



The Pontiac Nupe

May 2024 Edition

Newsletter of the Pontiac (MI) Alumni Chapter, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

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Spring 2024 MTA

We welcome these brothers to the Bond!

Kappa Upsilon & Diversity in Health Care

Kappa Brothers at Oakland University represent us well.

Member Spotlight- Brother Kelvin Faison

The PAC is filled with phenomenal brothers.



Pictured are: Anthony Phifer, Andre Smith, Delaney Phillips, Michael L. Kinloch (Northern Province Polemarch), Christopher Riddick Jr., Jimmie Pharr, and Duane Wyse

Spring 2024 MTA

By Brother Duane Wyse

On Saturday March 16th, 2024., six outstanding gentlemen were initiated into the Pontiac Alumni Chapter, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.: Duane Wyse, Jimmie Pharr, Christopher Riddick Jr., Delaney Phillips, Andre Smith, and Anthony Phifer. They originate from Philadelphia, Michigan and as far as "The Rock" Little Rock, Arkansas. They are very diverse in their careers, from a Major in the U.S. Army working in logistics, a federal agent, a teacher, a finance professional, a photographer, and an inspiring real estate agent. Together, they are the "Six K.A.R.A.T.S. of Pressure" with "K.A.R.A.T.S." being an acronym for "Kings, Authentically, Rapturously, Accomplishing, Tenacious, Service." They are neophytes within this great Klan, and have completed all the necessary requirements for initiation and membership as specified by the "Membership Training Academy" (MTA) process.

The MTA committee for the Pontiac Alumni Chapter included the following brothers: E. Kelvin Faison (Chair), Lance Sheard, David Scruggs, James Newby, Fred Hunter, Derek Hurt, Delan Wynn, Nemar Jackson, Tony Sheard, Khalfani Stephens, Daniel Lewis, and Brent Sykes.

Each brother has been invited to join a committee. The PAC welcomes "Six K.A.R.A.T.S. of Pressure" to the Bond!

Kappa Upsilon Brothers Participate in Diversity in Health Care Roundtable

By Brother Christopher F. Riddick



Kappa Upsilon Brothers Malik Williams and Polemarch Lavell White were selected to participate in an Oakland University Student Organization Roundtable discussion on Diversity in Healthcare. The event, which was hosted and moderated by Sophia Nelson of CNN was an open discussion on how lack of diversity in healthcare in healthcare

disproportionately affects people of color in the U.S. The Roundtable was the highlight of Oakland University's Unification Day of Student Leadership, held on April 5, 2024.

Sophia Nelson, who is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., was at Oakland University during the week of April 1st - 5th, completing a weeklong Residency assignment at Oakland University's William Beaumont School of Medicine and specially requested the presence of all the D9 organizations from Oakland University at this event. Brothers Williams and Polemarch White were also joined by Brother Polemarch Cedric Stokes of Eta Eta chapter (Kettering University in Flint).

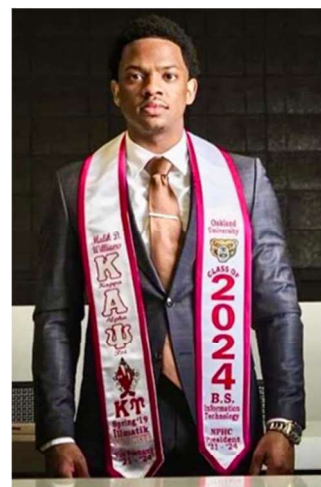


The Pontiac (MI) Alumni Chapter Congratulates our Spring 2024 Kappa Upsilon Graduates

By Brother Christopher F. Riddick

On Thursday April 25, 2024, Kappa Upsilon Brothers Garrett Gilstorff and Malik Williams both participated in commencement exercises at Oakland University. Brother Gilstorff graduates with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science, and Brother Malik Williams graduates with a Bachelor of Science degree in Information Technology.

Congratulations Brothers! The PAC is proud of you and your accomplishments!



