

OMICRON-PSI E-NEWSLETTER

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April 2003

THE DARWIN FOUNDATION

The Darwin Foundation is set up as a group of graduated Omicron-Psi members whose exemplary lives continue to live up to our requirements of service and honor. These students are chosen every year and serve a one year term on the Darwin Foundation. Their purpose is to review all the scholarship essays and individually score them on a scale of one to ten.

These scores are submitted to the national office and, when calculated, determine who the scholarship recipients will be for the upcoming school year.

The name of our Darwin Foundation board members will not be released until final decisions on scholarships are made. When they receive the essays there will be no reference to names and Colleges/Universities from the essay authors. The need for non-preferential treatment is very important and lends to the integrity of the Foundation.

Each member of the Darwin Foundation will also not know, or be informed, as to how the other members are scoring the essays. Each member will not discuss with any other member any

essay submitted for review.

Someday you may be called to serve on the Darwin Foundation board for a year's term. It will be with the recommendation of your former College/University Advisor. I hope that you will accept the position.

If any current advisors know of any graduating member of Omicron-Psi who lives the Omicron-Psi life and would like to make a recommendation of one of your students, please email or call our office with their name.

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An Omicron-Psi Member Passes On

Toni S. Kania formerly of Barrington Memorial services for Toni S. Kania (nee Romanowski), 46, of Huntley, will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 647 Dundee Ave., Barrington. Born March 24, 1957, in Chicago, she passed away suddenly Monday, March 24, 2003, at home. Toni was a health insurance

broker at Industrial Insurance Agency in Inverness. She was a member of St. Michael's Episcopal Church, where she was active with the Hispanic Ministries and taught Sunday School. She also enjoyed crafts and playing the piano. She is survived by her son, Steven of Huntley; mother, Clara Speckman of Huntley; sister,

Ellen Haim of Aurora; brother, Robert of Berwyn; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father, John; and brother-in-law, Walter Haim. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Church of the Advent, Logan Square Ministries, 2610 N. Francisco Ave., Chicago, IL 60647.

Special points of interest:

- Omicron-Psi has a new Web Site.
- Omicron-Psi has created a new member certificate.
- Membership dues now include honor cords.
- All newsletter will be quarterly with news updates on the web site.

WHAT MAKES A PERSON GREAT BY WILLIAM JOHNSON

What makes a person great? A great person rises from diversity and failure to achieve incredible goals. A great person does not let disappointments and pain overcome their objectives. I myself have been through many hardships and have not let the undesirable demons of society overtake my positive direction.

Greatness comes from within. If one does not feel an importance in what they are accomplishing, then their time and effort may seem fruitless.

I have been working with juvenile delinquents since 1991 and I have seen many succeed as well as many die. I try to guide a juvenile into a positive direction, but their environment is a large contributor to their decision making process. I define environment as not just their physical surroundings, but also their family (structure, rank, etc.) how parents raise their children, and their peers. Juveniles need role models other than 2-Pac, Marilyn Manson, Allen Iverson, DMX, and so on. Yes, they are role models, but juveniles need positive role models in today's society.

What is a positive role model? Someone who takes pride in their work; someone that is proud of themselves rather they succeed or not; someone

who respect society's rules and someone that is conscience of others needs and wants. I plan to contribute to society by staying a positive role model for the trouble youths in our society.

I am a black man with a military background, college educated, and a respectable job. On the other hand, I grew up in the housing projects. I watched dope attics and pimps control the streets and observed my friends

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admire their defiance towards society. I did the opposite; I disagreed with their ways and vowed to make my life as well as others positive towards society.

My main contribution will be more involvement with today's youths; especially the ones that do not have the proper guidance to succeed in life. I will help parents become more aware of their child's needs not wants. I will be

more involved with the church and try to convince the youths as well as their parents to attend on a regular basis. I will also listen to what a child has to say. Too many adults today ignore youths until it is too late. I will listen and advise youths to take the proper path in order to stay out of the juvenile and maybe the adult system. The most important thing is just to be there.

Scholarship Tips

When filling out a scholarship application please include the name and address of your College or University. Do not however place your name or College/University on the actual essay. Scholarships are solely based on the essay and complete animosity is required.

