

OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY INC

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

HALL OF FAME ACHIEVEMENT WEEK PROGRAM



SATURDAY 11, 2010

FRENSHIP IS ESSENTIAL TO THE SOUL

HALL OF FAME AWARDS

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Mississippi Hall of Fame is to recognize Omega men, in the state of Mississippi, who have performed outstanding service in the community and /or the fraternity.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE HALL OF FAME NOMINEES

1. Have a minimum of 15 years of active (financial) service in the fraternity (all 15 years do not have to be in Mississippi).
2. Must be currently active (financial) with a chapter in the state of Mississippi at the time of nomination or have entered OMEGA chapter, while being an active member of a chapter in Mississippi
3. Must have a proven record of outstanding service in the community and/or fraternity.

All nominations forms were received and reviewed by an area committee member and then forwarded to the entire committee for review. After being reviewed by the committee, these men were selected to be placed in the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., State of Mississippi Hall Of Fame

ERNEST A. BOYKINS, JR



Ernest A. Boykins, Jr. was born on October 5, 1931 in Vicksburg, Mississippi, the oldest child of the late Georgia and Ernest Boykins.

After graduating from St. Mary's Catholic School in Vicksburg, Ernest attended Xavier University of Louisiana where he graduated with a degree in Biology. Ernest also met the love of his life and life long partner, Beverly, while at Xavier. Beverly and Ernest married on August 17, 1955 in Lafayette, Louisiana. To this union four (4) children were born: Darryl, Rhea, Connie and Karen.

After graduating from Xavier, Ernest began what became a lifelong career in higher education in the State of Mississippi as a biology instructor at Alcorn State College. Ernest left Alcorn to pursue his Master's Degree in Biology at Texas Southern University. In 1964, he earned his Doctorate in Zoology at Michigan State University. In 1971, Ernest was appointed to the Presidency of Mississippi Valley State College in Itta Bena, Mississippi.

Under Ernest's leadership "The Valley" experienced growth in terms of enrollment, program expansion and physical plant. In March of 1974, "The Valley" was elevated to University status. During his tenure, Valley reached its peak enrollment and new degree programs were added in Social Work and Computer Science. Ernest retired from the Valley in 1981 and with Beverly relocated to Hattiesburg, Mississippi where he returned to his roots as an Associate Professor of Biology at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM). He retired from USM in 1988. In 1989, Ernest decided that he was not read from retirement and began his second career as a Counselor and Program Coordinator at Forrest General Pine Grove Recovery Center in Hattiesburg. While he retired again in 1998, Ernest continued his volunteer support several years.

Ernest was a member of various civic, community and professional organizations including Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Phi Rho Chapter (Hattiesburg) and the Mississippi Center of Legal Services (Board of Directors). He was a devoted parishioner of Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Hattiesburg.

Ernest loved learning and higher education. He instilled and commanded these values in each of his children. He inspired and touched the lives of many through his formal and informal teaching, support and encouragement. He was known for his sense of humor, quiet yet firm demeanor and his uncanny ability to not let the challenges of the world get to him. One of his many phrases was "I'd rather be happy than be right."

ALLEN BROWN



Allen Brown was born in Charlotte, North Carolina and was the only boy child of Hattie Calvin and Lafayette Brown. Bro. Brown graduated from Second Ward High School in Charlotte, NC at the age of 14 years old. Bro. Brown was educated at Johnson C. Smith University and initiated into my beloved fraternity, Omega Psi Phi, Rho Chapter in 1937. He kept the promise, "Omega Psi Phi till the day I die".

After stops at Fayetteville State and Bluefield State colleges, he finally arrived at Jackson State in 1957. At JSU, Bro. Brown was the chair of the Department of Chemistry. He completed an advance degree in Analytical Chemistry at Indiana University in 1949 and was inducted into Alpha Kappa Mu Science Society. Bro. Brown committed himself to teaching and preparing the next generation of Negro scientists which was his mission at Jackson State.

