

Clarion

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, P.H.A. - Orient of Illinois

FALL — 2010

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2



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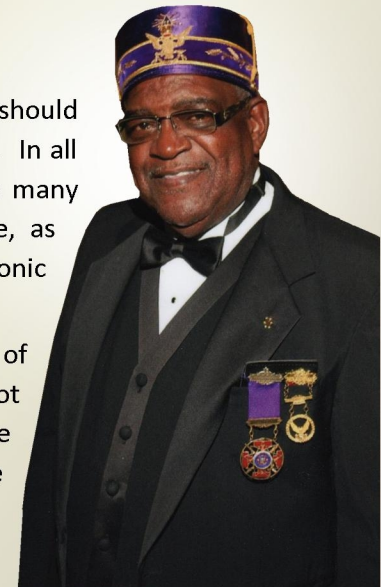
FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPUTY OF THE ORIENT OF ILLINOIS

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. As it is written: he has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." - 2 Corinthians 9: 7-9 NIV

Greetings Fraters and Loyal Ladies:

As we approach the most happiest and joyful time of the year, we should remember that it is also the most sincere and solemn time of the year. In all that we do, let us remain mindful that God is blessing us. There are many people who are not as fortunate as you and I. We are therefore, as Christians according to the plan of the God, charged and it is our Masonic duty to aid and assist those who are in need.

Whatever your plans are for this season, please include those children of God, our brothers and sisters in Christ who without our help will not enjoy this season of love and family. Is there a better way to display the golden tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth? Remember these words "From The Cradle To College"-Saving the African American Male. We are pursuing this program with great enthusiasm and vigor. **Read our Sovereign Grand Commander Solomon Wallace, 33^o mission in this issue.**



Deputy of the Orient of Illinois
Melvin Frierson, 33^o

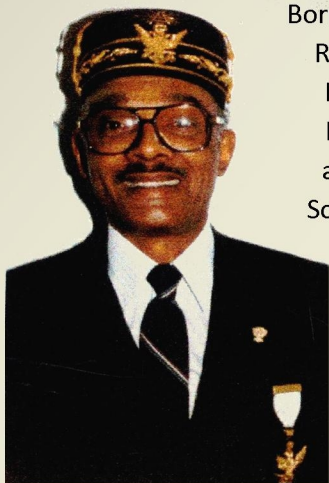
ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 15-17

Annual Session of the
Illinois Council of
Deliberation, AASR-NJ

Abraham Lincoln
Hotel—Springfield

GRAND INSPECTOR GENERAL ALONZO LEWIS, 33^o—57 YEARS AS TYREE SECRETARY



Born to the union of Earnest and Rosetta Lewis on July 7, 1917 in National City, Illinois, Grand Inspector General Alonzo S. Lewis attended East St. Louis Public School System until the twelfth grade. He married Elnora E. Smith on December 24, 1934 in East St. Louis and to this union was born nine children. 4 of his daughters, 2 granddaughters and a grandson are members of the Illinois Masonic Family. Illustrious Lewis

began his employment at Armor Packing Company in 1936 where he worked for seven years. After leaving Armor he was hired at Swift Packing Company in 1943 and worked there until his retirement in December of 1983.

Illustrious Lewis was raised into Morning Star Lodge #19 on

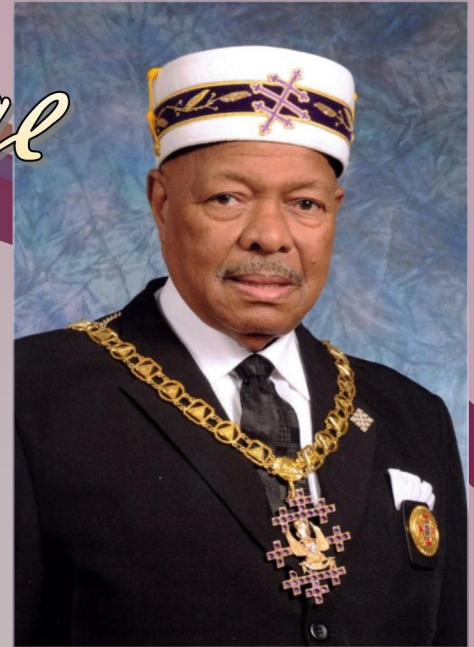
November 15, 1947 where he served as Worshipful Master in he 1950s. He joined Tyree Consistory #64 in 1948 and Aahmes Temple #132 AEAONMS. He also became a member of Electa Chapter #4, OES in 1950 and served as Worthy Patron for 15 years but later demitted his membership to Southern Cross Lodge #112 and Eastern Light Chapter #68, OES. He was elected Grand Auditor of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge in 1985 and was styled Grand Auditor Emeritus in 2005 after having served for 15 consecutive years.

