

By Fl. Paul Stein

Houston, Texas -This picture represents the beginning of one of the greatest events that has ever occurred on the campus of Prairie View A & M University. The year of 1973 was the start of a dynamic era on PV's campus and for the city of Houston, Texas. It was the year that Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship was introduced to the campus.

Groove quickly became the best organization on campus. There was no other organization that had as many members on the campus at one time as

Groove. Not only was Groove the best organization on campus, we brought a sense of unity, fellowship, true brotherhood and leadership to a campus that was of the mindset that you had to be Greek to be somebody.

Soon after the charter line graduated, Houston began to light up with black and white. We were the talk of the town. Grooves were everywhere. It seemed as though there was a Groove living in every Black neighborhood in the city. The Houston Graduate Chapter was born and to this day has played an important role in Houston's development. We have brothers from all walks of life including lawyers, politicians, corporate executives and engineers who helped build the city.

dreams will come true. You might very well meet that special someone you thought was nowhere to be found. You might even decide to stay. Yes, it gets hot here but we will have plenty to cool you down.

As you know many important decisions will be made at this Conclave. We will make sure you are comfortable while making these very important decisions. After all the hard work, get ready.....

The Houston Graduate Chapter welcome's you and your family to Houston.

See you in July.



PRAIRIE VIEW A&M 1974

The members of the Houston Graduate Chapter, have dreamed for a long time of hosting the Conclave in our great city. In Atlantic City, NJ this dream became a reality when it was voted to allow the brothers of Houston and the South Central Region to welcome the Nation of Groove to our great city. For many years Houston was recog-

nized only as the Space City. The world thought that we had no rappers, no well-known actors, and no good singers, but we have Mike Jones, Isaiah Washington, and Yolanda Adams, not to mention Beyonce and many more talented artists that call Houston home.

We are proud to be the hosts of the 2008 National Conclave of Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship Inc. Get ready my brothers for the "BIG Clave", because you know what they say, "We do things big here in Texas." With this being our chance to showcase our city, you can believe we are sparing nothing. Here, your

- "The Charter Line"
- Leon "Festus" Alex
- Johnny "Sweet Tweedy" Alexander
- Gerald "Honch" Wilson
- J. C. "Short Neck" Barnes
- Luby "Lub D" Worsham
- Dennis "BLUE" Bluford
- A.C. "AC" Berry
- Donald "Big Al" Burrell
- Harold "Wolf Man" Butler
- Reginald "Gun" Clark
- Joe M. "Slow Motion" Cooks Jr.
- Bob "Bob Cat" Coleman
- James "Skegee" Curtis
- Leslie "Nyshiek" Davis
- Harold "D" Demart
- Dwayne "Dilly Bird" Dillard
- Rodrick Ronald "Lapback" Dunson
- Jimmy "Black Boy" Fontenaux
- Roy "Leroy" Fuller
- Lester "Geeby" Gardner
- George "Snake" Gaston
- Donald "Miami" Gunder
- Edward "Buster" Harris
- Oscar "Os- Hughes
- Ed "Outlaw" Johnson
- Michael "B. B. King- Jones
- Kenneth " Marshall
- Robert "Hoolie" Menefee
- Horace "Turtle Man" Mills
- Bernest "Hook" Mitchell
- Gary " Mc Call
- Melvin "Space Cowboy" Mc Cloud
- Roy "Remrat W. Mc Currin
- George "Boogaloo" Nelson
- Ronald "Philly Dog" Perry
- Paul "Wimp" Stein
- Dwayne K. "TSU" Taylor
- Cornelius Dr. J. Washington
- Lindsey "Papoose" Weston



2008 NATIONAL CONCLAVE ITINERARY
Check-Out Pages 6 -7



Groove Phi Groove Panther III Prairie View A & M University Charter Line Mau Mau Born October 12, 1973

By Fl. Joe M. Cooks Jr.

In 1972, Larry Lockhart and I went to a basketball game at Texas Southern University. It was there that I was introduced to G Phi G. I saw this mass of black and white clad brothers jamming real hard. The beat and the groove was infectious; it had the house rocking and the fans jumping. It energized the team to reach deep into them and bring forth their utmost potential to the court. The school spirit was there and thumping like a heartbeat. This was Groove. I searched high and low to find out everything about the organization that night that I could. I

could identify with them because they were just regular people that let the groove in the music bring out the depths of their realism. At the time, I wasn't aware that at least half of the Ocean of Soul Marching Band at TSU were Groove members. That explains why music came natural to them. I was impressed enough to want to bring G Phi G to PV AMU. It was moving, grooving-you know-finding out what your fullest potential could be.

Unknown to me, at the same time on the Yard (PV), Dwayne Dillard and Gerald Wilson had

heard of Groove too; and had gone so far as to put up signs about the campus seeking potential members to join. When we arrived back on the Yard, I entered my dorm and what did I see- a sign on the front door that invited me to check out how I too could become a G Phi man. As we ventured to the fourth floor, I met Dillard. Having never seen him before in my life, after talking for a few minutes, Dillard turned to all that attended and introduced me saying, " This is Joe Cooks and he is going to tell you everything that you need to know about Groove Phi

From the Desk of Groove Phi Groove National President-Victor Henderson

Leading Groove Phi Groove From The Bottom Up and From The Top Down



Victor Henderson

When I went over in 1980, I immediately became a student of Groove Phi Groove - and some of the Black-Greek organizations for that matter. I wanted to better understand how Groove Phi Groove came into existence, especially in the context of some of our peer organizations that also initiate college men. I wanted to understand what made us a great organization, particularly in the 1960's and 1970's. I marveled at how Groove Phi Groove survived as a relatively new organization when other new organizations like ours came and went. I wanted to place Groove in context as an organization that was born around the time of the civil rights struggle and the black power movement, when organizations like the Black Panthers and the Nation Of Islam were at their height. From what I gathered, Groove Phi Groove was seemingly at its best when our national organization was in its infancy. We had scores of chapters with 30, 40, and even 50 brothers when the National Office was just getting started. Conversely, there was great dissatisfaction with our organization on a national level because we weren't organized. In the late 1970's things changed - both for the better and worse.

