

MASONIC Prince Hall JOURNAL

Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois

Summer 2016

360°

of Leadership & Service

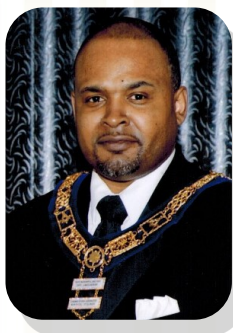


Sesquicentennial Grand Lodge Annual Communication



EDITORIAL

This edition of the Prince Hall Masonic Journal is dedicated to the newly elected and appointed officers of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, State of Illinois and Its Jurisdiction and Grand Concordant Bodies. Freemasonry is a progressive science and it is important that the Grand Lodge and Concordant Bodies work to progress with each new generation of officers. If we do not move forward, we will move backwards. Stagnation is not progress. It is akin to decline. This is the case especially if one is in a race. Just keeping pace is simply not enough. In order to win the race, one must run a bit faster, push a little more harder and outwork the competition. This type of effort will push our organizations to higher levels and ensure that our efforts are successful. As such, keep on pushing for greater days.



*Right Worshipful Brother
Daryl L. Andrews, 33°*

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NEXT EDITION CUTOFF

October 1, 2016

Please utilize one of the following options to submit articles or photos for upcoming editions:

- EMAIL to: **Journal@mwphglil.com**
- US MAIL to: **Prince Hall Masonic Journal**
809 East 42nd Place,
Chicago, Illinois 60653

ADVERTISE TODAY

Reach nearly **3,000** across the State of Illinois and beyond with information on your business or event by advertising in the Masonic Journal. Give it a try for our low advertisement costs and watch it pay dividends. To advertise, please contact our editor at Journal@mwphglil.com to determine space availability. The printing of ads in future editions of the Masonic Journal are subject to review.

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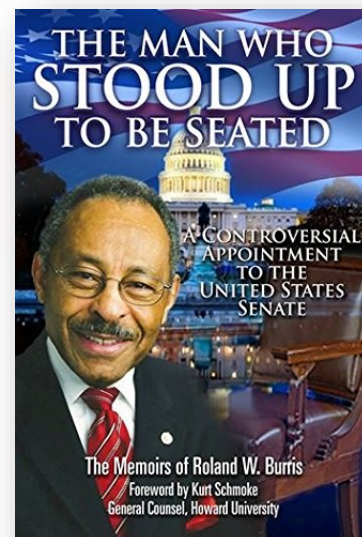
All checks are to be written to "MWPHGL of Illinois"

FEEDBACK FROM PRIOR EDITIONS

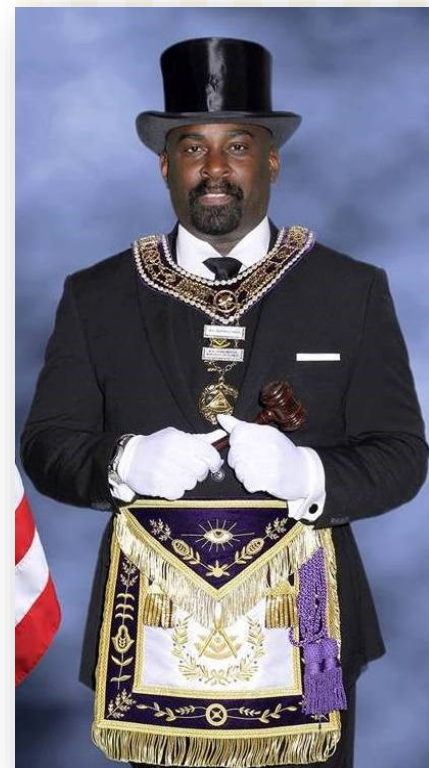
- "Thank you for the articles on the sisters. I also saw the Mary Kay ad. Looks like that was for us."
- "Liked the Prostate Cancer piece. Everyone should get one of those pins. Why not dedicate an edition to Prostate Cancer?"
- "I was proud to see the article with the Mother of the Eagle Scout. We have great youth here. Show them off more."
- "Why doesn't every district have a workshop like they do in the fourth district?"
- "So many people repeat incorrect information about Prince Hall... (he was born a slave and was actually a Grand Master). Can you print a full account of him?"
- "Someone said you Andrews are 'clones'. Would like to see a piece on family lines in Masonry so we can count the clones."



**Grand Master Smith with
Honorable Brother
Roland W. Burris**



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER



**Most Worshipful Brother
Dwayne A. Smith
45th Grand Master
of Illinois
Prince Hall Masons**



PRINCE HALL LICENSE PLATES

Prince Hall License plates are now available through the Office of the Illinois Secretary of State. Visit the following link to get started today:

https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/vehicles/license_plate_guide/princehallfreemasonry.html

IN MEMORY OF DR. SOLOMON WALLACE

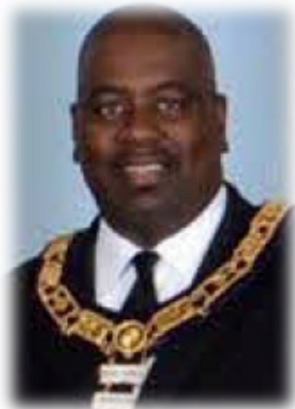


Past Grand Master of the Jurisdiction of New York, Most Worshipful Brother Solomon Wallace went to eternal rest at the age of 87 on March 30, 2016 while serving the United Supreme Council, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Northern Jurisdiction, USA, PHA as Sovereign Grand Commander. Dr. Wallace was known as a Mason's Mason whose leadership drove improvements locally in the New York Jurisdiction with the establishment of a camp for boys and nationally through his mentorship program executed under the auspices of the Northern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite. Peace be unto his ashes.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ELECTED GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

Right Worshipful Brother Michael D. Ramey Sr. (left) of Garden City Lodge #59 is the new Grand Secretary of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois. Prior to earning election, he served as Assistant Grand Secretary and long-time Grand Trustee for the Grand Lodge.

Right Worshipful Brother Jim Brown of Jachin Lodge #133 (right) is the new Grand Trustee of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois. Prior to earning election, he served as acting Grand Lodge Trustee and District Deputy





Grand Master Dwayne Smith and brethren of the MWPHGL of Illinois meet with the brethren of the Grand Lodge of Illinois in the Masonic Family Health Foundation lobby in January to facilitate Masonic relations between the only two legitimate Grand Lodges in the State of Illinois.



Grand



The Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons honored M.E.C. Kerry K. Fitch at the Annual Red and White Scholarship Ball in May of 2016. Proceeds from the efforts were enough to donate \$5,000 in scholarships to deserving students pursuing higher education.

OES Sisters Rock Retreat



Sponsored by Eureka Grand Chapter OES, the OES Sisters Rock Retreat was held in the City of Peoria on the weekend of April 30th to provides sisters with the opportunity to come together and lend mutual support, knowledge, and encouragement. The brainchild of Sister Stephanie Atwood, Worthy Grand Matron, women from across the State of Illinois joined together to participate in sessions which educated sisters on issues impacting their overall health, wellness, and finances. (Above)

Events



The Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Court Heroines of Jericho celebrated Heroine Fadra Winston-Willis, Most Ancient Grand Matron of the Grand Court in Grand Form. “Dawn of a New Day” was held on April 2, 2016 at the Double Tree Hilton in Alsip, Illinois. Most Ancient Matrons, Most Worthy Joshuas, Heroines, Companions and Brethren from each corner of the state to show their appreciation for the efforts of Most Ancient Grand Matron Winston-Willis. The Queens and King were also crowned for their efforts in raising the most funds for the affair. The Queen Contest ended in a tie as Heroine Portia DeForneau of King David Court #50 and Heroine Tara D. Lampkin of Alpha Omega Court #70 raised the exact amount of funds for ticket sales. Companion Darryl White of King David Court #50 sold the most Ads to become the new King. Congratulations to all on a successful affair.





