

From The Editor

Welcome to Winter 2021 Edition of The Beacon. We have a lot of great information to share as we start off 2021. We are all glad to put 2020 behind us and look forward to great things in 2021; from new COVID-19 vaccines, to a new Presidential administration. We are very happy to see one of our own Divine 9 elected as Vice-President of the United States. Mrs. Kamala Harris has been a beacon of light and inspiration to Black and Brown women all over the world. Although we are doing a lot of our work virtually, we are still making an impact and doing the work of Alpha.

I hope you enjoy this issue that showcases what we continue to do in the community and within our dear Fraternity.

If there is anything that you would like to contribute for future issues, please contact me. Our next submission deadline is May 1, 2021.

Fraternally,

BRO. MICHAEL BOND
MBOND24@GMAIL.COM

An Interview with Bro. Edmond Baker MD. The COVID-19 Vaccines - Your Questions Get Answered

BY BRO. MICHAEL BOND



OVER THE PAST YEAR, Delta Tau Lambda's own Brother Edmond Baker (Alpha Upsilon Fall 1986) has been educating the community about COVID-19 and answering our questions about the virus. Now that we have vaccines to help combat the virus, there are many questions that people have about the vaccines. I had a chance to pin him down after a long week of educating and helping the community to get some answers that we all have about the vaccines. Below are highlights of our discussion about the vaccine and what we still need to do to help combat the spread.

Do we still need to social distance and wear masks after we get the vaccine?

Yes. The vaccines don't stop you from getting the virus. It just reduces the chances of severe disease and death.

Can I still spread the virus even if I get the vaccine?

Yes, you can, but it is not as easy to spread. To spread the virus, you need what is called a "high viral load". You need a lot of the virus within you to spread it to others. If you are vaccinated, the virus has been killed and you don't have enough to spread. It is still possible to spread, but it is very unlikely.



How was this vaccine developed so quickly? Is it really safe?

Coronaviruses have been around for a long time. Just recently there has been a higher mortality rate among those who have contracted the more recent virus. Vaccines for SARS and MERS (which are also Coronaviruses) were developed and tested but never rolled out due to the very low amount of potential use. The knowledge and science for the vaccine delivery in the body was already in place, so creating a vaccine for this virus was something that could be done rather quickly. Also, the companies developing their vaccines started production of the vaccines while it was going through the various trials. This was only done because the companies were given a lot of money to take this risk so that they could have the vaccines ready for distribution as soon as approval was granted by the Food & Drug Administration.

Has the vaccine been tested just as other vaccines?

Yes, these vaccines have completed all phases of clinical trials. There are 3 phases of clinical trials for vaccines. All 3 vaccines have completed the trials and were approved for use.

If I already had COVID-19, should I get the vaccine too?

Yes, but you must wait - 14 days after you have recovered from COVID-19 illness, and 90 days after recovery if you received monoclonal antibody treatment for COVID-19 illness.

If I get the shot, how long does the vaccine last?

That we don't know yet. The goal is lifetime immunity, but more research is needed to determine if the vaccines can provide lifetime immunity. There are other vaccines that we take that do not offer lifetime immunity. For example, the Tetanus vaccine only offers 5-10 years of immunity.

Who shouldn't get the vaccine?

People who are on an immunosuppressant medication (drugs that prevent activity of the immune system), people who currently have or had COVID-19 in the past 14 days, or received monoclonal antibody treatment in the past 90 days.

Can people decide on which brand (Pfizer vs Moderna vs Johnson & Johnson) to take?

No, you can't and shouldn't decide based on the brand. All of the vaccines are great and do the job of preventing illness and death from COVID-19.

Are there differences between the Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccines?

Yes, these are the differences:

1. The Pfizer vaccine requires 2 doses that are 21 days apart and have been tested to be 95% effective after the 2nd dose against severe disease and death.
2. The Moderna vaccine requires 2 doses that are 28 days between doses apart and have been tested to be 94% effective after the 2nd dose against severe disease and death.
3. The J&J vaccine requires only 1 dose and has been tested to be 85% effective after the 1 required dose against severe disease and death.
4. The Moderna and Pfizer are both mRNA types of vaccine. This is just the delivery system of the vaccine.
5. The J&J vaccine is a viral vector vaccine. This is also the delivery system of the vaccine.

Ok, last question, how and where can I get the vaccine?

Go to the Arizona Department of Health website for more information (link provided below). The age and risk groups are always changing, so always stay on top of it.

