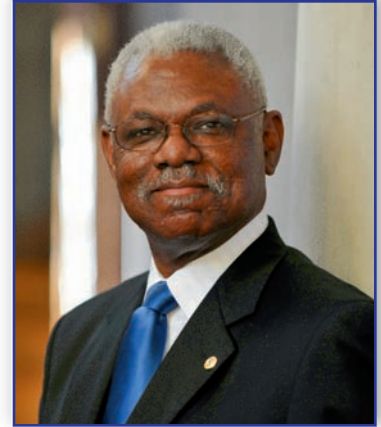


ΦΒΣ

President's OPEN LETTER to the BROTHERHOOD

Honorable Brother Jimmy Hammock
International President



Greetings my Sigma Brother:

Summer 2009, for me, was filled with exciting and challenging opportunities. I'm as equally excited and humbled by your election of me as international president of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. From day one, I've hit the ground running, in an effort to honor my commitment to my first opportunity: *Putting Brothers First.*

Welcome to my first Open Letter to the Brotherhood. I promised open and constant communication to you, the active brother. It's my desire to keep you abreast on the current important issues and activities affecting our fraternity. I also want to introduce you to the team of leaders that have joined me in moving the organization forward.

The theme for this administration is "Changing Lives Through Service." I'm grateful for a team of elected officers and cabinet members that truly understand the message of unity and clearly envision a brotherhood working together to impact the communities we serve. Always remember: What we do says who we are.

Are you ready? As you return to your chapter activities, I encourage you to join us as we commit to serve. My hope is that when the world thinks of Phi Beta Sigma, they think of service.



CHANGING

Lives Through Service

From humble beginnings, I grew up in the country town of Fordyce, Arkansas. My mother struggled to raise my two sisters and me on a meager maid's income. Yet she instilled in us some of the most basic, but important human values under incredible human conditions.

There was a teacher who was committed to serving as my role model. Because of his commitment to serve, combined with the prayers and teachings of my grandmother, my life was changed. I went on to graduate with high honors and received a full four-year scholarship to the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.

The theme for this administration was derived from my personal mission to instill and to inspire passion for rendering life-changing community service amongst Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity members.

We have a rich history of changing and impacting lives through our outstanding work in our local communities. This administration's vision is to make impact through strategic program implementation and measurement to ensure we continue to Change Lives Through Service! When you think of Sigma, you think of service.

There are 3 Key Opportunities to make the vision of our theme a reality:

First Opportunity – Putting Brothers First

Second Opportunity – Modeling and Developing Sigma Leaders

Third Opportunity – Making Impact Through Fraternity Signature Programs

In the weeks to come you will receive volumes of information that detail how this administration will transform these key opportunities into action. By strategically maneuvering all opportunities, our fraternity will experience better communication, build stronger leadership, and render consistent and quality programs while increasing our membership—thus ensuring our future.

General Board Meeting

The General Board will meet on October 30 and 31, 2009 in Atlanta, Georgia. Board members will be provided the first-ever Leadership Guide that details the roles, responsibilities and expectations of all board members. The guide also facilitates an orientation for those members newly elected or appointed to the board.

The following is your organization's leadership team for 2009-2011. Please know that we are accessible to you and feel free to contact us for questions and feedback. A board roster, complete with contact information, will be provided to chapters in the Fall Chapter Mailing.

