

Pulse



Summer & Fall 2024 Edition



The PULse Promoting a Legacy of
Brotherhood, Service and Lasting Impact!

President's Corner

Greetings Brothers,

Welcome to the Summer & Fall 2024 edition of the PULse!

As we begin the first half of the 2024-2025 fraternal year, I am extremely excited about all that we have planned and accomplished so far as a Chapter. We are on our way to fulfilling our theme for this fraternal year, "The PULse Promoting a Legacy of Brotherhood, Service and Lasting Impact."

We started off this fraternal year by supporting one of our long-time community service partners, Lauryn's Law, headed by Ms. Linda Diaz. We successfully participated in a celebrity kickball game to raise funds and awareness for youth mental health in our community. It was a great event covered by NBC4 News, and of course, our team "A Tribe Called Kick" won a thrilling game! We followed up our initial community service event with our annual PUL Summer Retreat at the Ivy Youth and Family Center in Camp Springs, MD. We had a very productive meeting where we were able to conduct business and initiate a healthy discussion on the revised General Constitution & By-Laws that were adopted in July at the Constitutional Convention in Chicago. The Constitutional Convention was a historic event for our dear Fraternity, with spirited debate around some tough topics, and resulted in the successful revision and adoption of governing documents that will guide our organization into the future.

Following the retreat, we co-hosted a school supply backpack giveaway with our sisters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Iota Gamma Omega

Chapter, and the Pi Upsilon Lambda Charitable Foundation. The organizations combined to give away over 150 backpacks filled with school supplies to the students at Rosa Parks Elementary school in Hyattsville, MD.

Our next event was our annual Chapter cookout. This year we returned to Watkins Park, Pavilion 7, where we had a "PUL Family Reunion" vibe with over 200 guests consisting of Brothers, family and friends. We also conducted our first of 4 Highway Cleanups for the year.

As we gear up for the presidential election in November, we are actively engaged in a huge voter mobilization campaign, announced earlier this year by General President **Bro. Dr. Willis L. Lonzer, III**, chairman of the Council of Presidents of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. We understand the importance of this election and will continue to do our part to encourage our community to exercise its civic duty to cast a vote!

In November, we will celebrate 30 years of community service, education and scholarship at the PUL Charitable Foundation's 30th Anniversary Gala.

Our monthly Food for Families distributions for the 4 families we support have continued, and we are planning our Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday basket donations to families in need within Prince George's County. In December, we are planning to once again partner with the ladies of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Fort Washington Alumnae Chapter, for our 4th Annual "Jingle Mingle" Toy Drive. Last year, our organizations collected and distributed nearly 1800 toys to

students in Prince George's and Charles Counties.

As we plan for Spring 2025, we will continue to carry out the work of Alpha, promoting our Project Alpha, Go to High School Go to College, and March for Babies national programs. We have several major events that will require the support of all 153 Brothers that call Key #652 home. I encourage Brothers to attend Executive Board and Chapter meetings, as well as our mid-year retreat in January, where we will reflect upon the first half of the year and plan for the second half. We want all Brothers to have a voice in programming, so we need you there to share your input.

In conclusion, I hope you enjoy this issue of the PULse, published by **Bro. Kendall Pace**, the Chapter's Associate Editor to the Sphinx. As we close out the last few months of 2024 and move into 2025, I pray that God will continue to bless every Brother and their families with peace, love and joy.

Bro. Steve C. Robinson

President, Pi Upsilon Lambda



PUL Chapter History

For 30 years, the good brothers of the Pi Upsilon Lambda Chapter have been making an impact in Prince George's County, MD and the surrounding communities.



The chapter was chartered in New Orleans, LA on August 1, 1993 at the 1993 General Convention.

The original catalysts during the chartering of PUL were 6 brothers of the Kappa Epsilon Lambda Chapter being **Bros. Alex C. Bailey, Raymond Blackstone, Thomas Brown, Sr., Robert Kirkland, Al Perrine, Sr., and Keith Wilson**, and later joined by **James Henderson**, a life member of the Fraternity.

PUL had one of the largest numbers of charter members for a chapter in Alpha history with 61 Brothers becoming charter members. The initial seat was established in Brandywine, MD and later moved to Largo, MD. The primary focus of PUL, much like our larger Fraternity as a whole, has been community service, education, and scholarship.

The pillar of community service has been our P.A.C.E. (*PUL Alphas for Community Excellence*) Committee, which hosts a number of events every year such as the Highway Clean-Up program, Jingle Mingle Christmas Toy Drive, and a number of other events.



Our chapter, in conjunction with the PUL

Charitable Foundation, coordinates an annual Youth Leadership Development Institute, a 13-week engagement that educates young black males on topics they face in their day to day lives, and furthers Alpha Phi Alpha's original Go-To-High School and Go-To-College Programs.



The PULCF also provides scholarships to graduating high school students living in Prince George's County, MD who plan to pursue collegiate studies.

At PUL, we strive to be an Alumni Chapter with the Spirit of a College Chapter. We handle the Business of Alpha, while maintaining the all important aspect of Brotherhood that makes this organization great. The Proud Pi Upsilon Lambda.

Upcoming Event: PUL Charitable Foundation

PULCF 30th Anniversary Renaissance Gala

The premiere event for the Pi Upsilon Lambda Charitable Foundation's 30th Anniversary will be a luxurious Renaissance Gala held on November 2, 2024. Guests are invited to celebrate 30 years of scholarship and community advocacy at the Samuel Riggs Alumni Center on the campus of University of Maryland College Park. Live entertainment will be conducted by the band Jazzy Blu. **PULCF President Trey Scott** & his planning committee have done a fantastic job planning this landmark event, and we at PUL ensure it will be a night to remember. [Tickets are on sale now](#), so come out and celebrate with us!

PI UPSILON LAMBDA CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
P U L C F

30

ANNIVERSARY
RENAISSANCE GALA

LIVE PERFORMANCE
JAZZY BLU

Saturday, November 2, 2024
Cocktail Hour starts @ 6pm • Gala begins @ 7-10pm
SAMUEL RIGGS IV ALUMNI CENTER
7801 Alumni Dr. College Park, MD 20742

Keeping up the P.A.C.E.

Backpack Giveaway

On August 24, 2024, the P.A.C.E. Committee partnered with the PUL Charitable Foundation and the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Iota Gamma Omega Chapter to distribute over 150 backpacks with school supplies to Rosa Parks Elementary School students in Hyattsville, MD. Parents and children were able to receive last minute essentials before the start of the school year. Now that's what I call service! It was a great success and a perfect start to the Fraternal Year!



Highway Clean-Up

The Fall Highway Clean-Up was held on September 28, 2024 at the Chapter's adopted road on Martin Luther King Jr. Highway in Landover, MD. P.A.C.E. Committee Chairs **Bros. Keith Alexander, Steve Patterson & Martel Perry** did a great job spearheading this beautification initiative. As always, Brothers were able to fill several bags with trash while having the opportunity to fellowship. Performing this service for our adopted road

speaks to the Fraternity's undying mission of "providing service and advocacy for our communities". We appreciate all Brothers and guests that were able to attend!

PUL Charitable Foundation

Scholarship Drive-By

On June 29, 2024, the Pi Upsilon Lambda Charitable Foundation presented **over \$10,000** in scholarships to Prince George’s County high school graduates that will be continuing their studies in college. We take great joy in helping the next generation embark on their journeys into higher education. I think the recipients do too based on their smiles!