The PAC Hosts It's Annual Senior Kappa Legends Jazz Brunch

By Christopher F. Riddick

This year's Senior Kappa Legends Jazz Brunch was held on April 13, 2024, at the Pontiac Kappa Center and was attended by well over 40 guests and Senior Kappa Legend honorees. One of the PAC's signature annual events, this was the first year of the event being held in person after a several year hiatus due to the pandemic. The PAC Senior Kappa Affairs committee, led by Brother Melvin Lee, planned and executed an amazing event which featured a delicious brunch of numerous tasty food and beverage selections which the guests and honorees enjoyed as, Brother Eugene Hawkins provided some smooth Jazz sounds as all in attendance feasted on the amazing brunch.

This year's Senior Kappa honorees were:

- Brother Brien Becks
- Brother Derek Hurt
- Brother Marcel Hurt
- Brother Marzine Moore
- Brother Raymond Seay
- Brother Ronald Seay



Brother Marzine Moore, Brother Raymond Seay, and Brother Ronald Seay were all recognized for achieving 50 years in the Bond. Additionally, Brother Kelvin Faison was honored with the 2024 Deference Award, which is awarded by the PAC's Neos. This year, the Deference Award was presented by the PAC's newest line, 6 K.A.R.A.T.S of Pressure. Also, Brother Jesse Petway was recognized as Senior Kappa Legend of the Year.



Kappa Friday Fish Fry - Great Food and Even Greater Fellowship!

By Brother Christopher F. Riddick



On March 29, 2024, the Pontiac Kappa Foundation (PKF) hosted a Kappa Friday event which was intended to bring Brothers together for some good old Kappa fellowship and, potentially reclaim Brothers. Conceived by PAC Reclamation Chair Brother Paul Ross, the event was viewed as wildly successful in both areas, with some 50 Brothers in attendance and a total of 3 Brothers reclaimed.



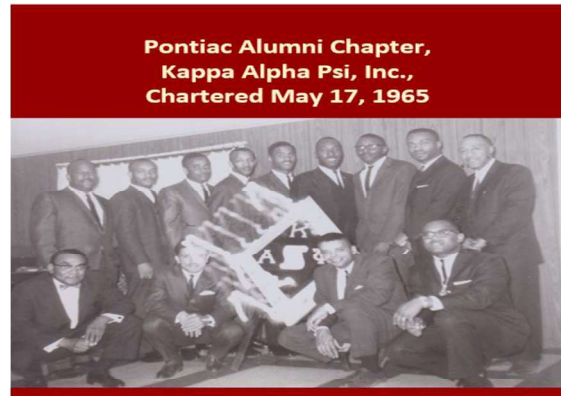
A bit different from our usual Kappa Friday's, this event featured free food, which consisted of perch, catfish, and French fries. Brother Don McNeil was a significant contributor to the success of this event, frying over 600 pieces of fish. The event was a Brothers only event (and intended for PAC Brothers) but, word spread, and we also had Brothers from the Detroit Alumni Chapter and the newly formed Macomb (MI) Alumni Chapter in attendance, inclusive of its Polemarch, Brother Joe Hunter. Additionally, Brother Province Polemarch Kinloch was in attendance as well!

It was a well-attended and memorable event. Given the event's success in garnering numerous Brothers to come together for Fellowship (and Reclamation), Brother Paul Ross plans to host several similar type events over the coming summer months. Stay tuned.....



Celebrating Charter Day with a View of History

By Brothers Jesse Petway (Historian) and Brother David Scruggs (Chapter Reporter)



In the Spring of 1965, due to national and local issues including the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and busing issues in the city of Pontiac, thirteen men came together with the purpose of filling a void for positive black role models and leadership within in the community. A Charter was requested and granted by the administration of the Eighteenth Grand Polemarch Thomas L Bradley, Esq. on May 17, 1965. Brother Kenneth Young was the chartering Polemarch and Brother Frederick D. Smith was the lead organizer. Brother Dr. Garfield Johnson, Jr was elected the first Polemarch.

