

R E D E S I G N E D



In nineteen eighty7, 7 men of vision founded greatness...

**VISIONS**  
magazine

vol1.iss2 \* fall2005

...chronicling this greatness

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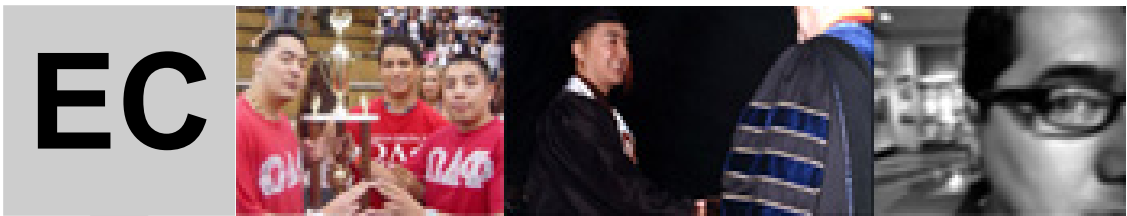
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**WHAT A YEAR..**

>>>Since the last issue, so much has happened within our brotherhood. First, let me wish all of my brothers out there a **HAPPY FOUNDER'S DAY!!!** On November 25, 1987, our fraternity was founded on the sacraments of UNITY, HONESTY, INTEGRITY, and LEADERSHIP. Eighteen years later, we **still** admire and uphold these sacraments.

When I try to imagine the founders and charter members discussing the foundation and future of our fraternity, I often wonder if we are anything like they imagined. We have grown from that local fraternity at Texas Tech University to a national power-house. For the **third year in a row**, Omega Delta Phi Fraternity Inc. has earned the prestigious "**Fraternity of the Year**" at the 2005 NALFO convention in Tempe, Arizona... creating a dynasty.

Winning this award for the third year in a row has solidified our legacy. It has created the criterion for others to follow, and formed the benchmark for others to strive for...

The months of September through October tested our desire and motivation towards the betterment of the community. As the Gulf Coast became ravaged by the relentless destruction of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma, brothers of Omega Delta Phi made it a mission to help our neighbors in their time of need.

Soon after Hurricane Katrina, brothers selflessly volunteered their services at every major shelter that hosted the majority of the victims; tirelessly working to supply our neighbors with provisions. Those not in the near vicinity of a shelter set up drop-off spots where food, clothing, and hygiene products were donated. As both Hurricanes Rita and Wilma soon followed, deadlines to donate to the Omega Delta Phi Relief fund were extended. Our impact was felt, and our determination, witnessed.

Our national convention in Los Angeles was one of the most memorable conventions in our history. New programs were implemented, new plans were discussed, and new brotherhood bonds were formed. Special thanks to the Los Angeles convention planning committee for doing a phenomenal job. Next year, convention comes to the capital of the Lone Star State: **Austin, TX**. Will the city of Austin be ready for a "*Knation of Knighthood?*"

Amongst all of the congratulatory highs due to our enormous strides as a fraternity, we mourn the loss of two of our brothers. It is through times like these where we as a brotherhood need to be there for both each other and the families of the ones that we have lost. May brothers Noe and Benigo rest in peace... ya'll will be greatly missed.

Throughout our sophomore issue of **7visions magazine**,

you'll notice several **MASSIVE** changes. As stated in the introductory issue, different layouts, designs, and formats will be experimented with. We're still in the infant stage of this magazine, so as I do more research... the magazine will **continue** to evolve and grow. Any suggestions and ideas can be directed to: **7visionsmag@omegadeltaphi.com**

I am often asked by some family, friends, and co-workers, why I speak so highly of my fraternity; why I continue to stay active and serve this brotherhood, years after my graduation from Texas Tech?

My answer to them is because I truly believe in ODPHI. Joining this brotherhood has genuinely shaped my character. It has given me an unyielding drive to better both myself and my community. ODPHI has taught me how not to only "...think outside the box, but remove the box completely."

This brotherhood **deserves** the best. Because of that, I will do everything in my power and ability to deliver the best. See you next issue...

Cresit Eundo,

**Arthur Manalac**, editor  
[7VisionsMag@omegadeltaphi.com](mailto:7VisionsMag@omegadeltaphi.com)



<LA2005  
**AUSTIN2006>**  
**convention**



Mr. Jorge Rodriguez



dearbrothers

>>The last two semesters have been dedicated to the creation and implementation of processes and systems that will benefit the fraternity. In early May, I attended the NALFO business meeting in Brunswick, New Jersey. It was a great opportunity to observe, firsthand, the national assembly along with the many organizations under its umbrella. It was a positive opportunity to meet other national officers and network on behalf of Omega Delta Phi.

**Jorge Garcia**, Vice President of Undergraduate Affairs, visited the Northwest and attended the region's presidents meeting on behalf of the national team. **Alex Alvarez**, the Vice President of Programming, presented to chapter presidents during the Midwest regional meeting via conference call last spring. At the end of the spring semester, the Undergraduate Affairs office saw the addition of four new colonies into our fraternity: **University of Texas at Dallas, St. Mary's University, University of Illinois - Urbana Champagne and California State University - Dominguez Hills.**

During the late spring, **Alejandro Macias** and **Ray Cabrera** focused on rebuilding the National Undergraduate Council and its listserver. It was imperative to accomplish this task, so proper communication could be established between the representatives of the

“The national conference in Los Angeles was a tremendous success thanks to all the hard work of many dedicated brothers”

National Executive Council and our membership. These past two semesters, they have been working hard to ensure that the proper information and documentation is being provided to the presidents and president-elects nationally. Their input and insight are invaluable to the national team to assure we are meeting the needs of our constituents. If there are any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact these two brothers. Their main role is to be the voice of the undergraduate brotherhood; but, they also need to hear feedback to share the views nationally.

In June, the Executive Board and I prepared for the national team meeting and workshops at National Conference. The National Conference in Los Angeles was a tremendous success thanks to all the hard work of many dedicated brothers. It was the first time that my national team was able to meet face to face. Previously, we had been organizing and collaborating via telephone and email; not an easy task. My appreciation goes out to those men for sacrificing their nights and personal time to insure that our national programs would be ready for the new school year. We have committed ourselves to addressing concerns the membership communicated to us at National conference as best as possible.