Grand Lodge Receives Visit from Uruguay

In March of 2016 the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois received a visit from the Grand Lodge of Uruguay. This Grand Lodge is located in South America and is recognized by the United Grand Lodge of England as a regular Masonic Body. It is upon this basis that our brother from across the seas was welcomed by our own Grand Master Dwayne A. Smith.

Grand Lodge at Illinois Masonic Hospital

In order to continue the relationship established with the Illinois Masonic Hospital, Grand Lodge representatives participated in the annual meeting of the hospital board along with our brethren from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Illinois and presented a donation to contribute to the charitable aims of the hospital.



Grand Lodge Hosts Phylaxis Society Session

In April of 2016, the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois served as the host jurisdiction for the annual sessions of the Phylaxis Society and Phyllis Auxiliary. Under the direction of Right Worshipful Brother Daryl L. Andrews, FPS and Sister Lena D. Roberts, MPC, the hospitality extended by the Illinois jurisdiction was superb. Secretary of State Jesse White, Rev. Jeremiah Wright, Tyrone Jackson and Brother Adrian Cooley were honored with awards by the Society for the efforts in the community and in the brotherhood. Sister Verona Portis provided an excellent presentation on youth awareness as well. Attendees from all parts of the country including Grand Masters from five jurisdictions were impressed with the presentations. An educational time was had by all. Special thanks to the Brian L. Abrams Chapter Phylaxis Society and Eureka Grand Chapter Phyllis Auxiliary.



Conference of Grand Masters 2016



St. Johns Day Celebration in the 1st District



St. Johns Day Celebration services were held at Third Baptist Church in Chicago where the Rev. Dr. Alan V. Ragland serves as Pastor. The after service started with a parade in the Washington Heights community with community organizations to highlight the need for violence prevention and the need to produce opportunities for our youth. Alderman Brother Howard Brookins Jr., the 21st Ward Block Club Association and the Wrightwood Little

League participated in the march to show their support for the message. The services were subsequently held at the church following the march. Dr. Ragland implored the brethren to wait on the Lord, to

serve the Lord and continue to serve the community in grand style. Special thanks to Brother Lafayette Gatling who provided the float for the parade which helped to convey the message that was sent and received loudly and clearly—“Masons are here to serve the community”.



St. Johns Day Celebration in the 4th District

As custom dictates, the Prince Hall Masonic Family Southwestern Illinois 4th District celebrated St. John’s Day at North End Missionary Baptist Church, 463 North 89th Street, East St. Louis, Illinois at 3:00 p.m. where the where the Reverend Paris Johnson is pastor.

The Host Lodge for this year’s services was Saint Paul Lodge #42, East St. Louis, Illinois where Past Master Eric Pollion sits as Worshipful Master. This year, the following lodges in the 4th District were represented were:

- *I.H. Kelly #11 Worshipful Master, Bro. Thurman Shelby;*
- *St. Paul #42, Worshipful Master, Bro. Eric Pollion;*
- *Tuscan #44, Worshipful Master Bro. Jimmy L. Miller;*
- *Lilly of the Valley #56, Worshipful Master Alvin Childress;*
- *Joppa #79 Worshipful Master, Bro. Duerell Harley;*
- *Dunbar #97 Worshipful Master, Bro. Tyrone Davis;*
- *Southern Cross #112, Worshipful Master Samuel Millard;*
- *Jericho #120 Worshipful Master Quincy Williams;*
- *P.G. Porter #142, Worshipful Master Bro. Ricardo Bonner.*

The service started with the processional of the Masonic family (under the direction of the Marshall Bro. Christopher McKinley, Past Master, Southern Cross Lodge #112. Call to Worship by Rev. Paris Johnson and devotion led by Brothers from the various lodges in the 4th District.

The Occasion for the day was presented by Bro. Reginald Smith, #42. PM Michael Shields introduced the speaker for the day. Rev. Paris Johnson. He is a true friend and has a gift in giving the word as we all witness this afternoon. His message was from Nehemiah, 1,5. His subject was: “Time of Prayer God Answer”. His message was strong and very timely.

W. Bro. Samuel Hurd, Area Coordinator 4th District provided remarks and introduced RW Bro. Steven R. Coleman, Grand Junior Warden who Provided comment and recognized MW Bro Melvin Frierson, Past Grand Master and MW Bro. Earl D. Scott (H) Past Grand Master. To conclude the services, Rev. Johnson gave the benediction and blesses the food which was enjoyed by all.

—**HPGM Earl D. Scott**



Prince Hall History in American History

By RW Bro. Daryl L.
Andrews

Often times, Prince Hall Masonic History is separated from the fabric of American History unintentionally. Many see the history of the organization as a separate occurrence on a similar timeline. The fact of the matter is that Prince Hall History is American History and the struggles experienced by our nation have impacted it greatly. As such, American History and Prince Hall History should not be viewed through two separate lenses.

The history of the United States of America and Prince Hall Masonic History are, in fact, one in the same and lead to the same source—the American Revolutionary War. Prior to the start of the war, Hall and others received their Masonic Rites from an Irish Military Lodge whose members were attached to the British Army. Their membership granted them the right to participate in Masonic ceremonies yet did not give them the authority to meet as a Lodge. They would not gain this ability legitimately until the conclusion of the American Revolution.

Despite the participation of African Americans in the American Revolutionary War, post war America was still in a segregated state. Slavery was still in effect and racial inferiority was a concept that was regularly relegated upon African Americans. This is likely the cause for the denial of admission of Hall and his fellow brethren into the Lodges and ceremonies of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. As a result, Hall and his brethren applied for their own charter from the Premier Grand Lodge of England which was granted in September of 1784. The charter, although not received until 1787, granted them full rights and privileges as a Masonic Lodge answering directly to the Grand Lodge of England. Thus, granting them legitimacy in the eyes of one and all as African Lodge #459.

The charter is one of a few warrants issued by the Premier Grand Lodge of England that has lasted the test of time. It is this document that is revealed bi-annually at the ceremonial opening of African Lodge in Massachusetts (pictured right) in commemoration of the first opening of

June 24, 1717

Grand Lodge of England organized at the Goose and Gridiron in London

July 17, 1751

Grand Lodge of England Split into two separate Grand Lodge—**Premier** and Antient.



June 16-17, 1775

Prince Hall and other African American men participate at the Battle of Breeds Hill (Bunker Hill) fighting against British Forces under the company led by George Middleton titled “The Bucks of America.” The company received its banner (left) from John Hancock after the battle.

1733

Henry Price granted a charter to a group of Boston Freemasons in the American Colonies.

March 8, 1775

Prince Hall and 14 others made Master Masons **prior** to the American Revolutionary War.