The Chartering Members were:

1. Dr. Charles E Billings - Sigma Chapter 1957
2. Dr. Nathaniel Clay, Jr. - Alpha Tau, 1963
3. Dr. Otis B. Ferguson, Jr. - Kappa Chapter, 1949
4. Dr. Rondald P. Hairston - Beta Pi, 1956
5. James Hawkins - Gamma Beta, 1963
6. Dr. Garfield Johnson, Jr. - Beta Gamma, 1954
7. Earl E. McKee, Gamma Beta, 1955
8. Roy O. Norton - Beta Chapter, 1949
9. Huevon S. Peery - Alpha Tau - 1955
10. Frederick D. Smith - Sigma Chapter 1959
11. Charles M. Tucker, Jr - Alpha Beta, 1951
12. David Windburn, III - Alpha Chapter, 1954
13. Kenneth F. Young - Xi Chapter 1924

By 1973, the chapter became inactive as the careers of several brothers led them to other parts of the state and country. However, the chapter was reactivated in 1977 spearheaded by charter member Frederick D. Smith and several young brothers including Norman Rick Harper of Epsilon Xi '71 along with his fellow brother Willian T. Stephens who was a Charter Polemarch from Epsilon Tau '69. The number of Kappas grew significantly in the area and timing was fruitful for reactivation. Brother Rick Harper was elected as Polemarch.

The chapter continued to survive with the recruitment of brothers who were initiated at the undergraduate level from numerous colleges and also settled in the Pontiac area. The chapter's first pledge line was made in 1979 known as the "Four Tops" to the group known as "F.O.U.R Konglomerate" in 2021. There have been 31 Lines and a total of 122 brothers inducted. ***Each line developed its own unique character and helped the chapter move forward!***

Back Down Memory Lane- A sit-down & spotlight with Brother Kelvin Faison

By Brother Matthew Gillery

The Pontiac Alumni Chapter, Kappa Alpha Psi is filled with phenomenal brothers who embody the “Kappa Spirit” in doing all that they can to support our noble klan. This talk with Brother Kelvin Faison is from a previous edition of the “Pontiac Nupe” from 2016, but the information is still relevant! I look forward to additional spotlights with brothers so we can continue to learn more about each other and strengthen our bond! Yo!

Me: Yo! Nupes! We have a good brother here. His name is Brother Kelvin Faison. Yo! Faison! I have a question for you. Do mind if I ask you a few questions???

Faison: You can try...

Me: Where are you from and where did you go to college?

Faison: I am grew up in Washington, D.C., but was born in Durham, N.C. I went to Fayetteville State University (Epsilon Beta Chapter, Middle-Eastern Province).

Me: Why did you join Kappa Alpha Psi?

Faison: I was enlightened and influenced to join Kappa Alpha Psi by my homeboy Brother Jephunneh Lawrence. He helped recruit me to Fayetteville State University to be on the a new, developing Track and Field Team. I saw the way he carried himself with confidence and character. And, noticed who his friends were and how they carried themselves around campus. All these friends were Kappa's. Once I read the history of the fraternity and what the organization stood for, I was sold.

Me: What are the three words that your close friends would use to describe you?

Faison: Knowledgeable, Dependable and a Worker

Me: What is your favorite pastime?

Faison: Studying Black History as it was in antiquity and keeping myself physically fit

Me: What is your favorite food?

Faison: Grilled Salmon with a fresh salad (all that I create)

Me: What is your favorite quote?

Faison: I don't have a favorite quote, but I do have a favorite philosophy, "there is always more to learn", created through a by Dr. Ray Hagins, "Circle of Awareness".

Me: What are your pet peeves?

Faison: One major pet peeve I have is when a person does not utilize the best of themselves. They give up too soon. I can live with other situations by rolling with them or ignoring them.

Me: What are your goals/dreams/plans?

Faison: As I'm already within my retirement years, I want to take care myself physically and spiritually (personal goal and plan), travel as much as I can, and mentor my five grandchildren.

The Pontiac (MI) Alumni Chapter (N), Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. has been a consistent source of pride and role model of leadership in the Pontiac community for over 50 years. Founded by a group of successful, driven African American men, the chapter continues to place high emphasis on achievement and service to the community.

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