

FALL 2023

THE CHRONICLE

FOURTH DISTRICT



OHIO & WEST VIRGINIA

Title: Welcome Letter

Submitted by: Bro. Hal J. Dumas, Jr.

Bro Hal J. Dumas, Jr.
District Director of Public Relations The Mighty 4th District
Institute, WV

21 October 2023

Dear Members of the 4th District,

I hope this message finds you well. It is with great enthusiasm that I welcome you to the latest edition of "The 4th District Chronicle."

As your District Director of Public Relations, I am delighted to present this quarterly publication, which serves as a comprehensive source of current affairs from our vibrant district. "The 4th District Chronicle" is more than just a publication; it's a window into the diverse and dynamic world of our district, which spans the states of Ohio and West Virginia. In its pages, you will find a wealth of information about the remarkable work and achievements of our nearly 30 active chapters. This publication embodies our commitment to transparency, communication, and community building. It serves as a platform for sharing the stories, experiences, and accomplishments of our dedicated members, making it a valuable resource for everyone in our district.

In the pages of "The 4th District Chronicle," you'll discover a wealth of engaging content, from inspiring success stories to informative articles, updates on key district initiatives, and profiles of the outstanding individuals who contribute to our collective success. We believe that information empowers, and this publication is a testament to that belief. The "District 4 Chronicle" keeps our district well-informed and connected. It is a reflection of our shared journey and the remarkable impact we make together.

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the contributors, writers, and editors who have dedicated their time and effort to make this publication a reality. Without your passion and commitment, this wouldn't be possible. Please enjoy this edition of "The 4th District Chronicle." We look forward to your feedback and continued engagement as we work together to strengthen and enrich our district.

Thank you for your unwavering support and participation. Together, we are shaping a brighter future for the 4th District.

Fraternally,
Bro. Hal J. Dumas, Jr.
District Director of Public Relations The Mighty 4th District.



Title: Beta Iota Chapter's Brothers: Guiding the Path to Empower Black-Owned Businesses

Submitted by: Bro. Marcus Bethay

The brothers of Beta Iota Chapter continue to build strategic partnerships in the city of Cincinnati, dedicating resources to support organizations who have established programs and helping to elevate them. An example of this is the role the brothers of Beta Iota have taken on with the United Way of Greater Cincinnati, actively participating in the Black Empowerment Works program. This initiative, aimed at providing grants to Black-owned businesses, has found champions within Beta Iota Chapter. Brothers Lucien Kidd and Chris Macklin have stepped up as dedicated reviewers for the program, generously contributing their time and expertise to identify the most effective use of the program's funds.

Black Empowerment Works is a program that places a strong emphasis on promoting Black self-determination, social mobility, and economic prosperity. Since its inception in 2020, this program has invested over \$5 million in 130 groundbreaking ideas and their visionary leaders. In a strategic partnership with P&G Always brand and bi3, Black Empowerment Works seeks to address two pressing issues:

1. Tackling Over-Representation of Black Families in Poverty: There is a glaring over-representation of Black families experiencing poverty. Black Empowerment Works recognizes this stark reality and aims to rectify it by providing targeted support to Black-owned businesses and initiatives.
2. Uplifting Black-Led Work and Expertise: Historically, there has been an underinvestment in community-based, Black-led work and expertise. The program is dedicated to reversing this trend by offering not only financial support but also capacity-building resources to empower Black changemakers.

Beta Iota Chapter's brothers play a pivotal role as members of the Empowerment Works review committee, steering its course and ensuring its effectiveness. Their active participation on the committee underscores their profound commitment to addressing issues of racial disparity and advancing Black-led initiatives. With a direct hand in the decision-making process, they shape the program's strategy and direction, ensuring that it aligns with the overarching goal of uplifting Black communities.



Title: Beta Iota Ballpark with Veterans

Submitted by: Bro. Marcus Bethay

In the context of Beta Iota Chapter's partnership with The Joseph House and Hunter Greene of the Cincinnati Reds to support veterans, it's important to first look at the core factors that contribute to the state many veterans in our country live in. A number of the men and women who enlist in the armed services to defend this country's freedom come home to less than ideal situations and are in dire need of the programs and services provided by Veteran Affairs and other organizations.