Youth Leadership Development Institute

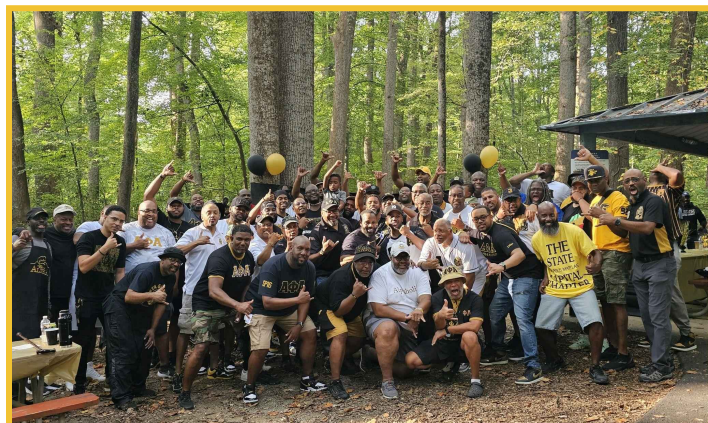
YLDI’s culminating event took place on June 1, 2024. This event highlighted the achievement and efforts of the young men who participate in the mentorship program. A huge ‘Thank You’ goes out to **Bros. David Smith & Dia Harris** for organizing such an awesome program for this year’s mentees. We look forward to continuing to mentor YLDI graduates in the Legacy Program.



Chapter Cookout



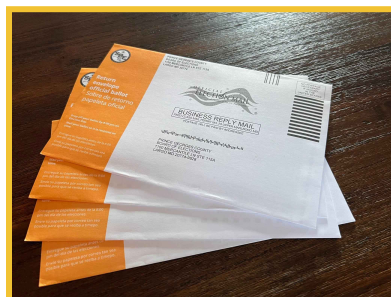
PUL's Spring 2024 Neophytes hosted the Chapter Cookout on September 21, 2024 at the Watkins Regional Park, Pavilion 7 in Kettering, MD. Brothers near and far came out for fellowship, food, family, music, games and barbecue! The Chapter Cookout also incorporated a school supply drive in conjunction with the PUL Charitable Foundation. Great job, Neos!



A Voteless People is a Hopeless People

Election Season is Here

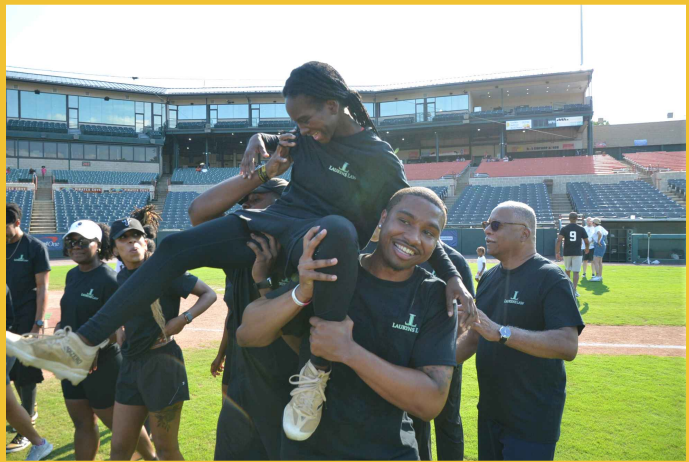
Alpha Brothers from all Chapters nationwide are gearing up to cast their ballots in this year's many elections. Early voting begins October 24, 2024, leading up to Election Day on November 5, 2024. PUL Brothers are on the frontlines to help educate, register and otherwise assist the community on the benefits and logistics of voting. Each of us has a voice in shaping the future of our nation, and we plan to use them! Keep up the great work, Brothers!



Brotherhood

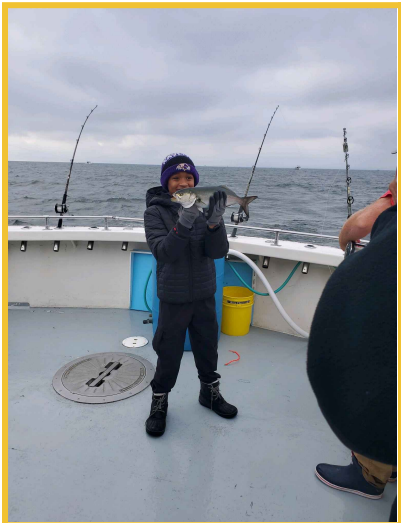
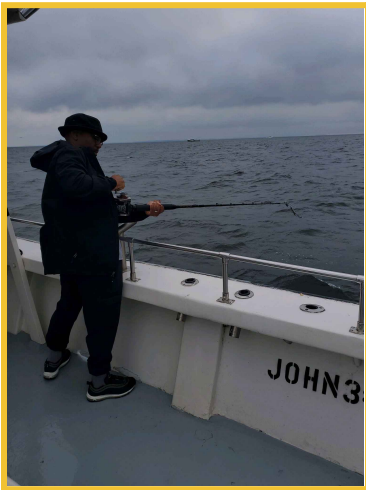
Kickball Game

PUL started off the fraternal year by supporting one of our long-time community service partners, Lauryn’s Law, headed by **Ms. Linda Diaz**. We successfully participated in a celebrity kickball game on August 11, 2024 at Prince George’s Stadium to raise funds and awareness for youth mental health. It was a great community event that was covered by NBC4 News, and of course, our team “A Tribe Called Kick” won a thrilling game by a score of 4-2. Shout-out to **Bro. Wesley Johnson’s** daughter for catching the final out!



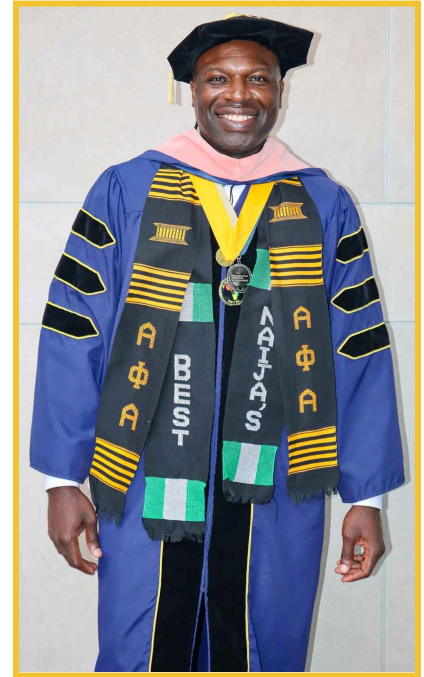
Annual Fishing Trip

The Chapter continued its annual Brotherhood Fishing Trip tradition on October 5, 2024 in Edgewater, MD. The voyage saw a turnout of 8 Brothers along with 4 of their children, as Brothers were able to reel in several rockfish - as seen in the face of **Bro. Eric Dorsey’s** son’s face. A special “Thank You” goes out to **Captains Randy Dean & Mason Hallock** of Bay Hunters Charter Fishing for facilitating such a wonderful outing.



Health & Wellness

The following article on black men's health is a submission from PUL Bro. Dr. Okey Enyia. He earned his Doctorate in Health Policy on May 19, 2024 from the George Washington University School of Public Health, wherein he was the only black man to receive a doctorate. In the years ahead, Bro. Enyia plans to expand his research portfolio to examine the ways in which artificial intelligence and machine learning impact the black community in terms of equity and the social drivers of health. A poignant quote that resonated with him during graduation season came from one of our fraternity Brothers and his pastor, Dr. Dharius Daniels: "You are equipped with unique gifts that are suited for the giants you are destined to conquer." Congratulations to Bro. Enyia on his educational success, and please enjoy a portion of his research below:



Addressing Health Inequities for Black Men: Examining the Impact of the *Affordable Care Act* *by Dr. Okey K. Enyia*

Understanding the Problem

Black men in the United States face significant health disparities and inequities, particularly when it comes to access to care and insurance coverage. Before the implementation of the *Affordable Care Act* (ACA) in 2014, Black men were more likely to be uninsured and less likely to have a regular source of medical care compared to White men. These disparities are rooted in various social drivers, including structural racism, economic instability, unemployment, housing insecurity, food insecurity, limited transportation options, and geographic inequities among other issues. Additionally, most Black men residing in the Southern United States (commonly referred to as the Stroke Belt) have historically been even more likely to be uninsured and less likely to have access to care than elsewhere in the United States. Despite efforts to improve health insurance coverage nationwide, racial gaps remain a persistent issue.

