

Dallas Alumni Time Kapsule

Like Father, Like Son

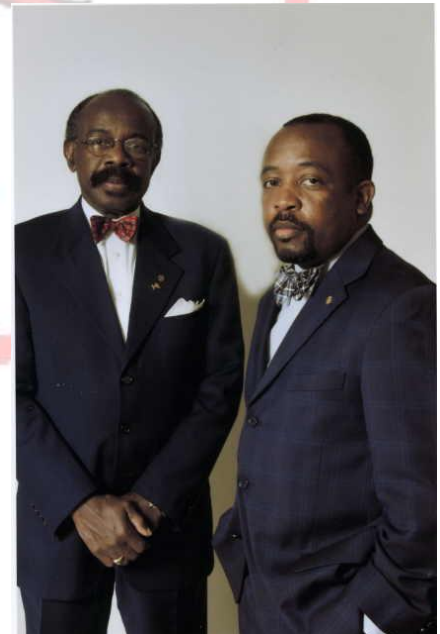
Although he was not the first “legacy” or son of a Kappa to become Polemarch, Dallas Alumni Chapter history was made on June 4, 2009 when **Byron C. Lattimore** became the chapter’s next leader. **He was the first member of Kappa League – Dallas to become Polemarch** and when he was installed by his father, Emerson Lattimore, it marked **the first time that both father and son had served as Dallas Alumni Polemarch**. A Dallas native, Brother Lattimore graduated in 1992



from Texas Southern University, located in Houston, but he joined the fraternity 10 years later in his hometown. Just as his father had been Polemarch during the chapter’s Golden Anniversary in 1985, “B-Latt” served as Polemarch during the chapter’s **Diamond Jubilee 75th Anniversary** and as host Polemarch for the 74th

Southwestern Province Council in 2010. Before becoming Polemarch, Brother Lattimore demonstrated a level of discipline, dedication and diligence by also becoming the first Dallas Alumni member to serve as Strategus, Keeper of Exchequer, Keeper of Records and Vice-Polemarch in succession. His training for leadership also included serving on several committees and spearheading various chapter projects. After a short time, he was appointed to posts at both the provincial and Grand Chapter levels. He was first selected to serve as **Chairman of the SWP Newsletter Committee** and C. Rodger Wilson Leadership Conference workshop presenter in 2006.

A year later at the outset of the Dwayne Murray administration, the 31st Grand Polemarch appointed him **Assistant Grand Chapter Meeting Planner** where he served from 2007-2011. As Polemarch he sought to build on the successes of his immediate predecessors, bridge the generations within the chapter and raise even higher its standard of excellence. The theme for his administration was taken from the national theme at the time, “**Creating Inspiration by Achieving M.O.R.E.**” M.O.R.E. was an acronym he developed which meant Maximizing Opportunities, Resources & Efforts. With a great team of brothers serving alongside in their respective areas, the chapter grew to its largest size in years with 100+ members and was recognized with the **2010 SW Province Reclamation Award** for its efforts. Dormant committees were reactivated and new committees (like Political Awareness and Technology) were created. Kappa League under the leadership of Ryan Mitchell was restructured into one of the best youth programs in the city and one of the best Kappa League programs in the fraternity (with close to 100 members) and was eventually named **SWP Guide Right Program of the Year**



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two years in a row and **National Guide Right Program of the Year in 2011**. The growth and success of Kappa League resulted in the chapter transforming its annual Boys to Men Luncheon into a full-fledged “Beautilion Militaire” complete with a rites of passage ceremony. This event was masterminded by Ryan Mitchell. Events such as the **Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway** enjoyed even greater success with a total of **150 meals provided**. Dallas Alumni also outpaced all other chapters with the [St. Jude Sunday of Hope fundraiser](#) by raising **over \$42,000 in two years** for the hospital. The annual Christmas Toy Drive collaboration with the ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha changed locations and grew to attract over 700+ toys for local charities and Head Start programs. The chapter website was completely redesigned with more content and the fraternity house was completely remodeled and refurbished in 2010 for the first time since its purchase in 1990 and in addition to an enlarged meeting area, new amenities were added such as flat panel HD televisions and Wi-Fi internet service. Brother Lattimore also started rebuilding the chapter’s “Undergraduate Pipeline” on the campuses of Paul Quinn and SMU with the **reinstatement of both Lambda Lambda and Nu Beta** respectively and their first new initiates in years. The chapter also had a greater presence in the community with enhanced partnerships with other Greek and civic organizations. All of these successes led to the chapter winning several awards including **2010 SWP Large Chapter of the Year**. Other significant moments during his administration included “re-booting” and **transforming the chapter’s signature fundraiser into Kasino Royale**, led by Shawn Hill, which resulted in greater attendance and increase profits. A new chapter tradition was

ntroduced by awarding all 50 Year members of the fraternity within the chapter with new “Cream” Kappa blazers, The format of the chapter’s annual PV/Grambling Tailgate Party was changed to make the event profitable. The Kappa League Educational Grant (KLEG) was created as well as the [Monroe-Sorrell Scholarship for Paul Quinn College](#) And as the “Centennial Polemarch”, he led the chapter in hosting **one of the largest celebrations in the country, welcoming over 200**



brothers to the frat house on January 5th 2011 the night the fraternity turned 100 years old, to begin a weeklong series of events. After two successful years, Brother Lattimore stepped down just prior to the Centennial Celebration Conclave in Indianapolis. In 2012 he ran unsuccessfully for SWP Keeper of Records but would later be appointed **SWP Coordinator for the St. Jude Sunday of Hope** fundraising initiative.. Locally, Lattimore continued to work and after being elected to the Board of Directors of the Guide Right Foundation of Dallas in 2011, he was elected Vice-Chairman in 2013 and succeeded Sylvester Alford as **Chairman of the Board of Guide Right Foundation of Dallas** in 2014.