All veterans deserve to live respectable lives after doing the work of protecting our country, however that is not always the case. And, the data says this happens at a higher rate for black veterans compared to their white fellow servicemen and women.

According to NBC News, recent findings reveal that approximately 36.5% of all living Black veterans are currently receiving VA benefits, a significant contrast to the 28.4% of white veterans who are benefiting from VA support. These statistics shed light on the disparities in access to vital resources and services among veterans, underscoring the need for targeted efforts to address these discrepancies.

In light of these statistics and with a genuine desire to support local veterans, the brothers of Beta Iota worked with Hunter Greene of the Cincinnati Reds, his agency CAA, the Joseph House of Cincinnati and Graeter's Ice Cream to facilitate veterans attending a game and having a chance to meet Hunter himself. Brother Chris Macklin led the effort of getting local veterans to the event and served as the point person for the chapter.

In total there were over a dozen veterans who attended the event and had a chance to connect with one other while also receiving a VIP day at the ballpark.



Title: Kent State University Renames Student Multicultural Center After Bro. Timothy Moore

Submitted by: Bro. Damon Scott

CLEVELAND, OH—Edmund Timothy Moore graduated from Cleveland Glenville High School in the class of 1969 and enrolled at Kent State University (KSU) as a freshman on an art scholarship in the fall of that year, majoring in graphic design. He joined both the Black Ensemble and Black United Students (BUS) as soon as he arrived on campus. Little did he know it at the time, but that would be the commencement of a relationship he would have with KSU that would endure for over 50 years.

That following spring semester, young Timothy became interested in seeking membership in the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. When he decided to attend the smoker for the recently formed Psi Gamma Chapter, his childhood friend Michael Brown, from both Glenville High and Empire Junior High School, accompanied him. Once they and their line brothers were well into their journey in the Lampados Club, they, along with every other student on campus, would share an experience that would shock the world. It became known as the Kent State massacre, which left four students dead on May 4, 1970, from gunshots fired by the Ohio National Guard; it had occupied the campus, along with several others in the state, in response to student protests of the war in Vietnam. Nine days after the shooting, Timothy became Brother Edmund Timothy Moore, 4-1970-Psi Gamma!

During his time in the Lampados Club, Timothy certainly would have learned about accomplished Omega Men, like Brother Carter G. Woodson, who, as founder of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, established Negro History Week during the second week of February in 1926. And as a Kent State student more than four decades later, Brother Moore was on campus when BUS began to advocate for the entire month of February to be commemorated as Black History Month. Thus, he was part of the KSU student movement that initially celebrated Black history for the entire month of February in 1970, a full six years before it was formally designated as such in the United States in 1976.

As a neophyte in Omega, Timothy continued his active membership in BUS, serving as minister of art and eventually as the organization's president in 1971. Under his leadership, the organization created both the Pan-African Festival and the Renaissance Ball. Two years later, he would become KSU alumnus Edmond Timothy Moore by earning his Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts in 1973. But his educational relationship with Kent did not end there; he would go on to receive his Master of Arts Degree in 1977 and another Master's Degree, the second time in Fine Arts, in 1983. Thus, all three of his academic degrees were in Visual Communication Design from KSU.



And even after completing all of his degree work, Brother Moore's love for his Alma Mater continued as he became a professor on campus. He taught Pan-African studies in the College of Arts and Sciences for several years, before serving as Assistant Dean of that College, beginning in 1998. Moore was later promoted to Associate Dean of Undergraduate Affairs for the College. During his 12 year leadership tenure, he created courses such as Introduction to African Arts, Aesthetics in the Black Community, and Art Communication. He

also served as faculty adviser to the UHURU (Kiswahili for freedom) Magazine as well as the Black Watch student newspaper.