My [study](#) aimed to examine whether the ACA helped close these gaps by improving health insurance coverage and access to care for Black men, especially those residing in regions that did not expand Medicaid. This study also sought to explore whether structural and systemic barriers to care remained for Black men and what policy solutions could address these ongoing challenges.

Health & Wellness

Study Design and Data Used

To explore these issues, my study used a longitudinal quantitative secondary data analysis, focusing on non-Hispanic Black and non-Hispanic White men aged 18-64 from two key periods: before the ACA was implemented (2011-2014) and after the ACA was implemented (2015-2019). My study used data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), which collects information on health insurance coverage, access to care, and utilization of health services. MEPS was ideal for this type of research because it provides repeated measures over time, allowing for an analysis of trends in health care access and insurance coverage.

By focusing on men in these two racial groups, my study compared insurance status and whether these men had a “usual source of care” (like a primary care provider) across both time periods. The analysis was done using statistical models to predict the likelihood of being uninsured and the odds of having a usual source of care. The results were weighted using survey data to ensure that the findings were representative of the broader U.S. population.

Key Findings

Key findings revealed both progress and ongoing challenges. After the implementation of the ACA, both Black and White men saw improvements in health insurance coverage. The proportion of uninsured men in both groups dropped by nearly 50% (from 2011-2019). However, despite these gains, Black men were still 30% more likely than White men to be uninsured in the post-ACA period. Furthermore, Black men had 25% lower odds of having a usual source of care compared to White men, suggesting that access to regular healthcare services remained a significant barrier.

One unexpected finding was that the overall proportion of men with a usual source of care decreased after the ACA. This was concerning because having health insurance is typically associated with having a regular healthcare provider, which in turn improves health outcomes. The results highlighted that while the ACA did expand insurance coverage, it did not necessarily translate into improved access to continuous, preventive healthcare for Black men.

Policy and Practice Recommendations

Based on the findings, several policy recommendations were made to address the ongoing disparities and inequities in healthcare access for Black men.

1. **Expand Medicaid in All States:** As of the time of this study in 2024, several states, primarily in the South, had yet to adopt Medicaid expansion. The findings indicated that a large proportion of uninsured Black men live in these states. Expanding Medicaid in the remaining states could help close the coverage gap for low-income Black men, many of whom fall into the gap between Medicaid eligibility and affordable private insurance. Additionally, the November 2024 elections are fast approaching. Studies have found that

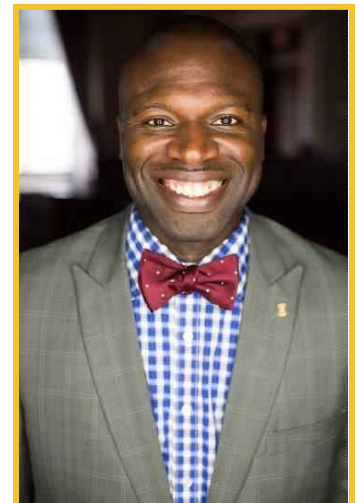
Health & Wellness

voting up and down the ballot (i.e., local, state, and federal levels) is intrinsically linked to people's health and well-being. In other words, a civically engaged community is a healthy community.

- 2. Support Community Health Workers (CHWs):** My study recommended expanding the use of patient navigators and community health workers, particularly in Black communities. CHWs are trusted members of their communities and can help individuals navigate the healthcare system, enroll in health insurance, and connect with healthcare providers. These workers have been successful in increasing healthcare access in low-income communities and could play a critical role in improving care for Black men.
- 3. Targeted Health Interventions for Black Men:** The findings suggest that policies need to focus on vulnerable populations, such as Black men, through targeted health interventions. A population health approach that focuses on broad changes (like the ACA) should be complemented by efforts specifically aimed at groups that continue to face barriers to care. For example, policies that account for the social and structural drivers of health, including race, gender, and geographic location, could help address the unique needs of Black men.
- 4. Address Structural Racism in Health care:** Lastly, the study emphasized the need to acknowledge and address structural racism in health care access, health care delivery, and policy. While the ACA made important strides in expanding access to care, racial disparities persisted. Future health reforms should incorporate an intersectional approach to advance health equity for Black men. An intersectional approach not only helps explain which social characteristics impact health; but why those factors impact health. Moreover, addressing structural racism at multiple levels—policy, health care delivery, and community engagement—will be crucial for achieving true health equity for Black men.

Conclusion

While the ACA succeeded in expanding health insurance coverage for both Black and White men, it did not fully close the racial gap in health care access. Black men continue to face barriers to obtaining insurance and accessing regular healthcare services. To fully address these disparities, future policy efforts must target the social, economic, and structural factors that contribute to health inequities for Black men. Expanding Medicaid, supporting community-based interventions, and tackling structural racism in health care are essential steps in achieving health equity.



Brotherhood

Act III: Coldest Legacy - Spring 2024 Neophytes

On March 10, 2024, the Brothers of Pi Upsilon Lambda initiated 10 new Brothers into the House of Alpha. Led by their Dean **Bro. Andrew Sheppard** and Assistant Dean **Bro. Shawn Watkins**, our Neophytes faced their many challenges head-on and successfully crossed the burning sands. Please join me in welcoming the following Brothers:



1. Brother Nathaniel Yates, Sr. - **“Screwface”**
2. Brother Darren Fulmore - **“Ful-Throttle”**
3. Brother Wesley Johnson - **“3° Wind Chill”**
4. Brother William Chin - **“Golden Child”**
5. Brother David Murray - **“Who’s The Boss?”**
6. Brother Bobby Manning - **“Test of a Manning”**
7. Brother Maurice Simpson - **“One Mo’ Time”**
8. Brother Michael Logan - **“Handyman”**
9. Brother Patrick Rogers - **“Quiet Storm”**
10. Brother Andy Michel, Sr. - **“1906 MPH”**

Neophyte Spotlight

Bro. Nathaniel Yates, Sr. is a 41-year old native Washingtonian, originally from Southeast Washington D.C., who now resides in Upper Marlboro, MD. He has earned several degrees, having graduated from Thomas Edison State College (now University) with a Bachelor of

Science in Human Services. He also holds additional undergraduate and several graduate degrees. He currently serves as the Senior Pastor of Bethany Community Church in Laurel, as a Branch Chief with the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Services; having served as a federal civil servant with 20 years of service, and as an adjunct professor for the Lancaster Bible College Capital Bible Seminary. In his spare time, he enjoys time with his family (wife and kids), music, some gaming, and watching sports.



1. How would you describe your journey into the House of Alpha?

The journey into the House of Alpha has been a progressive and introspective one. It challenges one to step outside of their comfort zones, requires the building of bonds with different people under pressure to accomplish more than either party could have accomplished alone, and educates while developing leaders.