On some levels, I found it odd that our growth would taper off when the National Office became more organized and efficient. When National President John East started leading the Fellowship in the early 1980's, Groove became more business like and professional. Presidents Barry Hampton, Ronnie White and Chris Joyner continued our march toward professionalism. We started holding our Conclaves in bigger cities and better hotels. We started paying for audits, registering publications, and were covered in the media. Yet, our increased professionalism in the 1980's and 1990's didn't simultaneously take place with the dynamic growth that we experienced in the 1960's and 1970's and I couldn't understand why. And then it hit me....

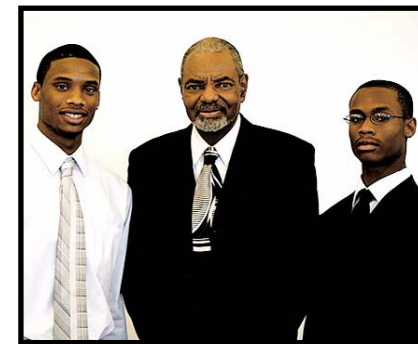
In order to prosper as an organization, we can't be too top heavy - nor can we be too bottom heavy. Groove Phi Groove does best when we have the right mix of energy, creativity and enthusiasm bubbling up to the National Office from our chapters. By the same token, we need to have the right level of leadership from our National Office, but not so much as to choke the creativity that comes from our chapters and regions. So, in the same way that you have to have the right mix of ingredients when you make your favorite drink, cake or dish in order for it to turn out right, Groove Phi Groove has to have the right mix of energy from our chapters and the National Office for us to prosper. Too much sugar in your iced tea, for example, and it tastes like syrup. Not enough and it's bitter.

Over the next four years while Mike Chang and I serve as your two top officers, we want to make sure that we get our Groove punch or juice right. We want the National Office to be on top of things, but we don't want to stifle the energy and creativity that made Groove great in our early years. Being rebellious in nature and non-conformists are some of the characteristics that made Groove a great organization in 1962 and the years that followed. Case in point, the Black Panthers and the Nation Of Islam commanded respect in our communities, but they were different organizations from the NAACP and the Urban League. We want to be organized and handle our business, but not to the point where we look and act like the Greek organizations we were trying "not" to emulate when we were founded. We can't afford to become old, stodgy and irrelevant. Conversely, we can't be so unorganized and non-conformist that we fail to garner the respect of our peers and work ourselves into extinction. The oxymoron of organized chaos comes to mind.

Groove Phi Groove needs the right mix of creativity, tension, professionalism, unorthodox behavior and all of the paradoxes that one envisions when you think of polar opposites like black and white. So, while the National Office needs to lead the Fellowship on one level, we also need our chapters and regions to take the Fellowship back from the National Office. The nation of Groove Phi Groove can ill afford to be like the black community - waiting for the next Martin Luther King or Malcolm X to appear so that we can return to our days of glory. Each of us has a unique contribution to make to enable Groove to reach its greatest heights yet. Maybe you have time to give. Maybe you have money. Maybe you have both. Whatever it is that you have to give; I implore you to give it. We cannot be the great organization that is within our potential without you giving to Groove Phi Groove. So, don't be afraid to lead us - no matter whether you are on the top or the bottom or some where in between. We need leadership from all levels in order to get it right.

THE GROOVE FUND

By Fl. Ronnie White



Groove Founder Barry Hampton (center) flanked right to left by Carl C. Williams and David J. Gillespie, who each received scholarship awards during the 1st Annual Walt "Philly Dog" Armstrong Scholarship Awards Luncheon held in June of 2007 in Detroit Michigan.

Detroit, MI- As most brothers know, the Groove Fund, Inc. is the charitable arm of Groove Phi Groove, S.F.I., The Fund is approved as a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt entity by the Internal Revenue Service.

The purpose and mission of the Fund is to support philanthropic endeavors aimed at perpetuating higher education. Accordingly, individuals and entities who contribute to the Groove Fund, Inc. help support the educational aspirations of matriculating high school seniors and college students looking to pursue 4-year college degrees. Donors also gain the benefit of a tax write-off for their charitable donations. Awards by the Fund are based on academic performance and unmet financial need.

Arrangements are currently being made to install a Board of Directors to oversee the management of the Fund, and to review the Fund's current bylaws. We hope to have the Board of Directors installed within the next several months.

All brothers are encouraged to support the Groove Fund by making annual donations, and becoming either a 400 Patron or a Endowment Fund Donor. For more information regarding the Groove Fund please see enclosed form or contact Fl. Ronnie White AT rpwsp78@comcast.net

Indemnity Against Liability Provision

Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship, Inc. prohibits all forms of hazing and/or any acts that may otherwise result in physical and/or mental harm to any individual engaged in an organizational membership orientation or intake programs. All members of the Fellowship understand and acknowledge that they hold the Fellowship free and harmless from any and all liability resulting from their individual behavior in connection with their conduct, behavior or actions involving in the initiation of men into the Fellowship

The Sword & Spear® serves as the National publication of Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship, Inc.®. Its purpose is to not only enlighten and inform, but also to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood between Fellowmen throughout the nation.

SWORD & SPEAR STAFF
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If you would like to contribute any news, editorials, poetry, artwork, photos or other writings, please feel free to forward them to our Publication Staff via email at SandS@gphg.org

Attention Lifetime Members

Effective immediately, brothers who become Lifetime Members will receive their lifetime certificate, card and pin within 60 days from the time that the proper information and fees are submitted. If you fail to submit the proper information, you are likely to experience a delay in receiving these materials. Please direct comments or questions in this matter to Executive Director Craig Hunter who can be reached at Craig.Hunter@Richmondgov.com

Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship, Inc.®, CΦG®, and The Groove Fund, Inc.®, are registered with the United States Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(7) and 501(c)(3) tax exempt entities, respectively, while both have articles of incorporation on file with The State of New Jersey. In addition, the Fellowship's name, letters and emblem are registered with the United States Patent & Trademark Office.

Hurricane Katrina Scholarship

by: Fl. Richard Martin



New Orleans, LA- Hurricane Katrina passed just east of New Orleans, LA on August 29th, 2005. Past National President Ronnie White felt Groove Phi Groove S.F.I. needed to make a difference and support victims of the disaster. On September 5, 2005 The Katrina Relief Fund was created. After many months of news reports depicting how poorly private and Federal funds were being distributed, Groove Phi Groove S.F.I. decided not to disburse the funds collected until we could find a group of students that would directly benefit.

