

BLUE NOTES



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

December / Winter 2017 Edition #19



The Brothers of Gamma Alpha Sigma kicking it during Las Vegas Blue and White Weekend in Las Vegas, Nevada

2017 Las Vegas Crew Better Known As:
“BlueOceans12”

In this Edition:

Dads Take Your Child to School Day 2017* *Las Vegas Blue & White Weekend 2017

Undergraduate Chapter Updates & Information* *Cleveland State University Black Organization Mixer

THE BLACKOUT Black Friday Weekend Bash* *15th Annual HBCU College Fair

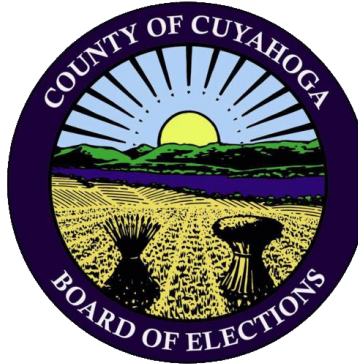
Sigma Spotlight* *FIRST FRIDAY Happy Hours* *NPHC of Greater Cleveland Turkey Giveaway

2017 State of Ohio Leadership Meeting / Conference* *Fall 2017 Yard Show @ CWRU

Red, White and, Blue Voter Registration Table @ Shaw Battle of the Bands

NPHC of Greater Cleveland 45th Anniversary Gala* *University Settlement Community Service

Red, White and, Blue Voter Registration Table @ Shaw Battle of the Bands in East Cleveland, Ohio



We want to thank those brothers who joined up with the ladies of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. Greater Cleveland Alumnae Chapter and, personnel from the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections on Saturday September 16th, 2017 at Shaw High School Stadium in East Cleveland in working the voter registration table during Shaw High School Annual Battle of the Bands. Many unregistered Clevelanders stopped by the table before the event started and registered to vote. Thanks once again to those who were able to participate as the brothers of the chapter look forward to doing more collaborative events with the Delta's in the future.



Bros. Jamie Taylor, Karlton Laster and, Kimrick Crawford with members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. and the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections at the Battle of the Bands

2017 Yard Show @ Case Western Reserve University



We want to thank the brothers who were able to go over to Case Western Reserve University on Friday September 1st, 2017 to support their NPHC's Yard Show. Each organization gave a short history of their organization and then performed either a stroll or step. The Sigma's however (being the frat that we are) decided to go into the audience, speak to the students in attendance and engage them on a more personal level, instead of simply jumping around. The goal in having brothers from our grad chapter participate in some of the undergrad events is to spur interest for Beta Nu, which we are trying to re-ignite at Cleveland State University. Once again thanks to the brothers who came out as we look forward to upcoming events that we can be a part of 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 are taking 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



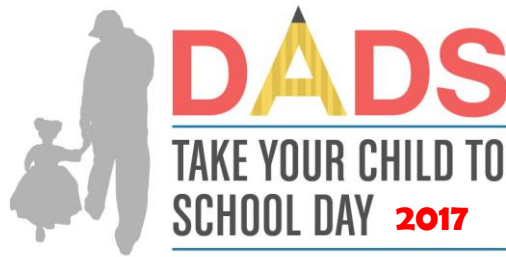
The Mau Mau chapter at Kent State University is doing quite well, as they have many events and endeavors lined up as they move through the fall semester. With the chapter preparing for M.I.P, campus step shows and other items, Epsilon Epsilon is doing what they need to be doing as a chapter to push the agenda of Sigma forward. We ask that the brothers of Gamma Alpha Sigma continue to support these men as your schedule allows.

Iota Beta Chapter / University of Akron



The Iota Beta chapter unfortunately due to items of misconduct in recent years has been suspended by the school and the fraternity as a whole. Word has been communicated though that possible sanctions and suspensions could be lifted as soon as 2018. Stay tuned as we look to do our part in getting Iota Beta back together.