2. What are some things you learned about yourself during the IMDP process?

In the IMDP process, candidates learn that while you can "will" yourself to succeed on your own terms under other circumstances, this does not work in the IMDP process. Men walked into IMDP having forged bonds with the candidates they knew, only to be immediately connected to others that were unknowns, with the full expectations that all would learn to communicate and work together to get tasks done. Trusting those you just met is only possible when you have a common goal, vision, and understanding that all are invested in. It absolutely tests one's ability to put aside any potential or perceived differences to be one amongst many, achieving one goal.

Neophyte Spotlight

3. What are some goals you want to achieve in your first year in Alpha Phi Alpha?

In my first year in Alpha Phi Alpha, I aim to gain understanding of how things are done in the House, build bonds, and bring my knowledge, skills, abilities, and experiences to the table to advance the aims of "the House."

4. In which committees or National Programs are you eager to join/support?

I have interest in several of our committees; including Brotherhood Affairs and Constitution and By-laws. As a neophyte there are two committees that we are required to be a part of; however, learning what the others fully do is a great way to identify where I can make an impact.

5. What advice would you give to future candidates?

Future candidates should take an earnest look at why they want to be an Alpha Man, take the time to really get to know the Brothers and be upfront and honest about their pursuit and who they are. Don't be afraid to deep dive and begin to build meaningful relationships that could one day result in Brotherhood. They should recognize that nothing in the process is personal, and yet everything in the process is personal. The Brothers have a personal responsibility to hold high the name of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated and protect the house. The candidate has a personal responsibility to be honest about their pursuit, who they are, and commit to what they say they are here to do. Future candidates should take nothing about the process personally. You will be tested, you will be encouraged, and if you stay the course you will be developed. Don't let your ego cause you to quit. If you have questions, ask!

Neophyte Spotlight

Bro. Darren Fulmore is a 54-year-old husband of 26 years and father of a 26-year-old daughter and a 14-year-old son. He holds bachelor's degrees in Psychology and African



American Studies from Temple University, as well as a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Howard University. Originally from Paterson, NJ, he now resides in Springdale, MD, where he works as a Social Science Analyst for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. His hobbies include comics, movies, science fiction, reading, computers, photography, martial arts, history, and music. Brother Fulmore holds a 4th-degree black belt in a traditional Korean Martial Art and has taught classes in Prince George public schools for over 12 years.

1. How would you describe your journey into the House of Alpha?

My journey pushed me out of my comfort zone, teaching me the importance of

perseverance and staying focused on my “WHY”.

2. What are some things you learned about yourself during the IMDP process?

Through the IMDP process, I discovered both my strengths and areas for improvement. I learned to be vulnerable yet confident, leaning on fellow Line Brothers while also honing my own leadership skills.

3. What are some goals you want to achieve in your first year in Alpha Phi Alpha?

I aim to immerse myself in learning about the fraternity's chapter operations and committees. Additionally, I endeavor to learn from more experienced Brothers and understand how the fraternity operates writ large.

4. In which committees or National Programs are you eager to join/support?

I intend to support Education, P.A.C.E., Health, and Housing Committees.

Neophyte Spotlight

5. *What advice would you give to future candidates?*

The relationships you build as an interest will ultimately be the determining factor of your success, you need to truly take the time to get to know as many of my Brothers on a personal level as possible. We must be able to envision and see you as a member of this great and sacred Brotherhood. Additionally:

- 1. Be honest about your intentions and what you can bring to the Fraternity/Chapter.**
- 2. Take advantage of all available events. This is the time where you truly get to make positive impressions and for my Brothers to get to know you.**
- 3. Always listen to your Dean of Membership Development and follow his instructions on matters concerning interacting with my Brothers.**
- 4. See #1**

Neophyte Spotlight

Bro. Wesley Johnson is a 40-year old Deputy Chief for the Facilities Management Division for U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services. He attended the American University, and



graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Business Administration with specializations in Marketing and Management. He grew up in Prince George's County and currently resides in Bowie, MD. His hobbies include boxing, coaching (softball, soccer and basketball), and sports (Dallas Cowboys, New York Knicks and Washington Nationals). He is a self-proclaimed big kid so he loves cartoons, watching comedies, and having fun.

1. How would you describe your journey into the House of Alpha?

My journey was unexpected but once I was exposed to the Brotherhood and the work that Alpha does, I knew I wanted to join in. At this point in my life, I want to do work that will leave a legacy beyond my time on this earth and Alpha is a major avenue for me to make that type of impact.

2. What are some things you learned about

yourself during the IMDP process?

I learned that my natural instinct is to look for positives in pressure moments. I also learned that I'm a perfectionist but I will always make mistakes. I just have to learn from them.

3. What are some goals you want to achieve in your first year in Alpha Phi Alpha?

My thought is that this is a lifetime marathon. My goal though for the first year is to find a need that I can help move forward. For me, that's the housing committee and PACE. I also just want to leave room for any unexpected leadership opportunities that I can assist.

Neophyte Spotlight

4. In which committees or National Programs are you eager to join/support?

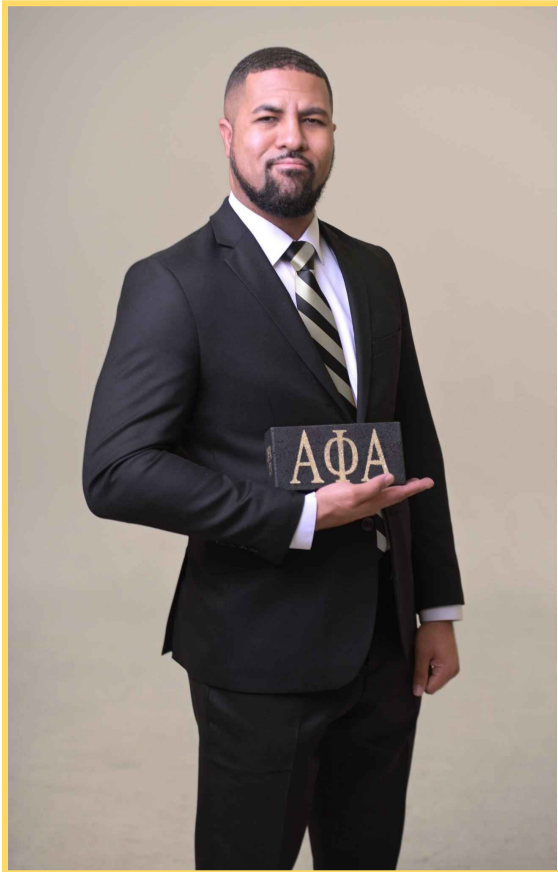
Some part of the Leadership Development Institute is where I want to join or support. At the end of the day, I want to move the mission forward and leadership is the first tenant in the mission statement.

5. What advice would you give to future candidates?

Relationship! It's really about brotherhood. No one really cares about how much you know about the fraternity unless they see you truly care about developing meaningful relationships.

Neophyte Spotlight

Bro. William Chin is a 34-year old Project Manager/ Real Estate Consultant for affordable housing projects in Washington, DC as well as a licensed Realtor in Maryland. He grew up in Bowie, MD. He attended MIT for City Planning and has been working in the community development industry for ~15 years. His hobbies include being outdoors, hiking, singing, live music, telling dad jokes, and traveling when he can.



1. How would you describe your journey into the House of Alpha?

I originally pursued membership back in my undergraduate years, but the timing didn't quite work out as I was going into my senior year. I decided to wait until later in life when I was more financially stable and involved in the community to pursue my interest again. I was especially motivated by the fact that my dad is a member, so it's been exciting having his support in my journey and to now experience a new level of Brotherhood and connection with him, and with other mentors and friends!