After college and a brief stint at the U. S. Bureau of Standards, he was drafted and served in the Third Army Infantry in France. During WWII while stationed in France, he had pretty bad battlefield assignments at the front because he was fluent in both French and German. He was severely wounded and thought he would be discharged, but ended up in the European theater until the end of the war. Bro. Brown served as the Ruling Elder at Faith Presbyterian Church while being an active member of the church.

Bro. Brown served as the first women's bowling coach at Jackson State and held the distinction of being considered a pioneer in encouraging the growth of bowling among blacks in Jackson and the southern region. Bro. Brown led the SWAC championship JSU women's bowling team, served as Chairman of the JSU Athletic Board and President of the JSU Faculty Senate. Bro. Brown worked at the Lawrence Berkeley Radiation Laboratory at the University of California. He was considered a leading researcher back at Lawrence Berkeley and Jackson State in the 1970s. He was the director of the Regional Science Fair for more than 30 years. During his 30 year teaching tenure at JSU, he was the cause of literally thousands of young people choosing science careers.

Bro. Brown served as a long-time advisor to Upsilon Epsilon-YE. He served on the Mississippi State Council for Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Bro. Brown was a life member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Bro. Brown considered his greatest success in life to be his daughter, Dr. Marquessa Brown and his son, Mr. Carlton Brown. He was blessed with three grandchildren: Jabari Henderson-Brown, Jamal Thorn and Zakia Henderson-Brown and his daughter-in-law, Dr. Akua Henderson-Brown. He thought of every student he ever taught as his son and daughter. He could have never imagined his life without the love, comfort and commitment of his wife, Sherry Brown.

Brother Brown has entered OMEGA chapter.

J.B. CARTER



J. B. Carter was born in Moss Point, MS. He attended Tougaloo College from 1956-1960. He received a bachelor's degree in English, Religion and Philosophy. Bro. Carter was initiated at Rho Epsilon chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., in 1958.

Bro. Carter was first appointed MS State Representative in 1967 and served until 1970. He was elected to serve a second term as MS State Representative from 1982-1984. Served as First Vice Seventh District Representative and fourteenth Seventh District Representative; served as Basileus of both Iota Upsilon and Sigma Alpha Alpha Chapters; conducted leadership workshops for Iota Upsilon and Sigma Alpha Alpha Chapter and served as Basileus when the chapter was selected as Chapter of the Year; served on the Life Membership Committee, served as chairman of the International Human Resources Committee and was instrumental in revising the Human Resource Manual of the Fraternity; currently serves as advisor to the Grand Basileus; recipient of the Seventh District Superior Service Award and the International Superior Service Award; served on the International Membership Intake Committee. Served on the Seventh District and the International Recommendations Committee. Conducted an Officers Responsibilities Workshop for the MS State Workshop. He is a member of the Life Membership Committee and the International Personnel Committee.

Former member and chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Moss Point School system; former member of the Boards of Trustees for the Jackson County United Way, Chamber of Commerce, Salvation Army, Red Cross, and the Jackson-George Counties Regional Library System. Former Democratic Election Commissioner; selected by the defendants and the plaintiffs to serve on the Bi-Racial Committee during the integration of Moss Point Schools.

Bro. Carter's work has earned him the District Superior Service Award and the International Superior Service Award. He has also been named Omega Man of the Year for Iota Upsilon and Sigma Alpha Alpha Chapters.

Bro. Carter is also the recipient of numerous civic awards in his community. He is an active member of Asbury Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church where he serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees and adult Sunday School teacher. He is a family man with three children and seven grandchildren. He and his wife, Mary have been married for fifty-one years.

AARON HENRY



Aaron Henry was born 1922 in [Dublin](#), Mississippi to Ed and Mattie Henry who were sharecroppers. He enlisted in the Army after high school and later attended Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans where he became a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. He later graduated from Xavier University with a degree in political science. During World War II, he served as a staff sergeant with the U.S. Army in the Pacific. After the war, the African American veteran attended pharmacy school, and eventually returned to Clarksdale to open a drug store.

