



# BETA BOULÉ HOSTS CENTRAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE AMID FIREWORKS



**Opening night at the Adler Planetarium: Immediate Past Sire Archon William Jones, Grand Sire Archon Cornell Leverette Moore, Regional Sire Archon Melvin Johnson, guest speaker Congressman Danny Davis and Beta Sire Archon Joseph E. Moore**

**B**etaBoulé of Chicago, celebrating its centennial, hosted the nineteenth Biennial Central Region Boulé Conference at the downtown Hyatt Regency Chicago Hotel July 5-8. Delta Alpha of Northern Illinois and Delta Sigma of South Suburban Chicago cohosted the conference, which enabled attendees to explore Chicago during the Fourth of July weekend.

Archon Warrick Carter, president of Columbia College, hosted a pre-confer-

ence welcome at his residence. Grand Sire Archon Cornell Leverette Moore and Regional Sire Archon Melvin Johnson, along with other national and regional officers and their Archousai, attended the intimate event. The official commencement of the regional conference was held at the Adler Planetarium on the lakefront of downtown Chicago. Beta Sire Archon Joseph E. Moore and Beta Immediate Past Sire Archon William Jones, who was chair-



**Archon William Cousins, Archon Roland Burris, guest speaker Lieutenant Governor Pat Quinn of Illinois, Archon Kenneth Smith and Beta Sire Archon Joseph E. Moore at the gala dinner and dance**



**The induction of new officers for the Central Region: Chapter David Woodbury, Agogos John Peck, Sire Archon-Elect William Jones, Sire Archon Hancy Jones, Grand Sire Archon Cornell Leverette Moore, Regional Sire Archon Melvin Johnson, Thesauristes Ralph Smithers, Grammateus Peyton Hutchinson and Rhetoricos Craig Coney**



**Archon John Rogers and Grand Sire Archon Cornell Leverette Moore at Ariel Capital offices**



**Regional Sire Archon Melvin Johnson presents the one-hundredth-anniversary cake to Beta Sire Archon Joseph E. Moore.**



**Sigma Pi Phi youths coming from Navy Pier fireworks with their chaperones from the Jane Addams Hull House**

man of the conference-planning committee, welcomed Central Region Archons and Archousai. The opening-night special guest speaker was U.S. congressman Danny Davis of the Seventh Congressional District of Illinois, who spoke to an opening crowd of approximately 250 people feasting on food and fireworks.

In keeping with the conference theme – “Enhancing and Strengthening Our Building Blocks for Success” – the focus of the second day was a wealth-building seminar hosted by Archon John Rogers at the Mid-America Club atop the Aon Center. Archon Rogers is the founder, chairman and CEO of Ariel Capital Management, LLC. The fourteenth-largest money-management firm in Chicago, the company has more than \$15.5 billion in assets managed through Ariel Mutual Funds. The seminar’s master of ceremonies was Archon Darrell Jackson of Northern Trust Corp., who was also the conference’s fund-raising chairman. As part of the seminar, Delta Alpha Archon Robert Jordan, a WGN-TV news anchor and reporter, interviewed Archon Rogers about economic issues and investment advice. Archon Rogers also discussed how Sigma Pi Phi members can leverage their individual wealth building into progress for the entire African American community.

Archon Moore moved the discussion into how Sigma Pi Phi needs to focus on the young-adult children of Boulé members by giving them more career guidance and encouraging greater leadership development. As part of that focus, he announced a new initiative, the Sigma Pi Phi Young Adult Career Symposium (YACS), which will take place in Denver June 27–29, 2008, at the Grand Boulé. The seminar was followed by more than an hour of questions and answers. Afterward, Archon Rogers graciously invited the entire audience to tour Ariel Mutual Fund’s corporate office.

While the wealth-building seminar was in session, Archon Guy Summers hosted a round of golf at the noted Ruffled Feather Golf Course in suburban Lemont, Illinois. Winners



**Past regional officers receiving gifts of appreciation from Regional Sire Archon Melvin Johnson: Central Region Sire Archon-Elect Nancy Jones; Agogos Lester Smithers; Archon Howard Patton, chairman of the audit committee; Grammateus Peyton Hutchinson; Regional Sire Archon Melvin Johnson; Rhetoricos Cordell Henderson; Thesauristes Ralph Smithers; Immediate Past Sire Archon Howard Bond; and Immediate Past Sire Archon William Jones, chairman of the social-action committee**

and losers in various categories were noted at the brunch on the last day of the conference.

