

Louisville Sphinx

Alpha Lambda

"Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. develops leaders, promotes brotherhood and academic excellence, while providing service and advocacy for our communities."

President's Welcome

Greetings to All!!

As the seasons change yet again, and we begin to think ahead to a period of Thanksgiving, the members of the Alpha Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated are humbled and thankful for another opportunity to share its thoughts, events, passions and talents with the Louisville community while forging ahead in an unending desire to promote scholarship, develop leadership and uplift the downtrodden of mankind through service. As thankful as we are to live in this day and time, the men of Alpha Phi Alpha realize there is still much work to be done. This work affords each of us a unique opportunity to be challenged, inspired and motivated. Furthermore, it allows each member of our community a chance to rededicate ourselves to the noblest of causes which uplift and steer our youth forward, educate and motivate our young adults, and remind our middle-aged and older adults of the shared responsibility to provide knowledge and wisdom; the type that will leave an understanding of the challenges our community faces with a sense of hope that positive, impactful change is just over the horizon. Please join the members of Alpha Phi Alpha in our efforts to provide meaningful service and advocacy in our community.

Alpha Phi Alpha realized long ago that to encourage leadership development, a dedication to service and commitment to scholastic excellence, it would need resources and collaborative partnerships. Through our continued partnership with the Zion Missionary Baptist Church, the 2nd phase of our National Program "Go to High School, Go to College" has begun. A success at inspiring our youth to pursue post-secondary education and providing useful tips for greater efficiency and success, the men of Alpha Phi Alpha are pleased that Zion Missionary Baptist Church has stayed committed to affect more change for our youth through this National Program. The Alpha Lambda Chapter is also thankful to the ladies of the Pi Lambda Omega Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, for joining us in Phase II. This new partner is sure to help us accomplish a unified goal of reaching and inspiring more youth to strive for the highest educational achievements.

As the Alpha Lambda Chapter moves through this fall season, an additional commitment was made to participate in an "Alpha Season of Giving." During this fall season, members of the Alpha Lambda Chapter will conduct a canned good and clothing drive to benefit local organizations which provide service to the downtrodden of our community during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons. I believe that second to providing love to one another, service is the glue that connects all of us in a gentle, humanistic way that benefits every citizen of our world. Join the members of Alpha in our Alpha Season of Giving remembering those less fortunate and being thankful for the chance to lend a helping hand.

Fall Calendar of Events

- Chapter Meetings
 - October 9
 - November 13
 - No December meeting
- Kickoff to 2009 Clothing Drive
 - October 9
- Alpha Awareness Seminar
 - October 16
- Chapter Dues Deadline
 - November 1
- Grand Tax Due
 - November 15
- Project Alpha Week
 - November 1-7
- Neighborhood Clean-Up
 - November 14 (9:00 a.m.)
- Healing Place Thanksgiving Volunteerism
 - November 21
- Founder's Day
 - December 4
- Founder's Day Celebratory Event
 - December 5
- Chapter Retreat
 - December 11-12
- Lost Sheep Ministries Community Service Event
 - December 17
- Brotherhood Worship
 - December 20

Please visit
www.alphalambda1906.com for the full
calendar of events

President's Welcome *con't from p. 1*

As the President of the First Alumni Chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, I am continuously humbled to help steer the Alpha Lambda Chapter toward our historic 100th anniversary. As the chapter continues its Stride toward the Centennial, recognizing the 100th anniversary of Alpha Lambda's chartering on April 11, 1911, we ask for the Brothers of Alpha in the Louisville Area to recommit to the ideals and services which the Founders of Alpha Phi Alpha so nobly advanced. Additionally, we pay homage to those men who helped charter the Alpha Lambda Chapter while realizing the fierce urgency of now. Alpha Phi Alpha has always stood on the frontlines of progress and effective change. We shall not deviate from this now! We must galvanize our efforts and recommit ourselves to working together to create positive changes that can impact the lives of every person we encounter. We must lead in our communities, our businesses, our places of worship and any other social/community groups we belong to. In 2009, the Alpha Lambda Chapter dedicated itself to consistent and effective communication amongst its members. As a result, more Brothers are becoming actively engaged in the work of Alpha. If you are not one of these members, ponder this: "What are you waiting on?" In this House of Alpha, members will find respect and unity. A continued responsibility belongs to each of us to take an honest inventory and ask ourselves, "Honestly, how much have I done?" Let the clarion call go forth that Alpha Lambda welcomes those members who have been away to return home. Our doors are open and I invite you, my dear Brother, to return. Please visit our chapter website, www.alphalambda1906.org for more information regarding our meetings, events and additional contact information.