As a leader of the NAACP, Henry participated in virtually every aspect of the struggle for equality in Mississippi, while serving as a voice of moderation and an advocate of racial conciliation. In 1961, he joined the Freedom Rides to protest segregation in interstate bus facilities and was arrested when the group reached Jackson, Mississippi. Two years later, Henry ran for governor - and won handily - in the Freedom Vote, a mock election held to demonstrate African American interest in politics and to mobilize the African American community for further political action. During the Freedom Summer of 1964, Henry served as chairperson of the Council of Federated Organizations, an umbrella agency which attempted to coordinate the activities of the NAACP, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and the Congress of Racial Equality. Under his leadership, the various civil rights organizations launched a large-scale voter registration drive and conducted "Freedom Schools," which combined adult education with training in community activism.

Brother Henry has entered OMEGA chapter.

JIMMY JAMES



Jimmie James, Jr. recently retired as Chair of the Department of Music and Professor of Music at Jackson State University. He was inducted in the Jackson State University National Alumni Association Hall of Fame in 2008. He was honored on June 7, 2007 at the annual Ministers Conference and Choir Directors' Organists' Guild Workshop at Hampton University. He was one of two recipients of the "Living Legend in Church Music" award which is given to outstanding musicians for their achievements in the realm of composition and/or performance

He received the Bachelor of Music Education degree from Jackson State University in 1960, in three years, where he was the first tuba major, graduating cum laude; the M.S. degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison; and the Ph.D. degree from the University of Southern Mississippi where he was the first African-American to receive that degree. During his senior year at JSU, he received the prestigious **Aurelia Norris Young Metronome** for outstanding achievement in music theory. At JSU, he has served as Director of Musical Activities, Coordinator of the Graduate Music Program, Director of the Concert Band, Assistant Band Director and Director of the Brass Ensemble. A very versatile person, he has served as the **Voice of the Sonic Boom of the South**, the University's Marching Band for more than thirty years. Having served as Director of the highly successful Annual Church Music Workshop of America since 1977, James has conducted workshops on church music in twenty different states. He served as a member of the Commission on Worship and Liturgy, the Commission that organized the **AME Bicentennial Hymnal**. A member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity since 1957, when he was initiated into Upsilon Epsilon Chapter at Jackson State University, he has served as International Director of Talent Hunt and has been named **Omega Man of the Year** on the local and district levels as well as Director of the Omega Conclave Que Chorale for several meetings. He has served as local, state and Seventh District Director of Talent Hunt for several years. In 2009, the Mississippi State Talent Hunt was named the Jimmie James, Jr. Talent Hunt. In July of 1986, he published an **Omega Songbook** for the Seventh-Fifth Anniversary Grand Conclave in Washington, D.C.

JOHN JAMES



Considered by many as one of Mississippi Valley State University's founding fathers, John A. James helped lay the educational cornerstone when he became one of the first full-time faculty members for the first academic year at, then, Mississippi Vocational College.

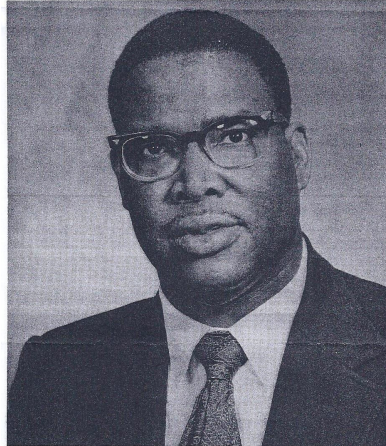
The Pascagoula native attended Alcorn A&M College before being called to active duty in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1946. He received a bachelor of science degree in natural science and a master's degree in zoology from Tennessee State University.

In 1951, Bro. James became chairman of the Science and Math Department and held that position until 1972. During his MVSU tenure, he served as Director of Institutional Self-Study from 1970 to 1972, and Director of the Office of Institutional Research from 1971 to 1992. He retired from the Valley in 1992.

