

## Dallas Alumni Time Capsule

### Lattimore Leads the Way

After serving as **Province Keeper of Records** during the Mitchell tenure, **Emerson A. Lattimore** continued on to become **Senior Province Vice Polemarch** and in October, 1991 was appointed by then-Grand Polemarch Attorney Robert Harris, as the 4<sup>th</sup> **Province Polemarch** from the chapter.

The appointment of Brother Lattimore as the 20<sup>th</sup> SW Province Polemarch was concurrent with five other brand new Province Polemarchs. This close-knit group of regional leaders would come to be known far and wide as “The 6.” Brother Lattimore was initiated on December 10, 1960 at the Delta Sigma Chapter at Bishop College where he earned a B. S. Degree in Chemistry. He served as Keeper of Records and Polemarch of Delta Sigma Chapter as he would later with the Dallas Alumni Chapter. He served as chapter Polemarch from 1983 to 1985 and was



succeeded by **Ernest Gilbert**. Lattimore also earned a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from North Texas State University. Brother Lattimore worked for the Social Security Administration in various capacities before becoming the agency’s Regional Manager of its Civil Rights and Equal Employment Opportunity Office. As Province Polemarch, his general philosophy was, “How we relate to others (Kappa’s and non-Kappa’s alike) will make all the difference in the results we ACHIEVE.” He established the motto “Bringing Out the Best in Kappa Alpha Psi” as the operative methodology for use throughout the province. He urged Brothers and Chapters to “Design and execute each program, procedure and action so that there is a high probability that you will bring out the best in all that is Kappa Alpha Psi.” He believed that “This would cause us to examine and re-examine our programs, purposes and motives in order to achieve optimum effects in all that we do.” The goals and objectives during his tenure were: 1) to improve relationship between undergraduate and alumni chapters; 2) to expand chapter Guide Right Programs to include a planned program of mentoring young African American males; 3) to establish a “Kappa Day at the Legislature” in each state in the province; 4) to encourage chapters to contribute to the Kappa Foundation and 5) to provide suggestions to enhance the membership intake process.



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Following a successful turn as Province Polemarch, Brother Lattimore was elected to the **Grand Board of Directors** from 1995 to 1999. After stepping down from that position, Brother Lattimore became the **Secretary** and later **President** of the province's newly formed **Southwestern Education Leadership and Training Foundation**. This was the 501-c3 non-profit arm of the Southwestern Province. He also served for a long time as President and later Secretary on the Board of Directors of the Guide Right Foundation of Dallas, Inc. that he helped to create. In a strange twist of fate, Lattimore received the **Southwestern Province Lifetime Achievement Award** in 2002 during the 66<sup>th</sup> Southwestern Province Council at the D/FW Hilton, which was also where his son, Byron became a Dallas Alumni initiate. Three years later after a successful petition from the chapter (led by Past Polemarch, Anthony Andrews and his son), Emerson Lattimore became the chapter's first recipient of the coveted **Elder Watson Diggs Award** (the Fraternity's 2<sup>nd</sup> highest award) at the 77<sup>th</sup> Grand Chapter Meeting in St. Louis, MO on July 20, 2005.



When Lattimore's successor as Province Polemarch, Dwayne M. Murray, Esquire was elected as the 31<sup>st</sup> Grand Polemarch in 2007, Lattimore was appointed **Chief of Staff to the Grand Polemarch**. After serving in the Murray Administration, Lattimore was again tapped for service by a fellow



member of "The 6", Thomas L. Battles, Jr. When Brother Battles was elected as the 33<sup>rd</sup> Grand Polemarch in 2015 in New Orleans, he appointed Lattimore to be **Chairman of the National Achievement Commission**. In this role, Lattimore would provide leadership and oversee the process that the fraternity uses to award individual brothers and chapters several of the highest awards offered by the fraternity, including the Elder Watson Diggs Award.