

# BLUE NOTES



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

September / Fall 2017 Edition #18

Cleveland, Kent and Akron Sorors & Bruhs  
representing team “Constitutionally Bound” at the  
2017 NPHC of Greater Cleveland Greek Picnic  
Softball Tournament



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## Sigma Beta Club 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual “Super Saturday” Fundraiser: Cookout and Awards Presentation



We want to send a huge thank you to the brothers, sorors, friends and family who came out to the Sigma Beta’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Super Saturday Fundraiser: Cookout and Awards Presentation which took place on Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Quarry Park in Euclid, Ohio. The Sigma Beta’s along with all in attendance enjoyed music, food and good times as the day went on. With so many of our Sigma Beta’s doing so many other things in their academic and extracurricular lives, it was refreshing to see a vast majority of the club out for their event. The advisors of the club issued out awards for the 2016-2017 school year to those Sigma Beta’s for highest G.P.A / grades and also clubs highest award Sigma Beta of the Year. Along with awards being passed out for academics and participation for the school year, the Sigma Beta Club in conjunction with the chapter and Gamma Alpha Sigma Education Foundation also gave out 3 \$300.00 dollar book scholarships to our 3 graduating Sigma Beta’s who we officially said goodbye to as they graduated from high school this year and are preparing to attend college this fall.



A few of the awards given out at the event





At the end of the event the Sigma Beta Club raised \$230.00 to go towards their activities and endeavors for the rest of the year. Once again thank you to all those who came out to support, congratulations to our graduating Sigma Beta's and, we hope to see all out at next year's event.

## FIRST FRIDAY Happy Hour



If you find yourself not having nothing to do at the end of a long work week on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of every month, I would suggest (if you don't know already) to link up with the rest of the bruhs and the chapter for our "FIRST FRIDAY" Happy Hours that have been in full swing since the beginning of the summer. Originally on Tuesday's, the brothers of the chapter moved the outing to the first Friday of every month as going into the weekend opens up much more availability for brothers compared to trying to party and kick it during the hectic and busy work week. Each first Friday of the month the brother's link up for drinks, food and, fellowship at whichever location is picked around the city of Cleveland. In the months of June and July, FIRST FRIDAY took place at Touch of Italy in Shaker Heights, Ohio. Brothers met up and hung out as music was played and the drinks were poured.



Soror Samantha Williams-Pierce with Bros. Ron Pierce, Marricio Wilson, Everett Williams, Jamie Taylor and Taurean Adams at one of the FIRST FRIDAY Happy Hours at Touch of Italy Restaurant in Shaker Heights, Ohio.

## Lambda Phi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. Inaugural Progressive Fatherhood Award Luncheon



The chapter would like to congratulate Bro. Jamie Taylor on being one of the five recipients of the Lambda Phi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. Inaugural Progressive Fatherhood Award. The awards luncheon was held June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Doubletree by Hilton in Mayfield Village, Ohio. Before the presentations of awards, guest in attendance enjoyed live music, buffet lunch, a rousing poetic rendition from Basheer Jones and, a slide show presentation introducing each of the candidates. Bro. Taylor in receiving the award that morning was joined by frat, family and friends as all celebrated the role and impact each of the fathers honored that have on the lives of not only their own children but their community and respective organizations as well.



Bro. Jamie Taylor with Lambda Phi Omega Chapter President Ramona J. Davis and chairs of the event receiving his award



Bro. Jamie Taylor with members of Kappa Alpha Psi and Omega Psi Phi who also received recognition from the ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha that morning

## WJW Fox 8 News & Cleveland Kids in Need Resource Center 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Stuff the Bus



