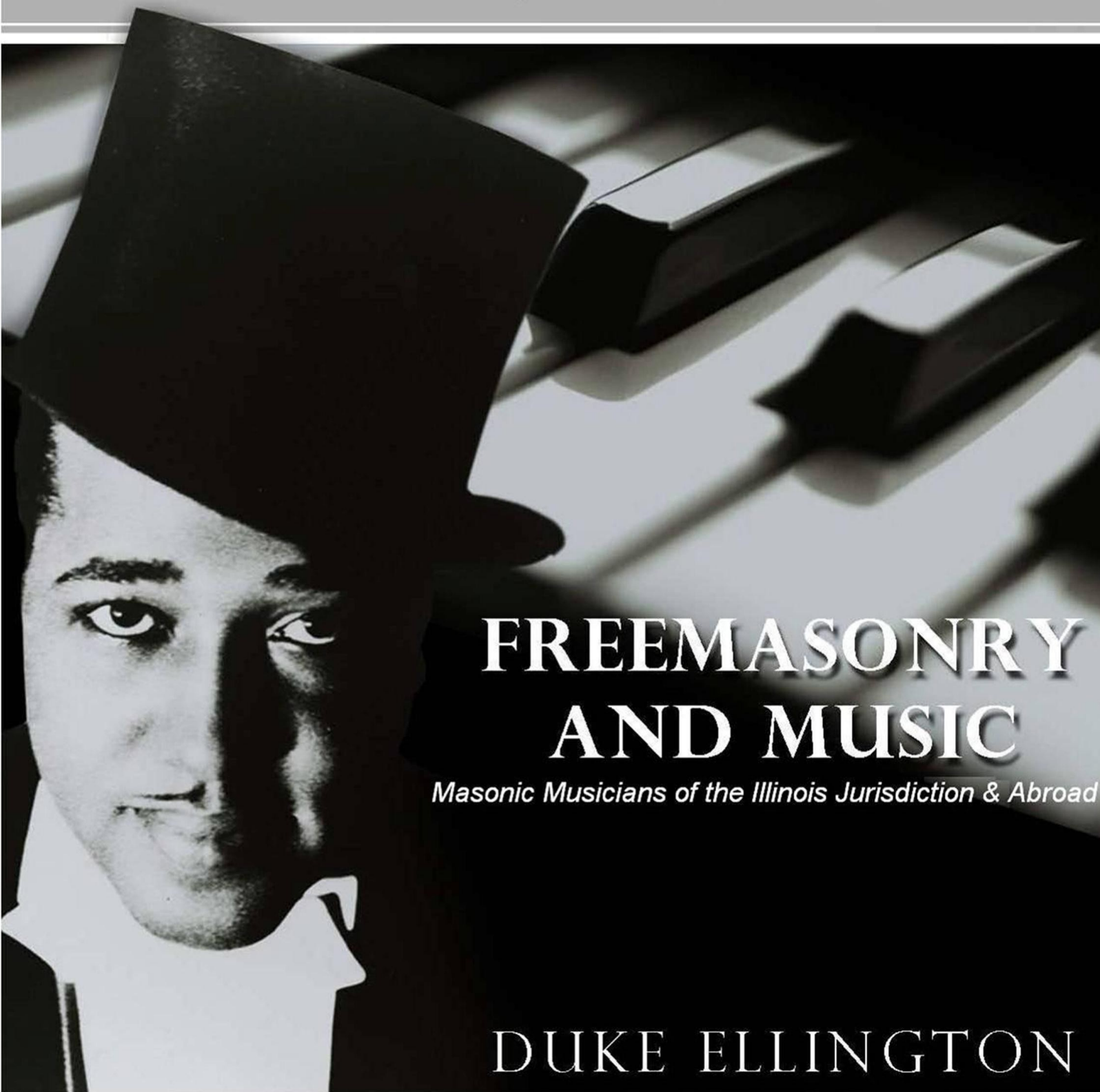


MASONIC JOURNAL

Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free & Accepted Masons, State of Illinois



FREEMASONRY AND MUSIC

Masonic Musicians of the Illinois Jurisdiction & Abroad

DUKE ELLINGTON

Most Worshipful Brother Otis Cromartie, 33°
Grand Master

FALL 2009 EDITION

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Editorial: Fathers and Music



Right Worshipful
Bro. Daryl Andrews

Happy belated Father's Day to all brethren wherever dispersed. It is important that we begin to stress Father's Day because our organization is filled with them. In a conversation with the Worshipful Master of Cornerstone Lodge #91, W. Bro. Lawrence Walker, he mentioned that "no member within our Lodge is an absentee father." The comment struck me like a bolt of lightning because it is a true statement. It is not only Cornerstone Lodge but also many other Lodges in the Illinois Jurisdiction that contain the same type of men. No offense to the ladies but young fathers, seasoned fathers and those in between

are pervasive within this organization and we must make time to give them their just due. When I joined the Lodge some time ago I was investigated by R.W. Bro. Robert Davenport and P.M. Adrian Claybon. We talked for about an hour and I was hit with all kinds of questions. Their focus was to determine the type of man I was and my answers and actions would be used as the primary source of input to my recommendation for membership. Some of the points for consideration were reliability, dexterity, responsibility, and faith. As a Mason today, these qualities rank amongst the highest and are also the same qualities that many use to rank fatherhood. Is he reliable in taking care of business and helping with the children? Is he a hard worker? Is he a provider? Is he active in his church, mosque, etc. and does his family follow his lead? These questions not only quantify fatherhood but also brotherhood in this order that we know and love. As the same barometer can be used for both, a man who can answer those questions in the affirmative is to be held in high regard.

Webster's Dictionary tells us that music is "an art form in which the medium is sound organized in time." Well, Freemasonry is practical music which prevails despite the midst of all of the turmoil that is occurring in today's day and age. In the midst of the chaos, there is order, there is harmony, there is music. Good father's, good Masons create harmony out of chaos in the same way that God brought light out of darkness. God decreed it and stood on His words. By that same token, good men, good fathers, good Masons decree their status and then stand upon it as well. When they stand together and work together on one accord, there is harmony through unity—practical music.

As good Masons, what must we now do to keep the band playing on? We must lean on that everlasting supply of wisdom. We must trust in Him who doeth all things well. We must acknowledge Him in all our ways that he may direct our paths and then follow His leadership. For by doing so, harmony will prevail.

Table of Contents

Page 2: Editorial
Page 3: Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons
Page 4: Saint Johns' Day
Page 5: Queen Esther Day / Heads of Houses
Page 6: A True Masonic Revival
Page 7: Heroines of Jericho Palm Sunday Service
Pages 8-9: Burr Oak Research Project Status
Page 10: Heroines of Jericho Honor Joshuas and Youth
Page 11: MAGM MWGJ Special Efforts
Pages 12-13: Plumblin Lodge #116, Awarding Excellence in Academics and Life
Page 14: OES Dare to Dream Luncheon
Page 15: 21st General Grand Conference, Grand Councils, Royal & Select Masters, PHA, USA, Inc. and 4th General Grand Conference of Grand Courts, Ladies of the Circle of Perfection

Page 15: Scottish Rites Crowns New Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Peers
Page 16: HRAM Feast of Zerrubabel Services
Page 17: DOI 93rd Annual Thanksgiving Day Services
Pages 18-21: Freemasonry and Music
Pages 22-23: Prince Hall Masonic Journal Editor 2008-09 Mason of the Year
Page 24: Empowerment Zone
Page 25: Leadership is Not About Being the Boss or Being in Charge
Page 26: Eyes Wide Open
Page 27: Imani Chapter U.D., OES
Pages 28-29: Prince Hall Monument
Pages 30-31: Phamily Love and Charity
Page 32: Midwest Regional Conference
Page 33: Someone You Should Know
Pages 34-35: Cross State Collaboration



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From the Office of the Grand Master



*Most Worshipful Brother Otis W. Cromartie, Sr.
Grand Master*

Back to the Basics of Freemasonry

Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth are the tenets of Freemasonry which represent the fundamental principles of our Order. Through **Brotherly Love** we are taught to regard one another with the highest levels of decency and respect. Through **Relief** we stretch the extended arm of Charity to all of mankind. Through **Truth**, that Divine attribute, we not only continue the search for truths through our various intellectual methods but also promote the very nature of being a good and true brother of the craft. These tenets are the basics of Freemasonry and must be studied well. For their application to our daily lives will ensure success.

Visit us at www.Mwphgll.com

Saint Johns' Day 2009:



Saint Johns' Day Processional from the Grand East to Grant Memorial A.M.E. Church led by the Grand Marshal, Charles Caples, Sr.

St. Johns' Day Celebration



The Baptist

St. John's Day is a very important day that is celebrated annually by freemasons across America in the month of June. St. John "The Baptist" and St. John "The Evangelist" were adopted to represent the Stonemason Guild that eventually provided the basis of Freemasonry. These two saints had very distinctive personalities that made them stand out to the Masonic Order. St. John "The Baptist" was known for being strong, uncompromising with evil or expediency yet courageous, humble, sincere, and magnanimous. St. John "The Evangelist" was known as the Disciple that Jesus loved. He is the only Apostle that



The Evangelist

was not martyred and is recognized as the Apostle of love and light, the bringer of comfort to the grief stricken, courage to the weak, help to the helpless, and strength to the falling. It is these characteristics exhibited the Saints John that are revered by Masons today as they symbolize the true purpose of the order. Remembrance of these saints on this day serves as a method to revive the same spirit of service in the Masons of today that the spirit may carry onward to future generations.

