

NOV
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MI NEWS



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Mu Iota Chapter of The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
Reg Adams Director of PR/Publisher

FOUNDERS DAY EDITION

BASILEUS CORNER

Brother Basileus Thomas Hill



"Make a Difference!"

Happy Founders Day Brothers!

I want the following words to be a source of mental and spiritual sustenance to help reaffirm our commitment to Omega. From my vantage point there is nothing more basic to this proposition than for each member of the chapter to reaffirm his commitment to live by the Four Cardinal Principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift. I challenge each member to commit to the following precepts:

Manhood - Being appropriate in character and marked by moral excellence, courage, bravery, and resolve.

Scholarship - Demonstrating an attitude toward education, learning and being informed by achieving or exceeding and maintaining the minimum educational requirements of the fraternity.

Perseverance - Exhibiting a "spirit" of brotherhood, togetherness, humility, cooperation, and a willingness to go an extra mile for the goal sought, as a responsible first-class citizen. This can be demonstrated by presenting obstacles overcome, awards received, and honors issued.

Uplift - Sharing one's gifts with the community in the form, verifiable aid, activism, and leadership

"Friendship is Essential to the Soul"

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Omega Study

The series of articles in this issue of MI News are meant to help focus our attention on what Omega stands for, and by implication, what responsibilities fall upon the shoulders of those few who have earned the privilege to wear the letters ΩΨΦ and the colors Royal Purple and Old Gold.

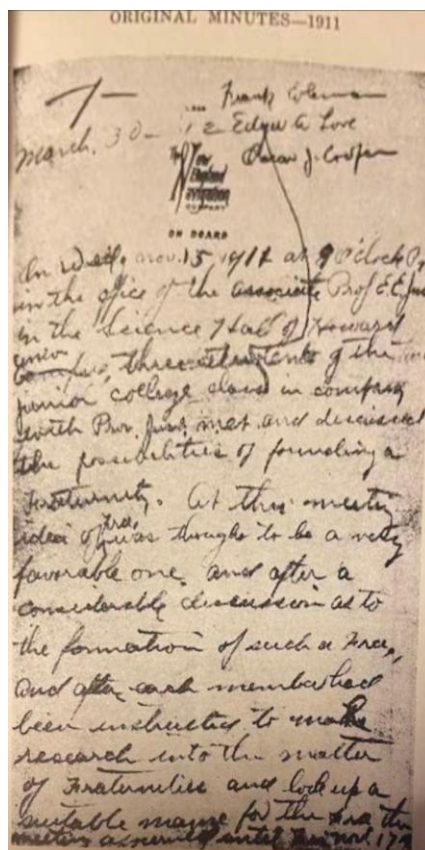
So, You Want to be a “A Que,” “An Omega Man?” ... The Beginning

Psalms 37-23 states, “the steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and he delighteth in his way.”

The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity can be your chosen way of life if you choose – if you desire to be a cut above the rest.”

This was the thinking of three undergraduate students and their faculty advisor at Howard University in 1911 when they formally met to create the first Greek letter organization that was established on the campus of a historically black college... Howard University in Washington D.C.

Undergraduates Edgar Amos Love, Oscar James Cooper, and Frank Coleman met 11/15/1911 in the Science Hall office of Associate Professor and first recipient of the NAACP Spingarn Medal, Dr. Ernest Everett Just to discuss formation of a fraternity. Below are the original meeting minutes followed by a transcription of the minutes.



TRANSCRIPTION OF THE NOVEMBER 15, 1911, MEETING MINUTES

“On Wed. Nov 15, 1911, at 9 o’clock in the office of the Associate Prof E.E. Just in the Science Hall of Howard Univ, three students of the junior college class in company with Prof Just met and discussed the possibilities of formalizing a fraternity. At this meeting ideas of all, was thought to be a very favorable one.

And after a considerable discussion as to the formation of such of such a fra(ternity) and after each member had been instructed to make research into the matter of fraternities and look up a suitable name for the fraternity.

Meeting adjourned until Nov. 17, 1911” (.)

MEET THE FOUNDERS

(Click images to go to founder history at Tau Pi)

Let’s take a closer look at the lives of the Honorable Founders Ernest Everett Just, Edgar Amos Love, Oscar James Cooper, and Frank Coleman.