Bro. James served as chairman of the Commencement Committee for nearly 40 years, but perhaps he is best known as the "father" of the science program at the University. He continues to serve MVSU as co-chair of the MVSU Pioneers and is a life associate member of the MVSU National Alumni Association.

He and his wife of 64 years, Irene Booth James, are the parents of five sons, all reared in the MVSU community. He is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity in which he has held many leadership positions, including being an Active Member and Past (4) Times Basileus, Beta Rho Chapter, Former Long time Ms. State Council Member, Former State KRS Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Vice Chairman, College Height Subdivision Organization Co-Chairman, and MVSU Pioneers Life.

GEORGE A. JOHNSON



Dr. Johnson believed that one had to spend time in the Old South and contemporary Hazlehurst – the modern Peyton Place – to understand what he meant when he said that he was thankful to his supporting family members, encouraging neighbors, cooperating friends, inspiring teachers, gentle and kind people, and super Christians. From that environment, he entered Tougaloo College and three years later graduated *Cum Laude* with a degree in economics and mathematics. After attending three schools in the South: Atlanta University, Jackson State University, and Mississippi State University where he was the first Black to receive a doctorate; two schools in the Midwest: Wisconsin, as a National Science Fellow; Indiana University where he received the Master of Science degree; and two schools on the west coast: the University of California, Los Angeles, and Stanford University as a Kellogg Fellow; he spent thirty-seven years fulfilling his dreams in education.

Two years in Hazlehurst as a math and science teacher; five years at Jim Hill as a math teacher; four years at Utica Junior College as Dean of Instruction; three years at Mississippi Valley State University as Dean of Students; three years at Mississippi State as an Assistant Professor; one year at Tougaloo College as Chair of the Education Department; and nineteen years at Jackson State University, fourteen as Vice President for Student Affairs, and five as Professor of Education were achieved in the field of education.

Brother Johnson has entered OMEGA chapter.

WILLIAM A. MCMILLAN



Brother William Asbury McMillan, Sr. joined the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in 1940 through Rho Chapter at Johnson C. Smith College in Charlotte, North Carolina. While there, he also earned a bachelors degree in education. In Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, he pursued advanced degrees at The University of Pennsylvania. Brother McMillan also worked for Founder Oscar Cooper who operated a medical office there.

To further perpetuate his love for the fraternity, Brother McMillan became national life member #40. While serving as the academic dean at Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Florida, Brother McMillan was appointed state director (later changed to state representative) by then District Representative Brooks.

After Brother Brooks passed away, Brother McMillan was elected district representative. As district representative, Brother McMillan put in place bylaws that would limit the terms of future district representatives. Brother McMillan started the district life member, membership status becoming district life member #1.

After his term as district representative, Brother McMillan was appointed to serve as Mississippi State Representative, thus becoming the only brother to have served as both Florida State Representative and Mississippi State Representative. Brother McMillan wrote the guidelines for the Lampados Club and worked on revisions to The Ritual for the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Brother McMillan was instrumental in the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. support of the United Negro College Fund. He appeared annually on the Lou Rawls Parade of Stars presenting the U.N.C.F. fund \$100,000 on behalf of the fraternity. Brother McMillan served as the national Achievement Week chair from 1979 – 1989. Brother McMillan was responsible for the first faculty endowed chair of the fraternity being established at Rust College.

Brother McMillan has entered OMEGA chapter.

JESSE PARKER



Bro. Jesse Parker was born December 6, 1926 in Meridian, MS. He attended T. J. Harris Senior High School in Meridian, MS and graduated in 1948. He graduated from Jackson State College in 1960 with a B.S., in science and mathematics.

Bro. Parker served in the United States Air Force. He taught science and mathematics in Mississippi. Bro. Parker served as the District Boy Scout Executive for over 13 years. He attended seminars at the University of Illinois, Indiana University and Colorado State University.