1st and 2nd Districts—Northern Illinois

An Occasional Lodge of Master Masons was opened on Sunday, June 28th by R.W. Bro. Steven Coleman, Grand Trustee to perform the necessary duties for the annual St. Johns' Day Observance. The brethren of the 1st and 2nd Districts formed in a line of procession from the Grand East and marched to Grant Memorial A.M.E. Church to celebrate St. Johns' Day in the Chicago area. The line of march included representatives from all Grand and subordinate bodies of the Prince Hall Masonic Family of Illinois and ended with the Most Worshipful Grand Master Angelo W. Jones. Invitations were sent to all unaffiliated Grand Lodges within the Chicago area. The brethren of St. James Grand Lodge, AF&AM accepted the invitation and were represented by their Grand Master Kenneth Neal, their Grand Junior Warden and Grand Senior Deacon. After receiving the word from Rev. James Moody of Quinn Chapel A.M.E. church, the brethren marched back to the Grand East to partake of the repass meal. Congratulations to the St. Johns' Day Committee under the leadership of R.W. Bro. Charles Caples, Jr., Grand Trustee on a job well done.

Esther Day: In Honor of Our Strong Sisters



**Sister Shalonda F.W. Patterson
and Brother Fred Bradley, III**

Regaled in splendor were the Heads of Houses of or the Illinois Jurisdiction— Heroines of Jericho, Holy Royal Arch Masons, Ladies of the Circle of Perfection and Royal and Select Masters, the Priory and Priorate, Grand Guild and Knights Templar, Scottish Rite Masons, Ladies of the Golden Circle, Daughters of Isis and Nobles — on Sunday, June 7, 2009. At 3:00pm all marched into the sanctuary of the St. Paul CME Church and took their seats of honor for the 110th Annual Divine Esther Day Services for Eureka Grand Chapter, OES, State of Illinois, PHA.

The Honor Circle of Past Worthy Grand Matrons and Past Worthy Grand Patrons, elected and appointed Grand officers of Eureka Grand Chapter, OES, followed the sisters in their elegant OES White adorned with their regaled collars and eloquently adorned sashes. The brothers, distinguished in their Masonic Dress, strutted through the open ranks of the "2009 AREME of Light" Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons. It was a sight to behold.

WGM Shalonda F.W. Patterson, smiling proudly, escorted by PWGP James Barsh (representing WGP Fred Bradley, III) took their seats of honor in the pulpit. R.W. Bro. Otis Cromartie, Grand Senior Warden of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F&AM, State of Illinois, distinguished as always, and Most Worshipful Brother Angelo W. Jones, Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons, were escorted to their seats of honor in the pulpit. The invocation by R.W. Bro. Cromartie took our hearts to the throne of grace and the 110th Annual Esther Day Divine Services began.

Sister Lena Roberts, PM of Talma Chapter #2 introduced the Mistress of Ceremonies for the event— Sister Stephanie Atwood, PM of Rosie E. Moore Chapter #78. The spirit was brought into the sanctuary with the congregational hymn "We've Come this Far by Faith." The food for thought was given in the scriptures from the Old and the New Testament read by Associate Grand Patron W.W. Jackson. Worthy Matron Annie Price, Talma Chapter #2, welcomed the attendees. At 100 years young, Mrs. Zelda Q. Birdsong, very graciously received the welcome on behalf of the membership of St. Paul CME Church.

The music provided by the St. Paul CME Church under the direction of LeMichael Wilson and Sister Vicki Walker, PM Emblem Chapter #140, stirred the hearts of all in attendance preparing all to receive the messages brought by the Youth Fraternity, WGM Sis. Shalonda F.W. Patterson and Rev. Dr. Bernard Johnson, Pastor, St. Paul CME Church. Our Youth shared their thoughts on "hate and discord." WGM Patterson let us know that "Our Destiny is not Easy" and Dr. Johnson asked the question "Whatever Happened to Esther?" Well, Esther is alive in each member of the Order of the Eastern Star today and it is imperative that her strength continue to be exhibited through our works.

A True Masonic Revival



3rd District Worshipful Masters and flanked by Past Grand Master Earl D. Scott and Past Grand Master Melvin Frierson.

3rd District—Southern Illinois

By MW Bro. Earl D. Scott, Past Grand Master

As custom dictate, the Prince Hall Masonic Family Southwestern Illinois 3rd District celebrated St. John's Day at Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church, 423 W. Dee Street, Lebanon, Illinois at 3:00 p.m. where the Reverend Bro. W.J. Griffin is the pastor. The host lodge this year's services was P.G. Porter Lodge # 142, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois where Bro Jerian Outlaw sits as Worshipful Master. The following lodges were represented: I.H. Kelly Lodge # 11, Worshipful Master Bro. Morris D. Taylor; Saint Paul Lodge # 42, Worshipful Master Bro. Donald C. Williams; Joppa Lodge # 79, Worshipful Master Fredrick Bro. Lathan; Dunbar Lodge # 97 Junior Warden, Bro. Calvin White; Southern Cross Lodge # 112, Worshipful Master Bro. James Campbell; Jericho Lodge # 120, Junior Warden, PM Rev Bro. Leon Peterson; and P.G. Porter Lodge # 142, Worshipful Master Bro. Jerian Outlaw.

The service started with the processional of the Masonic family, (Brothers and Sisters) marching in together under the direction of the Marshall, PM TJ Collins, P.G. Porter Lodge # 142. Call to Worship by Rev. Bro. W.J. Griffin and devotion led by Rev Bro. Leon Peterson. The Occasion for the day was presented by PM Warren Johnson, Joppa Lodge # 79. The message was delivered by Rev. Bro. W.J. Griffin pastor. His message was from Peter 2, 1-8. His subject was: "New born babies should build on a good foundation. A Special Stone." His message was strong and very up lifting.

MW Bro. Earl D. Scott, Past Grand Master, program coordinator provided remarks and introduced Sis Teresa D. Abner, Grand Conductress, Eureka Grand Chapter, O.E.S. P.H.A. representing Sis Shalonda F.W. Patterson, Worthy Grand Matron, of Eureka Grand Chapter, O.E.S. P.H.A. who provided remarks. Other dignitaries present were Noble TJ Collins, Deputy of Desert of Illinois AEAONMS, and Bro Jerome Abner, PWGP, of Eureka Grand Chapter O.E.S P.H.A. A prayerful time was had by all.

To conclude the services, Reverend Bro. Griffin gave the benediction; bless the food which was enjoyed by all.

Heroines of Jericho Palm Sunday Service

By Sister Jeanette D. Gary, PMAGM

Under the chairmanship of Past Most Ancient Grand Matron Marie Burris, the Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Court's Annual Palm Sunday Service was held at St. James Ministries COGIC where Elder Willie James Campbell is the Pastor.

Palm Sunday is the ending of Holy Week, which is the last week of Lent, immediately proceeding Easter or Resurrection Sunday. It is observed as a time to commemorate and enact the suffering (Passion) and death of Jesus through various observances and services of worship. In observing truth, many are able to draw a parable of their own lives and faith journey from the observances of Holy Week. The services becomes a powerful proclamation of the transformative power of the Gospel, and God at work in the lives of people.

The colors of Lent, Royal Purple, which is worn by the Most Ancient Matrons and Past Most Ancient Matrons of the Subordinate Courts and red violent, which is worn by the Past Most Ancient Grand Matrons of the Grand Court. Red symbolizes the shed blood and is used on Palm Sunday's to symbolize the death of Jesus as well as remembering the martyrs of the church.

The Grand Most Ancient Matron, Heroine Dianna M. Caston gave her address on Palm Sunday and the Elder Willie James Williams spoke from the book of Ruth and addressing "Why there is a Palm Sunday." What a blessing we received in songs from the choir and our own songbird, Heroine Vicki Walker.

The Senior Matrons of the Subordinate Courts were the ushers for the evening and escorted our guests and Grand Court Officers to their seats. We were honored to have in our

presence Brother Darryl Williams, Most Worthy Grand Joshua, RW Rev. William F. Redmond, Deputy Grand Master, RW Otis Cromartie Sr., Grand Senior Warden, RM Clara K. Jackson-Wright, Royal Grand Perfect Matron, Illustrious Companion Guardian Walter Anderson, Royal Grand Chief Advisor, Sister Shalonda F. W. Patterson, Worthy Grand Matron, Princess Yvonne German, representative Princess Dorothy J. Wood, Most Noble Grand Princess Captain, Sir Knight Jessie Smith, Grand Advisor, Knight Raymond Tucker, Knight Advisor and a host of others.

St. John, having the Vision, writes in the Revelation, "After this I looked and saw a vast throng, which no one could count, from every nation, of all tribes, peoples and languages standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were robed in white and had palms in their hands, and they shouted together: Victory to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb. And all the Angels stood round the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, crying: Amen, Praise and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor, power and might, Be to our God forever and ever! Amen.

Let us remember our responsibility towards the whole world and the entire nature and bring it before God as good, acceptable and perfect offering to the Lord our God.



Burr Oak Research Project

by: Brother Taej L. Murray

This project was received Thursday November 9th. The stated goal is locating, photographing and researching the history of the dedication plaque. Who dedicated it & when was the ceremony done.

Saturday November 11th 2007 I went to Burr Oak Cemetery to locate the plaque. I asked the office personnel for assistance in locating the commemorative inscription. After showing them the photo of the stone they searched their records for possible matches; including M.W., Most worshipful, Prince Hall, Grand Lodge, and the names of several Past Grand Masters. They had no record of any of these persons or a dedication. The office staff Mr. Marcus Owens stated that it wasn't in Burr Oak. With no further information provided by the office I then searched the grounds myself. After a two hour exploration I left, to get further direction regarding its location.



After receiving the name and number of a Sister Yvonne German from the Grand Master, I spoke with her and she gave me the location of the stone. Returning Saturday November 18th, 2007 I located and photographed the stone in between plots 457 & 466 on the Fair Lawn. The office then examined their records again, with no results. I spoke with Ms. Carolyn Townsend on November 30th regarding possible ownership of the stone, she informed me that she would take a look at the off site storage records and notify me of any results. A follow up meeting has been scheduled for January 9th.

