

December 2012 Edition

CHI PHI SPEAKS



MESSAGE FROM THE BASILEUS

On Sunday November 18, 2012, Chi Phi Chapter visited Shorter AME Church in recognition of Achievement Week. We received a warm welcome from the congregation and the message of the day was "Why are we so Afraid?". I thought about the message and came up with the following: Omega Psi Phi Fraternity was founded on Christian principles and prides itself on not being afraid to do what is necessary to help those in need.

Chi Phi Chapter throughout 2012, made its presence known in the community by working with youth through our "Project Manhood" rights of passage initiative. Additionally, we partnered with Holmes Omega Scholarship Foundation to provide scholarships to promising college students and worked with the Aurora Branch of the NAACP to fight against discrimination. During Achievement week the Brotherhood volunteered at the Veterans hospital spending time with and engaging with elderly and wounded vets. The brotherhood also conducted the much vaunted annual Paint-A-Thon. This year we painted the exterior of two homes of elderly individuals in the historic Park Hill Community. During the Thanksgiving holiday Brother Michael Short along with other caterers fed ten low-income families. Brothers Tajani Cole and Bro. Montgomery volunteered at Rosa Linda's Restaurant on Thanksgiving day to feed struggling families near Downtown Denver.

We understand that these endeavors are not just activities, but what we are called to do as Christian men and as a part of a Christian brotherhood. The spiritual leader of our chapter, our Chaplain, Brother Stanley Bey

along with the Sheriff's Department, dropped off thanksgiving food baskets to families facing economic difficulty. And all the aforementioned are only brief highlights of what Omega Men all over the world do throughout the year. "For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline." Chi Phi Chapter is not afraid to do what is needed for the community, instead we welcome the challenge God has placed before us.

The Grand Basileus' theme for 2012 was "Community meets Character". Brother Ray's theme means that the expectation of the Brotherhood is to not only go above the call of duty to address all of the mandated programs, but also to be courageous and without fear when confronting the social ills that continue to have a negative impact on our community. We are to do that without judgment or resentment recognizing that we are but a part of those we serve.

Lastly, people constantly ask why are Omega Men so fearless when it comes to issues related to social justice, standing up for the disenfranchised, and serving the community. And the answer is simple, because the Supreme Being gave a vision to the founders to develop Four Cardinal Principles to address fear or uncertainty; Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift. The question for Omega is not "Why are we so afraid" but "Why we are brave enough to do what is right?" My brothers; that's who we are! And for that reason I Just Love Cooper and Coleman.

*Fraternally,
C. Omar Montgomery
Basileus, Chi Phi Chapter*

ACHIEVEMENT WEEK 2012

As we prepare to close out another extremely successful year characterized by hard work and high achievement, Chi Phi chapter has again answered the call to duty and service in a resounding way. It is fitting that a year filled with accomplishment be concluded with an Achievement Week observation that saw brothers serving and celebrating.

There was a brotherhood day where brothers reached out to brothers all across the country and internationally. It was a time to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood.

There was also a brother's only official Founder's Observance. The ceremony was solemn and served to reinvigorate the brothers as they renewed their oath and shared in fellowship.

The Achievement Week luncheon was well attended and was an opportunity to highlight significant contributions of individuals throughout the year.

The week concluded most fittingly with Brothers together in church giving thanks to the almighty for allowing us to serve and providing the strength we need to face all challenges. Brothers reflected on the sacrifice and vision of our Founder's and prayed the Supreme Basileus' continued blessings on our great fraternity and the various communities that we serve.

THANKFUL & BLESSED

During the holiday season people generally make time to reflect on the many blessings in their lives: Family, friends, opportunities, health and well-being. When we reflect on these things it often causes us to give pause and also think of those who may be less fortunate. In Matthew 25:40 it is written, "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' We do this because it is a central theme and a part of the Christian manhood which is our aim.



On Monday, November 19, 2012, Chi Phi Chapter Chaplain, Bro. Stanley Bey, worked in conjunction with the Black Sheriff's Protective Association (BSPA) to distribute approximately 40 Thanksgiving Dinners to families in the Denver community. BSPA is a non-profit organization within the Denver Sheriff's Department. The effort was lead by two Omega men, Brother Gary Wilson, Chief, Denver Sheriff's Department and Brother Erone Adams, Denver Sheriff. Brother Adams also ensured that among those blessed by this effort were 5 widows of 5 of our dearly departed brothers.

We shall continue to honor their service and provide brotherly love and support to their families. The baskets were assembled by numerous volunteers at the Denver Sheriff's training facility.

ACHIEVEMENT WEEK 2012

Achievement Week 2012 was a cold, snowy November morning in Denver, eight thoroughly immersed Omega Men (and 2 Candidates) from the Chi Phi chapter completed the ceremony. The ceremony was held at the home of 6th Grand Basileus of Omega Psi Phi and Chi Phi chapter founder, Dr. Clarence F. Holmes. The home located at 2330 Downing St. is an ever present reminder of the Omega history and Grand traditions of our beloved Omega.

Our purpose for this day was the much anticipated beginning of our Adopt-A-Street program. This is a program where we have committed to gather on a regular basis to clean the streets. The Chapter had to postpone on two previous occasions because of weather, but we decided that weather would not interfere with this endeavor for a third time regardless of the conditions. All in all, we covered eleven blocks of Downing Street from 23rd

street to 32nd avenue, which at one time was considered the center of Denver thanks to the almighty for allowing us to serve and providing the strength we need to face all challenges. Brothers reflected on the sacrifice and vision of our Founder's and prayed the Supreme Basileus continued blessings on our great fraternity and the various communities that we serve.

We received many thanks and compliments from the community as we traversed our way down and then back up Downing St. The effort was well received by the neighborhood. Weather permitting, Chi Phi Chapter will make this a monthly effort.

A BIG Vice- Basileus ROO to the following Brothers: **Mika El Heru, Stefon Atmore, Ganiyu Abdul, Al Gardner, Eric Hamilton, Ronaldo Babb, Jason Butler....** braved the cold to help a community that needs Omega's continued support. Chi Phi Chapter would also like to thank MSP Candidates of Omega Michael Williams and Noel Williams for their support and on-going commitment to this community service activity.



COMING EVENTS

The Carlos Houston Memorial Toy Drive

As has been our custom, we will be partnering with the Denver Sheriff's to provide toys and clothes to children at the Edna Oliver Daycare center and the E&R Cannon Daycare Center. The date is yet to be determined.

We will send out a special announcement with the details soon. In the meantime, please bring your donations of clothes, toys and cash to the December chapter meeting. As well, any donations may be dropped off at Stan's Barbershop located at 1074 S. Ironton Street, Aurora, Colorado 80012. Call Brother Stanley Bey if you need directions or have questions: 720-329-5427.

The Chi Phi Chapter Christmas Party is Coming Up!



The tentative date is December 15th. The location is still TBD. Additional information will be forthcoming from the committee.

We will send out a special announcement and the Neo's will be conducting a phone tree to ensure all brothers receive the information in a timely manner.

JANUARY CHAPTER MEETING
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2012
6 P.M. AT THE OWLS CLUB