight on the Ice.**”

Since the Austin convention, the VPHP Committee, led by chair Brother Steven Jones, of Delta Psi Lambda Chapter (Denver, CO), has drafted an action plan designed to engage every Brother and Chapter within the Fraternity to ensure we do our part in upcoming local, state, and national elections. The core elements of the VPHP plan are to 1) ensure all Alpha Brothers are registered to vote before registering others to vote within our respective communities, 2) generating community awareness concerning changes in voting laws and 3) revising the A Voteless People Is A Hopeless People Implementation Guide.

The Committee has formally met to address voter registration and education strategies in the upcoming election cycles between now and 2016. A key focus of the VPHP Committee is to address the historically low voter turn-out during the mid-term election period as well as the looming national election cycles set to occur in 2014 (mid-term) and 2016 (presidential).

As members of the Pi Upsilon Lambda Chapter of the Fraternity, we want to make sure we do our part. We not only want to register potential new voters in

the communities where we live, but we want to make sure we educate our communities on the issues and policy positions of our elected officials in order to hold them accountable, since their decisions impact our lives.

In the upcoming months, the Chapter is taking the lead in sponsoring forums for elective office candidates at both the county and state level to ensure community residents make responsible choices by engaging the candidates to outline their individual vision of leadership for the community. This is our responsibility as citizens who take voter education and action seriously especially if it comes down to "fighting on the ice."



This is how Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. fights on the ice by registering citizens to vote and educating them on the pertinent issues impacting the communities in which they live.



Bro. Dr. John Harkless - May 22

Bro. Carlos Pettigrew - May 22

Bro. Hasan N. Majied - May 27

Bro. Keith Holloway - May 31

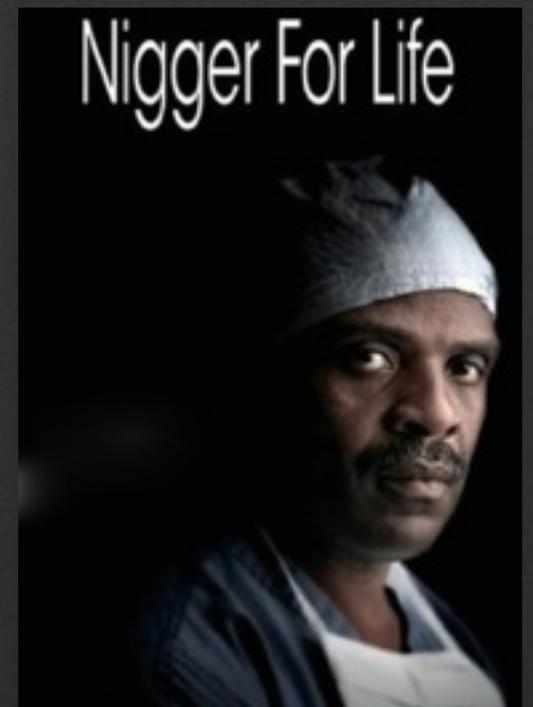


THERE IS NO

"N-word"

IN ALPHA PHI ALPHA

BY BROTHER MICHAEL NELSON



Commissioner Roger Goodell is attempting to ban the N-word in the National Football League. Incredulously, there are some that object to this action. Mr. Michael Wilbon, an African-American commentator for ESPN, is one that objects.

Mr. Wilbon said, "It is not defaming in the context in which I and many others use it every day...I use it every day with somebody else who uses it". I hope that he was not referring to his beautiful wife Sheryl; can you imagine at the family dinner table, "Hey N-word, could you pass me the peas please?" How ridiculous!

I assume that Mr. Wilbon is a millionaire, intelligent, and someone to be emulated. Tragically, he ignores the fact that the N-word was born out of our ancestors pain and suffering. So why is there no N-word uttered in the Alpha Phi Alpha-nation? Think critically, but the answer is born in our fabric and championed by our Jewels.

Mr. Wilbon is a reporter and commentator of, mainly, pro basketball and pro football. He reports on games that transform grown men into boys; he identifies with their behavior, even to the point of defending their toxic language. The members of the Alpha-nation, on the other hand, are actively involved in a serious game of life that transforms young boys into men. Where we are taking them, there is no N-word in their future because it diametrically opposes our mission. We will not spew that word all over our character.