The Louisiana Department of Education referred us to the Katrina Recovery School District. "Sundy" Barjon a Recovery Counselor and her group located seven high school seniors from the 9th ward who were displaced by the storm, and had been accepted to college for the fall 2006 term.

Fl. Richard Martin presented each student a scholarship on December 19, 2007. The students and their parents were in attendance.

Groove Phi Groove Returns Home & Gives Back

by: Fl. Seymour E. Chambers

On October 12, 1962, Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship Inc. was established on the campus of Morgan State College, beginning a legacy of community service and leadership that would add to the fabric of the Civil Rights movement in Baltimore City and many other cities for many years beyond.

Almost to the day, 45 years later more than 70 members of the organization arrived to a new campus, that still carried the spirit of the organization's founding purpose, as the Mother Bear and Baltimore-Columbia



Graduate Chapters hosted the organization's annual National Directorate and Executive Board meetings on October 27, 2007 in the university's new student center.

National officers and key committee chairs from various parts of the country came together to conduct the affairs of the Fellowship, and to enjoy a football game on the campus. But the meeting was not just for the business of Black and White, as three current students of the university were awarded \$1,000 scholarships from the Groove Fund®. The university's vice president for student

affairs, Mr. Ricardo Perry, welcomed the organization and thanked the Fellowship for its support of the students

Sophomores Brandon Williams of Galveston, NC., Aaron Sinclair of Prince George's County, MD., and Johntell Hinton of Chicago, received certificates of scholarship and congratulations from Groove Phi Groove National President Victor Henderson and several founding members of the organization: Nathaniel Parham Sr.; Barry Hampton; Nathaniel Munroe; Charles Johnson and John Conquest.

The scholarships will be used to defray costs of tuition and books. Also on hand were the president of the Mother Bear Chapter, Fl. Arien Young, and chapter secretary Fl. Joseph Palmer. Fl. Seymour E. Chambers, President of the Baltimore-Columbia Graduate Chapter, and Fl. Jarrett Carter, the chapter secretary were also present for this historic event. It was the first time in the Fellowship's history that such a presentation had been made on a college campus. It was appropriate therefore to make this historical presentation on the campus of Morgan State University...Our Mother Bear Chapter.

Groove Phi Groove National Step Team is here!



by: Fl. Devron Wilson

Acting on a campaign promise to place stronger emphasis on supporting growth in the undergraduate sector of Groove Phi Groove S.F.I., President Fl. Victor Henderson and Vice President Fl. Michael Chang appointed Fl. Devron Wilson of the Westchester Graduate Chapter as National Step Team Coordinator effective September 1, 2007.

The National Step Team has been set in place to supplement the overall new member recruitment efforts of the organization. The nation will use stepping as a vehicle to entertain and educate folks, as well as market GROOVE to the masses.

On Saturday August 25, 2007 in Bronx, NY, auditions were held for any and all brothers in good financial standing with the organization who wanted to become a part of the national step team.

The National Step Team's first performance took place at NCCU Homecoming on Friday October 12, 2007. Look for performances from



the National Step Team at different colleges/universities throughout the 2007-2008 year.

STEP TEAM

- Devron Wilson
- Elliot Guilbe
- Shane Jones
- Ron Taylor
- Gerold Picard
- Crispin Booker
- Napoleon Metelus
- Jonathan St. Jules
- Dakarai Maynard



Wilmington Graduate Chapter of Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship, Inc.

Presents

SCHOLARSHIP BOWLING NIGHT EVENT

FUN FOOD PRIZES

Bowlerama

\$20 Donation

3031 New Castle Ave.
New Castle, Delaware 19720

May 17, 2008
8pm-10pm

More Information Call
George Earley (302) 547-6030
or
Ben Brown (302) 379-6837

Founders Rededicated to Supporting Progress

By Founder Barry Hampton



On Sunday, January 13, 2008, Groove Phi Groove S.F.I. Founders held the first of what we all wholeheartedly agree was the beginning of many to come, conference calls and strategy sessions. There are 13 of us left and 12 participated. Dr. Walter (Goody) Goodwin was with us in spirit but unable to participate because of urgent family matters. We have agreed to meet on Saturday, April 19, 2008, in Baltimore, Maryland on Morgan's campus to discuss Founder issues and also to examine how we can best continue to support our beloved organization in its efforts to move forward in a positive and proactive manner.

We want to state for the record that we applaud Vic Henderson, our National President, and Michael Chang, our Vice-President and all other participating Grooves in their commitment and efforts and we want to assure the Fellowmen that we, your Founders, are stepping up to do our part by supporting and acting in an advisory capacity to your national leaders. It was a wonderful and proud feeling to relive the reflection of Prairie View's rich history of Grooving through Fellowman Paul Stein's story. I know that there are so many powerful and inspiring memories out there just waiting to be recorded that will motivate our young Fellowmen to empower our campuses and communities.

Fellowmen, there were 48 men on that Charter line. What's even more mind-blowing is the fact that Texas Southern, which is in Houston about 90 miles Northeast of Prairie View, had already been established and more than likely that yard boasted just as many or more Groove Phi Men. Also, at that time we had more than eleven chapters in the State of North Carolina alone. From 1966 through 1974, we had to have been pledging at least 2,000 Fellowmen per year. And, that's a low estimate. Morgan State alone had over 100 Fellowmen on its campus in the mid, late sixties.

One of the Founders major concerns is strategizing to move the organization forward and to attract continued, strong undergraduate growth. To assist with the effort of attracting the young men, the Founders have suggested the possibility of hosting the 2012 Conclave (our fiftieth year Anniversary not only just in Baltimore Maryland, but on Morgan's Campus - Mother Bear -WHERE IT ALL STARTED. Local fellowmen are in preliminary discussion with Morgan State University now regarding our goal to bring more than 2000 Grooves to the campus. Morgan plans to build a Hotel which is scheduled to begin construction in late 2008, which means it should be complete in 2012. Additionally, if the conclave is held in August, 2012, Morgan's dorms can accommodate up to 1800 Grooves.

We believe this represents one of many proposed strategies to host a down to earth, less expensive Conclave designed to increase the chances that our youth will participate. It will also bring revenue to an HBCU (re: rooms, meals, hotel, meeting spaces, events, etc.), as opposed to large, luxury hotel chains.



