

January 2018



Our cause speeds on its way
Quarterly Report



Editor: Brandon Metoyer, Director of Communications and Technology

President's Message

I entered Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity four years ago at the alumni level through this Chapter. Omicron Alpha Sigma (OAS) Chapter appealed to me because it was a small Chapter and there was room for new ideas. When I entered the chapter, the opportunity to bring my skills and experiences to this new group was welcomed and the appointment of a leadership role soon followed. For the past three years, I acted as Social Action Director and now elected Chapter President to serve over a great group of men that I am proud to call "My Brothers." Thank you!

We have done so much in a short amount of time to grow this wonderful Chapter and to elevate its name in the community that we belong. We have provided quality community service activities, innovative fundraising projects and increased our membership. I feel extremely fortunate to be a part of this success. I've stated that "OAS is a small Chapter that is making a very big IMPACT in the south suburbs."

As we move into the next two years under this administration, I assert that "I am more confident that our Chapter will lead within this great Fraternity, grounded in our service." Past President stated "The common thread that connects us to our Founders now, is service." It is our fraternity's motto, "Culture For Service and Service For Humanity." Founder A. Langston Taylor put service first and that is what we as a chapter have to uphold.

This administration will look for new and innovative ways to work with our local schools, universities and business partners to broaden Sigma's impact in our community. I am encouraging and challenging our members to push to new limits and "take the leap" to do things differently and to "think outside the box." This example starts with the leadership team. During this administration, I see our responsibility as a Chapter to invest in our Sigma Beta Club members and to establish programming geared towards mentoring, leadership qualities and to insure that our young men coming out of high school have a chance to go to college, be successful in the workforce and become responsible adults. We can provide that leadership to them!

I am invested in growing our membership through Membership Reactivation and our Intake Process. I am committed to a selective Intake Process. Our success is based on the depth of commitment, vision and confidence of our members. We therefore have to seek men who will promote and extend the policies and programs of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity. This goal is accomplished through having a quality Intake Process that teaches prospective members Sigma's history and prepares them for the work that lies ahead as Sigma Men.

The late Brother, Dr. George Washington Carver stated, "When you can do the common things in life in an uncommon way, you will command the attention of the world." As OAS' new Chapter President, my final thought is "World, watch out!" God Bless This Chapter, God Bless Its Members, and God Bless This Great Fraternity of Phi Beta Sigma.

Fraternally yours,
Brother, Dr. Milton Armston, Jr.

Final Reflections of the Immediate Past President, Malcolm McCoy

Greetings Brothers!

As we continue to work to create an environment that respects the dignity and worth of each member in the chapter, let me take this time to say thank you, for allowing me the opportunity to serve as the President of Omicron Alpha Sigma Chapter, during the past 2 years. I want to especially thank the brothers who served on the Executive Board and Directors over the various Programs.

As I reflect on the past years I have asked myself several questions, "Are we heading in the right direction as a chapter? Are we making a difference in the community and are we better off now as chapter than previously." Yes, as a chapter we are moving in the right direction. We have increased membership, improved our relationships with each other, developed partnerships with other community organizations, American Cancer Society, March of Dimes, and partnered with Governor State University with the "Lets Talk about Sex" workshop. We have given away trunk Scholarships to students of the 227 School District, provided book bags and school supplies to students at Medgar Evans Elementary School. Brothers, we should feel proud of the work we've done to advance the agenda of our chapter. We have worked hard to elevate our presence in the community and in Sigma. We have created a Unity of Purpose that has brought us together to impact the community. The one thing that I'm most proud of my time spent as Chapter President is that we developed true friendships and brotherhood.

As I close, brothers please remember that the new administration requires your commitment and dedication to execute all Chapter Programs and events so that we may bring quality services to the community we serve. Each of us must do our best to contribute to the success of the National Programs and Projects of the Fraternity and Chapter.