**Arturo Elizondo**, the Vice President of Operations, investigated the cost

of liability insurance for the executive board of each entity. The cost was verified and financial impact reviewed, which has allowed us to pay for coverage.

In the second weekend of September, I visited with the *Alpha Delta* chapter at an official fundraiser in San Antonio. The following day, a barbecue to introduce prospective members to Omega Delta Phi was held.

In early October, I attended the NALFO conference in Tempe, Arizona where our fraternity had an integral part in making the event a success. Not only was **Brother Alejandro Rios**, chairman of the conference; but behind the coordinating of transportation and providing of the music for the social event was the *Epsilon* chapter. Along with *Epsilon*, the *Southwest region* supported the event in attendance. It was a special event as these brothers witnessed our fraternity win four national awards, including the third consecutive **“Fraternity of the Year.”**

In mid October, I along with **Jorge Garcia**, VP of Undergraduate Affairs, attended the *scrill* regional barbecue at the *Alpha Iota* chapter. He continues to maintain current contact with the *SUNY Cortland colony*. We are hoping to create an *East Coast Region* from that colony to assist in expansion and operations. **Arturo Elizondo** is currently in the last phase of creating the *Fraternity Judicial Board* and should be looking for committee members in November. It also gives me great joy in announcing the re-filing for 501c10 incorporation in October with the Internal Revenue Service. Also, the budget for the Fall semester was released on the *NUC listserver* for review.

The National Executive Council met during the *Texas Conclave* in November to finalize the *National Operations Manual, Regional Board Manual and Risk Management Manual*. I allotted time to make myself available to answer any

specific questions and concerns during the Conclave.

I also plan on organizing a *NUC* and *Extended NEC* meeting in mid February in Arlington, TX. I hope to gather the *NUC representatives* so we may discuss the 2006 presidential elections, national officer evaluations, risk management, and have an open forum to review the 2005 school year.

We are currently looking for applicants for our **Tutoring Reimbursement Education Program (T.R.E.P.)**. The current budget only provides for \$1000 in reimbursement, so brothers please take advantage as soon as possible. We are also currently looking for *Regional Scholastic Officers*. Please contact the Regional Director in your area if you are interested to serve.

These are just a few items we have been addressing as a national team these past few months. I hope you feel the time and effort we have spent serving you has been productive and necessary. There are other projects we have been working on, and will announce those either in future newsletters or at national convention.

I have not forgotten you. I hope to make my way around to the different regions either before or after national convention. Together with my board, I will strive to lead the fraternity to financial security and a prosperous future. If you have any comments regarding these issues or anything else, please do not hesitate to contact me.

In Brotherhood,

**Jorge Rodriguez**  
national president

Jorge.Rodriguez@omegadeltaphi.com



Mr. Eugene Dominguez

\* Joe Cereceres \* **Eugene Dominguez** \* Arturo Barraza \* Juan Barraza \* Tommy Hurtado \* Chris Forbes \* Elliot Bazan \*



*As I sit here...*

and think of our beloved fraternity celebrating its 18th anniversary,

>>I cannot help but find similarities as I think of my own son who also celebrated his 18th birthday earlier this year. I find myself transitioning from having simply just a “brother” status, to evolving more towards the “father” status.

I look in the mirror and see the gray hair; I notice how I have already begun seeing my own father staring back at me. My memory seems to slowly fade, and I sometimes struggle remembering names. I find that I have to write things down to remind myself of them.

I have noticed that there

seems to be more and more weddings, along with children’s birthday parties; these are all signs that we are growing older. It is a wonderful thing.

Being “18” is a special age. You have the right to vote and no longer need consent from a parent; for you are officially an adult. Along with this age, comes not only greater responsibilities and risks, but also rewards and opportunities.

I tell my son to be very aware of his actions as they do not affect only him, but us as a **family**; for we will be there in the midst of whatever he will have to deal with in the future. I tell him how there will be

times of celebration along with times of pain that he will have to learn to deal with as life progresses. But with that, he also knows that with a united and strong family, he can get through those times with resilience.

A family will be there with you for a **lifetime**: when you graduate, when you get that first great job, when you walk down the aisle with that special person, when you have your first legacy (or beautiful girl)...

...and when you are in times of sorrow.

I am very fortunate to have so much “Family” around me... 18 years worth to be

exact.

To all of my brothers, help take this fraternity into its adulthood. Keep in mind the importance of its responsibilities to its family, just as you have with your own. I hope that we can all be there to celebrate many more birthdays and anniversaries together.

In Brotherhood,

**Eugene Dominguez**  
national founder

# 18 [note from a founder] years...

“A family will be there with you for a **lifetime**...”

showcasing our members



this section will highlight various brothers...

...who stand out. These gentlemen have sacrificed for the betterment of our fraternity. The selflessness of these brothers is extraordinary and the leadership abilities these brothers possess make them an asset to their chapter and the ODPHI nation.



### knight.watch

showcasing various brothers of Omega Delta Phi whose accomplishments and sacrifices have elevated our fraternity to new heights.

## undergrads

for nominations please email [7visionsmag@omegadeltaphi.com](mailto:7visionsmag@omegadeltaphi.com)

# K

“...the fraternity is what you make of it; nothing less and nothing more...”

### OUR SECOND RECIPIENT

>>of our bi-annual “Knight Watch” is **Manuel “Danny” Rivera** from Tau Chapter's Zeta Class - Spring 2001. Brother Rivera worked tirelessly to bring the first ever **Texas Conclave of Knights** to life.

He, along with a small but determined army of brothers, were able to host one of the largest conferences (second only to the annual **National Convention**), that the Omega Delta Phi nation has ever seen.

A self-fashioned leader, Brother Rivera attributes his leadership abilities to his education while learning

about the brotherhood as a prospective member. The valuable lessons that were taught, allowed Brother Rivera to responsibly lead his chapter to several campus awards (*selected by school officials and committee members*), and ODPHI regional awards (*selected by the Regional director and board*).