Reconstructing GROOVE History

By Fl. Tony Gass

The History Committee is responsible for constructing the history of this great organization. Towards that end, one of the things the committee hopes to do is acquire an accurate record of the number of men who are legitimately members of this Fellowship. With that being said, I have constructed a Fellowmen Info. Sheet to acquire detailed information that brothers should fill-out as completely and accurately as possible. This information will be added to the appendix of the projected 50th anniversary commemorative book scheduled to appear in 2012. The final deadline is August 31, 2008, the end of the current fiscal year.

*Send the Info Sheet back as an attachment to: Memorex01@gmail.com or Tag6214@hotmail.com. Do not send it anywhere else or to any other person. These two addresses are the only legitimate ones for this information.

Groove Fellowmen

Full Name: _____

Groove Name(s): (Make sure you note all of your names, including those you have given yourself! If it is an acronym, make sure to write out the acronym as well.)

Swanxman Name(s) (if applicable): _____ Line Number: _____

LINE BROTHERS: (Example: Tony "Memorex" Gass)

- # 1: _____ # 6: _____
- # 2: _____ # 7: _____
- # 3: _____ # 8: _____
- # 4: _____ # 9: _____
- # 5: _____ #10: _____

Other Numbers: _____

Name of Line: _____

(Make sure to give all the names of the line. If it is an acronym, write out the whole name. Example: T.A.L.I.B.A.N.=True African Liberated Independent Brotherhood And Nation)

Chapter of Initiation: _____

(Note: If you were on the charter line of a chapter and were initiated by a grad chapter or other undergrad chapter, make sure you note that. Example: Clark College Panther 4 Chapter Charter Line via Tuskegee Tiger I Chapter.)

Exact Date/Year of Initiation: _____

DP/Orientation Coordinator: _____
(provide Groove name as well.)

ADP/Assistant Coordinator: _____

(Same as for DP)

Length of Process: (Be specific as possible.) _____

Current Chapter: _____ Former Chapter(s): _____

Full Address: _____ DOB: _____

Phone(s):(_____) _____

E-Mail Address(es) _____

Hometown: _____

3 Important Questions:

1. To you, what does it mean to be a Groove?: _____
2. What sets Groove apart from the Greeks?: _____
3. What keeps (or has kept) you Grooving?: _____

PENN STATE FELLOWMAN PARLAYS ARTISTIC ABILITY INTO NEW BUSINESS



Fellowman Christopher Fannn(center) and business partners Aaron Maybin(l) and John Norman(right) show some of the paddles they've made for their company, Tru Royalty.

State College, PA—When Fl. Christopher Fann, a senior-philosophy major at Penn State University, and his roommate and business partner John Norman started making customized paddles four or five years ago, their efforts were met with overwhelming support.

Consequently in December of last year, they decided to establish Tru Royalty, a company specializing in custom decoration for paraphernalia.

"Originally, we just

started doing paddles for each other and then we started doing them for friends. It was like, 'OK, our friend just became a member of such and such an organization,' and we'd make a paddle for him in congratulations. It just took off from there," said Fl. Fann who pledged Groove Phi Groove at the Nittany Lion Undergraduate Chapter on the Fall 2003 "Anti-Gravity" Line. "We take our artistic view, we sit down with the person and we discuss what they feel about the fraternity or sorority. We make that come to life on a paddle, and it represents them. It's one-of-a-kind art that's specifically designed for you and the organization that you were inducted into".

According to the owners, Tru Royalty's customized paddles are in demand. Fl. Fann said between himself and his partners, they generate 10 paddle sales per month. Despite the fact that Tru Royalty has technically been established for only a few months, Fann said the company's success reaches outside of its State

College origins.

The company's owners said the paddles are "very cost-effective" and range roughly between \$100 to \$200 depending on the size of the paddle and the artistic design the consumer desires. However, Fann said he is currently working on a 6-foot paddle that is priced at \$1,000.

Both Fl. Fann and Norman are passionate about continuing to expand the business, "This is something that is definitely long-term," Norman said. "Right now, Tru Royalty is standing as a paddle-based company but we have dreams of branching out into clothing, automobiles, hotels -- making it like a figure-head. We definitely plan on becoming larger than we are right now."

The company can be contacted through e-mail at TruRoyaltyEnterprises@gmail.com or via their Facebook.com group.

Your Financial Future

By Fl. H.S. Reed, Jr.



Fl. Reed is author of the motivational book "Find A Way To Make A Way! You're Either Part of the Problem or part of the Solution!" To get a personally autographed copy send an email to HRJR@HRJR-Enterprises.com

One night, I was having a conversation with a young brother who graduated from college about a year or so ago. We were talking about priorities and what things are more important than others in life, and then the conversation shifted into money ... actually I guided it there.

I asked that young brother, "which bills do you pay first?" and he told me that he paid the ones that have the highest interest. Then I asked

him which of his bills had the highest interest, and he told me it was one of his credit cards - which had an overall balance of \$600.00. I then asked him, "Are you more interested in yourself & your future or that credit card company & theirs?" and of course he responded that he was more interested in himself.

I then asked him, "Well, if you pay the bills that have the highest interest and you say you are more 'interested' in yourself & your future than your credit card company, then why aren't you paying yourself before you pay them?" He began to say something, but then he stopped, and then he asked "what do you mean?"

I then began to explain to him - as I shall now explain to you - that if you really want to climb out of your debt and begin to create, at the very least, a strong financial base; and at best, long lasting wealth - you must learn and live by what has been called "The 1st Rule of Gold." That rule?

PAY YOURSELF FIRST!

The average working person works 40 hours a week. The average percentage of monies taken out of their checks for taxes & Social (in)Security, etc. is somewhere between 30% - 35%. That means for every dollar you make, FICA & friends take thirty to thirty-five cents right off the top - before you even see it! That also means that out of an 8 hour work day, you

are working between 2.4 and 2.8 hours to pay FICA & friends.

A great many people who appear to be average next-door type folks are actually millionaires because they follow this simple rule, while a great many people who appear to have all of the floss, gloss, & shine (fancy cars & clothes, big homes) are actually a couple of paychecks away from the soup line because they are not working to support their lives ... they are working to support their lifestyles.

You see when you work to support your life, YOU are your 1 client; however, when you are working to support your lifestyle, you are working to pay other people for the life you live. They take your money (and everyone else's) and make more money on top of more money while you're just left with toys that will someday lose their floss and flair.

