

# BLUE NOTES



**Official Publication of the Gamma Alpha Sigma Chapter  
Of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Incorporated  
Cleveland, Ohio (Chartered May 9, 1951)**

**Winter 2014 Edition (#7)**



34<sup>th</sup> International President of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. Bro. Johnathan A. Mason, Ohio State Director and Gamma Alpha Sigma chapter president Bro. Percy Turner and Great Lakes Regional Director Bro. Darryl A. Parks along with the rest of the brothers of Sigma at the Gamma Alpha Sigma Educational Foundation Scholarship Gala

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## Gamma Alpha Sigma Educational Foundation Inaugural Scholarship Gala



(From left to right: Bros. Duvall Brown, International President Johnathan A. Mason Sr., Gamma Alpha Sigma President / Ohio State Director Percy Turner and Ed Long at the Gala



One can agree that the Scholarship Gala which was thrown by the chapter on September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Holiday Inn in Independence, Ohio was one of Gamma Alpha Sigma's greatest moments. The night included keynote speakers fellow Sigma Bro. Wayne Dawson, award winning Fox 8 News in the Morning Anchor / Minister and 34<sup>th</sup> International President of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. Bro. Johnathan A. Mason Sr. Award winning News Channel 5 Anchor and Minister Danita Harris served as Mistress of Ceremonies throughout the evening. The night included dinner, live music, addresses from the keynotes with a party celebration afterwards. The scope of the evening was to raise funds for the Gamma Alpha Sigma Educational Foundation in order to further the chapter's mission to issue out future scholarships to deserving young men of color looking to advance their education in an institution of higher learning. The chapter will be looking to issue out scholarships raised from this event and other endeavors in the upcoming year of 2015. The chapter is already on the move with the drive of hosting this event next year as we hope to do even better.



We would like to acknowledge the Centennial Committee who spent countless hours of their time to make sure this event was a huge success:

Bro. Percy Turner  
Bro. Ike Lewis  
Bro. Duvall Brown

Bro. Michael Brown  
Bro. Ed Long  
Bro. James Jones  
Bro. Taurean R. Adams

Bro. Kimrick Crawford  
Bro. Steve Lovelace  
Bro. Lee Jackson

Thanks to everyone and all the brothers who supported the cause as we hope to see all next year  
**GOMAB!!!**

Great Lakes Regional Director  
Bro. Darryl A. Parks



Bro. Johnathan A. Mason during his  
presentation



The Ladies of Zeta Phi Beta



The Ladies of  
Sigma Gamma Rho



Bro. Wayne Dawson



Case Western Reserve University / Cleveland State University /  
Baldwin Wallace University  
NPHC “Meet the Greeks”



Bro. John Ngozi speaking to the student population at Case Western Reserve University during their NPHC Meet the Greeks night

We want to say thanks to all the brothers of Gamma Alpha Sigma who came out and supported our local undergraduate chapter, Beta Nu (Cleveland State University citywide chapter) as they went out scouting for potential candidates during many of the area colleges NPHC Meet the Greeks over the summer. Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland State University and Baldwin Wallace University each held different educational sessions for students to learn more about BGLO's and what each one has to offer their campus and community as a whole.



Gamma Alpha Sigma Bros. Jamie Taylor and Brandon Tolliver working the information table @ Baldwin Wallace





Brothers of Gamma Alpha Sigma with the brothers of Beta Nu at Cleveland State University

The hope and goal is that the Beta Nu chapter of Phi Beta Sigma acquired some worthwhile contacts and that those individuals will be pursued as future members of our wondrous band. Once again thanks to all who came out to support as it is our duty to not only make sure our alumni chapter is doing what it must do on the graduate level but overseeing and nurturing our collegiate brothers as well so that they do what must do as undergrads but most importantly, matriculate into graduate chapters correctly when that time comes.



## University Settlement: Ongoing Service Project



Want to acknowledge those brothers and the chapter as a whole for continuing to answer the call when need be at University Settlement when an extra hand is needed to help out. We ask that brothers who are willing and able to help out with the efforts at University Settlement continue to do so when the call is sounded, as our presence has been there strong for what is going on a year now. Thanks to all the brothers over the past year who have come out to help as we stay on call to the time we will be needed again.