From the very beginning, Brother Rivera has often been heard saying how, “the fraternity is what you make of it; nothing less and nothing more.” With this in mind he has been able to lead Tau chapter in various facets including *President, Prospective-Member Educator and Conference Chairman*. Along with this, he was

one of the first *Undergraduate Representatives to the Board of Directors* and a member of the *N.A.L.F.O. Membership Committee*.

Brother Rivera continues to remain active, and plans to stay involved on a chapter, regional, national, and alumni level. Currently, he continues to lead the Tau chapter in various positions and committees; offering his guidance and support.

Congratulations to Brother **Manuel “Danny” Rivera** on the second installment of *7visions magazine's “Knight Watch.”*

showcasing our members



# A

## alumknight.highlight

highlighting the accomplishments of various alumni across the nation. showing growth in our brothers in both their professional and personal lives.

## alumni

for nominations, please email [7visionsmag@omegadelatphi.com](mailto:7visionsmag@omegadelatphi.com)

>>FOR THE PAST 18MONTHS, brother Raul Sanchez (*Rho chapter - Texas State University - Founder*), has been in IRAQ.

...but he's not in the military.

Brother Sanchez was one of the many civilians in IRAQ who are contract employees. For 18 months, he worked as a civilian contractor for *KBR (Kellogg Brown & Root)*.

While there, brother Sanchez trained and supervised employees for the *Cost Plus Awards Feed Board* review, This included:

- technical performance
- management performance

- cost avoidance measures
- cost performance

During his contract with *Kellog Brown & Root*, brother Sanchez was awarded with the:

- **KBR MVP Award and**
- **LOGCAP III Award of Excellence Medal.**

This is partially due to his dedicated and driven personality, his strong work-ethic, and his tremendous amount of innovation and creativity.

A highlight includes the coordinating of *Cost Avoidance Measures (CAMS)* which generated an average of \$200M+ in savings for the US government.

While in IRAQ, Brother Sanchez also met up with **Luis Obregon**, a brother from Alpha Gamma chapter (University of Texas - Pan American) who surprisingly was stationed at the same base. The two realized that they have known each other since 1998 and shared various stores of their tenure as undergraduates.

Congratulations to Brother **Raul Sanchez** on the second installment of *7visions magazine's "Alumknight Highlight."*

# [losing a brother] In Memory Of...

*With grievance and sadness, we mourn the loss of two of our brothers. Always keep them in your thoughts and prayers, and never forget the memories that these gentlemen have given us...*



Benigno "Jimmy" Dominguez

## **Benigno "Jimmy" Dominguez**

>>was born in Casas Grandes, Chihuahua on February 9th, 1978. He was Knighted into the Epsilon chapters' - Rho class on November 19th, 1999.

Jimmy majored in Accounting at **Arizona State University** and

received his degree in 2003. As an undergraduate, he served as *President Elect* for the Epsilon Chapter, and as *President* for the *Hispanic Business Student Association*.

Jimmy was always known for being success oriented, yet fun-loving. He cared deeply for the brotherhood, and was the ideal type of

brother that would do all he could to help anyone in a time of need. He leaves a legacy behind with his younger brother Hector who someday plans to join the fraternity that his blood brother loved so much.

**Jimmy Dominguez** will always be remembered. He was born into new life on May 4th, 2005.

*Your contributions, memories, legacies, and brotherhood will **never** be forgotten...*



Noe Israel Sandoval

## **Noe Israel Sandoval**

>>was born in San Benito Texas on Feb 19, 1985. He was Knighted into the Eta chapters' - Lambda class in the Spring of 2004.

Noe was a Sophomore at **Sam Houston State University** and was pursuing a degree in

Criminal Justice. His dream was to work as a border patrol agent upon graduation.

Noe was a very loyal friend and an incredible brother to Omega Delta Phi. He was one of the leaders of the Eta chapter, holding positions such as: *President-Elect*, and *Prospective Member*

*Educator*. Noe had a big part in helping the victims of hurricane Rita, among other community service events held at SHSU.

**Noe Sandoval** will always be remembered. He was born into new life on September 16, 2005.

C

convention.recap

July 14-17, 2005, the knights of the scarlet and silver invaded the city of angels for a weekend of education, brotherhood, athletics, and a large dose of HYPE. This is a recap, **from my eyes**

LA2005

by arthur.manalac@omegadeltaphi.com

>>HALF AWAKE, I BARELY MANAGED TO CARRY MY BAGS THROUGH THE LONG LABYRINTH OF TERMINALS THEY CALL THE LAX. 2-3 HOURS OF SLEEP A NIGHT REALLY TAKES A TOLL ON YOU...

...especially when you suddenly come to a realization about not being 21 anymore.

So there I sat, my head on the handle of my cram-packed carry-on luggage; setting the alarm on my phone for 30 minutes before boarding time... praying that they don't call a last-minute gate change while I nap. As I dose off, the final thought that manages to creep through my head is,

"Wow, what a great convention...zZzz zzzZ"

Though in meetings for the majority [read: MAJORITY] of the day, I made sure that once President Rodriguez called the meeting to a conclusion, I was with the brothers. Convention is the only time I have to see some of the bros I know from other states. So even if I'm completely worn-out and still have to wake up before dawn the next day for meeting, I made sure I mustered enough energy (*and Red Bull*) to hang-out as much as I could.

I have been to a total of 6 national conventions since my inception into ODPHI (Las Vegas the only one I couldn't attend), and in my honest opinion, this was truly the greatest.

Organizationally, we as a brotherhood took strides. New bylaws were passed, structures were solidified, and newer goals were set that raised our already high standards. It was my first time on this side of a convention; my first time to see the internal workings of the brotherhood. I was completely enveloped in the business and leadership side, and witnessed first-hand, the immense amount of work and strategizing it takes to run a NALFO 3-time **Fraternity of the Year**.

At first, I felt out of place. Anyone that knows me knows I'm not the most "starved-collar" of guys. By no means does that imply a lack of professionalism or work-ethic, it's just that meetings aren't on the top of my wish list.

Holding a blood drive at the hotel was an awesome idea. Special thanks to Brother **Maurice Shaw** (Alpha Kappa) for the planning of this service event (and being so persistent with the sign-ups); this ended up being the most successful service event at a national convention to date.

Socially, it was outstanding. Walking around Hollywood, visiting locales that you only see on TV was great. I'm from a large city with a decent night-life, but the ambiance of being in Hollywood with hundreds of my extended family, felt pretty awesome.