Under the watchful eye of Delta Sigma Archon Bradley Byrd and counselors from the Jane Addams Hull House of Chicago, the children who attended the conference were engaged in their own activities, ranging from an afternoon watching the White Sox play the Minnesota Twins to visiting the Chicago Children's Museum. The youth activities culminated in a fireworks display at Navy Pier.

The third day of the conference, more than 200 Archons and Archousai were treated to a performance of *The Color Purple* at the Cadillac Palace Theatre, courtesy of Ariel Mutual Funds, which is the lead sponsor of the national tour of Oprah Winfrey's production. The day was capped by the evening gala dinner and dance at the Hyatt Regency, featuring guest speaker Pat Quinn, the lieutenant governor of Illinois. At the dinner, Archon Jones was inducted as the Sire Archon-Elect of the Central Region. Archon Johnson presented Archon Moore with a cake to commemorate Beta's centennial. Later Delta Alpha Immediate Past Sire Archon Clifford Hurd presided over the bar in the Monarch hospitality suite of the Hyatt Regency. The suite, headquarters for Archon Johnson, was a late-night oasis throughout the conference.

On the final day of the conference, Archon Richard Tolliver, with the assistance of Archon Kenneth Smith, presided over eulogies for departed Archons and Archousai. At the conference's farewell brunch, attendees promised to meet again at the Central Region Boulé Conference, which will be hosted by Upsilon in Charleston, West Virginia, in the summer of 2009.

*Archon Hilton Clark  
Grapter, Beta Boulé*



**Regional Sire Archon Melvin Johnson and his Archousa, Ann**



**Delta Alpha Immediate Past Sire Archon Clifford Hurd bartending at the hospitality suite**



**Certificates of appreciation for conference-committee members: Delta Sigma Sire Archon Mamon Powers, Delta Alpha Sire Archon Kenneth Mimes, Delta Alpha Immediate Past Sire Archon Clifford Hurd and Beta Sire Archon Joseph E. Moore**



# NORTHEAST REGION HOLDS BIENNIAL CONFERENCE



**G**amma Iota Boulé of Rochester, New York, hosted the Northeast Region's seventeenth Biennial Conference the weekend of September 28–30. In keeping with the theme "Living Well – Fortifying Your Physical and Fiscal Health," the program included a robust portfolio of athletic activities, a public forum on health-care disparities, and a panel for the Archousai featuring experts on personal health and financial well-being. Gamma Iota Archons James H. Norman and Dale K. Trott cochaired the golf-and-tennis committee; Archousai Brenda Caine and Shirl Clark cochaired the committee for Archousai activities.

Early arrivals were able to enjoy a golf outing at Cobblestone Creek Country Club. Those desiring a bit more sleep were able to take a later bus tour, which highlighted the historical aspects of Rochester, where Frederick Douglass lived for more than two decades and published his weekly newspaper, *The North Star*. Other preconference activities included a tennis clinic at the Midtown Athletic Club, a food-and-wine tasting at the New York Wine & Culinary Center, and wagering at the Finger Lakes Gaming & Racetrack.

The Friday-evening reception featured music by Mel Henderson and Paradigm Shift and a welcome by Gamma Iota Sire Archon Kenneth D. Bell. After dinner, Archon Bell introduced Garth Fagan, the founder and artistic director of Garth Fagan Dance, whose many awards include a 1998 Tony Award for best choreography for *The Lion King*. The dancers dazzled their audience with performances that drew upon modern dance, ballet and Afro-Caribbean traditions.

At the opening ceremony on Saturday morning, after Rochester mayor Robert Duffy welcomed conference attendees to his city, Sire Archon Bell introduced the grand officers in attendance: Sire Archon Cornell Leverette Moore of Omicron; Immediate Past Grand Sire Archon Charles C. Teamer, Sr., of Alpha Alpha; Grand Grammateus Peyton Williams, Jr., of Kappa; and Grand Grapier Khephra Burns of Alpha Sigma. Regional Sire Archon Raiford C. Cockfield of Delta Nu delivered a welcoming address in which he displayed a self-deprecating sense of humor much enjoyed by the audience. Archon Matthew Augustine, the conference chairman, introduced Archon Michael Finney, former president and CEO of Greater Rochester Enterprise, who spoke about creating wealth in today's environment. He challenged Archons and Archousai to stop working for money and to begin putting money to work.