Once again thank you again for giving me this opportunity to serve. I know our chapter has had its share of ups and downs, but I don't have any regrets. May God continue to watch over us and guide us as we do the work of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

Fraternally Submitted,
Brother Malcolm McCoy

Community Highlights

Founder's Day Celebration



On Tuesday, January 9, 2018 Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. an International Black Greek Letter Organization was founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington DC. The Fraternity celebrated its 104th year anniversary. Members of Omicron Alpha Sigma Chapter met at Hay Street Bar & Grill in Matteson, IL, a Black owned establishment. Guests from all over the greater Chicago and south suburban areas came out to recognize our Founder's Day. Dr. Milton Armston commented, "Gathering together on Founder's Day is wonderful. It is also a time to reflect on our three Founders (A. Langston Taylor, Charles I. Brown, and Leonard F. Morse) and the commitment they shared to form this great Fraternity, Phi Beta Sigma." "The food was great and the fellowship amongst brothers was definitely a memorable experience" said one of the members. Omicron Alpha Sigma chapter has a lot of great things on the calendar for this upcoming year and Tuesday, January 9th was just the beginning. –By Kenneth Caldwell

Omicron Alpha Sigma Chapter Put Smiles on Families' Faces for Christmas



Omicron Alpha Sigma (OAS) Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. was chartered in 2009 in Matteson, Illinois. Since then, the Chapter has helped families who struggle to provide Christmas for their children. On Saturday, December 9th OAS met with those families to deliver Christmas early.

For many struggling families, the holiday season may be a time of stress. "In these families, the lack of money, even for basic necessities, can cause anxiety and depression" says Dr. Milton Armston, Jr. Omicron Alpha Sigma Chapter's members are very excited and enjoy helping the families they provide assistance to. "There is nothing like seeing the joy on the faces of the families we help" a sentiment shared by the members who were present on Saturday. The names of the families are given by Little Hearts Learning Academy, Inc. a childcare agency in Homewood.

Omicron Alpha Sigma Chapter has been helping families who experience financial hardships and this past August the Chapter held an event, "Christmas in August" to raise money for families in the community. Little Hearts Learning Academy supported the event. On December 9, the Chapter presented gift cards for toys and clothes, food vouchers and checks for rent assistance to three families in the south suburbs.

Omicron Alpha Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. is a Greek Letter service organization whose motto is "Culture For Service and Service For Humanity." The chapter gives back to the community to which it belongs not only at Christmas but throughout the year.

"In reaching out to help families needing support for Christmas, something wonderful happens," said Dr. Armston. "Helping to lessen some of the stress from the holiday for these families is a good feeling." -By Dr. Milton Armston, Jr.



Omicron Alpha Sigma Chapter Bags Highway Trash Pollution

The members of Omicron Alpha Sigma (OAS) Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. took to the streets this past weekend, Saturday, December 2 to clean up trash and debris along their 2 mile stretch of Highway on Cicero Avenue from Lincoln Highway to Vollmer Road in Matteson, Illinois. The Illinois Adopt-A-Highway (AAH) program began in 1995 through the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). The Adopt-A-Highway program brings citizen volunteers into partnerships with IDOT to pick up trash and keep the community's roadsides clean. The program also educates and encourages people to stop littering. Since 2013, Omicron Alpha Sigma Chapter has committed to this service project twice a year. During the roadside cleanup, OAS collected and filled over 25 bags of trash. "The project provides the chapter with visibility to the community in which it serves" says Malcolm McCoy, Chapter President. Additionally, the cleanup initiative allows the membership an opportunity to fellowship among themselves and with people in the community who recognize their efforts to control pollution. Omicron Alpha Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. is an Alumni Greek Letter service organization that was chartered in 2009 in Matteson, Illinois. –By Malcolm McCoy

Education and Sigma Beta Club

Forging A New Partnership at Crete Monee High School and Sigma Beta Club



On January 10, 2018, newly elected OAS Chapter President, Dr. Milton Armston, Jr. along with Brothers Edward “Dino” Ivory and Mark Gamble met with Crete Monee high school Principal Ms. Marjorie Triche and her administrative team. The meeting was called to discuss the possibility of the Chapter adopting the high school and establish on its campus a Male Youth Mentoring Program, Sigma Beta Club. Both sides presented constructive and positive ways in which the Mentoring Program could be implemented. It is the wish of Ms. Triche that OAS would possibly work with 40 male students, 10 young men from each class. On January 13, 2017, at the monthly OAS Chapter meeting, the proposal from the meeting was presented to the Brothers of OAS. A positive vote to work with the male students of Crete Monee was passed. Our next step is to work with the Administrative team of Crete Monee to coordinate a Meet and Greet with the Brothers of OAS and the male students of the high school in February. The outcome that both parties anticipate is that an impactful Mentoring Program will develop from this positive mentor-mentee relationships. –By Mark Gamble