In closing, please remember that each of you play an integral role in the success of the Alpha Lambda Chapter. The chapter reaches out to all organizations that strive for the better making of men and the eradication of societal ills. To those who believe in community development and revitalization, know that Alpha joins with you to carry this cause forward. Our communities must collectively join our talents and resources together to perform deeds that meet the most urgent needs. Let us be determined, knowing that while our work will be difficult, our goals will be obtainable. Alpha Phi Alpha stands prepared to address the issues that cause current and future challenges. Your support, your passion, your hard work and dedication will make the difference between uplifting our community and maintaining a status quo. For more information on the Alpha Season of Giving or about the programs and services offered by the Alpha Lambda Chapter, please visit our Chapter website or contact me directly at piphuscharles@hotmail.com. Please be blessed and be a blessing to others!

Sincerely,

Charles V. Piphus, Jr.
Chapter President
Alpha Lambda Chapter
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated

<http://www.alphalambda1906.org>

Congratulations on a Job Well-Done



On Friday, September 11, 2009 Brother Lieutenant Kenton Buckner of the Louisville Metro Police Department was promoted to the rank of Major. Brother Buckner is a Spring 1991 initiate of AFA through the Rho Eta chapter at Eastern Kentucky University. Brother Buckner will now command the Special Operations Division which oversees specialty units such as: SWAT, Hostage Negotiating Team, Dignitary Protection Team, (SRT) Special Response Team, K-9, Air Unit, (HDU) Hazardous Devices Unit, and (JESU) Joint Emergency Services Unit among others.

Brother Buckner began his law enforcement career in 1993 with the Louisville Division of Police. Brother Buckner has obtained a Bachelor's degree in Police Administration and a Master's Degree in Safety, Security and Emergency Management. Brother Buckner has been awarded several awards and commendations for his service to the department and the community, and is a 2005 graduate of the (SPI) Southern Police Institute Academy for Police Leadership at the University of Louisville.

Submitted by Bro. Ed Goins, Jr.

2009 Fraternal Fall Quarter Calendar

October

- (2-3)Midwestern Region Staff Leadership Summit (Dayton, OH)
 - (5) Fall 2009 Louisville Sphinx Mass Distribution (1st Monday of Month)
 - (9) October Chapter Meeting
 - (9) Kickoff to 2009 Clothing Drive
 - (16) Fall 2009 Alpha Awareness Seminar
- Project Alpha will begin monthly implementation.

November

- (1) Chapter Dues Deadline
- (1-7) PROJECT ALPHA WEEK *Schedule of Events TBD
- (13) November Chapter Meeting
- (13) Conclusion of 2009 Canned Good Drive
- (14) Neighborhood Clean-Up (9 AM)
- (15) Fraternity Grand Tax Due (late fees for Grand Tax and Chapter Dues apply after this date)
- (21) Healing Place Thanksgiving Volunteerism

December

- (4) FOUNDER'S DAY
- (5) Founder's Day Celebratory Event
- (11-12) CHAPTER RETREAT (NO DECEMBER CHAPTER MEETING)
- (17) Lost Sheep Ministries Community Service Event (all clothes collected during Clothing Drive will be delivered during this Event)
- (20) Brotherhood Worship (11 AM)

The Definition of a Role Model

by Walter Malone III

If asked to recall a role model that has helped to shape your success, with thought, I'm sure the name of an individual would come to mind. An individual, who may not have a great following or a famous name, but one whose impact left a lofty impression upon your life. In like manor, that's what our organization has set out to do through the Go-to-High-School, Go-to-College program. Our goal and purpose is to intentionally make a positive impact in the lives of youth.

