

Brotherhood · Scholarship · Service

Culture for Service and Service for Humanity



We Are Gamma Kappa Sigma Alumni Chapter



GKS GAZETTE

A publication of the Gamma Kappa Sigma Alumni Chapter

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2023 NORTH CAROLINA ALUMNI CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

■ **Rev Bro. Charles Walton, President** ■ **Bro. Dr. Michael T Williams, Editor in Chief**



CHARLES E. WALTON
Chapter President

WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

As we enter the last quarter of 2023, I am truly proud, pleased, and grateful for the accomplishments our chapter has been able to expedite over the past several months.

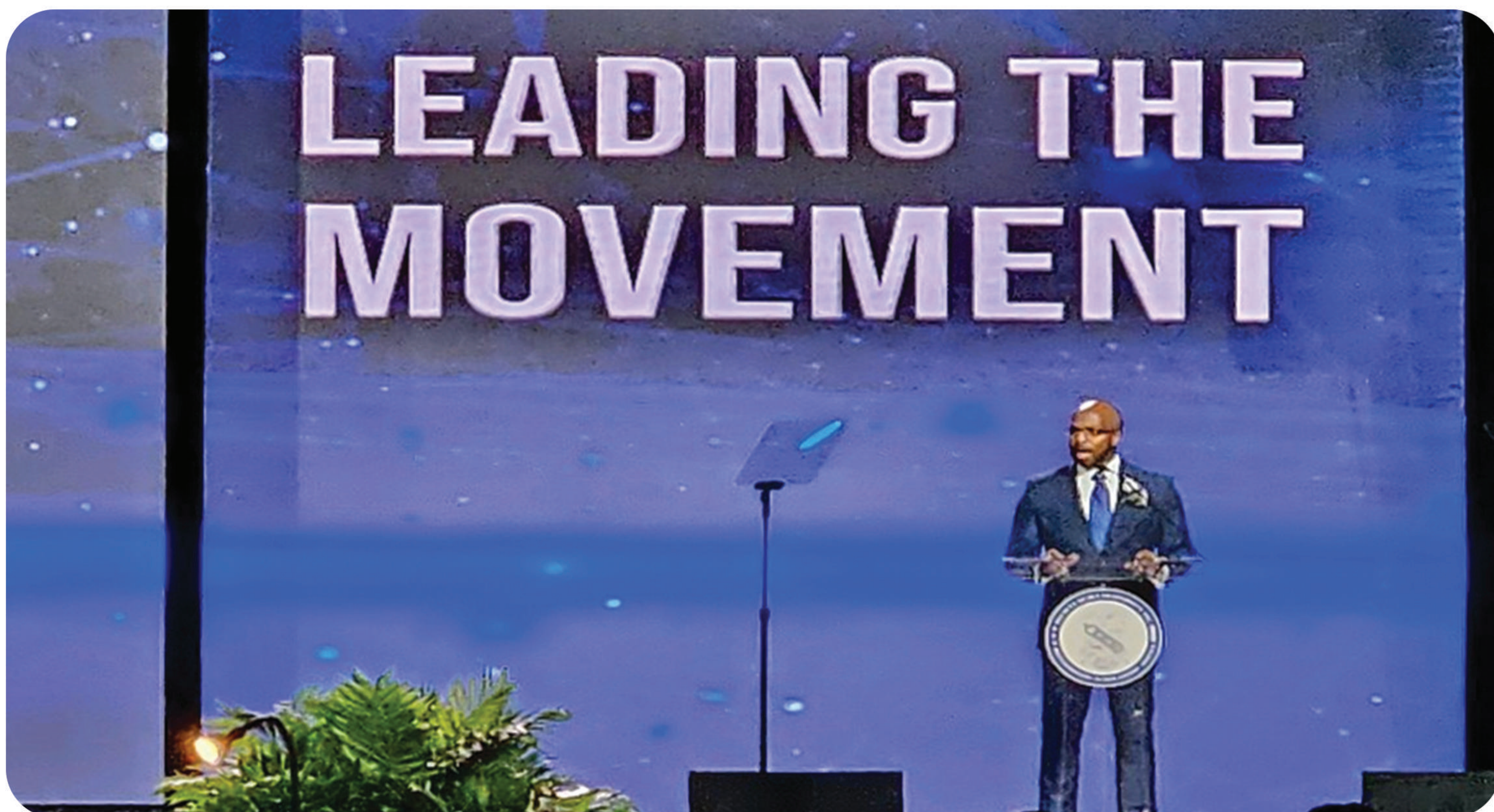
This year has been truly historic as we have initiated our first intake class since our relaunch just two years ago. Additionally, we procured our chapter 501C3 nonprofit status which will enhance our ability to secure resources and support for our programming. We are pleased to report that we have expedited numerous community service projects to include the Bags for Blessings campaign, Help for the Homeless, monthly food distribution, and most recently, our campus cleanup at West Oxford Elementary School. This project was historic as it represented our first community service initiative in Granville County and was led by the summer 23 intake class.