Membership

Omicron Alpha Sigma Chapter 2017 New Initiates



2017 Line, C.H.A.O.S.S. are the newest members of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated in the Omicron Alpha Sigma Chapter. The initiates are: Quentin Jefferson, a graduate of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, living in Flossmoor, IL; Carlos Smith, a graduate of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, living in Matteson, IL; Frederick Matthews, attending University of Phoenix, living in Oak Park, IL; Brandon Metoyer, a graduate of Eastern Illinois University currently living in Lansing, IL; and Mark Gamble, a graduate of Trinity Christian College, currently living in Chicago, IL. The group assert that they all waited various amounts of time before starting the process to get to where they are today. Once the opportunity came to become members of Phi Beta Sigma, “we did not hesitate to express our interest.” They state that “Without a single doubt, we all knew that this was the right path to go down and that we would have to make small personal adjustments in our lives before we would be given the privilege to uphold the name of Sigma.”

In respect to our personal experiences of the intake process, “it was something that changed our outlooks on life.” One thing that we learned the most from the process besides deference and humility was resiliency. Throughout our entire process, we all faced personal losses and life challenges that many probably would not have been able to endure while going through MIP. Each of our situations had emotional consequences but we learned to rely on each other, complete strangers. We shared each another’s strengths during our “lows” as we persevered to become members of Phi Beta Sigma.

After December 9th, 2017 our lives changed for the better. We officially became members of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and was welcomed into Omicron Alpha Sigma Chapter. We are committed to the Chapter’s mission of service to the community and will be active in implementing Chapter Initiatives. Four of us will serve on the Chapter’s new Executive Board. –By Brandon Metoyer and Quentin Jefferson

2018 Chapter Membership Dues



**Brothers of Omicron Alpha Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta
Sigma Fraternity, Inc. BEGINNING January 29th You
Will Be Able To Submit Your 2018 Chapter
Membership Dues Through the Chapter Website. It's
Quick and Easy!**

**If you need assistance submitting your payment,
please contact the membership chairperson at
mmccoy65@yahoo.com.**

Upcoming Events



Heart Health Awareness Fair

Cost
Free and Open to the Public
Location
Hall of Governors
Date/Time
Thursday, Feb. 22, 2018
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Co-sponsored by the
Omicron Alpha Sigma Chapter of
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.



Come learn about health education and screening questions to assess disease risk.



EVENT ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

- BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS
- BENEFIT ENROLLMENT
 - FLU VACCINES
 - CHAIR MASSAGES
- MEDICATION EDUCATION
 - GIVE-AWAYS
 - RAFFLE

PHI BETA SIGMA FRATERNITY INC.

Omicron Alpha Sigma Chapter

Presents

"Up in smoke III"

Cigars & Macallan Scotch Saturday

March 3, 2018

7:00pm - 11:00pm

Iwan Ries & Co.

19 S. Wabash Ave.

Chicago, IL. 60603

Purchase via PayPal: pbsoas@gmail.com

Includes: Food, Cigars & unlimited pours of scotch

Participate in the
Silent Auction

Tickets \$65.00





Birthdays

Brother Anton Taylor

Brother Donovan Lewis

Brother Mark Gamble

Brother Larry Hoy

Accomplishments

Brother Larry Hoy, Retirement from Law Enforcement

Illnesses

Brother Michael Plunkett

Brother Jamie Freeman

Brother Carlton Jackson

Job Postings

Please Submit!

Sponsorship

Looking for Sponsors. \$200 sponsorship includes (ad in newsletter, website and other social media for 1 year and opportunity to give 25 min presentation to chapter members during a chapter meeting). Your \$200 goes to support OAS Charitable Foundation.

Brothers, please submit positing to Bro. Brandon Metoyer at by the second Monday of each month.