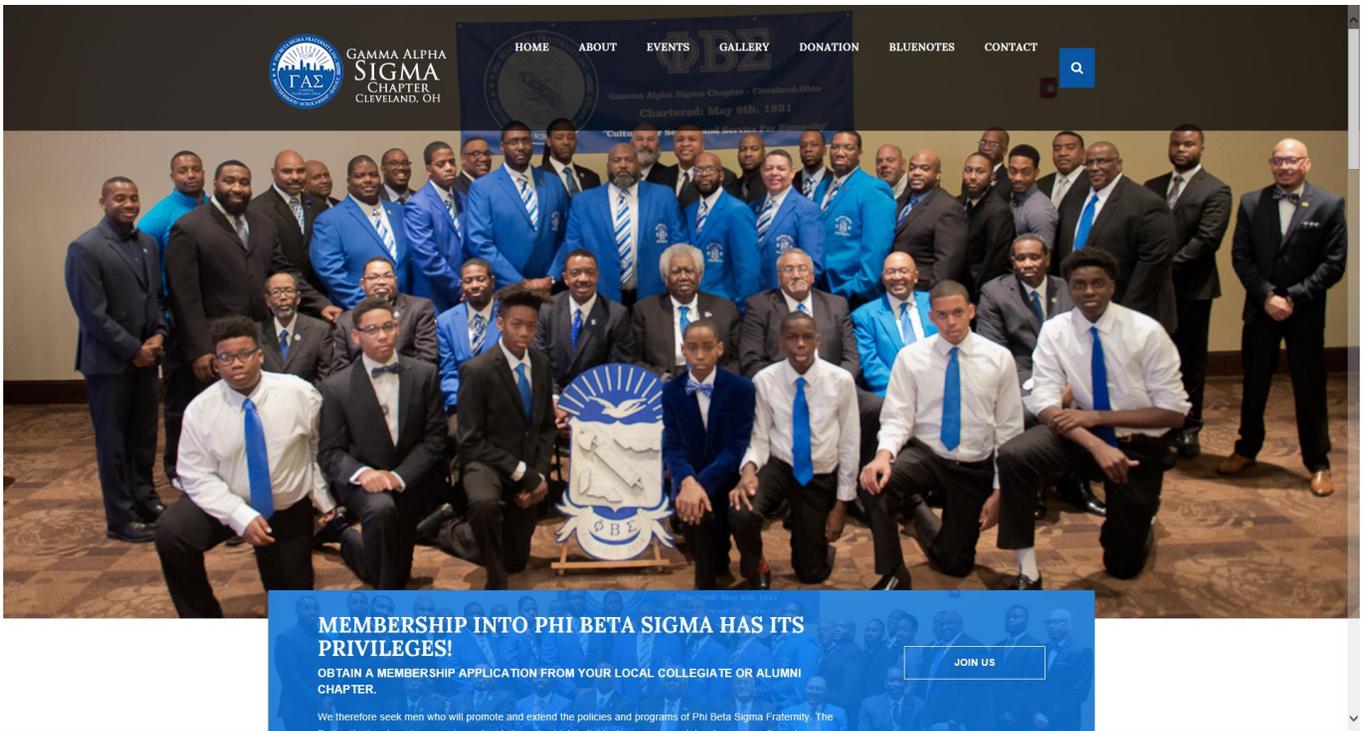
(From left to right) Bros. Joseph Lastery, Taurean Adams, Marricio Wilson, Jamie Taylor and Steven Brown dropping off school supply stuffed book bags at WJW Fox 8 News Station 11<sup>th</sup> annual Stuff the Bus event





We want to thank all of the brothers of the chapter, sorors of Zeta Phi Beta, family and, friends who donated school supplies and / or book bags to go towards Fox 8 News in conjunction with Cleveland Kids in Need Resource Center 11<sup>th</sup> annual Stuff the Bus. A few of the chapter members got up early on Thursday August 3<sup>rd</sup> and headed down to the news station to drop off the 75 school supply stuffed book bags to donate to the all-day event that took place right off the shore of Lake Erie. The chapter plans to get a much larger head start next year in collecting items for the event as the goal will be to donate 150-200 book bags next year. Once again thanks to all who participated as we look forward to doing even better next year

## Gamma Alpha Sigma Chapter Website



We want to thank Bro. Duvall Brown (Butter) for re-vamping and re-creating the chapter's website. Conversation has been had many times amongst brothers earlier this year in saying how important it is for brothers to have a "one stop shop" in locating information in regard not only to Gamma Alpha Sigma events, endeavors and, plans in the city but as a conduit to gain other information as well. Above is a picture of the homepage with the brothers of the chapter, 27<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> International President Honorable Bro. Carter D. Womack and, members of the Sigma Beta Club at the chapters 2017 Founders Day Celebration Luncheon. The site itself is a work in progress but when it is fully completed, brothers will be able to find past copies of the chapters newsletter the Blue Notes, access links that will direct them to the BluPrint Membership Database, pay dues, see the calendar of events coming up and, a host of other functionality. The address for the website is [www.gas1914.org](http://www.gas1914.org). We encourage brothers to take a look at what is up currently, suggest what would make the site better and, become acquainted with the site as it will be one of the go to points of information in regard to Gamma Alpha Sigma in the near future.

## Undergraduate Chapter Updates

For those who are unaware Gamma Alpha Sigma is the overseeing alumni chapter for the 3 undergraduate / collegiate chapters in northeast Ohio. Those chapters are Beta Nu (Cleveland State University), Iota Beta (University of Akron) and, Epsilon Epsilon (Kent State University).

This will be an added edition in each Blue Notes newsletter as it is important as an alumni chapter to mentor, aid and encourage our collegiate brothers in any way possible. Here is brief snapshot of what is currently going on with our collegiate chapters:

### **Beta Nu Chapter / Cleveland State University**



Beta Nu is currently a work in process at the moment as the chapter is currently inactive.

