



The Shield Contributing Staff

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The Shield, 1st edition

By Raymond Hudson

The Theta Tau Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated is proud to launch its first official chapter newsletter of 2008! The mission of this newsletter is to inform and enlighten, while enhancing communication and unity among the brothers of Sigma. Such topics and features shall include Chapter & Local issues and announcements, National Sigma updates, World News, Health articles, Entertainment, and much more! This newsletter is not only an information tool for brothers, but it also serves as a marketable and impressionable representation of the excellence, distinguished talent, and exceptional intellect of our noble fraternity and chapter. February is nationally recognized as Black History Month, when we celebrate the notable achievements made by African-Americans in our society. In this first quarter issue, we are proud to recognize just some of the many promi-

nent members of Sigma that have changed and shaped our nation and culture for the progression of mankind. We sincerely hope that you find this newsletter both interesting and valuable as there are many wonderful features and publications forthcoming.

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*"Our cause speeds
on its way"*

January	February	March
April	May	June
July	August	September
October	November	December

OTΣ Events Calendar

*January is Founder's Day
Month*

*February is
Black History Month*

*March is
Women History Month*

*Regularly Scheduled
Chapter Meeting*

*Eastern Regional Confer-
ence Registration*



ΦΒΣ Founders

- A. Langston Taylor
- Leonard F. Morse
- Charles I. Brown

Sigma Men in Black History

By Bro. Antione Mercer

People who learn from discouraging times and end up advancing are those people we need to look to for inspiration. Herman Williams Jr., born in Harlem, NY in 1931, overcame struggles of many kinds to pave the way for African American firefighters today. Williams was one of the first African American firefighters in the city of Baltimore, MD. However, he did not settle for just that. Composed, he pressed pass cruel acts, slurs and being ignored by his co-workers to become the first African American fire chief in a major U.S. city. As fire chief, he raised the awareness of fire safety in the community.

In 1999, he succeeded in reducing the numbers of fires in

Baltimore by half. In 2003, Williams became the first African American to have a firehouse renamed in his honor in Baltimore. Williams participated in the development of, Vulcan Blazers, the first association of African American firefighters. Williams is married to his high school sweetheart.

He is not only an inspiration to us but also to his four successful children: Clolita, Marjorie, Herman and television talk show host, Montel Williams.

Williams is a member of the Zeta Sigma Chapter in Baltimore, MD; where he actively participates and resides.



SIGMA TRAILBLAZERS



Brothers Achieving Excellence

Brothers In The News by Bro. Mark Kidd

Former Chapter Member on Marine Promotion List for Major

Bro. Roberto Ibarra is currently an active member of the alumni chapter at Camp Lejeune, NC. is on the U.S. Marines' list of officers to be promoted to Major. Bro. Ibarra recently return from a tour of duty in Iraq where he was greeted by a host of military Blue & White family members. After Iraq, he returned to Japan and moved his wife and two children to North Carolina. Bro. Ibarra was initiated into the Fraternity through $\Theta\Sigma$ Chapter.

Collegiate Chapter Tops in Academics at GMU

The brothers at George Mason University (Rho Tau Chapter) earned the honor of having the highest GPA among all greeks on campus when fall grade reports were presented to the Greek Advisors recently. Overall the brothers obtained a chapter cumulative GPA of 3.39/4.00. Brothers Wail Abbo, Terrell Smith and Brandon Thompson all made the Dean's List with grade point averages above 3.50/4.00 while becoming members during the fall membership intake. Kudos to the entire chapter.

Bro. Rey Speaks

Bro. Christea Rey, Southeastern Regional Director and first year law student at The College of William and Mary will be one of the principal speakers at the upcoming Black Greek Summit being hosted by Washington & Lee University on March 15th. Bro. Rey's topic of discussion will be leadership and organizational development. He is the CEO and founder of Lead Group, LLC a leadership development consulting and management firm.

Bro. Michael Ferby seeks Eastern Regional VP office.

We are proud to announce that Michael Ferby has placed a bid for the office of Eastern Regional Vice President. Bro. Ferby, a Gold Life Member, is more than qualified for the office. He currently is the Chairman of the PBSFU Credit Committee, President of Club 100, and chapter pres of $\Theta\Sigma$. Bro. Ferby authored many $\Phi\beta\Sigma$ fraternal protocols that are in use today. He co-designed the $\Phi\beta\Sigma$ award pin selected and was responsible for Eastern Regional Newsletter renaming to "Our Cause". Bro. Ferby has also chartered two chapter of $\Phi\beta\Sigma$. Bro. Ferby's platform for the office of Eastern Region VP is 'Membership: Together Finding a Better Way' Elections will be held April 5th, 2008. We wish him good luck!



National News of $\Phi\beta\Sigma$ *Zeta Phi Beta Sorority member makes national history*

by Bro. Lemont Neal

In this quarter we celebrate not only **Black History Month** in February but also **Women's History Month** in March. Women have made great strides in history especially the ladies of Zeta Phi Beta.

Kimberly Nicole Morgan is a singer, educator, and pageant titleholder. Morgan was crowned Miss Mississippi on July 14, 2007 becoming just the second African American woman to win that title in the states history. Morgan was a Top 16 semi-finalist at the

2008 Miss America Pageant.

Soror Morgan overcame obstacles and grew up with a severe hearing disability. She is a graduate of Alcorn State University and a music education major. Soror Morgan was also Miss Alcorn State University 2004-2005.

Morgan's platform as Miss Mississippi is **G.O.T.M.I.L.K.!** (Golden Opportunity Toward Music Increasing Literacy in Kids), a fifty-five minute per week after

-school program of music instructions.

Soror Morgan currently is a high school music teacher at Madison S. Palmer High School in Marks Mississippi.