April 19, 1775

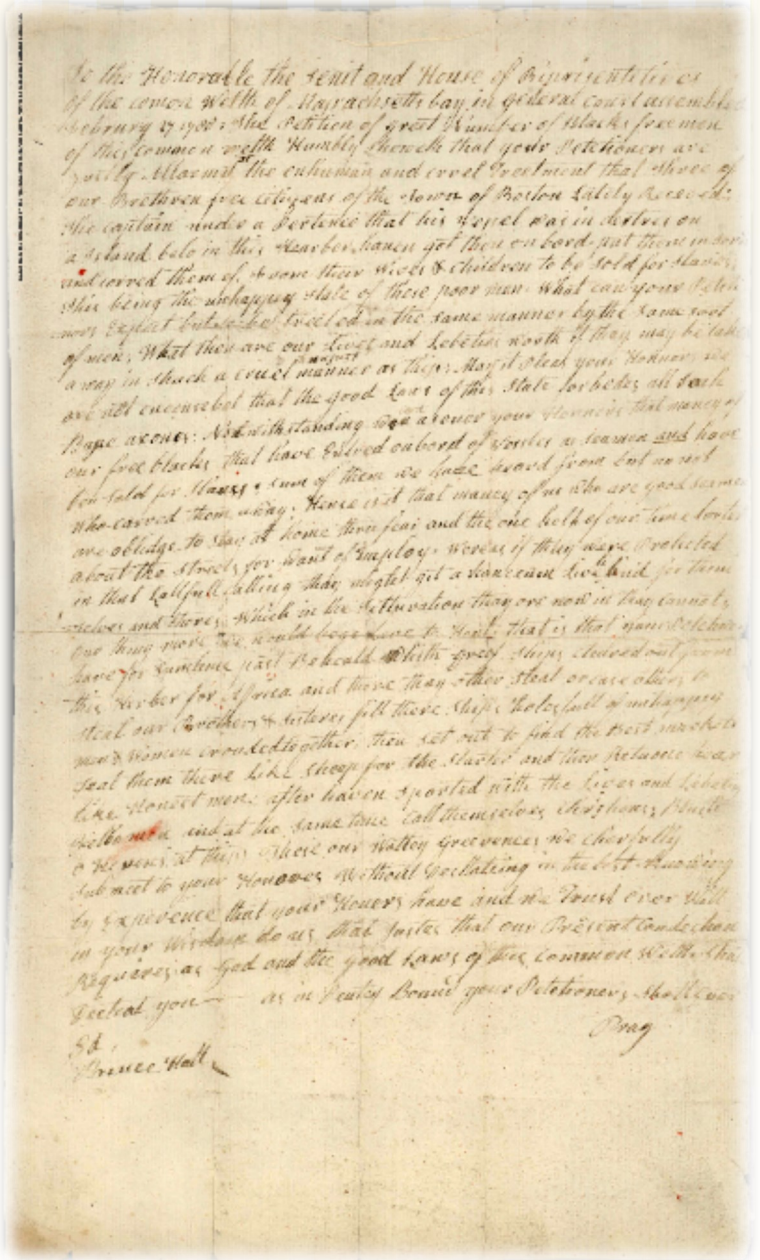
Battles of Lexington and Concord mark the first military action of the American Revolution.



The original Charter of African Lodge #459. (top)

2016 Degree Team for the Ceremonial Opening of African Lodge. (above)

Grand Master Dwayne A. Smith serving as Senior Deacon on the Team pictured with the original charter of African Lodge. (left)



July 4, 1776

The Declaration of Independence from Britain adopted by the Second Continental

September 3, 1783

Treaty of Paris ends Revolutionary War and declares America as a Sovereign nation.

March 2, 1784

After being denied recognition by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and in order to practice Freemasonry, Prince Hall and the 14 other Masons applied for a warrant from the **Premier** Grand Lodge of England to form a regular Lodge of Afro-American Masons in Massachusetts.

September 29, 1784

Premier Grand Lodge of England grants Charter for African Lodge #459 with Prince Hall As the

April 29, 1787

After two years in delays, Charter for African Lodge #459 delivered to Prince Hall.

September 17, 1787

Draft of Constitution for the United States of America completed.

March 26, 1788

Petition to prohibit the slave trade in Massachusetts adopted by legislature. (Photo Above)

African Lodge in May of 1787 after the charter was received. The charter, which is the most prized document in all of Prince Hall Freemasonry, represents more than just a Masonic document to many. It is an American artifact that should be cataloged among the precious papers that are held near and dear to the country. It represents the recognition of true brotherhood despite racial differences across international boundaries.

It is upon this basis that Prince Hall and his fellow citizens engaged in civic efforts to ensure that this same recognition, the brotherhood of man, was implemented in his locale. Within months of the completion of a draft of the Constitution of the United States of America, Hall and his fellow citizens petitioned the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to end the practice of the Slave Trade within the Commonwealth. This effort and prior attempts were the catalysts that drove the legislature to adopt the act which prohibited the Slave Trade and illegal abduction and sale of freedmen into Slavery in March of 1788.

This effort and other subsequent efforts by Hall confirmed that his focus and the focal points of African Lodge were set squarely on improving the communities in which members lived and served. During the timeframe where George Washington was being inaugurated and the Bill of Rights ratified, Hall and his brethren continued to lobby the legislature for educational programs for black children and training for the recently freed. When rebuffed, they took matters in their own hands by transforming their homes into schools for children, aiding slaves on their pathways to freedom and training them for future opportunities. These efforts drew the attention of other prominent African American men and organizations which led to joint efforts to satisfy the aforementioned

goals. There comradeship and mutual concern for the community prompted more men to gain membership into the Masonic ranks and extend the organization to new bounds.

Members of the Free African Society, which was formed in 1787, in particular, became prominent members in the Masonic ranks by the end of the 18th Century. The founders of the Society, Absalom Jones and Richard Allen, were both inducted by Prince Hall as they shared the belief in the brotherhood of man under the fatherhood of God. Hall issued a public charge in 1792 which highlighted the need to aid abolitionists efforts and build stronger communities. This shared sentiment preached well to many particularly during the period in which the Federal government enacted the Fugitive Slave Act of 1793. As such, Hall, Jones and Allen stepped up their civic efforts.

The Fugitive Slave Act of 1793, effectively, deputized American citizens giving them the right to return slaves who had fled northward to freedom. Often times, freed men were abducted, claimed as slaves and sold into Slavery contrary to the act passed by the Massachusetts legislature in 1788. This is most recently portrayed in the film released in 2013 titled “12 Years a Slave” depicting the story of Solomon Northup. He was a free man who had been abducted and sold into Slavery. To combat acts like these by American citizens, civic efforts by Afro-American leaders increased greatly. This prompted Prince Hall to give another charge in 1797 to mobilize his troops.

Hall’s charge of 1797 did not fall on deaf ears as it not only inspired the efforts of Masons by also the community at large. As such, Jones and Allen stepped up their civic efforts and joined the Masonic ranks along with their supporters. This group established a second branch of African Lodge in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1797. Shortly

April 30, 1789

George Washington inaugurated as first President of the United States of America.

1794

African Episcopal and the African Methodist Episcopal Churches (AME) founded.

March 4, 1797

John Adams inaugurated as second President of the United States of America.

March 4, 1801

Thomas Jefferson inaugurated as third President of the United States of America.

December 15, 1791

Bill of Rights ratified.

December 8, 1794

Paul Revere elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

March & June 1797

Branches of African Lodge established in Philadelphia, PA and Providence, RI.

1803

Prince Hall turns his home into a school for African children.

1793

Fugitive Slave Act

thereafter, a third branch was established in Providence, Rhode Island. From this nucleus, Prince Hall Freemasonry extended itself as a civic organization and continued to focus on community improvement through well through Washington’s Presidency and beyond.

The extension of African Lodge #459 in 1797 into branches and, subsequently, separate Lodges produces a view point that often contradicts with principles of Masonic regularity. A Lodge cannot establish another Lodge according to these principles. However, considering the times and the circumstances, the manner in which the extension was executed was warranted.

Even though the charter of African Lodge was a valid charter stemming for a valid source, the Lodge was not accepted as a regular Lodge by those Lodges attached to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. This was, most likely, due to the racial climate of the day. Non acceptance of the branches of African Lodge in Philadelphia and Providence were likely due to the premise that only a Grand Lodge can charter a subordinate Lodge. While the latter conforms with current standards of regularity, there was much unrest during this period on the topic.