As stated earlier, Bro Edmond Baker has been very busy in the community to ensure we stay healthy and win the battle with COVID-19. He is currently Adjunct Professor at ASU and has been recognized for his efforts by many organizations. Recently, Bro Baker was awarded the Health Civic Leadership Award by the AZ Men's Health & Wellness Expo. He was awarded the Living History Award by Jack & Jill of America, Inc. Phoenix Chapter in collaboration with the Phoenix Chapter of The Links, Inc., and Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity's Gamma Mu Boule of Phoenix.



BROTHER EDMOND BAKER JR MD

For more information on COVID-19 vaccine:
[Understanding Viral Vector COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
[Understanding mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
[AZDHS website for vaccine locations](#)

WHY RECLAMATION?

BY BRO. STANLEY BOGANAY

There are several reasons for Alpha to invest time and effort into reclamation:

- Strengthen Brotherhood
- Develop Human and Intellectual Capital
- Increase Revenues

At the core of our fraternity is Brotherhood. We have an obligation and duty to extend a hand to those that we call brother. Our nation has been disrupted by four turbulent years and on top of that a pandemic. If we are to be 'brothers' 'a good neighbor' then we have to 'exchange greetings.'

Developing human and intellectual capital requires that we leverage assets. Our greatest asset is membership into our fraternity. Like the assets of any corporation, if we fail to

develop and grow that asset, our stock will suffer.

The business of the fraternity requires financial capital. Growing the fraternity's financial capital requires more than dues paying members. It requires the intellect of the membership to determine new opportunities and strategies.

HOW CAN BROTHERS HELP WITH RECLAMATION?

We would first have to identify brothers that we haven't spoken with or who haven't been in contact with the chapter for extended periods. Following that, opening a dialogue and creating a path that will benefit both the brother and the chapter. The reclamation committee like other committees serves to assist. Its mission is to provide a path for brothers to return to Alpha.

OPERIS AC FIRMA FRATERNTATE

BRO. MYRON DOUGLASS (DTL Fall 2005) will



be taking on a new and exciting position as a Practice Development Manager at Synchrony. In this new role, Bro Douglass will be working with medical practices to help them provide financial options for their patients. He will be working with the VIP medical practices within Synchrony's portfolio.

Alphas On The Move

Previously, Bro. Douglass was the District Sales Manager for Synchrony which had him traveling between Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas building client relationships. Bro. Douglass was recognized as the top 5% in Year-to-Date sales and in the top

3 for Sales Consultants for most client visits.

Bro. Douglass will be heading out to Austin, Texas for this new role, so he will be greatly missed. Rest assured, Bro. Douglass will be back at least once a month as he continues to keep his roots here in Phoenix. His future plan is to start work on his Ph.D. with UT-Austin, USC, or Howard University. Bro. Douglass was raised by a teacher, so higher education will always be a part of his journey. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from University of Phoenix and a Master of Public Administration from Grand Canyon University.

Bro. Douglass has worked tirelessly within the chapter since he crossed into Alpha on December 3, 2005 (Ace). He has been the Corresponding Secretary and has led the Men's Health Exposition since its inception in 2011. Working in the fraternity is an honor to him and he leads by example. Bro. Douglass has served the East Valley NAACP as the Political Action Chair and planned many NAACP events.

BRO. JEFF BARTON (DTL Fall 2007) has been elevated

to the position of Phoenix Assistant City Manager, the number two position in the City Manager's Office, leading the city's COVID-19 response and overseeing the Police, Fire and Budget and Research departments, among others, in the fifth largest city in the nation, with more than 14,000 employees.

"Jeff led the strategic distribution of \$293.3 million in federal Coronavirus Relief Funds to support residents and businesses impacted by COVID-19, while ensuring public safety and other critical city services remained fully funded," said Zuercher. "His knowledge of the city's budget process, public safety operations, strategic use of data, and leadership skills will be an asset to the city and our residents in his new role, as we navigate this current phase of COVID, and beyond."



Most recently, Barton served as Deputy City Manager, overseeing the Budget & Research, Community and Economic Development, Fire and Library departments and the Youth and Education Office. Prior to this, he served for five years as director of the city's Budget & Research Department, where he was responsible for the planning, forecasting, and managing of the city's \$4.4 billion operating budget and \$7 billion five-year capital improvement program. During Barton's tenure, the department implemented a new five-year forecasting and modeling of expenses and revenues process to better plan for future funding needs, while providing early forecasts of potential budgetary challenges.

