

Polemarch's Welcome

Brothers All,

As we approach the end of the summer months and as I submit my Polemarch's Welcome for this edition of the Hamer Observer, it is truly a bitter sweet moment. Over the course of this past summer, we have had the opportunity to fellowship at various leisure events and fundraisers. We all were also able to handle our Kappa Business and enjoy each other's company at our 83rd Grand Chapter Meeting in Orlando. But in the midst of all the summer fun, travelling, Kappa business and fellowship, our community – both local and the larger global community, has called us into action to help, aid and assist them as a chapter of civic minded men!!!.

We have adopted the stance of IHQ, NEP and several other chapters on the local levels, to support our Fraternity Brother Colin Kaepernick in his struggle to bring awareness to racial bias an injustice within this country. His silent protest of "Taking The Knee", which has sparked great controversy was met with backlash and in some instances have caused derision and scorn throughout the country for Brother Kaepernick. It may or may not even be an underlying cause as to why he has not been signed to a professional sports team within the NFL. I am pleased to say that we as a chapter, in conjunction with the other Metro Chapters within the city and other like minded organizations, were able to come together and collectively voice our concerns for the direction that the country is going and also show our support for our Brother Colin Kaepernick through our participation in the "United we Stand" rally in front of the NFL's Headquarters.. We showed our solidarity and also registered our intention to bring awareness to social injustice and help to eradicate it wherever possible. I ask

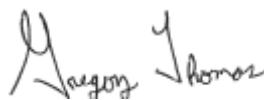
Brothers to not let the momentum that we have gained start to dissipate. Let us feed off of that energy and put it into our Kappa League Programs and also aid not just our Kappa Leaguers, but all of the youth in the communities that we serve by facilitating "Learn To Live" programs within any and every school that will afford us the opportunity to present the program to our youth and show them how to deal with life as it happens here in their neighborhoods.

The past week of storms and flooding as a result of Hurricane Harvey have sent the country into a high alert frenzy to aid and assist the thousands of people that have been affected by anything from days of heavy rain, to flooded streets and homes submerged under water. As members of Kappa and NYA – we must answer this call to service as well. IHQ has created a vehicle in which we can donate funds that will help those affected by this terrible Hurricane that for now does not seem to be letting up anytime soon.

During this fraternal year, our community will need Kappa and NYA to work within our Social Action purview with a fervor and zeal that will match the hardships and severity of the times that we as a global community are now being faced with. Brothers – our community needs us. Now is the time for our Social Action efforts to continue to be of top quality and substance, to be impactful and to be empowering to our community. I look forward to doing the good works of service, love and charity with you in this year to come.

In Service To The Community... I faithfully remain...

Yours in the Bond,



Brother Gregory D. Thomas Polemarch