I spoke with Ms. Carolyn Townsend on January 29th 2007 regarding the search of the off site records as stated in the previous report. I was informed that no documentation existed on the stones owner or when it was placed in the cemetery. She did however offer for us to maintain periodic contact, as more information may become available in the future. I will make it my personal duty to contact Ms. Townsend at least once every six months. It could also be advantageous to review any Grand Lodge documentation that could lead to further insight about the Stone.

It has become apparent with the new found information regarding Burr Oak Cemetery, mass graves, exhuming bodies to resell plots, and inexplicable greed that the documentation that I sought in 2007 could have possibly exposed this atrocity. We intend to make a trek to Burr Oak Cemetery to ascertain the location of the Plaque I initially went to gain information on as well as the other Brothers and Sisters of which I have photographs. Once this is completed a conclusion Report will follow.



Potential Courses of Action

1. Apart from the results of the historical inquiry, have a rededication ceremony of the stone. On the Fair Lawn, use this to symbolize the resurrection of the Craft in Illinois.
2. Unearthing the stone and rededicating it at the Grand East, also as a resurrection, finding that which was lost and has returned home.

The Stone's Discovery

Sister Yvonne German of Plumline Chapter 109 was at Burr Oak Cemetery to visit one of her relative's as she walked by a section on the Fair Lawn when she saw two initials on a piece of metal M.W. The rest of the stone was completely covered by rubbish. She then walked closer to inspect the object and saw that it was a Prince Hall dedication. Ms. German asked one of the grounds keepers to clear it for her. They unearthed it and cleaned the stone.

While history on the stone is currently illusive, it can be said, that which was lost has been found. I will persevere with this project and continue to inspect any possible leads that may arise.



Rememberance
The following are just a few Craftsmen who have
preceded us in the Great Work.
The following Brothers are interred on the
Fare Lawn in Burr Oak.



Piece of Peace

A concept I thought I understood
The universe so vast, much bigger than the hood
Galaxies of countless numbers fill the creation and TIME
AS I search for an understandin, to get a piece of MIND
The Creator has granted a piece, for which my consciousness can hold
So now it's my job to nurture my piece, to cultivate my very Soul
AS my piece is crafted a shining gem appears
A diamond that Peace conferred
Is overstanding here

Bro. Taej L. Murray
Assistant Grand Historian #148

Heroines of Jericho Honor Joshuas and Youth

Photos by R.W. Brother Damon P. Anderson, Sr.



Junior Heroines of Jericho Court Luncheon to honor the youth. Her. Dianna Caston and Bro. Darryl Williams honor the King and Queen.



Bro. Darryl Williams, Most Worthy Grand Joshua receives honors from the Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Court Heroines of Jericho.



Bro. Jesse Smith, Vice Grand Joshua, receives honors from the Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Court Heroines of Jericho.

MAGM MWGJ Special Efforts



"An evening of Golden Promises II" honoring Heroine Dianna M. Caston, MAGM of the Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Court, Heroines of Jericho, State of Illinois, PHA held at the Crystal Light Banquet Hall, 8400 South Cicero Avenue, Burbank, Illinois on April 4, 2009 and "An Afternoon Extravaganza II" honoring MWGJ Darryl H. Williams, Sr. held at Nikos Banquet Hall, 7600 South Harlem Avenue, Bridgeport, Illinois were two very successful events culminating the tenure of a great team.

By the attendance of the membership, the events reflected the good will and accomplishments enjoyed by the Grand Court over the course of the past two years.. Heroine Caston and Brother Williams, "The Mayor of 79th Street", were showered with gifts of love by the officers and members of the Grand Court and their darling fraternal children, the 2008 and 2009 Most Ancient Matrons and Worthy Joshuas.

The committees of both affairs worked untiringly to ensure an enjoyable time by all in attendance. "An Evening of Golden Promises II" was chaired by Heroines Cynthia Coleman and Yvette Jones. "An Afternoon Extravaganza II" was chaired by Brother Michael Patterson and Heroine Marie Burris, PMAGM. They did an outstanding job.

Golden Promises II shared with all attendees a book of "God's Promises" and "Extravaganza II" shared highlights of Brother Williams Masonic and personal life. We shall always remember "Frito Lay" chips.

As administration shared by two outstanding leaders in the persons of Heroine Dianna M. Caston, MAGM and Brother Darryl H. Williams, Sr., MWGJ culminated with grace and elegance.

1st Annual Luncheon of the Junior Heroines

What can be said about this group of outstanding young people—the Anna E. Dunmore Court #1, Junior Heroines, Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Court Heroines of Jericho? Elegant distinguished, royal, regaled, sublime are just a few of the adjectives in my vocabulary that come to mind.

Marching to the theme song of MWGJ Darryl H. Williams, Sr., "On the Ocean" by K-Jon, Queen Matron Tichina Smith and King Joshua Anfernee Greene, the officers and members of the Junior Heroines strutted into the Willie B. Evans Dining Hall. They were all regaled in the glamour of the office to kick off the 1st Annual Luncheon of the Junior Heroines on Saturday, June 13, 2009 at 1:00PM at the Prince Hall Masonic Temple, 809 East 42nd Place, Chicago, Illinois.

Per the idea of King Joshua, Past Queen Matron Jackie German served as Mistress of Ceremonies to start the affair. Inner Gate Keeper Mashae Sandfer shyly welcomed all in attendance and Vice King Joshua Henry Walton rendered a superb invocation. The audience lifted their voices proudly in the singing of "Lift Every Voice and Sing." After enjoying a wonderful lunch prepared by Heroine Marite Burris, PMAGM and staff, the King Joshua and Queen Matron were showered with gifts of love and many, many, words of praise for a job well done.

Queen Matron Smith and King Joshua Greene thanked everyone for their attendance and support of the Junior Heroine and look forward to seeing all at the 2nd Annual Luncheon next year.

Accolades upon accolades were given during the commentary to the Junior Heroines by Heroine Armetta Keith, PMAGM and ardent supporter of the Junior Heroines; Heroine DeLois Greene, Grand Mother Advisor; Brother Stanley Thompson, Grand Father Advisor; Heroine Dianna M. Caston, MAGM; Brother Darryl H. Williams, Sr., MWGJ; and Most Worshipful Brother Angelo W. Jones, Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons.

The 1st Annual Luncheon of the Junior Heroines, Anna E. Dunmore Court #1, was an outstanding success.

Plumbline Lodge #116

“Awarding Excellence in Academics and Life”

On June 9th, 2009 - Plumbline Lodge #116 continued its charitable works with its adopted school Mayo Elementary by awarding cash endowments for the four outstanding graduating students. Sis. Nadine D. Dillanado, a member of Westgate Chapter #122 and the Principle of Mayo Elementary and her staff continued their tradition in making each event at Mayo special.



An endowment of \$500 was awarded to each of the following for their excellence in academics throughout the year.

A \$300 endowment was given to each of the students whom answered the challenge made by WM. Kevin Booker during their “Black History” program, to step up and become the leaders needed in the school and communities.



Miss Claudia Lockhart
Valedictorian



Miss Dahverial Harrison
Salutatorian



Mr. Larry Gill
Leadership

Mr. Deonte Haywood
Leadership
(photo not Available)

Lets all celebrate the achievements of these and all of the graduating students.

Dare to Dream II



On Saturday, June 27, 2009, the Hazel Stillwell Education and Scholarship Committee of Eureka Grand Chapter presented “Dare to Dream II” Scholarship Reception for 13 scholarship recipients at Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, 809 East 42nd Place. This event was well attended and a good time was had by all.

Submitted by Sis Mildred A. Lloyd
Photos by Bro Bernard Brown, Sr.



The entertainment portion of the event started with a praise dance from Michaela, Trinity and Angelica, members of the Eureka Grand Chapter Youth Fraternity.

After enjoying a delicious lunch prepared by Uncle Joes, words of encouragement were given by Dr. Lela A. Bridges-Webb, Superintendent of Harvey Public Schools. She told the audience, "you should dare not to dream and it's a wonderful thing to recognize and celebrate the scholarship recipient's success". Ms. Kiara Hill entertained the audience with the song "Faith" by Vanessa Bell Armstrong.



Past scholarship recipient Ms. Di'Ana E. Anderson, daughter of Sis Dawn Anderson and granddaughter of Bro Daryl and Sis Marilyn Williams, offered inspiring words to the recipients to "never give up". Di'Ana graduated from University of Illinois with a Bachelor of Science in Advertising and currently works as a Marketing and Promotion Assistant. Past scholarship recipient Khaneica Watson, offered heartening words as well to the recipients and offered assistance to any of the Education major students. Khaneica, daughter of Sis Sherri Dace, graduated from Columbia College with a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Development and currently works as a kindergarten teacher at a charter school.

Each recipient gave a brief bio of themselves. Sis Vicki M. Yarbrough, Grand Director Hazel Stillwell Education & Scholarship Committee and Bro Aubrey K. Barlow, Deputy Grand Director Hazel Stillwell Education & Scholarship Committee presented each recipient with a certificate and gift.



The 2009 scholarship recipients are:

- ★ Ms. Breanna M. Atwood sponsored by Rosie E Moore #78 will attend DePaul University, Chicago, IL
- ★ Ms. Tia'-Monique F. Blash sponsored by Emblem #140 will attend Hampton University, Hampton, VA
- ★ Ms. Stenisha Harris sponsored by Plumblin #109 will attend Chicago State University, Chicago, IL
- ★ Ms. Bnttney D. Hart sponsored by Adah #10 will attend Lincoln College, Lincoln, IL
- ★ Ms. Dominique' J. Maloy sponsored by Dorcas #92 will attend Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
- ★ Mr. Theodore A. Matthews sponsored by Westgate #122 will attend DePaul University, Chicago, IL
- ★ Ms. Nakeya N. Moffett sponsored by Ruth #9 will attend Howard University, Washington, DC
- ★ Ms. Alisha K. Morrow sponsored by Meridian #86 will attend University of IL, Urbana, IL
- ★ Ms. Afua A. Odame sponsored by Eureka #87 will attend Columbia College, Chicago, IL
- ★ Ms. Amber P. Outlaw sponsored by St Mary's #65 will attend Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL
- ★ Ms. Julia R. Reeves sponsored by Estella #3 will attend Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield, IL
- ★ Ms. Ashley S. Simmons sponsored by Pride of Harmony #144 will attend Bethune Cookman University, Daytona Beach, FL
- ★ Ms. Jasmine D. Wilson sponsored by Talma #2 will attend University of IL, Urbana, IL

The event was topped off with Sis Shalonda F. W. Patterson, Worthy Grand Matron, congratulating the recipients as well as giving her appreciation to the committee for carrying out her challenges. MW Bro Angelo W. Jones, Grand Master, also congratulated the recipients remarking that, "the dream was turned into a reality", and "the luncheon was a success"!

