# BLUE NOTES

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

Summer 2015 Edition #9



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### 18th Annual Sigma Gamma Rho Youth Symposium

The Sigma Beta Club was present for the 18<sup>th</sup> annual youth symposium, hosted by the Kappa Gamma Sigma and Alpha Lambda Sigma alumnae chapters of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. on March 14, 2015 at John Adams High School. For those who don't know the annual event is a day worth of programming revolved around topics such as physical fitness, test taking, gun laws / law enforcement and a variety of items geared towards young people.





\*GAMMA ALPHA SIGMA CHAPTER OF PHI BETA SIGMA FRATERNITY INC. CLEVELAND, OHIO\*

The day started up with an open forum / Q&A session with different members of the Cleveland Police Department and the Cuyahoga County Court System discussing various issues and concerns in the wake of all the incidents taking place with young men of color and law enforcement and guns safety / laws. Many of the students as well as adults in attendance asked many questions in regard to the "do's and don'ts" when it comes to law enforcement, how one should conduct themselves when dealing with the police, questions about court processes and items of the like. Students then broke out into different sessions discussing various topics with facilitators such as healthy living and bullying. Lunch was then served and the student not to long after got a chance to blow off some energy with a variety of physically educational activities such as basketball, boxing and even Tai- Chi. All and all the Sigma Betas and other student in attendance walked away wit new knowledge in various topics. This is the second year the Sigma Beta Club was in attendance, more than doubling our numbers from 2014 so we hope to have an even bigger turnout from our young men next year.





### 2015 March for Babies / March of Dimes: **Fundraising Efforts and the March at Wade Oval**

I would like to start this section of the Blue Notes off by giving a highly deserved thank you and job well done to both Bros. Percy Turner and DeVaughn Exum for their leadership role taking in this years March for Babies / March of Dimes fundraising efforts. The march itself took place Sunday morning on April 26, 2015 at Wade Oval. The chapter this year raised an outstanding \$ 1,100 + dollars, the most the chapter has raised in quite some time. Part of our fundraising efforts came from a dining to donate event put together at the Buffalo Wild Wings on Murray Hill in Cleveland Heights on April 22, 2015. A portion of everyone's bill who dined with us that evening with the appropriate fundraising flyer went directly towards our efforts to raise funds for the March of Dimes. In just the few hours we were there dining together we made a quick \$100.00 dollars to go towards our goal, which went from \$250.00 to around \$500.00 and then jumped to \$1000.00 dollars. On that Sunday morning brothers met up to participate and also received specially made shirts that Bro. Turner had made for the event. Thanks to all the brothers of Gamma Alpha Sigma who came out that morning as we hope to exceed our fundraising goals of this year by leaps and bounds in 2016 when we do it all over again. Excellent showing brothers, GOMAB!



## Spring 2015 Great Lakes Regional Leadership Conference Cleveland, Ohio

The regional conference season for Phi Beta Sigma in the Great Lakes region landed right here on the shores of Lake Erie in Cleveland, Ohio Friday April 3rd through April 4th at the Holiday Inn out in Independence. Friday morning and afternoon events pertained more so for regional and state officers with various trainings and meetings. Friday night as the day winded down lead to brothers, sorors and other guest relaxing in the hospitality suite enjoying each others company over food and drinks. Saturday mornings kicked into high gear with numerous trainings and sessions all lead by the Sigma Leadership Academy, the fraternity's one stop shop and programmatic team of Sigma brothers for M.I.P, branding, policy / procedure / protocol and all things Sigma. Training sessions spread throughout the early morning and mid afternoon with the middle of the day reserved for the presentation of chapter awards and addresses from various members of the International executive board including 34<sup>th</sup> International President Bro. Jonathan A. Mason. This years regional conference was all about training, getting the information needed to run a successful chapter, keeping chapters viable and not charging brothers "a arm and a leg" to do so. At a very affordable \$100.00 to register for this years conference, one could suggest that cost containment was effective in making it more feasible for more brothers to be apart of the conference this year. We want to acknowledge Ohio State Director and immediate past President of Gamma Alpha Sigma Bro. Percy Turner for his chairing of this year regional conference, Bro. Taurean R. Adams for handling transportation to and from the airport in picking up all of the international officers who were in attendance for the conference, Bro. Jamie Taylor with the transport of food items for the Friday welcome reception in the hospitality suite and, all the brothers of Gamma Alpha Sigma who pitched in to make this years regional conference a success.



