

The Northern Light



The Official Publication of the Northern Province of
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated



Undergraduate News

Inspiring Service:
MLK Day

Chapter Highlights—
Iota Phi Chapter

Alumni Chapter News

A Moment in Kappa
History

To Those Who Loved
and Toiled and
Strove...

Save the Dates

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Chapter Updates



Brother Marcus McGill providing motivation and memories for the young students at Buffalo Public School #74.



Brothers of the Phi Chapter hosting C.A.O.'s (Community Action Organization) annual Christmas Toy Drive for community families in need.

Chapter Highlights

Iota Phi

Growing up in a broken family, Kappa Alpha Psi gave me a sense of bond that I had been missing for so long. To be part of such an outstanding group of men has been more of a support than I could ever imagine. Even in your worst moments, you have your brothers that will do whatever it takes to keep you from falling. I think this is even more true in Iota Phi because of the huge engagement of our alumni Brothers. They understand exactly everything we are dealing with and will not let us fail.

- Brother Treijon Johnson





Inspiring Service in the Public Interest:

Dr. Martin L. King Jr. Day

Brother DaLaun Dillard (Eta Rho) was awarded the Martin Luther King Oratorical Contest at the 2017 MLK Community Peace Brunch with his speech entitled "Education, is the Major Key".



Delta Beta participating in MLK's Day of Service at the Syracuse Model Neighborhood Association.



Brother Jermaine Ruffin (Lansing Alumni) was awarded the MLK Spirit Award at the University of Michigan.





Eta Rho Chapter Participating in the MLK March and Vigil at Central Michigan University.



Southfield Alumni Chapter and Kappa League at the 2017 Southfield MLK Peace Walk .

Detroit Alumni Chapter Updates

The Coalition on Temporary Shelter, more commonly referred to as COTS, was the sight of the 2nd Annual Pampering Event featuring the Detroit Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity,



Incorporated; Kappa Silhouettes, Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Incorporated and the Metro Detroit Council – NPHC. COTS is a temporary residential facility for those who have fallen down on their luck due to circumstances often beyond their control where the families would have to resort to homelessness. On this day of pampering, we utilize the services of hair stylists, barbers and nail techs who volunteer their time to cut and style the hair of the residents of COTS. Additionally, we collectively served lunch and dinner to the residents.

This second annual event happened to have fallen on the birthday of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and what better way to pay homage to his legacy than to participate in a community service initiative that is purposeful and making a difference in the community. This event is the brainchild of DAC Polemarch, Eric Brown and his high school classmate, Marie Moore–Quaker. Marie is the President of Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Incorporated (a professional business sorority for African American women). As a member of the Lambda Pi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated; Marie wanted to build on the success that her chapter had with the DAC that involved a 'Party With a



Purpose' that raised funds for breast and prostate cancer research a year earlier.

What makes the COST event so special is that many of the volunteers from the collaborating organizations bring their kids with them so that they can see how fortunate they are to live the lives that they do. It is a harsh reality for them to see that not everyone lives that same comfortable life.

The original event took place on the Sunday before Thanksgiving in 2015, but due to some scheduling conflicts, the event was moved out a couple months into 2017. However, it is the goal to return back to Thanksgiving week in 2017. The residents are always so appreciative of the gesture shown toward them. One takeaway is to see how good they feel about themselves once they get all prim and proper.

The success of this event cannot be attributed to the collaboration of the organizations, but we could not do this without the support from the staff at COTS and the residents themselves. A big thank you goes out to the volunteers from the respective participating organizations, but I stand in applause to salute the barbers, hair stylists and nail techs whose generosity in giving of their time made the event possible once again.

147 Years of Knowledge, History and Commitment to Kappa Written by Bro. Eric Brown

Late last year, I had the privilege of being joined by Brothers Stanley Gaines, Kyle Grant and Michael Blevins to have a sit down conversation with two men that combined have 147 years of a commitment to Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated. Brother Bernard Parker is a 1940 initiate of the Tau Chapter at West Virginia State College and Brother Dr. Leon Stein, DDS, is a 1945 initiate of the Beta Chapter at the University of Illinois. The wealth of knowledge that these two men possess about the Founders and fraternity itself is immeasurable. Brother Parker even had the luxury of living with Founder Armstrong at one point in his life.