William Albert Johnson

*William attended California University of PA.
His college and community activities include:
FBI Adopt-A-School Program
McKeesport Collaborative—Hold Teen Dances
Boys & Girls Club McKeesport—Sports with Juveniles*



NEW MEMBER CERTIFICATE DESIGN

After many attempts at new designs, we are proud to announce that a new gold/blue foil stamped member certificate has been created. We are expecting them to be off the presses and into our office by the end of January 2003. So those individuals applying for membership in 2003 will be receiving these certificates. We are sure you will be as proud of them as we are.

Welcome New Chapters

We are privileged to introduce to you our newest Omicron-Psi Chapters

- Tusculum College, Greeneville, TN 37745, Carolyn Gregg
- University of Texas—Pan America, Edinburg, TX 78539, Grethel Gutierrez
- Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717, Brenda York
- Wilberforce University, Wilberforce, OH 45384, Karen Preston
- LeMoyne-Owen College, Memphis, TN 38126, Michael Minor
- Chicago State University, Chicago, IL 60628, Humberto Rivera
- Nyack College Adult Degree Completion Program, Nyack NY 10960, Andrea Hennessey
- Simmons College, Boston, MA 02115, Jennifer Thompson
- Olivet College, Olivet MI 49076, Pamela Gleave
- University of Tampa, Tampa, FL 33606, Michael Stone

Please feel free to welcome the new chapters. We are always here to help with any questions for problems. We know that the new web site has many tools that one can use for your college, but learning new things take a little bit of time. We have designed this web site to be user friendly so log on and click away.

The Message Box

Now you can send a message to your students by logging in on www.omicronpsi.com and clicking on edit. Scroll down to find a message box. Anything that you type here will show up under your University/College info for your student to see. Here you can put dates for deadlines and induction ceremonies. If you are handling applications on campus only, let your students know who they can contact and where they can pick up an application.

Remember only advisors can approve members applications both online and on campus. Online just log in and approve. By clicking on the name of the applicant you will see all their application information. Just copy for your records.

You can always call for any help at 605-329-2496 or email us at omicron@hdc.net.



Think Spring

WHAT IS INCLUDED WITH OMICRON-PSI MEMBERSHIP

We have always been proud of the fact that in spite of rising prices all around us we were able to keep our original membership price the same. The original membership dues were \$25 which included the pin and certificate. Many students ordered the honor cords separately for \$14.90, which included shipping.

We are happy to now include the honor cords with the membership pin and membership certificate for a

new membership dues amount of \$35. It makes less work for us and less cost to you.



We had already updated our Honor Cords to a gold metallic rope with a deep blue cord to make the set correspond with our blue/gold colors.

A silver metallic is also available for the two year colleges. If you should already be a member and not have your honor cords you will still be able to purchase them on line for the original price including a small handling charge. We are able to take charge cards online through a safe and secure site.

NATIONAL OMICRON-PSI HONOR SOCIETY

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WE ARE NOT JUST ANOTHER HONOR SOCIETY

Omicron-Psi members are dedicated to becoming active participants in community activities. We recognize the need to reach out and make the difference in our homes and neighborhoods. As members we continually press on towards a higher purpose. That purpose is one that lies outside of ourselves and reaches into the depths of others. Too many in our society have taken a non-involvement nap yet awoken just long enough to complain about the environment in which they are a part of. We assess the needs of our environment and take an active position in helping others. It is important to become part of the solution, to remain inactive is to remain part of the problem.

Always keep in mind that Omicron-Psi stands for honor, honesty, integrity and service. As an Omicron-Psi Chapter you are dedicating yourself to continually encourage your chapter members to live by Omicron-Psi standards of conduct in every aspect of their lives.

Be dedicated to become the example for future generations.

We are on the Web.
www.omicronpsi.com

God Bless America



Omicron-Psi symbolizes honor and service. We want to take this opportunity to let our service men and women know that we stand behind you and appreciate your service for our country and for the people you are liberating in Iraq. You are all truly heroes and fulfill all Omicron-Psi requirements for service honors. Our prayers are with you for your safety and speedy return home. May God truly bless you and your families.