

#### "Friendship Is Essential To The Soul"

#### May, 2023

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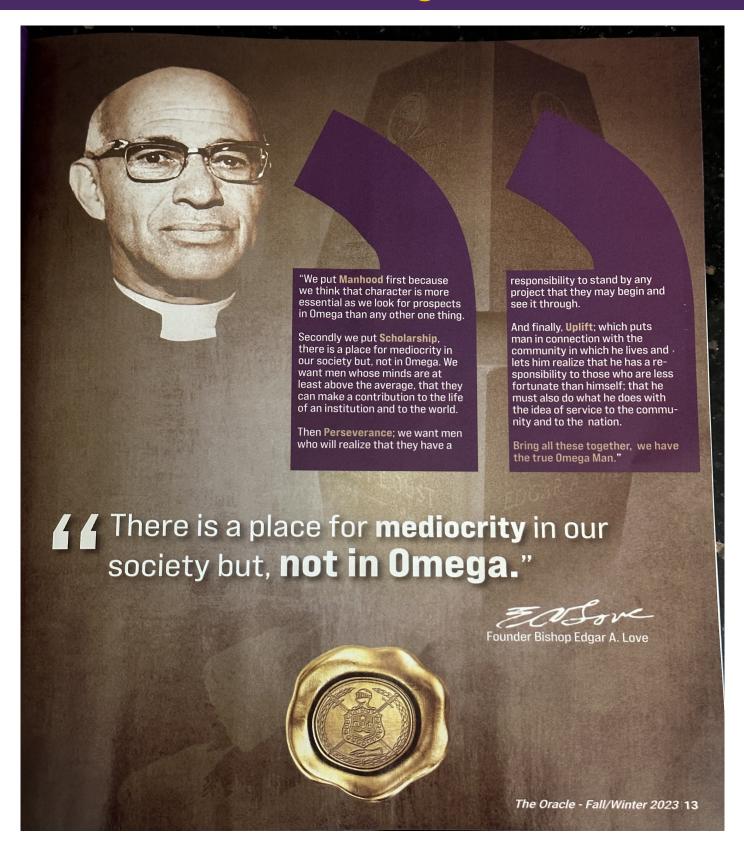
Bro. Adrian Thibodeaux

Basileus





# "Lest We Forget...."



#### **Jazz Festival Fundraiser**

April 28-30—May 4-7— Rho Phi Chapter and non chapter brothers along with selected volunteers participated in the chapter's annual Jazz Festival fundraiser. The chapter has partnered with the New Orleans Jazz Festival Foundation to collect tickets at the entrances for more than 20 years. Net proceeds from the event is used to support the chapter's scholarships, fraternal and community projects. Note: More pictures can be viewed on the chapter's website: https://rhophi.org./2023-photos









# Fellowship with Bro. Wondell Smith Sr.

May 22, 2023— Rho Phi along with other Omega brothers visited with Bro. Wondell Smith Sr. and his family for prayer, brotherly Love, fellowship and support before his medical procedure is performed. F.I.E.T.T.S.



#### Rho Phi Article in Fall, 2023 Oracle Magazine

May 01, 2023— Rho Phi Chapter's 2022 Real Men Read program was featured in the Fall 2023 Oracle Magazine. The article was submitted to the Ninth District for consideration to be included in an upcoming Ninth District Newsletter. A few weeks later, the Ninth District Director of Public Relations, Bro. Na'Shon Edwards informed the chapter that the article would be sent to International Headquarters for inclusion into the upcoming Oracle magazine. This is the third time that Rho Phi chapter events have been featured in the fraternity's Oracle magazine.

#### **Real Men Read Program:** Promoting the Importance of Reading

Brother Keith Taylor | New Orleans, LA

Reading is an essential skill that opens up a world of opportunities for children. It is crucial to instill a love of reading in young learners, as it not only helps develop their literacy skills but also enhances their imagination and creativity. Understanding the significance of reading, the Rho Phi Chapter and the Omega Men Foundation have been organizing their annual Real Men Read Program for the past 14 years, which emphasizes the importance of reading to students in grades kindergarten, first, and second.

This year's Real Men Read Program was held at the Mary M. Bethune Elementary School of Technology and Literature where the brothers read books to the students, focusing on the significance of reading in their lives. The program aimed to motivate students to develop a love for books and encourage them to become lifelong readers., and has also helped promote literacy in partner schools in the New Orleans area, where Rho Phi Chapter has been organizing the event.



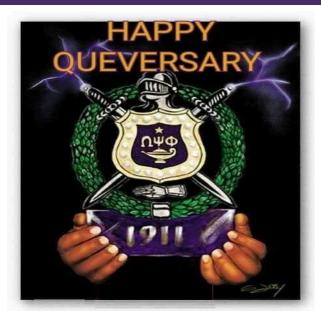
Real Men Read Program continued...

Moreover, the Omega Men Foundation, through a grant from the Enterg Corporation, presented the Mary M. Bethune Elementary School of Technology and Literature with a check of \$500 to purchase books for their library. This donation will help the school expand its collection of books, making reading more accessible to its students. With their unwavering commitment to education, the Rho Phi Chapter and the Omega Men Foundation have set an excellent example for other organizations to follow.