Mr. Wilbon and others are attempting to make the N-word a part of our culture...a term of endearment, a commercial commodity to be sold in the lyrics of Hip-hop tunes or in a comic's routine on stage. Let's not get this twisted. When the N-word is uttered, it signals that the minstrel show has begun. It conjures up the worst images of the character, "Stepin Fetchit." It puts "Blackface" on the conversation. When uttered, that word denotes a slave mentality; used by racist of every color, and sadly, it is, more than likely, the last word that a Black man hears before being lynched. Most horrible, it is the last word that one Black man may hear before being shot by another Black man.

There is no N-word in Alpha Phi Alpha. We endear our heritage. We love our ancestors. We stand on the shoulders of countless heroes. We simply know better. Sitting in business meetings, conversing and socializing with Brothers from all professions, I have never once heard the N-word uttered within our council. Our heritage and legacy, our respect for one another, and the work at hand, precludes us from partaking in such destructive language.



HAPPY ALPHAVERSARY

TO TWO OF OUR PUL DIAMONDS:

BRO. ALEX BAILEY - 41 YEARS - APRIL 14TH

BRO. PAUL BROWN - 28 YEARS - APRIL 16TH

THE FEW, THE PROUD, THE FROZEN!!!

NEO-Natal:

Nurturing of Alphas

12 YEARS AN ASPIRANT –

MY JOURNEY TO ALPHA

BY BROTHER JOHNNY BROOKS, II



It all started on a warm April night back in 1995. I was attending my cousin's, and now Brother, Jumanne Bradford's beautillion sponsored by the Mu Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. From the waltz to the stepping, the display of class, prestige, and brotherhood let me know right there that this was the organization I wanted to be a part of. Each one of these gentlemen, I could see a smidge of myself in; I could identify with them. That Sunday in April made me realize I wanted to be a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. This declaration would place me on a journey that would span 12 years.

Now this journey would not be an easy one. Every time I thought it was, life had other plans; plans that spanned from family tragedy to constant disappointments. At times, doubt would set in and I would ask myself if this path of to join this organization was really meant for me. But each time they would come, I was reminded of a question that was asked by Bro. Denny Johnson, "Is it in your heart?" I also remembered poems that spoke defying fate, being the master of that fate, and trusting yourself when all men doubt you. And from there every struggle only moved me to go harder and show the Brothers who I really am.

My efforts would not be in vain for on March 16, 2014, at 4:22 pm, I was welcomed into the House of Alpha #652. You couldn't pay me to stop smiling that day. I was overjoyed that my journey to Alpha was finally complete. My experience has been all that I thought it would be and more. Just growing up with a sister and now to have



Saturday, April 26, 2014

thousands of brothers is one of the greatest feelings in the world. I've had the pleasure of meeting and sharing my goals and aspirations from all walks of life. I've experienced brotherhood like no other especially just recently with the passing of my aunt. The love shown by the brothers of PUL just proved that "the decision I made was wise, of this I'm sure and have no doubt".

I'd like to thank all of the brothers of PUL for guiding me in this journey, especially my sponsor Bro. Scruggs, my dean Bro. Hines aka El Jefe Friiiiio...lol, Bro. Malone (breaks into two step), Bro. Denny Johnson for the motivation, and last but not least Bro. Bradford whose walk I've been following since I was 15 and now to call you my brother in addition to cousin is a great thing.

Now that I am a brother of the oldest and COLDEST fraternity on the planet, I know that things happened the way they

did for a reason; it wasn't happenstance. Each obstacle only strengthened me to become a Man worthy of being called a man of Alpha. This journey to Alpha, to quote CeCe Winans, "Wasn't easy, but it was worth it".

06!