Professor Moore displayed a passion for advising underrepresented and underserved students and was considered the "go-to" professor for many students, including those enrolled in other colleges. He taught courses in African and African American historic, artistic and cultural experiences, before eventually becoming Associate Dean Emeritus in the College of Arts and Sciences and Associate Professor Emeritus in the Department of Pan-African Studies.

After dedicating his career to educating and expanding the young minds of KSU students, Professor Moore retired from academia in 2010. The following year, he was the first African American professor to receive the Kent State Alumni Association's Distinguished Teaching Award, a recognition established by BUS in 2011. He also was awarded the university's Diversity Trailblazer Award in 2015.

A dedicated brother of Psi Gamma Chapter, Brother Moore had the distinction of helping to initiate every line of the Lam-pados Club that followed him chronologically in the chapter for 50 years! He also was affectionately regarded as the chapter historian.

Having lived a well-accomplished life, Edmund Timothy Moore passed away unexpectedly, entering Omega Chapter on February 1, 2021. Given a career dedicated to Pan-African and African American culture, it almost seems fitting that he transitioned on the first day of Black History Month . . .

To honor his legacy, university President Todd Diacon, in conjunction with the Board of Trustees, approved the renaming of the Student Multicultural Center to the E. Timothy Moore Student Multicultural Center. The center was renamed in recognition of a \$50,000 gift from D'Andra Mull, Ph.D., who is a 2002 KSU alumna. A dedication ceremony was held on Saturday, October 1, 2022, during Kent's Homecoming.

The renaming ceremony was attended by several members of the university community, including Brother Moore's family and many brothers of Psi Gamma Chapter. Two of his line brothers, Brothers Hammett Lilly and William Forrester, were present. During the ceremony, President Diacon stated that Brother Moore was the first person he met after moving to Northeast Ohio, and shared "to know Tim was to love Tim; he was a beautiful human being" who touched the lives of so many.

Dr. Mull has served in student affairs leadership positions across the country. She remembered the impact that Brother Moore had on her life and the lives of other students. "I am grateful to have the opportunity to honor Dr. Moore. One of the first things Dr. Moore said to me when I came to campus was 'I see you.' When I work with students to this day, I always see students because of the way Dr. Moore saw us."



Dr. Lamar Hylton, who serves as KSU Senior Vice President for Student Affairs, also was present for the ceremony and said that renaming the space in honor of Dean Moore is symbolic of the center's mission being in perfect alignment with Moore's life work. "The Student Multicultural Center is a place where our entire community can be educated on the power of equity, inclusivity and belonging – this is congruent with Dean Moore's approach to education during his time at Kent State," Dr. Hylton said. "Having the Center bear his name is symbolic of mission and action aligning."

Brother Moore's widow, Mrs. Debra DeLacy Moore, who met her husband at Kent State when she was all of 18 years old, was present and gave special thanks to Dr. Mull for her kindness and generosity. Their children, son Elliot Moore and daughter Candace Garton-Mullen, shared childhood memories of running around the Center when their father was working. "He valued his work at the university and valued the knowledge he provided to the students," Garton-Mullen said. "He tried to make the world a better place by educating our youth. This is the most incredible honor; it means the world to my family."

Brother Moore's passion for educating our youth lives on through the E. Timothy Moore Scholarship that was created after his death. The scholarship, which honors his outstanding contributions to KSU, is for students who major or minor in Pan-African Studies and also for brothers of Omega Psi Phi. It can be used for tuition, books, and living expenses.

But his focus on students was not limited by the boundaries of the Kent State campus. Brother Moore embodied Omega's commitment to youth mentoring, with a particular focus on African American males. For several years, he worked to help increase graduation rates of ninth grade African American males in high schools of the neighboring city of Akron, and also did work in Ohio's juvenile correctional facilities.

Brother Edmund Timothy Moore was clearly a beloved longtime member of the Kent State University community whose legacy left an enormous imprint on the campus. And now that legacy lives on and will continue to impact students who enter the doors for learning and cultural experiences at the E. Timothy Moore Student Multicultural Center.