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These men met in the Science Building to begin the process of establishing the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, as expressed in the meeting minutes of November 15, 1911.

The Founders were not haphazard in their planning for establishing the fraternity. They adopted a phased approach.

The first being discussions on the desirability of forming a fraternity, which was followed by research that led to the formalization of the structure on November 17, 1911.

What follows are biographical sketches of the visionaries who established an organization that grew from just four members to well over 30,000 financial brothers:

Ernest Everett Just



Brother (Dr.) Ernest E. Just was a college professor selected by Brothers Coleman, Cooper, and Love to assist with the founding and establishment of Omega at Howard University in 1911.

Bro. Just was born in Charleston, South Carolina and graduated from the Industrial School of the State College in Orangeburg. This school is now known as South Carolina State University.

Bro. Just went on to study at Kimball Union Academy in Meriden, New Hampshire. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Dartmouth College where he was honored by being selected as Phi Beta Kappa for his outstanding academic performance as an undergraduate.

Bro. Just received his Doctor of Philosophy Degree from the University of Chicago and was the recipient of the coveted Spingarn Award for his works.

Bro. Just was honored as the 19th person selected to grace the U.S. Postal Service's Black Heritage Stamp collection. Bro. Just died in 1941.

Frank Coleman



Brother Frank Coleman, an undergraduate and best friend of Edgar A. Love and Oscar J. Cooper, was born in Washington DC. He matriculated through the Washington DC segregated school system and graduated from M Street High School.

He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree from Howard University in 1913 and a Master of Science degree from the University of Chicago.

Bro. Frank Coleman went on to pursue further study at the University of Pennsylvania and was a professor and head of the Physics Department of Howard University in Washington DC.

Bro. Coleman also served as one of the few black Army officers in World War I. Brother Coleman passed in 1967.

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Oscar J. Cooper



Brother (Dr.) Oscar J. Cooper, like a few of his friends, was born in Washington DC and graduated from M Street High School.

He went on to matriculate at the prestigious Howard University where he studied to become a doctor because he insisted on serving mankind.

Bro. Cooper received his Doctor of Medicine degree from Howard University Medical School in 1917.

He practiced medicine for 50 years in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. His contributions and awards in the field of medicine were many.

He went on like his friends to serve Omega until his dying

day in 1972, the last founder to depart this earth.

Edgar A. Love



Brother Edgar A. Love was born in Harrisburg, Virginia.

He graduated from Morgan College and went on to receive a Bachelor of Arts degree from Howard University in 1913.

Bro. Love's interest in divinity garnered him a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Howard in 1916 as well.

He studied theology at Boston University and received a Bachelor of Sacred Theology degree in 1918.

Because of his lifelong service to God and mankind he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Morgan College.

Bro. Love served as a US Army Chaplain in World War I and went on to serve a lifetime of dedicated service as a Bishop in the Methodist Church.

Why should the biblical passage Psalm 133 be important in the life of an Omega Man?

(We credit bibleref.com for the information that is contained in this article.)

Psalm 133 has been recited countless times by men who have crossed or desire the privilege of crossing the burning sand.

A logical question would be why? Why should this psalm be important in the lives of Omega Men? Well, it is because The psalm praises the blessings and joy that come from living in harmony and love with God and one another

Psalm 133 is a song of worship and celebration of the unity of God's people.

It is a Song of Ascents, which means it was sung by the Jewish people as they went up to the Temple in Jerusalem, the high place of God's presence.

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PSALM 133



¹How good and pleasant it is
when God's people
live together in unity!
²It is like precious oil
poured on the head,
running down on the
beard,
running down on
Aaron's beard,
down on the collar
of his robe.
³It is as if the dew of
Hermon
were falling on
Mount Zion.
For there
the LORD bestows his
blessing,
even life
forevermore.

Psalm 133 is a short but powerful psalm that celebrates the beauty of unity and brotherhood.

The psalm begins with the declaration, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" .

The psalmist then uses two metaphors to describe the blessings of unity. The first metaphor is the anointing oil that was poured on the head of Aaron, the high priest, and flowed down his beard and onto his garments.