2. What are some things you learned about yourself during the IMDP process?

The process tested my ability to handle pressure and to remain focused despite distractions around me. I also learned that when things get tough, I don't have to carry the weight on my own, but the brotherhood will always be around to help lift me up!

3. What are some goals you want to achieve in your first year in Alpha Phi Alpha?

I'd like to continue building relationships with Brothers in the chapter and with brothers in the region as we are doing a lot of great work in the community! My goal is to become more familiar with how our chapter's programs are run so that I can help where needed, and also bring fresh ideas to the chapter and to Prince George's County.

Neophyte Spotlight

4. In which committees or National Programs are you eager to join/support?

P.A.C.E., Brother's Keeper, PULCF Scholarship Review, and the Housing Committee.

5. What advice would you give to future candidates?

Always listen to the Dean! Be authentic and be intentional about building relationships. Be sure to introduce yourself to men of Alpha when you see us at events as there is no guarantee that we'll be at the next event. The process requires persistence but it's worthwhile when you're open to feedback and continue to grow as a result.

Neophyte Spotlight

Bro. David Murray is a 54 year old native of Prince George's County Maryland. He attended University of Maryland at College Park where he graduated with a BA in Urban Studies and Planning. Mr. Murray works at the National Weather Service where he oversees Labor Management Relations for the agency. He currently resides in Bowie, MD with his wife and is the father of two daughters. He enjoys playing tennis, photography, traveling and reading books.



1. How would you describe your journey into the House of Alpha?

It was a humbling and challenging experience. Being introverted by nature poses some challenges in meeting new people. This journey forced me to stretch beyond my comfort zone in many areas and uncovered new ways to process and critically digest information. At times the journey was overwhelming, but the challenges taught me the importance of perseverance, resilience and the power of stepping out of my comfort

zone. It has left an indelible mark on my life, equipping me with the tools for continued growth and success in my personal and professional endeavors, particularly the work in the fraternity.

2. What are some things you learned about yourself during the IMDP process?

During the IMDP process, I learned a couple of things about myself. Most notably was learning that I could effectively improvise under adverse conditions. Situations beyond your control took place and you had to adapt on the fly to get through. This brought about quick thinking and ingenuity. I also learned that it was ok to allow myself to be vulnerable and lean on my brothers when I needed help. Finally, the process pushed me beyond my perceived boundaries. It demonstrated to me the transformative power of facing challenges head-on and embracing the lessons that adversity can bring.

Neophyte Spotlight

3. What are some goals you want to achieve in your first year in Alpha Phi Alpha?

I don't have a specific goal to achieve in the first year other than to be an active member and contribute to the best of my ability to the service projects and initiatives in the Chapter.

4. In which committees or National Programs are you eager to join/support?

I am eager to work with the Voteless People Is A Hopeless People National Program because securing and exercising our voting rights is vitally important. I am also interested in participating in the Youth Leadership Development Institute to have an opportunity to pour into the youth.

5. What advice would you give to future candidates?

This is a marathon, not a sprint. You must demonstrate patience and humility in this journey. Be authentic, consistent and allow yourself to be teachable. Most importantly, follow the instructions of your Dean.

Neophyte Spotlight

Bro. Bobby Manning is a 42 year-old Pastor of the Heights Church and President of the Collective Empowerment Group, Inc. He graduated from Campbell University with a BA in 2003. He is originally from Mitchellville, MD, and currently resides in Upper Marlboro, MD. Some of his hobbies include family time, watching sports (basketball & football), movies (Marvel, comedies), and cycling.



1. How would you describe your journey into the House of Alpha?

I would describe my journey into the House of Alpha as invigorating, challenging and humbling. It became a welcome opportunity to venture outside my comfortable circles, start from scratch, build relationships, grow through challenges and learn about myself.

2. What are some things you learned about yourself during the IMDP process?

During the IMDP process I learned that I had grown comfortable using my skills and personality in familiar environments. However, if I want to transfer those skills into other environments, I must get past the discomfort of new environments. I was confronted with my desire for perfectionism and was forced to adjust

my mindset. I also learned new skills in remaining calm and focused in chaotic environments.

3. What are some goals you want to achieve in your first year in Alpha Phi Alpha?

My goal is to learn as much as I can about our great fraternity and this chapter, while building stronger relationships with my new brothers.

Neophyte Spotlight

4. In which committees or National Programs are you eager to join/support?

Because of my love for community service, I have jumped in to serve in our PACE Committee relatively quickly. I am also looking forward to connecting our Marketing Committee, particularly contributing to our Social Media presence.

5. What advice would you give to future candidates?

Be yourself! It's vital that you make yourself available, and open the door to the 100% authentic version of yourself. This will also help you to determine if this is the right decision and fit for you. Secondly, be on time and prepared for meetings. The excellence that you approach this process with is being observed. Finally, get to know the Dean and follow directions! This process is very specific and unlike anything you've done before. Trust the Dean to advise you in the process.

Neophyte Spotlight

Bro. Maurice Simpson, Jr., 34, is a native of Prince George's County and a 2007 graduate of Charles H. Flowers High School. He received his political science degree from Clark Atlanta



University where he was elected Student Government Association Senior Class President and inducted into Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honor Society. He later obtained his Juris Doctor from the University of Baltimore School of Law where he was elected to the Student Bar Association. As Senior Manager of State Government and Regulatory Affairs for Constellation Energy, the nation's largest clean energy provider, Bro. Simpson leads the company's legislative and regulatory initiatives to modernize energy policies in the Mid-Atlantic region. Outside of work, Bro. Simpson serves on the board of Ardmore Enterprises, a local non-profit that empowers individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. During the pandemic, Bro. Simpson joined a Doberman Rescue as a foster parent for abandoned and abused Doberman. He is an active member of the Prince George's County NAACP and First Baptist Church of Glenarden. In his free time, Bro. Simpson enjoys swimming, boating and playing spades. Bro. Simpson currently resides in Seat Pleasant, Maryland with his wife, Marverly, their newborn, Maurice Simpson III and foster failure, Coco Chanel.

1. How would you describe your journey into the House of Alpha?

My journey into the House of Alpha was a long time coming. It is something I have wanted for many years, but had to wait and not be tired by waiting.

2. What are some things you learned about yourself during the IMDP process?

The Initial Membership Development Process (IMDP) is unpredictable. As much as I wanted to anticipate what was going to happen next, I learned to embrace the unknown and trust the process.

Neophyte Spotlight

3. What are some goals you want to achieve in your first year in Alpha Phi Alpha?

I want to spend time understanding the business of the fraternity while building deeper relationships with Chapter Brothers.

4. In which committees or National Programs are you eager to join/support?

I am eager to support the “A Voteless People is a Hopeless People” program and the Pi Upsilon Lambda Charitable Foundation.

5. What advice would you give to future candidates?

Be professional, but personable.