Title: Zeta Omega Supports Victims of Domestic Violence Through Work With Local Nonprofit

Submitted by: Bro. Damon Scott

CLEVELAND, OH—Domestic violence unfortunately can have an impact on many aspects of the community. When it comes to our consciousness about it, we probably think of women as being the most likely victims of this particular form of trauma. However, the reach can be far greater. Many times the harm can affect the youngest in our community . . . our youth. Statistics indicate that one in seven children have experienced some form of abuse or neglect in the past year. There is always a need for assistance around this subject matter in our communities.

For the past several years, the Brothers of Zeta Omega Chapter have been trying to make a positive impact in the Greater Cleveland community by bringing awareness to domestic violence and promoting prevention efforts. This endeavor is part of the chapter's engagement in one of Omega's mandated programs, conflict resolution.

Brother Tony Charles (1976 Sigma Psi) serves as Chairman of the Conflict Resolution Committee, for both the Fourth District and Zeta Omega Chapter. He and his committee have worked hard to establish an ongoing relationship between the chapter and a local nonprofit organization that offers information and services for domestic violence and child abuse. The Journey Center for Safety and Healing in Cleveland provides services that foster safety and healing to those affected by domestic violence and child abuse, and works to prevent abuse through education, advocacy, and systemic change.

During this past Easter season, the brothers of Zeta Omega thought of a new and creative way for the chapter to expand its relationship and support of the Journey Center. Brother Benjamin Holbert (1980 Psi Gamma) is the mayor of the Village of Woodmere, a Cleveland suburb. He reached out to a few Zeta Omega brothers who chair committees that focus on social action to make them aware of an opportunity to provide Uplift to those in the community who are in need. Mayor Holbert has had a business relationship for more than a decade with Mr. David Price, CEO of Price Builders. Mr. Price contacted the mayor and asked if he could make a recommendation on identifying a community organization that serves youth and children because he wanted to make a donation of Easter baskets.

Brother Holbert communicated the opportunity to Brother James Wingo (1970 Phi Sigma), who previously co-chaired the Fatherhood Initiative and Mentoring Committee for both Zeta Omega and the Fourth District. Brother Wingo made the suggestion that they include Brother Charles in the conversation because of his committee's relationship with the Journey Center. Once they did, Brother Charles immediately liked the idea of making this donation to the organization. So he made the connection between the Center's staff and Mayor Holbert



Title: Zeta Omega Supports Victims of Domestic Violence Through Work With Local Nonprofit

Submitted by: Bro. Damon Scott

The end result was a date set on the calendar for everyone involved to meet at the Center's business offices to make the donation of a total of 120 Easter baskets for children whose mothers utilize the services of the Journey Center. Thus, on a rainy Wednesday before Good Friday and Easter, Brothers Wingo, Charles, and Holbert met Brother Grover Brown (2011 Zeta Omega), chapter Basileus, and Brother Damon Scott (1990 Mu Iota), chapter Public Relations Chair, along with Mr. Price, to bring the effort to fruition. The Woodmere Police Department ensured the safe delivery of the baskets to the Journey Center.

The brothers of Zeta Omega were thankful for Mr. Price's philanthropy that made it possible for the opportunity to spread love and kindness during the Easter season. This selfless gesture by Mr. Price, who is a cancer survivor, was born out of the health challenges he previously had, which made him feel as though he wanted to make sure that he gave back to the community.

He also shared that based on his experience serving on the board of directors for a nonprofit organization several years ago, he was touched by the plight of those who had such basic needs, such as shelter, and saw the chance to help people in distress. Mr. Price recalled the heartbreaking sight of women and children in anguish, and felt a strong desire to do something about it.

"This unselfish act of generosity will brighten the Easter holiday for children who need a little extra love during this time. The Village of Woodmere is proud to have been a part of this collaboration and would like to thank everyone involved for their efforts to make a positive impact in the community. The Easter baskets may bring joy to children who need to experience the happiness of the holiday." said Mayor Holbert, expressing his gratitude for Price Builders and Zeta Omega Chapter.