General Board

President	Honorable Jimmy Hammock	Southeastern Region
First Vice President	Jonathan A. Mason, Sr.	Eastern Region
Second Vice President	Lonnie Wall, II	Western Region
Treasurer	Larry Mungin	Eastern Region
Legal Counsel	John M. Turner, Esquire	Southern Region
Director of Bigger & Better Business	Winston K. O'Neal	Great Lakes Region
Director of Education	William L. Powell, Jr.	Eastern Region
Director of Social Action	Dr. Joseph West	Great Lakes Region
Collegiate-Member-At-Large	Christopher Calvin, Jr.	Western Region
Collegiate Member-At-Large	Christopher Perry	Southern Region
Director-Eastern Region	Darryl T. Williams	Eastern Region
Director-Great Lakes Region	Lezell Lowe	Great Lakes Region
Director-Gulf Coast Region	Thomas Edwards	Gulf Coast Region
Director-Southeastern Region	Quinten Goodwin	Southeastern Region
Director-Southern Region	Ray Smith	Southern Region
Director-Southwestern Region	Martin Currie	Southwestern Region
Director-Western Region	Raphael Forbes	Western Region
Immediate Past President	Honorable Paul L. Griffin, Jr.	Gulf Coast Region
Distinguished Service Chapter Representative	Honorable Demetrius C. Newton	Southern Region
Executive Director	Marco W. McMillian	
President-Distinguished Service Chapter	Honorable William E. Stanley, Jr.	Southern Region
Director of Collegiate Affairs	Dr. Marcus A. Chanay	Southern Region
Director of Sigma Beta Clubs	Dr. Patrick Hardy	Great Lakes Region
Director of Sigma/Zeta Relations	James W. Camphor	Eastern Region
Internal Auditor	William Frazier	Southeastern Region
External Auditor	David Turner, CPA	Great Lakes Region
Senior Advisor to President	Honorable William Walker	Southeastern Region

Cabinet Members

Chief of Staff	Honorable Scherod C. Barnes	Eastern Region
Deputy Chief of Staff	Leonard Lockhart	Eastern Region
Director of Communications	Steve E. Ballard	Great Lakes Region
Director of Conferences & Logistics	Michael Cristal	Southwestern Region
Director of Governmental & Civic Affairs	Jacob Gillison	Eastern Region
Director of Human Resources	Ronald Ponds	Southwestern Region
Director of Military Services	Major James Clark, Jr.	Gulf Coast Region
Director of Risk Management	Dewayne Scott	Southwestern Region
Director Sigma International Leadership Academy	Dr. Bennie L. Harris	Southeastern Region
Director of Standards, Rituals & Protocol	John E. White	Great Lakes Region
Director of Technology	Ian Heisser	Western Region
Coordinator of Membership Intake Certification	Greville H. French	Eastern Region
Chairman-Strategic Plan	Honorable Theo Woodard	Gulf Coast Region
Editor of PBS History Book	Honorable Dr. Anthony Samad	Western Region



International Headquarters Update

Earlier this year, the General Board voted to place the Fraternity's headquarters building on the market for \$2.8 million. To date, we have received one offer in which the Fraternity is currently engaged in negotiations. We will continue to pursue viable options based on the Strategic Plan approved by the 2007 Conclave, with respect to renovating or selling the headquarters building.

International Program Planning & Implementation Retreat

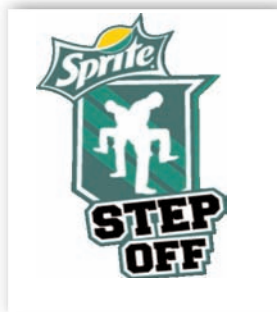
One of the first order of business for this administration was bringing together key board officers to understand, develop and implement the programmatic strategy for the next two years. If community service is to be the focal point of this international organization, my goal to assure that as leaders, we take ownership of our programs and give proper direction to our constituents.

During the weekend of August 28th and 29th, in Little Rock, Arkansas, your leaders came together through an intense and productive working session and reviewed all program initiatives under the Sigma Wellness umbrella (Bigger & Better Business, Education and Social Action). Under the facilitation of Dr. Bennie L. Harris, Director and Brother Kaliym A. Islam, Faculty member of The Sigma International Leadership Academy, a comprehensive action plan, complete with time-lines was developed and will be reported to the membership.

The Crescent Magazine

I've committed to publishing three issues of our international organ a year. Although, I'm still searching for a permanent editor, our first issue will arrive in your homes during the months of October and November 2009.

This issue serves as the traditional Post-Conclave issue, highlighting our recent 95th Anniversary Conclave in New Orleans, LA. It also features the new administrative charge, leaders and team, 2009 Model Alumni and Collegiate Chapters, current special events on the national scene, and a special tribute to the late Honorable Brother Roswell O. Sutton, 17th International President.



Sprite Step Off National Competition

Phi Beta Sigma has joined our National Pan Hellenic Council Partners and Coca-Cola North America for the inaugural Sprite Step Off Event and Service Challenge. The purpose of the tournament is to generate awareness about the multicultural collegiate Greek experience that includes community service, and to promote the benefits of pursuing higher education.