Brothers Percy Turner and Jay Hodge rolling up their sleeves at University Settlement During one of our last calls to come out and help serve dinner to those in the community

**Sigma Beta Club @**  
**Cleveland Chapter of Jack and Jill of America Inc.**  
**2014 Teen Legislative Summit**



The Sigma Beta Club of Gamma Alpha Sigma took part in the Cleveland chapter of Jack and Jill of America Inc. 2014 Teen Legislative Summit, which took part at Cuyahoga Community College Eastern Campus back on October 4th, 2014. For those who are not of aware of what Jack and Jill is, the organization was founded by Marion Stubbs Thomas on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 1938 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Twenty mothers came together to discuss creating an organization to provide social, cultural and educational opportunities for youth between the ages of two and nineteen. In 1946, ten chapters were involved in the national restructuring process. Constitution and bylaws were drawn up and the organization was incorporated under the laws of the state of Delaware. Today, Jack and Jill boast over 230 chapters nationwide, representing over 40,000 family members. Each chapter plans annual programming activities guided under a national theme. Through service projects, Jack and Jill of America create a medium of contact for children to stimulate their growth and development.





The Cleveland Chapter of Jack and Jill hosted the teen legislative summit which included workshop topics revolved around education, gun violence prevention, juvenile justice and a host of other topics pertinent to the teen populations of Cleveland, Ohio. Students got the chance to hear from many influential black leaders including motivational speaker and community activist Basheer Jones and University of Illinois professor Dr. Beth Richie PhD during the daily activities. All and all the Sigma Beta's (although being one of the younger youth groups in attendance) gained valuable knowledge from the educational sessions and debates that took place during the day and got the chance to be around other young black males and females who are all doing great things in the city of Cleveland.



(Left) Bro. Bobby Sheppard taking photos before one of the sessions at the Teen Summit

(Right) Sigma Beta's in the front row with other students during the juvenile justice portion of the Teen Summit





## Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. Mu Rho Zeta Chapter “Night at the Races” Scholarship Fundraiser

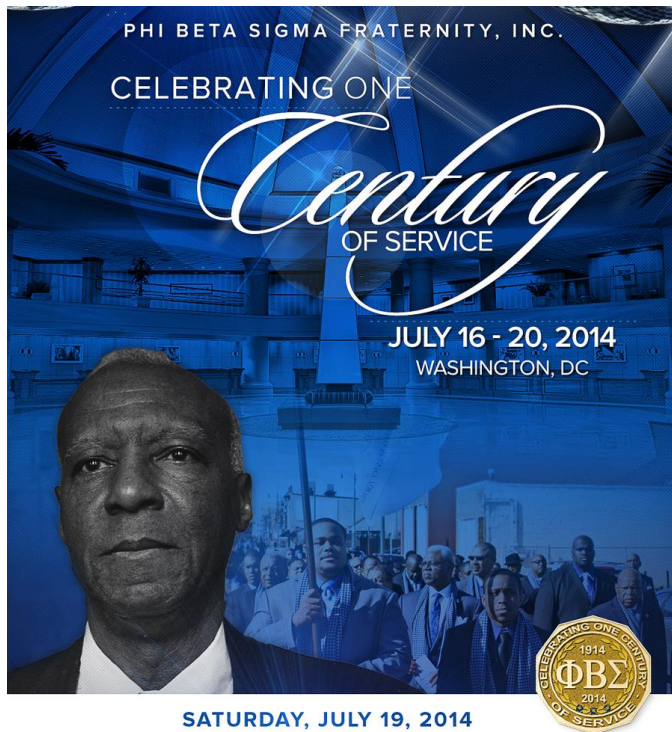


Shout out to the brothers of the chapter who traveled down to Akron on Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup> to support the Sorors of the Mu Rho Zeta Alumni chapter with their Night at the Races fundraiser for their educational scholarship. The event included virtual horse races where individuals could buy and bid on the horses in each race. Winners of each race received a monetary prize if their particular horse won the race. The night included food, music, raffles and other activities as a good time was enjoyed by all in attendance. Once again thanks to the brothers who came out to support, as our presence was much appreciated by our sorority sisters.