Prior to this endeavor, most of the chapter's volunteerism with the Journey Center had occurred over the past few years during the month of October, which is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. That work has included hosting a free community forum entitled, Behind the Doors...A Panel Discussion on Preventing Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. The goal of that event was to identify strategies and resources to help educate the public on the causes, effects, and prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Zeta Omega also started a campaign called Nine for Nine. The initiative highlighted the fact that in the United States, every nine seconds someone is impacted by violence. Brothers were asked to donate at least nine dollars in support of awareness about the issue. At the end of the campaign, the raised funds were donated to the Journey Center during the chapter's Achievement Week activities in November. The chapter raised and donated a total of \$1,000 for the Center.

The organization's staff was very grateful for the donation, as well as for the work that Zeta Omega has done for it throughout its relationship. "In this work, it is so important for men to stand up and speak out, and really



voice support for women, and against violence against women. We so appreciate the work that your fraternity has done for so many years in this role” said Melissa Graves, Chief Executive Officer of the Journey Center.

During that check presentation, brothers inquired with Ms. Graves if there was any other way that Zeta Omega could support the important work of the organization. Their attention was drawn to a large table at the opposite end of the conference room where they were gathered; it was overflowing with clothing, school supplies, winter apparel, personal care items, and lots of toys. Brothers learned that the Center staff would be gift wrapping everything on the table, and probably ten times that amount, over the next month in an effort to provide some holiday cheer and Christmas joy to the women and children supported by the organization. And with a smile on her face, the CEO added that they certainly could use some assistance with the project.

So Brother Charles again went to work. He starting by recruiting the brothers in the room, and then continued reaching out to other brothers to ask for more volunteers. The result was a group of several brothers visiting the Center in mid-December to test their skills at Christmas gift wrapping, which was interesting to say the least! The brothers shared that they had fun while providing community Uplift for a great cause.

Brother Charles stated that “The Fraternity has made the issue of domestic violence awareness a priority, and we are very fortunate to be able to partner with an organization like the Journey Center for Safety and Healing. We will continue to help raise the level of awareness throughout our entire community, and hopefully reduce incidences of domestic violence.”

The impact of Zeta Omega’s work has been felt and acknowledged by the Center’s frontline staff as well. “It’s just always so great to be able to partner with organizations that really understand the need and the work that we do. There are so many families in need right now, especially around the holidays, so we just really appreciate the partnership that Omega Psi Phi brings to our organization, and your support . . . we just can’t say enough about it” commented Carrie Joseph, Prevention and Community Engagement Manager, for the Center.

Zeta Omega is committed to continuing its partnership with, and support for, the Journey Center for Safety and Healing, and the great work it does in the Greater Cleveland community.



Title: Mu Iota HOME REPAIR

Submitted by: Bro. Reginald Adams

Article Date 8/1/23

City & State Columbus Ohio

Chapter & District Mu Iota Chapter, 4th District

Article Text The brothers of Mu Iota made repairs to local homes and performed maintenance work on the homes of residents who expressed a need for this type of work but lacked financial means to pay for it. Mu Iota partnered with Non-Profit Organization MODCON Living and joined forces with private volunteer corporations, and community organizations to make minor repairs and complete maintenance work that improved the appearance and livability of areas homes. Brothers believe everyone should have access to resources to live in a safe and healthy home. Service was provided to any resident who asked for help. Finished projects improved appearance of homes and made lasting impression on the families serviced. MODCON Living (3840 E. 5th Ave, Columbus, OH 43219 Telephone: (614) 252-2593) is dedicated to sustaining homes and neighborhoods by providing reliable, affordable home repair and maintenance.



Title: Mu Iota School Supplies Donated to Trevitt Elementary School

Submitted by: Bro. Reginald Adams

Article Date 8/15/23

City & State Columbus Ohio

Chapter & District Mu Iota Chapter, 4th District

Article Text Mu Iota's donation to Trevitt Elementary School (519 Trevitt Street, Columbus, OH 43203) is meant to ensure no child is left behind for lack of school supplies. It is important for every child to have school supplies because it ensures they are equipped to perform in the classroom. The brothers of Mu Iota believe and in keeping with the Cardinal Principle of SCHOLARSHIP, "A young scholar can rise as high as their education and intellect will carry them." Therefore, it is important for them to have the supplies they need to fully engage with the education process.