Dads Take Your Kids to School Day 2017

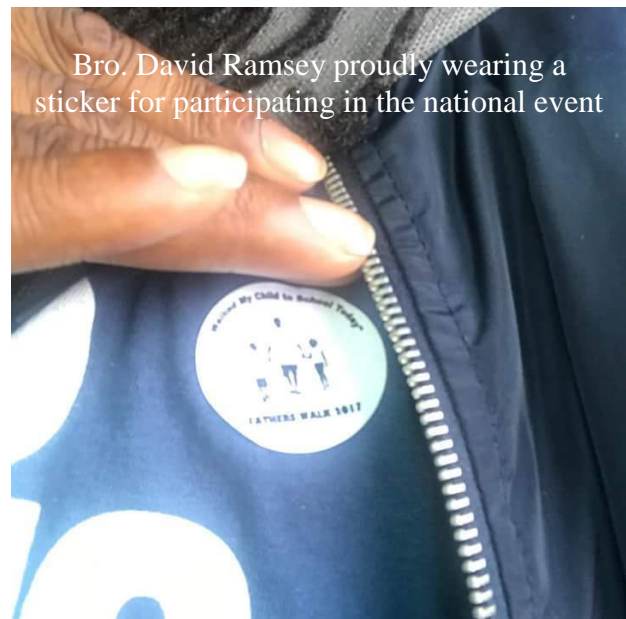


We want to shout out all of the brothers who participated in the national “Dad Take Your Kids to School Day” which took place in and around Cleveland, Ohio on Wednesday September 20th, 2017.

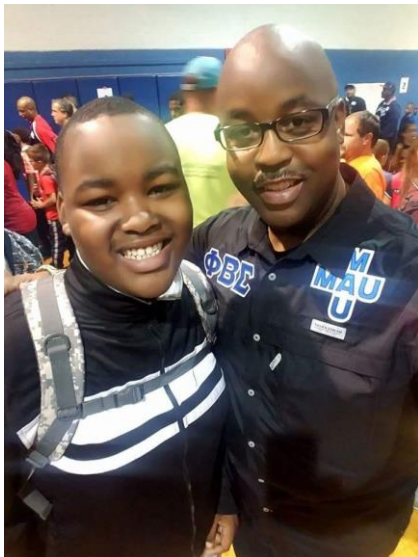
Below are just a couple pics from the brothers who took part in the national initiative which not encourages fathers to be active volunteers in the schools of their kids but to stress the uttermost importance a father plays in the life of their children. Below are a couple of pics of brothers once again being that positive male force in the lives of those they take care of.



Bro. Kimrick Crawford walking with his daughter



Bro. David Ramsey proudly wearing a sticker for participating in the national event



(Left)

Bro. Jahi Ngozi at school with his son

(Right)

Bro. Ron Pierce walking with his son and daughter





“Sigma Spotlight” is a newly added section of the Blue Notes Newsletter. The idea behind it is to acknowledge and celebrate 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. Karlton A. Laster

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

Profession: Special Assistant for Regional Collaboration to Cuyahoga
County Executive Armond Budish

We want to congratulate Bro. Karlton Laster as he recently landed a new career opportunity with Case Western Reserve University as their new Assistant Director of Government and Community Relations. We wish Bro. Laster the best in his new position with CWRU



Name: Bro. Jahi K. Ngozi

Initiated Chapter: Epsilon Epsilon
Kent State University / Kent, Ohio

Profession: Sergeant of Cleveland Metroparks
Ranger Police

We want to congratulate Bro. Jahi K. Ngozi in his current promotion to Sergeant of the Cleveland Metroparks Ranger Police Department. We wish him well in his new position as he continues to serve and protect in the community.



Name: Bro. Jordan Williams

Initiated Chapter: Epsilon Epsilon
Kent State University / Kent, Ohio

Profession: Current College Student
@ Kent State University

We want to congratulate Bro. Jordan Williams in his educational endeavors as he recently received the one of the few Educational Awards Scholarships awarded by the fraternity for the Fall 2017 semester.

Congratulations to Bro. Williams as the award received will go towards furthering his pursuit of a degree.

Cleveland State University Black Student Union Inaugural Black Organizations Mixer



We want to say thank you to the brothers you were able to participate in the inaugural black organizations mixer that took place October 5th, 2017 at Cleveland State University. The Black Student Union of Cleveland State hosted the event and put on a great program in gathering all of the black organizations on campus, allowing the students of CSU to see what all organizations and programs are available to become a part of as they move about their collegiate careers. Some of the organizations in attendance were members of the D9, National Society of Black Engineers, Black Law Students Association, Gamma Phi Delta Sorority Inc., NAACP and many more.