Brothers of both Gamma Alpha Sigma and Delta Rho Sigma with Sorors of the Mu Rho Zeta chapter in Akron, Ohio during their fundraiser event

## **“3 For the Founders” Fundraising Campaign**



We want to give a big shout out to Gamma Alpha Sigma's own Bro. Percy Turner for winning the Fraternity's "3 For the Founders" Fundraising Campaign. During the Centennial Celebration, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. held a Unity Rally on the campus of Howard University. The Unity Rally highlighted the life and legacy of Sigma Brother A. Philip Randolph in the advancement of equal rights, opportunity and justice for all. Leading up to the rally, Phi Beta Sigma sponsored the 3 FOR THE FOUNDERS fundraising campaign to support five of our nation's most valuable causes. The benefactors of this fundraiser were the A. Philip Randolph Institute, National Action Network, Howard University, Hosea Williams Feed the Homeless & Hungry Project, and Sigma Beta Club Foundation

Brother Percy Turner held the winning ticket for a 7-Day Mediterranean Cruise, the grand prize of the 3 For the Founders fundraising campaign. Bro. Turner opted for the cash value of the cruise and received a \$7,000 check, presented to him by Hon. Jonathan A. Mason, Sr.





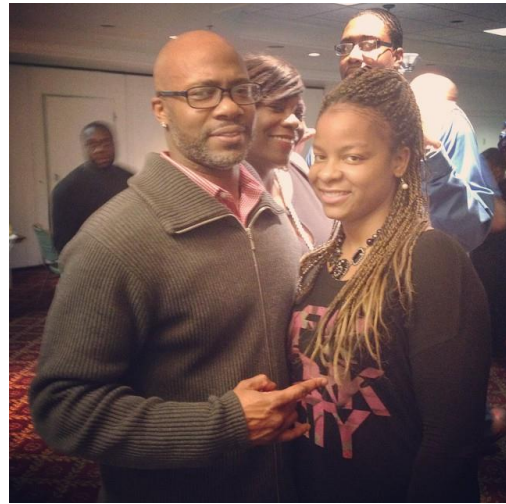
## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual “Cover Up Cleveland” Community Service Project

The brothers of the chapter participated in one of Cleveland’s local establishments, Fredericks Wine and Dine as they held their 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Cover Up Cleveland Clothing Drive which was held back on October 21<sup>st</sup>. The event held at the restaurant hosted by various organization in the city collected new and slight worn blankets, hats, gloves, and, socks for individuals during the winter season. The items collected at Fredericks were then taken to University Settlement (another community organization we volunteer at frequently) to distribute to those in need. Brothers took many of the items requested as we know we must continue to help and support businesses & organizations who are looking to do good in the community as well.



## 2014 Sigma / Zeta Christmas Party

The Sigma’s and Zeta’s who came to this year’s Blue and White Christmas party had a good time as we hung out and communed together as brothers and sisters. Those in attendance enjoyed dinner and drinks as we celebrated the holiday season together as Blue and White. This year’s party was held at the Fairbridge Inn in Wickliffe, Ohio owned by the father of Sigma brother Leonard Remmer. All and all, a good time had by everyone in attendance.