Congratulations to the young women and man who received awards. They are to be commended for their dedication and hard work.

21st General Grand Conference of Grand Councils, Royal and Select Masters, PHA, USA, Inc. and 4th General Grand Conference of Grand Courts, Ladies of the Circle of Perfection

By Sister H. Lorraine Jeter



Pictured: PGTIM Leroy Gary (left), Sister H. Lorraine Jeter (left-center) and RGCA Jerome Abner (right-center) receive certificates of excellence and Sister Dianna Caston (right) brings words from the soul.

Robes of purple and gold, jeweled crowns on their heads, the Ladies of the Circle of Perfection with the distinguished attired Companions of the Royal and Select Masters at their side assembled at the Rosen Centre Hotel, 9840 International Drive, Orlando, FL for the 4th General Grand Conference of Grand Courts, Ladies of the Circle of Perfection – PRGPM Thelma Tyler, General Grand Conference – Royal Grand Perfect Matron and MIC Jerome Abner, General Grand Conference – Royal Grand Chief Advisor.

Down the hall, the regally attired Royal and Select Masters assembled for the 21st General Grand Conference of Grand Councils, Royal and Select Masters, PHA, USA, Inc. – MIC Willie L. Mosley, General Grand Conference Grand Thrice Illustrious Master at the helm.

The Host Jurisdiction – Florida – Illustrious Union Grand Council Royal and Select Masters, State of Florida, PHA – MI Earnest Daniels, GTIM and Russell Alexander Earl, Sr. Grand Court, Ladies of the Circle of Perfection, RM Mayme Clark, RGPM.

PRGPM Thelma Tyler, GGC RGPM and MIC

Willie L. Mosley, GGC GTIM with the assistance of the respective line officers led their sessions to a productive and fruitful end.

Great hospitality by the Florida Jurisdiction, friendship and good harmony prevailed throughout the 2 day sessions; closing with an elegantly dressed audience at the Conference Banquet.

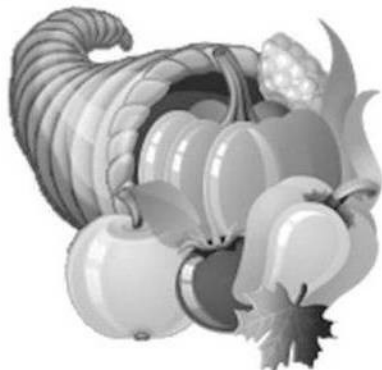
The following officers will take the helm for the 5th General Grand Conference of Grand Courts, Ladies of the Circle of Perfection 2010—PRGPM Thelma Tyler, GGC RGPM - DC; MIC Jerome Abner, GGC RGCA - IL; PRGPM H. Lorraine Jeter, GGC RGDM - IL; and PRGPM Charlie Powell Albury, GGC RGPC – FL.

At the helm for the 22nd General Grand Conference of Grand Councils, Royal and Select Masters, PHA, USA, Inc. – MI Albert R. Cobb, GGC GTIM-FL; MI James W. Ellerbee – GGC GDM-DC; and MI Russell A. Earl, Sr., GGC GPCW – FL.

The 2010 General Grand Conference will convene in Nashville, TN at the Millennium Maxwell House Hotel, April 30, 2010 – May 2, 2010.

Levi H. Morris Grand Court Ladies of the Circle of Perfection

By Sister Jeanette D. Gary, PMAGM



Levi H. Morris Grand Court continues in the tradition of extending assistance to those in need. For the third year, the members of the following Courts donated and delivered Sheet Sets and Towel sets to Inner Voice (Thelma's Place) - a supportive interim housing shelter for women and children:

- ◆ Prince Hall Court # 1
- ◆ James E. Anderson Court # 4
- ◆ Robert Williams Court # 6
- ◆ Lawrence Jackson Court # 9
- ◆ Levi L. Rose Court # 17
- ◆ Curtis F. Frazier Court # 18

The Director welcomed RGPM Clara K. Jackson and RGCA Walter Anderson with open arms as well as the chairperson for this Charity RM Joyce Clarke, RM Dianna M. Caston and PRCA Louis E. Greene, Jr. Also during the holiday season, Levi H. Morris Grand Court Members donated school supplies, clothing and other items to the shelter.

Why do we do Charity work? Because it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Scottish Rite Crowns New Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Peers



The 128th Annual Session of the United Supreme Council, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Northern Jurisdiction convened on May 22-26, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Rochester in Rochester, New York. The Orient of Illinois was represented well and received a number of accolades during the course of the session. Four Grand Inspector Generals were elevated to the rank of Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the U.S.C. Illinois also received another honor as the 33rd Degree Class adopted the posthumous namesake of Brian L. Abrams, Sr., former Deputy of the Orient of Illinois. **Congratulations!**



The Scottish Rite Research Institute is seeking information relative to the Scottish Rite in Prince Hall Freemasonry. Please feel free to forward articles, documents, data, etc. to:

James A. Mitchell
Director of the Scottish Rite Research Institute
of the Phylaxis Society
4800 S. Chicago Beach Drive
Unit 609S
Chicago, Illinois 60615

HRAM: Annual Feast of Zerrubabel Services

By E.C. Kerry Fitch, Grand Scribe MEPHGC, HRAM



The Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter, Holy Royal Arch Mason's "Feast of Zerrubabel" divine services day was held Sunday, June 14, 2009 at Universal Temple of Christ Church. Zerrubabel is celebrated and credited for his leadership in leading a contingent of captured and exiled members of the Hebrew faith out of exile in Babylon back to their homeland in Jerusalem and rebuilding the temple destroyed by Nebakanezer. From the prophecies of Haggai, it suggests that Zerrubabel was the focus of messianic hopes. In Masonry, Zerrubabel is honored by representing one of the key principal officers of the Holy Royal Arch Chapter and in Prince Hall Masonry, the office of the Excellent High Priest office is associated with the biblical and historical image of Zerrubabel.

VED, Carl Richardson, PMAM Charmaine Richardson and the Universal Temple members welcomed us with open arms and the MEGHP Melvin Crawford, Jr., the MEPHGC, HRAM, State of Illinois membership gave the love right back with a wonderful afternoon divine program and subsequent feast. Our Master of Ceremonies, EC David Fields did a superb job getting all involved energized by delivering a mini message before the speaker of the day, Minister Asher, talked to us about "Who is Zerrubabel"?

Minister Asher reminded everyone that Zerrubabel could be found in the bible and that he was a builder, a leader and was respected both by his followers and the kings that released the exiled captives to his charge and supported the rebuilding of the destroyed temple. He not only laid the foundation for the holy temple to be re-erected, he also laid the foundation for his followers and many to come to walk upright before the divine architect. Minister Asher reminded the Holy Royal Arch Masons in the stands and in the audience that like Zerrubabel, we must continue to lead and lay strong foundations for the betterment of the communities that we live in and serve.

We concluded our divine service on a high note of praise and song and moved into one of the best tasting feasts held to date. A soul food treat prepared and catered by the family business of EC Joseph Ryan which all attending enjoyed down to the last piece of chicken, ribs, macaroni and cheese and yellow cake. A Feast of Zerrubabel Day that was not only spirit filled for the soul, but also filling to the taste buds.

A treat for the Prince Hall Masonic family and also for the members of Universal Temple of Christ.



93rd Annual Thanksgiving Day Services

By Sis. Rhonda L. Moore, PM, Vivian F. Howell #151, OES, PHA

The 93rd Annual Thanksgiving Day Services of Arabic Court #21, Daughters of Isis was well attended at the New Mount Calvary MB Church on the South Side of Chicago. Dt. Fadra Winston-Willis, Illustrious Commandress, addressed the congregation with the explanation of who and why Isis is celebrated.

A praise dance was given by Ms. Denise Rhodes to "Stand" by Donnie McCurklin. The devil would not let the song play on the radio so the church choir sang behind her beautiful dance, and God received a standing ovation. The choir was three men strong but the filled the church with congregation happy to be in His presence.

Rev. Yolanda Morris, wife of the pastor, gave a wonderful sermon on coming from supposedly nothing to becoming something to be grateful to God for. She grew up in Altged Gardens and has traveled the world with her husband, Rev. Franklin D. Morris, Pastor.

The Past Illustrious Commandresses of Arabic Court # 21 were given acknowledgment as well as the others that supported this event—Dt. Castella

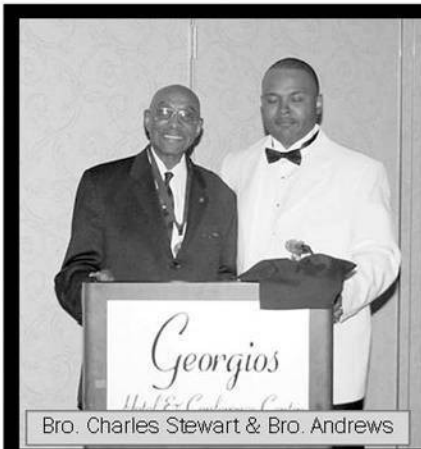
Lane, Imperial Deputy for the Oasis of Chicago, Arabic Court # 21, DOI(IDOC); Dt. Anna Marie Cooper, Imperial Directress Actual PIC Degree (IDAPICD); Dt. Delores Walker, Deputy Imperial Directress of Actual PIC Degree(DIDAPICD); Dt. Beverly Sampson, Deputy Imperial Directress Tools for School(DIDTS);

Noble Leroy Berry, Illustrious Potentate, Arabic Temple #44, AEAONMS, and his divan including Rev. Clyde Copper, Imperial Deputy for the Oasis of Chicago(IDOC), Arabic Temple #44 and Noble James Blanton, Chief Deputy of Convention Department(CDCD).