The fond memories that these two men have about their Kappa Alpha Psi journey is amazingly remarkable. It was interesting to hear them talk about their pledge process and the things that they disliked about it due to finding a lot of what they went through oftentimes senseless. Brother Parker spoke about how he was supposed to be initiated in 1939, but due to a female friend telling him that she missed her visitor, he had to drop line to tend to what he thought was the cusp of fatherhood for him. Then he went on to tell us that the brothers allowed him to come back and be a part of the next pledge class in which one of the guys who was to have been his line brother the year before was the worst on him. That story prompted Brother Stein to reiterate how senseless some of the things that they went through was so unnecessary.

For brothers with elder members in your chapter; spend some with them and take advantage of the wealth of knowledge they have about our fraternity.



Detroit Kappas party for a purpose

Written by Kristina Mitchell for Rolling Out Magazine

This past weekend, the Detroit Alumni chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated shined bright like diamonds as they celebrated their Founders' Day. To commemorate 106 years of honorable achievement, the Nupes held their Diamond Life: A J5 Founders' Day Celebration Friday, January 6, 2017, at the Charles H. Wright Museum in midtown Detroit.



Fellow Kappa brothers, longtime friends, supporters, and family gathered for a night of cocktails, good food and dancing. The Detroit Kappas painted the room red with fancy decor, which was surrounded by the museum's collection of paintings and sculptures. Chivalrous, Kappa's greeted ladies with red roses as they arrived. The purpose for partying that night was to raise funds for the Kappa Detroit Foundation scholarship fund. Scholarships are awarded annually to aspiring and current students, as well as to nonprofit organizations for financial assistance and educational programs such as tutoring, leadership training and career exposure. "We're here to galvanize the community and make sure people have a good time, striving to help create opportunities for our youth, in the spirit of making the community better and stronger. We follow the diamond which is God, family, career and the Kappa," said committee member Jahquan Hawkins.



Emmanuel Idowu, chairman of the Founders' Day celebration, also gave some insight on the celebration and his organization's focus.

What is your role in Kappa Alpha Psi?

I am the chair for this event. I am a member-at-large ... a previous member of the Detroit Alumni Chapter, previous Political Awareness and Social Action chair, and previous Community Involvement chair.

Give us a snapshot of the event's history.

This is the first time we had the J5 Founders' Day celebration at the museum. For the past three years we've been throwing these events, there has been a philanthropic component, and last year we contributed money to the scholarship awarded by the Kappa Detroit Foundation. The previous year, we donated to Delta Preparatory Academy.

How does Kappa Alpha Psi strive to help youth in the Detroit community?

Well, assisting the aims and purpose of our communities is one of our core principles. As long as we do any type of social endeavor, there's always a philanthropic component, so [that's why] we use the hashtag 'partying with a purpose. We don't throw parties for the sake of throwing parties. Everything that we do there's always that philanthropic opponent associated with it.

What is the area of focus for this organization's advancement for the new year?

Key emphasis and retention in regards of our membership and also expanding the scope of our Kappa League program. Kappa League is a premier leadership training program for young men in high school.

Our efforts along with the patrons support help raise \$2,000 for the Kappa Detroit Foundation Scholarship Fund.