Archon Moore began the business meeting with invigorating remarks, during which he acknowledged the contributions that Archons from the Northeast Region have made to grand committees. He singled out Archon Phillip Byrd of Gamma for his outstanding work on the technology committee and on the redesign of the Grand Boulé Web site. Archon Moore noted that Sigma Pi Phi now has 3,970 active members, an increase of more than 300 since 2003. The growth in active members, however, has been outstripped by the growth in inactive and delinquent members. He challenged the member boulés to create programs and articulate visions that will engage and inspire extraordinary men.

The following officers were elected:

- Regional Rhetoricos Overton was elected Regional Sire Archon-Elect.
- Archon Phillip E.B. Byrd, Jr., was elected Regional Grammateus.
- Archon Caine was reelected Regional Thesauristes.
- Archon Theos D. McKinney III of Alpha was elected Regional Grapter.
- Howard Blanchette of Beta Beta was elected to continue as Regional Agogos.
- Andrew Strother of Beta Tau was selected as Regional Rhetoricos.

While the business session proceeded, Archousai were invited to attend an exclusive luncheon program. Archousai Brenda Caine and Shirl Clark welcomed the other Archousai as they entered the luxurious, beautifully restored Inn on Broadway. In the ballroom, Archousai were treated to a dynamic panel, "Living Well: Fortifying Your Physical and Fiscal Health," whose overriding message was that they must reduce stress in their lives and the lives of their families by implementing a strong program of financial, emotional and spiritual balance. Archousa Sherry Tshibangu introduced the panel members:

- Dr. Lanette Brown-Ledbetter, an expert on overweight and obesity in African American women who is affiliated with Medical Associates of Rochester;
- Winsome Carter, a financial adviser with Citigroup Smith Barney;
- Kathryn Castle, Ph.D., an assistant professor of psychiatry and pediatrics at the University of Rochester Medical Center, whose research focuses on the



**Grand Sire Archon Cornell Leverette Moore and Archousa Wenda Moore**



**Archon Moore swears in the new regional officers.**



**Immediate Past Sire Archon Charles C. Teamer, Sr., waves to the crowd.**



**Grand Grapter Khephra Burns and Archousa Susan L. Taylor**



**Sire Archon Kenneth D. Bell presents a plaque to Archon Michael Finney.**



**Archon Hoffman Moka Lantum opens the health-disparities forum.**



**Regional Sire Archon Raiford C. Cockfield displays his sense of humor.**



**The gospel choir Akoma performs at the memorial service.**



identification of risk and protective factors for depression and suicidal behavior in young African Americans;

- The Reverend Vera Evans Miller, the first black female pastor of Genesee Baptist Church;
- Jacqueline Sinclair-Parker, a financial adviser with Merrill Lynch.

The Saturday-afternoon session was kicked off with a “Community Forum on Health Disparities in the USA,” moderated by Gamma Iota Archon Hoffman Moka Lantum of Excellus BlueCross BlueShield. More than fifty Archons and Archousai, along with twenty-five people from the community, including the director of public health for Monroe County, attended the well-received forum. The program featured three guest speakers:

- Gamma Archon Thomas LaVeist – the William C. and Nancy F. Richardson Professor of Health Policy at Johns Hopkins University, and director of the Morgan-Hopkins Center for Health Disparities Solutions at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health – addressed the question, “Does economic status protect African Americans from health disparities?” The answer was an overwhelming no. He demonstrated the link between the four great disparities (health, education, wealth and criminal justice) and argued that institutionalized inequities have set black Americans back thirty to forty years in comparison with white people.
- Vivian Lewis, M.D. — professor of obstetrics and gynecology and associate dean of faculty development for women and diversity at the University of Rochester School of Medicine – talked about the challenges and opportunities that medical institutions face in addressing health disparities. She emphasized the need for better training of diverse candidates across the medical specialties.
- Wade Norwood, director of community engagement at the Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency, discussed health disparities in upstate New York, along with local initiatives to close the gaps.