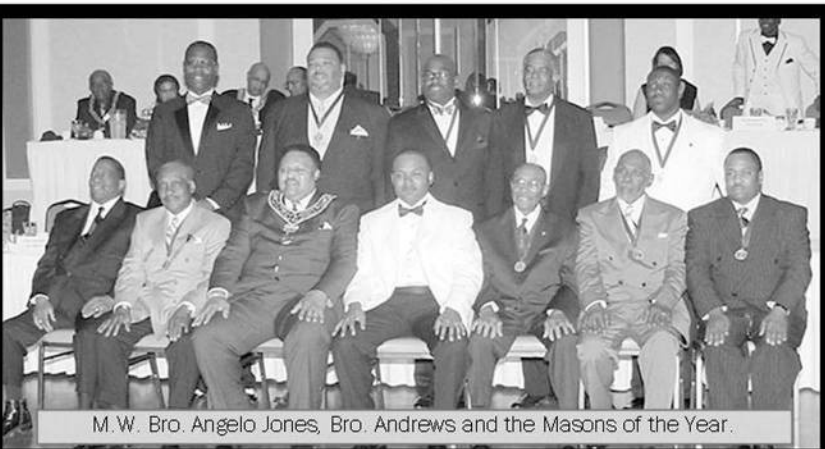
Bro. Melvin Crawford, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, MEPHC, Holy Royal Arch Mason, SOI, PHA

Sis. Dianna M. Caston, Most Ancient Grand Matron, MAPHGC, Heroines of Jericho, SOI, PHA

Sis. Kathy McKinnor and Bro. Ronnie Williams, Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron of Deborah Council #1, OES, PHA. The service ended with a great feast for all to enjoy, and enjoy they did, in love and thanksgiving.



Bro. Charles Stewart & Bro. Andrews



M.W. Bro. Angelo Jones, Bro. Andrews and the Masons of the Year.

PRINCE HALL MASONIC JOURNAL EDITOR

By Bro. Sean Queen, Senior Warden, #91

Question: Here's a quick quiz. Where were you on Saturday, April 25, 2009?

Answer: If you were like most people in the Prince Hall Family, you were at Georgios Banquets in Orland Park, IL, honoring Worshipful Brother, and current Editor-in-Chief, Daryl Andrews (Cornerstone #91), as the 2009 Mason of the Year.

Not an empty seat could be found, as the dining hall was filled to capacity with an abundance of dignitaries, constituents, and Past Masons of the Year recipients, as well as numerous family members and friends. And all were there to join in a "Roast of Words" to help celebrate the hard work and passion given to the Prince Hall family, by a man who wears many hats within the organization: Past Master Daryl Andrews.

In addition to being the editor of the Masonic Journal and District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Worshipful Brother Andrews has also served in the following capacities:

- Worshipful Master, Cornerstone #91 (2005-06);
- MWPHGL Grand Webmaster (2003-2008);
- MWPHGL Assistant Grand Historian (2006-);
- MWPHGL Assistant Grand Treasurer (2006-2007);
- Sublime Prince, Western Consistory #28, (1998-)
- Noble, Arabic Tempe, A.E.A.O.N.M.S. (1999-);
- Excellent High Priest, Eureka #3, HRAM (2005);
- Worthy Patron, Princess Syene #114, OES (2008)
- Organizer of the Brian Abrams Chapter of the Phylaxis Society—1st in Illinois (2008)

During his years of service, PM Andrews dedicated himself to help improve many facets of Masonry. Through his efforts, lost history has been recaptured and the Prince Hall Masonic Journal has been revived. These efforts endured countless hours of effort making him a deserving recipient of this award which is the highest given to any Mason.

In addition, to his honor, PM Andrews also took the time to acknowledge the Senior Most Past Mason of the Year of the State of Illinois in attendance at the affair—Brother Charles Stewart (1965 MOY). When asked what prompted him to do so, PM Andrews



Cornerstone Lodge No. 91



The Amazing "Mystopher" the Magician



W.M. & Mrs. Lawrence Walker with honoree.



Bro. Ken Ingram & Bro. Andrews



Mr. & Mrs. Daryl Andrews

2009 ILLINOIS MASON OF THE YEAR

stated "because in all of the MOY banquets that I've been to, no one has ever done it. So now, I want to provide the proper acknowledgement, and hopefully it will go forward." On a day in which he would not have been faulted for enjoying the event that was reserved for him, PM Andrews once again demonstrated his character by wanting to acknowledge someone who travelled along the same path as he, although, many years ago.

But, if one thinks that all of these accomplishments were performed single-handedly, they should think again! Although the Mason of the Year award commemorates a single person, it is definitely a shared honor, for behind every great man is a great (er) woman. And with that, PM Andrews took the opportunity to acknowledge the most important person in his life, and the true inspiration of his endeavors - his wife, Tracy.

Indeed, in order to put in so much time and effort as one must do in order to be named to such an honor, there must be a partner willing to provide the

necessary love, support, and indulgence to endure the numerous phone calls and long hours needed to work and research materials. And the lovely Tracy Andrews has done just that; by accepting and sustaining her husband's vocation, and giving him the essential encouragement needed for him to perform his labors.

This partnership of love allowed for all in attendance to enjoy a wonderful evening of good food, excellent entertainment with music provided by DJ L'Monte of Hiram #14, and amazing feats of magic performed by "Mystopher" of Olive Branch #94, and his wife.

Congratulations!

FOOTNOTE: Did you know that Cornerstone Lodge is the home of 3 of the last 4 Masons of the Year:

- ◆ PM Charles Holiday (2006);
- ◆ PM Aubrey Barlow (2007) - honorary member, and,
- ◆ PM Daryl Andrews (2009).

HISTORIC FIRST: Also the selection of Bro. Andrews to receive the same award as his uncle, R.W. Bro. Kenneth Ingram, marks the first time in history that relatives have received this honor.



The Andrews Family



Princess Syene Chapter #114, OES

EMPOWERMENT ZONE

Food for Thought

By P.M. DePlessie Drew, #65

We all like to say we understand the teachings of Masonry. We take pride in the fact that we can recite the Ritual word for word, especially the opening and closing without using a book. We form concepts and beliefs. We then take refuge in these concepts and beliefs, instead of taking **Action** in conformity with them. Think about if we should make our concepts and beliefs the basis for our **Actions**.

If we observe our use of the words and concepts, we will notice that often we repeat ideas about Masonry without thinking much about them. We find comfort and security in this repetition, and knowing the standard answers makes us feel we understand Masonry. But sometimes we betray how little we have actually thought about our stock phrases.

Do we allow the teachings of Masonry to change our daily behavior? If we believe the teachings of Masonry, why not make our actions conform to our beliefs. Remember that Masonry is not a path of information but of transformation.

Think About It!

"Moore" Words of Wisdom

Author Unknown

A MASON is a MAN
and a BROTHER,
who meets you on the LEVEL
and acts upon the SQUARE.

TRUTH is his COMPASS
and he is ever PLUMB.

He has a true GRIP
on all that is RITE.

He is loyal to his ORDER
and whatever his DEGREE
he is MASTER of himself.

In the LODGE of life
he wears unstained,
the white LAMBSKIN of innocence.

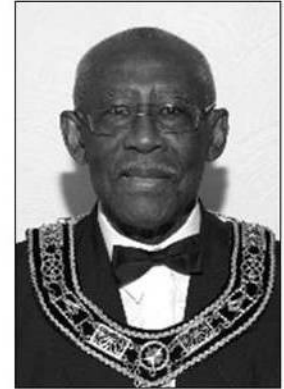
From his INITIATION
as an ENTERED APPRENTICE
he TRAVELS ever EAST toward
the LIGHT of WISDOM

Until he receives the final -
the DIVINE PASSWORD
that admits him into
the INEFFABLE PRESENCE
of the ETERNAL SUPREME
GRAND MASTER
OF THE UNIVERSE,
GOD.

Leadership

is not about being the boss or in charge

By Most Worshipful Brother Earl D. Scott, Past Grand Master



Leaders do more than call the shots and hand out directives. Leaders are people who take a proactive interest in their work from executing the organization mission to caring for their people. Here are some thoughts on leadership. **LEADERS...**

..TAKE INITIATIVE: If there's a better way of doing business, leaders will research to find it. If it requires attention from a higher authority, they will forward their research and their well-thought out recommendations up through their chain of command. Leaders don't wait to be asked, they are always on the look out for more efficient and cost effective ways to accomplish the goal / mission.

..FOCUS THEIR ENERGIES ON SOLUTIONS NOT PROBLEMS: Leaders know what needs to be done. When problems arise, they are armed and ready to move into troubleshooting mode. They don't dwell on the problem itself. They identify the root cause, examine possible solutions, implement the best resolution, and fix it.

..KEEP THE WORK ENVIRONMENT PROFESSIONAL: Leaders know the lines between personal and professional and know how to keep the two separate. In decision making and in work relationships, leaders make decisions based on facts and using the best information available.

..RESPECT OTHERS AND THEIR VIEWS: Leaders are fair and objective. They don't allow preconceived notions and popular stereotypes to cloud their decisions.

..DO NOT LEAD THROUGH FEAR: Leaders allow the views of others to be heard and considered. Leaders don't take the "my way or the highway" approach. They motivate and encourage others to express their ideas, to learn new skills, and to develop themselves professionally and personally. Leaders applaud the success of others. They do not feel threatened when others do well.