The rule of thumb in paying yourself first is to take 10% of your gross income from every paycheck and either save it or invest it. Let's take my brother for example. He's making about \$42K/yr (gross), which comes out to \$1,615.00 per paycheck. If in January, he were to save \$161.50 from every paycheck, by the end of the year he would have saved \$4,199. If he never got a raise for five years but stuck to this rule, by the end of those five years he would have saved \$20,995 (and that's not even taking into consideration the interest he would get if the money were in a savings or investment account).

Right now he's 23 years old. His main concerns are 1 - building good credit, and 2 - being able to buy a home. When I showed him what he would be capable of accomplishing in five years, I then asked him, "how hard of a time do you think you will have securing a loan for a home if you have over \$20K - LIQUID?!"

Now, before you go yelling about how impossible it is to do that let me share with you a few of my personal philosophies ...

1. As long as I owe you- you won't go broke.
2. As long as you are paying your bills your debtors will be satisfied.
3. Your bills are going to always be there until you pay them off.

Imagine having a bill that was \$161.50 a month for a year. The only differences between paying off that bill and paying yourself is that you don't send yourself "a friendly reminder"

every month, and were you to pay yourself that money as though it were a bill, at the end of the year you would have that money to either enjoy or continue to build upon. In short, you would have the one thing that money does guarantee ... options!

So tell me ... which do you prefer ... if you had someone hounding you to pay them, or just make an effort to pay yourself?

Okay ... let's say your bills are such that it's somewhat difficult for you to put aside 10% of your gross pay (Notice I did not say "can't"). Do you smoke? Do you have Starbucks or Dunkin' Donuts every day at work? Do you have lunch at the company cafeteria or the corner deli every day? How much does that cost over the course of a week? Does it cost at least or around \$35 (or more) to fill your gas tank? Better yet ... at the end of every day do you have at least \$5.00 in either in your wallet, purse, or bank account?

If the answer to those questions is yes; as I suspect it is for the majority of you, then what's stopping you from paying yourself \$5.00 a day? What if you paid yourself instead of the tobacco companies & Starbucks and the pizza or deli man? With gas being over \$3.00 a gallon, are you really going to find yourself stranded if you take \$5.00 and put that "gallon & some change" in your pocket instead of that of the oil companies coffers? Personally, I'm stacking my fives with the goal of not touching them until the year 2020 (which will be the year that I turn 50). Not counting interest ... I'm looking at having my hands on over \$21K!

The only way to insure you have a decent financial future is to start laying down the foundation now, and then commit to keep building upon it. On the other hand, if you do nothing now, when then becomes "now" as it always does, you will have nothing but a whole lot of month at the end of the money instead of a whole lot of money at the end of the month! But hey ... the companies you DO pay, they'll be happy. They'll be fat. They will have the thousands of dollars you and the millions of other Americans pay them with having nothing to look forward to but having to pay them again the following month. Is that the future you want for yourself? If so ... you can have it.

I want my financial future "to be so bright, I gotta wear shades!" Remember ... Fortune Favors the Brave!

2008 CIAA - CHARLOTTE GOT ITS "GROOVE ON"

By Fl Romm Thomas

Charlotte, NC-As part of their CIAA Tournament activities, the members of Charlotte Graduate Chapter of Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship, Inc. participated in a neighborhood cleanup with



their chapter sponsored Boy Scout Troop, held a voter registration drive, served shelter residents lunch and still managed to have a good time fellowshiping as well.

We are pleased to report that the efforts included volunteer Fellowmen who are members of Groove Chapters throughout the nation. Other Fellowmen participating included Groove Chapters from Elizabeth City State, Johnson C. Smith, North Carolina Central, North Virginia Graduate, Philadelphia Graduate, South Carolina State, Virginia State, Winston Salem State, Tuskegee University and many others.

If you woke up tomorrow and had nothing to eat, what would you do? The men that frequent the Uptown Men's Shelter would face this issue each day if it wasn't for the North Tryon Street residential facility which houses 248 drug and alcohol free men 18 and over. "People have various opinions about the homeless," said Lawrence Drake, the Charlotte Chapter President who graduated from Johnson C. Smith University (JCSU). "We see men of all races down on their luck. Our participation in this activity is our way

of saying although we are an organization of thriving, professional brothers, we have not forgotten these men who are less fortunate." Groovers not only served, but also shared in social bonding with the 140 residents they



feed on Friday afternoon, February 28th. This was the chapter's second time serving meals at the facility.

"The joy it brought my brothers to spend CIAA tournament time with individuals that may not be as lucky as we are was enlightening," noted Ronn Thomas, a Past National President who resides in Philadelphia. "Throughout the weekend, we continued to discuss the encounter and how good it felt sharing time with people we might not have ever met otherwise".

Troop 1792 of the Boy Scouts was chartered and is sponsored by Groove in our mission to build informed and involved young men. The scouts and members of the Fellowship removed trash along Tuckasegee Road near of the Betty Ray Thomas Community Center, their monthly meeting location, to Freedom Drive and Interstate 85.

"Our participation in this activity is our way of saying we love and support our young men and appreciate our community," said a Charlotte Fellowman who participated. Groovers also held a voter registration drive on Friday at the Convention Center in close

proximity to Steve Harvey's radio broadcast. Johnson C. Smith University Golden Bulls Mens Basketball team's capture of the CIAA Tournament was icing on the cake for the brothers of the Charlotte Graduate Chapter.

Fellowmen fellowshiped and partied with live R&B and Rap entertainers until the early morning each night of the event. Crook and Boardwalk, two up and coming Rap stars, started the week's activities off by performing

at Club Faces on Thursday evening. Pre-Championship night Friday was a night to remember. The Charlotte Graduate Chapter of Swing Phi Swing joined the Brothers in sponsoring the third annual Black and White Tournament Affair. The event, held at the fabulous Café Room, featured a Jazz/R&B trio in one room and a DJ in the other. Folks partied so hard that they bounced the food from the buffet. Rumor has it that the scene was so hot that one table caught on fire.

On Saturday afternoon, the Brothers, Sisters and their guest got their early day "freak" on at the annual tailgate party. The food was hot and the music was 'bumping' or vice versa.

Swings and Grooves attending these events represented: The Carolina's, D.C., Delaware, Georgia, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Tennessee. If you missed this event don't fret, Charlotte has contracted to hold the CIAA Tournament through 2011. Get on down and Groove with us next year.

SCHEDULED AGENDA* 2008 NATIONAL CONCLAVE ITINERARY

Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship, Inc.