With regard to a Lodge establishing another Lodge and being accepted, several precedents had already been established as noted by famed abolitionist and Past Grand Master of Ohio (Colored), John Jones. In his article “A Colored Mason’s Defense of Prince Hall Lodge and Its Offspring” published in the Chicago Daily Tribune on January 30, 1876, Jones cites the formation of Lodges in Germany by other Lodges to quell a contrast offered by the Grand lodge of Ohio (Caucasian) in January of 1876. The Lodge of Unity in Frankfort organized The Lodge of Unity in Nuremburg. The Lodge of Aux Trois Globes was also organized in Berlin on September 13, 1740 without

authority from a Grand Lodge. These Lodges were all eventually accepted as regular Lodges by the Grand Lodge of England because the mother Lodge was considered regular. Jones alleged that the decision to accept those Lodges as regular Lodges was tied to race. Masonic scholars in today’s era claim the same relative to the initial acceptance of African Lodge and her branches by the Massachusetts Masonic community.

All things considered, it is impossible to withdraw the racial climate from the conversation relative to the expansion of African Lodge #459 into branches. As the mother Lodge could tie itself back to a legitimate source, the children should have been accepted in the same manner as it was done for those Lodges in Germany. Hence, per Jones, the argument posed by the Grand Lodge of Ohio (Caucasian), was from a prejudiced perspective without consideration of the precedents that had already been set. Further, as the precedents were common among the Masonic scholars of that day, the only basis for prejudicial treatment was race.

Even though race played a large role in the social machine of the 18th and 19th Centuries, Afro-American leaders fought through the challenges to improve the state of their communities. In religious circles, Absalom Jones and Richard Allen worked to provide relief and increase faith. The opening of the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas and the formation of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME) in 1794 are shining examples of both. Mother Bethel AME was opened as an educational center by the Free African Society in 1795 to educate black youth. Hall continued to prod the legislature to fund education for black children. Rather than wait for the seals of approval, he and the brethren of African Lodge utilized his home as a school for the children in 1803.

1803

Louisiana Purchase

1803

Absalom Jones turns his home into a school for African children in Philadelphia.

1804-1806

Lewis & Clark Expedition

December 7, 1807

Death of Prince Hall



1808

African Grand Lodge organized



March 4, 1809

James Madison inaugurated as fourth President of the United States of America.

June 8, 1812

War of 1812 between America and the British Empire

December 27, 1813

Premier & Antient Grand Lodges merge to form the United Grand Lodge of England. The **War of 1812** resulted in loss of Masonic Amity between America & England.

The death of Prince Hall on December 7, 1807 is a critical point in the history of Afro-American Freemasonry in the United States of America. From Hall's efforts and those of the brethren of the branches of African Lodge #459, their communities had been uplifted tremendously during an era in which Slavery and the slave trade were still legal; in which racial barriers extended far and wide; and where the political leaders of the day and age were not easily acquiescing to the demands of free black men. Despite the challenges, the Craft had extended to civic-minded men across the northeast portion of America who maintained the focus of improving the conditions for the Afro-American communities in which they lived and served. It is with this point of focus in mind that Afro-American Freemasonry extended across North America with the extension of the United States of America and the Afro-American church.

Following the death of Hall, the brethren of African Lodge of Boston, African Lodge of Philadelphia and African Lodge (Hiram) of Providence worked to position themselves for a permanent, united standing in America. As such, the three branches, which had operated separately as individual Lodges since formation, organized and formed a home in 1808, the African Grand Lodge, as its governing body.

The War of 1812 and the union of the two Grand Lodges of England (Premier and Antient) changed the relationship between American Lodges and the Grand Lodge of England. In 1812, Great Britain and France were engaged in the Napoleonic War. With economic sanctions laid on America by both nations due to the wartime state, travel across the high seas by American vessels was often met with conflict. The British Navy engaged in the practice of impressment of American vessels as a method to restrict American trade. These acts drove America into war with Great Britain which became the War of 1812.

The battles between America and Britain were waged on land and sea. Although the United States suffered the burning of the nation's Capitol in 1814, American forces were able to fend off subsequent invasions. For Britain, battles on two fronts between America and France caused a drain on her resources. As such, the war ended as a stalemate with the Treaty of Ghent on February 17, 1815.

In the eyes of many scholars, the War of 1812 and the Napoleonic War was also a driving force for the Masonic union in England. On December 27, 1813 in the midst of two wars, the Premier and Antient Grand Lodges united to form the United Grand Lodge of England. The settlement of the rolls found many American Lodges to be removed from amity with the United Grand Lodge. Thus, began the period of separation of African Lodge to England.

<<< MORE IN THE NEXT EDITION >>>



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The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois
salutes the

2015-16 MASON OF THE YEAR



Worshipful Brother Harry Barnett Jr.

I.H. Kelly Lodge #11

Belleville, Illinois

Unification 2016





Wisconsin
Jurisdiction



Illinois AF&AM
Jurisdiction



Missouri
Jurisdiction



Michigan
Jurisdiction



District of
Columbia
Jurisdiction



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 9, 2016

I am pleased to join in celebrating your 150th anniversary.

Throughout our Nation's history, places of worship have brought us together in the spirit of faith and love. Offering space for celebration in times of joy and comfort in times of uncertainty, they help foster a strong sense of community and call on us to meet life's most sacred responsibility—to give of ourselves in service to others.

As you mark this special milestone, I hope you take pride in your community's commitment to faith. May the years ahead be filled with continued blessings.

GRAND LODGE AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR 2016



MASON OF THE YEAR
Anthony L. Atwood, #108



CITIZEN OF THE YEAR
Honorable Rita Mayfield



MASTER OF THE YEAR
Timothy Davis, #59



LODGE OF THE YEAR
Keystone Lodge #15

Someone You Should Know

Sister Kathy Davis of Estella Chapter #3 , OES



Sister Kathy L. Davis has been working for the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs for over 35 years. She was looking forward to retirement last year but recently was promoted to Grant Assistant.

Outside her job, Sis Davis is an advocate in the Communities throughout Illinois in reaching out the veterans regarding current and new benefits. Ms Davis provides workshops voluntarily as needed to churches, organizations, etc. Some veterans are not aware of benefits they may be entitled to receive. With these workshops she provides this information is provided.

Sister Kathy Davis is a member of Estella Chapter No. 3 and serve as Grand Trustee of the Eureka Grand Chapter, OES-PHA.

Proudly Celebrating 101 Years of Service to the Community
NAACP DECATUR BRANCH HONORS VETERANS



Pictured in the nearly centered front with the Veterans from Decatur are President Dr. Jeanelle Norman, and Ms. Kathy Davis, Illinois Department of Veterans. To the extreme right is Air Force Veteran, Michael Diggs, Chair of the Veterans Affairs Committee.

The veterans attending the Dinner Celebration to honor them declared it as a “great experience.” Some of the veterans had attended other events in which the Decatur Branch had bestowed honors upon them. However, this time, the presentation by Ms. Kathy Davis proved to be beneficial to the veterans. The Viet Nam veterans were presented with a commemorative paper from President Obama as well as several other useful items. The veterans represented all branches of the Armed Forces. Some had fought in World War II, Gulf War, and Vietnam War. When Ms. Davis told the veterans that she would be willing to return to give a workshop, they were elated. Most of the veterans were not familiar with the information she presented and are eager to learn more about the benefits available to them.