Bro. Dr. Dennis Carrington, chapter secretary, and I were privileged to represent the chapter at the 2023 biennial conclave held in Houston Texas. There we conducted the business of the fraternity and had the opportunity to fellowship with fraters from across the globe.

In our sojourn towards 2024, which represents seventy (70) years since the initial chartering of our chapter, we are pleased to report that we have been approved to expedite a Fall intake class. Our chapter is looking forward to welcoming another group of progressive, proactive, and positive men into our wondrous band. This quarter we are also looking forward to our fourth (4th) Bags for Blessings campaign, Help for the Homeless initiative, Blue and White Fall Festival at the Masonic Home for Children, participation in the 2023 Christmas parade and planning our 3rd Annual Golf Tournament which will have an HBCU/D9 focus. Finally, this quarter will mark the end of the biennial period for our current chapter officers. The nominations committee has been appointed and we have opened the floor to receive brothers who wish to serve in the chapter. We believe that none of us are as great as all of us and are making room for all brothers to serve.

We wish to thank all of our supporters this year it was your support which made these accomplishments possible. We give special deference to the lovely ladies of the Phi Zeta chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. Our sisters have consistently provided fiscal, physical, and technical support for us since our relaunch. While I may be biased, I must say that we have the greatest cohort of sisters in the Blue and White family.

It was indeed an honor to represent the chapter as a delegate for the 2023 conclave in Houston Texas. This conclave boasted the largest registered delegation in the history of the fraternity with over four thousand registered brothers in attendance. These brothers coupled with the thousands of attendees embellished the presence of Sigma across the state of Texas and the Great Lakes region of our country.



During this conclave, we saw the re- election of the majority of our General Board. Additionally, several new initiatives introduced, and current initiatives were enhanced. Our International President, The Honorable Chris Rey, J.D., laid out the vision for the next biennium, and invited brothers to be an active part of the movement.

Bro. Dr. Carrington, our chapter secretary and I along with our state director Notable Brother Kelley Woodley (pictured with us) were able to be a part of the Southeastern regional caucus, during the conclave. Within the caucus, we collaborated and consolidated our efforts to bolster our strength and raise our collective voice in the legislative affairs of the fraternity. As I have nearly fifty (50) years of service to our fraternity, I have not been prouder to be a Sigma than I was during this biennial conclave.



Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc prides ourselves on our ability to attract and induct men who are committed to serving others, have a high moral character and can enhance the profile of our organization. During this conclave, several distinguished gentlemen answered the call to join our wondrous band. They are pictured above, and we welcome them with open arms into our wondrous band. Additionally, we look forward to their service to the community and the fraternity



Sigma Brothers Help Spruce Up School



Roy Hunt, Julian Alston, William Harris, Charles Walton, Leroy Anderson, and Kevin Smith. (from left to right)

The members of the Gamma Kappa Sigma chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc partnered with the administration, faculty and staff of West Oxford Elementary School to expedite a campus cleanup day.

The project was led by Brother Roy Hunt, a member of the Summer 2023 intake class of the chapter.

“Service is one of the essential aspects of our fraternity” states Rev. Bro. Charles Walton, chapter president. He further expressed that “Our founders believed that those of us who had been privileged to attain higher education were now obligated to reach back and assist the other members of our community.”