We congratulate and honor Soror Morgan on making History in our National and in our blue and white family.



Commentary; *The Chapter we all want* by Bro. Kevin Allen

In this metropolitan area, there are many chapters of $\Phi\beta\Sigma$ to choose from. Sometimes we look for chapters that are perfect, but no chapter is perfect. It's all in how you look at situations that make the difference.

There once was a man that pulled into a gas station on the outskirts of town. As he filled his tank, he remarked to the attendant, I've just accepted a job in town. I've never been to

this part of the country. What are the people like here?" "What are the people like where you came from?" The attendant asked. "Not so nice," the man replied. "In fact, they can be quite rude." The attendant shook his head. "Well, I'm afraid you'll find the people in this town to be the same way." Just then another car pulled into the station. "Excuse me," the driver called out. "I'm just moving to this area. Is it nice here?" "Was it nice where you came from?" The attendant asked. "Oh yea! I came from

a great place. The people were friendly, and I hated to leave." Well you find the same to be true of this town. "Thanks!" yelled the driver as he pulled away. "So what is this town really like?" asked the first man, now confused. The attendant just shrugged his shoulders. "It's all a matter of perception. You'll find things to be just the way you think they are."

So let's strive to make our chapter how we would want it to be. With hard work, and perseverance our chapter can be THE model chapter of $\Phi\beta\Sigma$.

Sigma Wellness Corner by Bro. Maurice T. Braxton

During conclave Charlotte 2007, Sigma Wellness, a signature community initiative was adopted to develop pride and commitment in our communities toward healthy living that will reduce the possibilities of health conditions that detrimentally affect those in the hyped communities.

The spike in cases of Type 2 diabetes is overwhelming in our

community. Diabetes happens when your body cannot make or use insulin. Insulin helps to change sugar into energy to keep you alive. There are many types of diabetes, but Type 2 can sometimes be prevented. Type 2 is usually found in people over 45, who have a genetic history, overweight, exercise, and have cholesterol problems. Statistics show that it is most common in racial and ethnic groups, such as blacks, Native Americans, and Latinos. Younger people are

showing an increase in the disease.

Changes in food production and the lack of daily activity, our habits are growing more and more detrimental to our health. To ensure that you are not a candidate for diabetes, eat well balanced meals. The right amount of healthy food will keep your weight under control and prevent you from contracting the disease. Your body needs food from the four main food groups every day and plenty of exercise.

Culture For Service and Service for Humanity

"Our Cause Speeds On its way"

Crossword Puzzle Trivia

Chapter Meetings:

- On the GMU campus
- 2nd Saturday of each month at 12 noon.

WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.THETATAUSIGMA1914.COM



Scenes from the DC Homeless Shelter Community Service Project January 2008

The Shield Message of Inspiration

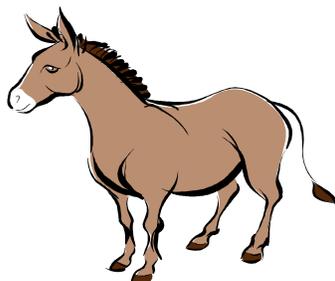
By Kevin Allen

BELIEF IS ALL YOU NEED

A man was lost while driving through the country. As he tried to read a map, he accidentally drove off the road into a ditch. Though he wasn't injured, his car was stuck deep in the mud. So the man walked to a nearby farm to ask for help. "Warwick can get you out of that ditch," said the farmer, pointing to an old mule standing in a field. The man looked at the haggardly mule and looked at the farmer who just stood there repeating, "Yep, old Warwick can do the job." The man figured he had nothing to lose. The two men and Warwick made their way back to the ditch. The farmer hitched the mule to the car. With a snap of the reins he shouted, "Pull, Fred! Pull Jack!

Pull, Ted! Pull Warwick!" And the mule pulled the car from the ditch with very little effort. The man was amazed. He thanked the farmer, patted the mule and asked, "Why did you call out all those other names before you called Warwick?" The farmer grinned and said, "Old Warwick is just about blind. As long as he believes he's part of a team, he doesn't mind pulling".

Moral: We can easily achieve anything if we only believe and work together as a team.



ΦΒΣ National Presidents Search

find the names of the Past and Current Presidents

N O T W E N K C A M O W T T
W D Y O L F S A M O H T E I
O T Y L O G R I F F I N O R
R S T L A S C R U G G S F S
B O A E N M M I T C H E L L
M A Y V M V C A S U T T O N
E W L O A V C O D N O W F O
L K O L E G L M O A W L N S
I R R O A C E S I W E L G N
E T P A D R N R T M R N P H
N H S M L H D E M A I A A O
C G W M O C O I R L N L R J
M I M J L O N U L W M L K R
L R J L R G R I S E A M E E
U W W E S T B E R R Y L R Y

GET TO KNOW YOUR BROTHER!

ΦΒΣ Member Spotlight for 1st Quarter 2008

By Raymond Hudson

The members of SIGMA are a diverse group of men all special and worthy of acknowledgement. This month our spotlight shines on:

Bro. Keith J. Johnson

Bro. Keith Johnson is the Associate Superintendent of Human Resources for Prince William County Public Schools. A native of Powhatan, VA, he received his Bachelors degree from Coppin State College, going on to obtain his Master's degree from Morgan University and has attended the University of Rochester for post graduate schooling. Bro. Johnson is an exceptional role model for our youth. He also serves as chair of the ΦΒΣ Education Symposium.



Sigma Initiation Date:
November 30, 1974

Birth Chapter:
Delta Delta Chapter
Coppin State University

Sigma Insight:
"Every brother is needed and every brother must contribute as a team effort to fulfill the mission, dream, or the vision of Phi Beta Sigma."