Several of the veterans informed us that they had made contact with Ms. Davis and will be receiving some benefits to which they had not been cognizant. We commend Ms. Davis for sharing with us and for a job well done! The goal of the Branch’s Veterans Affairs Committee is to present a workshop for veterans in the near future.

PAST MASTER ALBERT HAYNES, III., #116

“Making A Health Care Dream A Reality for the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge-State of Illinois”

As the Grand Historian it is with great honor to write this article on my colleague, Past Master Albert Haynes, III. Of Plumblin Lodge, #116, an amazing man who is truly someone you should know. Professionally Worshipfully Brother Haynes, III., is a Pharmacist with Walgreen’s located on Chicago’s near north side. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois, Class of 1984. For over thirty years, Worshipful Brother Haynes has provided health care services to this community. He has gained the community’s trust and is respected by his peers at Walgreens. Because of his passion for health care for all human beings, he dreamed of providing the same medical health care for the community through the form of flu-shots.



Worshipful Brother Haynes, III., dream started in the year 2011 and it is now 2016 (five years later). The flu-shot program has expanded across the State of Illinois and its service is being provided in all of the Districts for the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Jurisdiction of Illinois. Worshipful Brother Haynes, III., is a member of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge Medical Unit consisting of brothers who are paramedics by profession and sisters who are nurses by profession.

Brothers and Sisters, let me tell this story from the beginning and hopefully at the conclusion you will agree that Worshipful Brother Haynes, III., is truly an amazing man. On June 18, 2011, Worshipful Brother Haynes, III., established a dialogue between his employer, Walgreens, and the Grand Lodge in an effort to do charitable work for the community. The dialogue pertained to the possibility of establishing a community service program to have an off-site flu-shot program for senior citizens. Due to Worshipful Brother Haynes, III., persistence and his dream to medically serve the black community, he revisited and discussed the matter on September 26, 2012 with Grand Master Millard V. Driskell to use the Grand Lodge as an off-site facility for flu-shots. The Grand Master approved the effort.

On November 3, 2012, history was made at the Grand East. The historical event was an all day activity that involved three community service programs conducted simultaneously including administering of flu-shots; medical testing to determine if a person is at risk of contracting the Alzheimer’s Disease; and administering a diabetes/kidney screening test program. The first flu-shots ever conducted at the Grand East were administered by Worshipful Brother Haynes, III., and his professional Walgreen’s staff. The Alzheimer’s and the Diabetes/Kidney



Screening Programs were initiated by Dr. Joe Harrington, an employee with the Illinois Department of Health. The professional staff of the Thapelo Institute conducted the Diabetes/Kidney Screening Program for the third time in three years. Rush University Medical Center through its Rush Alzheimer’s Disease Program, staff conducted a mental Alzheimer’s memory test on participants to determine Alzheimer’s potential or if any were at risk for dementia. All service programs were successful.

On November 22, 2012, at the Grand Lodge Annual Thanksgiving Dinner for the less fortunate, Worshipful Brother Haynes, III., and his staff were at the Grand East again administering flu shots to a new group of community participants as well as members of the Prince Hall Masonic Fraternity. It is because of Worshipful Brother Haynes, III., dream to medically serve the black community through the administering of flu-shots that the community and the Prince Hall Masonic Family members are a little bit more healthier.

In addition to the many professional accolades Worshipful Brother Haynes, III., has received from his employer, he is also the Assistant Grand Historian for the Grand Lodge; Past Most Wise and Perfect Master, Hiram Chapter # 28-House of the Rose Croix; and Western Consistory No. 28-Grand Inspector, 33° Mason. Further, Illustrious Brother Haynes, III., is the recipient of the Illinois Council of Deliberation 2015 Meritorious Service Award which is the highest award awarded to a Scottish Rite Mason. Illustrious Brother Haynes, III., was a principal team member on the 2015 Illinois Council of Deliberation (ICOD) 33° Degree Team who made 33° Degree Masons at the 2015 United Supreme Council Session held in Chicago, Illinois. Sovereign Grand Inspector General Melvin Frierson, 33°, Deputy of the Orient of Illinois, was very pleased with the Degree work done by the ICOD 33° Degree Team. According to S.G.I.G. Frierson, Deputy of the Orient, “this level of degree work conducted by Illustrious Brother Haynes, III., and members of the ICOD Degree Team is normally reserved for members of the United Supreme Council”. What an accolade.

There is no doubt that Worshipful Brother Albert Haynes, III., emulates the true character of a good and worthy Mason. With the support of his wife, Mrs. June Haynes, yes, he is an amazing man. With the feats that he has accomplish he is truly some one you should know. I am happy to call Brother Big Al my friend who for seven years has been a contributing Assistant Grand Historian for the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge State of Illinois.

The Installation & Charity Scholarship Banquet—Southwestern Illinois

The 32nd Annual Installation & Charity Scholarship Banquet of the Southwestern Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family was held on Saturday, January 30, 2016, 7:00 p.m. at The National Shrine, Our Lady of the Snows Conference Center, 442 De Mazenod Drive, at HWY 15, Belleville, Illinois. The Theme for the past 32 years has been “Reach Out and Touch Someone” by presenting students scholarships annually in the amount of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars each. This year we presented scholarships to 10 students, at a cost of \$5,000.00. The presentations of Scholarship Awards were made by HPGM Earl D. Scott, P.G. Porter Lodge # 142 and PM Rachel A. Carter, Bright Hope Chapter # 85 O.E.S. P.H.A. The students were:

- **Ashley N. Collins**—St. Louis College of Pharmacy, St. Louis, MO., Pharmacy;
- **Anna Rose Brown**—University of Missouri, Columbia, MO., Nursing;
- **Moet McFall**—Tennessee State University, Nashville Tennessee, Pre-Veterinary Medicine;
- **KWA Malik Moffett**—Xavier University, New Orleans Louisiana, Biology and Pre-Medical;
- **Zaria Barnes**—Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, Illinois, Physical Therapy;
- **George A. Baker, III**—Philander Smith College, Little Rock, Arkansas, Mathematics and Aerospace Engineering;
- **Sh’Vohonne M. Blackburn**—Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Illinois, Accounting and Theater;
- **Keyiona L. Wilson**—University of Missouri, Saint Louis Missouri, Marketing and Finance;
- **Alexis Zenon**—Saint Louis College of Pharmacy, St. Louis MO, Pharmacy;



Recognition and Presentation of Certificates to all the 4th District heads of Lodges, Chapters, Courts and Councils were made by all Grand Heads of Houses and Appendant and Concordant Bodies of the Illinois Jurisdiction.

- Grand Master Dwayne A. Smith presented certificates to all Worshipful Masters elected and Installed for the year of 2016.
- Sis Stephanie E. Atwood, WGM and Bro. DuWayne Portis, WGP did the honors for all 2016 Worthy Matrons and Patrons.
- Her. Fadra Winston Willis, MAGM and Comp. Eugene L. Washington, MWGJ presented certificates to the Most Ancient Matrons and Most Worthy Joshua’s.
- RM Joyce L. Clarke, RGPM and ICG Louis E. Greene, Jr., RGCA made the presentations to Royal Matron and Royal Chief Advisor.
- E. Ron Wilson, Deputy Grand High Priest presented certificates to Excellent High Priest Reginald T. Johnson of East St. Louis Chapter # 20 HRAM and to Eminent Commander Sir Knight Theodes Kemp of Crusaders Military Commandery # 38, Knights Templar.
- I.C. DuWayne Portis, Deputy representing M.I.C. Comp. Gordon L. Brewer, Jr. presented a certificate to Thrice Ill. Master Hernando L. Brown of Ellis T. Moore Council # 3, RSM.
- SGIG Melvin Frierson, Deputy for the Orient of Illinois presented certificates to Commander-In-Chief, Illustrious Kevin Young, Sr.; Most Wise and Perfect Master, Illustrious Frierson; and Illustrious Kermit Young, Thrice Potent Master.
- Noble R.C. Brown, Imperial Deputy, presented certificate to Ill Potentate Afredric Cathion.
- Dt. Sandra Mosley, Imperial Deputy for the Dt. Isis, East St. Louis, Illinois presented certificate to the Ill Commandress.



