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## ***De Ole Sigma Times: NY Edition***

(Volume II - Issue I - March/June 2003) - \*DOUBLE ISSUE\*

A Quarterly look at what is going on in YOUR state.

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### ***A Letter from your State Director and Editor***

Greeting and salutations my brothers of the Great State of New York, I bring you fraternal greetings on behalf of the Honorable William L. Powell, Jr. - our NEW 22<sup>nd</sup> Eastern Regional Director, under the leadership of our 31<sup>st</sup> International President the Honorable Arthur Thomas.

It is with the hope and grace of the Regional Board that my reappointment along with the slate of recommended Area Directors be granted for the ensuing year. We have made great strides in making Sigma in NY a force to be reckoned with. We want to continue with those strides.

GOMAB!!!

Curtis Alan Banks

**\* New Brothers and Chapters \***

Welcome is extended to the following "Empire State" Sigma Brothers:

Kappa Xi (Cornell University) - 03/09/03  
John Falzone

Epsilon Sigma (New York City Alumni) - 02/18/03  
Jeffrey Perez

Beta Iota (SUNY @ Buffalo) - 12/07/02  
Dracey Gates    Jermaine Dickerson  
Michael Brown

Mu Iota Sigma (Albany Alumni) - 04/23/03  
Arian Bryant    Tyrone Ferguson

Theta Sigma (Buffalo Alumni) - 12/07/02  
David Salomone    Carlos Alvarez  
Sheldon Rogers

Omicron Alpha (Utica College) - 04/12/03  
Spencer Longmore

Theta Xi (Syracuse University) - 05/23/03  
Jumaul Rodney    Christian Jackson

We are ecstatic at the reactivation of:

Alpha Alpha Iota (Hofstra University) - 06/14/03  
...and welcome

Cornell Yarbrough    Bill St. Fleur  
Mark Hinds    Brandon Marinia  
Anthony DeCosta

\* \* \*

My neophyte brothers, remember that you are "charged" to always live up to the high ideals of Brotherhood, Scholarship and Service. It is your obligation to live by The Sigma Creed, 12 Inch Rule and Oath of Loyalty. It should always be a reminder to you (and all brothers of that "wondrous band") of that wonderful day that you became a SIGMA!!! ~ G.O.M.A.B.

*...and when we hear from time to time, Sigma what of the day, we'll thunder back along the lines....  
Our Cause Speeds On It's Way!!!*

We also welcome a NEW alumni chapter to our illustrious state. The name of the chapter, it's geographic region and their charter members are:

**Mu Delta Sigma (Long Island Alumni)**

Curtis A. Banks, **Pres.**    Leo B. McCray, **VP**  
Derrol M. Rhodes, **Sec.**    Ron Huggins, **Treas.**  
Emmanuel Gyamfi, **BBB**    William Minarovich, **Ed.**  
Khoran A. White, **Soc. Action**    Clayton John, **Coll. Aff.**  
Craig J. Wright, **Parliamentarian/Chaplain**

It is the hope that the chartering ceremony will be at the next Regional Board meeting which will be on:

**June 21, 2003 (The Hilton-Cherry Hill, Cherry Hill, NJ)**  
2349 West Marlton Pike (opening prayer@ 8:30am)

**\* Chapter Reactivation \***  
**(pending members)**

(...excerpt from letter dated April 22, 2003)

Dear Mr. Banks: Congratulations!! Effective immediately **Mu Delta Chapter** of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. is officially re-instated as a recognized chapter of the Fraternity and Sorority community at Stony Brook University.

We welcome back Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. to the Stony Brook community and wish you well in your efforts as you contribute to the quality of student like.

Sincerely yours, Jerry Stein - Dean of Students

**\* New York State Sue-Sue \***  
**(update)**

I am proud to announce the brother who can lay claim to being the FIRST one in the New York State Life Membership "Sue Sue" drive to be **PAID IN FULL!**

Brother Robert L. McIntyre, Jr. currently lives in Irmo, SC and was initiated at Theta Lambda Chapter (Pace University, NYC) in June of 1977.