..TAKE RESPONSIBILITY: Leaders take accountability for their actions and the decisions they make on behalf of others. Leaders don't accuse, blame, or shirk responsibility to others to avoid negative consequences.

..DON'T SEEK TO BE POPULAR OR WELL LIKED: Leaders always opt to make the right choice and are swayed by popular opinion. Leaders don't aim to please people, they aim for mission or to accomplish the goals and objectives of the organization.

..TAKE CARE OF THEIR PEOPLE: Mission, task, projects are executed by people. Making sure people are cared for physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually is paramount to successful mission accomplishment. Leaders actively engage with their people and make their welfare a top priority.

WE ARE ALL LEADERS: Leadership is not about being the boss or in charge. All of us are leaders in our respective areas and are capable of making valuable contributions to our work area and organizations. We must recognize and own our leadership role. Meeting the demanding and complex challenges of the nation today requires strong leadership. By taking the obligation to serve, all of us promised to give the best of ourselves and the best of our leadership capabilities. Now is the time to fulfill those promises.

FREEMASONRY AND MUSIC



You may be asking, what does this have to do with Masonry? Well the theory is, the same ratios that are pleasing to the ear from music would also be pleasing to the eye in architecture and architecture is an intricate part of Masonry.

Jerry Butler
William "Count" Basie
Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington
Nathaniel "Nat King" Cole
Lionel Hampton
William C. Handy
James Herbert "Eubie" Blake
Oscar Peterson
Thomas "Fats" Waller
A. Phillip Randolph

FREEMASONRY AND MUSIC

Before I sat down to write this paper, I asked myself a question - "what does Freemasonry and music have in common and how could I put the two together?" Well, after interviewing PGM Jerry Butler, I was pointed in the right direction. Musicians traveling in the south during the Jim Crow era were not allowed to go through the front door of many places and were not welcomed in most with the exception of the doors of the Prince Hall Masonic Temples. They were able to enter the Masonic halls to relax and fellowship. So, subsequently, many of them became Masons. Some of these great musicians were bandleaders Lionel Hampton (Boyer Lodge No. 1, New York, NY, PHA) William "Count" Basie (Wisdom Lodge No. 102, Chicago, IL PHA) who was also a Shriner and Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington who was a member of Social Lodge No.1 in Washington D.C., PHA Also, Composer, William C. Handy (Hiram Lodge No. 4, New York, NY, PHA) who was known as "Father of the Blues" as well as the melodic pianist, James Herbert "Eubie" Blake. The great crooner Nathaniel "Nat King" Cole was also a Mason (Thomas Waller Lodge No. 49, Los Angeles, CA, PHA) as well as Jazz greats Oscar Peterson and Thomas "Fats" W aller. A majority of The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and their organizer, A. Phillip Randolph (Joppa Lodge No. 55, NYC) became Masons for similar reasons

A couple of Masons that are still with us who are musicians would be Gerald Alston who used to sing lead with the legendary group 'The Manhattans'. He's now a solo artist and the man who still makes the ladies scream, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame member Al Green.



FREEMASONRY AND MUSIC

I would be remiss if I did not mention some local musicians/Masons:

Walter Dyett, the wonderful violinist and musical educator, was Musical Director at DuSable High School. His tutelage groomed many students at DuSable who later became great musicians in their own right. Some of his former students include Bo Diddley, Dinah Washington and Nat King Cole. Although Nat Cole was not born in Chicago, he was raised here and grew up in Bronzeville.

M.W. Brother Henry G. Fort, 33°, 23rd Grand Master of the MWPHGL of Illinois, was an accomplished bass player who played in Nat King Cole's band and was a member of Harmony Lodge No. 88, Chicago, IL.



WALTER DYETT



HENRY G. FORT



NAT KING COLE

I also interviewed the Junior Warden of North Star Lodge # 1, the one and only, Bro. Gene Chandler "AKA" 'The Duke of Earl'. I asked him what inspired him to want to be a Mason and he said that when he found out that his longtime friend and mentor, PGM Jerry Butler was a Mason that peaked his interests. He stated that he knew of Bro. Butler's extraordinary character and caliber, so that was enough reason for him to join.

On a side note, Bro. Chandler created a 501c3 benevolent organization titled Project Happiness which is supported by North Star Lodge No. 1. Every year Project Happiness gives out turkeys for the Thanksgiving holiday and for Christmas they give away toys and clothes for needy kids at Stroger Hospital. The organization also gives away Christmas trees for public housing residents and school supplies to kids. They help churches who need assistance during the Thanksgiving and Christmas season and also supply the Maywood Housing Authority with toys for them to give away to the kids. Project Happiness was featured on ABC 7 Chicago news for the wonderful work they do.



FREEMASONRY AND MUSIC

Last but certainly not least, M.W. Bro. Jerry Butler, 33°, 41st Grand Master of the MWPHGL of Illinois and also a member of North Star Lodge No. 1. The Rock and Roll Hall of Famer who's affectionately known as "The Ice Man" was the original lead singer of the legendary R&B group, "The Impressions", before branching off into a hugely successful solo career. During my interview with PGM Butler I asked who introduced him to Masonry and he said it was a great trumpet player by the name of Johnny Coles. He also told me an interesting truth about how he became a Mason on site but perhaps I will save that tidbit for a future edition. Needless to say, he ended up joining North Star Lodge No. 1 and they had the insight to Initiate, Pass, and Raise him in ritualistic style.



Now it's time for a little esoteric piece on Freemasonry and music. A Greek philosopher who some of us Masons may know by the name of Pythagoras studied and practiced music and legend has it that he believed that the distance between the planets could also be compared to the sounds coming from a musical string. He believed the solar system consisted of spheres that revolved around circles and a central fire and that the spheres emitted distinctive sounds that when combined created a beautiful harmony that is referred to as music of the spheres. Another name that is used in reference to Pythagoras is harmony of the spheres. He's credited with saying that "the planets and stars move according to mathematical equations which relates to musical notes - that creates a symphony.

You may be asking, what does this have to do with Masonry? Well the theory is, the same ratios that are pleasing to the ear from music would also be pleasing to the eye in architecture and architecture is an intricate part of Masonry.

PM Bernard Brown, Sr.

Historical Editor for the Prince Hall Masonic Journal

GRAND HISTORIAN

By PM Lloyd Womack, #121, Grand Historian



On February 28, 2009, at Mid-Year Session in Decatur, Illinois, the Honorable Most Worshipful Brother Angelo W. Jones, Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons, appointed the MWPHGL Historians as follows:

- Wor. Brother Lloyd Womack, Grand Historian, #121
- Brother Aaron G. Brown, Asst. Grand Historian, #121
- Brother Taej L. Murray, Asst. Grand Historian, #148

Additional appointments as Assistant Grand Historians include:

- Worshipful Brother Daryl Andrews, #91
- Worshipful Brother Albert Haynes, #116
- Sister Tammy Hampton, #90—Archivist

Your Grand Historians have hit the ground running through participation in the following projects:

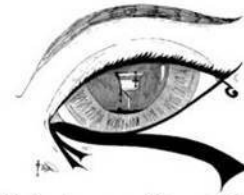
- Temple Restoration Project;
- Establish dialogue with the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions;
- Begun to organize, preserve, and archive historical documents.

After a review of the current history of our Grand Lodge, we have discovered a gap in our history from the period 1982 to the present date. As a result, we have begun to retrace our history through the collection of personal archive information and through interviews with our senior brothers and sisters. The Grand Historians office is always open and we solicit your opinions and donations.

All information submitted to the Office of the Grand Historian will be copied and placed in the archives and immediately returned to you. Arrangements to share your personal historical documents can be made by contacting Brother Taej L. Murray, Assistant Grand Historian at (773) 655-5679 or your may contact Sister Tammy M. Hampton, Assistant Grand Historian—Archivist at (312) 622-1973.

EYES WIDE OPEN

By PM Albert Haynes, III, #116, Assistant Grand Historian,
B.S. Biology, B.S. Pharmacy, University of Illinois



Thirty years ago diabetes mellitus affected over 5 million people in America and diabetic retinopathy was a frequent complication of this disease. Diabetic retinopathy is responsive for approximately 20% if new cases of blindness between the ages of 45 to 74.

Glaucoma is a group of sight threatening diseases that damage the optic nerve, resulting in vision loss. Open angle glaucoma is the most common form and is often associated with increased intraocular pressure. Anyone can develop glaucoma, but those at higher risk include African Americans and everyone over the age of 60. This disease is often called the "sneak thief of sight" because it can go undiagnosed with glaucoma.

Dry Eye Disease (DED) is also known as keratoconjunctivitis, dry eye syndrome, and dysfunctional tear syndrome. Approximately 5 million Americans 50 years and older have moderate to severe DED. DED patients often complain of sandy or gritty feeling, burning and stinging, itching, dryness, eye fatigue, and pain.

The treatments of these ocular disorders vary. It is important to know what your particular health care insurance will pay for. The insurances employ Pharmacy and Therapeutics committees which selects medication that insurance will cover based on clinical and financial considerations.

TIPS

1. Monitoring and controlling the blood pressure and blood glucose levels in diabetics can decrease the risk of diabetic retinopathy.
2. Glaucoma can be managed by avoiding sunlight, wearing wide brimmed hats, avoid heavy lifting and placing the eye medication in the lower eyelid.
3. DED can be managed by taking regular breaks from reading and computer use, avoid excessive rubbing of eyes, use humidifiers, apply warm compresses to eyes, and yawning to stimulate tear ducts.
4. Retinopathy and glaucoma require follow up eye examinations with your doctor.



INTRODUCING...

Imani Chapter U.D.