A video recapping the event can be found here: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/2u11uyww0ij1w1p/J5%20Diamond%20Life.mp4?dl=0>

Flint Alumni Chapter Updates

Brother Reginald Flynn is a 2013 initiate of the Flint Alumni Chapter. Brother Flynn has been fighting for the citizens of Flint Michigan and he was even jailed, because he challenge the Emergency Manager on the water rates that the city was charging the residents. In, 2009, he founded Brother Battling Bloodshed, an anti-gang, anti-crime prevention program for structurally unemployed boy's in Flint. In, 2010 he authored his first book "So You Think Your Church Isn't Big Enough" a resource guide for pastors and small congregations interested in launching community economic development ministries in distressed neighborhoods. He has a profound vision for the African American community and the economic growth of our community. Brother Flynn saw the need for early childhood education and he started his own school, the Eagles Nest Academy which was opened in 2015. He has 250 students and 21 employee's and has become a positive asset to the City of Flint. With all that is going on in the City of Flint with the water crisis, Brother Flynn is still determine to make Flint a better place. He has now challenged the African American community to start it's own grocery store, with Kroger's and Meijer's pulling out of the city, he has now started the North Flint Reinvestment Corp a 6-million-dollar community-owned Food Corp that's schedule to open along the Pierson Rd corridor in 2018 to help establish a healthy grocery store for the residents of Flint. Brother Flynn is the Pastor of Foss Baptist Church in the City of Flint and the Moderator for the Great Lakes District. Brother Flynn is a Kappa Man that's not afraid to use his voice and talents to push or the betterment of our city. Flint Alumni Chapter salutes Brother Pastor Reggie Flynn!



Corning Elmira Alumni Chapter Updates



Members of the Corning-Elmira Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., held their annual Sweetheart Ball in Corning, NY. Portions of the event's proceeds will provide book grants for students of color in the Corning region and funding for a sustaining scholarship fund through the Corning/Elmira Community Foundation.

Alumni Chapter Polemarch Kevin White stated, "The Corning-Elmira Alumni Chapter created the Sweetheart Ball event and the Kappa Alpha Psi Sustaining Fund to assist those who are in need of that "hand up" to achieve their goals."

This event has grown to become one of the premier events in the area. Over the past 10 years, the Sweetheart Ball has enabled the chapter to deposit over \$50,000 to the sustaining fund principal. The sustaining fund will produce dividends that will be used for grants to assist qualified high school seniors in the region further their college education.

For the past 10 years the chapter has also given through direct donations over \$15,000 in book grants to deserving high school seniors within the community in addition to raising money for the sustaining fund.

A Moment in Kappa History: Founder's Day 2017

Written by Bro. Harrison R. Duke III

“After the upper classmen had worked out a ritual, the first formal initiation of **Kappa Alpha Nu**, was held in the basement of the A.M.E Church near the Bowles Hotel in downtown Bloomington in the spring of 1911. The three freshmen who were initiated at that time were; Marcus Blackmore, Henry T. Asher, and George Edmunds. Later that spring, Paul Caine, Ellis Stewart and Irven Armstrong were initiated at Diggs’ room in the Beta House on Third Street. It must be said, however that in a larger sense, all these men and Guy Grant, were charter members, since they were active in various phases of the work of establishing the fraternity”, wrote Founder Bryon K. Armstrong, Crossing the Jordan and Beyond, 1953.

All good **Kappa** men are keenly aware of our fraternity’s humble beginning and the character of the ten founders. Often overlooked are the two men initiated with these founders, same day same ritual same time. Often referred as the 11th founder, Irven Armstrong was there at the beginning. The Story of Kappa Alpha Psi, a History of the Beginning and Development of a College Greek Letter Organization 1911– 1991, 4th Edition, dedicated the book to Irven Armstrong, our 11th founder. Author William L. Crump, PhD. wrote, “ Perhaps the best loved man in all of Kappa Alpha Psi is a 99 year old citizen of Indianapolis, IN, Past Grand Polemarch and Laurel Wreath Laureate Irven Armstrong. A dynamic leader during the early day of the Fraternity. Brother Armstrong served as Polemarch of Alpha Chapter, first Grand Keeper of Records, Grand Keeper of the Exchequer, member of the Grand Board of Directors and the second Grand Polemarch, 1918–1920. A sergeant in the 351st Artillery during World War I, Armstrong used a call to **Kappamen** overseas for “the meeting in LeMans, France”. Twenty-five responded notwithstanding problems of transportation and the sea of mud in and about the convention village.