Bro. Parker was initiated in Iota Upsilon chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Bro. Parker was a founding member of Phi Rho chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., in Hattiesburg, MS. Bro. Parker helped to organize Nu Eta chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg. He served as chapter Basilieus for Phi Rho chapter (Hattiesburg, MS) on multiple occasions.

Bro. Parker was the first African American to serve on the Hattiesburg Public School Board, former member of the Hattiesburg Civil Service Commission and a life member of the NAACP.

Bro. Parker was married to the former Geraldine Foster and to this union, two children were born, Evelyn Lenora and Jesse Maurice.

SAMUEL WHISENTON



Samuel Houston Whisenton, born November 30, 1927, in Canton MS, crossed the burning sands into Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. through the Eta Chapter of Alcorn College November 18, 1949. He and eight other students became the first members of Eta Chapter located at Alcorn College. Bro. Whisenton was the chapter's first Keeper of Record and Seals. Like our founder, Honorable Brother Ernest E. Just, Bro. Whisenton had a strong interest in Chemistry. In fact, Chemistry was Bro. Whisenton major in college.

Upon graduating, Bro. Whisenton realized he wanted to dedicate his life to uplifting students; so he became a Chemistry teacher for the Canton School District. It was there he developed a passion for mentoring at risk boys who were attracted to gangs and drugs. He was able to reach many of them through his teachings. He instilled character traits of commitment and dedication to thousands of students throughout his teaching career, of over thirty-nine years. "I wanted to uplift students. In fact, that is what I did with my life. I tried real hard to uplift students from a life away from the streets, gambling, drugs and violence said Whisenton."

Bro. Whisenton served in the Army from 1945 to 1948 as a member of the Aircraft Artillery. He is an active member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Canton, MS where he has served as Minister of Music, Sunday School Superintendent, and head of their Layman Department. As a member of the General Baptist State Convention, Bro. Whisenton served as Director of Music for the Congress of Christian Education. Bro. Whisenton is a 60 year member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. As an active member of Epsilon Kappa Kappa Chapter of Canton, MS, he attends meetings regularly and serves on several committees. It is Brothers like Bro. Samuel Houston Whisenton who have Lived their Creed and Built Bridges for younger brothers to traverse that continue to exemplify the TRUE SPIRIT of OMEGA

HALL OF FAME AWARDS PROGRAM AGENDA

SATURDAY 11, 2010



Invocation

Bro. Tony Smith
State Chaplain

Introduction of Award Recipients

Bro Charles Hall
Hall Of Fame Chairman

2010 State Award Recipients

Graduate Chapter of the Year
Undergraduate Chapter of the Year
Omega Man of the Year
Superior Service Award
Citizen of the Year

Presentation of Awards

Bro, Brian White
Hall Of Fame Co-Chairmen

Remarks to Award Recipients

Bro Fernandis Frazier
State Representative

Benediction

Bro. Tony Smith
State Chaplain

Achievement Week Occasion

Achievement Week is a mandated program of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., that was originally designed to promote the study of African American life and history. This became a mandated program at the 14th Grand Conclave after the father of black history and also an honorary member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Dr. Carter G. Woodson, urged the membership that this is program is needed to recognized Black achievements. As we know today, this was the beginning of February's Black History Month. Presently during the Mississippi Organization of Omega Psi Phi State meeting, the Achievement Week Program is used to recognize those chapters and individuals who have made significant contributions toward improving the quality of life for African Americans in their communities.

Objectives of the Observance

To focus attention on outstanding achievement, not only by giving appropriate recognition to those who have achieved, but also by stimulating others to gain even higher eminence.

To implement our democratic way of life by emphasizing that all people must be judged by their accomplishments and their service to mankind, regardless of nationality, religion, or race.

To raise the prestige of Omega by providing a worthwhile project to which our chapters may direct its energies. This united effort should stimulate and enrich the communities where Omega Psi Phi Chapters are located.

MANHOOD

SCHOLARSHIP

PERSVERANCE

UPLIFT



“EVERYTHING RISES AND FALLS ON LEADERSHIP”