The "Go-to-High-School, Go-to-College" program, a constituent of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., was established in 1922. The program concentrates on the importance of completing secondary and collegiate education as a road to advancement. The Alpha Lambda Chapter, a vital resource to the Louisville community, seeks to provide influential leadership and mentorship through this program.

Alpha Lambda has pushed the envelope to take this program to the next level. As a chapter we have teamed up with the Pi Lambda Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. to impact young men and women in the Louisville community. We have also put a twist on the lessons, adding topic based titles that creatively engage the youth. The progression of our youth is vital, and we are aiming to reach as many youth as we possibly can.

Statistics prove the value of the extra motivation of Go-to-High-School, Go-to-College in making the difference in the success of young African-Americans. This cannot be looked passed, given that school completion is the single best predictor of future economic success. Through the Go-to-High-School, Go-to-College educational initiative, the youth of Louisville receive information and learn strategies that facilitate success.

By definition, a role model is a person looked to by others as an example to be imitated. The same way we can recall those who have impacted our success, the hope is that one day many will remember the impact Alpha Lambda had on their successes. In days past and present, Alpha men have and will continue to provide youth participants with excellent role models to emulate. Through Manly Deeds, Scholarship, and Love for All Mankind, we give of ourselves with pride, knowing that our efforts are contributing to a bright future.

Profiles of a Brother of Alpha Lambda

My name is DeJuan Brown and I attended the University of Louisville and received a Bachelors of Art degree in Psychology and minored in Pan African Studies. I am currently pursuing my Masters in Social Work and Pan African Studies. I currently work at Brooklawn Child and Family Services as a Direct Care Specialist, working hands on with the children and providing effective tools that will help them become upstanding young men in our society. I am also a Big Brother in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program where I help him to focus and improve on his academics as well as being a mentor and role model by showing him the importance of staying in school, reaching for your goals, and to not fall into peer pressure. I am someone who is very personable and who can get along well with any group of people whether in a personal or business setting. I also have a passion for people, especially the African American community, and have a heart to serve and uplift others and I continue to find ways in which I can achieve this. I have been blessed with the gifts of art, poetry, and music, and I try to use these God-given talents to reach out and to bless others. I have performed many times on campus at different events and have been able to connect with people emotionally and spiritually through my poetry.

Good Comedy, Bad Comedy?

I recently read an article talking about the new cartoon spin off of "Family Guy" which is called "The Cleveland's." The article bashed the show for being a modernized minstrel show, which only exaggerated African American stereotypes and made blacks look like buffoons. I do agree that we are taking steps backwards as a nation and as a black culture (sub-group) with a show like "The Cleveland's." I didn't even watch the season premiere and I'm sure of that, but since the media has aroused my curiosity I will tune in to watch the show simply for the sake of witnessing. My first thought is let's be honest with ourselves; I'm not the least bit surprised that this is a coon show. That is what I expected. So I'm sure that I won't support the show, but I do have several points which will challenge readers and myself to think before we make critical judgment.

I love the Dave Chappelle show, and I love the Boondocks. I think they are political satires that do make fun of black people, so I should be upset, but I'm not. I believe that I am educated enough with an educated family background, to be able to see that they are making fun of our people, but they are also saying "hey black people, this is what is wrong with us, lets fix it because we look like fools!" (Chappelle show and Boondocks do have black writers also, I don't know about Cleveland show)

I'm confident in my previous statement because I kept up with Boondocks before it was a TV cartoon and only a newspaper comic strip. It was more politically geared and was way more complex. I often didn't even get the jokes until I got older. When it turned into a TV cartoon, they had to dummy some content down for the sake of gaining a broader audience. I'm not giving them an excuse, but if you buy season one and two DVD sets, you can listen to the commentary of the writers and learn a lot about the way they think. These men are smart! The biggest problem to me is that uneducated, ignorant, rich, poor, black and white people watch these shows and they can't really handle what they are seeing. They really think that this is funny and OK, and can not decipher the ignorance from the truth. I on the other hand, and probably most people who will read this article, probably have similar thoughts because we are all, "educated."