Later Saturday afternoon, Archon Aaron Turpeau of Kappa moderated a vigorous dialogue between the Grand Boulé’s



growth-and-expansion committee and the Archons in attendance, who ranged from grand officers to recently inducted members. A rigorous screening and orientation process, it was noted, is key to reducing the list of inactive Archons. One recommendation: The chairman of the membership council and the sponsoring Archon should have a frank conversation with each candidate – after he has been voted in but before induction – about the Boule’s expectations for him. Another observation was that the first criterion for evaluating prospective members should be quality; growth of the membership is secondary. Finally, Archon Turpeau emphasized that each member-boulé meeting must be an enjoyable occasion and cannot be perceived as just another meeting.

In the lobby outside the meeting rooms, Gamma Iota sponsored a juried art exhibition, Black Experiences in America, featuring African American and Afro-Caribbean artists from upstate New York. Gamma Iota Archon James G. Pappas, a distinguished artist who cofounded the Langston Hughes Center for the Visual and Performing Arts in Buffalo, was head of the jury. Throughout the conference Archons and Archousai were uplifted and invigorated as they paused to admire the artworks.

A highlight of Saturday evening was the black-tie dinner dance at which Archon Moore swore in the new regional officers. Regional Sire Archon James E. Cofield, Jr., of Beta Beta acknowledged the fine work of his successor and made brief remarks about his aspirations for the region. Archons and Archousai then danced the night away to the sounds of the Dimension Band.

The final day of the conference began with the memorial service. Rochester-based Akoma, an all-female gospel choir, set a deeply spiritual tone with several transcendent hymns. The choir’s name, which comes from the Akan language, means patience, endurance, consistency and faithfulness. The memorial sermon was delivered by the Reverend Kenneth Q. James, pastor of the Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church.

*Archon Theos D. McKinney III*  
*Grapter, Northeast Region*  
 and  
*Archon Lewis E. Allen*  
*Grapter, Gamma Iota Boulé*



**Members of Garth Fagan Dance perform.**



**Delta Nu delegates Archon Cornell Wright, Sire Archon Gary Ford and Archon Charles Spaulding**



**Alpha delegates Grammateus Wallace Walker and Archon Ron Walker**



**Pappas group**

# **ATTENTION ALL GRAPTERS!**

## **NEW EDITORIAL DEADLINES FOR**

### ***THE BOULÉ JOURNAL***

**Due to the tremendous volume of materials submitted to the Journal, there will be two major changes going forward:**

- 1.** All articles (except *Kudos and Commendations*) submitted for publication in THE BOULÉ JOURNAL must cover events having occurred no more than 3 months prior to the submission deadlines published below.
- 2.** All *Kudos and Commendations* articles are due one month earlier than articles for the rest of THE BOULÉ JOURNAL.

**\*Please do not wait until the deadline to submit your article. Submit it immediately following the event the article is reporting on.**

**Be sure to review the complete new Grapter guidelines and submission requirements on the Fraternity's official Web site: [www.SigmaPiPhi.org](http://www.SigmaPiPhi.org)**

#### **NEW EDITORIAL SUBMISSION DEADLINES for THE BOULÉ JOURNAL**

##### **Volume 72, Number 2, Summer 2008**

***Kudos and Commendations* due no later than February 15, 2008 (Events occurring after November 15, 2007, ONLY)**

**All other article submissions due no later than March 15, 2008 (Events occurring after December 15, 2007, ONLY)**

##### **Volume 72, Number 3, Fall 2008**

***Kudos and Commendations* due no later than May 15, 2008 (Events occurring after February 15, 2008, ONLY)**

**All other article submissions due no later than June 15, 2008 (Events occurring after March 15, 2008, ONLY)**

##### **Volume 72, Number 4, Winter 2008**

***Kudos and Commendations* due no later than August 15, 2008 (Events occurring after May 15, 2008, ONLY)**

**All other article submissions due no later than September 15, 2008 (Events occurring after June 15, 2008, ONLY)**

##### **Volume 73, Number 1, Spring 2009**

***Kudos and Commendations* due no later than November 15, 2008 (Events occurring after August 15, 2008, ONLY)**

**All other article submissions due no later than December 15, 2008 (Events occurring after September 15, 2008, ONLY)**

***Christmas Is For The Archousai* article submissions due no later than January 15, 2009 (CFA parties ONLY)**