Like I stated earlier, the main reason why I attend convention... is for the brotherhood. I enjoy meeting new brothers, seeing old friends, reliving great memories \*cough\* (*Dominic and I winning cfest8 in 2003, stepping in front of 3000+*) \*cough\*, and seeing the accomplishments that our various entities have

achieved on their campuses. It makes me proud to see legacies left behind, various traditions being passed down, and seeing that "neophyte energy" radiate throughout the brand new brothers as they look out into a sea of scarlet; and for the first time, see the largest extended family they will ever know.

This is the one time a year I pack a sweat towel, dust off the gloves (*I'm keeping it alive Jon B!!*), wrap up the bad ankle... and just stroll until the last note of *MC Breed* is heard. I cherish seeing brand-spanking new neophytes as they try to keep up with me on the line, but don't have the energy to continue (*I am the HYPEactive one for a reason*). I enjoy reliving some of the original and historical steps&strolls assembled by those HYPE gentlemen who were in the frat long before me. I thrive on the attention received as onlookers gaze upon us, admiring the high-energy we exude... **BUT** like I said, this is the ONE time a year this happens. (*editor's note: Along with not 21 anymore, I'm pretty out of shape, and I smoke about a pack of Camels every 3 days... so yeah, once a year sounds about right*)

The highlight of convention to me was banquet. The keynote speaker was Dr. Ruben G. Rumbaut, a professor of sociology from the University of California - Irvine, and Co-Director of UCI's Center for Research on Immigration, Population and Public Policy.

His keynote address was entitled, "**Who Is an American? A Cosmopolitan Vision.**" All attention was solely directed towards this charismatic speaker as he told us stories of his youth and how at 12 years old, along with his family of seven, left a revolution in Cuba for exile in the United States.

Dr. Rumbaut's educational, thought-provoking, and yet entertaining look at diversity, culture, and identity completely enthralled attendees. From his inspiring biography of **Toribio Tienda**, (*a hard-working widowed father of five who worked two back-breaking labor-intense jobs to raise his children through poverty and eventually through college*), to the historical synopsis on how the increasing number of immigration to the US is evolving America's perception of "identity," to a multitude of excerpts, synopsizes and quotes from an array of books and studies which study the history of culture.

Dr. Rumbaut has a way of viewing culture, race, and identity which relates to what Omega Delta Phi stands for, and delivers his message in a fashion which is gripping and intriguing. Listening to him speak makes you want to be more educated on topics being addressed.

Dr. Rumbaut respects and admires our brotherhood. He praises our national ideal of "**One Culture, Any Race.**" In one segment, Dr. Rumbaut explains his opinion on "race." He states how,

...*'race' has been the most enduring and tragic (if absurd) boundary in American life, identity, and history. 'Race,' as I tell my students, is a pigment of our imagination.*

Thank you again to Dr. Rumbaut for his incredible keynote address; it was truly inspiring and interesting. We learned a great amount during your segment, and wish you good luck in your future endeavors.

Awards soon followed. It's amazing hearing the accomplishments from our individuals and entities.

**Regional Award:**  
*Region of the Year* - Southwest Region

**Entity Awards:**  
*Academic Excellence* - Lambda chapter  
*Web Presence* - Chi Service - Alpha Zeta  
*Most Improved award* - Pi CHAPTER OF THE YEAR - Gamma

**Individual Awards:**  
*Knights of the Round Table*  
**SCRI**- Rich Ballesteros (Zeta)  
**SCRII** - Cirilo Ojeda (Pi)  
**SCRIII** - Chris Phillips (Alpha Lambda)  
**Pac** - Phillip Loya (UC Berkeley)  
**NW** - Isaac Magana (AlphaTheta)  
**MW** - Alejandro Medelin (Alpha Zeta)

*Undergraduate "Untouchable" Scholarship recipient*  
Steve Schirner (Alpha Kappa)

*Carlos E. Contreras Graduate Scholarship recipient*  
Jesse Esparaza (Rho)

Special congratulations go to **SCRII** for winning the football tournament.

Also, I would like to congratulate *Alpha Lambda chapter - Stephen F. Austin University, Alpha Mu - Texas A&M, Kingsville, and Alpha Nu - University of the Pacific*, for achieving chapter status!!

Along with that, I would like to welcome the *University of Texas at Dallas, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Cal State University at Dominguez Hills, and St. Mary's University* in their recent colony status!!

After the banquet, chartered busses transported us to a night that both ODPHI and the city of LA wouldn't soon forget at the official social, "*The Mid-Knight X-Press.*"

The following morning was somber. Piles and piles of backpacks and suitcases crowded the check-out line. Final conversations filled the air and camera flashes illuminated the lobby. Some decided to stay until Monday and tour Los Angeles, while those with early flights gave their final "see you later..."

Like I said earlier... "Wow, what a great convention..."

I'll see ya'll in Austin  
*editor's note: "ya'll" is proper in Texas*

T

texas.conclave

the first official gathering of the three major regions which are comprised of a majority of entities from the great state of texas. a conclave of knights in the metroplex of dallas/ft worth.

conclave

concerns? email 7visionsmag@omegadeltaphi.com



Brothers united at the Texas Conclave Social



Various brothers stepping and strolling

“ We were simply overwhelmed by the number of brothers that arrived. ”

-Fred Davis, Tau Chapter President

This past November, Texas laid witness to one of largest ODPHI conferences the state had ever seen.

>>The first-ever “Texas Conclave of Knights” was hosted by Tau Chapter and was attended by 21 entities from all 3 Texas regions (including Beta chapter from the SW region). The birth of this conference happened shortly after national conference in Chicago, 2004.

In the now world famous “RGV Bus” two brothers, Manuel Rivera and Tanis Padron, had such an awesome time together, they thought it would be a great idea to have each

others chapters hang out. However, they lived more than 12 hours apart and thought it would never happen...

...unless their regions did something together.

“The original idea was to have all three regions have their conference together at South Padre Island” says Manuel Rivera, Conference Chairman, “...we wanted a way to have all the brothers in Texas hang out together, and enjoy the brotherhood outside of business.”

