THE TENACIOUS 13TH DISTRICT

STEP INTO THE 13TH

A Bridge to Ta-Taki Falls

Story on pg. 10

Fall Edition

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Chi Mu Nu participates in the 5th Annual Juneteenth Celebration in Shanghai, China.

From the Desk of the DR

Brothers of the Tenacious Thirteenth International District,

As we close another quarter in our great District, I remain extremely proud of all that we continue to accomplish together. Across countries, continents, and cultures, the Brothers of the Thirteenth District continue to demonstrate that distance is no obstacle to Brotherhood, service, and excellence. Our chapters remain steadfast in upholding our Cardinal Principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift, while strengthening the presence and impact of Omega throughout the world.

This quarter, we proudly represented the Thirteenth District at the 85th Grand Conclave, achieving the highest number of registered Thirteenth District Brothers in our District's history. This historic level of participation reflects the commitment, enthusiasm, and unity that continue to define our District. When the Thirteenth District answers the call, we show up with purpose and pride. Our presence once again demonstrated why we proudly proclaim that we are "The District that truly makes Omega International."

I am equally proud of the tremendous work being accomplished by our chapters. From scholarship and community service to mentoring, fellowship, and programs that uplift the communities in which we live and serve, the impact of the Thirteenth District continues to grow. I especially recognize the Brothers of Zeta Xi Chapter in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, who celebrated their historic 50th Anniversary this year. Chartered on August 15, 1976, Zeta Xi's five decades of service represent an extraordinary legacy of Brotherhood, leadership, and commitment to Omega.

We also proudly welcome the newest chapter of the Thirteenth International District, Sigma Xi Nu Chapter in Vicenza, Italy. The chartering of Sigma Xi Nu represents another significant milestone in the continued growth and international expansion of our District. To the Brothers of Sigma Xi Nu, welcome to the Tenacious Thirteenth. We wish you tremendous success as you establish your legacy, serve your community, strengthen our Brotherhood, and carry the light of Omega forward in Italy. Your addition to our District further demonstrates the unique global reach of the Thirteenth and reinforces our distinction as "The District that truly makes Omega International."

As we celebrate our accomplishments and expansion, we must remain equally focused on reclamation and retention. I ask every Brother and every chapter to make this a priority. Our strength is not measured solely by the number of new Brothers and chapters we add, but also by our ability to remain connected to the Brothers who have already committed themselves to Omega. Reach out to a Brother we have not seen in some time. Invite him back into the fold, reconnect him with the Brotherhood, and remind him that Omega still has a place for his talents, experience, and service. Through our "Each One Bring One" commitment, every Brother can personally contribute to strengthening the financial and active membership of our District.

As we move forward, let us continue building upon this momentum by strengthening our chapters, supporting our undergraduate Brothers, reclaiming and retaining our membership, expanding our international footprint, and providing meaningful service to our communities. I remain confident in what we can accomplish when we work together. Thank you for your leadership, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment to Omega. The future of the Tenacious Thirteenth is bright, and together we will continue taking our District and our beloved Fraternity to even greater heights.



Brother Freddie Thompson IV
Thirteenth District Representative



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Brother Christopher M. Thompson

Thirteenth District Chaplain

Greetings Brothers,

I pray our Lord has placed His favor over you as we enter this last quarter of the year. During this season, there will be many holidays and chances for Brothers to get together as well as spend time with family and other friends. In the busyness of this season, make sure you also take time to take stock of what matters and look back on the good things that have happened this year. As men of Omega, we know that *"The crux of the whole matter is that life itself should be a series of attempts to accomplish specific projects. If these projects are honorable, and no true Omega man will engage in any but an honorable project, then one may well devote the best that is in him of mind, soul, and body to its final accomplishment."* In the working out so many projects this year, we may have found ourselves so busy that we never took the time to appreciate all that has been done and those who helped us along the way. I worked as a hospital chaplain at Brooke Army Medical Center, and I can tell you that, from being with many families of the sick and dying, two phrases I often heard were, *"I wish we had more time"* and *"I wish I had told them…"*.

My Brothers of the 13th District, we have accomplished so much thus far as we move into the holiday season, and I know we will accomplish so much more, but don't let all the work distract you from what matters most. We'll have parties, fundraisers, and fellowship. We'll have food, fun, and frivolity, all of which we must plan and execute. However, never lose sight of spending time with those who matter most and telling them you care. Tomorrow is not promised, and we all live in *God's Minute*. In John 13:34-35, Jesus commanded us to love one another as He loved us, and He showed that love through action, not just words. In 1 John 3:18, we are told, *"Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth."* This verse shows that true love requires real, tangible deeds that match the way Jesus sacrificed His life. So, my Brothers, let's be intentional not only in working hard for Omega, but also in showing Omega's love to others and ourselves. Most of all, show appreciation and love to the Lord for all He has done and will continue to do in and through us and others.

<u>Upcoming Events:</u> *(Please send me your Chapter's Chaplain's name, email, and WhatsApp as soon as possible.)*

- Quarterly Chaplain Trainings (Zoom)
- Monthly Chaplain Meetings (Zoom)

<u>Omega Prayer Call</u>

Omega Prayer Call Info: Each morning, Monday through Friday at 6:30 AM EST, the Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. come together in prayer and devotion. This spiritually enriching time allows Brothers worldwide to unite their hearts and minds in the spirit of Friendship, Faith, and Fraternity. Calls are led by District Chaplains on a rotating basis. Each call includes scripture, reflection, and prayer, often accompanied by musical selections.

<u>Call-In Details</u>: Dial-In Number: (267) 807-9601 Access Code: 674-166-340

<u>Prayer Call Submission</u>: prayingomegas@gmail.com *(please let them know that you are a member of the 13th District in your prayer request)*

<u>Listen to Past Prayer Calls</u>: Archived recordings are available online at: https://oppf.org/omega-prayer-call



Paying Tribute to Brother Joseph Errol Bradford

The Brothers of Eta Iota Iota Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated gathered at James Memorial Funeral Home in St. Croix on August 21, 2026, to conduct an Omega Memorial Service honoring the life and legacy of Brother Joseph Errol "Joe" Bradford. The service was conducted in accordance with the Fraternity's solemn traditions.

Brother Bradford was initiated into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity through Zeta Eta Chapter on April 1, 1977. He later became a member of Eta Iota Iota Chapter before entering Omega Chapter on July 5, 2026. His 49 years in Omega reflected an enduring commitment to brotherhood, community service, and the Cardinal Principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.

Born in California, Brother Bradford made St. Croix his home for more than 40 years and embraced the people and culture of the Virgin Islands. His professional life demonstrated a broad commitment to serving the community. He worked as a science teacher at Christiansted Central High School, a mortician at Thomas Hyll Funeral Home, and an employee of the Virgin Islands Department of Public Works before retiring from the Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority.