Throughout the event, the brothers in attendance made many new connections in speaking to the organizations there as our primary goal is to recruit and breathe new life into the Beta Nu chapter.

Many of the black CSU faculty in attendance expressed their level of excitement as they had never seen an event put together that attracted so much of the African American population of students at the school. Once again thanks to those who were able to attend and stay tuned as the brothers of the chapter plan to engage CSU more in efforts to not only be another positive force of educated black men on their campus and community but use that to draw people to our cause of brining in new blood to Beta Nu.



(From Left to Right)

Bros. Taurean R. Adams, Steven Brown, Jalen Brown, Camara Thomas and, Joseph Lastery holding it down for the frat at Cleveland State University during the mixer hosted by the Black Student Union

NPHC of Greater Cleveland 45th Anniversary Celebration Gala



The National Pan-Hellenic Council
of Greater Cleveland

Celebration **45th ANNIVERSARY** *Est. 1972*

Honoring the legacy: Celebrating 45 years of commitment, service and unity

September 30, 2017
Semi-Formal Attire
7 p.m. - midnight
\$50 Donation
via eventbrite or your NPHC rep

CASH BAR

Birchwood Banquet & Party Center
7540 Northfield Rd / Walton Hills, Ohio

A portion of the proceeds to benefit the Beatrice Wright Fox Undergraduate Scholarship and Community Service Programs

National Pan-Hellenic Council

www.ClevelandNPHC.org
QUESTIONS/TICKETS: BARB @ 216.983.9010

 NPHC of Greater Cleveland
MEDIA INQUIRIES: DEANA @ 216.798.9025

We want to thank all off the brothers who were able to come out and be a part of the 45th Anniversary Celebration Gala that took place September 30th, 2017 at the Birchwood Party Center in Walton Hills, Ohio. The NPHC of Greater Cleveland (currently headed by President and Soror of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. Patricia Jones) spent countless hours putting together an event that would exemplify and truly encapsulate the efforts of the NPHC over the past near half century. The event program included introductions, dinner, guest speaker, presentation of awards and party after all of the formalities had taken place. All and all, the event was a huge success and was well attended by all the Divine 9 affiliates of the NPHC.



(Left)

Blue and White Presidents at the Gala

Bro. Taurean R. Adams with Nu Theta Zeta
Chapter President Wendy Horn and Gamma
Delta Zeta President Gina Jackson

(Right)

Brothers of Blue and White

Bro. John Walker, Lee A. Jackson,
Taurean R. Adams, Willie Smith and,
Karlton A. Laster at the NPHC Gala





We want to give a HUGE SHOUT OUT to our own Bro. Lee A. Jackson for winning the President's Award during the awards presentation of the gala, for his constant support not only of his (our) fraternity but NPHC endeavors and events as well. Soror Pat Jones told the story of how Lee became ill during his travel to a regional conference a few years ago and how brothers after learning what had happened dropped everything to go and get Lee and make sure he made it back home safe & sound and how even though Bro. Lee Jackson faces his own constant medical challenges he ALWAYS supports, contributes and makes himself present for functions and engagements.

Your brothers of Sigma thank you not only for your service but your constant example setting in what a brother of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. should be / do regardless of personal matters and congratulate you for a well-deserved recognition from the National Pan-Hellenic Council of Greater Cleveland.

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 4th Tuesday at University Settlement. We further encourage brothers to come out on those specified Tuesday's 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. Demario Spivey, Steven Brown, Jamie Taylor, Karlton Laster, Tony Williams, Brandon Moore, Joseph Lastery and, Samuel Morris at University Settlement in September



2017 State of Ohio Leadership Meeting / Conference



**The Brothers of the State of Ohio at the Fall 2017 State Leadership Conference
In Cincinnati, Ohio**



We want to thank all of the brothers of GAS who were able to travel down to Cincinnati, Ohio for this year's State Leadership Meeting / Conference that took place on September 30th, 2017. The brothers of the State of Ohio convened on the Queen City to discuss the usual topics ranging from MIP, retention, chapter statuses across the state and, more importantly how to get Ohio on the bigger stage within the region.