The younger members of the M.I.P team along with the brothers from the Kent State University chapter are looking to take a special interest in trying to bring a undergraduate Sigma presence back to Cleveland State University and surrounding colleges / universities with it being “in the backyard” of Gamma Alpha Sigma. Stay tuned as details develop as we attempt to reignite the Sigma light at CSU

### **Epsilon Epsilon Chapter / Kent State University**



The Mau Mau chapter at Kent State University is steady moving along with events and pushing the agenda of Sigma forward. As the school years gets ready to kick into high gear stay tuned as the Kent State Sigma’s keep rolling through 2017 as they have a slate of events they are looking to do this semester. We continue to ask that the brothers of the chapter support Epsilon Epsilon in their endeavors as time allows you.

### **Iota Beta Chapter / University of Akron**



The Iota Beta chapter unfortunately due to hazing allegations and other items of misconduct in recent years has been suspended by the school and the fraternity as a whole until the later part of the decade. We will keep the chapter and all informed if imposed sanctions and punishments are lifted off the chapter anytime sooner



The Gamma Alpha Sigma Chapter  
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc.

“Sigma Spotlight” will be a newly added section to the Blue Notes Newsletter moving forward from this edition. The idea behind it is to acknowledge those bruhs who are not only doing great things within the realm of Sigma but in their professional and career lives as well. As men of business and achievement, we want to salute and highlight those brothers of our chapter who are thriving and excelling at their craft and, continuing to represent Sigma in the highest regard through their personal endeavors and accomplishments.



Name: Bro. Tony Williams

Initiated Chapter: Nu Mu  
Allegheny College / Meadville, PA

Profession: Bailiff for Cuyahoga County Judge Michael J. Ryan

We want to congratulate Bro. Tony Williams on his being selected to serve on the Board of Directors for University Settlement on 8/25/2017. Bro Williams (who many already know) is highly involved with the activities that take place at the neighborhood resource center located in the Slavic Village/Broadway/Fleet area. Congratulations once again as your brothers wish you the best in your new position



Name: Bro. Michael Brown

Initiated Chapter: Gamma Alpha Sigma  
Cleveland Alumni / Cleveland, OH

Profession: Human Resource Manager for Cuyahoga County

We want to congratulate Bro. Michael Brown who had his ordination service on Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 to confirm his title of Reverend at Second St. John Baptist Church. We ask that brothers keep Bro. Brown in prayer as he moves forward in his new title and the numerous responsibilities that come with it.



Name: Bro. Dawo Rogers

Initiated Chapter: Kappa Chi  
University of Tennessee Knoxville / Knoxville, TN

Profession: Sales Engineer for Schneider Electric

We want to congratulate Bro. Dawo Rogers on his acceptance of a brand new position / promotion with his current employer Schneider Electric. The good news comes with a bittersweet moment as Gamma Alpha Sigma will be losing a highly active member as Bro. Rogers will be moving back to his hometown of Nashville, Tennessee. We want to thank Bro. Rogers for all he has done while in our chapter and wish him the best as he moves back home to further his career

## Ongoing Community Service @ University Settlement



We want to continue to thank the brothers who come out month after month and assist in the efforts that take place every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at University Settlement. We further encourage brothers to come out on that specified Tuesday around 5:30pm to join the others as we help out in handing out food from their food pantry and serving of their community meal to those who may or may not necessarily know where their next meal is coming from. Once again, thanks and hope to see you at the next community service event there.



*(From Left to Right)*

Bros. Jamie Taylor, Samuel Morris, Johnathan Wilson, Steven Brown, Mark Neubauer, Taurean Adams, Lee Tate, Karlton Laster and James West at University Settlement in June.



*(Left)*

(From Left to Right) Bros. Dawo Rogers, Demario Spivey, Johnathan Wilson, Tony Williams, Taurean Adams, Jamie Taylor, Everett Williams, Karlton Laster at University Settlement in July

*(Bottom)*

(From Left to Right) Bros. Samuel Morris, Michael Brown, Tony Williams, Jamie Taylor, Marricio Wilson and Karlton Laster at University Settlement in August



## Conclave 2017 Detroit, Michigan: A Family Reunion



For all of the brothers who were able to make it to Detroit, Michigan for Conclave this year, whether you were there for work or pleasure one thing is certain: Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. stole the show that week in the motor city! With so many events, highlights and things to report on about Conclave 2017, we will do our best in trying to give you a small snippet of it here in the Blue Notes:



*Bro. Michael Cristal elected as the 35<sup>th</sup> International President of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc.*



*The newest brothers being inducted into the Distinguished Service Chapter including 34<sup>th</sup> International President Bro. Johnathan A. Mason*