On August 22, the Brothers joined Brother Bradford's family, friends, and members of the community for the public memorial service at James Memorial Funeral Home. Their unified presence expressed the chapter's fraternal love and respect for a Brother whose life touched students, colleagues, and friends throughout St. Croix.

His legacy of service and decades of devotion to Omega will remain part of Eta Iota Iota Chapter's history. The Brothers commend his spirit to Omega Chapter with gratitude, dignity, and lasting fraternal love.



Rest well, Brother Bradford. Until we meet again.

2026 Talent Hunt Winner

By: Brother Cortez Pree

The 13th District Talent Hunt Winner, Ms. Laura Taveras Martinez of Nu Nu Nu Chapter (Dominican Republic), proudly represented the District with an outstanding vocal performance during the Fraternity's 85th Grand Conclave in Cincinnati, Ohio. In recognition of her exceptional participation, Ms. Martinez received a $1,500 award for her performance in the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. International Talent Hunt Demonstration.

In addition to her performance, she participated in several enriching educational and cultural experiences. She toured the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, attended a special performance by The Juilliard School students, and had the unique opportunity to perform before Juilliard faculty and students, where she received valuable professional critiques and feedback.

"Ms. Martinez represented the 13th District as she was able to make new friends while showcasing her talents as a vocalist." - Brother Cortez Pree



Ms. Martinez also toured the historic Brown Chapel AME Church, a significant landmark in the history of the Omega Psi Phi Talent Hunt Program, as one of the original venues to host Talent Hunt competitions. Her participation throughout the week reflected the excellence, talent, and professionalism of the 13th District, making the district proud on the international stage.





Asia Pacific Region of the 13th District Brings Baby Bazaar to Philippine Community

By: Brother Michael Robinson

Balibago, Philippines — Fourteen Brothers representing Lambda Xi Chapter in South Korea, Upsilon Lambda Lambda Chapter in Tokyo, Japan, and Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter in Okinawa, Japan, joined together on Sunday, September 6, 2026, to host a Baby Bazaar at Robinson Mall in Balibago, Philippines.

The event brought together 21 families and approximately 70 members of the local community for a day focused on supporting mothers and young children. Brothers donated pampers, toiletry items, baby kits, and four strollers.

Mothers with children ranging from infants to 3 years old participated in a raffle, with every mother receiving a gift. The highlight of the event was the baby crawl competition. Young participants crawled across the stage toward the finish line, competing for first, second, and third place awards. The competition provided plenty of excitement for families and spectators.

The Brothers also recognized Ms. Deren De La Cruz, Robinson Mall Administrator and event coordinator, with a special plaque for her assistance in coordinating the Baby Bazaar.

Special thanks were extended to the wives of Brother Desmond Smith and Brother John Webb, as well as a friend of Brother Jimmy Smith, for their assistance with setting up the event.

The Baby Bazaar demonstrated the Brothers' continued commitment to community service and their mission of providing support and encouragement to families and children throughout the communities they serve.





Nu Gamma Gamma Chapter Celebrates Student Achievement in Panama City

Panama City, Panama — The Nu Gamma Gamma Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. hosted its annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony at the Torres de Alba Hotel, recognizing five outstanding students for academic excellence, leadership, service, and character.

The ceremony reflected the Chapter's continuing commitment to Scholarship and Uplift, two of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's cardinal principles. Through a competitive review process administered by the Nu Gamma Gamma Scholarship Committee, recipients were selected for their dedication to education and their potential to make meaningful contributions to their communities.

2026 Scholarship Recipients
The Nu Gamma Gamma Chapter awarded a total of $3,600 in scholarships to the following students:

Recipient	Award
Evelyn DeLeon	$1,000
Genesis Sanchez	$800
Eylianis Menbache	$800
Ana Abrego	$500
Alanis Prado	$500

Family members, friends, educators, and community supporters joined the scholarship recipients in celebrating their achievements. Their attendance underscored the importance of strong family and community support in helping students pursue academic and personal success.

Ceremony Highlights
Brothers of the Nu Gamma Gamma Chapter, dressed in Omega Psi Phi's royal purple and old gold, welcomed attendees and led a program focused on the Chapter's mission, the accomplishments of the scholarship recipients, and the importance of continued educational opportunity.

Program participants included:

- Brother James Harris Jr., Chapter Basileus, who delivered opening remarks highlighting the Chapter's mission and international presence.

- Brother Harry Turner, Immediate Past Basileus and Scholarship Committee Chairman, who recognized the scholarship recipients and their stories of perseverance and academic achievement.

- Brother Joseph L. Edwards, guest speaker, who shared inspirational remarks with students, families, and guests.

- Brother Marvin Nobles, Chairman of the Talent Hunt Committee, who participated in the presentation of awards.

International Commitment to Uplift
By hosting the ceremony in Panama City, the Nu Gamma Gamma Chapter highlighted its distinctive role as an international chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. The event demonstrated the Fraternity's commitment to supporting students and strengthening communities throughout Latin America, the Caribbean, and beyond.

Chapter leadership reaffirmed its intention to expand scholarship opportunities, deepen partnerships with local schools and community organizations, and continue serving as a source of mentorship, encouragement, and uplift for young people in the region.

As the ceremony concluded, recipients were encouraged to carry the Fraternity's values of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift into their educational pursuits and future careers. The Nu Gamma Gamma Chapter remains committed to empowering youth, recognizing excellence, and uplifting the communities it serves.





Forging Bridges in Okinawa

By: Brother Zerbin Singleton

Okinawa, Japan — On Saturday, August 29, 2026, the Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. continued its commitment to community uplift and youth empowerment through its Tomodachi Bridge Builders Mentoring Adventure at Ta-Taki Falls in northern Okinawa.

Designed to foster resilience, leadership, teamwork, and brotherhood among male youth in grades 5 through 12, the adventure paired young men with dedicated mentors for an intentional, nature-based experience that challenged participants both physically and mentally.

The morning began at the Kadena Air Base Exchange, where mentors and mentees gathered for light breakfast refreshments, gear checks, and a mission brief before traveling north. Upon arriving near Okinawa's Yanbaru subtropical forest, the group prepared to navigate the Henan River on the way to Ta-Taki Falls.

Equipped with water shoes and determination, the young men waded through winding riverbeds, climbed slippery boulders, and navigated rope-assisted sections of the trail. Throughout the trek, Omega mentors remained alongside the youth, coaching them through difficult terrain, encouraging effective communication, and demonstrating how patience, teamwork, and perseverance can turn obstacles into opportunities for growth.