Regional Director Bro. Daryl A. Parks along with State Director Bro. Percy Turner led the conference throughout the day as brothers discussed the business of Sigma. Once again thanks to those brothers who were able to participate and stay tuned as the brothers of Ohio look to make strides in the Great Lakes region in putting Ohio in a more leading position within the fraternity.

Las Vegas Blue and White Weekend 2017



Las Vegas Blue and White Weekend 2017 in Las Vegas, Nevada...

To the brothers of Gamma Alpha Sigma who didn't go or were unable to make it, boy did you miss a party, good time and, fellowship for the ages!

For the brothers who were able to go this year...

Nothing needs to be explained that is already understood....

12 brothers of the chapter made the flights out west to participate in the Sigma's and Zeta's 2017 Blue and White Weekend in Las Vegas, Nevada during Veterans Day Weekend back in November. The blue and white family out west had many events planned for all those coming into town including meet & greets, the annual picnic and multiple parties / social sessions for all to enjoy. Outside of all the partying and having fun that was done, the most important thing that the brothers of Gamma Alpha Sigma brought back from Las Vegas was the strengthening of bonds and friendship amongst each other as brothers of our great organization. The details of the experience and weekend could go on and on so hopefully these picture convey the time had by all as Gamma Alpha Sigma kicked it Sin City.

One thing is for sure...you DO NOT want to miss next year...GOMAB!!!

Bros. Craig Smith, Jay Hodge, Ed Long, Kimrick Crawford, Issa Arney, Duvall Brown, Joe Lastery, Marricio Wilson, Taurean Adams, Jamie Taylor and Frank Andrews toasting to Blue and White Weekend in Las Vegas!!!



Bros. Joe Lastery, Jamie Taylor, Ed Long, Kimrick Crawford, Marricio Wilson and Taurean Adams at the All-Black Masquerade Party at the Hard Rock Café on the Las Vegas strip





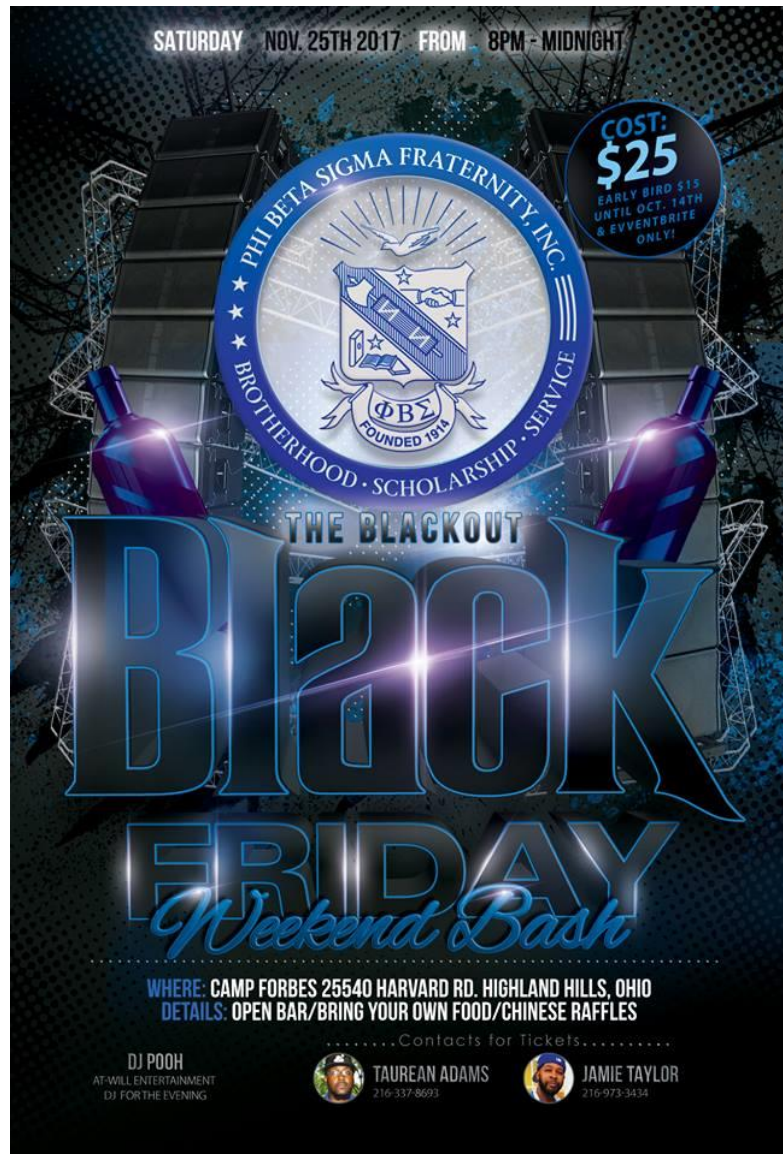
The Brothers of Gamma Alpha Sigma dubbed “Blue Oceans 12”
at the Blue and White Picnic in Las Vegas, Nevada