As for Dave Chapelle Show, he canceled his own show, after two very successful seasons, because he knew that he was profiting off of the ignorance of his people which was setting us all back again. Too many people were tuning in to the show, and laughing "at" Black people not realizing that these are issues that need to be fixed.

So here I stand, stating that these shows are setting us back but I own Boondocks DVD's and Love the Chapelle Show. So even if I, as an individual, can see the underlying true issues that need to be addressed in our community through these cartoons, perhaps I'm still not helping because I'm supporting this stuff. Am I a hypocrite because I think that the Boondocks and the Chapelle show are hilarious? You tell me.

Last thought, at the end of the article that I read, the writer states that on the cartoon, "Family Guy," that "At least the Griffin family speaks pretty good English, the kids go to school on the regular basis, and the parents are married." This is true, but if you watch family guy, you will see that the Griffin family is as IGNORANT as they can be, and I like to tune in and watch that white family make a fool of themselves from time to time also. So is it fair for me to get upset when they have a stupid black cartoon family on as well? No it's not fair in a utopian society, but let's jump back to reality. African Americans have been and are an oppressed group in this world, which adds a high level of sensitivity and makes for an unfair system to begin with. Since oppression is real then a show like "The Cleveland's" isn't the best show to air on national public television, despite how funny it may be.

Christopher Seals

Omega Chapter

Bro. Frank E. Austin entered Omega Chapter on September 17, 2009, after a long and difficult battle with cancer. Bro. Austin had survived a bout with prostate cancer, but was later stricken with esophageal cancer some five years ago.

Bro Austin was initiated into the Beta Mu Chapter at Kentucky State University and after graduation served as Placement Officer there until moving to California to pursue an advanced degree.

Bro. Austin taught tennis, played golf, skied the slopes, and loved riding his motorcycles. He participated in the West Jefferson County Relay for Life event, was a member of the Kentucky African Americans Against Cancer (KAAAC) and a student of Tae Chi.

Bro. Austin also worked at health fairs and spent time with groups helping to raise the awareness about cancer and cancer-related issues.

At the time of his passing, Bro. Austin left a loving wife, Linda, and four grown children from a previous marriage.

09-10 Executive Board

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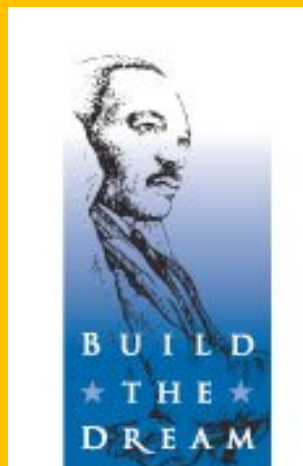
Alpha Lambda Chapter

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Louisville, KY

<http://alphalambda1906.org>

Make a donation to the MLK Memorial



The Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial is conceived of as an engaging landscape experience tied to other landscapes and monuments, not as a single object or memorial dominating the site. The composition of the memorial utilizes landscape elements to powerfully convey three fundamental and recurring themes of Dr. King's life: justice, democracy and hope. The circular geometry of the memorial, juxtaposed within the triangular configuration of the site, engages the Tidal Basin and frames views to the water. The King Memorial is intended to be personally transformative for visitors, building a sense of commitment to the promise of positive change and active citizenship. Drawing from Dr. King's own rich metaphorical language, the themes of "the Man, the Movement and the Message" are intertwined into a larger experience of place.

Please make checks payable to: MLK National Memorial Foundation, and mail to:

*Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial Project
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