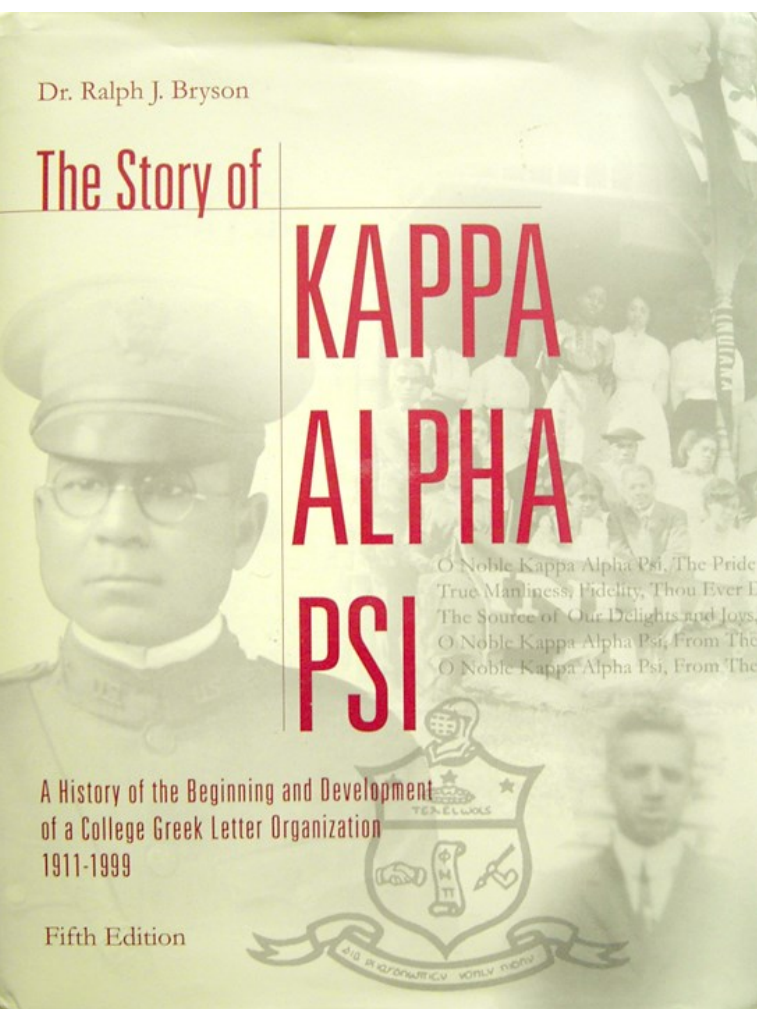


Although unofficial, the call piqued the imagination of **Kappamen** in every theater of operation”. Brother Irven Armstrong, transcended to Chapter Invisible in 1996, 104 year old. Ellis Stewart, enrolled into the University of Indiana in 1909, an initiated spring 1911, at the Alpha Chapter. Drafted into the armed services, he was assigned to the 809th Pioneer Infantry Regiment, serving in France embedded with a French Army Group. After the war Sergeant Stewart returned to the University of Illinois, becoming Polemarch of the Beta Chapter. W. Ellis Stewart managed the fraternity while Founder Diggs and Irven Armstrong were serving the nation in France, as Grand Vice Polemarch 1917–1920. He earned a JD degree University of Chicago, 1937. Brother Ellis Stewart served as the 4th Grand Polemarch, 1923–1924, and the 10th Laurel Wreath Wearer 1945. W. Ellis Stewart transcended to Chapter Invisible 1955.

The Story of Kappa Alpha Psi is the first successful attempt to record the Fraternity’s history in book form. Several brief accounts have been written, however, including A History of Kappa Alpha Psi, Irven Armstrong while Grand Polemarch in 1920 an A Short History of Kappa Alpha Psi by George F. David II in 1928. The Handbook of Kappa Alpha Psi was published first in 1928 as the joint effort of Brother David and Founders Elder Watson Diggs and Bryon K. Armstrong.