Las Vegas Blue and White Weekend 2018...

Don't be the brother who gets left out...

GOMAB!!!

The BLACKOUT Black Friday Weekend Bash



We want to thank all of the brothers who came out, worked, helped out and supported our fall party/cabaret entitled: The BLACKOUT Black Friday Weekend Bash. The party took place on Saturday November 25th, 2017 from 7pm to 12am at Camp Forbes in Highland Hills, Ohio. The party was a definite success as brothers and guest alike gave nothing but good compliments and high accolades on the event. Special shout outs to Bro. Kimrick Crawford and Bro. Stephen Lovelace who served as bartenders for the event and Bros. George Baker and John Walker who worked the door. On top of the funds that came in from ticket sales to support the functions and activities of the chapter overall, Chinese raffles were done which raised moneys that directly benefitted the Sigma Beta Club to bolster their finances going into the end of the year. Once again we thank all who supported the function and look forward to everyone's support at the next one.

The Brothers of Sigma kicking it at The BLACKOUT
Black Friday Weekend Bash



FIRST FRIDAY
Happy Hours



We want to say thanks to all the brothers who continue to support and come out to fellowship during our FIRST FRIDAY Happy Hours that we have been having across the city of Cleveland.

If you are unaware of what FIRST FRIDAY IS, it is simply a meet up of brothers on the first Friday of every month to fellowship, unwind and commune together over food and drinks.

Family, friends, sorors and other Greeks have come out to simply hang out with the Sigma's after the long work week and priorities of life that bind us all. If you have not been to one, be on the lookout as the month of January will be our FIRST FRIDAY "Founders Day Edition". Here are some of the pics from our past 3 month's outings:



Brothers at Fox and Hound in Mayfield Heights, Ohio
for FIRST FRIDAY in October

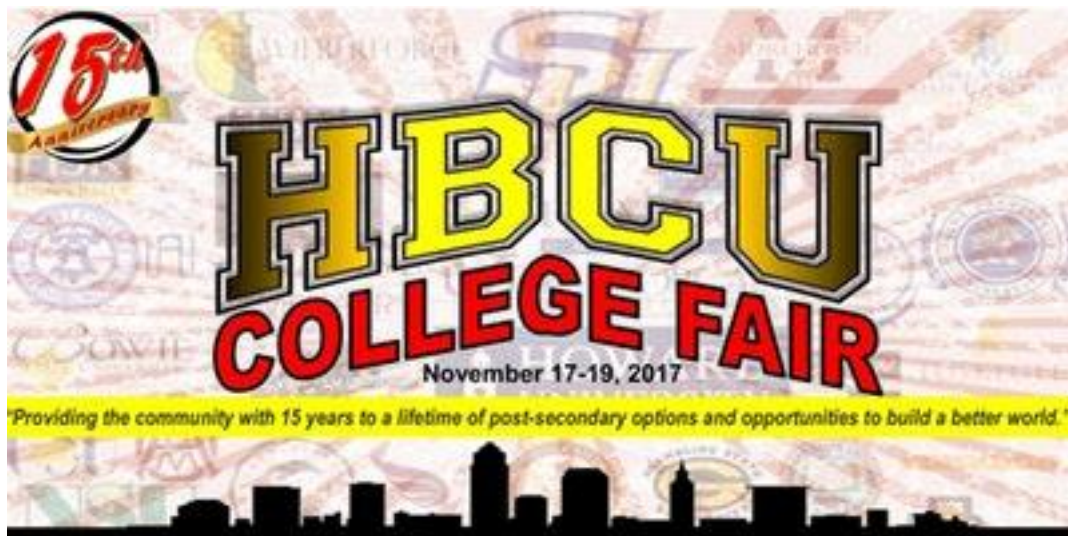


Bros. Frank Andrews, Jay Hodge, Tony Williams, Percy Turner and,
Mark Neubauer at Scorchers in Bedford, Ohio for FIRST FRIDAY in
December



Bruhs getting it in!!!