We the Special Effort Committee wish to express our sincere appreciation for your support in making our 32nd Annual Installation Scholarship & Charity Banquet a success. Thanks to each and everyone who have supported us in this endeavor during the past 32 years. We have awarded eight two (92) education awards during this period and contributed to numerous charity and benevolent organizations and events.

We give special thanks and gratitude to the OFFICER FUNERAL HOME for their continued support. The programs this years as in all other past years were donated by Officer Funeral Home.

We give all praises to God for what he has done and for what he is doing. May God continue to bless each of you.



Grand Lodge Sponsors Martin Luther King Day Bowling Event for Youth



Under the direction of Right Worshipful Brother Leroy Berry, the Grand Lodge hosted a bowling event for the youth on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 2016. The event became the namesake of Past Grand Master Henry Short who leveraged bowling as a way to encourage the sport with our youth. On this day, not only did the youth have a grand time, but they also learned a bit more about Dr. King's efforts to improve the African American Community.

Coe, Ashler Lodge and the Grand Lodge Deliver Water to Michigan

The spirit of charity is alive and well in Illinois. This was exhibited during the water crisis of Michigan. Marshall Coe delivered a truck load of water to the state during this time of crisis. His efforts and the subsequent efforts of brethren across the state of Illinois led to a second delivery to the state on behalf of Illinois Prince Hall Freemasonry. Fueled by donations by brethren across the state and the Century Club, the donations included over 200 cases of bottled water and other necessary accessories. All items were delivered by the brethren. Thanks to Worshipful Brother Coe for initiating the effort.



Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Do You Truly Understand This Health Condition?

Do you truly understand this health condition Multiple Sclerosis (MS)? As I explored the subject matter, I recalled knowing people suffering from MS, including the diagnosis of a family member by a Neurologist within the last 4 years, presenting symptoms leading back several years prior to the final diagnosis. Red flags (family) urged me to research factors causing of the onset of MS. Scanning back, over 25 years, each case independent and years apart. The symptoms are common in most of cases, yet variable in the severity.

In Retrospect, Moments of Reflection:

- **Fellow Fraternal Member:** *Days of extreme fatigue, pain, periodically confined to the bed and not able walk at times.*
- **Friend:** *Emotional outburst of anger, onset of paralysis in the left leg and eventually wheelchair bound due paralysis.*
- **Coworker:** *Forced to stop work; to care for a spouse fallen to extreme fatigue and inability to walk.*
- **Family Member:** *Days of extreme fatigue, numbness in extremities, head arches and pain at times.*

Do you truly understand their health condition? Answer: No. Or, How Multiple Sclerosis impacts their quality of life.

The Research to Understand MS (Multiple Sclerosis): There are many mysteries associated with MS. The National Institutes of Health indicates “no one knows what causes MS”. It may be an auto immune disease, which happens when your immune system attacks healthy cells in your body by mistake. A common theme characterizes, MS (Multiple Sclerosis) as a disease primarily impacting the central nervous system (brain, spinal cord, optic nerve and nerve cells). The nerve system travels throughout the entire body, this the pathway linking various symptoms a person suffering from MS experiences. There is a higher prevalence of MS in women than men; the onset generally begins between 20 to 40 years of age. Although, there is an onset in cases cited as early as 2 years old and as old as 70 years old. The National Institutes of Health research indicates that 1 in 1000 Americans have MS, the chances are 1 in 20 if a sibling has MS, and 1 in 4 chances if an identical twin has MS.

What causes the onset of MS: The immune system attacks the protective sheath (myelin protective coating surrounding the nerves fibers), where the MS disease may cause the nerve fibers to deteriorate or become permanently damaged, thus causing an interruption in communication between your brain and the rest of your body.

Symptoms: Fatigue, tingling or weakness in the face, arms, legs, pain, double vision, headaches, cognitive impairment (memory poor judgment, trouble focusing or multi-tasking), anxiety, mood swings, irritability, numbness, trouble walking or standing, lack of balance and coordination, breathing problems, itching, tremor, muscle tightness, burning sensations in legs, feet or hands, dizziness, lightheadedness, poor articulation of words, speaking too loud or too soft, and sounding hoarse or nasal.

Severe Symptoms: “MS hug” feels like somebody is grabbing very tight around the midsection, and “MS lassitude,” a very severe fatigue, partial or complete blindness, pain during eye movement, depression, epileptic seizures, hearing loss, speech and voice disorders - slurred speech, bowel and bladder dysfunction, sexual dysfunction and electric-shock sensations with neck movements.

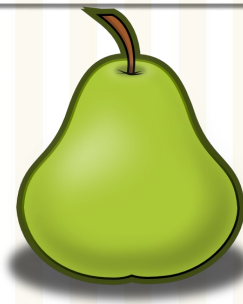
Diagnosis: 1. Neurological Diagnosis indicating damage to at least two areas in the Central Nervous System (Brain, Spinal Cord or Optic Nerve), Evidence that damage occurred at least one month apart. 2. Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) detects brain lesion/scar/plaque. 3. Visual Evoked Potentials (VEP) 4. Cerebrospinal Fluid Analysis. 5. Possible Clinically Isolated Syndrome (CIS) Inflammation or demyelization damage to the nerve cells covering. 6. Monitoring number of lesion/scar/plaque in a relapse.

Medication: Several FDA approved medications prescribed to control specific MS symptoms are currently available. Some of these medications may delay the progression of the disease, and/or reduce the number and severity of MS relapses: seven (7) Injectable, three (3) Oral and three (3) Infusion medications. The pharmaceutical industry continues to develop drug formulation for MS.

Side Effects: This is a partial combined list of side effects for injectable, oral and infusion medications. Pain in the extremities abdominal pain, dry mouth, flu like symptoms, cough, cold sweats, chills, flushing, fever, fatigue, headaches, migraines, dry skin or rash, toothache, somnolence, throat infections, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation, flatulence, injection site pain, bruising and inflammation, urine constituents, seizures, chest pain, tremor, joint pain, increased spasm, upper and lower respiratory tract infection, bronchitis, sinusitis, anemia, vasodilatation, mild renal impairment, anorexia, anaphylaxis, acute hypersensitivity, gastroenteritis, urinary tract infection, vaginitis, menstrual disorder, alopecia, edema, decrease lymphocytes, liver injury, elevated hepatic enzymes, elevated total bilirubin, yellowing (jaundice) of the skin and eyes or dark urine, PML- progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (a rare deadly brain disease), depression, psychiatric disorders, suicide, bradycardia and fetal risk.

Take a look, a window-view of a blogger suffering from MS: whatsbehindmysmile.wordpress.com

NUTRITION: ARE YOU AN APPLE OR A PEAR?



In my research, I found that, for years, experts thought people with apple-shaped bodies had greater worries. Fat stored in the stomach area puts them at a higher risk for health problems, such as diabetes and heart disease. They also believed that pear-shaped folks, who stored their fat in the buttocks, thighs and hips, were protected from these health issues. However, a recent study shows that the belief about pear-shaped people may not be correct. In the study, experts found that both pear-shaped and apple-shaped people had an increased risk of metabolic syndrome. Metabolic syndrome is a group of risk factors, such as high fasting blood glucose, high blood pressure and lower HDL “good” cholesterol levels, that can lead to type 2 diabetes and heart disease.