An excerpt from the May 17, 2003 letter that he wrote me says:

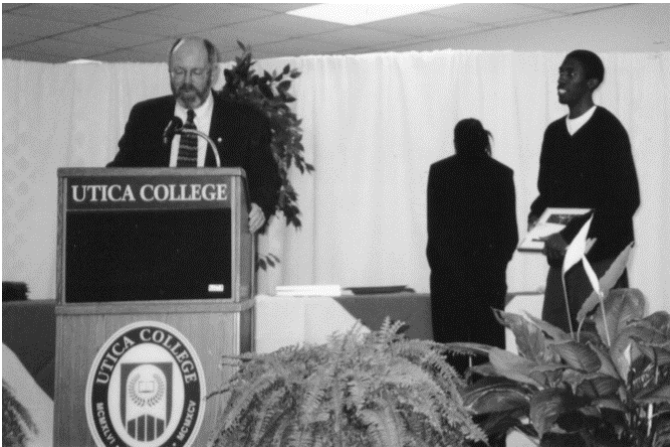
*"After graduating I became a member of Kappa Beta Sigma Chapter. Since then, my life has taken me many places and through many things. One of the saddest is that it took me away from my Fraternity. I am enclosing a check that I hope will reactivate me into the Frat and pay my Life Membership."*

Bro. McIntyre ends the letter by saying:

*"...rough staying in contact here but I appreciate all the letters and emails."*

**\* New York State Chapter News \***  
**(Omicron Alpha – Utica College)**

At the annual Dean of Student's Brunch held on Sunday, April 27, 2003 to recognize the accomplishments of Utica College students during the past year, **Bro. Calvin Fortune**, received numerous awards because of his outstanding leadership and campus involvement from the Dean of Students, Ken Kelly (see picture below of Bro. Fortune and Dean Kelly)



In addition, the chapter won the award of Fraternity of the Year Award because of the Chapters leadership on campus and the many projects carried out both on campus and in the local community. Dean Kelly presented the award to Bro. Fortune who accepted it on behalf of the Chapter, it's Officers, Chapter Advisor, and Area Deputy Director, **Bro. Harold Wells**.

At the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Office of Opportunity Programs' Recognition Dinner held on Saturday evening, May 3, 2003, Bro. Fortune also received numerous awards. Because of his outstanding leadership and dedication to the Office of Opportunity Programs, he received awards for Goal Achiever, Career Jump Start, Leadership on Campus, Program Advocate and Volunteer, and Fraternal and Community Service. Calvin's extraordinary leadership and dedication to the programs, principles, and tenets of the Fraternity reflects great credit on himself, Omicron Alpha Chapter, and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

**(Beta Iota – SUNY@ Buffalo)**

The Area Deputy Director, **Bro. Clayton Steen** has been very instrumental in the growth and monitoring of the chapter.

**Bro. John Plasir & Bro. Wesley Brown (2002)** are graduating seniors (CONGRATULATIONS!!!)

**Bro. Michael Brown (2003)** has achieved a 3.20 GPA

Beta Iota, most recently, conducted a clothing/canned food drive to benefit the Buffalo City Mission. The event was held from May 2nd-4th. A fundraiser was held April 18<sup>th</sup> to assist the chapter in raising funds to pay their chapter assessment.

On the horizon they have a fundraiser planned for Sept 5<sup>th</sup> and Sigma Week is planned for Sept 21-28<sup>th</sup>.

**(Theta Sigma – Buffalo Alumni)**

The chapter held a Computer Literacy Workshop on February 15<sup>th</sup> which was a major success.

Adopt-A-Highway cleanup was done in April

The chapter had a "Juneteenth Education" Booth on June 14th & 15th in Martin Luther King Park and was well received. Several children enjoyed the Black History based questions.

On the horizon the chapter is looking forward to a Blue & White picnic with Zeta Phi Beta to be held on July 26th in Ellicott Creek Park.

The chapter newsletter is scheduled to be released June 30th!

Plans to hold joint meetings with Zeta Phi Beta Sorority (June 30th) and Theta Upsilon Sigma (July 13th) are currently being planned.

**(Chapters considering reactivation)**

**Theta Upsilon Sigma (Rochester Alumni):** 1 financial brother (chapter currently not active). Talks have begun to get chapter active again. A joint meeting with Theta Sigma is schedule for July 13th with the intention of getting them all set by the State Meeting! They have 2 very positive interests (from the Buffalo Area, now residing in Rochester) that we would like to initiate late 2003, early 2004. Plan is to get them involved with State Meeting Planning.

**Iota Phi (Rochester Institute of Technology):** 0 financial brothers. There are 2 interests that have contacted Bro. Clayton expressing reactivating the chapter. They are on summer break but would like to start process with them August 15th when they return. I have support of local brothers, and will use this as incentive to get them financial or nationally recognized.