It was first revised in 1936 by Grand Polemarch Theophilus Mann and Grand Historian Benjamin F. Mosby.

In 1953, Founder Byron K. Armstrong wrote a short unauthorized publication, *Crossing the Jordan and Beyond*. The purpose of recording an official history of **Kappa Alpha Psi**, is to preserve a narrative of intellect, challenge, civil rights and perseverance. The organization structure, its motivation, its publications and its projections in keeping with the fraternity's Purpose of Achievement. From the organization's beginning, achievement has meant progressive accomplishment in the personal, and collectively. Undergraduates give it primary implementation through integration with college objectives; alumni through the development of personal careers and the giving of financial and direct assistance to college chapters. Both are committed to improving the lot of underprivileged people of whatever origin.



Considerable attention is given to race relations in the historical writings of our founders and the early men of Kappa.

The Story of Kappa Alpha Psi, an autobiography of men of achievement. A narrative in first person, a vision fulfilled, a mission accomplished. A window into the soul of 10 determined men, guided by that Diamond in the sky to achieve in every field of human endeavor. National Founders Day reminds us of our humble beginnings, the spirit of brotherhood, and a cause for achievement. Our story cites conditions, notable war, Jim Crow segregation, financial hardship, discrimination, that have affected the development of black males, the fraternity, membership and finding a useful place in society. It highlights evidence of achievement in the face of hardship and mentions some of the means by which difficulties have been and are being overcome. Founder's Day is our legacy. It is the story of ten empowered men that ushered in a new era in the intellectual and social development of the American Negro.

The Founders of **Kappa Alpha Psi** laid the foundation of the greatest college fraternity known to man. 106 years of **Kappa** traditions, engulfed in achievement. Yes, my brothers “we all drink from the same canteen”; “here’s life, here’s strength, here’s health here’s wealth, it’s all in **Phi Nu Pi**”. Another Moment in **Kappa History**.



Perry Coit,
Ann Arbor
Ypsilanti-
Inkster Alumni
Fall '79

Save the Date

**Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. Detroit Alumni Chapter
Guide Right Youth Development program**

In Partnership with

Wayne County Community College District

School of Continuing Education & Workforce Development
and

Michigan Department of Civil Rights

and

Attorneys

**Todd Perkins • Steven E. Scharg
Hassan K.Bazzi • Hassan I. Hamade
Marlon Blake Evans**

Presents

Building Trust between African American Teen Males and Law Enforcement Forum

February 18, 2017

9am until 12pm

**Wayne County Community College District
Northwest Campus President's Office
8200 West Outer Drive • Detroit, MI 48219**

FORUM 3 MAJOR OBJECTIVES WILL BE:

- Objective 1 - Encourage young people to pursue a law-enforcement career.**
- Objective 2 - Understanding how law enforcement works, and how to communicate better with law enforcement.**
- Objective 3 - Explaining the rights of teens, parents and what the officers are empowered by the United States Constitution to do.**



Flint Alumni Chapter KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERINTY

70th CHAPTERVERSARY WEEKEND

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2017

HAPPY HOURS WITH KAPPAS

Raspberries, 448 S. Saginaw Street, Flint, MI 48502

6-8pm

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2017

CLOSED BANQUET

Genesys Conference & Banquet Center

805 Health Park Blvd, Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Guest Speaker:

Brother Willard Walker

Past Polemarch, Flint Alumni and Member, Lansing Alumni Chapter

6:00 pm - Social Hour

7:00 pm – Closed Banquet –Kappas Only

Attire: Black Formal with Red Bow-Tie

Cost: \$40.00

RSVP and Payments Due by Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Make check payable and mail to –

Flint Alumni Chapter-Kappa Alpha Psi, P.O. 13313, Flint, MI 48501

**Hotel: Holiday Inn Express and Suites, 3405 Regency Park Drive, Grand Blanc, MI
(\$89.00 per room)**

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2017

ST. JUDE'S SUNDAY OF HOPE

Foss Avenue Baptist Church, 1159 E. Foss Ave., Flint, MI 48505

10:30 a.m.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

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