Sprite Step Off stands to be the largest college Greek stepping competition ever, featuring 30 events in more than 20 cities, with the largest combined stepping prize pool in history, \$1.5 million in scholarships.

The tournament is open to all collegiate fraternity and sorority step teams. Qualifying rounds begin in September 2009 followed by regional semi-finals in October and November. The national finals will be held in January 2010 in Atlanta.

At the Table with Our Corporate Service Partners

Phi Beta Sigma A Sponsor for American Cancer Society's CancerLens Conference

Continuing our commitment to together waging war against cancer, Phi Beta Sigma recently sponsored the VIP Luncheon during American Cancer Society's 2009 Disparities Conference, held July 28-29, 2009 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The theme for this year's conference was Health Equity: Through The CancerLens.

Joining me for this event were, brothers Lonnie Wall, Second Vice President, Dr. Joseph West, Director of Social Action, Marco W. McMillian, Executive Director, John E. White, Director of Standards, Rituals and Protocol, and Preston Edwards, Publisher, *Black Collegian Magazine*.

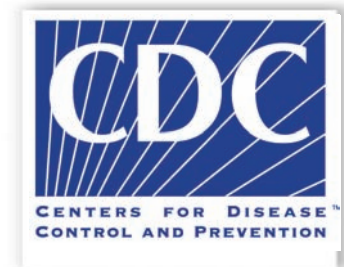


Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

African Americans face the most severe rates of HIV and AIDS in the nation! While blacks make up just 12 percent of the U.S. population, they represent nearly half of the 56,000 new HIV infections that occur each year and half of the more than 14,000 AIDS deaths each year.

Brothers in Sigma we must do more! As part of the new *Act Against AIDS* communication campaign, CDC launched a \$10 million, five-year partnership with 14 of the nation's leading African-American organizations to harness their collective strength to increase HIV-related awareness, knowledge, and action within black communities across the United States.

Phi Beta Sigma is the ONLY BLACK GREEK-LETTER ORGANIZATION contracted by CDC as a partner! Our goal this year is to inform at least 15,000 people about HIV and AIDS in the African American community. We can accomplish this with at least 36 collegiate chapters sponsoring three programs under our *Conversations Among Brothers Series* (CABS).



Phi Beta Sigma, Thurgood Marshall College Fund & NAFEO to Honor Brother Blair Underwood

Phi Beta Sigma continues its valuable relationship with the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, headed by our own Sigma Brother Dwayne Ashley, President & CEO. On Thursday, September 24, 2009 at 7:00 pm, at The Galleria at Lafayette Center, Brother Blair Underwood, celebrated actor, producer, author and community activist was honored at the 10th Annual Community Leadership Awards Reception during the Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Conference in Washington, DC. Also sponsoring the event was the National Association For Equal Opportunity In Higher Education. Other honorees included Eric Holder, 82nd U.S. Attorney General, Jane Oates, Assistant Secretary of Employment and Training Administration, Congresswoman Barbara Lee, U.S. CMs. Annie P. Whatley, Acting Director, Office of Economic Impact And Diversity, U.S. Department of Energy will also be honored.



The Community Leadership Award is presented annually to an individual who has shown a commitment to public service and serves as a role model for students attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Celebrating Our Life-Long Associates



A Philip Randolph Institute

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity was honored during the 40th National Education Conference of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, held August 12-16, 2009 in Phoenix, AZ. I was joined by Sigma Brothers Honorable Paul L. Griffin, Honorable Carter D. Womack, Congressman John Lewis, Lonnie Wall, II and Marco W. McMillian.

NAACP 100th Centennial Celebration

The late Brother James Weldon Johnson made a major impact on the lives of African Americans through the advocacy of one of the nation's leading civil rights organizations. I was just as honored to represent his fraternity during the 100th Centennial Celebration of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in New York City.

I joined Soror Sheryl Underwood, Grand Basileus, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. and several NPHC leaders for a luncheon keynoted by Judge Greg Mathis. I encourage all Sigma men to purchase *Celebrating a Century: NAACP's 100 Years In Pictures* and add to your personal libraries.



Honorary Member Inductions

The brotherhood ranks of Phi Beta Sigma have increased by two highly notable African American men. Sigma men have responded in impressive numbers to the announcement and induction ceremonies of Reverend Al Sharpton and Al Roker.