Neophyte Spotlight

Bro. Michael Irving Logan is the son of Florence Logan - a career federal employee and former concert pianist, and Robert Logan Jr. (decd. 2005) - a home improvement professional and legendary DMV handyman. His



windows, awnings, and doors still adorn many homes from Baltimore to Alexandria. Micheal's middle name comes from one of his mother's favorite composers, Irving Berlin. He currently resides in Upper Marlboro, MD with his wife of 20+ years, Jamila, a physical therapist, and his two boys, Kai (2010) and Taj (2013). He was born in NE Washington, DC, but he has been a Prince George's County resident since his family moved to Hyattsville when he was 4. He is a proud alum of St. John's Chillum, DeMatha Catholic HS, and the University of MD at College Park. Despite getting his degree in elementary education, he immediately entered the IT workforce upon graduation and has been entrenched in the government sector ever since. When he is not designing or maintaining websites for Uncle Sam, he can be found singing, producing music, fishing, cooking, going to the movies, or spending time with family and friends. And every second he is not doing

one of those things, he is nerding out over gadgets, comics, or sci-fi. #BLERD

1. How would you describe your journey into the House of Alpha?

I officially expressed my interest in Alpha at the informational hosted by Pi Upsilon Lambda on January 12, 2023, but my journey to Alpha started long before that. My mother instilled scholarship during my formative years. My father modeled integrity and demonstrated selfless love for others. Adding to that, I've been significantly impacted by the lives and service of Alpha Men in my family, neighborhood, and circle of friends. The best man from my wedding and my wife both went through the initiation processes for Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated. You can't help but be affected by having a front-row seat to close relations undergoing transformation and growth. All these factors got me to the informational, but the history, conversations with men of the chapter, and firsthand witnessing grew the fire in me and the realization that I had found my people.

Neophyte Spotlight

2. What are some things you learned about yourself during the IMDP process?

IMDP was the most difficult and rewarding experience of my adult life. I learned that individual success is not a success when you're a team. This was an extremely important lesson for me as an only child entering a brotherhood. I also learned that I have more patience, endurance, and capacity for knowledge than anticipated when COMPLETELY committed to a goal.

3. What are some goals you want to achieve in your first year in Alpha Phi Alpha?

For my first year in Alpha Phi Alpha, I want to achieve some quick wins and plant seeds for future interests and passions. As a web creative, the quick wins will come in the form of website enhancements, graphic contributions, promo, etc. I also have experience mentoring and coaching young men that can be lent to YLDI and other youth programming. But I don't want to be limited to my areas of professional expertise and experience. This year will also be spent serving on committees and supporting programming for men's physical and mental health, another passion of mine.

4. In which committees or National Programs are you eager to join/support?

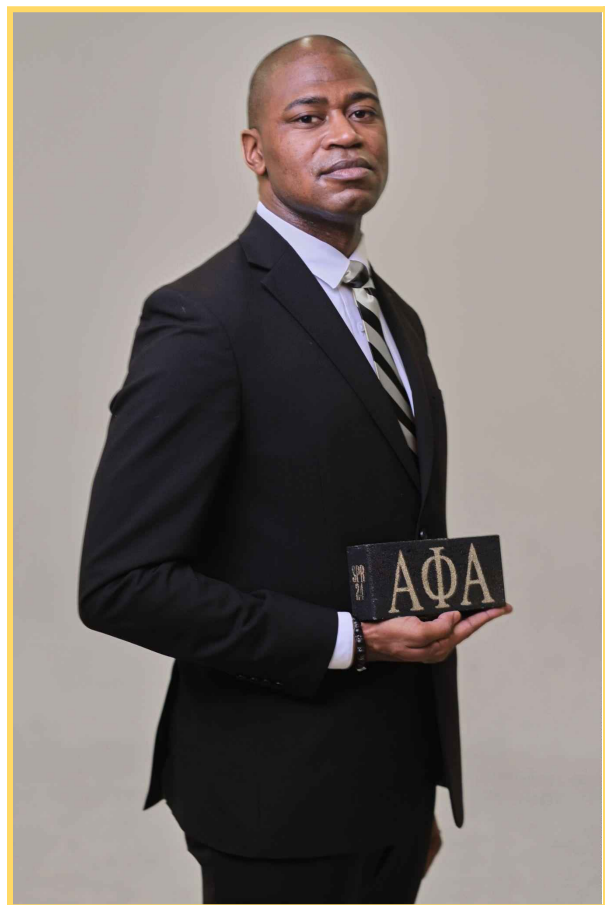
- **Go to High School Go to College**
- **Project Alpha**
- **A. Charles Haston Brother's Keeper**
- **Leadership Development Institute**
- **PUL Alphas for Community Excellence (P.A.C.E.)**
- **Educational Activities**
- **Information Technology**
- **Health & Wellness**

5. What advice would you give to future candidates?

- **Your WHY is for you. Know it and believe in it. You may get different opinions throughout the process. Receive them and incorporate them if appropriate. But once you settle on the final version, it should be set in adamantium.**
- **You will not reach your desired goal without support at home. Communicate. Seize every opportunity to be dad, husband, son, and sibling. It will help you down the line.**
- **Yes, it is worth it. More than you can ever imagine. Hang in there.**

Neophyte Spotlight

Bro. Patrick Rogers is a scientist who is interested in using his skills and talents to help people live longer, healthier lives. His desire to apply the tools and concepts of chemistry and



biology to tackle biological and medical problems affecting society was instilled in him in his hometown of Cincinnati, Ohio and nurtured at Howard University where he majored in chemistry. Upon receiving his Bachelor's degree in chemistry, he continued his studies at the University of California Davis where he earned a doctorate in chemistry. Currently, he serves as a toxicologist at the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA). In his current role, he assesses the adverse human health effects of pesticides. Outside of work, he resides in Chevy Chase, MD and volunteers with the American Descendants of Slavery Advocacy Foundation (ADOS AF), a political advocacy foundation that advocates for political solutions that enable Black communities in the United States to live healthy lives. Additionally, he is a parishioner of St. Augustine Catholic Church (the Mother Church of Black Catholics in the Nation's Capital), swims, and practices Tai Chi.

House of Alpha?

1. *How would you describe your journey into the*

I would describe my journey into the House of Alpha as an enriching and positive experience for my overall development. As an introvert, my journey pushed me to step outside of my comfort zone, initiate conversations with men of the chapter and my line brothers, and continually nurture those relationships. My journey into the House of Alpha reminds me that God's timing is often different from our own timing. Furthermore, this experience teaches me to appreciate the difficult process toward personal growth and development.

Neophyte Spotlight

2. What are some things you learned about yourself during the IMDP process?

During the Initial Membership Development Process (IMDP) process, I learned that I am able to adapt quickly under stressful conditions. Also, I am proud that I was able to quickly learn from my shortcomings in order to keep moving forward toward the goal. Moreover, this process reminded me that I am resilient.

3. What are some goals you want to achieve in your first year in Alpha Phi Alpha?

During my first year in Alpha Phi Alpha, I want to nurture the relationships with the brothers of PUL that I developed as a candidate. Also, I hope to develop new relationships with brothers within Alpha Phi Alpha. Furthermore, I would like to support initiatives within both Pi Upsilon Lambda Alphas for Community Excellence (PACE) and “A Voteless People is a Hopeless People”. Moreover, I strive to show up for my brothers.

4. In which committees or National Programs are you eager to join/support?

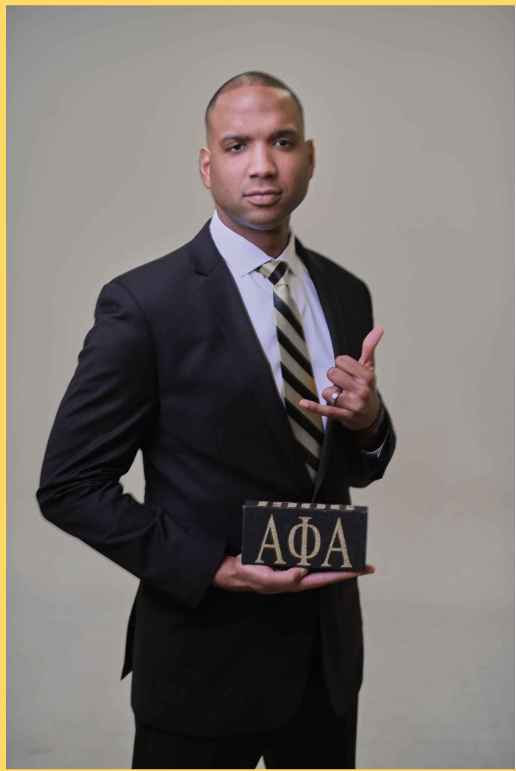
I hope to contribute to the legacy of Alpha Phi Alpha’s National Program “A Voteless People is a Hopeless People” by continuing to incorporate political education into voter education sessions. Political education is important to me because it provides people with a fundamental understanding of the role and function of government agencies and the services that governments (at all levels) can provide to its citizens. In addition, through my involvement with PACE, I hope that we can use our community service activities to start a conversation about wider social issues that affect our community including environmental justice and food insecurity. Furthermore, I hope to support the Men's Health Forum as this program personally helped me become a better advocate for my own health/wellness.

