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## Spotlight on Que: Brother Delvert T. Neal

By Jeffrey T. Smith

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Brother Neal is a talented, tenacious, thorough, tenured, trailblazer, and walking testimony on service to others. His principles and purpose closely align with Omega's and the courage to speak with conviction is always on display for people to see and feel unequivocally. This servant leader is similar to other men who have been featured in this space on life's priorities – God, family, work, friends, others, and after a few more items then it's themselves. Brother Neal's personal attributes and professional abilities have been gleaned from men and women who are or were titans in their chosen fields and he regularly imparts their teachings to others by example or encouragement. Brother Neal has been tried and tested and he is ready for more!

I met Delvert in August 1989 after a brief introduction by Brother Miguel Henry, Lambda Beta '81. We have worked together, in harmony and healthy debate, ever since marching our way toward the honorable goal of holding Omega up to the world as a shining light. We stand on common ground on a great many topics and traditions, we share a common bond on the rules of life. For us, the fraternity's motto is DNA. I credit Brother Neal for my access to Omega leaders and the rise to high levels of leadership in the Fold. During his term as District Representative in 1994, Neal appointed me as chairman of the 8th District Membership Intake Committee and a member on the International Membership Intake Committee chaired by Brother Andrew Ray who later became the 39th Grand Basileus. Neal and I traveled side-by-side throughout the two years on fraternity business and building friendships. I am sharing just a segment of Brother Neal's story through the four cardinal principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.

**Manhood:** Brother Neal was born in Marianna, Arkansas and has three siblings, one brother and two sisters. Although Neal grew up in Denver, he is proud on the fact he still carry a southern gentleman's card.

Brother Neal has been married 27 years to Margaret, his wife and to their union two children were born, Alexander and Franchesca. The Neal's are a family of Greeks with Margaret, a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, Alexander, an Omega man (Spring 2015, Psi Delta Chapter, University of North Carolina), and Franchesca, a third generation Zeta (Spring 2017, Rho Alpha Chapter).

Brother Neal was initiated on March 16, 1985 through the Lambda Beta Chapter, University of Northern Colorado as 'Solo' from beginning to the end. His growth in Omega began in the presence of Chi Phi Chapter stalwart, professional men such as Brothers Sonny Phillips, Dr. Earl Phillips, Sr., Oswald Abernathy, Esq., and Robert Shoates, Jr. (all deceased), to name a few. Neal shared that one of the chapter's traditions at the time was conducting phone calls (phone call tree) to inform brothers of events and important news. He remembered spending time with seasoned brothers at committee sessions in their homes and fraternity meetings at the Owl Club of Denver which helped build life-long fraternal bonds. Brother Neal's early days and years in Chi Phi helped him influence the direction of the chapter and later the fraternity. He stated Omega Psi Phi and the men therein, then and now, represents one of the longest relationships he has ever been a part of including work and family.

**Scholarship:** Brother Neal received his bachelor's degree in Mathematics with an emphasis in Computer Science from Metropolitan State College of Denver in 1987. He has completed graduate work in telecommunications and holds a master certification in project management.

**Perseverance:** Professionally, Brother Neal started his career at AT&T Bell Labs as a software engineer and eventually became a project manager. Over the last 20+ years, he has been a consultant (Project Manager) at various companies within the Metro Denver area. Neal also utilizes his IT skill-set to support fraternal operations and non-profit organizations. He is a Certified ScrumMaster (CSM) and has trained in agile methodologies.

Fraternally, Brother Neal has an inspiring record of leadership, service, and achievements in the fraternity. Here is a summary of Neal's accomplishments in Omega:

- Led and served as the 24th Eighth District Representative and a member of the Supreme Council (1993-1995)
- Supreme Council member (8th District Representative) when the fraternity's new World Headquarters (3951 Snapfinger Parkway – Decatur, GA) was selected, approved and dedicated (1993-1995) Supreme Council member (8th District Representative) and participant during the initiation ceremony of Shaquille O'Neal (HOF NBA Player), Max Roach (Jazz Drummer), Bill Campbell (Mayor of Atlanta), Rev. Dr. Mack King Carter (famed pastor) along with a few others. (1995)
- Initiated and read-in Brother Derrick Thomas (Linebacker, Kansas City Chiefs) into the Beta Omega Chapter, Kansas City, MO (1996)
- Led and served as the Eighth District First Vice-District Representative (1992)
- Chapter Delegate to the 8th District Meeting an undergraduate (1985) and graduate (1987-1991)
- Chapter Delegate at three Grand Conclaves - Cleveland, OH (1994), Indianapolis, IN (2000) and Las Vegas NV (2016)
- Attended Omega Leadership Conference, St. Louis, MO (1990)
- Supported and contributed meaningfully to three Eighth District meetings held in Denver, Colorado (50th -1999, 60th -2009, and 70th -2019)
- Served as both Undergraduate and Graduate Chapter Basileus, Vice-Basileus, Keeper of Finance, Editor, and Keeper of Peace
- One of three Brothers (Brothers Mika El Heru, Neal, and yours truly) to paint the first senior citizen home as part of Brothers Redevelopment Incorporated annual statewide paint-a-thon project; Chi Phi Chapter has painted one or more homes in consecutive years since 1989
- Coordinated several Charles R. Drew blood drives in Chi Phi Chapter (G) and Lambda Beta Chapter (U/G); donated blood during most of the events
- Organized and produced Talent Hunt programs for Chi Phi Chapter
- Supported the 75th and 90th Chi Phi Chapter charter anniversary events as a contributor and leader
- Chairman and active member on several chapter Achievement Week committees; helped coordinate weekly programs and created successful souvenir booklets
- Board member, Holmes Omega Scholarship Foundation; helped with fundraising and selection of scholarship recipients as well as built the first webpage for the foundation
- Chapter honors: Omega Man of the Year, Superior Service Award, Founders' Award, Basileus Award, and Chapter Appreciation Award