Illustrious Lewis is the recipient of numerous awards and recognition for his labors. He has been styled Honorary Past Imperial Potentate for the AEAONMS and, for his efforts within the Scottish Rite, he was elevated to the 33rd degree by the United Supreme Council in 1974. This is undoubtedly due, in part, to his stellar service as Secretary of Tyree. Having first been elected in 1952, his successive re-election to this role for the succeeding 56 years through the year 2009 is a testament to his strength and dexterity. **Congratulations!!!**

Cradle to College

Scottish Rite Mentorship Program

The mission of the Sovereign Grand Commander Solomon Wallace's vision is to provide mentoring services to school districts in the Orients/Valleys of our fraternity in a caring, competent and professional manner. Through the "Cradle to College" program, Scottish Rite Masons will augment and support the school programs under the direction of the professional staff of the partnership districts. We will do this by offering members of the fraternity opportunities to serve black male students who need the support of a strong competent and caring adult. We will measure our success by the number of fraters who volunteer and by the numbers of hours of service given our youths and the partnership districts. **Participate TODAY!!!**



*Sovereign Grand Commander
Solomon Wallace, 33°*



*Sublime Prince Ray Willis, 32°
Western Consistory #28*

CRADLE TO COLLEGE: EFFORTS IN ILLINOIS

Under the direction and coordination of Sovereign Grand Inspector General Homer Walton, 33° and Sublime Prince Ray Willis, 32°—Most Wise and Perfect Master of Western Consistory #28, initial meetings have been held with volunteers in the Chicago area to join the effort in mentoring high school students in the pursuit of higher education at the collegiate level. Initial meetings have been held with the Chicago Public School System to

introduce the Cradle to College Program to the Board of Education. As a major metropolis in the State of Illinois, the impact of the program should be extensive within the Chicago area and serve as an excellent example which will help to extend the program into various locales across Illinois. Approval of the program by the Chicago Board of Education is required for implementation within any Chicago Public High School. Under the capable hands of Sovereign Grand Inspector General Walton and Sublime Prince Willis, we are quite certain that all requirements will be met. **In the meantime, we are still seeking volunteers!!! Please be advised that ALL VOLUNTEERS MUST pass a criminal background check.**



*Sovereign Grand Inspector General
Homer Walton, 33°*



Illinois State Grand Assembly

By the assistance of Illustrious Richard E. Moore, Lieutenant Grand Commander, the first Assembly of the Order of the Golden Circle in the State of Illinois, namely Chicago Assembly #4, was established in 1916 by Illustrious James Francis Rickards, 33^o, Sovereign Grand Commander.

RECOGNITION BANQUET

On Saturday April 24, 2010, Tri-Cities Assembly #53 sponsored a recognition banquet honoring State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler. The Mayor of the City of East Moline, Illinois, Honorable John S. Thodos proclaimed Saturday, April 24, 2010 as "State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler Clairice E. Walker Day." He asked that the citizens join in extending heartfelt congratulations on being recognized for 32 years of service to Tri-Cities Assembly #53 and her dedication to improving the lives of other through this program.

I will always remember the lovely banquet. It was well attended, it was held at the Trackside Quad City Downs Annex. A very special thanks to Illustrious Moses Robinson, Sr. and Bother Moses Robinson, Jr. and their staff who catered the affair.

Loyal Lady Clairice E. Walker, SGLLR

NEW INITIATES

Tri-Cities Assembly #53 went to Balthasar Assembly #69 in Rockford to initiate three ladies who became Loyal Ladies of Balthasar Assembly #69.