5. What advice would you give to future candidates?

First, I would advise future candidates to develop and nurture relationships with many men of the chapter especially the Chapter Dean of Membership Development. When developing these relationships, I would like to encourage the candidate to strive to go deeper with each successive conversation with a member. During this process, I encourage each candidate to remember that he will make missteps; however, it is important to be open to correction for ultimate growth and development.

Neophyte Spotlight

Bro. Andy Michel, Sr., at age 29, has the distinct honor of being the youngest Brother on his line, ACT III: THE COLDEST LEGACY. Originally from Martinique, his family immigrated to Seat Pleasant, MD when he was 6 years old. Upon graduating from Prince George County Public Schools, he attended and graduated from Claflin University located in Orangeburg, SC. Immediately following graduation, he married his high school sweetheart, Sharon Michel. They have two boys, Andy Jr. who is now 4 and Elijah who is 11 months old. They currently reside in Bryans Road, MD. He is an Active-Duty U.S. Army Captain and currently stationed in Arlington, VA. He enjoys learning Golf and singing in Gospel Choirs in his spare time.



1. How would you describe your journey into the House of Alpha?

I describe my journey into the House of Alpha as “Not My timing, but Gods timing”; a long journey that taught me patience and it gave me a greater appreciation of being resilient.

2. What are some things you learned about yourself during the IMDP process?

One of the greatest things I learned about myself during IMDP was my ability to follow. As an Army Officer it is my nature to be the leader in the room and ensure the job gets done “my way”. However, during the process I noticed that I was able take a more supportive role, and still be just as influential and effective.

3. What are some goals you want to achieve in your first year in Alpha Phi Alpha?

Within my year in Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, I’d like to contribute to the very committees that invested in me during my upbringing, Project: Alpha and YLDI.

4. In which committees or National Programs are you eager to join/support?

As a product of the Chapter’s Beautillion Academy, it is my goal to bring the process of re-establishing that program.

5. What advice would you give to future candidates?

For those that seek the Light of ALPHA, my only advice is to know your “WHY” and be intentional about building relationships with my BROTHERS.

Happy Alphaversary!

50

Thomas F. Law - May 31, 1974

45

Reginald A. Stewart - January 20, 1979

35

Frank T. Malone - May 27, 1989
Ashley B. Hoover - April 8, 1989
Denny N. Johnson - March 5, 1989
Kevin D. Stewart - February 26, 1989
Marcus T. Wiseman - April 25, 1989

25

Darron R. Cooper - March 27, 1999
Duane J. Edwards - January 16, 1999
Brian E. Halliburton - March 13, 1999
Kevin T. Woodson - April 3, 1999
Marc Young - April 24, 1999

15

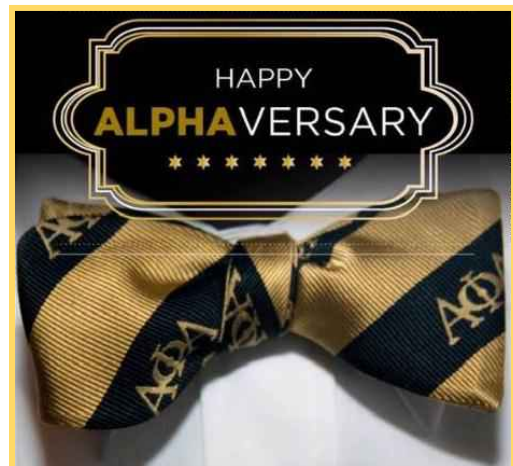
Joshua B. Jackson - March 7, 2009
Hasan N. Majied - March 14, 2009
Jamal B. Okon - March 14, 2009

10

Dr. Derrick Jones, Jr. - March 15, 2014
Johnny W. Montgomery - March 16, 2014

5

Dr. Jeffrey O. Holmes - March 17, 2019



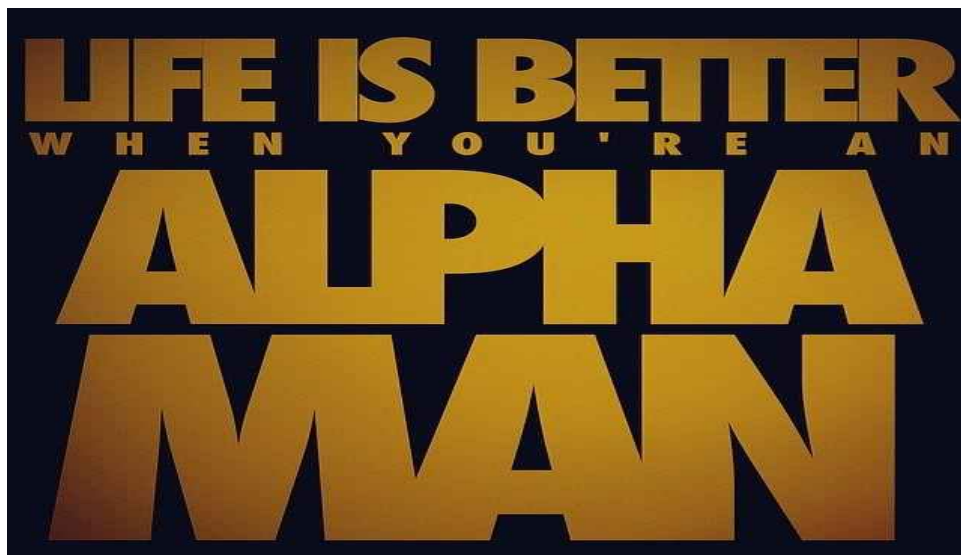
Happy Alphaversary!

Prince C. Agubuzo - March 12, 2023
Keith Alexander - March 13, 2022
Dr. Alex C. Bailey - April 14, 1973
Marcus Bailey - March 5, 2017
Dr. Patrick C. Barnes - April 21, 2012
Keith L. Battle - February 21, 1976
Anthony C. Bennett - March 12, 2011
Justin Bingham - March 17, 2018
Raymond L. Blackstone - June 8, 1991
Duane L Bouie - March 20, 1993
Omar M. Boulware - February 27, 2016
Joe E. Brice - February 21, 1976
Paul E. Brown - April 16, 1986
Brandon A. Buckner - March 13, 2022
Brandon A. Buie - March 13, 2022
Daryll D. Butler - March 31, 1996
Robert C. Cain, II - February 22, 1992
Dr. Jerenze A. Campbell - April 17, 2010
Frank Cassagnol - May 19, 2018
Craig B. Clinkscale - April 9, 1987
Jonathan A. Coe - March 31, 2001
Roosevelt Collier, III - March 15, 2008
Dr. Ellis D. Colvin - February 10, 1982
Kevin R. Cook, Jr. - March 3, 1991
The Honorable Donald R. Cravins, Jr. -
March 23, 1991
Demarius Davis - February 12, 2005
Thomas L. Davis - April 3, 2010