Sigma’s and Zeta’s kicking it at the Blue and White Christmas Party

## 12<sup>th</sup> Annual HBCU College Fair



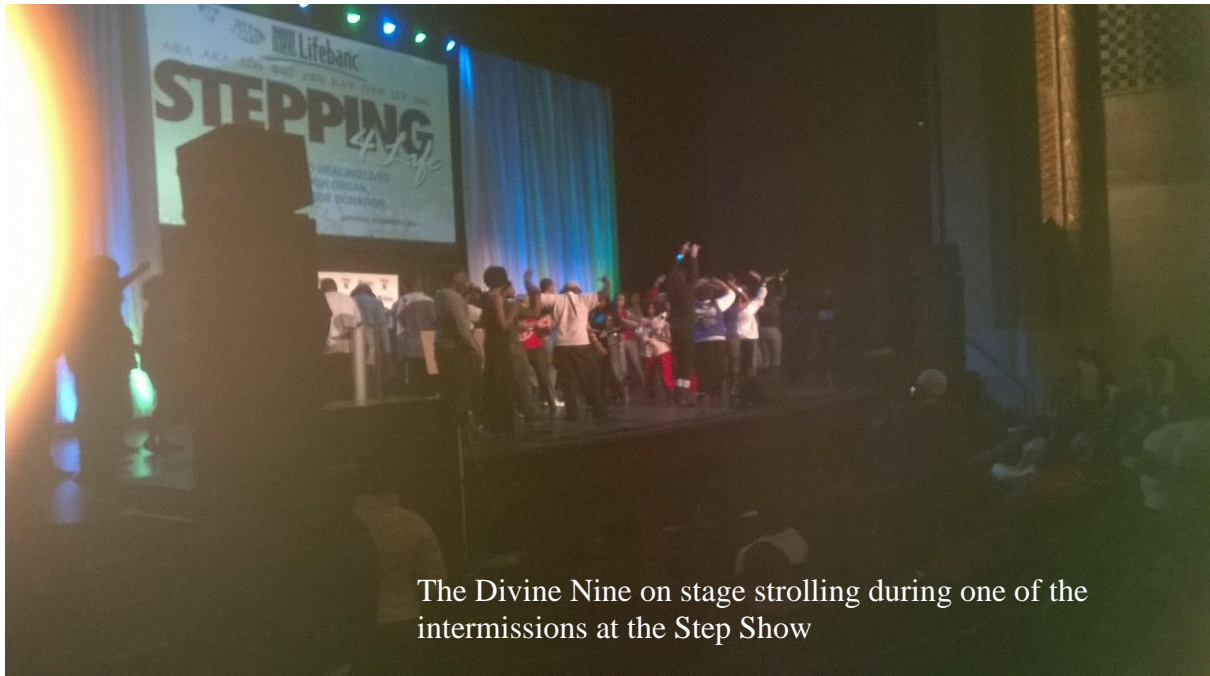
*A couple of the Sigma Beta's with one of the parents visiting tables at the fair*

The 12th Annual Historically Black College and University (HBCU) College Fair presented by The MetroHealth System took place from 8am to 2pm on November 22, 2014 at Warrensville Heights High School. The Cleveland Council of Black Colleges Alumni Association, the event organizers, anticipated more than 40 HBCU schools; along with a number of educational exhibitors and vendors that would participate in the fair. In 2013, this event garnered the support of nearly 1600 students, parents and educators who took advantage of the many opportunities of the day. The Sigma Beta Club were amongst those individuals this year as a few of the SB's who were able to attend got a glimpse of what college life is like on HBCU campuses and the overall college experience. The day included many forums, workshops and, activities to engage and stimulate the minds of those who were in attendance and get them to truly think about life after high school. We hope that this experience continues to nurture the spark about life after high school and that all of Sigma Beta's decide to pursue higher education in some sort or fashion after their grade school days.

A collage of promotional materials for the 12th Annual HBCU College Fair. It includes a large central banner with the text "12th Annual HBCU COLLEGE FAIR" and "Presented By MetroHealth". To the left, a "SAVE THE DATE" box indicates the event is on "Saturday Nov. 22nd 2014" from "8:00am to 2:00pm". Below this, the location "Warrensville Heights High School, 4270 Northfield Road, Warrensville Hts. OH 44128" is listed, along with the phone number "216-282-HBCU (4228)" and website "WWW.HBCUALUMNICLE.COM". To the right, a vertical strip of smaller images shows various promotional items: a McDonald's logo, a "Complete The Common Black College Application For FREE" poster, a "Financial Aid College/Campus/Greek Life Internships &amp; Careers Real Talk Parent Support and Much More..." poster, a "FREE REGISTRATION!!!" poster with a QR code, and a "Smart Phone — iPhone Users — SCAN HERE" poster. At the bottom right, there are logos for "UNCF", "CareSource", "Huntington", and "REAL DEAL".



## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual LifeBanc “Stepping 4 Life” Greek Step Show



The Divine Nine on stage strolling during one of the intermissions at the Step Show

The 4<sup>th</sup> annual LifeBanc step show took place at the Cleveland Public Auditorium in downtown Cleveland on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The annual event raises awareness about the importance for African Americans to consider and become organ donors as many African Americans are on extensive waiting list for life saving and life changing organs.