The psalmist compares this to the precious oil of unity that flows down from the head to the body of believers .

The second metaphor is the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. The psalmist compares this to the refreshing and life-giving power of unity .

The psalm concludes with the declaration that where there is unity, there is the blessing of life forevermore_.

*" The challenge for all
Omega Men is to live by
Psalm 133"*

POETRY

INVICTUS

By William Ernest Henley



Out of the night that covers me,

Black as the pit from pole
to pole,

I thank whatever gods may be

For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of
circumstance

I have not winced nor cried
aloud.

Under the bludgeonings of
chance

My head is bloody, but
unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and
tears

Looms but the Horror of
the shade,

And yet the menace of the
years

Finds and shall find me
unafraid.

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It matters not how strait the
gate,

How charged with
punishments the scroll,

I am the master of my fate,

I am the captain of my soul.

MAIN IDEA AND CENTRAL THEME OF INVICTUS

The central theme of Invictus is bravery and resilience in the face of hardships in life. The poem inspires anyone going through difficulties or anyone anticipating hardships to face it with courage and to be headstrong.

The poet was going through a really difficult phase in his life when he wrote this poem. He was in the hospital battling tuberculosis. As a child he had constantly battled tuberculosis of bone and had his left leg amputated.

He was hospitalised in 1873 when the infection in his right leg became severe. He also witnessed his fellow patients fighting for life. That is when this poem was written.

CREDIT: Invictus Poem by
William Ernest Henley -

Poem, Meaning, Summary and
Poem Analysis. - Unread Poets
Society

SEE IT THROUGH

By Edgar Albert Guest



When you're up against a
trouble,

Meet it squarely, face to
face;

Lift your chin and set your
shoulders,

Plant your feet and take a
brace.

When it's vain to try
to dodge it,

Do the best that you can do;

You may fail, but you may
conquer,

See it through!

Black may be
the clouds about you

And your future may seem
grim,

But don't let your nerve desert
you;

Keep yourself in fighting trim

.

If the worst is bound to
happen,

Spite of all that you can do,
Running from it will not save
you,

See it through!

Even hope may seem but
futile,

When with troubles you're
beset,

But remember you are facing

Just what other men have
met.

You may fail, but
fall still fighting;

Don't give up, whate'er you
do;

Eyes front, head high to the
finish.

See it through!

CREDIT: See it Through by
Edgar Albert Guest

MAIN IDEA AND CENTRAL THEME OF "SEE IT THROUGH"

'See It Through' by Edgar
Albert Guest is a motivational
poem meant to inspire a reader
to work through whatever
problems they are facing.

The poem begins with
the speaker telling the reader
always to meet one's problems
"face to face." This is the best
way to confront any conflict. As

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the poem progresses, the speaker explains that this is even more true when the problem seems unconquerable or unavoidable. If one fails, that's okay.

By the time a reader gets to the end of the poem, there is no room for doubt around the speaker's opinion on confidence, determination, and perseverance.

These [character traits](#) are of the utmost importance to him, as is the general principle that one should always see things "through" to the end.

CREDIT: [See It Through by Edgar Albert Guest - Poem Analysis](#)

MOTHER TO SON

By Bro. Langston Hughes



Well, son, I'll tell you: Life for me ain't been no crystal stair.

It's had tacks in it, And splinters, And boards torn up, And places with no carpet

on the floor-Bare. But all the time I've been a-climbin' on, And reachin' landin's, And turnin' corners,

And sometimes goin' in the dark where there ain't been no light. So, boy, don't you turn back. Don't you set down on the steps' Cause you finds it's kinder hard. Don't you fall now-For I've still goin', honey, I've still climbin', And life for me ain't been no crystal stair.

MAIN IDEA AND CENTRAL THEME OF "MOTHER TO SON"

"Mother to Son"

"Mother to Son" by Langston Hughes is a poem that conveys the idea of hope through simple imagery. The poem is a monologue in which a mother advises her son to keep moving forward in life, never giving up, despite the many challenges that may come his way. The poem uses the metaphor of a staircase to depict the difficulties and dangers one will face in life. The poem was written in the early 20th century when African Americans were under oppression and racial injustice.

CREDIT: [the meaning of mother to son by langston hughes - Search](#)