*Blue and White Cookout in downtown Detroit, Michigan*



*Brothers voting and taking care of the business of the fraternity during one of the plenary sessions*



*Blue and White at the Demetrious C. Newton Golf Outing*



I hope the few pictures that are here in the newsletter give you a sense of what it was like to be at Conclave this year in Detroit. Thank you to Bro. Taurean R. Adams for being the chapter delegate for this year and Bro. Leonard Remmer for being the alternate delegate and to all the brothers of the chapter who were able to come and participate in some sort or fashion. If brothers wish to see more pics from Conclave Detroit, a gallery has been set on the international website at [www.phibetasigma1914.org](http://www.phibetasigma1914.org). The next Conclave is set to take place in Las Vegas, Nevada in 2019 so we are encouraging brothers now to “get it together” because we all know, the Sigma’s are going to shut down Sin City AFTER we take care of Sigma business. See everybody at Conclave Las Vegas, NV in 2019.



## 11th Congressional District Community Caucus 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival & Labor Day Parade



We want to thank all of the brothers of the chapter who came out on Labor Day to participate in the annual parade that takes place in the Mt. Pleasant neighborhood. The parade as always starts at Andrew J. Rickoff Elementary School at 147<sup>th</sup> and Kinsman Ave. and travels all the way to Luke Easter Park at the corners of MLK Jr. Blvd and Kinsman Ave. All and all, a good showing of the brothers and Sigma Beta's as well. Thanks to all who participate as well look to double our numbers next year!

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Blue and White Picnic In Walton Hills, Ohio



*Members of Blue and White at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Blue and White Picnic  
out at the park in Walton Hills, Ohio*

Shout out to all the Blue and White family who were able to head out to Bedford and enjoy the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Blue and White picnic that took place on August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Cleveland Metroparks Reservation in Walton Hills, Ohio. The picnic along with some other events during the year, are set up by the younger and older members of Blue and White, specifically by members from the Akron Sigma (Iota Beta) and Zeta (Upsilon Epsilon) chapters. This year's picnic included a DJ, plenty of food, raffles, giveaways and a bonfire to end the night. Everyone in attendance had a good time and plans are already in the making to make next year's even better. Be on the lookout for further updates from this group of Blue and White as they are currently in the process of planning a Christmas/holiday event that is due to take place on December 2<sup>nd</sup> (location and time to be determined).

## 2017 NPHC of Greater Cleveland Greek Weekend



Thanks to all the brothers who participated and came out for this year Greek Weekend hosted by the NPHC of Greater Cleveland. This year's events which took place between Friday August 11<sup>th</sup> through Sunday August 13<sup>th</sup> included a fish fry at a newly acquired building of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., the annual picnic at Luke Easter Park which also included a softball tournament which Blue and White participated in and worship service at Lee Road Baptist Church. Thanks to the brothers and sorors who participated in the softball tournament on that Saturday. Blue and White held it down against the rest of the NPHC that Saturday as they blew out the Kappa / SGRho team but, unfortunately loss to the Alpha / AKA team (not by much though). Shout out to Bro. Jamie Taylor who coordinated the efforts to get the team shirts and rally together the Blue and White family to participate.

**Gamma Alpha Sigma at the  
NPHC Greek Weekend Picnic  
@ Luke Easter Park**





***Gamma Alpha Sigma Chapter  
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc.  
Cleveland, Ohio***



***~\*2017-2018 / 2018-2019 Executive Board\*~***

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## Other Leads within Gamma Alpha Sigma:



Ohio State Director – Bro. Percy Turner



Sigma Beta Club Coordinator - Bro. Taurean R. Adams



Gamma Alpha Sigma Education Foundation – Bro. Ed Long



Membership Intake Process – Bro. Taurean R. Adams / Bro. Jamie Taylor



Sigma Cares – Bro. Kimrick Crawford

### **BLUE NOTES**

Blue Notes Chapter Newsletter – Bro. Taurean R. Adams



NPHC – Bro. Karlton Laster & Bro. John Walker



Sigma-Zeta Relations / Blue & White – Bro. Jamie Taylor



Chapter Website – Bro. Duvall Brown



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**Twitter @**

[GammaAlphaSigma](https://twitter.com/GammaAlphaSigma)

**~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:**

\*2017 State of Ohio Annual Meeting & Conference\*

\*Founders Day 2018\*

\*Sigma Beta Club Updates & Information\*

\*Blue and White Christmas Party\*

\*Community Service @ University Settlement\*

\*M.I.P 2017-2018\*

\*Other Events & Information\*

Gamma Alpha Sigma chapter meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month at Warrensville Heights Library located @ 4415 Northfield Rd. Warrensville Heights, Ohio 44128 starting at 10:00am