The journey itself became part of the lesson. On difficult footing and steep climbs, mentors encouraged the young men to trust themselves and those around them, turning mentorship from conversation into real-time practice in communication, confidence, problem-solving, and mutual support.

The highlight of the adventure came when the group reached Ta-Taki Falls. Surrounded by the natural beauty of northern Okinawa, participants celebrated their accomplishment with time in the waterfall basin. Several mentees embraced the adventure by jumping into the water as mentors and fellow participants encouraged them from nearby.

More than simply an outdoor excursion, the falls became an outdoor classroom. Mentors used the experience to discuss setting goals, overcoming self-doubt, persevering through difficulty, and trusting one's support system. The physical challenges of the trek provided young participants with opportunities to experience firsthand how persistence, preparation, and encouragement can help them move through obstacles that initially appear difficult to overcome.

Following the downstream trek and a change into

dry clothes, the group traveled to Warren's Place 2.1 in Nago for lunch. Around the table, mentors and mentees reflected on the day's challenges and accomplishments while continuing to strengthen the relationships at the heart of Tomodachi Bridge Builders. Each young participant was recognized for his endurance, positive attitude, and support of his peers.

"Programs like Tomodachi Bridge Builders are about building lifelong foundations," said Bro. Singleton. "When these young men realize they have the grit to wade upstream, they recognize they have that same strength to navigate any challenge they face in the classroom and in life."
By the end of the adventure, the young men returned to their families tired but accomplished, having strengthened relationships, challenged themselves, and gained new perspectives.

Through Tomodachi Bridge Builders, Sigma Gamma Gamma continues its commitment to bridging generations, shaping character, and ensuring that young men throughout the Okinawa community understand that they do not have to walk—or climb—alone.





Phi Gamma Gamma Coaches CYS Go Fast Track Team in Kaiserslautern

Kaiserslautern, Germany — On 11 June 2026, the Brothers of Phi Gamma Gamma concluded another successful season as volunteer coaches for the Child and Youth Services (CYS) Go Fast Track Team. For the past three years, the chapter has dedicated its time to mentoring young athletes, helping them develop both on and off the track.

This season, the Go Fast Track Team included 52 children from the Kaiserslautern military community. While practices focused on running, field events, and preparing for competitions, the season became about much more than athletics. The brothers volunteered their time throughout the season, leading practices, teaching proper techniques, and encouraging every athlete to do their best.

For Phi Gamma Gamma, coaching is another way to serve the community. The chapter believes that mentoring young people is just as important as providing donations or volunteering at community events. Every practice gave the brothers an opportunity to encourage the athletes, build their confidence, and create a positive environment where every child felt welcome and valued.

"As the season progressed, it was rewarding to watch the athletes grow—not only as competitors, but also as teammates." Older runners encouraged younger athletes, friendships were formed, and families came together to cheer on the team at every meet. Those moments helped make the Go Fast Track Team more than just a sports program.

This final practice marked another year of growth, teamwork, and community involvement. Although the competitions have ended, the relationships built throughout the season will continue long after the final race. Phi Gamma Gamma is proud to support Child and Youth Services and remains committed to investing in the youth of the Kaiserslautern military community.





Strengthening Omega's Presence at the Caribbean's Only HBCU

By: Brother Melake T. Whyte II

St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands — Following approval from the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) to establish an undergraduate chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Brothers of Eta Iota Iota Chapter increased the Fraternity's presence on the Albert A. Sheen Campus during the fall semester.

The Chapter participated in UVI's WOW Wednesday activities, including the Welcome Week Expo on August 19 and "D9 WOW Wednesday: Return of the Yard" on September 9. Organized by UVI's Office of Student Life and Leadership Development, the events allowed members of the Divine Nine to engage students and highlight their organizations' histories, principles, programs, and service.

Eta Iota Iota Brothers welcomed students to the Chapter's display and shared information about Omega Psi Phi's history, Founders, notable members, national programs, and Cardinal Principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift. The interactions allowed students to ask questions and learn more about the expectations and lifelong responsibilities associated with membership in Omega Psi Phi.

The Chapter's participation carried particular significance given the Fraternity's ongoing effort to expand and gain recognition as an undergraduate chapter at UVI. Although the undergraduate chapter has not yet been chartered, Eta Iota Iota is establishing the relationships and campus presence needed to support a future chapter.

UVI is the only Historically Black College and University in the Caribbean, making the initiative especially meaningful to Eta Iota Iota and the 13th District — "the District that truly makes Omega international." Establishing an undergraduate presence at UVI will expand opportunities for mentorship, leadership development, scholarship, and service among young men in the Virgin Islands.

Eta Iota Iota plans to maintain its visibility through continued participation in campus activities, student engagement, mentorship, and collaboration with UVI's Office of Student Life and Leadership Development. Through these efforts, the Chapter is laying the foundation for Omega Psi Phi to become a lasting and positive presence within the UVI community.



Golden Jubilee in America's Paradise:

ZETA XI MARKS 50 YEARS OF OMEGA EXCELLENCE

By: Brother Melake T. Whyte II

From August 14-16, 2026, the Zeta Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. celebrated its 50th anniversary in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. This historic moment was marked with a weekend of events honoring five decades of service and leadership in the territory. Zeta Xi is the Fraternity's fourth international chapter and the first chartered in the Caribbean. Brothers from around the globe joined the celebration, including the Fraternity's 43rd Grand Basileus, Brother Mark E. Jackson, Sr.

The Golden Jubilee Planning Committee organized the weekend in partnership with Just Foundation VI, Inc., under the leadership of Zeta Xi Basileus Brother Winston Williams, Jr. The celebration drew international Fraternity leadership, local dignitaries, a contingent of "Crucian Ques" from the Eta Iota Iota Chapter in St. Croix, and the "Reggae Quez" from the newly chartered Omicron Xi Nu Chapter in Jamaica to honor this milestone.

For half a century, Zeta Xi has embodied the Cardinal Principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.

A Territory-Wide Proclamation of Excellence

The week began when Governor Albert Bryan Jr. issued a formal proclamation declaring August 10-16, 2026, as "Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Week" throughout the U.S. Virgin Islands.

This proclamation recognized the Chapter's fifty years of civic contributions, community empowerment, and unwavering leadership within the territory. It set the tone for the arriving brotherhood, signaling that the impact of the Zeta Xi Chapter is woven into the cultural and social fabric of the Virgin Islands.