Wednesday, July 16, 2008 through Sunday, July 20, 2008

Hilton Americas Houston – 1600 Lamar St., Houston, TX 77010

www.americashouston.hilton.com

Wednesday, July 16 th	
Registration/Vendors	2:00– 6:00 pm
Public Service Event (Health Screening)	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Groove Phi Groove presents "Ladies Night"	8:00 pm – 12:00 am
Red Cat Jazz Cafe	
Hospitality Suite	12:00 am - until
Thursday, July 17 th	
Registration/Vendors	9:00 am – 6:00 pm
Conference Foyer	
Executive Board Meeting	8:00 am – 10:00 am
National Delegates Meeting – 1 st Session	10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Presentation by National President and First National Vice President	10:00 am – 10:30 am
Review strategic vision for next three years – with particular emphasis on Undergraduate growth and raising revenue	
Presentation by Membership Committee	10:30 am – 11:00 am
Chairman Lyndell Senior – Come & find out more information on how we will be increasing financial membership and potentially solidifying a process for Honorary Groove membership	
Presentation by Information Technology Committee	11:00 am – 11:30 am
Chairman Ron Taylor – Check out The Fellowship's New Website. Learn how you can pay National Dues and Chapter Taxes online and much more.	
Presentation by Events Planning Committee	11:30 am – 12:00 pm
Chairman Craig Perry – Get an update on the 2009 Conclave, The Founders' First Annual Golf Classic, The Next Undergraduate Convention and Future National Events	
National Opening Ceremony & National Luncheon	12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
National Delegates Meeting – 1 st Session cont.	1:30 pm – 5:00 pm
(2012 Conclave in Baltimore, IRS Filing Tax Update, Trademark Status Report, Financial Report)	
Auditions for Groove/Swing Idol – pt. 1	5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Line Dancing Lessons	7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
National Bingo tournament	8:30 pm – 9:30 pm
National Pool Party	10:00 pm – 1:00 am Pool Area
Hospitality Suite	1:00 am - until
Friday, July 18 th	
National Golf Tournament	7:00 am – 1:00 pm
Herman Park Golf Course	
Registration/Vendors	9:00 am – 6:00 pm
Conference Foyer	
National Delegates Meeting – 2 nd Session	10:00 am – 6:00 pm
Undergraduate Growth	10:00 am – 11:00 am
Presentation by Community Service Committee	11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Chairman Alex Russell - Come See And Hear About The New Groove Academy and how The Fellowship Is Going To Fulfill Its Purpose Moving Into The 21 st Century	
Lunch Break	12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
Presentation by Finance Committee	1:30 pm – 3:15 pm
Chairman Thomas Hasty – Get more information regarding our new National Fee Structure and the location for our National Headquarters	
Meeting Break	3:15 pm – 3:30 pm
Presentation by History Committee	3:30 pm – 4:00 pm
Chairman Tony Gass - Learn about the Audio and Visual History Recordings, on Founders, Past National Presidents, prior National Conclaves and the goal of publishing our first book on Groove Phi Groove "In Black and White" by our 2012 National Conclave	
Presentation by Constitution Committee	4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Chairman Chris Joyner – Come and vote on draft of newly revised Constitution	
Reception	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Pool Area
Auditions for Groove/Swing Idol – pt. 2	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Houston Graduate Chapter Social Event – Comedy, Jazz & Spoken Word	9:00 pm – 2:00 am
Café 4212	
Hospitality Suite	2:00 am - until
* Prearranged Tours/Shopping	
* Houston Astros vs. Chicago Cubs	7:00 pm
Minute Maid Park	
Saturday, July 19 th	
Registration/Vendors	9:00 am – 6:00pm Conference Foyer
National Prayer Breakfast	10:00 am – 12:00 pm
National Delegates Meeting – 3 rd Session (if nec.)	9:00 am – 12:00 pm
National Seminar (Recruiting, Retention, Fundraising)	9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Three-on-three Basketball tournaments	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Step Show (all orgs invited) ft. Groove/Swing Idol	4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
National Lifetime Members Reception	7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
National Semi-Formal Award Ceremony/Dance	10:00 pm – 2:00 am
Hospitality Suite	2:00 am - until
* Prearranged Tours/Shopping	
* Houston Astros vs. Chicago Cubs	6:00 pm Minute Maid Park
Sunday, July 20 th	
Farewell Social – Until We Meet Again Fellowship	9:00 am – 1:00 pm
* Church Services	
* Houston Astros vs. Chicago Cubs	1:00 pm Minute Maid Park

* Represents activities scheduled to be held outside of the Hotel

This is a preliminary itinerary which is subject to change. All meeting and activities as well as their locations will be shown daily on the hotel monitor

Groove Phi Groove Panther III Prairie View A & M University Charter Line Mau Mau Born October 12, 1973

Continued from cover

Groove." I immediately understood that Dillard was an opportunist and so was I. We were joined at the hip by the desire to be all that we could be. Thus, we took control of the situation and the group of guys that were in the room. As I explained what I had just learned earlier, all were captivated.

As Dillard interviewed those assembled, he asked this little stumpy guy named George, "What would you do for Groove?" He asked him, "Would you jump out the window for Groove?" George got up into the window and acted as if he would jump. We had to stop him. Little did Dillard know that this dude was George "Boogaloo" Nelson. He went on to be our lead Swanxman on the charter line. We grew to be brothers in Groove.

This was the beginning of what would eventually start the swarm of Black and White on the yard - the colors that ruled our world. Before we became Grooves we bonded just as a group of regular guys with a common goal to take over our surroundings by imposing our non-violent will and attitudes in a manner that exhibited growth and maturity from soon to be educated, but regular men. We sought to first get to know ourselves in depth and then we sought to help our college mates and the surrounding community to become more aware.

There was nothing special about any of us. We came from all walks of life and a variety of backgrounds,

but we had talent and individual abilities. There were guys that hung with us for a year and graduated, others that attended just every other semester, but actually the largest majority of us wanted to experience the life of a college man, free of responsibilities except to one's self. We wanted to dream up things that no one before us had done and do it in a big way...do it first.

We were somebody before we found a new identity that we could associate with our natural individualism; when combined with other varied but substantial types of charisma, we created a controlled and energetic vigor to live and experience life to its fullest. That felling gentlemen is what you strive to experience with Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship Incorporated.