NEOs: Adams, Montgomery, Powell, and Brooks

THE DEAN'S LIST

BY BROTHER
CHARLES HINES JR.,

IMDP EXPERIENCE 2014



Hello, Brothers of Pi Upsilon Lambda Chapter. As the Chapter Dean, it gives me great pleasure to submit this article this month to share with you some insights and experiences of the Spring 2014 IMDP Cluster. As you are aware, our Chapter crossed four enthusiastic, energetic, and eager young Brothers into our illustrious and beloved Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., by way of our awesome Pi Upsilon Lambda Chapter. Brothers, if you attended any portion of the three week IMDP General Sessions you can attest, as I can, to the myriad of emotions, experiences, "wow" moments, and most of all the "teachable moments" to the entire Cluster line. Toward the height of the IMDP, several emotions were expressed, as not all the candidates made it completely to the

light of Alpha with 27 crossing out of 34 candidates. Observing reactions, to some it was sheer disbelief, to others a shock, and yet to another the sentiment of "come back next year!" In my first experience as the Chapter Dean of Membership, I can truly say that quite a bond has been established and will remain throughout the Bond of Brotherhood with the gentlemen I now call my "Sons" and yet they are truly my Brothers. I recall the evenings where they were all apprehensive, not knowing how, when, or where it would all come together. yet they persisted to "endeavor to find out" more about the light of Alpha and the men that continue to carry the torch high. Throughout this journey, each of our newly initiated Neophyte Brothers have, in their own special way, demonstrated why they

wanted to be men of Alpha and the “cost” of the letter they wrote in aspiring to be a member of the greatest Fraternity in the world. I am sure they can all share a special moment, a word or two, or an expression that best captures the entire moment of their IMDP experience. For me, it was one word, “possibilities”. The possibility of



these four new Brothers, known as the “4Most Authority,” taking the Aims of our Fraternity and the goals set forth by our Chapter Leadership to a higher bench mark than what is already set. And to this end I say to my Neophyte Brothers Johnny Brooks, Antuan Powell, Johnny Montgomery and Charmone Adams, a quote by Orison Swett Marden “Don’t wait for extraordinary opportunities. Seize common occasions and make them great. Weak men wait for opportunities; strong men make them.”

Again, new Brothers, welcome to the House of Alpha!



SYMPOSIUM HELD ON THE ART OF CAREGIVING

BY BROTHER J. KEITH WILSON
AND
BROTHER WADE A. WOOLFOLK

Taking care of a loved one or a family member is something that can weigh heavily on individuals and families. There are many people who become caregivers and are often caught off guard when it happens. According to the U.S. Administration on Aging, currently in the U.S. there are about 65 million caregivers. Knowing where to start to learn how to be a quality caregiver is a challenge all on its own; and because they are caught off guard, they do not have the time to do the necessary research. Within Pi Upsilon Lambda (PUL), there are some brothers that have personal stories about caregiving and all that it entails. Family caregivers provide an estimated \$450 billion worth of uncompensated care to loved ones annually. Caregiving is truly an undervalued practice.



As a result, PUL decided to design a seminar, under the guidelines of the Fraternity's Brother's Keeper Program, to help the community become more proactive by providing information about quality caregiving. Also supporting this strategy was PUL's PACE Program, the chapter's overarching program for community outreach and social action activities.

Partnering with AARP[®] Maryland, PUL held the Caregivers' Symposium on Saturday, February 8, 2014, at Largo High School, in Largo, MD. A panel of experts, which span from local government to the federal level, embodied the necessary experience needed to address the wide range of questions and information the audience was seeking. Represented were Tammy Bresnahan (AARP[®]), Deborah McBroom (Prince George's County Family Services Division), PUL Bro. Christopher C. Moore (Anne Arundel County Department of Aging), Daniel Evans (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services of U.S. Department Health & Human Services), and

Moderated by PUL's Bro. Paul E. Brown, the event offered information on various topics, such as dealing with family dynamics, assets and estate planning, and evaluating quality care facilities. Over 80 participants in attendance also had the opportunity to interact with the panel during the question and answer period.



Vendors present included assisted living facilities and the State of Maryland Registrar of Wills. At the conclusion of the event, participants had the opportunity to walk around and talk with all of the organizations represented at the symposium, as well as enjoy a Chick-fil-A® lunch, which was sponsored by AARP®.



Overall, participants found the event to be excellent and very informative. One participant was so moved by the information that they vowed to make it a priority to get their affairs in order now. There are plans for the Chapter and AARP® to work collaboratively in the future. Further, PUL has been asked to conduct additional workshops on caregiving for some local organizations.