Fraternity Leadership Shows Up in Force

The Golden Jubilee drew some of the Fraternity's highest international leaders, emphasizing Zeta Xi's place in Omega's global footprint. Attendees included:

- 43rd Grand Basileus Brother Mark E. Jackson, Sr. and his wife, LaSonya Jackson
- Executive Director Brother John Howard
- Chief of Staff Brother Nathan Hunter
- Deputy District Representative, Caribbean Brother Rick Mullgrav
- Basileus, Eta Iota Iota Chapter, Brother Quincy Lewis
- International Photographer Brother James Witherspoon

Honoring the Visionaries: The 11 Charter Members

A focal point of the Golden Jubilee celebration was paying homage to the visionaries who brought Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. to the Caribbean. The Chapter paused to honor the 11 charter members whose

perseverance established Zeta Xi Chapter, recognizing both those still leading the way and those who have entered Omega Chapter:

- Brother Edouard T. de Lagarde
- Brother Charles Jerry Fonseca
- Brother Henry Harrigan
- Brother Michael D. Livisay
- Brother William Howard Terry
- Brother John Watley
- Brother Thomas R. Blake*
- Brother Verne C. David*
- Brother Earl Victor Haynes*
- Brother Ariel E. Jackson*
- Brother Harry O. Parrot*

An asterisk (*) denotes a deceased Brother

The legacy of these 11 men remains vibrant as their work still shapes the territory 50 years later. Two of the living charter members, Brother Michael Livisay and Brother Henry Harrigan, attended the weekend, linking the Chapter's founding to its present-day work.



A Weekend of Service, Elegance, and Island Fellowship

The three-day celebration beautifully balanced high-level networking, inspiring charges, and classic Caribbean hospitality.





Friday, August 14: VIP Welcome Reception
The weekend kicked off with an invitation-only reception at the historic Government House. The evening brought together local political leaders, community stakeholders, corporate sponsors and local and visiting Brothers. The reception served as a prestigious forum to reflect on the Chapter's localized community service initiatives, youth mentorship programs, and its enduring partnership with territorial development.

Saturday, August 15: Golden Jubilee Black Tie Gala
The centerpiece event of the weekend took place at Harbor 360, situated along the scenic marina of Yacht Haven Grande. Over 150 formally attired guests filled the beautifully decorated venue.



The highlight of the evening was a powerful, inspiring, and deeply motivating keynote address delivered by the Fraternity's 43rd Grand Basileus, Brother Mark E. Jackson, Sr. He challenged the Brothers of Zeta Xi to protect their rich international legacy, continue elevating their community outreach, and remain "Omega Strong" as they navigate the complexities of the modern world.

Sunday, August 16: Magens Bay Celebration
The weekend concluded in true island fashion with a high-energy brotherhood beach party at the world-famous Magens Bay. Under the Caribbean sun, Brothers, family, and friends enjoyed local food, shared long-standing Fraternity stories, and danced to the authentic sounds of live steel pan music and a local DJ. The atmosphere perfectly encapsulated the Fraternity's motto that, ***"Friendship is Essential to the Soul."***



Forging the Path for the Next Fifty Years

As the sounds of the steel pan faded and the sun set over Magens Bay, the men of Zeta Xi left the weekend re-energized. Closing out its first magnificent half-century, the Chapter stands firmly prepared for an even brighter future, anchored by its Cardinal Principles and backed by international fraternal support. Zeta Xi Chapter remains dedicated to uplifting the U.S. Virgin Islands for generations to come.

Executing High-Impact Back-to-School Uplift in Montego Bay





By: Brother Paul Prosper

The sun never sets on Omega and nowhere is that vital truth more powerfully manifested than on the sovereign shores of Jamaica, where the Omicron Xi Nu Chapter seeks to operate as the premier standard-bearer of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in the Caribbean. The Chapter convened leadership on August 30, 2026, to execute an elite back-to-school mobilization in Montego Bay that seamlessly fused International Headquarters' mandates with localized socioeconomic and educational empowerment.

Fulfilling the international mandates for Social Action and Scholarship, the Chapter forged a tripartite coalition with Celebs Barbershop and the Oklahoma Caribbean Heritage Association. Rejecting superficial charity, the brothers engaged directly with the administrations of Corinaldi and Catherine Hall Primary Schools in Montego Bay, ensuring that assistance was directed precisely to youth facing systemic academic and economic barriers.

Displaying civic partnership at its highest echelon, local professional barbers Gregory Newland and Mark McCormack shattered conventional commerce by opening their doors on a Sunday—a day their enterprise is normally closed—donating their master-level craft from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Their labor directly transformed the first day-of-school experience for 22 students and 1 guidance counselor, outfitting them with pristine confidence.

Following their grooming, students and parents were welcomed to the backpack distribution portion of this event. Through the pooled

financial resources of Omicron Xi Nu Brothers and the Oklahoma Caribbean Heritage Association, 30 premium backpacks were secured. Fulfilling our scholastic imperatives, Brother Mark Holness personally underwrote a comprehensive inventory of educational tools that were stuffed into every backpack: composition books, pens, pencils, markers, and folders.

Basileus Paul Prosper maintained an active, on-site presence throughout the operation, interfacing directly with the barbers, families, and educators. The quantifiable dividends of the mission are historic: 23 total individuals received professional grooming, 30 fully provisioned backpacks were deployed, and permanent institutional channels were opened with Jamaican primary schools. Furthermore, the partnering barbers gained an influx of new clientele, validating a sustainable economic uplift model.



Lambda Beta Beta Extends Omega's Reach to the Philippines

By: Brother Lymas Johnson

Honolulu, Hawaii — On June 12, 2026, Bro. David Dew, on behalf of Lambda Beta Beta Chapter in Honolulu, Hawaii, provided clothing and hygiene materials to the Virlanie Foundation, Inc. in Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines.

Virlanie Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit organization in the Philippines that supports disadvantaged children who have been abandoned, abused, neglected, or are living in poverty. Through programs that provide shelter, education, healthcare, and life-skills training, the foundation works to help children build brighter futures and successfully reintegrate into society.

As an active-duty service member who frequently travels throughout Asia for various assignments, Bro. Dew took the opportunity to serve others while away from his home chapter. The donation also demonstrated how Brothers can use the time and resources available to them to address needs beyond their immediate communities. Rather than allowing distance or a demanding schedule to become barriers to service, Bro. Dew identified an opportunity to help and ensured that the donated clothing and hygiene materials reached children who could benefit from them.

Through this donation, Bro. Dew demonstrated that the commitment to uplift remains strong wherever an opportunity to help others arises. His actions reflect the Fraternity's enduring responsibility to serve communities around the world.



Scholarships to Honor Brothers Brian Jones and Derek Gainey

Kaiserslautern, Germany — 25 June 2026, Phi Gamma Gamma has announced that its scholarship program will now be named in honor of Brothers Brian Jones and Derek Gainey, recognizing their decades of leadership, dedication, and service to the Fraternity. The decision honors two men whose commitment helped rebuild the Chapter and establish the foundation for the success it enjoys today.