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**Uplift:** Brother Neal is a member of Scott United Methodist Church however, he grew up in Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church (1970 thru 2008). Neal has participated in numerous community service projects and mentorships; he mentored middle and high school students in math while promoting engineering as part of Junior Engineer Technical Society (JETS). Neal has supported Colorado Association of Black Professional Engineers and Scientists (CABPES) as a tutor. In Omega, Neal has assisted brothers throughout 2020 as an advisor and coach, personally, professionally and fraternally. He regularly contacts members whether seasoned members or new to the fraternity. During the 2020 Achievement Week activity of 'Contact a Brother Challenge, Neal won first place for calling brothers across boundaries and demographics. He has helped brothers through various medical challenges (Prostate Cancer, COVID 19 and other serious medical conditions) and facilitated the linkup between two brothers in Denver traveling the same medical journey in order to provide assistance and encouragement to one another. Neal is a strong advocate and key influencer in reclaiming brothers to the Fold; he has aided the Reclamation chairman, Brother Chris Gantz, Jr. by identifying and introducing members interested in returning to the fraternity. Over the years, Neal has provided assistance toward Voter Registration, Education, and Mobilization (VREM); in 2020, he created 'VOTE' shirts for fraternity members to wear throughout the election season.

In closing, Brother Neal has several aspirations and hopes for the fraternity and chapter. They are: To improve the quality of leadership (at all levels); to continue to be the voice of community; to improve the quality and involvement of chapter members; to build upon the foundation (friendship) of the membership; and, to be committed more to community involvement as oppose to social activity. Additionally, Neal wants to continue working for Omega in the district and chapter – do more to sustain the fraternity and build relationships.

Brother Neal's primary hobbies are screen printing, graphic designs and embroidery work. He loves this pastime because of its immediate results and product outcomes as well as the joy received of gifting the items instead of selling them. Neal stated that he could spend a day in his 'lab,' printing shirts, sweaters, hats, jackets, T-shirts, coats, and baby blankets. Neal has had print jobs for fraternity members, Masons, family reunions, schools, churches, men, women, and children. Brother Neal is an Omega man and he is grounded in selfless service. He referenced this song as a close-out thought to this article, 'let the work I've done speak for me.' May God continue to bless Brother Neal and his family richly and to prosper their endeavors.

## Birthdays & Congratulations

- Dale Childress - 3/5
- Noel Williams - 3/6
- Keenan Bender - 3/16
- John T. Jones - 3/18
- Jeffrey Young - 3/19
- Chip Boykin - 3/25
- Delvert T. Neal - 3/27

## Sick, Shut-In & Health Challenges

- Bro. Eric Dennis 303-949-3295 Covid-19 He & wife
- Bro. Delvert Neal 303-358-3805 Mother in law
- Bro. Clint McCree 720-589-5325 Support thanks
- Bro. John Pete Jones 303-475-9731 Eye surgery
- Bro. Michael Short 720-436-3567 Support thanks
- Bro. Major Ennis 720-840-7568 Support thanks
- Bro. Ronaldo Babb 303-204-2257 Wifes progress
- Bro. Daoud Hadee 303-908-4118 Thanks to Brothers
- Bro. Hendrix Lewis 720-325-7016 Parents, Covid-19

## Spiritual Warfare

### 1 Corinthians 15:57

"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

## Announcements

### March Chapter meeting

- **When:** Saturday, March 6th, 2021 at 6 pm
- **Where:** Virtual via Zoom
- Meeting ID: 912 6133 4076

### Annual Memorial Service

- **When:** Sunday, March 14th, 2021 at 3 pm
- **Where:** Virtual via Zoom Meeting ID: 967 2782 3946, Passcode: 596441

### 72nd Eighth District Virtual Meeting Friday Session

- **When:** April 30, 2021, at 6 PM MST
- **Where:** Virtual via Zoom
- **How:** Free registration at [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlpc-qsrT8uHNXqUnMa11\\_nX0OKLhtx7kF](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlpc-qsrT8uHNXqUnMa11_nX0OKLhtx7kF)

### 72nd Eighth District Meeting

- **When:** Saturday, May 1st, 2021
- **Where:** Virtual via Zoom
- **How:** Send PayPal payment to [oppfraternity8thdistrict@gmail.com](mailto:oppfraternity8thdistrict@gmail.com) or click on the following link: [paypal.me/8thDistrict](https://paypal.me/8thDistrict)
- **Note:** Graduate - \$95/Undergraduate - \$55