15th Annual HBCU College Fair
@ Warrensville Heights High School





Sigma Beta Club Members Camerin Crawford and Jay'llen Hathman with Zeta Archonettes Chantionne and Zipporah at the HBCU College Fair @ Warrensville Heights High School

We want to thank all of the brothers of the chapter and Sigma Beta Club members who were able to come out and participate in the 15th Annual HBCU College Fair presented by The Cleveland Council for Black Colleges, sponsored by McDonalds. The yearly event brings together students from all over the city of Cleveland to learn more, engage and, apply to the HBCU's in attendance at the fair. Special performances were done by the Warrensville Heights High School "Marching Machine" Marching Band, John Hay High School Cheerleaders and D-Squared step team. Throughout the fair parents and students getting ready to make the transition to college from high school got a chance to talk to multiple schools about what they could offer them not only as far as education but experience at a HBCU. Many scholarship opportunities were available to those in attendance as we all know funding a college is only half the battle. Once again thanks to all those who came out and we hope to see all next year!

Bros. Kimrick Crawford, Samuel Morris and Taurean Adams holding down the table at the college fair



NPHC of Greater Cleveland Turkey Giveaway



Members of Phi Beta Sigma, Iota Phi Theta, Zeta Phi Beta, Alpha Phi Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi and Delta Sigma Theta getting ready to hand out turkeys at one of the many locations during the turkey drive giveaway

We want to thank all of the brothers who were able to participate with fellow members of the Divine Nine for the NPHC of Greater Cleveland's Turkey Drive Giveaway that took place on Saturday November 18th, 2017. Each affiliate was asked to donate turkeys so that the NPHC as a whole could donate turkeys to deserving family at multiple locations around the city of Cleveland. The NPHC was able to give away turkeys at the East End Neighborhood House on Woodhill Road, The YMCA of Greater Cleveland on Euclid Avenue, The Center for Families in South Euclid, Hanna Elementary School @ Parma Community Center and, Catholic Charities on the southeast side of the city. The NPHC was able to donate over 100+ turkeys in total. The chapter donated \$100.00 towards the purchase of turkeys and multiple brothers gave of their time at the location around the city. Once again thanks to all who participated.



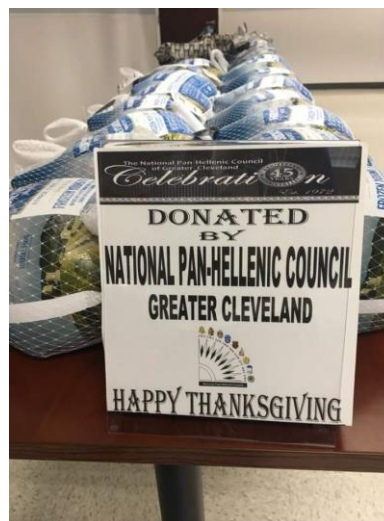
Bro. John Walker with a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha



Bro. Jonathan Wilson with Soror Tiona Williams



Bros. Michael Ryan and John Walker with fellow members of the NPHC of Greater Cleveland





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



~*2017-2018 Executive Board*~

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Correspondence Secretary

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Treasurer

Bro. Kimrick Crawford
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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

Gamma Alpha Sigma Chapter
Sigma Wellness / National Program Chairs:



Chair of Social Action – Bro. Karlton Laster



Chair of Bigger Better Business- *Vacant*



Chair of Education- *Vacant*





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Instagram @

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Twitter @

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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:

Zeta-Sigma Sip: Holiday Potluck

Founders Day 2018

Sigma Beta Club Updates & Information

2017 University Settlement Toy Drive

2018 Great Lakes Regional Conference
Indianapolis, Indiana

Other Events & Information

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