As part of the intake class activities, all new initiates are required to plan, initiate, and expedite a community service project which is aligned with the principles of the fraternity namely Brotherhood, Scholarship, and Service. As our chapter is replete with several educators, we felt that our class should lead out with an education focused project. Brother Hunt, project organizer, was able to procure donations from Lowes Hardware and other community partners to facilitate this event. The intake class has other projects planned in the near future to complement the outreach efforts of the chapter.

As we continue to receive inquiries regarding membership in the organization, we are pleased to announce that a fall intake class is starting on September 11, 2023. If you are a man who has a college degree, a high moral character, and a desire to make an indelible and impactful difference in the community, we welcome your consideration of our organization.

You may visit our website at www.gks1954.org or contact Rev. Bro. Charles Walton, chapter president (252) 213-0206 or Bro. Christopher Anderson, Esq., intake coordinator (919) 819-5351 for more information.

GKS Brotherhood Spotlight

While we are an emerging chapter in the fraternity, our size does not determine the level of our impact in the community. Within our ranks we have educators, administrators, entrepreneurs, digital artist, clergymen, politicians, etc. This month we are pleased to highlight two of the members of our chapter who are striving to make an impact in the community.

Brother Allen Simmons, Chapter Vice President

Brother Allen Simmons, Chapter Vice President, is the proprietor of Alight Funeral and Cremation Services in Henderson NC. He has also offered himself as a candidate for sheriff and served in a variety of capacities over the course of his career. He is an alumnus of St. Augustine University where he was initiated into the Beta Xi chapter of the fraternity.



Brother Simmons is pictured here at the ribbon cutting of his new facility located at 549 South William St in Henderson NC. At Alight funeral services they are able to expedite funeral, cremation, memorial, and burial services for your loved ones in your time of bereavement. They can serve families across the country and pride themselves in offering quality services utilizing a competent caring team of professionals in a cost-efficient manner. If the need should arise in your family, you are invited to contact them at (252) 425-7191 or <https://www.alightfuneralcremation.com>.



Brother Christopher Anderson, Membership Intake Coordinator

Brother Chris Anderson is an alumnus of the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University (NCAT) where he was inducted into the Eta chapter of the fraternity. Within our chapter, Brother Anderson was appointed to serve as the coordinator for the Summer 23 intake class. Given the success of his efforts, he was reappointed to serve as the coordinator of the Fall 23 intake class. In this capacity, he plans, organizes, and expedites the intake process for the prospective members of the fraternity. Brother Anderson has also represented the chapter for our Help for the Homeless campaign.

Professionally, he is the proprietor of Vigilant Defense Academy. Vigilant Defense Academy offers coursework which leads to the NC Concealed weapon permit. The academy provides the technical and practical knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to assist its students successfully master the competencies needed to pass the NC Concealed Weapon Assessment. The academy also provides private lessons for beginner students or those who wish to enhance their skills.

More information regarding their services can be found at <https://www.vigilantdefenseacademy.com> or you may contact him at vigilantdefenseacademy@gmail.com.



North Carolina State Conference 2023



The NC State Conference was held on Saturday September 9, 2023 on the campus of Durham Technical Community College. The Delta Zeta Sigma chapter also known as the Bull City Sigmas hosted the event. The conference featured a variety of workshops and addresses from our fraternity leadership to include The Honorable Chris Rey, J.D. International President, and Notable Brother Richard Boone, Regional Director. We are also pleased to report that our chapter and president received several awards and commendations from the state leadership as a result of our service in the community. Our newest brothers were in full force at the conference and represented themselves and our chapter in an exemplary manner. The conference concluded with the election of a new state board which saw a Henderson native ascend to the position of North Carolina state director.



Additionally, for the second year, our chapter has supported the N.C. Social Action project and donated over one hundred (100) pairs of socks for the Socks for Veterans campaign jointly sponsored by our Social Action and Military Liaison committees. Last year, we were able to donate hygiene products for the homeless as part of the state project.

Gamma Kappa Sigma Chapter is Honored at State Conference



Horatio Cameron, Roy Hunt, Rev. Charles Walton, Kevin Smith, Julian Alston (from left to right)

The Gamma Kappa Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc was awarded several accolades during the 2023 North Carolina State Conference of the organization. In recognition of its numerous community service projects, commitment to the ideals of the fraternity and exemplary programming, the chapter was awarded the 2023 North Carolina Alumni Chapter of the Year. Additionally, the chapter received a Social Action Award for its consistent support of the state social action projects.