Phi Gamma Gamma was originally chartered in 1988 in Kaiserslautern, Germany. In 2001, the Chapter relocated to Kuwait, where it continued its mission of serving military members and their families. On March 31, 2018, the Chapter was officially rechartered in Kaiserslautern, marking the beginning of a new era of growth and community service.

Much of that success can be credited to Brothers Brian Jones and Derek Gainey. Brother Gainey entered the Fraternity in 1982, followed by Brother Jones in 1985. Together, they brought decades of experience, leadership, and vision to the effort of reestablishing the Chapter in Germany.

Beyond building programs, Brother Jones and Brother Gainey have dedicated countless hours to mentoring younger brothers, sharing the history and values of the Fraternity, and ensuring the Chapter remained focused on making a positive impact





throughout the military community. Their leadership has helped transform the Chapter into one that is recognized for its commitment to youth development, education, and community partnerships.

Renaming the scholarship program in their honor is a lasting tribute to two brothers whose influence reaches far beyond the Fraternity. The Brian Jones and Derek Gainey Scholarships will continue to support college-bound students while reminding recipients of the importance of leadership, service, and giving back to their communities.

The Chapter believes there is no more fitting way to recognize the contributions of Brothers Jones and Gainey than by connecting their names to a program that invests in the future of young people. Just as they helped rebuild Phi Gamma Gamma and prepare the next generation of Fraternity leaders, these scholarships will help students pursue their educational goals and create opportunities for years to come.

Their legacy is reflected not only in this Chapter, but also in the brothers they have mentored, the programs they have established, and the lives they have touched through more than four decades of dedicated service.

British Ques Join Brixton Soup Kitchen to Support More Than 1,000 Community Members

By: Brother Rob Taylor

On Saturday, 29 August 2026, brothers of Chi Mu Mu Chapter joined the Brixton Soup Kitchen for its annual Back 2 School Drive at Windrush Square in South London. The initiative brought together community organizations, volunteers, and local partners to help families prepare their children for the upcoming school year.

More than 1,000 members of the community attended the event, with many families facing financial challenges and relying on community support to help offset the growing costs associated with preparing children to return to school.

Throughout the day, families received an array of complimentary school essentials, including uniforms, shoes, backpacks, stationery, food, and drinks. Children were also provided with free haircuts and hair braiding, helping ensure they could return to the classroom looking and feeling their best.

Adding to the day's excitement, the Railway Telegraph Pub founders sponsored a giveaway distributing a limited number of iPads to students. The devices provide another valuable resource to support students as digital learning continues to play an important role in education.

For the brothers of Chi Mu Mu Chapter, participation in the Back 2 School Drive represented another opportunity to support the Brixton Soup Kitchen, an organization the chapter has adopted as a community partner. The relationship extends beyond financial contributions, with brothers routinely volunteering their time and labor to support initiatives addressing food insecurity, education, and other needs throughout the Brixton community.

The scale of the event demonstrated both the continuing need within the community and what can be accomplished when organizations work collectively toward a common purpose. More than simply distributing supplies, the initiative helped families begin the academic year with greater confidence



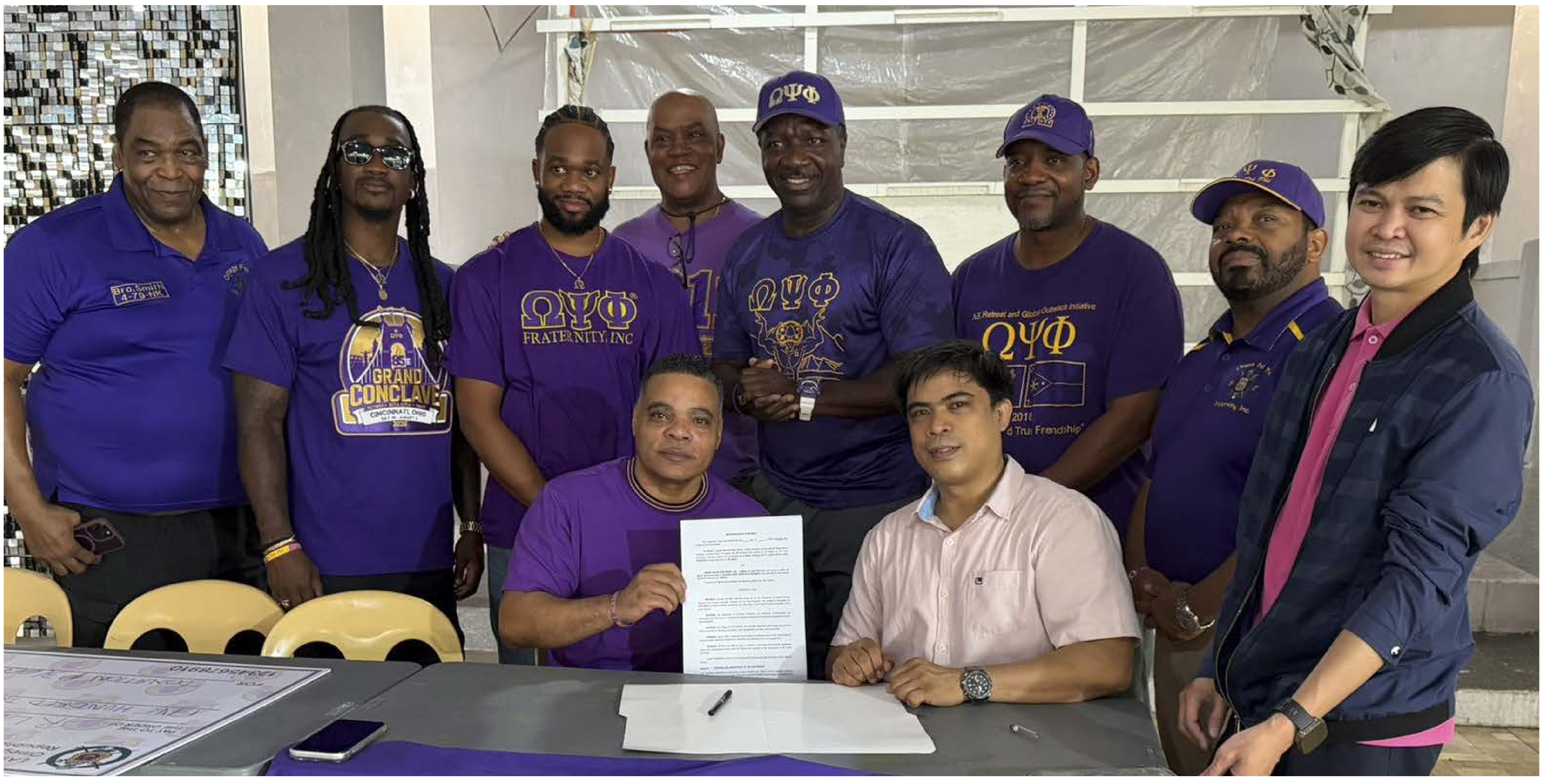


and ensured children had access to many of the essentials needed to succeed.