ILLINOIS ASSEMBLIES

- **Chicago Assembly #4**
L.L. Evelyn Flowers, LLR
- **Tri-Cities Assembly #53**
L.L. Lois Whitaker, LLR
- **Hiram Assembly #54**
L.L. Janet Lilly, LLR
- **Tyree Assembly #55**
L.L. Joi Haire, LLR
- **Menelik Assembly #58**
L.L. Jacqueline Easley, LLR
- **North Shore Assembly #59**
L.L. Elaine Gaines, LLR
- **Balthasar Assembly #69**
L.L. Tina Frazier, LLR
- **Marquette-Joliet Assembly #87**
L.L. Minnie Johnson, LLR



Clairice E. Walker became a member of the Tri-Cities Assembly #53, Order of the Golden Circle, Valley of Rock Island, Orient of Illinois, and Auxiliary of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in the year 1978. She was elected State Grand Associate Loyal Lady Ruler for the Illinois State Grand Assembly in 2008. In 2009, she became the State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler for the State of Illinois, Order of the Golden Circle with eight (8) Assemblies under her administration.



Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

2009-10 Illinois Council of Deliberation Officers

Deputy of



SGIG Willie Lawler, 33°
1st Lt. Commander
Western Consistory #28



GIG Reinaldo Walker, 33°
2nd Lt. Commander
Marquette-Joliet #104



GIG Warren Gipson, 33°
Grand Treasurer
Western Consistory #28



GIG James Mitchell, 33°
Grand Secretary
Western Consistory #28



Sovereign Grand Inspector
Melvin Frierso
Tyree Consistory #64
Most Illustrious Officer



GIG Millard Driskell, 33°
Grand Minister of State
Western Consistory #28



GIG Armand Harris, 33°
Grand Master of Ceremony
Tyree Consistory #64



GIG James Levy, 33°
Grand Master of Ceremony Emeritus
Western Consistory #28



GIG Davis C. James, 33°
Grand Prior
Western Consistory #28



GIG Michael Fordson, 33°
Grand Captain of the Guard
Tyree Consistory #64



GIG Tecumseh Henry, 33°
Grand Sentinel
Western Consistory #28



Sovereign Grand Inspector



SGIG Charles J. Stewart, 33°
(Active)
Western Consistory #28



Orient of Illinois



The Orient of Illinois was established with the formation of the first Consistory by the authority of the United Supreme Council under the leadership of Most Illustrious James Francis Rickards, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander. On May 8, 1913, Occidental Consistory #2 (later renamed Western Consistory #28) was formed by Illustrious Egbert Dickerson, 33°, the first Deputy of the Orient of Illinois, by the authority of the United Supreme Council with the elevation of fifty-three (53) Sublime Princes.