Rev. Bro. Charles Walton Chapter President and The Honorable Chris Rey, J.D. International President

Rev. Bro. Charles Walton, chapter President was honored with the Sigma Icon Award for his nearly fifty (50) years of service to Sigma. Additionally, the state director awarded Rev Walton the Excellence in Leadership Award for his commitment and support of the initiatives of the administration. Rev Walton expressed that our chapter is humbled and honored that the brothers across the state thought it not robbery to recognize our exploits in the community. While we do not serve to be recognized, it is good to be recognized for serving. The election promoted Bro. Daniel Crudrup, a Henderson native to the office of state director. The Honorable Chris Rey, J.D. International President who is also a North Carolina native gave words of commendation and encouragement to the conference delegates.



UPCOMING PROJECTS

Blue and White Fall Festival

Saturday October 28, 2023

Central Childrens Home of North Carolina
211 W Antioch Dr Oxford Nc 27565

THE EVENT WILL FEATURE:

Activities for the children

Giveaways

Raffle

Music

Food

Screenings

Bags for Blessings Donations Collected

Much more

For more information contact Rev Bro. Charles Walton, Chapter President (252) 213-0206
or Brother Roy Hunt, Project Chair (roy.hunt75@gmail.com)

4th Bags for Blessings Campaign

October 1, 2023- January 9, 2024

Providing Luggage for Children Transitioning into Community Placements
Donations will benefit Foster children and those in the care of the Department of
Juvenile Justice

DONATIONS MAY BE DELIVERED TO:

Gamma Kappa Sigma Chapter
P.O. Box 1325 Henderson, NC 27536

For more information contact Brother Dr. Michael T Williams, Project Coordinator (919) 593-8532

3rd Annual HBCU/D9 Community Golf Tournament

Saturday April 28, 2024

South Granville Country Club
2539 Sam Moss Drive Creedmoor NC 27522

MORE DETAILS COMING SOON

SEPTEMBER

9th State Conference Durham Technical Community College
11th Fall Intake Information Session 7pm Tiffanys of Henderson
20th Fall Intake Interviews 6pm Tiffanys of Henderson

OCTOBER

1st Bags for Blessings 100 Bags in 100 days KICKOFF Campaign
4th Chapter Meeting
9th Fall Intake begins
27th Fall intake concludes
28th Fall Festival Mason Home for Children, Oxford NC

NOVEMBER

1st Bags for Blessings 100 Bags in 100 days campaign
2nd Chapter Meeting
3rd Fall Intake Initiation Ceremony/Reception
23rd Thanksgiving

DECEMBER (MEMBERSHIP ASSESSMENTS ARE DUE)

1st Bags for Blessings 100 Bags in 100 days campaign
7th Chapter Meeting
TBA Henderson/Vance County Christmas Parade
25th Christmas

JANUARY

9th Founders Day Celebration (Events TBA)
9th Bags for Blessings Campaign Donations Distributed (Vance, Granville, Franklin, Warren DSS)
10th 3rd Annual Community Golf Tournament Kickoff
TBA- Martin Luther King Jr Prayer Breakfast

FEBRUARY

1st - 3rd Annual Community Golf Tournament (Ad/Sponsor Solicitation)
TBA- Help for the Homeless Hygiene Collection/Distribution (Vance County Homeless Shelter)

MARCH

1st - 3rd Annual Community Golf Tournament (Ad/Sponsor Solicitation)
22th - 24th Southeastern Regional Conference Columbia SC Marriott Downtown

APRIL

1st - 3rd Annual Golf Tournament (Ad/Sponsor Solicitation)
27th - 3rd Annual Golf Tournament Prep Session South Granville Country Club
28th - 3rd Annual Community Golf Tournament South Granville Country Club

MAY

27th Memorial Day

JUNE/JULY

Chapter Vacation (No Chapter Meetings)

JULY

23th -28th Zeta Phi Beta Boule, Indianapolis Indiana
TBA -International Leadership Conference

AUGUST

1st Chapter Meeting