For the British Ques, the day represented Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's watchword in action. By continuing to show up, lend a hand, and build lasting relationships with community partners, Chi Mu Mu Chapter remains committed to making a meaningful and sustained impact throughout the communities it serves.







Lambda Xi Chapter Supports Students in the Philippines

By: Brother Michael Robinson

Angeles City, Philippines — On September 4, 2026, eight Brothers from Lambda Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., visited Rafael L. Lazatin Memorial High School in Angeles City, Philippines, as part of the Chapter's continued commitment to supporting youth through service and mentorship.

The Brothers were welcomed by Sports Coach Jennie F. Villacruel, who provided an overview of the school and its athletic programs. The school serves approximately 3,000 students in grades 7 through 10, with the seventh grade having the largest enrollment of approximately 800 students. Founded 20 years ago, the school operates under the motto, "Making the impossible possible!"

The school offers students opportunities to participate in eight sports and activities: volleyball, basketball, track and field, chess, table tennis, billiards, darts, and badminton.

Brothers Jimmy Smith and Desmond Smith volunteered at several sporting events over the past year, providing shoes and equipment to members of the track team. During the September visit, the Brothers of Lambda Xi donated $500 to the school to use as they saw fit.

Principal Attorney Larry Jun R. Lobo expressed his appreciation for the Chapter's support.

"We sincerely thank everyone for your generous support and unwavering dedication to our school and community. Your kindness means a great deal to us and will significantly help the success of our program and activities. We truly value your partnership and the trust you have in our school."

The school's plans for the 2026–2027 school year include improving its sports programs and providing additional equipment for students.

The Brothers of Lambda Xi extend a special thank-you to Brothers Jimmy Smith and Desmond Smith for coordinating the visit and continuing to build a meaningful connection between the Chapter and the school.

Eta Iota Iota Welcomes Head Start Students at Anna's Hope

By: Brother Melake Whyte

On September 8, 2026, members of the Eta Iota Iota Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated welcomed children arriving at the Anna's Hope Head Start Center on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.

The chapter originally planned to greet students at both the Anna's Hope and Frederiksted Head Start centers. When a water interruption forced the Frederiksted center to close for the day, the Brothers redirected their efforts to Anna's Hope.

Dressed in purple and black, the Brothers lined the entrance and greeted children and their families with applause, smiles, encouraging words, and fist bumps. Their presence created a warm and uplifting atmosphere as the young students entered the center and began their school day.

The activity provided the Brothers with an opportunity to encourage children at the beginning of their educational journey while demonstrating that their community supports them. Through this simple but meaningful gesture, Eta Iota Iota continued its commitment to serving the children and families of St. Croix and exemplified Omega Psi Phi's Cardinal Principle of Uplift.







Brother Colonel Marc T. Walker Relinquishes Command

By: Brother Jacquary Bradford

Okinawa, Japan — The Brothers of the Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. proudly recognize and congratulate Brother Colonel Marc T. Walker upon the completion of his command of Headquarters and Support Battalion, Marine Corps Installations Pacific, marking another significant milestone in his distinguished military career and continued legacy of leadership and service.

On July 10, 2026, Brother Walker relinquished command of Headquarters and Support Battalion, Marine Corps Installations Pacific to Col. Kimberly Sile during a Change of Command ceremony at Camp Foster in Okinawa, Japan. Walker completed approximately two years as the battalion's commanding officer.

A Change of Command is one of the most meaningful traditions in the United States Armed Forces, symbolizing the formal transfer of authority, responsibility, and accountability from one commander to another. For the Brothers of the Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter, the occasion also provided an opportunity to recognize one of their own for his dedication to leading Marines and Sailors with professionalism, character, and purpose.

Throughout his time in command, Brother Walker exemplified the qualities expected of both a military leader and an Omega Man. His commitment to those entrusted to his leadership reflected the Fraternity's Cardinal Principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.

As commanding officer of Headquarters and Support Battalion, Walker held responsibility within an organization supporting thousands of Marines, Sailors, civilian personnel, families, and numerous organizations throughout the Marine Corps community in Okinawa. The breadth of that responsibility made his command not only a professional accomplishment, but also an opportunity to influence the people and organizations serving throughout the Indo-Pacific region.

Leadership is measured not simply by the position one holds, but by the people developed, standards established, relationships strengthened, and organization left stronger because of that leadership. Brother Walker's completion of command represents the culmination of countless decisions, challenges, accomplishments, and opportunities to positively influence those entrusted to his leadership.

For Sigma Gamma Gamma Chapter, Walker's achievement represents another example of Omega Men answering the call to leadership beyond the walls of the chapter. His service demonstrates how the principles of Omega can be carried into positions of significant responsibility while positively influencing both the military and surrounding community.

The Brothers of Sigma Gamma Gamma congratulate Brother Walker on the successful completion of his command and wish him continued success as he enters the next chapter of his military career.

BBQ Bash Brings Military and Local Communities Together for a Good Cause

Kaiserslautern, Germany — On 6 June 2026, the Phi Gamma Gamma BBQ Bash brought together members of the military and local community for a day of food, fun, and fellowship while raising money to support college-bound students. More than 250 people attended the event, making it a strong example of how events like this can create new connections and bring families together.

A total of 13 vendors participated in the BBQ Bash, giving guests the opportunity to enjoy a wide selection of food and learn more about local businesses and organizations. Five of those vendors also competed in the BBQ Bash competition, putting their cooking skills to the test and adding some friendly competition to the day.

The event offered much more than barbecue. Families enjoyed games, prizes, bouncy houses, and several activities for children. A local car club also took part, giving guests the chance to view different vehicles and speak with members of the club.