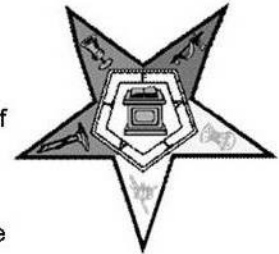
Sis. Sharithea Cherry
Worthy Matron

**“DIVINE ORIGINALS FASHIONED BY GOD
TO BE RADIANTLY LOVELY”**

Bro. Chris Calhoun
Worthy Patron

On January 17, 2009 it was decided by Sister Sharithea Cherry, Theresa Brown, Tonya Scott, Tijuana Williams, Jovaughn Singleton and Beverly Gayden to start a new Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star (OES). There were two meetings held prior to making the decision where several decisions were made. One of the decisions was to include Sister Starr Lusk, who also became one of the founders—“The Original Seven” and the others focused on deciding the name, color scripture, and motto for the new Chapter. The Original Seven then engaged new petitioners to join their quest to start a new Chapter under Eureka Grand Chapter, OES, State of Illinois, Prince Hall Affiliation. There were several contests held to decide the name, color scripture and motto. Upon the great American way, it was decided by vote that the name would be “**IMANI**”.

- **Our Name**—“IMANI” means Faith. The Faith of 25 women made IMANI a reality.
- **Our Social Name**—“Pure Elegance”
- **Our Color**—The color “Green” represents prosperity and wealth.
- **Our Scripture**—“And now abideth Faith, Hope, Charity, these three; but the greatest of these is Charity” (1 Corinthians 13:13).
- **Our Motto**—“I am a Divine Original Fashioned by God to be Radiantly Beautiful”
- **Our Walk**—“To be an Eastern Star is an honor. In our daily walk, we strive to be positive in our ATTITUDE, APPEARANCE, and our ACTIONS. Fearing God and only God.”
- **Our Mission**—“To be recognized as a Chapter making a positive difference in the lives of others through Charity by dedicating our lives to service through Truth, by our belief in a higher being and through loving-kindness, and by loving our neighbors as we love ourselves.”



On March 4, 2009, twenty-five (25) women of Imani met with Sis. Shalonda F.W. Patterson, Worthy Grand Matron and was granted the blessings to begin the process of forming a new Chapter under Eureka Grand Chapter, OES. On April 18, 2009, the women were initiated, the officers were installed on May 6, 2009 and Imani held its first meeting on Saturday, June 6, 2009.

Currently, Imani has twenty-seven (27) “FIRED UP” members that hold the principles and teachings of the Order close to heart. Imani members understand that “...before honor is humility” (Prov. 18:12). And, they have vowed to SERVE through their charitable works. As their journey continues, they hope to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

IMANI Charitables (March 2009 to date) include:

- Sent care packages to 14 students (**March 2009**)
- Volunteered with the American Cancer Society—Dafodil Days (**March 2009**)
- Made 125 Easter Baskets for the children at New Christian Joy Full Gospel Church in Chicago (**April 2009**)
- Participated in a Paper Recycling Project to help build a playground for the children at Lincoln Elementary School in East Hazel Crest, IL (**March and April 2009**)
- Distributed Mother’s Day Poems to 125 Elderly Women (**May 2009**)
- Volunteered as greeters in the registration and distributed T-shirts at the Multiple Sclerosis Walk in Orland Park, IL (**May 2009**)
- Walked with the Illinois Masonic Family in the American Cancer Society Annual Walk and Roll (**May 2009**)
- Donated items to a garage sale at Parkway Gardens Apartments (a low-income family housing development in Chicago). 100% of the proceeds of the items sold benefitted the Youth Program of the Apartment Complex. (**June 2009**)



Prince Hall Monument

By Bro. Aaron G. Brown, Assistant Grand Historian

The purpose of this article is to render to the Illinois Prince Hall Masonic family that a Prince Hall Monument is being built to honor our revered founder Prince Hall, Founder of the Prince Hall Masons fraternity that stretches around the globe that bears his name to this day.

It is without question that Prince Hall is the premier fraternity leader ever to have existed in an African-American context or in American history in my opinion. He made immense contributions to our society not only to the fraternity but to the well being of mankind.

The man Prince Hall was a visionary and opened door's that seemed impossible to open but were not left closed by his hand. This revolutionary hero, wealthy business

man, motivator, abolitionist, educator, community organizer and fraternal powerhouse will be honored with a monument in the City of Cambridge Massachusetts. Also, the City of Cambridge has declared Prince Hall a founding Father of this Country. A team of researchers have discovered that men who were Prince Hall Masons were the principal leaders in the civil rights movement from the beginning of our recorded history to the present day. It was also uncovered by researchers from the Massachusetts Historical Society that the number one "Organizer" and the most influential African-American man of that time, especially in Massachusetts and New England, was Prince Hall. According to Sidney Kaplan, a founding member of the Department of African

American Studies at U. Mass Amherst cited that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and others stand on the shoulders of Prince Hall.

When the City of Cambridge was looking for someone to represent the contributions African-Americans made to the City and to the Nation, the name Prince Hall immediately surfaced. Interestingly, only older African-Americans and Masons knew who Prince Hall was. The Mayor of Cambridge, E. Denise Simmons said "The name Prince Hall was better known when she was a Child". Moreover, the Mayor maintained a high interest in Prince Hall and traveled to England a few years prior and brought back information from the Grand Lodge of England about Prince Hall and around that time as a City Councilor she then introduced a resolution to have the monument built September 12th, 2006. Eventually, the fruits of her labor paid off. The unveiling of the Memorial to Prince Hall on the Cambridge Common is scheduled Saturday, September 12, 2009. Prince Hall will be the first African-American to be honored on Historic Ground near the George Washington Memorial. This would be the first monument in recognition of any African-American on the Cambridge Common, historic for being the site where General George Washington formed the Continental Army and where many African-American men were there to greet him to join the army and fight in the revolutionary war.

The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts is heavily involved in this project. There are Prince Hall Brothers on the Prince Hall Memorial Committee. Hence, Most Worshipful Brother Leslie A. Lewis Grandmaster at the time along with R.W. Earl W. Cole, Jr., Grand Historian representing the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, standing alongside with other notables including the Mayor broke ground for the memorial Tuesday, October 28, 2008.

There is a grassroots effort going on to educate the Prince Hall family about the monument around the globe. According to Brother Mitchell of Massachusetts, Committee Member stated that letters will be formed by Brothers from New York, Michigan and Massachusetts and they will be sent to each Grand Master and each Prince Hall Jurisdiction. Although, the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts is instrumental in this endeavor while working with the City of Cambridge, donations are needed from the Prince Hall family to secure the completion of the memorial. P.M. Young from Michigan, Committee Member created a slogan, 1,000 Prince Hall Masons to donate \$100.00 and also P.M. Young will stand before the Detroit City Council June 23rd, 2009 to solicit support for the monument. However, donations are being asked from the entire Prince Hall Masonic family as each body is just as important as the other. Microsoft Corporation has donated \$10,000.00 as of date. Nonetheless, this is our time to shine as a PHAimly. Information about the project, history, video and specifics can be found at www.princehallmemorial.org.

The monument has stirred considerable attention. The National Grand Lodge of Greece has sent a letter of full support of the Prince Hall Monument and they have endorsed Prince Hall being named a Founding Father of this Nation. Also, quite a few University Professors have expressed support including intellectual, author and lecturer Dr. Cornell West.

Donations can be made by going to www.princehallmemorialfund.org.

Sources:

The History of Prince Hall and Early American Freemasons speech by Mayor Simmons

The Cambridge Historical Society

The Massachusetts Historical Society

www.princehallmemorial.org

Phamily Love & Charity



Imani Chapter U.D., OES has been extremely active since joining the Prince Hall Masonic Family. More on Imani on p. 32.



Ashby B. Carter Lodge #138 of Wheaton and Union Lodge #155 participate in the Real Men Read program at Earl Elementary and Emmett Till Academy. Worshipful Brother Adewale Langston and Jose Prado pose with the staff and mentors at Earl Elementary School (left and center). Bro. Chris Calhoun represented Union Lodge at Emmett Till Academy. He gave a brief historical presentation on Prince Hall, the founder of "African-American Freemasonry" in the United States of America which touched on Prince Hall's place in Black history month as the founder of the first public school for black children in America. W. Bro. Adrian Cooley, Worshipful Master of Union #155 and Bro. Calhoun present the principal and librarian a copy of "Black Square and Compass" by Joseph Walkes (above-right). Union Lodge #155 visited the Washington Heights Nursing Home to distribute Easter baskets to the residents. **Some members brought their children to teach them about the importance about of giving back.** Over 140 baskets were delivered (below-left).



Rhe Sisters of Princess Syene #114 and the Brothers of Cornerstone Lodge #91 volunteered services at the Greater Chicago Food Depository (GCFD), a nonprofit food distribution and training center in Chicago. For three hours members sorted and packed food for distribution to various food pantries and soup kitchens throughout the Chicagoland area. As charitable and benevolent organizations it was a great pleasure for the members to contribute to the goal of ending hunger in the community. For more information about the Greater Chicago Food Depository and to learn how your chapter or lodge can volunteer log on to www.chicagosfoodbank.org (right).



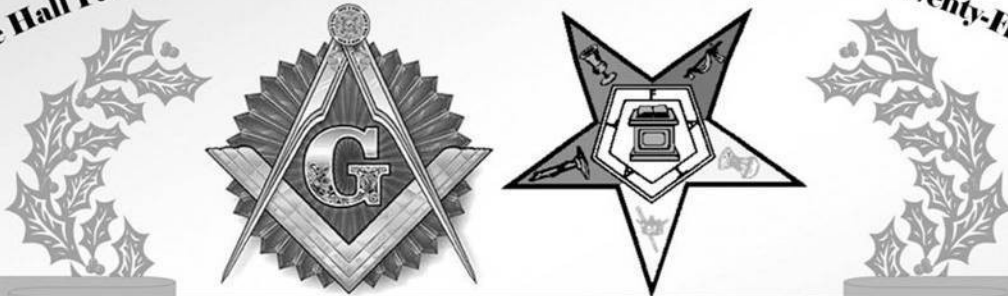
Perfect Example of Brother Love: Ashby B. Carter Lodge #138 and brethren of the Second District visit Palatine Lodge #314, AF&AM, State of Illinois. After the meeting, all brethren broke bread together which symbolizes the spirit of unity.