Civil Rights Activist Reverend Al Sharpton

Brother Sharpton was inducted on Friday, August 14th during the summer conference of the National Action Network in Atlanta, Georgia. Over 65 members attended the ceremony with an impressive evening reception at the 191 Club in the Deloitte Building in downtown Atlanta.



Television Anchor Al Roker

Brother Al Roker, known by many as the weather anchor on the NBC *Today Show* was inducted on Wednesday, August 19th at the Ben Benson Steak House in New York City. With similar exuberance, Sigma brothers representing various chapters throughout the Eastern Region were on hand to welcome Brother Roker.

Legendary Jazz musician, writer and composer Ramsey Lewis will be inducted on Saturday, October 24, 2009 at The Metropolitan Club, Chicago, Illinois. Noted actor Abdul-Malik Kashie Yoba will be inducted on Sunday, November 8, 2009 at the Ben Benson Steak House in New York, NY. Details of these ceremonies, as well as the ceremonies for President Bill Clinton and Recording Artist Stevie Wonder, will be available to all members.

Phi Beta Sigma's HIV/AIDS Program Housed at New AIH Blair Underwood Healthcare Center in DC

AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF), the nation's largest non-profit HIV/AIDS healthcare provider, opened its first AIDS treatment center in Washington, DC, named in honor of longtime AIDS advocate Brother Blair Underwood. The facility will be known as the AHF Blair Underwood clinic.

I, along with several international officers was on hand for a special press conference highlighted by a ribbon-cutting ceremony on September 24, 2009. Phi Beta Sigma was honored with a permanent room to house the organization's Conversations Among Brothers program, our initiative with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

At the request of Brother Underwood, Alpha Chapter of Howard University, rendered an energetic step performance for the audience. Also attending the press conference were Brothers Congressman John Lewis, Honorable Paul L. Griffin, Honorable Carter D. Womack, Dr. Joseph West, Steve E. Ballard, Jacob Gillison, Kenneth Daniel, Stephen McDaniels, and Marco W. McMillian.

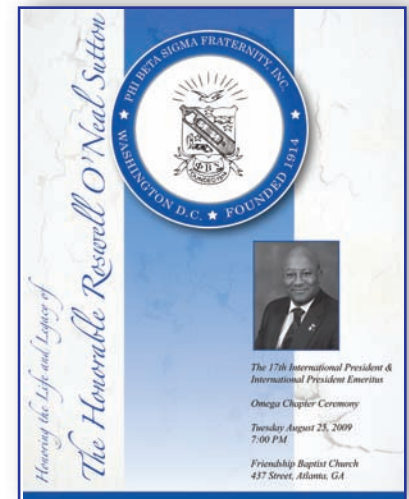


The Passing of The Honorable Roswell O. Sutton, 17th National President

Hearts were heavy while precious memories abounded with the passing of Phi Beta Sigma's oldest past president, The Honorable Roswell O. Sutton of Atlanta, Georgia. Sutton, commonly known as "the one who walked with the Founders" succumbed on Tuesday, August 18, 2009.

Sigma men from all seven regions traveled to Atlanta to pay tribute to the one who stirred the soul with inspiring speeches during many international conferences and meetings. The Omega Ceremony was held on Tuesday, August 25th at Friendship Baptist Church. The next morning a horse-drawn carriage carrying our beloved leader, flanked by Sigma leaders, traveled down the streets to the Martin Luther King Memorial Chapel on the campus of Morehouse College, his alma mater and place where he became Sigma.

A special Call for Observance will be mailed to chapters for the month of November. Sigma brothers will also have the opportunity to download the programs from Brother Sutton's Omega Ceremony and Funeral Services from our international website for the Sigma Archives and libraries.



Upcoming Events

March of Dimes Day on the Hill
Washington, DC
October 9, 2009

Honorary Member Induction
Ramsey Lewis
Chicago, Illinois
October 24, 2009

Honorary Member Induction
Malik Yoba
New York, NY
November 8, 2009

Sigma History Conference
Orlando, Florida
October 9 – 10, 2009

General Board Meeting
Atlanta, Georgia
October 30 – 31, 2009

Founders Day Celebration
Jacksonville, Florida
January 9, 2010

The Honorable Brother Jimmy Hammock
International President
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.
145 Kennedy Street, NW
Washington, DC 20011