Barton holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Morehouse College and a Master of Public Administration from Shippensburg University.



Project Alpha's Partnership with Chris Paul's 61 Organization

THE PROJECT ALPHA committee has been extremely busy over the first 2 months in the new calendar year with creating new partnerships and providing more opportunities for the youth we serve. The first partnership came in January where the Phoenix Suns & National Basketball Player's Association (NBPA) contacted our program chair to discuss a potential partnership after seeing and hearing about the tremendous work that the program has been doing over the last few years in the Phoenix community. The combined partnership with Chris Paul's Club 61 organization, Phoenix Suns, Dove Men's+, NBPA, and Dell provided 25 students with brand new laptops where they would create their own website and brand.

The students were then able to present their creations to Chris Paul via Zoom. The touching stories that the youth shared prompted Chris to remain on the call throughout as he was blown away.

This led to another opportunity in February to again partner with Chris Paul and Sour Patch Kids to provide 10 students with scholarships to HBCUs. The scholarship, Bridging the Dream, is in conjunction with fellow brother of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., Thurgood Marshall. The announcement was made during a Zoom call in which the total scholarship amount presented was equal to \$1 million.



SENIOR BROTHER SPOTLIGHT - Bro. Stanley Boganey

Brothers of the great Delta Tau Lambda (DTL) Chapter, this quarter, Brothers Keeper is reintroducing our senior brother, Bro. Stanley (Stan) Boganey in this edition of The Beacon. Bro. Boganey moved to Phoenix in June 2020 by way of California. He is an industrial engineer and works in the aerospace engineering sector. Bro. Boganey enjoys biking and training for triathlons. He is married to a Phoenician, Kimberly.

Brother Boganey, although new to the Valley, has family roots here in Phoenix. Dr. Warren H. Stewart, Sr., pastor of First institutional Baptist Church, is his cousin.

Bro. Boganey was born in France and has two siblings. His father was a career army officer and Alphaman initiated into Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. at Lincoln University in 1954. Bro. Boganey continued the Alpha lineage started by his father and was initiated at Nu Rho, IIT, (Chicago) 1977, charter line, the U.S.S. Death Row. His son continuing on with the lineage was initiated at Eta Chapter (Columbia University) in 2006.

After 44 years in Alpha, this senior brother continues the great work of A Phi A as a newly minted Reclamation Committee Member of DTL. Please welcome Frat to the Valley!

MU ETA CORNER

Awards /Acknowledgements - 2019-2020 Fraternal Year

THE MU ETA chapter was recognized in the Tri-State District as the College Chapter of the Year. With additions to the district, Brother Asante Day was recognized as the collegiate brother with the Highest GPA at 3.57. For his tremendous work as a neophyte bringing back the chapter, brotherly acts, and keeping his scholarship at the forefront, Brother Malik Townsend was recognized as College Brother of The Year. Furthermore, the Belford V. Lawson Oratorical Contest was championed by Brother Orderah Ozoh for his verbal delivery in communicating about the social injustices that we face today. As these brothers continue to hold the light of Alpha high, we would like to bestow a blessing to their future endeavors. 06!



MU ETA THROWBACK!

Pictured here is Arizona State University's Mu Eta Chapter at the annual Fraternity Picnic at Daley Park in Tempe, AZ, Spring '87

Omega Chapter - Brother Eugene Vance

BROTHER EUGENE VANCE has transitioned into Omega Chapter. Bro. Vance was initiated into Delta Tau Lambda Chapter on May 25, 1979.

Bro. Vance was a member of Xi Tau Lambda Chapter in North Dallas. Brother Jesse Owens was a part of his journey into Alpha and spent time with him while he was in the process of becoming an Alphaman. Bro Vance came into the House of Alpha as a solo initiate.

Bro. Vance was Superintendent of Sunday Schools while in San Francisco and Phoenix Arizona. He always made himself available to mentor youth and young adults while providing them with many life lessons that have carried them to this day. He was a Pop Warner football coach in Phoenix and his daughter Eugenia's track coach at Apollo High School. He was also active in the Parent Teacher Association in Phoenix and in DeSoto Texas.

Go To High School - Go To College Program Kickoff



ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 21st, Delta Tau Lambda's Go To High School - Go To College (GTHSGTC) Program held their formal kickoff event. This event was held virtually over Zoom and had over 25

youth and adults in attendance. The event focused on providing an overview of the program, and what parents and students could expect for the 2020-2021 school year.