Groove is on The Move You see. In order to create a masterpiece, one must have the potential to start. Then, through trial and error, experiences both negative and positive combined with proper attitude guided by humility and God; one can experience and be part of what G Phi G offers - fellowship, brotherhood and an identity that you can relate to in daily life.

By the time that we pledged, we were thirty-nine strong; thirty-eight from PVU and one from TSU-Dwaine K. Taylor. This was the largest charter line of any organization at PV ever. Believe me, as opportunists, we took advantage of what we had created. We were so

versatile and talented. It was amazing. We were dreamers; Dreamers of what we thought college men should and could do; and if it hadn't been done, then we were the men to do it.

We took care of our own. If a brother had a problem in school, there was another brother who would help him out. There was nothing that we couldn't do, because if one couldn't, somebody else could. Thus, that person became the leader for our objective and taught everyone what he needed to know in order to accomplish our objective. We knew each other so well, there was no challenge too big for us. The sky was the limit. We shot for the Moon, but landed at Prairie View.

Groove was right for the times because Prairie View was changing. In the time that PV changed from a college into a university, Groove was responsible for a large percentage of how the college environment and social attitude changed.

Unlike other organizations, we Grooves didn't find the branding of the emblems on our bodies necessary; for once a Groove, always a Groove and our morals and values are etched on the heart forever.

What will you endure for your brother? Will you bump for him or them?" Only a real Groove has the answer to those questions. My charter line brother Dwayne "Dilly Bird" Dillard explained it early in the mid-70's on the yard to those that could adhere to it.

The Call Of Peace And Unity

We must all work together. The world is very different now. Man holds in his hand the power to destroy himself. In the wake of all this, people around the world are turning to God for help.

We cannot forget today that the younger people of the world are on the brink of a changing nation. The call has gone forth in the search for their identities. More than ever before, Black people are facing a new horizon, But, what is happening to the peace, the unity and the brotherhood that we are always talking about?

What happened to the dream of Martin Luther King? What can cause an environment to change from one of peace to one of hate and hostility? It doesn't make any difference where you come from or what club you belong to, in the end the light will shine on unity.

This much we should pledge to God and our forefathers. There can never be any peace as long as Black women talk to Black men out of fear. There can never be any peace as long as Black people use each other as stepping-stones. Can there be any peace while we are causing our own self-destruction?

Living is a once in a lifetime experience. Let every person know that we (G Phi G) will pay any price, bear any burden, support any friend and oppose any foe to assure the success of Prairie View A & M University, Panther III Chapter. Isn't it time for us to start living together in peace? This we do, in the CALL OF UNITY, of all black people in Peace and Unity.

Featured Events:

Wednesday: **Public Service Event** - focused on some important Health topics.

Ladies Night - Groove night at Red Cat Jazz Café with themed drinks. Come and join the brothers as we present Ladies Night and fellowship with various local business contacts. Special Guest Jazz artist for the evening TBD.

Thursday: **Line Dancing Lessons** - Over 25 Line Dancing Lessons will be provided for Free to all Grooves, Swings & their Guest.

Cash Bingo Tournament - All Welcome to come and enjoy the opportunity to be the first to yell out B.I.N.G.O. \$5 per Bingo card / cash prizes awarded for each game.

National Pool Party - Get your swimwear ready and join us for our indoor pool party

Friday: **Comedy/Jazz & Spoken Word** - Eat, Drink and Laugh as we present some of the hottest comedians to keep you entertained for the evening. Enjoy the mellow sounds of some of our greatest past and present Jazz musicians as we introduce some of Groove and Swings' talented Spoken Word Artist.

Saturday: **National Seminar** - Topics of discussion include Chapter Recruiting, Member Retention and Fundraising Ideas

Three on Three Basketball Tournaments - All teams must include at least 1 Groove and 1 Swing. Trophies awarded to winning team.

National Step show ft. Groove & Swing Idol - Come check out the National Groove and Swing Step teams as they compete against step teams from other organizations. Each team will have one judge and no team can vote for their own organization. Cash prize and Trophy awarded to the winning team. In between each step performance the audience will have an opportunity to listen and vote on their favorite Groove and Swing soloist.

National Semi-Formal Award Ceremony/Dance - A Semi-formal award ceremony honoring the brothers and sisters in various chapters for their leadership and involvement within their community.

*Subject to final room changes and modifications, which will be made known at the Conclave.

Online Hotel Reservation information:

Please note that Groove Phi Groove and Swing Phi Swing have a personalized group web page that enables everyone to make their hotel reservations for the upcoming 2008 National Conclave online.

Our web page address is:

<http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/HOUCVHH-1GP-20080716/index.jhtml>

Continental Airline Ticket Discount Information:

The Fellowmen of the South Central Region are please to announce another first for Groove Phi Groove and Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship, Inc., **Continental Airlines** has agreed to be the official airlines for the **2008 Houston Conclave**. Houston is one of three hubs that Continental has and because of that it also has the most non-stop flights into Houston from most cities in the United States.

Beginning immediately you will be able to confirm your air travel arrangements through Continental Airlines and receive a five percent (5%) to eighteen percent (18%) discount. When you make your reservation, go online to www.continental.com and enter our **Offer Code: ZDKVANWTLP** in the Offer Code box when searching for your flights. If booking through a travel professional or through Meeting Works at 800-468-7022, please give them the following information:

Agreement Code: ANWTLP Z Code: ZDKV **Additional fees will apply.**

Keep in mind the sooner you make your arrangements the greater the possibility you will receive a lower fare than waiting until the last minute. We will have additional discount information for groups of 10 or more traveling from the same city on the same flight as soon as it becomes available. *There is a possibility that we may have additional information regarding discounts for other airlines shortly.