**(Noteworthy Activities)**

National Conclave, Memphis, TN (July 8 – 13, 2003)

NY State Meeting, Buffalo, NY (September 26-27, 2003)

NYC Blue & White Picnic Reunion, Prospect Park (June 28, 2003)

**(Beta Psi Sigma – Westchester Alumni)**

The chapter mourns the lost of **Bro. Howard W. Langston, Jr.** who entered the Omega Chapter on January 1, 2003. Bro. Langston was born August 7, 1942 and was initiated into Alpha Delta Chapter (City College, NY) in 1963. He was a long-time member of Gamma Rho Sigma Chapter (Queens Alumni) and later became a member of Beta Psi Sigma in 1993. Bro. Langston was a beacon of light to all that knew him and he will surely be missed.

On Saturday January 11<sup>th</sup>, the chapter hosted Founders Day 2003 at Iona College in New Rochelle, NY. Approximately 200 brothers, sorors and guest attended. **Bro. Darrick Fuller & Bro. Joel Victor** headed up this venture along with representatives from the other NYC alumni chapters.

**Bro. Kevin 'Doc' Tudor & Bro. John Campbell** were honored at Nu Psi Zeta Chapter's (Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.) Annual Scholarship/Awards Brunch on Saturday March 29<sup>th</sup>. Bro. Tudor received a community service award largely for his help with the victims of the 9/11 tragedy. Bro. Campbell was recognized as an outstanding fraternal leader.

On Saturday April 5<sup>th</sup> the chapter president **Bro. Kevin Miller** became "*Reverend Bro. Kevin Miller*" at the 131<sup>st</sup> Session of the NJ Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The ordination was presided over by one of our own **Rt. Rev. Bro. Zedekiah Grady**, Presiding Bishop under the pastoral leadership of ANOTHER one of our own **Rev. Bro. Reginald T. Jackson**. Bro. Miller also graduated from Drew University Theological Seminary on May 17<sup>th</sup> and accepted a position at the University as Director of Theological Admissions.

**(Kappa Beta Sigma – Brooklyn Alumni)**

The brothers hosted a memorable 89<sup>th</sup> Eastern Regional Conference held at the Brooklyn Marriott on April 24 -27, 2003 . The co-host collegiate chapters assisted the conference chairman **Bro. Jonathan Mason** in making sure that each and every brother in attendance felt at home.

The chapter is in the process of celebrating and commemorating it's 75 years in existence. They achieved a goal of 75 members as a mark of distinction for the celebration.

Bro. Jonathan Mason is running for National Director of Social Action at our 2003 Conclave in Memphis, TN. To see his candidacy profile, go to <http://www.jamason.org>

**(Epsilon Sigma – New York City Alumni)**

The chapter, in accordance with our National Education program, Brook-A-Bration, has been collecting books to be donated to the island of Jamaica community. The chapter will make it's donation in the Summer of 2003.

The chapter participated in the AIDS Walk on Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 2003. **Bro. Shawn Bob** raised \$500 in the name of the chapter.

Brothers participated in the March of Dimes Walk-A-Thon on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. They served as marshals on the corner of 57<sup>th</sup> Street & 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

The chapter will have it's brick plate on the wall! They contributed \$500 to the Phi Beta Sigma Recognition Wall Fund Raising Project in January 2003.

\* \* \*

Brothers, the newsletter is looking for articles regarding your chapter, it's brothers, etc. Please submit them for approval for the next issue to me at

[SirKDBD@yahoo.com](mailto:SirKDBD@yahoo.com)

We want to make sure that NY Sigma's shine and accolades are given accordingly.

\* \* \*

*...some food for thought:*

*Which do you intend to be?*

*Active Frat | 100% Sigma*

- *Shows respect for fraternity in words & behavior*
- *Plans to join alumni Chapter after college*
- *Feels responsibility for the chapter*
- *Spends time thinking about the frat*
- *Thinks in terms of what's good for the frat*
- *Donates money to support the frat*
- *Believes frat privileges are earned for oneself by paying dues*
- *Always seeking ways to improve the chapter*
- *Carries frat card with yearly updated sticker*
- *Prepares a schedule/plan to pay for annual dues, even when money is tight*
- *Encourages other frats to pay their dues*

*Inactive Frat | 10% Sigma*

- *Shows disrespect for fraternity in words & behavior*
- *No intention of joining a graduate chapter*
- *Feels no responsibility for the chapter*
- *Never a moment to think about Phi Beta Sigma*
- *Thinks of what's good for the self*
- *Donates money for beer & entertainment or other selfish interests*
- *Believes that "dues-paying" fraternity brothers don't deserve any additional privileges in the frat*
- *Always seeking self-glory in the Sigma image*
- *Carries only frat paraphernalia*
- *Financial-status stickers card has no yearly stickers*
- *Doesn't bother with any strategy for paying dues*
- *Discourages other frats about dues*

*Adopted from the brothers of Theta Delta Chapter (University of Alabama)*