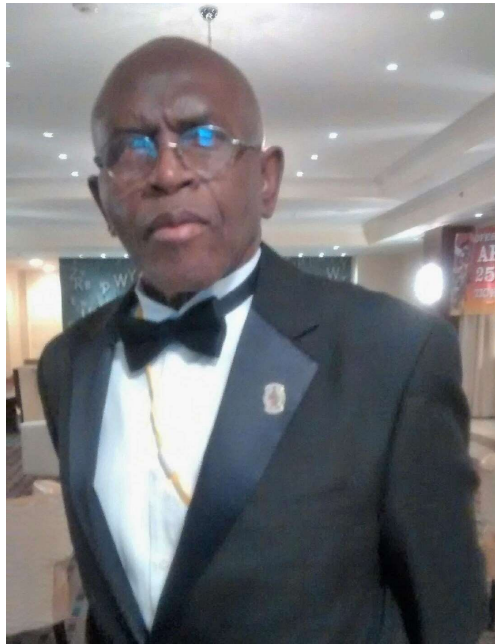


Spotlight on
Brother Jim Foster
By. Brother Jeffrey T. Smith



Brother Jim Foster is an enthusiastic, exemplary, and experienced Omega man imbued with a spirit of service and brotherhood. Foster's congenial, confident, and courageous presence makes him a brother's brother; a person willing to help, protect, encourage, and engage his fellow man or woman. Brother Foster's journey is filled with successes, challenges, triumphs, and trials; yet, he is steadfast and faithful in the demonstration of the fraternity's values – Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.

I met Jim just over 20 years ago while working in downtown Denver. We connected immediately and have remained linked one to the other over the years. One of Jim's best qualities, from my perspective, is his ability to talk on nearly all subjects, he is well-versed, well-mannered, and well-intentioned. Foster's conversational style and speech twang makes for an enjoyable time speaking about life. He embodies the credo of living life to the fullest which is highlighted in the following paragraphs.

Manhood. Brother Foster was born in a rural area near North Little Rock, Arkansas as one of five children (two brothers and two sisters). He

grew up in the city, a black enclave surrounded by a white community. The close proximity of the two communities allowed each to co-exist despite the times. Foster attended Dunbar Junior and Senior High School during the same time the Little Rock nine started at Central High School. He attended McAlmont High School briefly, where he was known as a member of 'McAlmont Five' during the initial era of busing. Eventually, Foster graduated from Horace Mann High School after spending one year at Pulaski County Training School.

Brother Foster was initiated into Mu Omicron Chapter, May 1975, the fifth on a line of nine; his line name is Walker's Bottom.

Scholarship. Brother Foster graduated from Drake University in August 1971 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Social Science and General Business. He is life-long learner and remains abreast on current affairs.

Perseverance. Brother Foster is an honorably discharged military veteran having volunteered for service in the United States Navy from 1966 to 1971. His military tours included: San Diego (trained and certified as a Dental Technician); Norfolk, VA (aircraft carrier); Philippines, Italy, and Des Moines, IA (Navy Reservist). Foster's professional career after college began with Dayton Hudson Target Stores in Minneapolis, MN. He transitioned to CARGILL, working in the early grain program. Foster lived in many cities over a span of nine years while employed for the agriculture giant: Minneapolis, Fairmont, Moorhead, Mankato (Minnesota); Cedar Rapids, Des Moines (Iowa); and, Los Angeles, CA. Brother Foster undertook several other vocations along his travels in life; he was an executive search head hunter and a records retention management specialist. Foster moved to Denver in 1987 and continued to work in various fields including for-profit, non-profit, and governmental. Foster was recognized twice by a temp staffing company as the Employee of the Year.

Uplift. Brother Foster attends Colorado Community Church (CCC). He is active with the Aurora Chapter of the NAACP and a board member of Community Alcohol, Drug, Rehabilitation and Education Center (CADREC) for single mothers. Foster is a former member of the Sertoma Club.

Fraternally, Brother Foster is a life member of the Fraternity, holding number 3300. He serves Omega Psi Phi and Chi Phi Chapter prudently and unselfishly while displaying the example of Christian manhood and community endeavor. His accolades include the 40 Year Service Award along with several chapter awards. Foster has functioned

down through the years with the Project Manhood Rites of Passage and Omega Leadership Academy youth programs as well as the chapter's social action projects (Paint-a-thon, Adopt-a-street, voter registration, etc.). Foster is a regular attendee as a registered member of annual district meetings, leadership conferences, and grand conclaves.

In closing, Brother Foster's aspirations for Omega Psi Phi and Chi Phi Chapter are alike: to continue building and living the Founders' ideas of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift as well as the motto of Friendship is essential to the soul.

Foster's hobbies and interests are vast; he is an avid sports fan appreciating both football (Denver Broncos) and hockey. Foster is a theater buff taking in shows at the performing arts center as well as a huge music enthusiast attending classical concerts at the symphony. His musical tastes also include other genres of R&B, Jazz, Blues, to name a few.

Brother Foster is a consistent and constant presence locally modeling the way for Omega's values, service, and friendship. He lives his creed and has an abundance of life experiences that others could benefit from hearing and knowing. It's my prayer for God to continue to richly bless and strengthen him accordingly.