of Freemasonry Orient of Illinois



of the Orient

Sovereign Grand Inspectors General—Emeriti



SGIG James Blanton, 33°
Western Consistory #28



SGIG Magnus Burney, 33°
Western Consistory #28



SGIG Neal Carson, 33°
Marquette-Joliet #104



SGIG Charles Carter, 33°
Western Consistory #28



SGIG DePlessie Drew, 33°
Western Consistory #28



SGIG Lafayette Gatling, 33°
Western Consistory #28



SGIG Clarence Hayes, 33°
Western Consistory #28



SGIG Ernest Johnson, 33°
Western Consistory #28

Inspector General
n, 33° (Active)
sistory #64
mmander-In-Chief



Inspectors General—Actives



SGIG Willie Lawler, 33°
Western Consistory #28



SGIG Arvon Prentiss, 33°
Western Consistory #28



SGIG Rufus Starks, 33°
Tyree Consistory #64



SGIG Charles B. Taylor, 33°
(Active)
Western Consistory #28



SGIG Homer Walton, 33°
Western Consistory #28

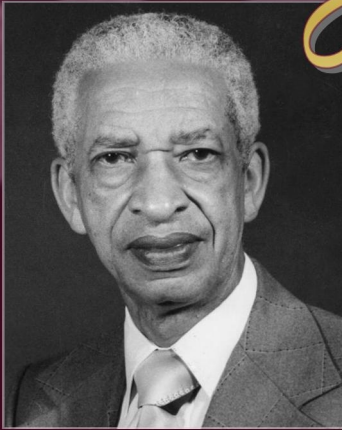


SGIG Oliver Washington, 33°
North Shore Consistory #91



SGIG Joel Woodhouse, 33°
Western Consistory #28

Eddie Winifred "Doc" Helm



Ill. Eddie Winifred "Doc" Helm, 33°
Sunrise: 1911—Sunset: 1994

Eddie Winifred "Doc" Helm was born in Mt. Vernon, Illinois, on June 28, 1911 to Richard and Sallie Helm as one of eight children. He attended Mt. Vernon Township High School and rose to become the teacher's assistant for the Woodworking class as a student. During high school, he obtained employment from the Mt. Vernon Car Manufacturing Company alongside his father but, later, left the company to experience the adventure of life through various travels. After returning home, he was employed as an assistant at Bonds Pharmacy during the Great Depression and became renown for his charity. He would purchase prescriptions from his own salary and deliver them to those in need. It is from this show of humility and faith that he earned the nickname "Doc".

In 1934, Doc moved to Springfield to work as a janitor for the State of Illinois while serving as the Worshipful Master of Forest of Lebanon Lodge #71. One of his responsibilities was to raise and lower the flag on the Dome of the

Capitol Building. It is during this timeframe that his interest in photography had also accelerated.

TRANSFORMED HIS PASSION INTO A BUSINESS

Doc was introduced to photography in Mt. Vernon prior to accepting the job in Springfield and his passion for the art became a lifelong pursuit. As an entrepreneur, he recognized that there was a lack of a photo studio in Springfield. As such, he transformed his passion into a business which he promoted while employed by the State of Illinois. In 1936, he purchased his first professional camera, enrolled in professional photography classes and built a darkroom in his home. After a few years of service, he had gained such a reputation that he decided to open a professional studio in 1943 at 809 E. Washington in Springfield.

PROFESSIONALISM MADE HIM ONE OF THE MOST RESPECTED PHOTOGRAPHERS

In 1944, Doc transferred from his janitorial role to that of a clerk for the Illinois State Library. It was during this period that Miss Helene Rodgers, the Head Librarian, noticed his talent in photography. Doc was later promoted to Official State Photographer and served for more than half of a century while freelancing. He photographed:

- State Receptions, Funerals, and portraits of officials;
- numerous weddings, family photos, organization and club functions;
- World War II soldiers on leave;
- national leaders and celebrities;
- freelance for *The Voice* newspaper;
- accidents for insurance claims;
- affairs for St. Paul A.M.E.

His professionalism made him one of the most respected photographers in the state earning him the nickname "One-shot Doc". The fact that the Illinois State Museum displayed his efforts in their 2004 exhibit titled "Doc's Legacy—A Selection of Photographs by Springfield Photographer Eddie Winifred 'Doc' Helm" provides evidence of the same.

DOC LEFT A LEGACY OF CREATIVITY AND SERVICE

Doc truly believed in helping others which transferred well into the Masonic Order in Illinois. While serving as Grand Photographer of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois, he captured thousands of scenes of charity and celebration. As the Deputy of the Orient of Illinois from 1986 to 1992, he established the Illinois Council of Deliberation Scholarship Fund and the Illinois Council of Deliberation Journal. These efforts aided many in their efforts to pursue higher education and remained in tact after his passing in 1994.



In retrospect, Doc left a legacy of creativity and service. His efforts provide evidence of his true nature—a caring individual who took strides to ensure the safety, security and success of his fellowman.



Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

Valley of Rockford

- Balthasar Consistory #92
- Balthasar Assembly #69

Valley of Rock Island

- Tri-Cities Consistory #82
- Tri-Cities Assembly #53

Valley of Springfield

- Menelik Consistory #49
- Menelik Assembly #58

Valley of East St. Louis

- Tyree Consistory #64
- Tyree Assembly #55

Valley of Carbondale

- Hiram Consistory #51
- Hiram Assembly #54

Valley of Waukegan

- North Shore Consistory #91
- North Shore Assembly #59

Valley of Chicago

- Western Consistory #28
- Chicago Assembly #4

Valley of Joliet

- Marquette-Joliet Consistory #104
- Marquette-Joliet Assembly #87



Orient of Illinois

- Valley of Chicago
- Valley of Springfield
- Valley of Carbondale
- Valley of East St. Louis
- Valley of Rock Island
- Valley of Waukegan
- Valley of Rockford
- Valley of Joliet



By the assistance of Illustrious Richard E. Moore, Lieutenant Grand Commander, the first Assembly of the Order of the Golden Circle was established in 1916 by Illustrious James Francis Rickards, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander.