The official numbers have yet to be finalized; but over 150 brothers registered, along with many more that were unaccounted for. The only major problems that

the conference ran into was a lack of manpower and how the conference shirts never arrived.

However, Conference Chairman Manuel Rivera has informed 7visions magazine that the shirts have arrived and should be shipped out shortly.

“We were simply overwhelmed by the number of brothers that arrived,” explained Fred Davis, Tau Chapter President. “But all in all, the conference is being hailed a success.”

“The underlying purpose of this conference was accomplished. Brotherhood was spread and networking was done,” explains David

Saenz, scrIII Regional Director. The lessons learned from this first conference are sure to be passed onto future committees through meetings, reports, suggestions, and workshops.

We here at 7visions magazine can't wait until next time.

editor's note: Hopefully it will be located in the Spring Break mecca of South Padre Island!

# In a time of [Katrina, Rita Wilma...] Crisis...

*Who will step up? Who actually cares about the welfare of the community? Who will go out and help our neighbors when they truly need us?*



National President, **Jorge Rodriguez** (left) along with the Regional Director of South Central Region II, **David Saenz** (right)

by Arthur.Manalac@omegadelatphi.com

## IN ONE OF THE WORST NATURAL DISASTERS TO HIT THE GULF COAST UNITED STATES,

>>thousands of people evacuated Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana. At the location of the most recorded damage, *New Orleans LA*, many residents became trapped; unable to escape roof-tops, bridges, and vehicles. The relentless rain and unforgiving winds plummeted the levies of New Orleans, unleashing more destruction. Residents lost everything.

Cities such as Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio opened their hearts to the evacuees. As thousands and thousands of families arrived at these cities, lines grew longer and longer. Shelters desperately needed assistance in the processing of supplies and donations. As the nation watched with distress, wondering how to help, a group of gentlemen stepped up and cordially volunteered.

Those gentlemen donated their time to provide their new neighbors with some comfort in a discouraging time. These were

## ...chivalry still exists.

a diverse group of men hailing from a multitude of backgrounds and an array of ages. As they arrived, exclamations from thankful coordinators eagerly briefed them on what tasks were most needed. These gentlemen, humble in demeanor, worked at a feverish pitch to ensure food, clothing, and hygiene products were organized and distributed to as many families as possible. These gentlemen were both undergraduate and alumni members of Omega Delta Phi Fraternity Inc.

The gentlemen of Omega Delta

Phi (ODPhi for short), are a group of driven men whose motivation to serve the community and assist those in need are genuine and sincere. The organization consists of men who are strictly and selectively chosen for their leadership ability, positive attitude, and a thirst for helping others, are instilled with the ideal that no goal is unattainable, and no standard is unreachable.

The gentlemen of ODPhi are some of the most involved and productive members in the

>>continued on page 10



Pallats and pallets of needed provisions organized, separated, and transferred by members of ODPHi.



R

reaching.out

news from around the odphi nation that positively impacts the community

## service

news? email [7visionsmag@omegadeltaphi.com](mailto:7visionsmag@omegadeltaphi.com)

>>continued from page 9

community, and progressively driven leaders in society. They initiate and coordinate events which benefit local communities and charities; regularly receiving thankful responses and praise from both community leaders and school officials. This highly organized group heeded the call for assistance and surpassed everyone's expectations.

Once news hit, conference calls and emails were made and sent.  
 >National Executive Board members started brainstorming ideas and contacting charity groups to learn of the best ways to help.  
 >Regional Boards met; locating evacuation shelters and Red Cross drop-off locations.  
 >Undergraduate Entities spoke with school officials, and asked of the best ways they could get involved within the parameters of the University.  
 >Alumni Associations gathered; discussing strategies on how to obtain donations from their respective companies....

On September 1st, 2005, merely days after Hurricane Katrina first hit, *Omega Delta Phi* released their "4-tier plan" to provide aid to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. This plan included donation, solicitation, and hands-on community service.

The fraternity was divided into sectors. Those around the Houston, Texas area were to hold non-perishable food and clothes drives throughout their respective campuses and areas. Donations were then delivered regularly to local evacuation shelters. On September 11, 2005, both undergraduates and alumni entities visited and volunteered at the largest evacuation shelter: the **Houston Reliant Center**. The same plan was held for both the Dallas/Ft. Worth Metroplex and the city of San Antonio, with the meeting dates being September 9-11, and September 25 respectively.

A long term solicitation request for donation was added to raise

money that would be completely donated to the **American Red Cross**. A National stretch Goal of \$12,000 was set, and a deadline in early October 2005 was given.

Days later, devastation hit the gulf coast again. With the forecast of Hurricane Rita hitting the Texas Coast at a category 5, a mass evacuation was called. Families were trapped on roads upwards of 20-25 hours as gas stations quickly ran out of fuel.

After passing, many additional people were without a homes. Many of them were directed towards Huntsville Texas, home of the *Eta Chapter* of ODPHi. Here, brothers one again took command of the situation and helped where help was needed.

But the storms kept coming...

Wilma then followed, unleashing destructive force winds and rain on the Florida coast. After receiving phone calls and emails

from both brothers and family members in the area, members of ODPHi knew that they had to continue helping. Once again, they extended the donation deadline to **December 31, 2005**, and officially changed the name of the fund from the "ODPhi Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund" to the "ODPhi Gulf Coast Relief Fund."

*Chivalry is not dead.* It represents qualities idealized by the knight. It encompasses bravery, courtesy, and gallantry.

*Chivalry, is not dead.* It along with the sacraments of UNITY, HONESTY, INTEGRITY, and LEADERSHIP are traits of honor. They are universal in appeal and admired characteristics of greatness.

*Chivalry is not dead.* It still exists within a group of gentlemen who instill the trait in their prospective members, and it continues to burn in it's alumni. Chivalry... a term **personified** by brothers of *Omega Delta Phi Fraternity, Inc.*

“These gentlemen, humble in demeanor, worked at a feverish pitch to ensure food, clothing, and hygiene products were organized and distributed to as many families as possible.”

# undergrad reps

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Alejandro.Macias@omegadeltaphi.com



>>For the past semester, your *Undergraduate Representatives*, **Ray Cabrera**, and **Alejandro Macias**, have been hard at work with various tasks on the *National Executive Board*.