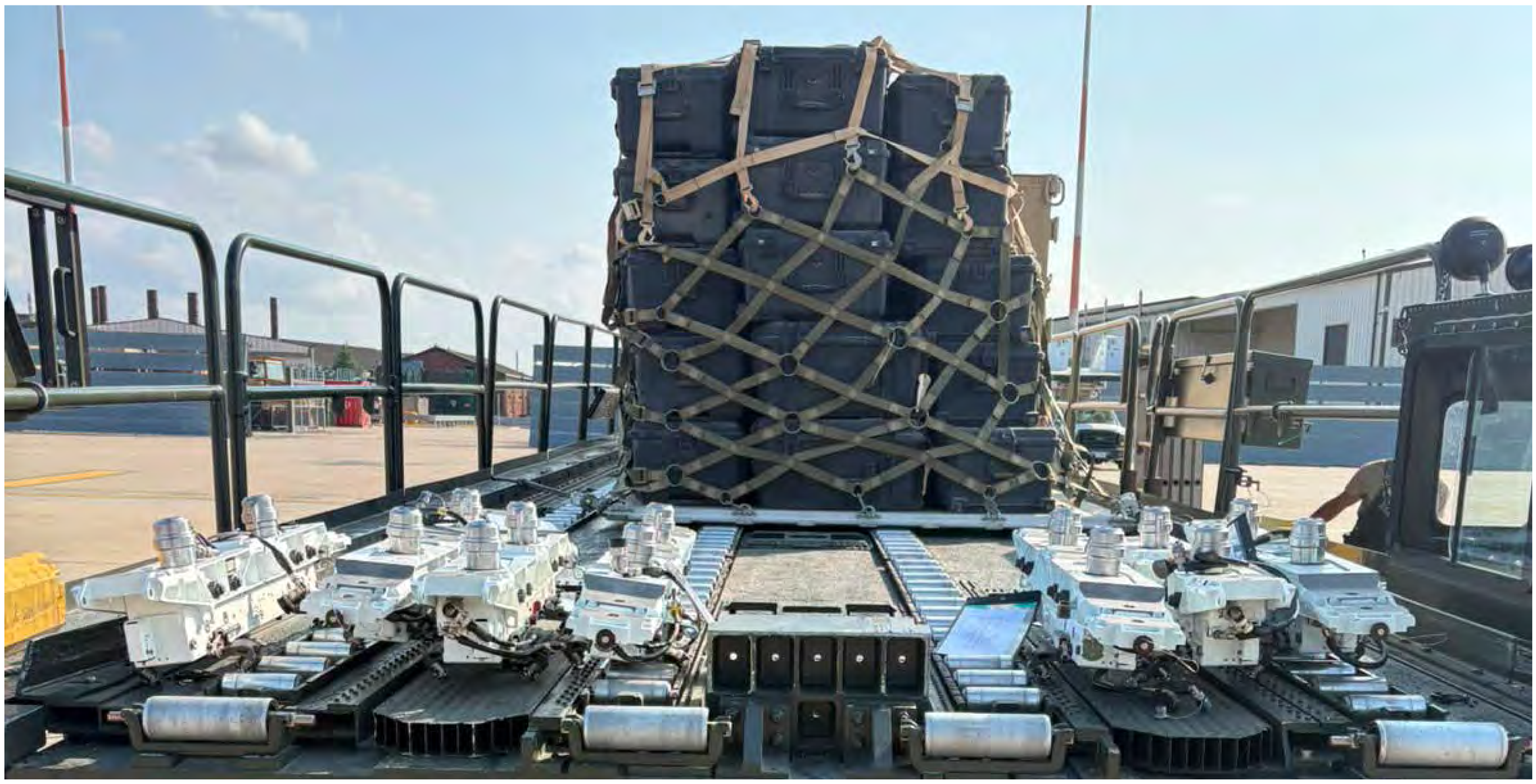
For Phi Gamma Gamma, the BBQ Bash was about more than hosting an event. It was an opportunity to build stronger relationships between Kaiserslautern's military families and local residents. Events like this allow people from different backgrounds to come together in a relaxed setting, share food, and enjoy time with their families. Brother Bruce Mackey, the chairman of the event, said "this event shows what a strong community should look like." His words reflected the spirit of the day.

The success of the event was made possible through the support of volunteers, vendors, community partners, and everyone who attended. Their involvement helped turn the BBQ Bash into a memorable celebration for the Kaiserslautern area.

Phi Gamma Gamma remains committed to creating events that support families, strengthen partnerships, and bring people together. The chapter looks forward to building on the success of the BBQ Bash and continuing to serve both the military and locals.



Making It Happen:
Brother Brandon Wilkins Answers the Call



By: Brother Robert Taylor

On 22 July 2026, Brother Brandon Wilkins demonstrated leadership, perseverance, and an unwavering commitment to the mission while supporting a critical 48-hour combat deployment from Royal Air Force (RAF) Lakenheath, England.

Serving as the Installation Deployment Officer (IDO) for RAF Lakenheath, Brother Wilkins was at the center of a fast-moving operation as the 48th Fighter Wing was tasked to deploy additional aircraft, personnel, and equipment to an undisclosed location in support of major combat operations.

During the deployment, one of the Wing's units identified an urgent requirement for additional aircraft equipment downrange. Under normal logistics channels, shipping the equipment would have taken approximately two weeks, time the warfighters did not have.

With the final cargo aircraft preparing to depart RAF Lakenheath, Brother Rob Taylor contacted Brother Wilkins with a simple question: What do we need to do to get this equipment on the last aircraft leaving the base?

Brother Wilkins went to work.

Leveraging his relationships and experience as the Installation Deployment Officer, he immediately coordinated with his Air Transportation team "Port Dawgs" to find a way to accommodate the additional equipment.

But his involvement did not stop with a phone call.

When the C-17 arrived, Brother Wilkins personally went to the aircraft and worked with the team to

make room for the urgently needed cargo. Despite the challenges associated with an already complex deployment operation, he remained focused on one objective: get the equipment to the warfighters who needed it.

His persistence paid off.

Several hours later, when the C-17 arrived downrange, the equipment was immediately transferred to F-35 aircraft supporting a priority combat mission. Brother Wilkins' actions eliminated an estimated two-week resupply gap and preserved immediate combat capability at a critical moment.

The effort demonstrated how leadership behind the scenes can directly influence operations on the front line. Through professional relationships, teamwork, and a willingness to find a solution when conventional logistics timelines were not good enough, Brother Wilkins helped turn an urgent requirement into combat capability within hours instead of weeks.

His efforts did not go unnoticed.

For his exceptional support and dedication to the mission, Brother Wilkins was coined by the Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Commander and subsequently recognized by senior 48th Fighter Wing leadership during the Wing's morning meeting.

Brother Wilkins' actions exemplified a simple principle familiar throughout Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.: when called upon to serve, find a way to make a difference. His leadership during those critical 48 hours demonstrated that service can take many forms and sometimes it means making one phone call, opening one aircraft, and refusing to accept a two-week delay when the mission requires an answer today.

For Brother Wilkins, it was another example of Friendship being Essential to the Soul not only within the bonds of Omega, but through brothers working together to accomplish a mission greater than themselves.

"What do we need to do to get this equipment on the last aircraft leaving the base?" - Brother Rob Taylor



Building Community & Financial Awareness at Shanghai's 5th Annual Juneteenth

By: Brother Cody Harden

On June 20, 2026, Brothers of Chi Mu Nu Chapter participated in the 5th Annual Juneteenth Celebration in Shanghai, China, continuing the Chapter's commitment to service, education, and community engagement.