Please also note that there are two main airports for Houston (George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) and Houston William P. Hobby Airport (HOU)). George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) is approximately 20 miles from the Hilton Americas Houston Hotel. Houston William P. Hobby Airport (HOU) is approximately 10 miles from the Hilton Americas Houston Hotel.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

NYC Walks to Fight AIDS On May 18, 2008

New York-The Fellowmen of New York State will be participating in the annual AIDS Walk NY, a powerful and inspiring day in Central Park and on the streets of New York City. On May 18, 2008, we will walk to remember those we have lost, we will walk to help our friends, family and fellow New Yorkers who are affected by HIV/AIDS, and we will walk to show our never-ending determination to end AIDS. Fellowmen nationwide are encouraged to support this very worth while community service endeavor. It would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to make a donation online or join our team. Go here to register:

1. <https://www.kintera.org/faf/r/default.asp?ievent=262058&lis=1&kntae262058=F5C2126A16B94AAE946C95A93CDD2ADB>
2. Join a team
3. Select Groove Phi Groove 2777
4. Fill out form If you desire further information contact Fellowman Vance (Zubari) Carroll@Mista_Bari@yahoo.com



Supporting Our Youth



Newark NJ - Nine years ago, the New Jersey Graduate Chapter of Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship, Inc. decided that the time was right for us to begin adhering to the preamble of our organization's by laws; "To promote academic awareness, good ethical standards, and unity among graduate and college men; to create intelligent and effective leadership, and to study and help alleviate the social and economic problems concerning society in order to improve the stature of mankind. As of last year, we are proud to say that we

have assisted a total of 27 young men in their pursuit of higher education by way of scholarship awards. We do hope that you will join us for our 9th annual jazz luncheon at 12:00 PM on Sunday, June 8 2008 at the Robert Treat Hotel, 50 Park Place, Newark, NJ tickets are \$45.00. For more info. call 973-666-1251 or email Kbrown9899@aol.com

Atlanta GA - Fl. Kevin "Smoke" Miller, who was inducted into the Fellowship at South Carolina State's Bulldog II Chapter and is an active member of the Stone Mountain Graduate Chapter, has stepped up in a commitment to mentor young Black men by serving as head coach for several years at the Ambassador Walter Andrew Young YMCA. Miller led his fall 2007-2008 team of 9 to 10 years old Timberwolves to an impressive seven win/one loss record season.



Bronx NY - In the spirit of Christmas/Kwanza "Gift Giving Season", The Westchester Graduate Chapter has for the last three years sought to make the holidays a little more special for youth of our community by treating them to a Kris Kringle party highlighted with a special surprise visit from Santa. This year on Friday, December 14th, 2007, we sponsored two classes at Public School 168 and provided toys for 93 autistic students. Every student received a gift, handed to them by Santa Claus and his lil helpers. As an added bonus, The Big Apple City Undergrad Chapter of Groove Phi Groove S.F.I., as well as our sisters at the Tri-State Graduate Chapter of Swing Phi Swing S.F.I., lent a helping hand in the true nature of the holidays.



Detroit MI - On October 25th the Detroit Graduate Chapter, through a relation with IC Datacom, was able to donate a brand new computer to a very needy and deserving family. Miss Shirley Knight was overwhelmed and filled with joy at the generous donation. Miss Knight's 14 year old son, Jordan Knight, suffers from Down Syndrome. Ms. Knight said, "This computer will aid my son in developing his fine motor skills". Fellowmen that were on site to deliver the computer on behalf of the Chapter were Quandry Staley, Craig Muhammad and Terence Willis. The computer donation to the needy has become an annual community service project of the chapter.

Bowie MD-The Bulldog I Chapter at Bowie State University, in conjunction with the Prince George's County Grad Chapter, is hosting a MID-ATLANTIC STEP COMPETITION on Saturday April 26th at Bowie State University. There is a \$500 prize for 1st place (for both male and female) and a \$250 prize for 2nd place. The start time is scheduled for 7 p.m. The competition is open to all organizations, including Groove and Swing Chapters, college based intake organizations, African Step/Dance Teams and Church and High School Step Teams. This is the first major event since the reconstituting of Bulldog I and we are pre-planning to make it a success. Any questions should be referred to Fl. Wendell C. Fuller at wcfuller@gmail.com

FELLOWSHIP



Grambling LA- The Tiger 5 Chapter at Grambling State University is hosting a Tiger 5 Reunion on April 25 and 26. All brothers are invited to come down and party with the infamous chapter. There will be a concert, stepshow performance, B-B-Q and house party going on during the week-end of April 25-27. Any questions you may contact (Fl. Total Package) at 504.994.8859 or 254.833.0484.

Join The Distinguished Gentlemen From
The Northern Virginia Graduate Chapter of
Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship Inc.
for their 4th Annual Scholarship Dance...

**The End of May
Spectacular**

The Masonic Temple

1000 U ST. NW

Washington, D.C. 20001

May 31, 2008

10:00 pm until 2:00 am

Food, OPEN BAR, Door Prizes, Raffles

Admission: \$45

TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

TICKET INFO:

Daryl Payden: (202) 641-8153

Marvin Stewart: (703) 606-6989

Alfred Bunaugh, Jr.: (703) 932 5717

ENTERTAINMENT



**Fellowman
Travis**

"Notorious" Smith got his groove on as he worked the runway sporting Sean John evening wear on BET's RIP THE R.U.N.W.A.Y which originally aired on March 4th 2008. Keep an eye out on the fashion scene for the Westchester Grad Groover who pledged Summer 2000 at the Big Apple City Undergraduate Chapter.

GROOVERS ON THE MOVE

POLITICS



Irvington, NJ- Fl. Gene E. Etchison has be an active member of the New Jersey Graduate Chapter since his induction on August 12, 1999. He is currently running

for the office of North Ward Councilman in the Township of Irvington, NJ. May 13, 2008 is the day of election. It will mean a great deal to Gene if Fellowman would reach out to the brother to offer individual expressions of encouragement and support by calling him at 973-819-3823. or emailing poundpup63@aol.com

SPORTS



Dover, Delaware,- Fellowman Art Tyson was recently appointed as Delaware State University's first Director of Operations after six seasons as a Hornet assistant basketball coach. Prior to joining the Delaware State staff, Tyson served two years as Director of the Boys and Girls Club of Durham, NC. He also served as head girls basketball coach at Durham High School.

Fl. Tyson pledged Groove Phi Groove at North Carolina Central University in the Spring of 1984 on the "Knights of Dawn". He was a Step Master for Eagle 1 Chapter. He earned four letters as a member of Central's basketball team from 1980 to 1984. and was starting point guard his last three seasons. Fl. Tyson earned a bachelor's in Therapeutic Recreation from North Carolina Central in 1984, and is currently pursuing a master's degree. Fl. Tyson, a Washington, DC native was a scholastic all-star at Spingarn High School in Washington, DC. He helped lead the school to a national number one ranking, and competed in the 1980 U.S. High School All-Star Game in Akron, Ohio.

