



RESOLUTION of the TUSKEGEE ARCHITECTURE and CONSTRUCTION ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

At a meeting of the Executive Board of the Tuskegee Architecture and Construction Alumni Association on May 19, 2015, the following resolution was proposed and unanimously approved by the board:

- WHEREAS,** James Odell Lamb (J. Odell Lamb) was born on his grandfather's farm on May 25, 1915 in Drew County, Arkansas. In 1923 the family moved to Wilmar, Arkansas so that his father could be closer to work and Odell and his siblings would be closer to a school; and
- WHEREAS,** J. Odell Lamb and his brothers, when not in school, spent much of their time helping their father with farming and with the building of homes for families in the area using recycled wood from demolished housing. This was the beginning of Odell's interest in the building trades; and
- WHEREAS,** Odell left Wilmar for Little Rock, through the encouragement of his uncle, in order to complete a high school education. Wilmar High School was not open to children of color; and
- WHEREAS,** after J. Odell Lamb completed the 12th grade at Dunbar High School, in 1939, he matriculated to Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University); and
- WHEREAS,** while a college student he was chosen to build a Fiber Machine (out of wood) for Tuskegee scientist, Dr. George Washington Carver, who used the machine in experiments; and
- WHEREAS,** after completing two years of education, at Tuskegee, J. Odell Lamb was drafted into the United States Army during World War II. Odell was promoted to the rank of Master Sergeant prior to his military service in Italy; and
- WHEREAS,** during Odell's service in Europe, he was chosen to supervise his platoon while building supply bridges over various small streams of water in central Italy; and
- WHEREAS,** after World War II J. Odell Lamb returned to Tuskegee University to complete his education earning the degree Bachelor of Mechanical Arts in Architecture and Building Trades, from what is now known as the Robert R. Taylor School of Architecture and Construction Science; and
- WHEREAS,** upon graduating from Tuskegee, in 1949, Odell returned to Little Rock where he was hired to supervise the building of more than twenty houses for the Judge Robert Allen Cook Family during a three year period; and
- WHEREAS,** because of conditions related to not being hired by various companies as an architect or electrician, Odell and his brothers started the Lamb Brothers Construction Company, Inc., in 1969, which Odell is still president and operates with the help of his nephews; and
- WHEREAS,** Odell has been a member of the Union African Methodist Episcopal Church for seventy-seven years; and
- WHEREAS,** Odell, with help from one of his brothers, introduced a System of Container Gardening to the Department of Agriculture at Tuskegee University. This system of growing vegetables in one-half barrel containers to encourage families to growing vegetables for healthy eating was also introduced to the Agriculture Department at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff in 2005; and
- WHEREAS,** J. Odell Lamb continues giving to others as he has demonstrated his entire life.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Tuskegee Architecture and Construction Alumni Association (TACAA) mark the occasion of the centennial birthday of our alumnus James Odell Lamb.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tuskegee Architecture and Construction Alumni Association (TACAA) give thanks for J. Odell Lamb's long professional contributions to the building and construction industry.

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tuskegee Architecture and Construction Alumni Association (TACAA) expresses that Odell represents the "Tuskegee Spirit". We thank you alumnus James Odell Lamb for representing Tuskegee University's Robert R. Taylor School of Architecture and Construction Science (TSACS) alumni as well as you have done. Happy 100th Birthday.

Resolved this 19th day of May, 2015
Jateko Ashanti, President
Tuskegee Architecture and Construction
Alumni Association