Sigma Beta's with parents and others at the step show

Brothers along with the Sigma Beta Club enjoyed the event as the divine nine teams ran through their routines entertaining the crowd. 4 of our brothers from Nu chapter at Central State University represented the fraternity well putting on a good show for all in attendance. The Sigma Beta's who were in attendance are more excited than ever in learning how to step after seeing not only members of the divine nine perform but also after seeing many of the youth groups who hit the stage as well. This annual and noteworthy cause is sure to continue into the future as the need for organ donation and awareness will continue.



*Central State University Sigma's holding it down at the LifeBanc Step Show  
(Photos courtesy of Gamma Alpha Sigma Bro. Bobby Shepard / Dove Love  
Photography)*





## 2014 State of Ohio Leadership Conference & Meeting



The 2014 State of Ohio Leadership Meeting took place on the shores of Lake Erie this year, the morning of the Gamma Alpha Sigma Scholarship Gala at the Holiday Inn in Independence, Ohio. The focus of the meeting was a combination of issues and topics the state wished to address as collected by State Director Bro. Percy Turner. Some of the hot topic items on the list were Centennial Items, Recruitment/Retention/Reclamation and of course the Membership Intake Process (both training and testing to become certified). Brothers from pretty much every active chapter in the state attended, adding to a robust meeting that was very well executed. Great Lakes Regional Director Bro. Daryl A. Parks attended this year's meeting and further stressed the policies revolved around M.I.P. and the fraternity's stance on new membership intake and the ongoing issue of hazing as a whole. All and all the 2014 State Meeting was a great success. Shout out to the Executive Board of the Gamma Alpha Sigma chapter in making sure the wheels of this meeting turned smoothly and efficiently.



FYI: Brothers who paid the registration cost for the meeting were to get a t-shirt as part of registering. Due to unforeseen circumstances we did not receive them that morning. State Director Bro. Percy Turner is still getting the shirts made via another vendor and those brothers will receive their shirt in the near future.

## 2014 Sigma Beta Club Adopt-A-Family



We are very proud of our Sigma Beta Club whose efforts in the past couple months have helped a well-deserving family have a brighter holiday season despite an unfortunate event this year. The Sigma Beta Club rose over \$150.00 dollars in October and November to help purchase items for Citizens Leadership Academy teacher Ms. Holt and her sons after they lost their home and belongings to a fire back in January of this year. The Sigma Beta's where able to raise the money needed by selling candy which was able to purchase items such as toiletries, dishes, cups, glasses, silverware, brooms, dust pans, towels, wash cloths, sheets, pillows and other items for the family.

Shout out to two of our newer Sigma Beta's, brothers Tyler & Lavelle Allen who attend Citizens Leadership Academy who didn't hesitate to nominate Ms. Holt and tell us her story when we were discussing what we should do for Adopt-A-Family this season. Fortunately nobody was hurt in the fire and Ms. Holt will be looking to move back into her home which is been being rebuilt and fixed in early 2015 after having to moving periodically throughout this year until renovations are complete. We are proud of our boys for making the efforts to help someone who was in definite need during this holiday season and to further instill in them that everyone needs help at times and that it is better to give than to receive, especially in such circumstances.





Ms. Holt hugging SB's Lavelle and Tyler thanking them for their efforts through the Sigma Beta Club



Sigma Beta's getting items ready for Ms. Holt and her family



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### **Gamma Alpha Sigma Chapter Executive Board** **2013-2014**

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## **~ANNOUNCEMENTS~**

*If you have anything that you would like to have included into the quarterly Blue Notes Newsletter you can send all information/articles/pictures to Blue Notes Editor-In-Chief:*

*Bro. Taurean R. Adams*  
[Taurean.Adams@yahoo.com](mailto:Taurean.Adams@yahoo.com)

### **Upcoming Events in Sigma and Info/Stories to look for in future BLUE NOTES:**

\*Conclave 2015 Little Rock, AR / IAMBK\*

\* 2015 Founders Day Celebration Luncheon \*

\*Sigma Beta Club Activities & Events\*

\*April 2015 Great Lakes Leadership Conference\*

\*Other Events & Information\*

**Gamma Alpha Sigma chapter meetings**  
**are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of every month**  
**starting at 6:30pm in the office of Bro.**  
**Steven Lovelace located at 25550**  
**Chagrin Blvd Suite 404 Beachwood, Ohio**  
**44122**

**Whether you come all the time, haven't been in a while or haven't been at all...come on out frat, we got a chair waiting for you...**