We have been working hard to balance local and national responsibilities in order to really voice the opinion of the lifeblood of this fraternity...  
...the undergraduates.

Most recently, we coordinated the passing of three new amendments through the *National Undergraduate Council*. We had a larger turnout than expected, but still would like to see more participation from entity leadership.

Much was accomplished at the past National Convention in Los Angeles. More recently, Alejandro attended the Texas

Conclave of Knights in Arlington. Attending the *National Executive Board* meetings, he gave undergraduate voice in the creation of the *National Operations Manual*.

With the addition of the new *Regional Undergraduate Representative* positions, additional input and opinion will be further expressed in a more effective and efficient route through us,

# officer.reports

reports from national officers. learn of the goals, plans, and ideas that will continue to lead our fraternity to greatness.

*your Undergraduate Representatives*, on behalf of the undergraduate population of Omega Delta Phi.

It is through our position we can assure that the insight of thousands of undergraduates are voiced, understood, and respected.

Please contact us if you have any questions and/or concerns.

# programs

Darrellyn.Brown@omegadeltaphi.com



>>What a beautiful thing it is to influence our youth through the ways of a Knight! First off, the *Young Knights Leadership Academy* is underway, and I am extremely excited for the entities taking part in piloting the program. They seem to be on path towards an impressive and productive start. It seems that many of the local high schools surrounding these entities seem to have taken a keen interest in implementing this program at their schools.

To put a few chapters in the spotlight; specifically *Chi chapter* (administered by **Mark Parvin**), I'd have to say that he, along with the entire *Chi chapter* have been off to an impressive start. With a game plan and agenda ready from the beginning, they had the *Young Knights* members' entire curriculum in place. This leads me to believe that this will be another successful year for *Chi*

*chapter*... major Kudos to them. Currently, they are working with **Reagn HS, Johnston HS** and **McAllum HS** located in and around the Austin, Texas area. I am very anxious to see what wonderful things are to come from the students that the *Chi Chapter* is working with through their execution of the *Young Knights* Program.

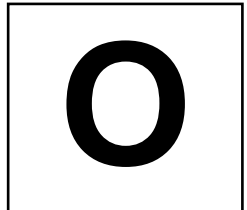
Also, let me send HUGE congratulations to **Maurice Shaw** (Alpha Kappa), for taking over the duties of *Programming Director* for the *Pacific Region*. He has been doing nothing short of an excellent job. Maurice will be overseeing all programming activities for entities in the *Pacific Region*. In addition, he will monitor those chapters and colonies within the *Pacific Region* that are currently implementing or interested in the *Young Knights* Program.

Other chapters I would like to

shed light on are the *Tau and Sigma chapters*. The two teamed-up to implement *Young Knights* at the "**Dallas Can! Academy**" charter school in Oak Cliff (administered by **Oscar Rodriguez**). In effort to help with the process, they have been receiving a lot of assistance from *The University of Texas - Dallas colony*, and alumni from the *Alpha Iota chapter*.

They are doing great things on this campus. This is the first charter school where the program has been implemented as an elective class within the curriculum; that alone is a huge accomplishment. None of this would have been possible if it would have not been for the Principal of the Academy, and *First-Lady* of the President of Omega Delta Phi; **Mrs. Laura Rodriguez**.

She has been an amazing supporter of our fraternity from



the start. Hosting the *Young Knights* program at her school has brought her great joy, especially since it has already benefited students who were in need of such a program. Thank You Mrs. Rodriguez for your continued efforts in supporting our organization.

On another note, let me just give a major congrats to South Central Region III for taking the first step as the first and only region, as a whole, to pilot and implement this program; they are setting the tone nationally. I hope the outcome will not only meet, but also exceed expectations.

The bottom line is that all the chapters involved in the *Young Knights Leadership Academy* are taking major steps in the progress to make this the future of fraternal philanthropy programs that focus on uplifting our youth. The youth, I believe, are the future to the growth and development of our great organization.

# intake

Aboubacar.Diare@omegadeltaphi.com



>>This past Spring semester, the *Office of Intake* remained very busy with a long list of deliverable while overseeing the progress of four foundering groups who have since joined the ODPHI family and strong tradition of excellence. As we look forward to more expansion opportunities, the office's focus for this fall is to continue improving the effectiveness of the fraternity's intake program,

among other things. To help us achieve this important goal, the *Office of Intake* has put in place a series of strategic measures.

We recently completed our bi-annual **Intake Training Seminar**. This seminar was administered to all of our entities and designed to help communicate the best intake practices while emphasizing the importance and

effectiveness of running **hazing-free intake programs**.

Furthermore, the *Office of Intake* has now positioned our *Regional Membership Development Chairs (RMDC)* in a manner that will allow each RMDC to be more valuable in the day-to-day intake activities of the entities in their respective regions.

As we continue to address

# officer.reports

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our Intake challenges proactively, we must continue to coach and assist our entities while providing them with the right tools and resources. The fraternity will profit from an increasingly stronger membership in the years to come.

I would like to thank the entire Office of Intake for their continued support and hard work.

# expansion

Mahdere.Gebreyesus@omegadeltaphi.com



>>Expansion has gotten off to an incredible start this Fall. We are on schedule to expand to **3 new states** as early as Spring 05.

## Boise State University *Boise, Idaho*

>We were invited by the University to set up a table at a student fair; and received great reception from the student body, as well as the cultural center at *Boise State University*. The Interests believe in what ODPHI stands for, and are currently working with both myself, along with **Juan Romero** (*Lambda, NW Regional Expansion Chair*) to make this a reality. Thank you to brother Romero for joining me in Boise, and helping make this a reality.

## Missouri State University *Springfield, MO*

>Thanks to **Giovanni Neri** (*Chi, SCRII Regional Director*), for making the initial contact, and **Brandon Smith** (*Tau, National Director of Finance*), for traveling to *MSU* to present our brotherhood to a group of gentlemen that want to bring ODPHI on campus.

Our presentation was well received, and procedures are currently in process per our expansion guideline. The group is on pace to bring ODPHI to *MSU* soon; they have the backing of the University administration and many of the Greek Organizations on Campus.