Chi Mu Nu was represented by Brother Cody Harden, Basileus; Brother Aaron Springs III, Keeper of Finance; and Brother William Frazier. The Chapter was also pleased to welcome visiting Brother Russell Francis. His participation reflected the fellowship of Omega and the bond shared by Brothers regardless of where in the world they may meet.

Brother Harden opened Chi Mu Nu's participation by introducing attendees to the history and principles of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., as well as the history and role of the Chi Mu Nu Chapter in China. The introduction was especially meaningful for attendees experiencing Omega and the Juneteenth celebration for the first time.

Brother Springs followed with a presentation on financial literacy, providing practical and easily implemented steps for developing a personal financial plan. His presentation focused on making financial planning approachable and giving members of the community knowledge they could apply beyond the event.

Celebrating Juneteenth in Shanghai presents a unique opportunity. Thousands of miles from the United States, the history and significance of Juneteenth are not as widely known or understood. The annual celebration therefore serves not only as a gathering, but also as a bridge for education, cultural exchange, community connections, and the sharing of African American history on an international stage.

Over the years, Brother Frazier has played an important role in helping build those bridges through his presentations and involvement with Shanghai's annual Juneteenth events. His efforts have helped create connections and foster greater understanding within a diverse international community.

For Chi Mu Nu, participation extends beyond supporting a single event. The Chapter sees the Shanghai Juneteenth celebration as an opportunity to bring people together while sharing knowledge,







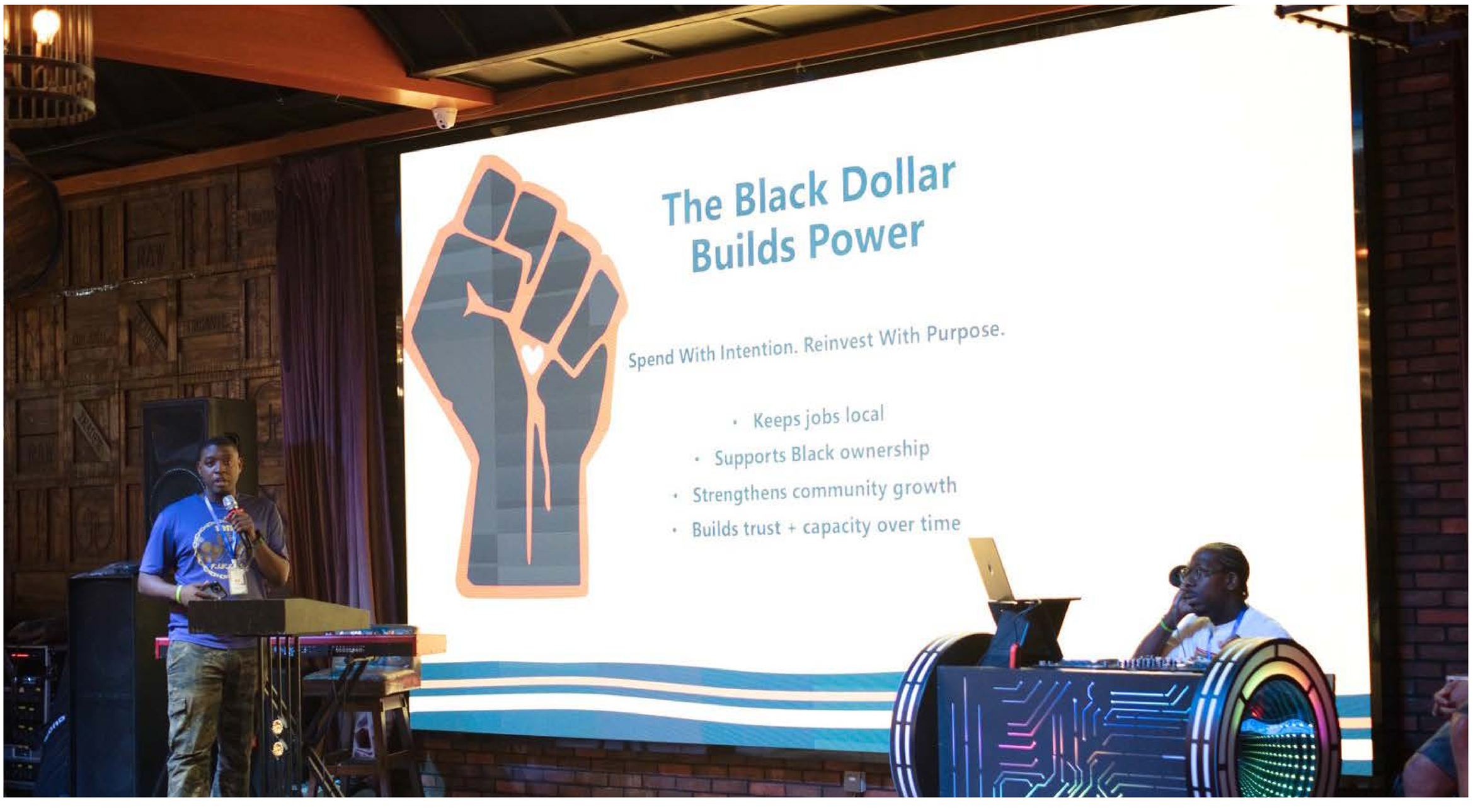
history, resources, and meaningful community connections.

Chi Mu Nu plans to continue its involvement annually and work alongside community partners to help the celebration grow in both reach and impact. As the event continues to develop, the Brothers look forward to expanding educational programming, strengthening community partnerships, and helping more people understand the history and significance of Juneteenth.

From Shanghai, China, Chi Mu Nu continues to demonstrate the truly international reach of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., building bridges through Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift.







DDPR Letter

Brothers of the Tenacious 13th District,

As another quarter closes and a new one begins, I ask that you remember your reason for seeking out this illustrious organization. Remember, too, why our Honorable Founders felt it necessary to blaze a path of their own. We are their legacy and it is imperative that we perform our duties with the reverence only an Omega Man can show.

Brothers, thank you for continuing to chronicle the work of the 13th District. We are accomplishing amazing things around the world and you are making sure it is captured in these pages. This is how we define for ourselves what a man of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. is and what we contribute to society.

Never hesitate to reach out with feedback on how I can better assist you or this District. Please note my response time may be slower due to my U.S. Air Force commitments

The Office of the DDPR includes our social media presence and some aspects of the 13th District website, so make sure you continue to connect with us to expand your audience.

In Friendship,

Brother Clarence Burse
13th District Director of Public Relations (DDPR)



THE TENACIOUS 13TH DISTRICT

STEP INTO THE 13TH