Valleys of the Orient of Illinois

Established May 8, 1913

*- First Deputy of the Orient:
Illustrious Egbert Dickerson, 33*

*- First Elevation Class elevated
53 Sublime Princes in 1913*

*- First Golden Circle Assembly
formed in Chicago in 1916*

Scottish Rite Clarion News and Announcements

The swift approach of the Holiday Season begs the attention of the **Scottish Rite**. The efforts over the course of 2009 in Illinois were extensive and serve as benchmarks to the efforts for 2010. **Let's review 2009:**

- **Valley of East St. Louis:** Tyree Consistory #64 under the leadership of SGIG Melvin Frierson did a stellar job in serving its senior citizens. They provided toiletry care packages through out the year and issued Christmas Baskets to a number of citizens at large, widows and orphans. Tyree also made monetary donations to several social service agencies. The Deputy reported that these efforts will continue and hopefully expand.
- **Valley of Chicago:** In 2009 under the aegis of SGIG Ernest L. Johnson, CIC Gordon Brewer, and Western Consistory #28, over 1300 Christmas Baskets were distributed to churches, widows, less fortunate members of the Order, and the public at large. Each basket included a turkey and a variety of other edibles. In addition to the Christmas Baskets, toys and other items were delivered to foster children. The donations were made possible by monetary gifts from the membership at large. Individuals and Lodges made donations ranging from \$5 to \$500. Several "food stores" also made donations of canned goods and produce. SGIG Johnson reported the "goals" for the year 2010 include 1600 baskets, clothing, and a sit-down meal.
- **Valley of Rock Island:** GIG Matthew Parker, Jr.

reported that Tri-Cities Consistory #82 made monetary donations through out the year to the local Martin Luther King Center in the Valley of Rock Island. The King Center is a social agency that supports the less fortunate. Tri-Cities also made Christmas donations and gifts to the community.

- **Valley of Joliet:** Under the auspices of SGIG Neal Carson, Marquette/Joliet Consistory #104 donated Christmas Baskets to needy families yearly and supported local churches with monetary gifts throughout the year. SGIG Carson also reported that they provided Thanksgiving dinners to those in need in the Joliet community.
- **Valley of Waukegan:** GIG Raymond Tucker reported that North Shore Consistory #91 provided two scholarships and sponsored December Shopping Sprees for unfortunate families.

The Deputy of the Orient of Illinois, SGIG Melvin Frierson, praised the Consistories for their outstanding efforts in 2009 and challenged each Consistory, be it large or small, to get involved. He encouraged the Consistories to **establish partnerships** with their local merchants and stated this strategy could be beneficial to the Orient and communities in which we serve.

The bar for 2009 was set rather high so let's work together to surpass it in 2010.

- 2009 updates provided by GIG James A. Mitchell, 33^o

Feedback from the First Edition

"I was very pleased to see information on SGIG Frank Summers, the first Sovereign Grand Commander from the Orient of Illinois, in the very first edition."

"It did Cornerstone Lodge proud to see P.M. Buck recognized by his peers. His family was extremely proud of the love shown by the organization."

"It would be excellent to see a different individual from different parts of the Orient recognized each month."

Topics for the Next Edition

Upcoming editions of the Scottish Rite Clarion will feature the following topics:

- *Illinois Council of Deliberation—2010*
- *Illinois State Grand Assembly—2010*
- *Holiday Season Charity—Thanksgiving*
- *Updates from all Consistories and Assemblies*

Submissions Guidelines

The Scottish Rite Clarion, Official Publication of the Illinois Council of Deliberation, is set to provide Scottish Rite Masons and Loyal Ladies across the Orient of Illinois the opportunity to showcase the activities of their respective Valleys on a quarterly basis. Please forward your submissions to:

Daryl@AndrewsPress.com

Your submission will be reviewed for upcoming editions. Please be advised that articles may be edited to size. The Submissions Deadline for the next edition:

December 10, 2010

Thanks in advance for your submissions.

Daryl L. Andrews, 33^o

Editor