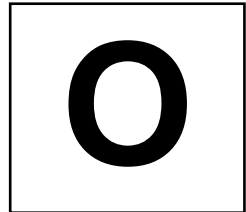
Thank you again to brothers *Gio* and *Brandon*.

## University of Nevada - Las Vegas *Las Vegas, NV*

>Another success story is at *UNLV* with a group we've been working with since the Spring of 2005. We have been working with the University to fulfill all the necessary requirements, and now have their full-fledged support. The university and the Interest Group is excited about finally getting to the next stage of the process.

Special thanks to **Alex Macias**, **Ray Cabrera** (*Epsilon, National Undergraduate Representatives*), along with the rest of the *Epsilon Chapter*. They that have been, and continue to be, very instrumental by making the long road trips along with anything possible to make this a reality.

Last but not least, I'd like to thank all the new *Regional Expansion*



*Chairs*. I look forward to creating the team that will continue to work hard and grow our organization, making a positive impact in new universities, states, and regions

The new *Regional Expansion Chairs*, as announced by their Respective RD's are:

- Juan Romero** (NW),
- Julio Diaz** (Pacific),
- Sunny Reyna** (MW),
- Fernando Vadillo** (SC3),
- Mark Delgado** (SC2)
- Rolando Moody** (Fla. Knights)

We have many more schools underway but we'll keep it confidential until it becomes public knowledge. In the meantime, work through your *Regional Expansion Chairs* or contact me directly to find out about expansion efforts and to express your ideas.

## marketing

Arthur.Manalac@omegadeltaphi.com

>>Marketing has been very challenging this past semester. As stated in the previous issue, this is the first time this position has EVER been in existence! There is no former *Director of Marketing* that can I can turn to for advice or suggestions; nevertheless, I have done my best and have taken great leaps towards the marketing, branding, and imaging of our brotherhood.

The first major task of the Fall 2005 semester was a somber event. I was to promote for the "ODPhi Gulf Coast Relief Fund," which completely benefits the victims of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma. After first outlining the major local and national news, I proceeded with contacting and emailing press-releases concerning the fund.

I worked with **Todd Uises**, *Director of Technology*, and **Othell Jackson**, *OmegaDeltaPhi.com webmaster*, to assist by uploading both our "4-tier plan of action," and *Press Release*. The efforts are effective, and all proceeds will be donated to the *American Red Cross*.

**Cubico.com** is an amazing website which draws national attention and is part of a family of media platforms which cater toward the Latino-youth market. I was contacted by Ms. Melchor, communications manager for Cubico.com, to contribute to a section of their site entitled "*El Campus*." This section highlights different fraternal and greek organizations, and

provides a positive medium for discussion.

Originally, I was asked for a short 300-400 word synopsis of ODPHi (*Who we are, what do we do, what is our purpose... all the factual info*). I surprised her with a vivid and insightful look into ODPHi. I wanted people to see a depth to this fraternity which separates us from others. Though longer than expected (*sorry!*), it was received excellently and is currently on their site. She also informed me on some TV exposure on their sister show, "*Latin Eyes TV*." A special thank you to Ms. Melchor and the rest of Cubico.com. It was a pleasure working with ya'll, and hope to continue the relationship in the near future.

Currently, I am working on several projects. One is a marketing campaign for the Spring 2006 recruitment class. It is to include a detailed and outlined procedure for the recruitment period. The campaign will include ways of promoting under a variety of mediums. It will be sure to get exposure on campus, showing an extremely organized and professional group, and innovative techniques. Don't worry my undergraduate brothers... I didn't forget how it was like being an undergrad, the marketing campaign **will** focus on, and be appealing to the 18-24 year old male demographic. I will not disclose any further details on this because it is not yet complete... just be on the lookout next semester...

## officer.reports

reports from national officers. learn of the goals, plans, and ideas that will continue to lead our fraternity to greatness.

O

Another project I am currently working on is updating our imaging guidelines. As we grow into a more mature organization with increasingly greater and greater national attention, we must ensure that the sanctity and prestige of our insignias are maintained. Our insignias are sacred, and should have guidelines as to who whom may use them, where they may be used, and how they will be shown. This will be available shortly in the next semester.

I am currently putting a call out for web designers!!! In effort to increase overall awareness locally, I am offering all web designers **FREE NATIONAL PUBLICITY!!**

To receive this, I would like for you to design a web page template for use by local chapters of Omega Delta Phi Fraternity Inc. In return, I am offering a **HALF-PAGE AD** in the next **2 issues** (*One year*) of **7visions magazine** (*official online publication with a national reader base and an exponentially increasing number of unique visitors and downloads*). This along with a **full "credits" page** (on the designed template), including your design business, logo, and your contact information, will be available.\* For more information, please contact me.

Along with this idea, I would like to promote brother-owned businesses. If you are a brother of ODPHi and own a business, I want to give you a

**FREE 1/4 page ad** in future issues of 7visions magazine. Please contact me for further details.\*\*

\* All templates, web pages, ads, banners, and other designs are subject to approval prior to acceptance and use. Omega Delta Phi Fraternity, Inc along with 7visions magazine reserves the right to change submissions as necessary, and refuse submissions and offers as seen fit. Date of release and location of ad are to be determined by the editor of 7visions magazine. Ads may be enlarged up to a full page, and/or content and design adjusted if deemed necessary. Prior to start, please contact the National Director of Marketing at [Arthur.Manalac@omegadeltaphi.com](mailto:Arthur.Manalac@omegadeltaphi.com) for details on imaging guidelines and requirements.

\*\* Ads are subject to approval prior to acceptance and use. Date of release and location of ad are to be determined by editor of 7visions magazine. Ads may be enlarged up to a full page, and/or content and design adjusted if deemed necessary.

Ads will appear on magazine until 1) editor of 7visions magazine deems necessary. 2) business owner requests removal. Please contact the editor of 7visions Magazine at [7visionsmag@omegadeltaphi.com](mailto:7visionsmag@omegadeltaphi.com)

*Soldiers of our own...*

# THE

# Scarlet

# and

# Silver

[*Brothers in the Military*]

# BRIGADE



EACH MONTH, WE WILL HIGHLIGHT SEVERAL BROTHERS FROM VARIOUS ENTITIES WHO PREVIOUSLY HAVE, OR CURRENTLY SERVE IN A BRANCH OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY. THE SACRIFICES THESE BROTHERS HAVE MADE IN ORDER TO PROTECT OUR COUNTRY AND CITIZENS IS ADMIRABLE.

THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS THESE GENTLEMEN HAVE ACHIEVED DESERVES AS MUCH PRAISE, RECOGNITION, AND SUPPORT AS POSSIBLE. TO THESE ODPHI MEN, ALONG WITH EVERYONE SERVING IN OUR MILITARY, WE THANK YOU. OUR THOUGHTS, PRAYERS, AND STRENGTH ARE WITH YOU.

# military brothers

requests? email [7visionsmag@omegadeltaphi.com](mailto:7visionsmag@omegadeltaphi.com)

# M

## military.knights

Showing appreciation to our brothers fighting to protect our country and citizens



### Alejandro (Alex) Rios

- Army Reserve / SGT (E5)

Stationed at Ft. Sill, Ft. Sam Houston, and Ft. Huachuca

*Gamma Chapter*

Crossed: Spring 1995

This former **National President** of *Omega Delta Phi*, and Board member of NALFO, served eight years in the reserve as a combat medic. Brother Rios was also on the committee for the 2004 National Convention in Chicago.



### Henry Alvarez

- Troop Commander of the First Squadron 7th United States Cavalry Regiment,

- Commander of the B Company 3rd BN 8th U.S. Cavalry

Stationed in Baghdad for Operation Iraqi Freedom II

*Zeta Chapter*

Crossed: Spring of 1992

Quote from Brother Alvarez: *(photo and quote courtesy of Eastern New Mexico State University)*

*"I feel I am playing a vital role in the development of Iraq. This country has never had the opportunity to practice democracy. We (the Coalition Forces) are giving the Iraqi people the freedom to govern themselves without fear of prosecution or execution because of the decisions they make, where they are from or their religious beliefs."*



### Albert Lee

- Army – 1st Lieutenant

Currently stationed in IRAQ

*Tau Chapter*

Crossed: Fall 1999

Brother Lee is an Army Ranger who toured with the Notorious Tau step team during the LatinoGreeks.com 101 national tour. He is one of the few brothers responsible for the 2 year undefeated winning streak of Omega Delta Phi in the early 2000s.

# military brothers

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# M

## military.knights

Showing appreciation to our brothers fighting to protect our country and citizens



**Zachariah Sepulveda**  
 - Army/1st Lieutenant  
 Currently stationed in Muqdadiya, Iraq

*Alpha Beta Chapter*  
 Crossed: Spring 1999

Brother Sepulveda was a leader at his chapter serving as *Prospective Member Educator, Vice President, President, Brother of the Year, and Step Master*. He graduated from **Michigan State University**, receiving his *BA in Criminal Justice*.

Brother Sepulveda is a *Ranger School* (survival/leadership) and *Airborne Graduate* (with 8 jumps). He is an *Infantry Platoon Leader*, leading 30 men in a combat zone on over 100 combat missions/patrols in his sector, and a *Military Intelligence Officer*. Brother Sepulveda has received a variety of awards including his *Expert Infantry Badge* (for being an expert in infantry tasks), and *Combat Infantry Badge* (Infantryman who comes under fire by the enemy).



**Oscar F. Chaparro**  
 - United States Navy, Petty Officer First Class, E-6  
 Station in El Paso, Texas as a Navy recruiter

*Theta Chapter*  
 Crossed: Fall, 1995

Brother Chaparro has been in the Navy since 1998, and is trained in nuclear propulsion. He served aboard the **USS Memphis - SSN 691**, a fast attack submarine, for 4 1/2 years.

Brother Chaparro has traveled the world. He has been to Scotland, England, Norway, Germany, Italy, Spain, Greece, and Bahrain during his service



**Ulises Ossio-Calixto**  
 - Texas Army National Guard (Sgt.)  
 Stationed: Korea, Ft. Hood. Currently in IRAQ

*Baylor Colony*  
 Crossed: Fall 2003

Brother Ulises Ossio-Calixto has been serving his country for numerous years and is spending the last year in IRAQ. He truly cares for the brotherhood of Omega Delta Phi, and continues to stay in contact with the active brothers at the Baylor Colony to see how things are going. He will be returning to the states this coming spring and be re-enrolling at Baylor University in the Fall of 2006.

# final thoughts

thoughts? email [7visionsmag@omegadeltaphi.com](mailto:7visionsmag@omegadeltaphi.com)

# F

## final.thoughts

thank you(s), congratulations, reminders, important dates, upcoming events, bulletins, and shout-outs.



Jerry Restrepo (3rd from left) and brothers at his wedding reception

Congratulations to **Jerry Restrepo** (Eta, Spring 1999) on his wedding to Maria Lira on June 18, 2005



Proud father, Gabriel Gomez (left), posing for the camera.

Congratulations to **Gabriel Gomez** (Tau, Spring 2002) on the birth of his child on October 19th, 2005

## CONGRATULATIONS TO...

- **Martin E. Chapa** (Chi advisor, Honorary brother) on his engagement
- **Esteban Soriano** (Tau, Fall 1998), on he and his wife giving birth to a son
- **George Bolton** (Tau, Fall 1999), **Jason Baker** (Tau, Fall 1998), **Fernando Valenciana** (Tau, Founder) on their marriages.

*May you all be blessed with health and happiness. We at 7visions magazine, along with the brothers of Omega Delta Phi will be here for you if you need anything.*

## GREAT JOB TO...

- **Alpha Kappa** and **Alpha Nu** chapters for a FIRST PLACE TIE in the Latinostep.com *San Jose* Stroll Show.
- **Alpha Lambda** for recieving an awesome 2nd place in the Latinostep.com, *San Antonio* Stroll Show

**GOOD LUCK TO THE BROTHERS THAT COMPETE IN THE LATINOSSTEP.COM STROLL SHOW IN DALLAS ON FEB 24>>>>>>>>>>**



flier courtesy of Latinostep.com

*Our heart goes out to **Ruben Hernandez**, former National President and current chairman of the Board of Directors, on the loss of his father. Please keep the Hernandez family in your thoughts and prayers.*