Title: Mu Iota works with Troubled Youth

Submitted by: Bro. Reginald Adams

Article Date 9/15/23

City & State Columbus Ohio

Chapter & District Mu Iota Chapter, 4th District

Article Text Mu Iota joined forces with members of the Divine 9 to work with youth detained in the Franklin County Juvenile Detention Center. They met with detainees in small groups over lunch and had open and frank discussions regarding challenges in life they can expect to face, and then pass on practical advice on making sound life decisions. They finished their visit by helping the youth start a community garden.



Title: Mu Iota School Supplies Donated to Trevitt Elementary School

Submitted by: Bro. Reginald Adams

8/15/23

City & State Columbus Ohio

Chapter & District Mu Iota Chapter, 4th District

Article Text Mu Iota's donation to Trevitt Elementary School (519 Trevitt Street, Columbus, OH 43203) is meant to ensure no child is left behind for lack of school supplies. It is important for every child to have school supplies because it ensures they are equipped to perform in the classroom. The brothers of Mu Iota believe and in keeping with the Cardinal Principle of SCHOLARSHIP, "A young scholar can rise as high as their education and intellect will carry them." Therefore, it is important for them to have the supplies they need to full engage with the education process,

Pictured: L-R Brothers Zachery Hill, Stephen Jones, Bryan K. Dirke, and Eldon Smith



Title: Xi Alpha STEM PROJECT

Submitted by: Bro. Hollis Lewis

Thursday April 27, 2023, marked the first day of the 82nd Fourth District Meeting in Charleston, West Virginia. This district meeting was hosted by Xi Alpha, Theta Psi, and Gamma Lambada chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. While brothers throughout the district (Ohio and West Virginia) were making their way to Charleston, the host chapters partnered with the Midian Leadership Project located on Charleston's Westside to host a S.T.E.M (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) activity. Midian is a center that provides leadership, athletic, educational, and other assistance to our city's most at risk youth. Therefore, we partnered with Midian to give our youth the opportunity to participate in S.T.E.M programs that are relatable and fun.

Brothers throughout the 4th District descended upon the Midian Center to discuss careers in S.T.E.M. and provide activities for the center's youth. The first activity was building solar cars. The youth, along with the help from the Omega men built solar cars from Kits provided by the host chapters. After the cars were built, each team placed their cars in the sun and waited for them to charge. Thereafter, the teams would race the cars against one another. The children not only got a lesson in engineering but observed how solar technology affected their cars' performance. Next, students were tasked to think like engineers. The student's objective was to build a stable structure using marshmallows and wooden sticks. Overall, this was a very successful event, the students got to learn new skills, had fun, and most importantly got to see people who look like them host a S.T.E.M. activity. This provided a great start to the 82nd Fourth District meeting.



Title: Chi Alpha and Zeta Sigma Chapters

Bluefield State University Homecoming 2023

Submitted by: Bro. Ron Walker

October 5, to October 8, 2023

The Brothers of Chi Alpha and Zeta Sigma Chapters came home to Southern West Virginia for Bluefield State University's 2023 Homecoming. There were brothers in attendance who joined the fraternity from 1958 through 2022. From Thursday through Saturday brothers were able to Fellowship and handle the work of Omega. They partnered with Good Health Wins with the theme for the weekend "WEAR A RIBBON". The brothers passed out purple ribbons in honor of Domestic Violence Month (donating women's apparel to the Wise Women's Center) and encouraged people to get vaccinated for COVID, RSV, and the FLU. Through the weekend they held AED Defibrillator Training, Narcan Training, Active Shooter Training, Diabetes Awareness, Voter Registration, and donated food, clothes and pampers. Representing the 4th District and being the International Social Action Small Graduate Chapter of the Year, Chi Alpha and Zeta Sigma set out the tailgate and serviced the community.