Eric L. Dorsey - April 5, 1995
Christopher D. Drayton - March 17, 2012
Joseph S. Fulmore, Jr. - March 8, 2008
Quenton Garrett - March 28, 1998
Gregory Gary, Jr. - April 14, 2001
Anthony R. Gaskins, Jr. - March 12, 2023
Don Gatewood - April 8, 2000
Christian M. Gibbs - February 20, 1993
Gregory C. Goings - May 31, 1985
Clarence C. Gooch - May 23, 1982
Dr. Jonathan I. Goode - March 13, 2022
Michael L. Goodman - March 8, 1990
Randy D. Green - March 3, 2007
John A. Greene - March 15, 2008
Dr. John Harkless - March 25, 2006
Dr. David E. Harmon, Jr. - February 23,
1992
Christopher Harper, Sr. - March 8, 1982
Anthony A. Harris - April 8, 1976
Anthony "PJ" Harris - March 13, 2022
Dia D. Harris - April 28, 1995
Mark S. Harris - May 20, 1995
Kelvin E. Hart - March 13, 2022
Keith D. Holloway - February 23, 1992
Eric L. Jones - February 19, 2000
Dr. Joseph E. Jones, Sr. - April 19, 1985
Charles V. Lawson - April 8, 1990
Essentino A. Lewis, Jr. - March 21, 1998

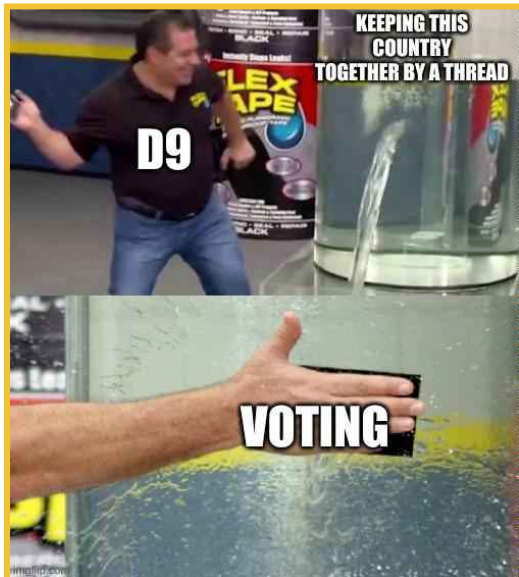
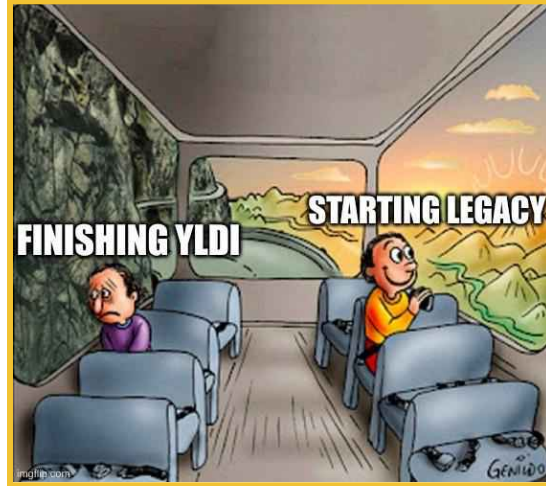
Seythe McCoy-Leffall - May 29, 2020
Anthony J. McIntosh - June 11, 2005
David A. Meyers - April 5, 1995
Christopher C. Moore, Sr. - April 7, 2001
Vincent T. Nairn, Jr. - April 7, 2001
Michael L. Nelson - March 6, 2011
Charles E. Pace, Jr. - March 3, 1987
Kendall C. Pace - March 13, 2022
Juneous A. Pettijohn - April 29, 2001
Ephesian L. Poinsette - March 19, 2017
Dr. Van F. Rawls, Jr. - March 17, 2012
Michael C. Richardson - March 13, 2022
Steven C. Robinson - March 3, 1987
Jermaine D. Rogers - April 5, 1995
Bobby Rushing, Jr. - March 12, 2023
Robert C. Shepherd - May 14, 1977
Andrew C. Sheppard - March 1, 2015
Dr. Nurney K. Mason, Jr. - May 13, 1976

James B. Massey, Jr. - March 25, 2000
David E. Smith, II. - April 12, 1996
Tyrome E. Smith - March 9, 2008
Joshua A. Solite - May 29, 2020
Brain A. Stone - March 1, 2015
Edward Stonework - February 26, 1985
Brandon D. Strong - May 29, 2020
Kishawn O. Sutton - May 29, 2020
Raphael D. Taylor - March 1, 2015
Mark K. Thaw - April 26, 1997
Craig G. Trower - February 27, 2016
Shawn M. Watkins - May 29, 2020
Martin L. White - March 29, 1997
Ronald E. Williams, Sr. - May 3, 2003
D'Andre Wilson - March 12, 2023
Dale A. Wright - March 6, 2011
Jonathann M. Young - March 5, 2017



Alpha Amusement

Before you go, check out our comic strip section! Just like the funnies in your Sunday paper - *but ice cold.*



| Chapter Officers 2023-2024 | Committee Chairmen 2023-2024 |
|--|---|
| President - Bro. Steven Robinson | Brotherhood Affairs - Bro. Andrew Sheppard |
| 1st Vice-President - Bro. Craig Trower | P.A.C.E. - Bros. Martrel Perry, Steven Patterson & Keith Alexander |
| 2nd Vice-President - Bro. Andrew Sheppard | Health & Wellness - Bros. Joseph Fulmore & Dr. Jonathan Goode |
| Secretary - Bro. Darren Fulmore | Reactivation & Retention - Bro. Gregory Gary |
| Treasurer - Bro. Kishawn Sutton | Brother's Keeper - Bros. Nurney Mason & Rick Greenlee |
| Financial Secretary - Bro. Brandon Buckner | Men's Health Forum - Bros. Dr. Jonathan Goode & David Banks |
| Director of Education - Bro. Dr. Jeffrey Holmes | Father's Day Breakfast - Bro. Duane Edwards |
| Chapter Dean of Membership Development - Bro. Shawn Watkins | Bowling Party - Bro. Rodney Frank |
| Parliamentarian - Bro. Daryll Butler | Ways & Means - Bros. Brandon Buckner & Kishawn Sutton |
| Historian - Bro. Wesley Johnson | Information Technology - Bros. Michael Richardson & Michael Logan |
| Sergeant-At-Arms - Bro. Andy Michel | Constitution & Bylaws - Bro. Daryll Butler |
| Associate Editor-to-the-Sphinx - Bro. Kendall Pace | Archival - Bro. Wesley Johnson |
| Chaplain - Bros. Rick Greenlee & Nurney Mason | Marketing - Bros. Anthony "PJ" Harris & Bobby Manning |
| Immediate Past President - Bro. Kevin Stewart | Educational Activities - Bro. Dr. Jeffrey Holmes |
| | Project Alpha - Bro. D'Andre Wilson |
| | Go to High School, Go to College - Bro. Bobby Rushing |
| | A Voteless People is a Hopeless People - Bro. Michael Nelson |

For any article ideas and/or pictures for submission consideration to the *SPHINX* or the *PULse*, please send all submissions to:

Bro. Kendall Pace
kcpkendall@gmail.com
301-346-2049

The Pi Upsilon Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha meets on the 2nd Friday of every month, promptly at 7:06 p.m at:

SKC Early Education Center
70 Watkins Park Drive
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20774

This has been another exciting edition of the *PULse*!
So long, and ‘til next time.....

“OHHHHHHH SIX”