# **Initiation Anniversary**

Congratulations to the following Rho Phi chapter brothers on the anniversary of their initiation into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in May.

Bro. Charles Brown	Gamma Gamma	May 03, 1963
Bro. James Wallace	Psi	May 04, 1956
Bro. Lloyd Villavaso	Theta Sigma	May 06, 1966
Bro. Darrin Browder	Lambda Kappa Kappa	May 06, 2000
Bro. Marion Floyd	Theta Kappa	May 08, 1976
Bro. Emile Clay, Jr.	Rho Phi	May 11, 1962
Bro. Jay H. Banks	Rho Phi	May 11, 1982
Bro. Steven Crandle	Rho Phi	May 11, 1982
Bro. Joseph M. Hicks, Jr.	Rho Phi	May 13, 1977
Bro. Keith Taylor, Sr.	Rho Phi	May 13, 1977
Bro. James Chavis, Jr.	Gamma Delta	May 16, 1998



### Youth Basketball Camp





Randolph Davis of Alfred Lawless Sr High and Grambling St University

# SECOND ANNUAL

# CONQUERING DREAMS



**Eldridge Recasner** of Alfred Lawless Sr High, the University of Washington and the NBA

#### YOUTH BASKETBALL CAMP

Presented by Randolph "Rudy" Davis and Eldridge Recasner

9AM-4PM | SATURDAY, JULY 1, 2023 | BOYS & GIRLS | AGES 8-17

ANDREW P. SANCHEZ MULTI-SERVICE CENTER 1616 FATS DOMINO AVENUE - NEW ORLEANS, LA 70117

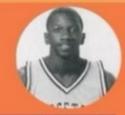
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of Alfred Lawless Sr High, the University of Washington and the NBA



of East Jefferson High



Focus will be on teaching the FUNdamentals of Basketball and there will also be Breakout Sessions focusing on Financial Literacy presented by Hancock Whitney Bank and a session on

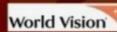
community and police together conducted by NOPD.

Also appearance by City Councilman Oliver Thomas.

The campers will receive a Subway Box Lunch, a Jr NBA T-Shirt and World Vision Back Pack. REGISTER NOW at www.eldridgerecasner.net to the flyer or CONTACT US at EldridgeRecasner9@gmail.com.

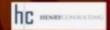
FREE CAMP SPONSORED BY:

Scan Here to Register!











# Sons of Mayhem Step Show

May 27, 2023— Rho Phi Chapter's 2023 Line "The Sons of Mayhem" held their Step Show at the Crescent City Clubhouse. This is the first time that Rho Phi has hosted a "Step show" at the clubhouse and everyone in attendance truly enjoyed themselves. Note: more pictures can be viewed on the chapter's website: <a href="https://rhophi.org/photos/2023-photos.">https://rhophi.org/photos/2023-photos.</a> The "Sons of Mayhem" are: Bros.: Melvin Hunter Sr., Wondell Smith Jr., Ted Nelson, Brandon Avery, Harold Montgomery Jr., Vincent Lewis, Vernon Hayes and Devin Andrew.









#### **Ninth District News**

#### The Power of Retention—DKRS



Greetings, Brothers and Fellow KRS,

I am writing to discuss a topic of utmost importance to our fraternity today: member retention. As we all know, our fraternity is only as strong as its members. Therefore, we must do everything we can to retain and keep our current brothers engaged and active within our organization.

There are several reasons why member retention is so necessary. For one, it helps to ensure the stability and sustainability of our fraternity. When we have a core group of committed members dedicated to our cause, we are better equipped to weather any challenges or changes that may come our way.

In addition, member retention is essential for our fraternity's overall culture and atmosphere. A group of brothers who are passionate about our fraternity and its mission creates a sense of camaraderie and solidarity essential to our success.

So how can we work together to improve member retention within our fraternity? Here are a few ideas:

Encourage members to take on leadership roles within the fraternity, which can help them feel more invested and connected to the organization.

Plan regular social events and activities that allow members to bond and build relationships with one another.

Provide opportunities for members to give back to the community through service projects and volunteer work.

Solicit feedback from members on how to improve the fraternity and make it more engaging and fulfilling for everyone involved.

Send out invoices to the body two months before the fiscal year ends to maintain membership.

Remember, The value of our Fraternity is not in Members but in Men. Brothers, you are the eight chosen to be a part of this Awesome Fraternity.

Food for thought. Bro AB



## **Virtual Fathers Day Program**



#### **CONTACT US**

For more information on Rho Phi Chapter send an email to:

Bro. Keith Taylor/Chapter Reporter: reporter@rhophi.org

Visit us on the web:

https://rhophi.org

Or the chapter's social media sites:

Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/rhophinola">https://www.facebook.com/rhophinola</a>

Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/RhoPhiOPP">https://twitter.com/RhoPhiOPP</a>

Instagram: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/rhophiomegas">https://www.instagram.com/rhophiomegas</a>