Fat stored in the buttocks, thigh and hip area doesn’t just sit there. It’s active and releases two proteins: chemerin and omentin-1. People with high chemerin levels also tend to have high blood pressure, increased insulin resistance, increased signs of inflammation, high triglycerides and lower levels of HDL cholesterol. Those with low levels of omentin-1 had high triglycerides, a high blood glucose level and a low level of HDL cholesterol.

Keys To Weight Loss: If you carry extra weight in either your stomach or your buttocks, hips and thighs, losing weight will lower your chemerin level, which in turn, reduces your risk of metabolic syndrome and heart disease. Losing weight isn’t always easy, but it can be done. As a pear or an apple, you may be tempted to do belly-focused or butt-focused exercises to reduce the fat stores in these areas. While spot-focused exercises can help tone and strengthen muscle, they don’t reduce the fat in those areas. Your best bet is to focus on the health of your entire body.

How People in the National Weight Loss Registry Drop Extra Pounds and Kept It Off

- Ninety (90%) percent exercise, on average, about one hour per day. Many choose to walk as their form of exercise.
- Seventy Eight (78%) percent eat breakfast every day.
- Seventy Five (75%) percent weigh themselves at least once a week.
- Sixty Two (62%) percent watch less than 10 hours of TV per week.

Get Your Sleep: People who sleep fewer than seven hours a night or more than nine hours a night are more likely to gain weight than people who sleep seven or eight hours a night. If you are worried about your growing belly, increase your soluble fiber intake. Research shows that people who consume 10 g of this type of fiber every day store less fat in their belly area. Food sources include nuts, beans, dried peas, flaxseeds, lentils, oatmeal, oat cereals and oat bran, psyllium, carrots, celery, cucumbers, apples, pears, blueberries and strawberries.



So, now you have it. Apple, Pear or any shape you may have, let’s focus on becoming a healthier you.

Eat Healthy, Stay Healthy and be Happy.

THE DOCTOR’S VISIT

Remember your appointment date & time (program it in your calendar – booklet, smart phone, tablet or computer).

Schedule an email 2 to 3 hours before your appointment.

Reason for visit: Write on a notepad or text information to yourself, i.e. Follow up Appointment, Medication Refill, Condition Symptoms or Medication Side Effects.

Focus on the Reason for the visit: Ask questions about your condition (Improve the Quality of the Doctor’s Visit).

Schedule Future Appointments and Refills before leaving.

Follow the Medical Instructions.

RESOURCES:

- National Multiple Sclerosis Society—nationalmssociety.org
- The Multiple Sclerosis Association of America—mymaa.org
- Mayo Clinic—mayoclinic.org
- National Institutes of Health—nih.gov, nccih.nih.gov
- National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke—ninds.nih.gov
- US National Library of Medicine—ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

THE SICK COMMITTEE (VISIT A MEMBER)

Make a courtesy call first, before you can visit.

Respect the member’s health condition, don’t empower yourself to diagnose him or her.

Ask if he or she would like to stay on the sick list.

Report your visit or call, in a written format with findings & recommendations during the meeting.

Remember - There are good and bad days and nights.

- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association—asha.org
- American Academy of Neurology—aan.org
- American Occupation Therapy Association—aota.org
- American Physical Therapy Association—apta.org
- American Academy of Pain Medicine—ainmed.org
- American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation—aapmr.org

Keystone #15 Builds Strong Foundation

Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.—Matthew 7:24-27 King James Version (KJV)

In operative terms, “*foundation*” can be defined as the lowest load-bearing section of a building, typically below ground level. The functional heart of the concept lies in the fact that the most valuable part of a completed structure is commonly unseen by the naked eye. Even though we cannot easily view its subterranean existence, a structure would crumble without it. Moreover, humans at a very early age realize that stable construction primarily begins from the earth and extends to the heavens, while attempts to the contrary prove ill-fated. In similitude, any association that does not have a firm base will not grow and transcend. Families without strong roots will eventually fail its descendants, a basketball squad overrun by selfish players will never win a championship and a Freemason without foundational ritualistic knowledge cannot realize the full potential of its purpose. “*A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.*” – Marcus Mosiah Garvey, Jr.

To safeguard our strong foundation and in accordance with the MWPGLIL’s immediate goal of a “return to the basics of ritualistic knowledge and performance”, Keystone Lodge #15 is proud to offer a series of **Foundational Freemasonry Presentations**. The introductory segment entitled “1st Steps: Exploration of the Entered Apprentice” was held Saturday February 13th at Keystone Lodge #15 in Aurora, IL and was a resounding success!

Those in attendance were treated to a comprehensive educational offering by the speaker, Past Master Antonio Terry. His delivery not only included a synopsis of the Entered Apprentice degree for younger brothers, but it also served as a timely review for “seasoned veterans of the craft” who may not have recently revisited the concepts therein. The audience composition was varied to include Right Worshipful Brother, Aubrey K. Barlow, Deputy Grand Master, several 2nd District Deputies, Past Masters, Worshipful Masters, Wardens and Brethren from Lodges throughout Illinois. Among the brethren interestingly enough, were two freshly initiated Entered Apprentices who absorbed the navigation of the ritualistic symbols and processes with neophyte enthusiasm.

Along with the vast array of 1st degree metaphysical concepts, Past Master Terry introduced the operative masonic term of “*tuckpointing*” which is the common maintenance practice of repairing mortar joints that have become debonded or cracked over time. The rehabilitation process prohibits water entry into brickwork and thus prevents the deterioration of the overall structure. In comparison, habitual review of the foundational esoteric portions of Freemasonry allows Master Masons to keep enthusiasm high despite the constant deluge of bureaucracy, politics and stagnation that may become imbedded within any organization. During the discussion portion of the event, several Brothers confessed that the current unbalanced focus on the “business as usual” portions of Freemasonry have left many disenfranchised.



As a result, Keystone Lodge #15’s foundational series seeks to offer brethren a unique opportunity to rediscover the love of the artful science that may have been lost along the way. It presents a much needed respite from systematic redundancies that lead to information constipation. These presentations allow us to genuinely meet on the level with the freedom to choose to become better men. As the next installment in the series approaches, we look forward to continue sharing in the building experience with one and all.

L-R: Paul Trice, Don Cook, Adrian Cavazos, Johnny Smith, Prentis Jones, Joel Keeton, Stanley Williams, PM William Branch, Jr., Nobie Mercer, RWB Aubrey Barlow, Ontario Durns, Joseph Vincent, Antonio Terry

Joppa #79 Supports Arthur “Flash” Johnson Annual Charity Boxing Tourney

Joppa Lodge #79 volunteered at the Arthur “Flash” Johnson annual charity boxing tournament held at the Jacki Joyner Kersee Center in E. St. Louis in June of 2016. The competition brought competitors of all ages from all over the country. The event was well attended and was blessed by Jacki Joyner Kersee herself (above). Under the direction of Wor. Brother Durrell Harley,



Joppa assisted in every capacity. Funds for this event were being raised for renovation of the foundations new home on State Street in E. St. Louis as well as programs the outreach provides for underprivileged youth. Great Job!!!

Team of Cornerstone #91 Coach Wins Illinois District 15 Title



The Wrightwood Little League Allstars won the District 15 Championship for the Major Division for the first time in the history of the league. Without the direct support of Cornerstone Lodge #91 and donors from the Grand Lodge, the resources needed to push the team over the edge would not have been obtained. Special congratulations to Right Worshipful Brother Daryl Andrews, Grand Treasurer, who was an Assistant Coach to the Allstar Team, to his son, Dorian Andrews (C, P, 1B, 3B, CF) and to the brethren of Cornerstone Lodge #91 who provided direct support in service hours.

