

## THE BEGINNING OF A G.R.E.A.T. LEGACY



### Introducing Gamma Alpha Gamma

"It hasn't been easy. At times it gets more difficult, but it's a great experience, and I wouldn't change it for anything." That's what Davon Lewis, the president of one of the newest chapters, says regarding being a part of it.

Gamma Alpha Gamma is chartered at USC Upstate in Spartanburg, SC, and began in the fall of 2007. The six charter members are Toraze Green, Kareem Johnson, Brenton Pringle, Eugene Wade Jr., Davon Lewis, and Dierrias Booker. With only being a year old this Fall 2008 it seems as if they are older in Sigma.

"In regards to it not being easy, I would love to have an older brother in Sigma on my campus to talk to, and to answer questions for me," Davon clarifies. The closest Sigma chapter to Spartanburg, would be Omicron Lambda of Clemson University, which played a part to help start the chapter, and the chapter at Presbyterian College which got reactivated in the Spring of 2008 itself, a semester after G.A.G. started. "Omicron Lambda has been a lot of help when it comes to answering questions about the business of Phi Beta Sigma, and concerns regarding our chapter. So has Alpha Tau Alpha at Lander University and the graduate chapter Alpha Lambda Sigma of Greenville SC. But it's nothing like having that big brother on campus, in your own chapter, which is why I show much love to our first initiates of Gamma Alpha Gamma and try to give them what we didn't have, while at the same time being new to Sigma myself."

While only being a year old it seems as if everything has tried to come and break the new bond that these brothers have made, and to break the vision of the chapter and the chapter president. From dispositions, to outside influences and interferences, these brothers have been through it. This chapter in this year has learned more from experience than being taught. They have seen first hand what to do and what not to do, this is not something that was passed down to them. There are no lessons for them to learn, there is no short cuts for them to take, but to go through it and learn it for themselves. So that it can be passed down to their future members.

Even though it's been difficult, it feels so good to know that they have an influence on the future of there chapter, for example they make the name and tagline of the chapter that will be known by future chapter members, "G.R.E.A.T. Gamma Alpha Gamma." They also start most Annual programs that will be repetitive every year and get better as the years to come. It's the little things like that that makes it worth the struggle. "It's also been fun to meet and take pictures with other charter members of Sigma and they are twenty plus years older than we are, and the fact that frat our age take pictures with us just because we are charter members of a chapter." All of that out weighs the hardship of dealing with the Administration of USC Upstate to make sure the chapter, is recognized by the school, and everything else that has to be done to make sure that Gamma Alpha Gamma lives on.

The charter members and the first initiates now are making a collaborative effort to build a face for there chapter, and lay the foundation, so that when they do graduate and leave, Gamma Alpha Gamma will stand strong and grow for many years to come.

Written By Davon Lewis.