Thou Shalt Love and Honor Thy Mother. Ashby B. Carter Lodge #138 honored the Mothers at their annual Mother's Day Banquet at the Condessa Del Mar in Crestwood, Illinois. W. Bro. Adewale Langston, Master of Ashby Carter Lodge is pictured with his family (**left**) and W. Bro. Maurice Williams, Master of Jephtha Lodge #90 was also present (**right**). Bro. Jose Prado (**below-left**) and the family of Past Master Steve Mason (**below-right**) enjoyed the affair.



The Prince Hall Family Taking Another Step to Meet the Challenges of the Twenty-First Century



Midwest Regional Conference
37th Conference of Grand Masters and Masters
22nd Conference of Grand Chapters and Eastern Stars

March 12-15, 2009 * Illinois Jurisdiction Host

Best in the Midwest

By Sis. H. Lorraine Jeter

"Striving to be the Best in the Midwest" was the theme for the 2009 Midwest Regional Conference led by RW Bro. Otis Cromartie, GSW, and Sis. Paulette Brown, AGM. Both brought the Conference to a triumphant success.

For more than a year the committee worked to convene at the Wyndham O'Hare Hotel in Rosemont on March 12-15. Over 350 attendees shared a weekend of good fun, great hospitality, informative workshops and productive, enjoyable sessions. Three outstanding speakers were featured:

- **Opening Ceremonies:** Rev. Dr. Lee Fields, Senior Pastor of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Springfield, IL;
- **Memorial Service:** Rev. Dr. Bernard Johnson, Pastor of St. Paul CME Church in Chicago, IL;
- **Banquet:** Rev. Dr. Charles Hames, Jr., Pastor of Beebe Memorial Cathedral CME Church in Oakland, CA.

The workshops presented important information:

- **Health Fair:** The Health Fair chaired by R.W. Bro. Michael Patterson featured the American Cancer Society and shared important information on Cancer and related illnesses;

- **OES Drill Team:** Under the leads of Sis. Stephanie Atwood, Grand Lecturer and Sis. Lena Roberts, the OES Boot Camp utilized the 2008 FATAL Diamond Treasures and 2009 AREME of Light to share the principles of the OES in a drill team format;
- **History:** PM Daryl Andrews of Cornerstone Lodge #91 presented "Masonic Abolitionists".

Under the leadership of Sis. Marie Burris and Sis. Patrice McCastle, the hospitality was enjoyed by all. Roaring 20's Partying like 1929 was the delight of all. Attendees dressed in their flapper and "Cab Calloway" attires partied the night away.

All sessions were productive and enjoyed by all attendees and the 2009 Midwest Regional Conference closed with a banquet that could not be beat.

Sis. Shalonda F.W. Patterson, WGM, and Brother James H. Woodard, GWP of Indiana led the 22nd Midwest Regional Conference of Grand Chapters and Eastern Stars and MW Bro. Frank Humphrey, Grand Master of Wisconsin, led the 37th Midwest Regional Conference of Grand Masters to their successful ends.

The 2010 Midwest Regional Conference will convene in Omaha, Nebraska on March 11-14, 2010 at the Marriott Hotel and Resorts.

People You Should Know

Brother Henderson Yarbrough

2nd District

Submitted by Bro. D. Cook



On May 19th, 2009, in Maywood, Illinois, several members from the 2nd district were in attendance for the installation ceremony for Bro. Henderson Yarbrough.



Bro. Yarbrough has been a member of Jephtha Lodge #90 for 28 years and served as Worshipful Master in 1985. He has now moved on to a higher office as the Mayor for the City of Maywood and is about to serve his 2nd term. He was first elected in 2005.



As Bro. Yarbrough was being install, his daughter Past Matron Vicki Yarbrough of Dorcas Chapter #92 and his wife State Representative Karen Yarbrough were also in attendance.

Sister Naomi Peters

A Lady of Distinction

By Mildred Lloyd



Sister Naomi Antoinette Peters is the Grand Advisor Hazel Stillwell Education & Scholarship Committee (Advisor to Ms Eureka), Eureka Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, State of Illinois, Prince Hall Affiliation. Sister Peters was born and raised in Baltimore, MD. She graduated from Morgan State University.

She is a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority and in December she will celebrate being a member of the sorority for 60 years. She's a Past Basileus. Sister Peters moved to Vernon Hills, IL in December 1978, where she currently resides.

Brother R Delacy Peters, 33^o and Sister Naomi A. Peters have been married for 42 years and have four children, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Brother Peters is a Past Master of Rufus Mitchell Lodge #107 in Waukegan. Sister Peters is a member of the Church of the Good Shepherd United Church of Christ, where she has served as a faithful member of the choir for many years.

Sister Peters has been a member of Emblem Chapter No. 140 since 1983 and served as Worthy Matron in 1991. She served as Worthy Matron of Deborah Council #1 in 1999 and served as Grand Director of Hazel Stillwell Education and Scholarship Committee in 1994 – 95 and has served on this committee in some type of capacity since then.

Sister Peters is very active in the following:

- ★ Heroines of Jericho, North Shore Court #73 (Has served as MAGM, Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Court)
- ★ Ladies of Circle Perfection, James E. Anderson #4 (Grand Trustee – Levi H. Morris Grand Court)
- ★ Order of the Golden Circle, North Shore Assembly #59 (Has served as State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler)
- ★ Daughters of Isis, Shawall Court #4 (Imperial Directress of Public Relations – Imperial Court & Honorary Past Imperial Commandress)

Outside of Prince Hall, Sister Peters is heavily involved with the following:

- ★ Top Ladies of Distinction, North Shore Chicago Chapter (Honored as a Lovely Lady).
- ★ North Chicago Citizens Against Drugs & Alcohol Abuse. She has been a member since its inception.
- ★ Chicago Chapter of Morgan State Alumni.

Words of wisdom by Sister Peters: "The light of God surrounds us. The love of God enfolds us. The power of God protects us. The presence of God watches over us. Wherever we are, God is! So keep your light shining, someone may be watching you."

CROSS STATE COLLABORATION:

Elijah Betts #23 & Union #155 Conduct Joint Second & Third Degrees During Reunion Weekend

By Worshipful Brother Brad M. Johnson, #23 and Worshipful Brother Adrian Cooley, #155



On May 1, 2009, the Brothers of Union Lodge #155 traveled to Bloomington, IL to perform a joint Second Degree ceremony with its "mother" lodge Elijah S. Betts Lodge #23. So, you might ask- what was the inspiration for these two lodges, located 120 miles apart, to perform a joint Second Degree ceremony? Well....it was inspired, in part, by the "Hamptons"!

Brothers Ed and Wesley Hampton petitioned E.S.B. #23 for membership and were initiated as Entered Apprentices on November 8, 2008. Shortly thereafter, Wes moved to Chicago for employment. After some discussion, the Worshipful Masters and class directors from each lodge agreed that Wes could continue his journey by working with Union #155. But, he should remain a candidate of E.S.B. We were confident that Wes would receive good and wholesome instruction. It was later discovered that Union #155 had selected May 1st for work on the second degree, and ESB would perform this same degree on May 2nd. And, the rest is history.

W. Bro. Brad M. Johnson, W.M. and the Brothers of E.S.B. #23 hosted and three Entered Apprentices (Ed Hampton, Wesley Hampton, and Brad Bozman) were passed to the Second Degree of Masonry. W. Bro. Adrian V. Cooley, W.M. of Union #155 served as Worshipful Master during the degree. The remaining members of the degree team consisted of Senior Warden – Ronald C. Bell, DDGL ESB #23; Junior Warden – Bro. Danny Miller, JW ESB #23; Senior Deacon – R.W. Bro. Aubrey K. Barlow, Grand Auditor ESB #23; Senior Steward – Bro. Ray Vann, ESB #23; Middle Chamber – W. Bro. Ron Wilson, DDGM John C. Ellis #17.

In attendance was W. Bro. John Dorner, Grand Lodge Instructor of the AF&AM Grand Lodge of Illinois. Bro. Dorner is a Past Master of Normal Lodge #673, the site where E.S.B. #23 holds its regular communications. He stopped by to view how Prince Hall Masons perform the Second Degree. Afterwards, he said with a smile "is it very much the same yet very much different". Other in attendance included W. Bro. Richard Andrews, W.M. Henry Brown #22; Bro. Tom Revish, P.M. Union #155; Bro. Reginald Washington, P.M. E.S.B. #23; Bro. Michael Cribbs, S.W. E.S.B. #23; Bro. Okey Enyia, Tuscan #44; Bro. Quentin Jameson, S.W. Henry Brown #22 and Bro. Michael Johnson, S.D. E.S.B. #23.—**Johnson**

June 6-7, 2009, several Brothers and Sisters traveled from the North Shore, Downstate, and even from Florida. There was representation from other at least 16 lodges and 7 OES chapters that either came to the Friday Golf Outing, the Friday Night Party With "The U", or our specially convened lodge meeting on that Saturday morning. The purpose of the weekend was to invite our "mother" lodge Elijah S. Betts #23 and all of Union supporters from Chicago and downstate for fellowship and to bring new members into the fold.

That Friday afternoon, several Brothers and OES Sisters teed off at the Odyssey Golf Course in Tinley Park, IL. That Friday night at the Checkerboard in Hyde Park, the party was awesome with the live band "Innosphere" who played a tremendous set. That Saturday morning, our degree team did a joint Third Degree with the Elijah S. Betts #23 degree team. There were five men raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason: One from Union #155, two from Elijah S. Betts #23, and two from Rufus Mitchell #107. - Cooley



NEVER SICK AGAIN