The program was kicked off by the GTHSGTC committee chair, Brother Bond explaining the history of the program, what the current program will look like, and what the expectations will be for the youth. Then, the GTHSGTC committee members (and guest speakers) each presented different topics to the youth that centered around high school and college preparation. Guest speaker Brother Eric Joseph spoke about ASU's outreach and scholarships.

Brother Billingsley made sure students were prepared by talking about High School preparation. Brother Duval spoke about the importance of mentoring. Brother Doser used his experience and knowledge of the Community College system to discuss Community College and how it can be a great option. Finally, guest speaker Brother Ydrate Nelson wrapped up the event with a dynamic discussion on the High School to College Mindset. We thank all of our speakers and the youth that were in attendance. Everyone was excited for the next session that was announced to take place in March. This was a very successful launch and we look forward to the growth of the program and most of all the growth of the youth in the program!

Go To High School - Go To College Committee:

Bro. Michael Bond - Committee Chair
Bro. Earl Duval
Bro. Chris Billingsley
Bro. Doug Doser

**Arizona Men's Health
& Wellness Initiative Virtual EXPO**

Saturday, February 27 2021
10:00am- 2:00pm

Register now to participate in healthy
Men's health education

Dr. Dyson
Pediatrics | MC

Dr. Edmond Baker |MD
Health Civic Leadership
Awardee

ARIZONA
MEN'S HEALTH & WELLNESS
INITIATIVE

American
Diabetes
Association

MAYO
CLINIC

**TAP TO
WATCH**

The 2021 Arizona Men's Health & Wellness Seminar is a great success

On February 27th, the Brothers of Delta Tau Lambda held their 7th Annual Men's Health & Wellness Seminar. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this event was held virtually over Zoom. This year's seminar focused on two main areas of health that are of high concern for Black men - prostate health/cancer, and diabetes. Brothers Myron Douglass and Duane Dyson MD were our hosts for the event.

The first topic of discussion was about prostate cancer. As part of this topic discussion, Brother Dr. Edmond Baker MD provided education on the prostate, the function of the prostate, prostate screening, and how regular screenings help prevent the spread of prostate cancer when detected early. The discussion was followed by Dr. Cassandra Moore who is an oncologist with Mayo Clinic. Dr. Moore focused her discussion on prostate cancer and how it impacts Black men more than any other demographic. Dr. Moore also discussed the risk factors such as age, African ancestry, and genetics. Dr. Moore suggested that men start screening at age 45 and should discuss Prostate-Specific Antigen or PSA screening with their doctor. Dr. Moore further discussed that living and eating healthier can help prevent cancer as well as help with recovery if one is diagnosed with it. Dr. Moore concluded her discussion with a summary of current research and what the future holds for prostate cancer research.

The second topic of discussion focused on diabetes. This discussion panel included Brother Dr. Edmond Baker MD, Brother Eric Taylor (Zeta Tau Lambda Chapter), and Dr. Danielle Gilliam. Brother Dr. Baker started off with

discussing the health inequities when it comes to diabetes. As African Americans, we are more than 60% likely to be diagnosed with diabetes. Brother Dr. Baker continued to discuss the cultural competencies and humilities that can impact the level and quality of our healthcare. The discussion about diabetes was followed up by Brother Eric Taylor who is from Houston, TX. Brother Taylor gave us a great breakdown of what diabetes is, how it is treated, risk factors and complications of diabetes, and finally the impact of COVID-19 and diabetes. Brother Taylor did a great job of educating everyone on diabetes and the effect it has on the body. Dr. Danielle Gilliam closed out the discussion by focusing on diabetes as a public health crisis. Dr. Gilliam broke down the rates of diabetes diagnosis by race/ethnic groups, ways to prevent diabetes, and how to improve the quality of life of those living with diabetes. Dr. Gilliam stated that diabetes is robbing us of our legacy and encouraged us to work harder to prevent diabetes. Since Dr. Gilliam is a certified diabetes educator and health coach (and a serious "foodie"), she was adamant about how important diet is in preventing diabetes. This was echoed by all of the other panelists.

The event wrapped up with a Question and Answer period from the participants and final remarks from the Chair of the event, Brother Myron Douglass. This is the last year that Brother Douglass will be leading the event due to his relocation to Texas. Everyone in the Fraternity and especially in the community thanked him for his tireless effort and dedication over the past 9 years.