## Garfield Heights Sponsorship of the Garfield Heights Titans Travel Baseball Team

We want to thank all the brothers of the chapter who gave of themselves and donated in our efforts to raise funds for the Garfield Heights Titans Travel Baseball Team which one of our current Sigma Beta's plays for. The chapter raised over the \$250.00 sponsorship donation the team was asking for. Thanks to our efforts the funds donated will help them with their expenses in the upkeep of their home playing field, purchasing of necessary equipment and other cost associated with their playing this year. The chapter for our efforts will receive a plaque from the team and recognition on their team banner as one of the primary sponsors for the 2015 season. If any of the brothers would like to see the young men play a game, please go the team's website for more information at <a href="http://www.hometeamsonline.com/teams/default.asp?u=CVBA-GARFIELDHEIGHTSTITANS&s=baseball&p=schedule">http://www.hometeamsonline.com/teams/default.asp?u=CVBA-GARFIELDHEIGHTSTITANS&s=baseball&p=schedule</a> or contact Bro. Taurean R. Adams. Once again thank you to all as we continue to show our support in the community and live out our principles of brotherhood, scholarship and, service.

### **Ohio Blue and White Weekend 2015**

We want to remind all that Ohio Blue and White Weekend 2015 this year will be in Cincinnati, Ohio from August 7<sup>th</sup> through August 9<sup>th</sup>. A series of events are being planned by the Sigma alumni and both Zeta grad chapters in the city. For more information on the events You can contact Bro. Steven A. Miller at 513-403-1262 or check out the Ohio Blue and White Weekend pages on Facebook and / or Instagram. We hope To get a good representation of Blue And White from the Cleveland area as we travel to the banks of the Ohio river in early August. Hope to see one and all there!



### Gamma Delta Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. **Pre-Annual Mother's Day Luncheon**

Shout out to the brothers of Gamma Alpha Sigma who supported our sorors of the Gamma Delta Zeta chapter who held their inaugural Mother's Day Luncheon back on Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015. The event was held at the Mediterranean Party Center in Bedford Heights, Ohio where guest speaker Poppie Parish, Director of Diversity for Key Bank gave an inspiring message for all in attendance. Gamma Alpha Sigma president Bro. Michael Brown along with other Sigma's attended the event in representation of our chapter that day.



# Sigma Beta Club \*\*\*\*SUPER SATURDAY\*\*\* Fundraising Event





We are hoping to see all the brothers of Phi Beta Sigma, sorors of Zeta Phi Beta, family, friends and everyone else in the city of Cleveland on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in support of the Sigma Beta Club as we kick off our Inaugural Super Saturday Fundraising event. The young men will host a car wash (weather permitting) and then meet up as a group for wings later that day. All the information is in the flyer above. Please spread the word to all as we are looking to raise significant funds for our Sigma Beta Club this day. If anyone has any other questions, please contact Sigma Beta Club Coordinator Bro. Taurean R. Adams. We hope to see all on June 27<sup>th</sup> as we support the young men of our Sigma Beta Club!

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Boys to Men Health Summit @ Cuvahoga Community College



The brothers of the Gamma Alpha Sigma chapter along with the Sigma Beta Club attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Boys to Men Health Summit at Cuyahoga Community College back on April 4<sup>th</sup>. The theme of the summit was the end of a very familiar poem a lot of Sigma's know: "I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul" the last two lines of "Invictus". The theme was to let the young men in attendance know that through trials, tribulations and, challenges all around (especially during a time where is seems our young men of color are receiving constant attack from social injustice and ethical / moral wrong doing) that they can overcome with sound judgement and making right decisions.



The day started with a rousing message from Cuyahoga County Juvenile Judge and member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. Bro. Michael Ryan addressing the crowd in attendance. Bro. Michael Ryan shared his story of how growing up in the absolute worst case scenario did not stop him from achieving his goals in school and throughout his career in the legal / justice system, a true testament that no matter what transpires around you, what people may say or think, you are in charge of your destiny and you can make it if you try.





After Bro. Ryan's speech the day would continue by those in attendance breaking up into groups and heading out to the different educational session which would encompass topics from college preparedness, gun issues in the youth community, health issues and many other topics. The day would also include various educational physical activities including basketball, boxing and even taichi. The hope that all in attendance gained some very good training and educational pieces that they could take away and apply to their lives. As for the Sigma Beta's in attendance when asked did they have a good experience and did they take something away from the health summit, the answer was "yes". Mission accomplished! We hope to take more of the Sigma Beta Club next year as we continue to strive to keep them involved in this type of programming and activities.



# ~\*Gamma Alpha Sigma Chapter Executive Board\*~ 2015-2016

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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

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

\*Conclave 2015 Little Rock Arkansas: IAMBK\*

\* 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Father-Daughter Dance\*

\*Sigma Beta Club Activities & Events\*

\* 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala\*

\*Nu Theta Zeta chapter of Zeta Phi Beta\*
"Blue Carpet Z Awards"

\*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...