Watch City #131 Hosts 3rd Annual Friends & Family Day in Elgin

Watch City Lodge No. 131 hosted its 3rd annual Friends & Family Day on Saturday, June 25, 2016 at Wing Park in Elgin, IL. It was a very beautiful day! Many children, teens, and adults from the Elgin **community** participated in this free event. There was scrumptious food, excellent music, dancing, games, laughter, and lots of fun! “Watch City is very pleased to provide our community with a free and fun event”, says Jerry Alexander, Worshipful Master. According to Alexander, “our lodge’s mission is to provide services to the Elgin community throughout the year, which includes free back-to-school haircuts and school supplies for Elgin’s school age children, feed-the-need program during various holidays, tutoring and mentoring our youth, picnics as well as other social events.”



Mt. Moriah #28 Sponsors Job Fair



In alignment with the Grand Master's efforts to increase community involvement, the brothers of Mt. Moriah Lodge #28 invested in its community by continuing to build on the great things our fraternity does. Under the direction of Worshipful Brother Larry Burnett, the brethren of Mt. Moriah hosted a job fair in order to provide opportunities for those in need of employment and for those interested in new opportunities for careers. Over 15 employers and upwards of 300 job seekers candidates showed up for the fair. Many were interviewed on site by various companies which included the City of Evanston. What better way to show care for your community than to ensure that community residents have an opportunity to gain the American dream and sustain themselves.



Congratulations to Mt. Moriah and Worshipful Brother Burnett on a job well done.



New Yerusalem at Work



Since becoming aligned with Illinois Prince Hall Freemasonry, the brethren of New Yerusalem Lodge U.D. have been extremely active in charitable works. With faith, hope and charity being key principles in Masonic work, these brethren have put their faith to work at extreme levels through their various works of charity. Through these works, hope springs eternal not only for the Lodge but also for those whom they serve. In addition to delivering food to the homeless outside of the holiday seasons, they contribute by volunteering at shelters to feed and aid those in need in addition to providing clothing and other items to those who need it most. These efforts provide the public with a clear picture of what Freemasonry is about. Keep up the great work and excellent examples of Masonic service.



Grand Chapter HRAM Hosts Illinois Child Identification Program (ILCHIP) Event

The Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons hosted an IL-CHIP event at the Grand East in Chicago to aid in the effort to prepare families for a situation that no one would care to be in. DNA sample, voice print and other information on youth are captured and placed in the hands of the parents as a precaution should their child come up missing. This kit will immediately aid authorities in their effort to find youth in these situations. Under the direction of Carl Pickett and Carlton Smith, the team provided this information for countless youth. Keep up the great work.



Cornerstone Lodge #91 Returns to Ronald McDonald House



The brethren of Cornerstone Lodge #91 continued their annual effort to cook meals for children and families in need at the Ronald McDonald House located in Chicago's Hyde Park. The mission of Ronald McDonald House is to care for families of children with complex medical needs by providing comfort, compassion and a sense of community. The Lodge has helped to do this by purchasing,

preparing, cooking and serving these families breakfast on multiple occasions throughout the year. Efforts this year were under the direction of Brother Eric Harrell who was tasked by Worshipful Master Troy Andrews to implement the event. This effort and others have contributed to over 1,000 hours of community service performed by the Lodge this year. Great Job.



Keystone Delivers Time to Seniors

The 2008 recession wreaked havoc primarily among real-estate associated financial products, but the residual effects are still being felt throughout society. Amongst senior citizens, employee linked retirement plans lost significant value for those who were fortunate to have savings. Elder minority poverty rates are more than double of seniors overall which causes a disproportionate dependence on a quickly dwindling social security fund. Blacks and Latinos especially, are left without adequate resources to survive, much less enjoy "The Golden Years".

Senior Services Associates, Inc. is a non-profit agency dedicated to sustaining and improving the quality of life for mature adults, persons with disabilities and their caregivers by providing access to the social services they need. The organization is dedicated to preserving elderly independence, promoting mental and physical well-being, and protecting their rights and dignity. The goal of the staff is to link seniors with resources to help them live the highest quality of life possible, in their own homes as long as safely manageable; and to assist seniors and their families in making choices and decisions when other options must be considered.

Due to the fact that the Aurora, IL location is inundated with social service requests, the staff and its clients often go without the basic operating necessities. Wall clocks were one of the supply items personnel placed on their "Wish List". As Brothers of Keystone Lodge #15 observed the need, they quickly decided to fill the void by donating (10) decoratively framed wall clocks to the appreciative center.

Simple and mundane as it may seem the Lodge's interaction with the employees and clients at the Senior Services Associates center further supports our mandate to "secure the future of the Prince Hall Masonry in the state of Illinois by making our presence a relevant and integral part of our communities". As a result, Keystone lives the principal moral virtues of **Faith, Hope & Charity** by providing unending acts of benevolence to the world.



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Graduation

Photo Blasts from the Past



The State of Illinois is the home to many famous individuals who became Prince Hall Masons. These photographs are examples of this phenomenon which took place in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

BROTHER RICHARD PRYOR

No, your eyes are not deceiving you. Brother Richard Pryor was a member of Henry Brown Lodge #22 of Peoria, Illinois. After becoming a Master Mason, he became a member of Menelik Consistory #49 in the Valley of Springfield. Subsequently, he became a Prince Hall Shriner. He was also a member of Kamar Temple #65 of Champaign, Illinois in the Desert of Illinois. Noble Pryor is shown on the right in relaxed dress with his fez from Kamar Temple.

BROTHER DANIEL “CHAPPIE” JAMES

General Daniel “Chappie” James holds the distinction of being the first African American in the United States Military Forces to become a 4-star General. He is also the first General in the armed forces to join the ranks of Illinois Prince Hall Freemasonry. He was made on-site by Grand Master James H. Black Sr. Pictured along with him and General James (center) are Past Grand Master Rufus Stark, Past Grand Master Obed Vanderburg, Grand Lecturer Levi L. Rose and Deputy Grand Master Edgar Falconer.



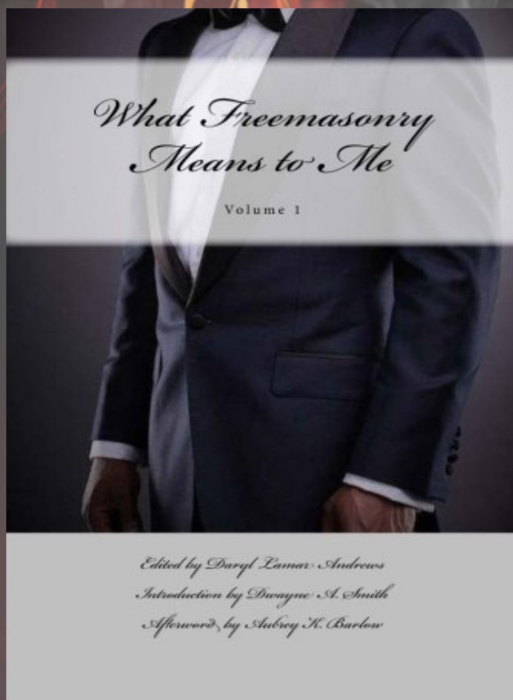
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What Freemasonry Means to Me

Volume 1

by Daryl Lamar Andrews (Editor), Dwayne A. Smith (Introduction), Aubrey K. Barlow (Afterword)



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